

Friday of the Second Week of Easter

Gospel text (Jn 6,1-15): Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, near Tiberias, and large crowds followed him because of the miraculous signs they saw when He healed the sick (...).

Jesus said, «Make the people sit down». There was plenty of grass there so the people, about five thousand men, sat down to rest.

Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks and distributed them to those who were seated. He did the same with the fish and gave them as much as they wanted (...).

John 6: the bread subject

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

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Today, we start Chapter 6 of John's Gospel, whose entire content is the subject of the bread. This issue has an important place in the message of Jesus, from the temptation in the desert, through the multiplication of the loaves to the Last Supper.

The great sermon on the bread reveals the broad spectrum of this topic's meaning. The hunger of people, who have listened to Jesus Christ, is initially described and food is given before being dismissed. But Jesus does not allow man's need to be reduced to the bread, biological and material needs. «Man cannot live on bread alone, but need every word that God speaks» (Mt 4:4; Dt 8:3).

—The bread, miraculously multiplied, reminds us of the manna in the desert and, furthermore, means at the same time that the true food for man is the “Logos”, the eternal Word, the eternal sense from which we come and on which we live.