

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

Observances for the week of April 25, 2021

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter

Monday: Sts. Phillip and James, Apostles

Tuesday: Wednesday: Thursday: Friday: Saturday:

Next Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Anyone familiar with gardening knows that proper and timely pruning is essential. The health of the plant depends upon it. An unpruned tree can quickly produce suckers that zap many of the essential nutrients from its body. Pruning requires patience and vision. Studies reveal that plants often respond defensively to being pruned, displaying reactions that are similar to hurt or discomfort. Pruning is not easy but necessary. A hard lesson for us to learn is that we also need to be pruned. We become far healthier when we allow God to stretch, refine, and form us into the best version of ourselves. The fruit that then comes from our vines will be more abundant, nutritious, and robust. Left to our own devices we can easily find ourselves running amuck and spiraling out of control. Without a proper vision and trust in the Master Pruner, we will never find the contentment we desperately desire. Nor will the work of the Gospel stand a chance of succeeding.

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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading:

Luke tells us how the conversion of Saul (Paul) and the acceptance by the disciples of him helped facilitate peace in the Church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria. What do you think is needed to bring about peace in our Church today?

Second Reading:

John teaches his community that believing in Jesus and loving one another is the heart of God's commandment. How would you assess yourself in following this two-fold command?

Gospel:

Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus urges his disciples to "remain in me" in order to bear good fruit and thereby glorify God. What would be some examples of "good fruit" that you have produced?

MASS SCHEDULE



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass 5pm

Sunday 10am, 12 Noon, 5.30pm

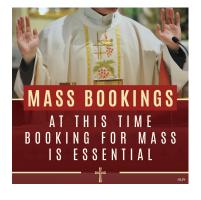
WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday (except Thursday)
Mass at 10am

*Thursday*Mass at 7pm

Saturday Morning (online only)
Mass at 10am

At this time, during current restrictions, booking is essential for weekend Masses



TO BOOK CLICK HERE

OR CALL 07593 825035

MASS BOOKINGS

From this week we **WILL NOT** be using a booking system for **WEEKDAY MASS** (MONDAY-FRIDAY).

If we reach our capacity in the church (*which is unchanged*) up tp 30 people will be able to participate in Mass from the hall. Holy Communion will be brought to those in the hall.

BOOKINGS ARE STILL ESSENTIAL FOR WEEKEND MASSES THROUGH EVENTBRITE OR THE DEDICATED MOBILE NUMBER

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INITIATIVE FOR MAY

Pope Francis has asked that we pray throughout May for the end to the coronavirus pandemic. At the end of Mss each day during May we will prayer a decade of the rosary for that day's intention. Throughout the month there will be opportunities to join in the Rosary online.

The Rosary will be prayed at a different Marian Shrines throughout the world at 5pm each evening . The YouTube link is here: https://youtu.be/dCDr9ft0Ym4

The Rosary will also be prayed at shrines throughout Great Britain at 8pm each evening. Bishop Joh will be leading the Sunday prayers. Use the following link to access the details for each day.

https://rcdop.org.uk/rosary-stronghold

THANK YOU!

For your continuing donations to support the parish over these past months. While these are essential for us, for many people this is a difficult time and everything that you give is very, very gratefully received and much appreciated

Donations can be made in various ways -

- many people have started using Standing Orders, the forms are available on our website and should be returned to Fr. Jim.
- Online donations can be made through online offertory button on our website
- envelopes can be posted in the white collection box at the entrance to the church
- Or through the Church House letterbox.

CHRISM MASS

Bishop John will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the clergy of the Diocese on Friday 7th May at 3.00pm. This will only be open to the clergy, however, parishioners can join in the liturgy via the live stream at the Cathedral. Click on the link below to follow the Mass.

https://youtu.be/WKesnTNWowA

FIRST COMMUNIONS

Please keep the children and families of P4 in your prayers over the coming couple of weeks who will be receiving their First Holy Communion at Masses on 8th & 15th at 10am & 12 Noon.

BBC SUNDAY MASS

Mass from St. Andrew's Parish in Galashiels will be broadcast on BBC Scotland at 12 noon this Sunday (2nd May) the broadcast can be viewed on the channels listed here and subsequently on iPlayer. Freeview 9 and 108; Sky 119; Freesat 106. Please encourage views and downloads which are recorded by the BBC and can support efforts by SCMO to commission Catholic programming in future.

VOCATIONS

"Saul went round preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord." Could you have the zeal of Saul for sharing the power of the Gospel and the love of Christ? Speak to our Vocations Director, Fr. John Morrison 01418895056 or e-mail vocations@rcdop.org.uk

THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

As you begin considering how to vote please check out our Scottish Bishops Election Resource link: Scottish Parliament Election 2021 – Catholic Parliamentary Office (rcpolitics.org) It lets you know where political parties stand on issues that impinge upon our Catholic faith and life and is also being updated with particular candidates' positions on these matters.

SCOTTISH CATHOLIC OBSERVER

Sadly, The Catholic Herald has notified that the Scottish Catholic Observer was wound up at the end of December 2020.

ONLINE MARRIAGE COUNSELLING AVAILABLE DURING COVID 19 CRISIS

Our diocese has a Counselling Service for Catholics Married in the Catholic Church with our dedicated Catholic Marriage Counsellor. If you are concerned about your relationship and feel you are both unable to reach a conclusion alone, it is likely that you will benefit from marriage counselling. The counsellor is there to maintain a neutral, nonjudgmental position. For information or advice please email in confidence counselling@rcdop.org.uk

SCRIPTURE AND SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE 10TH - 11TH JULY 2021

John of the Cross and the experience of transforming love. This years' conference focuses on St. John of the Cross and his life changing teachings of how love can transform each and every one of us. Through six thought provoking talks, each of us can learn how to become beacons of light to

greater reflect Christ and offer hope to a world in much need of healing. This year, we have been blessed with six renowned speakers, authors and experts, who will bring St. John's teachings to life and transform how we grow in our love and spirituality. For more information www.carmelite.uk.net/ssc or contact ruth.preston@carmelite.org.uk Tel: 07849 596 572

THE LOGOS & LITERATURE: ELABORATING THE DIVINE

A series of online evening talks exploring some of the great themes of Catholic Christianity in writing old and new, with Catholic scholars and contemporary authors. Every second Thursday at 7:30pm from 29th April. For info and registration: https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/logos-and-literature/

CRAIG LODGE, DALMALLY, MISSION HOUSE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Craig Lodge Community is offering a new opportunity to young Catholics on how to live a life of mission. Craig Lodge Mission House is a nine-month residential programme for any young adult between the ages of 18-30 who desires to become a passionate lover of Jesus and become Spirit-filled evangelisers for the renewal of the Church," (Pope Francis). Community, prayer and studying of the Catholic faith and learning to proclaim the Good News to others". The mission house will begin in September 2021 and applications are now being accepted. Visit the Craig Lodge website for more details. www.craiglodge.org/missionhouse

Jesus is the True Vine

Jesus says that He is the vine and we are the branches. Branches grow out from a vine and receive their food from the main stem. They grow leaves and bear fruit.



Our souls get their life from Jesus. When we stay united with Him then our souls are healthy and able to do good works, like the grapes that grow on a

healthy vine.

Doing a serious sin is like cutting oneself off of the main vine. The nutrition can't flow into the branch because it's cut off! The branch can't grow leaves or fruit and it withers and dries up. Even though you can't see it, that is what happens to a soul that doesn't have God's life coming into it.

Sometimes a branch of a vine needs to be pruned. A bit gets cut off, but then it grows even better where it was cut. In the same way, sometimes God lets us suffer, but then our souls can grow even stronger

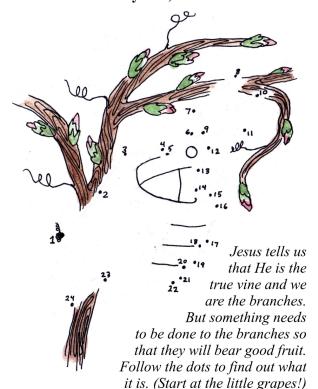
and bear more good fruit. Next time you are suffering, remember that God might be using this time to make your soul stronger!

Answers to True or False: I true 2.true 3.true 3.true 4.true 3.true 4.true 4.true 3.trae 6.true 4.true 4.true 5.trae

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2nd, 2021



Blessed Catherine of St. Augustine May 8















GREW IN CANADA. SOON SR. CATHERINE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE NOVICES, THE NEW SISTERS. SHE CARED FOR THE SICK UNTIL SHE DIED AT

BLESSED CATHERINE LOVED THE SICK PEOPLE AND CARED FOR THEM BECAUSE SHE KNEW THAT BY HELPING OTHERS SHE WAS BEING KIND TO JESUS. WHEN YOU SEE SOMEONE WHO IS POOR OR SICK OR LONELY, REMEMBER THAT BY BEING KIND TO THAT PERSON YOU ARE BEING KIND TO JESUS.

SAINT PAUL: TRUE OR FALSE

How much do you know about Saint Paul when he first became a Christian?

- 1. Saint Paul's name used to be Saul. True or false?
- 2. Before his conversion, Saint Paul hated the Christians. True or false?
- 3. The disciples in Jerusalem were afraid of Paul when he first came. True or false?
- 4. Barnabas told the other Christians that Saint Paul had seen our Lord on the way to Damascus. True or false?
- 5. It took a long time before Saint Paul began to speak about Jesus in public. True or false?
- 6. When Saint Paul told some people about Jesus, they tried to kill him. True or false?
- 7. The other disciples would not let Saint Paul travel around to preach about Jesus. True or false?

Don't forget to check your answers on the back page!

