

St. PETER's Church 844 Centre Rd, East Bentleigh 3165 St. PAUL's Church 122 Jasper Rd, Bentleigh 3204 St. CATHERINE's Church 2 Buchan St, Moorabbin 3189

We deeply respect the Aboriginal Community of Bunnerong upon whose land our parish resides

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B - 1ST & 2ND MAY 2021

ADMIN CENTRE

844 Centre Rd, East Bentleigh 3165

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 4:00pm

Tel: 9579 4255 - AH/Urgent: 0429 521 061 Email: officeholytrinityparish@cam.org.au Webpage: www.holytrinityparish.org.au

Clerical Officers

Anabel Acosta-Harvey (Mon & Wed)
Marushka Dias (Monday, Tuesday & Friday)
Shavvone Fuimaono (Wed, Thurs & Fri)
Linda De Souza (Wednesday Volunteer)

Bookkeeper

Luisa May (Monday)

Email: financeholytrinityparish@cam.org.au

Stewardship Program

Kelvin Wong (Monday & *Tuesday Volunteer*)

Email: Kelvin.Wong@cam.org.au

PASTORAL CENTRE

122 Jasper Rd, Bentleigh 3204

Mon - Fri 9:00am - 2.30pm

Tel: 9579 4255 - AH/Urgent: 0429 521 061

Email: pastoralholytrinityparish@cam.org.au

Pastoral Co-ordinator

Donrita Reefman (Sat to Thurs fortnightly)

Pastoral Associates (10.00am—3.30pm)

Kathie Martin (Monday & Wednesday) Cynthia White (Thursday & Friday) Loretta Hughes (Volunteer) Kathy Lillis (Baptisms) & Delia Donohue

Sacramental Teachers

Betty De Marco & Lidia Boschini

Priests:Fr. Jacob M.S.T. (Parish Priest) Email: raju.jacob@cam.org.au

Fr. Paul Gurry, Fr. Clem Cafarella

Fr. Malcolm Crawford, Fr. John O'Reilly

Fr. Paul Marshall, Fr. Stephen Hanly

THE GLORY OF GOD IN JESUS

The purpose of all the divine pruning in this Sunday's gospel is that the disciples might 'bear much fruit.' When disciples 'bear much fruit,' then 'my Father [is] glorified.' Just as Jesus glorified God 'by accomplishing the work that [the Father] gave me to do' (17:4), the disciples glorify



God by doing what they have been commanded by Jesus to do (15:12). In this way, both Jesus and the disciples accomplish the same end: they glorify God. To 'glorify God' does not add anything to God but it makes manifest the glory that already belongs to God. It is helpful to look at the Old Testament to understand what the glory of God means.

In the OT 'glory' was used to describe both the presence and the deeds of God. First, 'glory' was a way to speak of God's presence. Thus, when God wanted to be made physically present to the Israelites, God revealed his glory in the cloud of presence (e.g., Exod 16:10; 24:16); when Solomon finished building the Temple, God's presence/glory there was revealed in the cloud that filled the sanctuary (1 Kgs 8:11); or, again, to say that 'All the earth is filled with his glory!' (Isa 6:3) means that God is present everywhere. Second, 'glory' described God's mighty deeds, i.e., God made the divine glory manifest in powerful acts, such as confounding Pharaoh (Exod 14:4, 17-18) or in wondrous deeds such as raining manna from heaven (Exod 16:7) and making the desert bloom (Isa 35:2). For John the Evangelist the ultimate manifestation of the glory/presence of God is Jesus himself, for Jesus is the divine presence in flesh (1:1, 14) and in his signs and deeds he reveals his glory (2:11) which is also the glory of God (13:31-32). In Jesus both divine presence and divine action are manifest, which is to say that God is glorified. In the same way that God is glorified (i.e., God's presence is made manifest) when Jesus fulfils his mission (17:4), God is glorified when Jesus' followers bear the fruit of faithful discipleship. How might we reflect the "glory of God", which is the path to fully lived

(sourced from Liturgia.com.au)
Donrita Reefman, Parish Pastoral Coordinator.

life, in our own daily lives?

HOLY TRINITY PARISH FEDERATED SCHOOLS







Principal Co-ordinator Michael Juliff

St. Peter's Primary School

Principal: Michael Hanney Phone: 9575 0909

St. Paul's Primary School

Principal: Catherine Tammesild Phone: 9557 7130

St. Catherine's Primary School

Principal: Lynda O'Donnell Phone: 9555 7200

PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

PLEASE KEEP 1.5M APART FOR SOCIAL **DISTANCING**

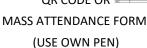


PLEASE SANITISE YOUR HANDS ON ARRIVAL & **DEPARTURE**









PLEASE SIT WHERE



DISTANCE MARKERS ARE SHOWN.

FAMILIES MAY SIT TOGETHER

PLEASE SANITISE YOUR HANDS BEFORE **RECEIVING HOLY** COMMUNION



PLEASE OBSERVE THE **ENTRY AND EXIT** LOCATIONS



HOLY TRINITY PARISH NEWS

A BIG THANK YOU!

CRAFTY LADIES took a total of \$1400.00 at St Peter's this last weekend and it will



MOTHER'S DAY CAKE TOPPERS

Mothers Day cake toppers available for purchase at \$10 for the large



ones and \$8 for the small. These toppers are handmade by one of the ladies. Please ring Sheelagh on 0408249489 if interested. Thank you.

LEGION OF MARY MEETINGS

The legion of Mary has started their weekly meetings on Wednesday at 10.30am in the St. Paul's Pastoral Centre. For further information please

EMPLOYMENT OPPURTUNITY

Office person casual permanent required for small business. General office work including invoicing and emails. Flexible working hours. Salary offered \$40 per hour. Contact: Terence Thomas 0423 304 348 for further details.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

We wish *Marie Boyle* "A Happy 80th Birthday" Have a wonderful day!



WEDDING WISHES

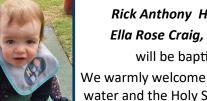


We wish Swithin and Maddi "A Very Happy Married Life" they got married on Thursday 29th April at St. Peter's Church. Also Rhiannin Bretherton and Glenn Becket who will be getting married Friday 30th April at St Pauls **Parish**





BAPTISMS



Rick Anthony Hall, Mila Audrey Nina Salomone, Ella Rose Craig, Ryan Craig and Jake Grove Craig will be baptised on 2nd May at St. Paul's.

We warmly welcome them as they will be baptised through water and the Holy Spirit this weekend. We welcome their parents and Godparents.



SACRAMENT OF 1ST RECONCILIATION

We warmly welcome the children who will receive the Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation this weekend.

At St. Peter's on Sunday 1st May - Amelia Webb, Jake Richardson, Sienna Benvenuto, Sunday McCarthy, Annabelle Sheen, Micky Hlavati, Ashlyn Burke, Liam Martin, Ava Lawrence, Eva Cahill, Liam Martin.

Congratulations! May you experience God's Love, Peace and Joy in your hearts!

PRESENTATION OF STUDENTS FOR CONFIRMATION

The students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be presented at all the weekend masses at St. Peters. Please keep them in your prayers. Thank you.

HOLY TRINITY MASS SCHEDULE FROM 3RD MAY- 9TH MAY 2021

WEEK COMMENCING 3RD MAY 2021					
MONDAY 3RD MAY					
10:00 am	Mass	St. Peter's			
TUESDAY 4TH MAY					
10:00 am	Mass	St. Paul's			
WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY					
10:00am	Mass	St. Catherine's			
THURSDAY 6TH MAY					
10:00am	Mass	St. Paul's			
FRIDAY 7TH MAY					
10.00am	Mass	St. Peter's			
	SATURDAY 8TH	MAY			
8.30am	Mass	St. Catherine's			
6.00pm	Mass	St. Paul's			
6.30pm	Mass	St. Peter's			
SUNDAY 9TH MAY					
8:30 am	Mass	St. Peter's			
9:30 am	Mass	St. Paul's			
10:30 am	Mass	St. Catherine's			
10:30 am	Mass	St. Peter's			
5.30 pm	Mass	St. Peter's			

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Individual confessions are available 1/2 hour before each Mass. Thank you.

WEEKLY CALENDAR					
EVENT	PLACE	TIME			
Funeral	St. Peter's	Mon 3rd May			
Grace Mary Morton		11.00am			
Charismatic Prayer Group	St. Peter's	Mon 8pm			
St Vincent De Paul	Sweeney	Mon 7pm			
Meetings (Moorabbin /	Centre at St.	Fortnightly			
Bentleigh)	Catherine's				
East Bentleigh	Lighthouse	Mon 7pm			
		Fortnightly			
Legion of Mary Meetings	St. Paul's	Wed 10.30am			
	Pastoral Centre				
Sacramental Program	Admin Centre	Wed 4—5pm			
Memorial Mass for John	St. Paul's	Thurs 6th May			
Mason & Joanne Le Sueur		10am			
Adoration	St. Catherine's	Thurs 4—7pm			
Friday Morning Too	Mc Kenna	·			
Friday Morning Tea		Friday after			
	Centre	Morning Mass			

ST PETER'S LIVE STREAMING MASS

Please join us for Mass on Saturdays at 6.30pm.



http://holytrinityparish.org.au/?page id=3165

COMPLIANCE REGULATIONS

Please continue to register your attendance via QR Code scan or by writing your contact details on the form provided.



We will no longer be required to book for mass, however we will:

- Need to use QR Code
- It is not mandatory to wear face mask indoors.
- Use hand sanitiser and sanitise the church after Mass.
- Adhere to social distancing between household groups.

THANKS GIVING CONTRIBUTIONS						
2021	St Catherine	St Paul	St Peter	Total		
January	3,770.00	8,487.50	17,681.55	29,939.05		
February	3,317.10	7,540.50	9,425.00	20,282.60		
March	3,683.00	5,500.20	10,874.00	20,057.20		

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

- 1. **Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation:** The last date for the Reconciliation Classes is Wednesday 5th May.
- **2. Sacrament of 1st Holy Eucharist**: The 1st Holy Eucharist classes will commence on Wednesday 12th May till 14th July from 4—5pm in the Admin Centre. Lidia Boschini will coordinate these classes.
- **3. Sacrament of Confirmation**: The Confirmation classes will take place on Wednesdays till 26th May from 4—5pm in the Admin Centre. Betty De Marco will coordinate these classes.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.



Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing!

The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

The next residential weekend is on **21-23 May 2021 in Wantirna South.** (Book early to avoid disappointment)

Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676

or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

Website: wwme.org.au

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES - 1ST / 2ND MAY & 8TH / 9TH MAY 2021					
St. Peter's	Day / Time	1st / 2nd May	8th / 9th May		
LECTORS	Sat: 6.30pm	Barbara Fabris/Drusilla G	Sahil Lobo / Niloufer Lobo		
	Sun: 8.30am	S Judy/S Margaret	Lorraine Mathews / Abbie Rayen		
	10.30am	Aprille T/Shane T	John Fitzsimon / Lorraine Calnon		
	5.30pm	Kerry Burns/Rohini Tannen	Kerry Bratby / Annie Herbison		
COMPUTER	Sat: 6.30pm				
OPERATORS	Sun: 8.30am				
	10.30am				
	5.30pm				
SACRISTAN	Sat: 6.30pm				
	Sun: 8.30am	Vanita Fernandez	Vanita Fernandez		
	10.30am	Vanita Fernandez	Vanita Fernandez		
	5.30pm				
CHOIR	Sat: 6.30pm	Dan Merta			
	Sun: 8.30am	Theja T	Bozana		
	10.30am	Kenn R			
	5.30pm	Ernest C	Darryl Paris		
COUNTERS	Mon: 10.30am	Kerry Honey / Marie D / Rosario /	Kerry Honey / Julian Conheady		
		Lorna Melder			
St. Paul's	Day / Time	1st / 2nd May	8th / 9th May		
	,,		•		
LECTORS	Sat: 6.00pm	Vanita Carvalho/Mario Mirabile	Claire Stanley/Sarah Arnott		
	• -	Vanita Carvalho/Mario Mirabile Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne	Claire Stanley/Sarah Arnott Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan		
	Sat: 6.00pm	· ·			
LECTORS	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne			
LECTORS	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan		
COMPUTER OPERATORS	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer		
LECTORS COMPUTER OPERATORS	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan		
COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter		
COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald		
LECTORS COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN CHOIR	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Barb and Sue	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Jane and Chris Renwick		
LECTORS COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN CHOIR COUNTERS: (To be	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Barb and Sue	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Jane and Chris Renwick		
LECTORS COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN CHOIR COUNTERS: (To be counted at St Peters.)	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Mon: 10.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Barb and Sue Frank Poci	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Jane and Chris Renwick Angie Gomes		
COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN CHOIR COUNTERS: (To be counted at St Peters.) St. Catherine's	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Mon: 10.30am Day / Time	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Barb and Sue Frank Poci 1st / 2nd May	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Jane and Chris Renwick Angie Gomes 8th / 9th May		
COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN CHOIR COUNTERS: (To be counted at St Peters.) St. Catherine's LECTORS	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Mon: 10.30am Day / Time Sun: 10.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Barb and Sue Frank Poci 1st / 2nd May Peter Visalli/Catherine Sidaway	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Jane and Chris Renwick Angie Gomes 8th / 9th May Bernie Gill / Mary Gill		
LECTORS COMPUTER OPERATORS SACRISTAN CHOIR COUNTERS: (To be counted at St Peters.) St. Catherine's LECTORS COMPUTER	Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Sat: 6.00pm Sun: 9.30am Mon: 10.30am Day / Time Sun: 10.30am	Patricia Baxter/Glynn Mayne Brindyl Madhusudan Teresa Meyer Tien N Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Barb and Sue Frank Poci 1st / 2nd May Peter Visalli/Catherine Sidaway	Teresa Meyer/Margaret McGowan Teresa Meyer Brindyl Madhusudan Patricia Baxter Chrys Theobald Jane and Chris Renwick Angie Gomes 8th / 9th May Bernie Gill / Mary Gill		

Pray for Our Community

For Healing

<u>St. PETER's:</u> Nielson Fernandes, George Regos, Barbara Regos, Suzanne Sipos, David Robertson, Betty Pattison, Ariel Mayo, Steven, Reg Smythe, Baby Jaiden Bruce, Jeanette Webb, Ernie Stephens, Yvonne May, Avis Smith, Mary Leyshon, Lois Durkin, Margaret Buttigieg, Kevin Owens, Emma Thursky, Victoria, Sharon Markell, Val Hendry, Ashley Popov, Bob Cull, Sam Williams, Jackie Greeley, Helen Mille, Wan Kok On, Wayne Butteriss, Rosemary Anthonisz, Sue Bartlett (Austin), Dr Edna Pereira, Martin Johnson, Tyson Joseph, Nelson Fernandes, Naomi Puf, George, Sandra Jones (Qld), Leonie Kerley, Vince Bezzina, Riley Sinclair, Des Lawler, Marco Paoli, Jakob Deans, Mark Lewis, Judy Meehan, Jenny Liston, Josh Kelly, Eric Dodd, Cyril Johnson.

<u>St. PAUL's:</u> Aileen Gallagher, Maria Pellizer, Joshua Smith, Noelle Tierney, Tanya Wall, Betty Perabo, Peter Morrissey, Barbara Stife, Margaret Leigh.

<u>St. CATHERINE's</u>: Mary Hackett, Baby Charlotte Pillar, Jolyn Butler, Gillian Gamble, Baby Francis Farrell Cavanagh, Anita Meares, Philip Wszola, Allan Bui, Bill Baird, Matthew Connors, Anthony Leggiero, Peter Brown, Aubrey Milhussin, Rodney Butts, Tony Mallozzi, Emma Mallozzi, Noreen Davidson, Dolly Hoff, Anne Grounds, Peter Wilson, Jeff Rudland, Karen Ogden, Peter Jennings, Eileen Ellerton.

Recently Deceased

St. Peter's: Grace Mary Morton.

Birthday Remembrance

St. PETER's: Eddie Rodrigues.

Monthly Remembrance

St. PETER's: Inez Thomas.

St. CATHERINE's: Martin Larkin.

Anniversaries occurring around this time

St. PETER's: Marie Fisher, Maurice Desilva, Michael Williamson, Theresa Curtis.

St. PAUL's: Joseph (Joe) de Hoedt, Alda Vanzella, John Mason & Joanne Le Sueur.

St. CATHERINE's: Norm Murray, Giovanni Cerisara, Relda Ruddy, Kevin Coppinger, Salvatore Palisi, Marie Rivalland, Caroline O'Shea, Emma Demech, John McKernan, Janet Gill, Muriel Reed, Pietro Visalli, Stephanie Lazaruk.



FUNERAL SERVICES FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED

Our heartfelt prayers and condolences to the families of *Grace Mary Morton*.

Grace Mary Morton: Funeral Mass on Monday 3rd May 2021 at St. Peter's - 11am

May her soul rest in peace. Amen.

AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC COALITION FOR CHURCH REFORM INVITES AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS TO THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF CONVOCATIONS VIA ZOOM

<u>Sunday 2 May 2021, 9am to 10.30am</u>: You are invited to a webinar, a virtual Convocation of Catholics, on the Future of Catholicism in Australia in this year of the Plenary Council or receive a recording later.

Sr. Joan Chittister will address the Convocation on renewal directions, priorities, hopes and aspirations.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge as President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is supporting the Convocation with a greeting.

The Convocations will be public and free. Participants can register to attend from home via their computer, individually or with a group. A link and instructions will be sent to all registrants.

Register https://garratt1.wufoo.com/forms/s1698nzm1qsjym3/. For further information contact: Kevin Liston. E. auscathcoalition@gmail.com Ph. +61 411 197 829 / www.acccr.com.au

If you would like your or your loved ones name added to our Pray for Healing List, or for any anniversaries please email officeholytrinityparish@cam.org.au or contact the **Admin Centre (9579 4255).**

NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN

Kindly note that any notices to be put in the bulletin should reach the Admin Centre latest by Wednesday 3pm.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Fr.Stephen Hanly and Fr. Paul Marshall are studying Spiritual Direction at the Heart of Life. Interested parishioners are invited to consider Spiritual Direction. It's a way of becoming more aware of how God is present in your everyday life. If you wish to experience spiritual accompaniment free of charge, Stephen and Paul are looking at offering sessions on Fri and Sat beginning 14th May. Contact Marlene on 9890 1101 for more information.



DID YOU KNOW...?

"Jesus nut" The "Jesus nut," also called the "Jesus pin," is the nut that holds the main rotor to the mast of some helicopters, such as the UH-1 Iroquois. The long, strong metallic fans of the helicopter are fitted to the main rotor of the mast. The "Jesus nut" is a slang term first coined by American soldiers in Vietnam; the technical term is MRRN or main rotor retaining nut. The origin of the term comes from the idea that, if the "Jesus nut" were to fail in flight, the helicopter would



detach from the rotors and the only thing left for the crew to do would be to pray to Jesus before the helicopter crashed. -- Today's Gospel explains why Jesus must be the pivotal point in our lives, through the little parable of the vine and the branches.

First reading, Acts 9:26-31: Today's first reading, taken from Acts, concentrates on one apostle in particular, namely Paul, who was pruned like a vine to be an apostle "by the will of God" (1 Cor 1:1). The story of Paul's conversion and call to become the Apostle to the Gentiles is narrated three times in Acts, in Chapters 9, 22 and 26. Today's reading, taken from Acts 9, describes the aftermath of his transformation from enemy of the early Christian movement to God's chosen instrument for bringing the Gospel to non-Jews. Jesus himself pruned away the former Saul, the Saul who had persecuted the Church, to make Paul, a man whose life was entirely dedicated to the proclamation of the Gospel. But when Paul, after preaching in Damascus for "a long time" (v 23), came to Jerusalem, the disciples in Jerusalem were afraid of him. Finally, they recognized the transforming power of the Spirit of God operating in Paul and gave their full support to him. Because Paul had become a vigorous witness for Christ, the Hellenists (Greek-speaking Jews), tried to kill him. When Paul's life was threatened, the other apostles helped him to leave Jerusalem and return to Tarsus. But even this setback in Paul's missionary work turned out to be just one more example of God's pruning of Paul - the vine-branch - to bring forth a greater harvest: the mission to the Gentiles.

Second Reading, 1 John 3:18-24: The New American Bible states that some members of John's early Christian community were advocating false doctrines, by refusing to accept the full Divinity and full humanity of Jesus; by disregarding the commandment of love of neighbor; by refusing to accept Faith in Christ as the source of sanctification; and by denying the redemptive value of Jesus' death. Hence, John says in the opening sentence in today's reading, "Little children, let us love in deed and in truth and not merely talk about it." John is criticizing pious Christians who are comfortable with their petty hatreds and uncaring indifference, as though such attitudes were acceptable behavior for those saved by Christ. The next sentence, "His commandment is this: We are to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and are to love one another as He commanded us," summarizes best the essence of Christianity and disapproves extreme ideological positions like those threatening the Church today, namely, (1) dogmatic conservatism, which makes creedal orthodoxy the only criterion, (2) fideism in which all that matters is "accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior," and (3) liberalism, which reduces Christianity to living peacefully with others. The concluding advice, "keep (God's) commandments," invites us to a transformed life, flowing from a mutual, intimate relationship between God and each of us individual believers -- our union with Him in His love. It follows that we must love each other with the same selfless, sacrificial, forgiving love with which Jesus Christ loved, and loves, us; indeed, that is His command to us. John also teaches us that personal assurance of salvation doesn't depend on intense religious experience (being "born again"), or dramatic charismatic expressions among believers (like speaking in tongues, healing, or handling poisonous snakes). Rather, we are saved because we are members of Christ – of His Church, the community gifted with God's "Spirit," in which the Holy Spirit's presence is demonstrated by the members' genuine, active, loving concern for each other.

THE WORD OF THE LORD - YEAR B 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 2ND MAY 2021



Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit. **The word of the Lord.**

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

- (R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. or
- (R.) Alleluia!
- 1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
- 2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)
- 3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk,

but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to Your Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon Jn 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia

Readings for 6th Sunday of Easter — Year B 9th May 2021

First Reading: Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

Second Reading: 1 Jn 4:7-10

Gospel: Jn 15:9-17