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All Age Pastoral Note for Trinity 8

Dear

I hope that you have been having a good time while I was away?

I wonder how good you are at sharing? Sharing is important because by sharing what we have we make sure that nobody feels left out and that everyone is included.

If all your friends got to have ice-cream and there wasn't enough for you to have some too then you'd probably feel pretty sad. I know I would.

The disciples in today's gospel reading are a bit worried about sharing. They are worried when Jesus asks them what food they've got that there won't be enough to go around and that they will end up going hungry. They've forgotten something really important, and that is God's kingdom and what that will be like. Remember the song 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and ALL these things shall be added unto you, Alleluia!' So, if you remember God's kingdom FIRST, and behave as Jesus teaches us to behave towards others then everything else will be taken care of. When we put others before us we will never need to worry about being without. That's because God teaches us to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

The disciples were worried that their five loaves and three fishes wouldn't go very far. Certainly they thought they wouldn't be enough to feed 5000 other people. Yet at the end they have twelve baskets of food left over! That sounds like more than they had in the first place!

What this tells us is that God wants nobody in his Kingdom to go without. He doesn't even want them to have just enough. God wants his people to know that he loves them ABUNDANTLY!

I hope that YOU know that God loves YOU abundantly so you don't have to be afraid like the disciples were, and so that you know even if you have a very small amount of something, it's still good to share it and to include others so that nobody goes without.

With every blessing,

Fr Tom