

The Dreamer

Exclusive news for the St. Joseph's Indian School DreamMakers



July 2024

Bible Story Serves as Model for St. Joseph's Outreach Program

How does the message of one popular Bible story still resonate today? Read to find out!

In the Bible story “Feeding of the Five Thousand,” or more commonly recognized as “The loaves and fishes,” Jesus performs a miracle by multiplying five loaves of bread and two fish to feed a large crowd of people who had gathered to hear His teachings.*

As you may remember from the story, some of the disciples were doubtful they could manage to feed everyone. In fact, they suggested they send the crowd away.

Imagine sending a crowd of hungry people away. How quickly our compassion is overshadowed by thoughts of, “We don’t have the resources,” “We don’t have the staff” or another that is so often used, “We don’t have the time.”

But Jesus wouldn’t have any of that.

“Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied.”

— Matthew 14:19-20

While Jesus was physically on Earth, He performed many miracles — including this one. But following His death and resurrection, who is left on Earth to continue His miracles?

... We are. While Jesus may not be physically here doling out dinner portions of bread and fish, we are. We are here. We are here not to live for ourselves, but for Jesus. Part of that is taking care of

(over, please)



his precious children.

Each summer, St. Joseph’s Indian School executes an outreach effort to feed Lakota (Sioux) families in reservation communities all over South Dakota. While the nearly 200 food boxes we drop off at homes — valued at more than \$175 each — are not filled with loaves and fish, they are packed with the following:

- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Pasta
- Rice
- Peanut butter
- Meats
- Snacks
- Cereals
- Canned sauces
- And much more!



This outreach effort is a big undertaking. There are hundreds of miles of travel required — sometimes on roads way off the beaten path. It takes resources (close to \$30,000 last year for the food alone). And it takes time ... but Jesus didn’t turn away, so neither will we, thanks to you!

“Seeing the smiles on the kids’ and adults’ faces is the absolute greatest experience,” said Colton, St. Joseph’s coordinator of this summer outreach program. “We’re told over and over again what a blessing we are when we make these trips. Families are so appreciative.”



The success of this food box outreach initiative is truly a testament to the power of collective kindness. Through steadfast commitment and donations, we are not just providing meals; we are nurturing hope, fostering resilience and empowering families to thrive despite the challenges they face. Together, we are bringing hope and making a lasting difference in the lives of Native American children and their families.



*(Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 3:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; and John 6:1-15)

DID YOU KNOW?

While we attempt to include as many fresh products as possible, it’s important to remember not all homes have the proper electrical setups, making non-perishables more valuable. Here is the Lakota word for some of the food items in the food boxes.

Tǎló — *meat* | **Waskúyeča** — *fruit* | **Psín** — *rice*



St. Joseph's Indian School
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.
PO Box 326
Chamberlain, SD 57325
1-800-762-2162 • www.stjo.org/Dreamer
Printed at Tipi Press Printing

Traevin emáčiyapi. My name is Traevin.

I have been going to school at St. Joe's since the 3rd grade. That means that I have had lakota language for 6 years. Learning my people's first language was good because I got learn a new language.

Some of my favorite activities on campus are Basketball and football

what I really want to tell you is that I am thankful for friends like you who give to our school so that we can take our 7th grade cultural trip. What this trip means to me is that I can learn new stuff and how stuff was made like the Black elk peak. My lakota culture has taught me how my great great family spoke.

Phila'mayaye (thank you) for what you do for me and the kids here at st. Joe.

Lila wophila. (I am grateful) Traevin 😊

