

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.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, /
Creator of heaven and earth, / and in
Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, /
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, /
born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under
Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and
was buried; / he descended into hell; /
on the third day he rose again from the
dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is
seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty; / from there he will come to
judge the living and the dead. / I believe
in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic
Church, / the communion of saints, / the
forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of
the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread
and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to
each prayer:*

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that
my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to
God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at
your hands for the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and the good of all
his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. O God, who by the wonderful exchange
effected in this sacrifice have made us
partakers of the one supreme Godhead,
grant, we pray, that, as we have come to
know your truth, we may make it ours by a
worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-V OF EASTER

After the Preface, we sing or say:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by
divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray ...

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the
glory are yours now and for ever.**

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said ...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, grant us peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who
takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are
those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. 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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously be present to your people,
we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have
imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from

former ways to newness of life. Through
Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy
Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

REMAINING IN JESUS' LOVE

Today's Gospel presents us with the
image of the vine and the challenge to
bear fruit in our Christian lives. There are
some plants that are best left alone but a
vine needs to be pruned, to cut away what
is not essential so that it can produce a
good and abundant crop. For Christians
the implement of pruning is the word of
Jesus which enters into our hearts and
challenges us to take stock of our lives
and values.

In the second reading John shares a
simple and profound truth with us, that
the business of bearing fruit requires more
than good intentions and fine words. The
new life of Easter is something we can all
share in by our belief in Jesus and our
love for one another. The principles are
simple, and the difficulty has always been
that of living our lives day by day open
to the word of Jesus and the demands of
love.

Six times the theme of remaining is
mentioned in the gospel. It is clearly an
important and difficult dimension of our
bearing fruit as Christians. Remaining
faithful to our promises and allowing
Jesus' word to enter deeper into our hearts
is a constant challenge but the readings
also encourage us not to lose heart. The
example of Paul in the first reading shows
how the Lord can enter into the hardest
heart and can turn a feared persecutor
into a fearless preacher of the word. Even
gnarled vines can bear abundant fruit.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

02 MAY 2021

REMAIN IN ME. The branches of a vine will bear fruit only if they are attached to the vine. It is from the vine that they draw the life-giving nourishment they need. Likewise, we must remain attached to Jesus if we are to receive the life of God and produce the fruits of the Spirit in our world: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control' (Gal 5: 22).

INTRODUCTORY RITES

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.**

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and
the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us
acknowledge our sins, and so prepare
ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. You were sent to heal the contrite of
heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have
mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the
Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.

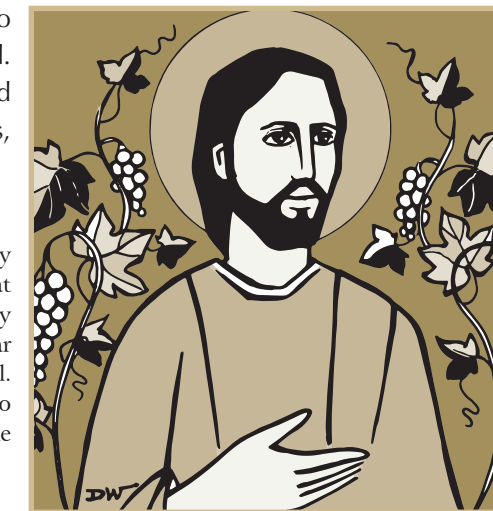
R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on
us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to
everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest, / and on
earth peace to people of good will. /
We praise you, / we bless you, / we
adore you, / we glorify you, / we give
you thanks for your great glory, / Lord
God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty
Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only
Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father, / you take away the
sins of the world, / have mercy on us; /
you take away the sins of the world, /
receive our prayer; / you are seated at the
right hand of the Father, / have mercy on
us. / For you alone are the Holy One, /
you alone are the Lord, / you alone are
the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the
Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the
Father. / Amen.**



COLLECT

P. Almighty ever-living God, constantly
accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that
those you were pleased to make new in Holy
Baptism may, under your protective care, bear
much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who
lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

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.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 21: 26-28, 30-32. R. v. 26

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly
of your people. (or 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 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.

R. 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

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

**P. A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John.**

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

*All who live in me, and I in them, bear much
fruit.*