



**Sacred Heart Cathedral
Hamilton**



**St Joseph
The Junction**



**St Mary, Star of the Sea
Newcastle**



**Immaculate Heart of Mary
Tighes Hill**



**St Laurence O'Toole
Broadmeadow**



**Christ the King
Mayfield West**



**St Peter-in-Chains
Stockton**

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF THE CITY PASTORAL REGION

SUNDAY, 2ND AUGUST 2020
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Incorporating the Parishes of St Benedict's, Inner Newcastle, St Columban's, Mayfield, and St Peter-in-Chains, Stockton, our mission is to proclaim Christ in the inner suburbs of the City of Newcastle.

Our Parishes incorporate suburbs located on the traditional country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land, pay respect to their Elders past and present, and commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation and justice.

Our Clergy

Fr Andrew Doohan
Fr James Odoh
Fr Peter Street

Fr Matthew Muller
Fr Peter Thoai
Deacon Lawrence Caelli

Regional Office—St Benedict's Centre

25 Farquhar Street, The Junction
PO Box 6, The Junction 2291
P: (02) 4979 1101 F: (02) 4962 4644
E: newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au
W: www.newcastlecatholic.org.au
W: www.sacredhearthamilton.org.au

Our Staff

Margaret Cox (*Reception & Administration*)
Anne Warren (*Business Manager—Interim*)
Dr Anne Millard (*Director of Music, Liturgy & Sacramental Program*)

Other Contacts

Lingard Hospital Team	Contact the Regional Office
Mercy Pastoral Team	Sr Patricia Whitten rsm (02) 4979 1116
St Joseph's Pastoral Team	Contact the Regional Centre

Regional Bulletin

The Bulletin is published weekly.

Prayer requests and items for the Bulletin should be received at the Regional Office by Noon on Wednesdays.

THE PARISH DIARY...(for the week ahead)

Eighteenth Week of Ordinary Time

Monday— 3rd August

Memorial of Saint Dominic

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

Tuesday— 4th August

Memorial of Saint John Vianney

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Wednesday—5th August

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Thursday— 6th August

Feast of The Transfiguration of the Lord

8:15am Mass @ The Cathedral

9:00am Mass @ Stockton

9:15am Mass @ Broadmeadow

9:30am Mass @ The Junction

Friday— 7th August

9:00am Mass @ Mayfield West

9:15am Mass @ Tighes Hill

10:15am Mass @ The Junction

11am Exposition @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

11am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral (until 12pm)

12:05pm Mass @ The Cathedral

Saturday—8th August

Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross

****9:00am Mass @ The Junction ****

10:30am Reconciliation @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ The Cathedral

5:30pm Vigil Mass @ Broadmeadow

4:40pm Rosary @ Mayfield West

5:00pm Vigil Mass @ Mayfield West

Sunday— 9th August

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Mass @ St Mary's

8am Mass @ Tighes Hill

9am Mass @ The Junction

9am Mass @ Stockton

9:30am Mass @ The Cathedral

Live streamed: [https:// www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/livestream/)

9:30am Italian Mass @ Broadmeadow

11:30am Polish Mass @ The Cathedral

5pm Mass @ The Cathedral.

Reflection

by Richard Leonard SJ

There is an old line that runs, 'If you feel distant from God – guess who has moved?' It picks up the theme in the Romans reading which we have just heard, 'Nothing can separate us from the love of God.'

In the midst of persecution and suffering, St Paul writes to the community at Rome to tell them that, even in their fear, desolation and grief, nothing, and no one, can separate them from God's love. This shows us that when we feel separated from God we may have walked away from him, usually through destructive behaviour that sets up and maintains distance between us and the source of our faith, hope and love.

St Matthew and Isaiah also knew that nothing can separate us from God's love. Isaiah's river of plenty and Matthew's loaves and fish are all about the *plenty* of God's kingdom, the abundance of God's goodness.

Too often we focus on the miracle of transformation that occurs in Matthew's Gospel when all he tells about the actual miracle is that Jesus 'breaks and shares'. Matthew is more interested in the leftovers than he is in the miracle itself. From five loaves and two fish we are told twelve baskets of scraps are left over.

Numbers are rarely random in the Bible. The echo of the seven days of creation would not have been lost on the first hearers of this story as Jesus takes seven fruits of the earth to feed the crowd. Similarly, the twelve baskets of scraps, the remnants of the meal at which all were filled and satisfied, echo the sign of God through the twelve tribes of Israel in the Old Testament.

For us today this story also has consoling resonance. Matthew is telling us that Jesus sees our need, does not turn us away, comes to where we are, as we are, and recreates us through the abundance of his love, so we can be signs of His kingdom in the world.

The Church has always believed that the feeding of the crowd prefigured the Eucharist, this weekly time where we receive the fullness of God in his Word, in the life of the community, in the minister and through the transformation of the Bread and Wine.

It's all about abundance. Our God has abundantly provided for us so that we can abundantly provide for all the world which is given into our care. 'Those to whom much is given, much is required.' The problem is that when we look around we see that while some of us have so much, others have nothing at all.

If this reality doesn't move us to a change of heart and right action then we have not understood the story of the loaves and the fish, that God's goodness is never intended for a select few.

Sometimes people look at the poverty in the world and think, 'How could God allow that?' This question can cause us to feel distant from God, but in light of what God has given us and our ability to share from this abundance, when we think like and feel like this, guess who has moved away from whom?

© Richard Leonard SJ



LOVE is like the five loaves and two fishes. It doesn't start to multiply until you give it away.

MASSES

FOR UPCOMING FEAST DAYS

• SOLEMNITY OF ST MARY OF THE

• **CROSS:** Saturday 8th August @ 9am

• FEAST OF ASSUMPTION:

• Vigil (August 14th) 6pm in ST MARYS

• Saturday (August 15th) 9.30am in SHC (with sung chant)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS—19th Ordinary Sunday

1 Kings 19: 9, 11-13

Romans 9: 1-5

Matthew 14: 22-33

Weekday and Sunday readings can be found at www.usccb.org

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tues 4 August: St. John Vianney

(Patron Saint of Clergy)

Thurs 6 August: Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Fri 7 August: St. Dominic (Founder of Dominicans)

Sat 8 August: St. Mary of the Cross McKillop (National Patronal Feast)

Tues 11 August: St. Clare

Holy Day of Obligation

Sat 15 August: The Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary



ANNIVERSARIES: Michael Dunne, Michael Beckett, Dallas Humphries, Jenabai Jessa, Edna Mowbray, Marie Therese Brice

SICK: Patricia Williams, Catherine Horner (Bridges), Michael Hanson

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Please continue to pray for all those throughout the world who are affected by COVID-19.

Names may be placed here by contacting the Regional Office. Please refer to the Policy Document on the Regional website—visit www.newcastlecatholic.org.au/

TODAY'S LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading **Is 55:1-3**

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good things
to eat
and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16**

(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading **Rom 8:35. 37-39**

*No creature can separate us from the love of
God, which is in Christ.*

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ,
even if we are troubled or worried, or being perse-
cuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threat-

ened or even attacked. These are the trials through
which we triumph, by the power of him who loved
us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no
angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to
come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any
created thing, can ever come between us and the
love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of
God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 14:13-21

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's
death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where
they could be by themselves. But the people heard
of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on
foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd;
and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and
said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped
by; so send the people away, and they can go to the
villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied,
'There is no need for them to go: give them some-
thing to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we
have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them
here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people
were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five
loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven
and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he
handed them to his disciples who gave them to the
crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and
they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets
full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand
men, to say nothing of women and children.

Communion Antiphon

Wis 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every
taste.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and
copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and
Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses,
and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclu-
sion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, Inter-
national Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.
The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010
International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

REGIONAL NOTICES

Hello Hunter
49HUNTER 49486837



Hello Hunter helps people who are feeling isolated, lonely or anxious. Volunteers are available to make a friendly call, deliver essentials, assist in finding specialised help or on request pray with the person. Hello Hunter has a call centre, which takes requests for assistance, then neighbourhood hubs mobilise their volunteers. Hubs are formed according to suburb and postcode. The goal is to have the person in need assisted by their nearest neighbour. Hello Hunter are now looking for hub leaders and volunteers. Volunteers need to submit a form, validated by their local parish priest or parish leader. Go to hellohunter.org.au for more information.

Sharing our story

Everyone has a story. No matter how ordinary yours may seem, we've all got a story to tell and you never know what it can mean to someone until you share it. As we enter a fallow period, we have been given the gift of time. A time to reflect on our life, a life of being faithful people. We invite you to share your story. You could use the following questions as a guide. Who are the people who guided your faith journey? How did they do that?

Describe some defining moments of your faith journey? What made them significant? How has your faith been reflected in your work, your hobbies, your values, your choices, and your priorities at various times in your life?

In what ways has your faith guided and supported you over your lifetime? How has your church/fait community guided and supported you?

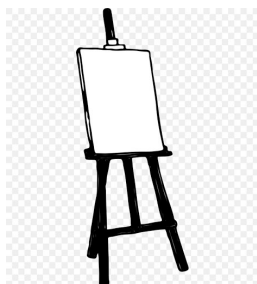
We hope to use these stories as part of a Diocesan Formation and Education project.

Please send your story to:

shareourstory@mn.catholic.org.au

Making it real art competition

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement *Making it real: Genuine human encounter in our digital world*, affirms the positive possibilities for encounter and solidarity offered by new digital media, while warning of those elements of our digital world that may be harmful. The Statement points out that we are called not just to be

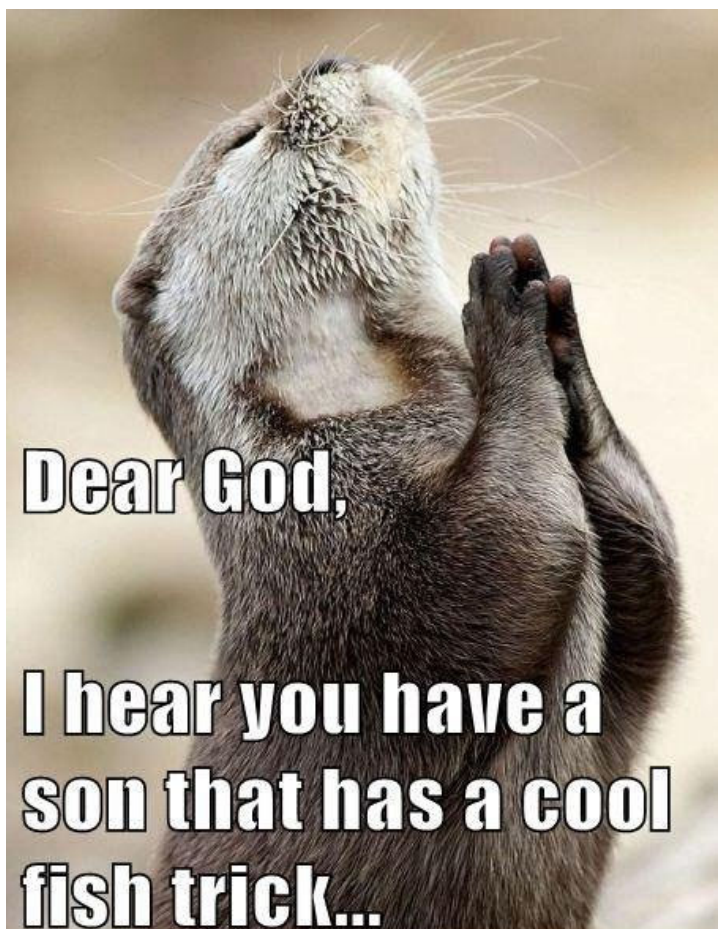


inhabitants of this new digital world, but active citizens shaping it.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes in the Social Justice Statement. Works must be on A3 paper, with a 150-word artist statement accompanying the work. Entries close Friday 14 August. Exhibition date is Saturday 29 August at San Clemente High School, Mayfield. \$150 prize for each category (Stage 3,4,5,6 and adult). Contact rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au for more information.

Marriage and Relationship Education

Do you know someone who is getting married or someone in a relationship who would like to know more about how to create strong, stable relationships? CatholicCare Social Services Hunter Manning offers pre and post marriage and relationship education workshops and individual sessions that explore the research around intentional connected relationships. They have the aim of supporting couples to build and maintain 'relationship satisfied' partnerships. Online workshops will be run soon. Go to www.catholiccare.org.au.



TIGHTENING OF COVID-19-RELATED RESTRICTIONS —24 JULY

There has been a tightening of COVID-19-related restrictions that had been previously announced by the NSW Government last week.

Because the presence of COVID-19 in our community remains a threat to the health and safety of the Australian and NSW communities, the NSW Government has determined that the public health requirements demands the tightening of some restrictions in order to protect our community. While this tightening once again impacts on the life of our Church, and may be a disappointment to some, we need to be conscious of more than just our own needs and wants in the face of the current pandemic event. As Christians, we should have not hesitancy in embracing personal sacrifice for the sake of the health and safety of the Australian community.

The announced tightening of restrictions will again come at a cost, but we must remain vigilant and disciplined in observing our moral and legal obligation towards our brothers and sisters and ensure we do all that we must to restrict the further spread of COVID-19. We look forward to a future easing of restrictions, and the opportunity to gather more freely as a worshipping community to celebrate our liturgical life in all its fullness.

Easing Taking Effect 24 July

Amendments to the current Public Health Order have been gazetted to give effect to the NSW Government announcement. The limit on the number of persons who can be present in the Cathedral is now calculated as the lesser of allowing 4 square metres per person within the building, or 100 persons.

The size of the Cathedral building means that we are able to have the full limit of **100 persons**, which limit applies to all Masses and other liturgical celebrations, as well as the Cathedral's availability for private prayer.

Opening Hours of the Cathedral

The Cathedral will continue to be open Monday through Friday from approximately 8am until approximately 5pm. You are welcome to attend the Cathedral during these hours for private prayer or a time of silence.

On weekends, the Cathedral will only be open when in use for Mass or other scheduled liturgies, generally from about one hour before the scheduled start time until approximately 30 minutes after conclusion. This decision is based on the increased need to clean the Cathedral after all liturgical

celebrations, which naturally are increased over the weekend. We apologise for any inconvenience this might cause but feel this is the most appropriate course of action in the current circumstances.

Continuing Restrictions

Although the number of persons who can be in the Cathedral has increased, there is still a requirement for the collection of contact details for those who attend any liturgical celebration in the Cathedral (e.g. Mass, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, etc.). If a 'discrete' group attends, e.g. a family, a husband and wife, people from the same household, etc., only one (adult) member of the group is required to provide their contact details. The contact details that are required are defined as a) name, b) phone number or email address, and c) the time of arrival.

We will provide a Contact Form at the door to permit this, and we have also provided an 'online' version via SignIn.com.au which permits you to sign in via your mobile phone.

The requirements regarding cleaning, observing physical distancing, refraining from communal singing, etc. remain in place for the time being, as does the requirement to refrain from physical acts of devotion that involve touching or kissing icons or statues.

Because of the need to ensure health and safety, the previously advised adaptations to the celebration of Masses and other liturgical celebrations will continue to be observed.

To manage the entrance to and exit from the Cathedral, only one door – the side door closest to the Diocesan office building – will be used for the foreseeable future. This entrance has had a hand sanitiser unit mounted on the wall for convenience and provides adequate 'desk space' to allow for the recording of contact details. The use of one door will also permit the management of numbers within the Cathedral for Mass and other liturgical celebrations.

Requirements for Attending Mass

There is no need to register in advance to attend Mass. If you wish to return to Mass, you are at liberty to do so, though there will still be the need to ensure that no more than 100 persons are at any particular Mass.

We ask those who are particularly at risk – the elderly, those with compromised health, those who are sick – to refrain from returning to Mass for the sake of their own health. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass given by the Bishop remains in place in these circumstances.

For Sunday Masses at St Joseph's, The Junction and St Mary's, Newcastle, the registration process still applies. To register, please visit the website, www.newcastlecatholic.org.au or contact the Regional Office on 4979 1101 or via email, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

If you wish to attend the Saturday evening vigil at **Broadmeadow**, please contact Gwen on 49675010 or Fr James on 0402 223415 or via email, jamesodoh768@yahoo.com

If you wish to attend the Sunday morning Mass at **Tighes Hill**, please contact Fr James on 0402 223415 or via email, jamesodoh768@yahoo.com

Important to note! If you reach voicemail when you call to register for Mass, **please leave your name and phone number and clearly identify which Mass you wish to attend.** We need to be able to contact you on Friday afternoon/evening, to confirm your attendance. We received some voicemail messages at the Regional Office this week where phone numbers were not provided and we could not complete the registration. We remind you that if you are not registered, you cannot attend Mass.

We thank you for your understanding during these difficult times and appreciate your continuing patience and support in relation to the registration requirements. These are processes we must follow in order to comply with the current Public Health Order.

Just a thought about today's Gospel...

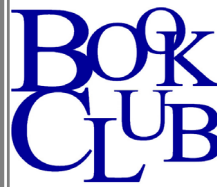
It's under the shadow of John the Baptist's death that pity moves Jesus to heal the sick and feed the crowd.

It's under the shadow of the cross that he gives himself to the Twelve as food and drink.



The threat of death, far from constraining him as it might us, prompts Jesus to extraordinary gestures of love. Nothing, he knows, can separate him from the love of God. So too for us, Paul writes.

Not one of the many things we dread has power to undo Christ's love for us. Yet fear lurks deep in the human psyche. Working with the Spirit we can face our fears and cultivate a habit of trust that sets us free.



We are continuing our 'Zoom' book club meetings. At 6.30pm on Sunday, 2nd August we will share our thoughts on the book, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, by Azar Nafisi. If you would like to participate in book club meetings, please send an email to the parish office, newcparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Praying the Sunday Gospel: Parishioners in the City Pastoral Region are invited to connect and pray with each other from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm. You and your friends are welcome to join via the internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86560170676>

CHURCH CLEANING - STOCKTON

Working Bee, to give the church a thorough clean, this Sunday **2nd Aug. @ 3pm**. Apologies for the short notice. Please come and give a hand if you are able. Many hands make light work. Hope to see you there.



LIVING THE GOSPEL

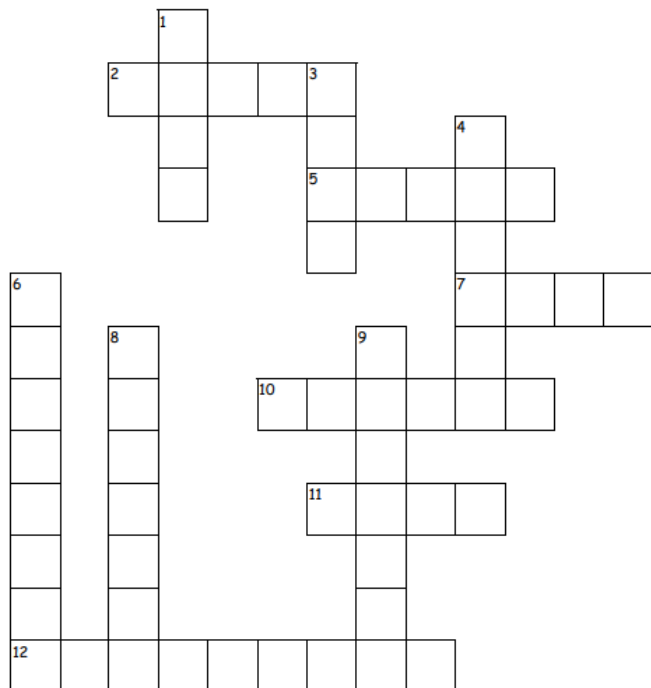
Grieving John

The passage begins with Jesus receiving the news that his cousin, John the Baptist's death. In response, Jesus immediately withdraws to a lonely place where he can be alone with his disciples. His response to this terrible news is to take time out. He wants to go away to a quiet, lonely place to pray and grieve. He doesn't just take the news in his stride and carry on regardless; he steps back from the busy-ness of life to mourn. It's a lesson for us in times of stress and grief: the response Jesus models is to take time to grieve the loss.

CROSSWORD

They ate all they wanted

Mt 14:13-21



Across

- 2: large villages
5: a large group of people
7: running behind time
10: Jesus fed the people with just five _____ of bread
11: Jesus fed the people with two of these
12: Jesus' _____ gave out the food to the crowd

Down

- 1: a vessel that floats on water
3: in need of healing
4: there were this many baskets of leftovers
6: there were more than five _____ people in the crowd
8: the remaining food was put into these
9: Jesus crossed this lake in a boat

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

Come to me and you will live

Is 55:1-3
Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, R. see v.16
Rom 8:35, 37-39
Mt 14:13-21

H R T X L B Z B L N X X E J G M R
M N F Q K O M O B O X T P F G W D
D W O R C A O J K A W N Q X M R I
K Z G N M T U N O S A L J O Q E C
E Y E N O M X O G M O P H Z E E I
E M V Y C Z X K R V T M K L L P L
J H T P C N S M E L E M I L I G R
E B H C R N T V X B T L Q D V I C
Z K I N M C P P Z M A H V B S A D
H Z R D Y L C H U G C F G W E S X
N B S K Y Z V G E N P H E S A U J
O L T L L Z S U S R A Q D X I E F
E A Y L R E F I S H U O F D Z X K
V H A N V G C U N R O T G S E B M
I G E A W K Y Z Q F R Q U O M O A
L J O C K L B Z Q N N X O F A T P
F L G A Y D Z O J Z Z S L I A I B

Try to find these words:

boat
crowd
fish
food
future
Galilee
live
loaves
love
money
sick
thirsty