In today's Gospel, Matthew 14:14-22, Jesus Christ healed many that were in a great crowd. Afterwards, He ordered them to sit and with two fish and five loaves of bread, He blessed, broke and gave the loaves to the multitudes. It is written that those who ate were 5,000 men besides women and children.

This miracle of Christ is found in all four Gospels. It shows his great compassion of the crowds who came to Him to not only heal, but also provide for there need of hunger. The Church Fathers see this as an image of the Eucharist. Significant is 14:19 where Christ Jesus took the loaves and the fish and blessed them first before breaking them and giving them to the disciples to distribute to the faithful.

As Jewish custom held, Jesus Christ gathered His family around Him and first gave a blessing; that is, gave thanks before they ate. Dearest ones, in our busy days and nights do we give thanks? Do we bless the food and drink to which we are given by God maybe as we are coming out of a drive-thru? Do we do our cross before we eat if we don't have much time?

Something that seems so simple is ever so vital. Saint Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." Let us remember to give thanks to God for our daily fulfillment of our needs with two simple words done with heartfelt love, the words—thank you!

We thank you our loving God for all that You bestow on us every day for all honor, worship and glory is due to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit now and always and forever and ever, amen..