**"Will You Also Go Away?"  
Staying with Jesus**  
All of Scripture is inspired by God, but some parts stand out in their beauty and teaching power. Chapter 6 is John's Gospel, in which Jesus says, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh" (John 6:51). This teaching wasn't accepted by everyone. And still not accepted by everyone today.  
**DID YOU KNOW** at the end of this chapter Jesus loses many disciples? And then he turns to His Apostles and says some of the saddest words He ever spoke: "Will you go also go away?" (John 6:67). Imagine yourself at that moment listening to Jesus say "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed" (John 6:54-55). But many of his disciples did not realize he was not talking about an earthly domain. He had to the Father's will, and that meant His suffering and death on the Cross. By atoning for OUR sins and destroying the power of death by His Resurrection, He opens the gates of the Kingdom of Heaven - the true Kingdom - that were closed from the time of the fall from grace in the Garden of Eden.    
   
It's clear from the emphasis Jesus places on the Bread of Life discourse-even to the point of losing disciples-that the EUCHARIST is central to HIS message and HIS mission. Jesus even goes further and says "Will You Also Go Away?" because He is telling his Apostles that if they cannot handle His teaching on the Eucharist, then they should walk away as well.   
**BUT DID YOU KNOW**  despite Peter's proclaiming the Apostles' faith in Jesus' teaching, Judas did not believe in his heart? Bishop Sheen called Judas the "Eucharisticless priest," a priest who had no time for or devotion to the Eucharist. Judas stayed with Jesus anyway even though he no longer believed in his heart. This insincerity was the seed that led to his betrayal.   
How would we respond to that question of Jesus, "Will you also go away?"  
​As you walk toward Father Guillermo to receive the body and blood of our Lord, ponder on Jesus' speech. And when you receive the beautiful gift from Heaven - remember the Eucharist is the foretaste of the heavenly banquet. So let us pray that we will persevere in our love and fidelity to Christ in the Eucharist.   
We pass through this life only once. Let us use every opportunity we can to do good, to serve the Lord, and to remain faithful to Him.