

From the Pastor's Desk

"So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten." (John 6:13)

Both this Sunday's first reading and gospel reading assure us that God provides for us in abundance. Although we are limited in our capabilities, God is not limited in his.

In his abundance, God not only cares for us, he *satisfies* us. Our sense of satisfaction cannot be fulfilled, at least not for long, through the material world or through other people, even those we love the most.

There is an iconic scene at the end of the movie *Jerry Maguire*, when the eponymous main character (played by Tom Cruise) realizes he is deeply in love with his wife (played by Renée Zellweger) and does not want to lose her. As part of his plea to reconcile with his wife, and persuade her of his sincere love for her, he famously says to her, "You complete me."

As suggestive as this statement might be of the profound significance of human love, only God can fulfill and complete us. All the beauty and goodness that attracts us to another person are but dim reflections of God's beauty and goodness.

Only God, who made us and allows us to participate in his love, can provide us with everything we need to be happy – and more!

It is through Christ that we approach our Heavenly Father and warrant his everlasting community. Only Christ can save us and only Christ can offer us eternal happiness and peace.

The Eucharist, Christ's Body and Blood, offers us a foretaste of this heavenly community that brings us completeness and abundance.

Parishioners as well as members of the Parish Pastoral Council have been asking about the production and availability of hard-copy bulletins, now that Covid restrictions have been lifted.

I am working with Lynn Waterloo, our Director of Operations, to reintroduce bulletins in our churches. This may take some time as we don't currently have a bulletin vendor nor do we have a bulletin editor.

We are also looking into designing and publishing our own bulletin; however, we are still gathering information on this option as well as information on bulletin vendors.

If we publish our own bulletins to reduce cost, we will need to solicit local vendors to purchase advertising space. For this, we will need volunteers to solicit as well as parishioners with businesses to buy ad space.

In the meantime, everything that would be found in the bulletin – and more, can be located on our website: HGAparish.org.

Have a good week and remember that, in Christ, all grace and blessings are possible for us!

Fr. Brian Kean