
20 SaturdaySATURDAY, 3rd WEEK of EASTER

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Acts 9: 31-

Psalm 115: 12-17

John 6: 60-69

Since last Friday, the weekday gospel-reading at Mass each day has been Jesus' discourse in chapter 6 of St John's gospel, about Himself being the Bread of Life. He Himself is the nourishment for the new life that we now share, we who believe in Him as risen from death and healer of the world's brokenness by taking away our sin. Many who heard Jesus speaking couldn't or didn't want to understand what He was saying. Even people who'd begun to follow Him couldn't accept His words, and stopped going with Him. Jesus showed no surprise at this; rather, He even asked His closest companions if they too would go away because His message was too hard to accept or believe. And this became the occasion for those brave words of St Peter, "Lord, to whom should we go? You have the words of life". Consoling, comforting words, words of deep faith, to help us remember that our faith itself is God's gift and grace; words for each of us in times of doubt or hesitation or difficulty in believing, in accepting Christ's words. He not only *has* the words of life: He *is* the Word of life. And that's the life we share, a resurrection life that's given us in Baptism and nourished in the shared Eucharist where we accept Him as our Bread of life, the true Body of Christ we receive.

Lord Jesus, Bread of our lives, word of Life, deepen our faith and make us share Your word and your life with people around us with whom we share our own daily nourishment and the words of everyday companionship.

Text word-count: 284