

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Gospel text (Jn 6,41-51): The Jews murmured about Jesus because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven,” and they said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? (...) Then how can he say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

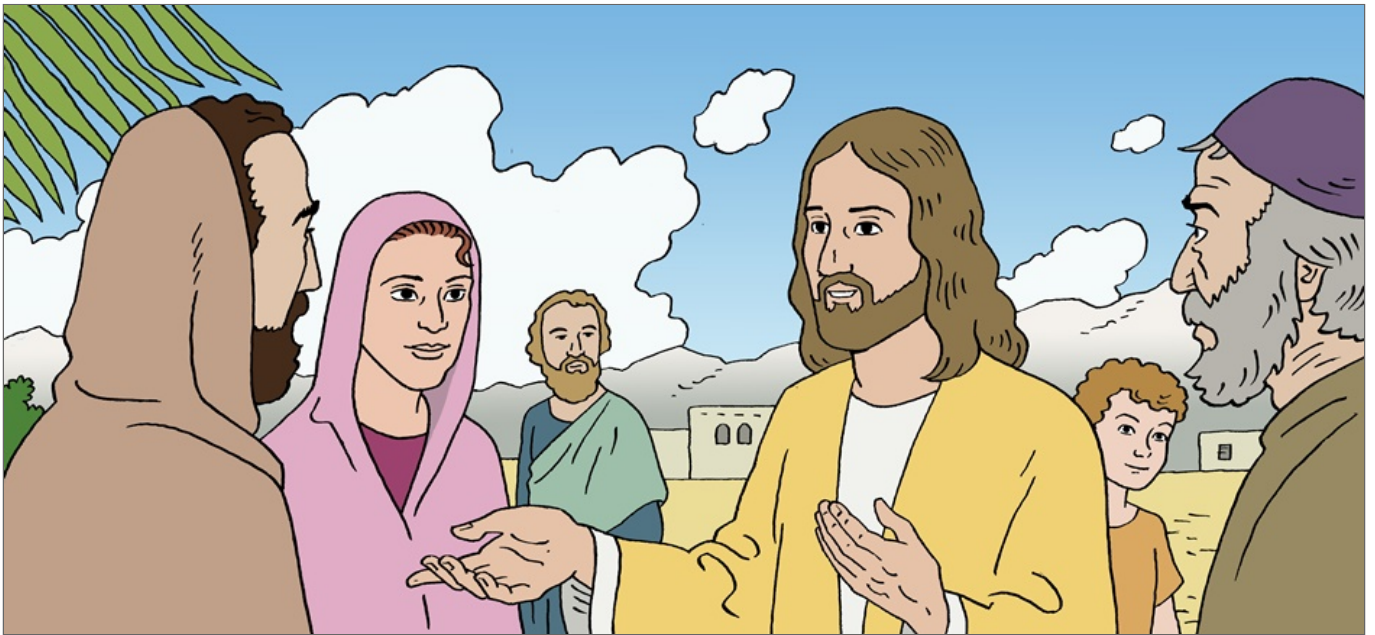


Illustration: + Mr. Josep Lluís Martínez i Picañol (Picanyol)

Today we see the listeners' reaction when Jesus Christ has revealed a bit more of his intimacy. How great is God! He has become “bread”, so that we may eat it. He is “alive”! Who is more alive than the eternal God? “He who has come down from heaven”: the “dream of dreams”. We could not ask for more!

—Instead of being happy, they criticize him... Not long before that, Jesus had nourished them with the extraordinary multiplication of loaves and fish: no one argued against that! Now they are! It seems that they only accept “God in pieces”. God, yes; but... from a distance. Odd, isn't it?