

A Coffee with Alessio



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B

In the Gospel this Sunday we continue the Eucharistic discourse. The Gospel reading concludes with Jesus saying:

"I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

That famous hymn by Suzanne Toolan comes to mind. I would only sing the first two verses as the remaining verses will come up in the Gospel in the next couple of weeks. Actually, for this Sunday it really is only the first verse that directly matches the Gospel. However, the hymn *I am the Bread of Life* is really meant to be a roof-raiser and singing only one verse of such a hymn seems anti-climatic to me. This Sunday and over the next few Sundays are an opportunity to use the Eucharistic hymns in your repertoire. They are also a golden opportunity to learn 1 or 2 (at the most) new Eucharistic hymns and repeat them.

If you haven't tried *The Supper of the Lord* by Laurence Rosania now would be a good time. The refrain is Eucharistic in content and the verses are based on the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. It would be a good hymn to complement the well-known *I am the bread of Life* by Suzanne Toolan RSM. The hymn by Laurence Rosania is available for download on www.ocp.org in various arrangements.

Now, just as the Eucharist is a sacrificial meal in which we hear the Word of God and eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus, so too our coffees and other meals are opportunities to share stories and eat and drink. So, on that note, I'm off to Trio's café in Mt Lawley to have a delicious Italian doughnut, with Italian custard. My mouth is watering already!

Enjoy your coffee and cake!

Mr Alessio Loiacono
Music Field Officer

Friday 3 August 2018