



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

***“Then Jesus took the loaves,
gave thanks, and distributed
them to those who were
reclining, and also as much
of the fish as they wanted.”***

(John 6: 11, *Lectio*)



In today’s Gospel, we hear of Jesus’s great humility even after he had performed a great miracle:

(John 6:15)

Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

How can we be humbler this week?



Saint of the Week Ignatius of Loyola

1491 – 1556
Feast Date—July 31

Born in his family’s ancestral Basque castle, Inigo Lopez de Loyola was a page in Castile and a soldier wounded in battle before he experienced a personal conversion that has had profound consequences for the church ever since. While convalescing, he read about Christ and the saints, made a long retreat at Manresa and journeyed to Jerusalem. He studied for 10 years in Barcelona and Paris, where he became Ignatius and was the center of a group of like-minded men. They founded the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits, to be active missionaries and meet the challenges of the Reformation. Ignatius, superior general of the new order, also wrote “Spiritual Exercises,” which is still a popular guide. He is the patron saint of retreats and soldiers.

Pope Francis, a Jesuit, has this to say about St. Ignatius:

“ St Ignatius teaches us...especially, looking at the Crucified Christ, we feel that most human and most noble sentiment which is shame at not being able to measure up to him; we look at Christ’s wisdom and our ignorance, at his omnipotence and our impotence, at his justice and our wickedness, at his goodness and our evil will (cf. EE, 59). We should ask for the grace to be ashamed; shame that comes from the continuous conversation of mercy with him; shame that makes us blush before Jesus Christ; shame that attunes us to the heart of Christ who made himself sin for me; shame that harmonizes each heart through tears and accompanies us in the daily ‘sequela’ of ‘my Lord.’ ”

—Pope Francis, homily, July 31, 2013



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Image: *Miracle of the loaves and fishes*, Murillo, J. Paul Getty Museum

Image 2: *H. Ignatius van Loyola*, Lucas Vorsterman, Rijksmuseum.