

# **The Miracle of Feeding the Multitude**

(Matthew 14: 13 – 21)

(also: Mark 6: 30 – 44, Luke 9:10 – 17 and John 6:1 – 14)

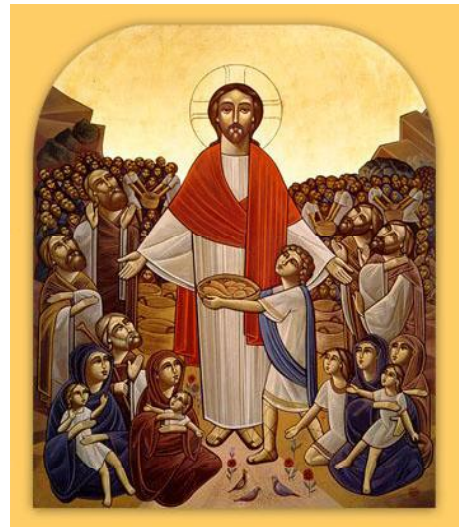
**Verse to memorize :** *" I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to me will never be hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."* (John 6:35)

## **Summary of the Miracle:**

Jesus heard that King Herod has beheaded John the Baptist in prison. He was very sad and wanted to be alone. He took a boat to cross Lake Galilee (Lake Tiberias) to go to a lonely place. The people, however, followed him by land. Despite His sadness, when Jesus saw the large crowd, his heart was filled with pity for them, so He spent all the day healing those who were ill, and teaching the crowd.

In the evening, the disciples asked Jesus to send the people away to the villages to buy food for themselves. Jesus asked them to give the people something to eat. Andrew said to Jesus: "A little boy here has five loaves of bread and two small fish, but they will certainly not be enough for all those people."

Jesus asked the disciples to make the people (about 5000 men, in addition to the women and children) sit down in groups of fifty. Jesus took the bread and the fish, gave thanks to God, broke them and gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. They all ate and had enough, and the disciples took up twelve baskets of what was left over.



## **Lessons to learn from this Miracle :**

1. It doesn't matter how much or how little we have, Jesus can use us for his work. We simply must be willing to do what we can for Him
2. Jesus cares about ALL our needs: He healed the people, taught them and finally, when they were hungry, He fed them.
3. Before the miracle, Jesus gave thanks to God. It is nice to have the habit of praying before doing anything (eating or studying, for example) and starting our prayers by giving thanks to God.
4. God's power is again revealed in Jesus Christ when He blessed the 2 fish and 5 loaves, so they became enough to feed the 5000 men.