

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2021

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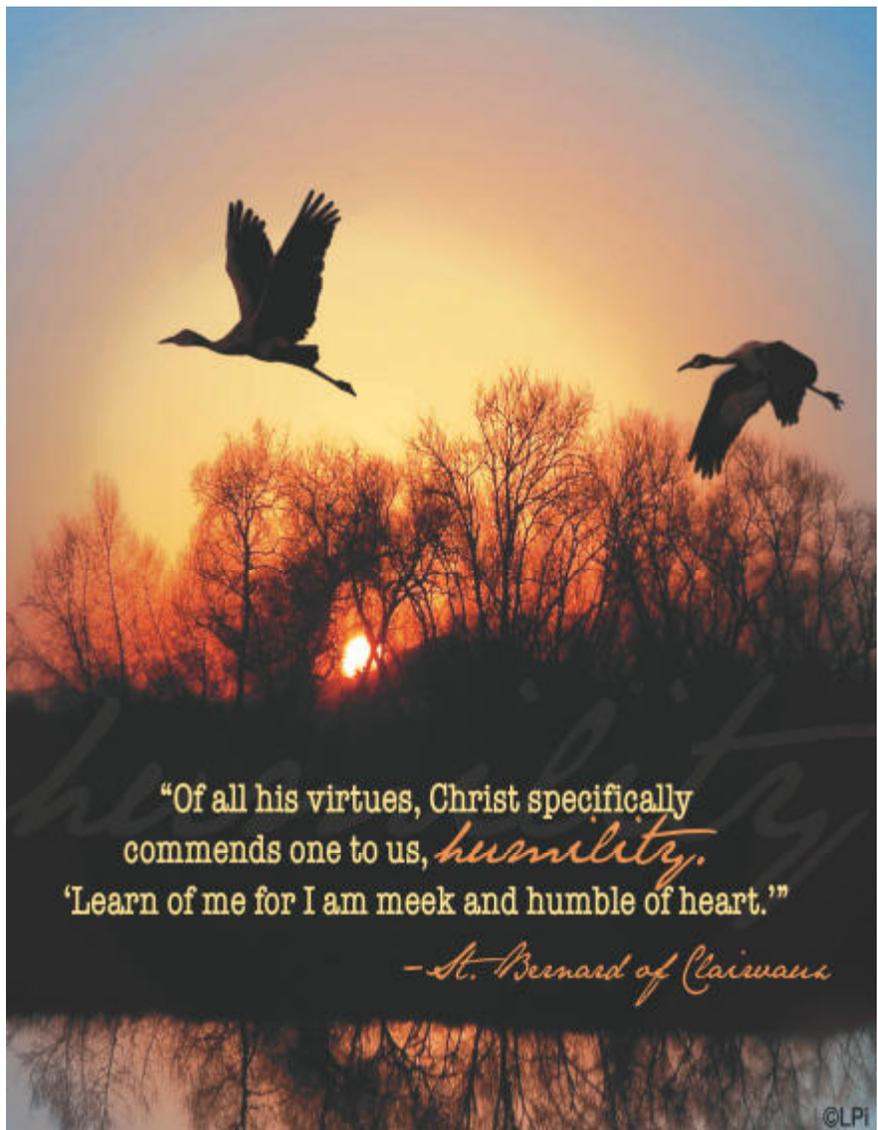
Prayer Chain 727-460-9540
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Pastor: Fr. Paul Kochu

Associate Pastor:
 Fr. Camilo Simoes SAC

Assisting Priest:
 Fr. Kevin Tortorelli

Deacons: Joe Reid, Jim Moss



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass

8am
 10am
 4pm

Monday-Friday

8am

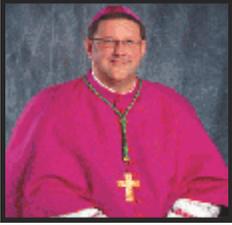
Saturday

4pm

Confessions: Saturday 3-3:45pm

Drive through Holy Communion:

From 10:15-10:50 in front of the New Building on Sundays



COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel* Vivir VALIENTEMENTE *el Evangelio*

May 2, 2021

5th Sunday of Easter

We are the branches

“I am the vine, you are the branches.” – John 15:5

Many of us are concerned about energy these days. Scientists and engineers are constantly working to find cleaner and more efficient sources of energy. We see gas prices on the rise. When that happens, we may consider purchasing a car that gets better gas mileage or a hybrid. Same with an air-conditioners and many appliances. Over time they become less efficient and more costly to operate, so you consider replacing them. So how does this energy talk go with this week’s Gospel from John, where Jesus says, “I am the vine, you are the branches?”

Jesus explains that we are part of Him by using the imagery of a vine, branches, and a vine grower. A vine must have branches to grow and prosper. We are the branches. We cannot reach our best potential without Jesus, the vine, to help us grow. The vine needs plenty of sunlight, water, and good soil to grow. But if there are branches that sap the energy from the rest of the plant, then the vine grower will cut it down and destroy it.

For us to grow spiritually we need prayer, study, and action. We must give God our praise and prayer by opening our hearts and minds to Him. We study scripture to grow in wisdom and understanding. We put our faith into action by helping our neighbors and community. By these things, we produce good fruit for the body of Christ, the Church. If we fall short in these areas, then we are not producing the fruits the God wants from us. We become useless, preventing the plant from growing and flourishing. We can suffer spiritually and emotionally, potentially dragging others down with us. We need to strive for growth and produce the best we can for the good of the Kingdom, our community and ourselves.

Our energy comes through the Holy Spirit working within us. We must persevere in study, prayer and action by ***Courageously Living the Gospel*** at home, at work and in our community. ~~Bishop Gregory Parkes

Ask a Lawyer in your Parish

St Michael’s Legal Center is open and available to assist with any wills, trusts or other legal matters you may have and that each meeting will be conducted over Zoom until Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. St. Michaels team can meet with the client in person here at St. Luke’s. Call the parish office or St. Michael’s Legal Center at 813 289 5385.

J. Michael Shea, Esq., Exc. Director, St. Michael’s Legal Center

dosp.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Reading I [Acts 9:26-31](#) When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus. He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem, and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord. He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. And when the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him on his way to Tarsus. The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

Responsorial Psalm [22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32](#) R. (26a) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your hearts live forever!" **R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of the nations shall bow down before him. **R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth; before him shall bend all who go down into the dust. **R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him. Let the coming generation be told of the LORD that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice he has shown. **R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people..**

Reading II [1 Jn 3:18-24](#) Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

Alleluia [Jn 15:4a, 5b](#) **R. Alleluia, alleluia.** Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit. **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel [Jn 15:1-8](#) Jesus said to his disciples: "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 every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Did you make a donation to APA in 2021?

Let us make ourselves outstanding by doing our part. Please do your part. We depend on you.

A NOTE FROM FATHER PAUL

This is the year of St. Joseph. We do not hear his words in the Gospel. We have plenty of St. Joseph's deeds to guide us in life: his faith in God, his openness to accept God's word even when it came in dreams, his courageous journeys to protect and save those under his care, his continuous watch of Jesus and Mary to protect them and the hard work he did to provide the Holy Family, are examples for us to emulate as disciples of Jesus. May St. Joseph intercede for all of us.

Pentecost

May 22nd we celebrate Pentecost, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. The Bishops of our country have requested the faithful to participate in weekend Masses from this day as before the unfortunate pandemic. Let us be united as a parish family.

On Pentecost we will celebrate Mass as we did on Easter Sunday, at 6:30am. I invite you to come and experience the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Infertility

For women suffering with infertility, Mother's Day can be hard. There is hope and healing in community! *Springs in the Desert* is dedicated to spiritually and emotionally supporting women and couples navigating the frustration, pain and difficulty of infertility. For encouraging blog posts, resources, and a community of support, visit www.springsinthedesert.org.

Presence

Join us for *Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist*, a 4-session program created by FORMED, on Wednesday, May 5, 12, 19 and 26, 7:15-8:15 p.m., in the new Parish Hall (you can also connect via Zoom). A Study Guide (PDF) will be provided. A 40-minute video needs to be watched at FORMED.org in advance of each session. Then, each session will include prayer, discussion, Q&A, and reflection. Explore the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members. Contact Jean at jcaragher@capstonemarketing.com to RSVP and receive instructions.

Second Collections

1st Sunday of the Month— APA

2nd Sunday of the Month—Building Fund

3rd Sunday of the Month—Outreach

Praying the Rosary to Honor Mary, Mother of God

Join us in praying the Rosary on Thursday, May 6, 13, 20 and 27, 7:15 p.m. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/98623709543>. To participate by telephone, call 646.876.9923. Organized by the Knights of Columbus #12196 Ladies Auxiliary.



PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

vine	Father	honored
joined	pray	gardener
branch	fruit	clean

inev	<u>v i n e</u>
Fareth	_____
genarder	_____
chanbr	_____
fritu	_____
lecan	_____
jedoin	_____
rapy	_____
onhored	_____

Gospel: Put a brand new light bulb in a lamp. Turn the lamp on. It shines brightly. Now, unplug the lamp. The lamp goes dark. It might be a nice lamp. It might have a new light bulb. Yet, without being plugged in to electricity, the lamp cannot shine. In today's Gospel, Jesus is the vine and you are a branch. As long as you are attached to Jesus, your faith can grow fruit like love, kindness and gentleness. If you break away from Jesus, your faith will die, and you will not grow any fruit. Stay plugged in to Jesus, so you can shine. Stay connected to Jesus, so your faith can grow fruit. **Prayer:** God, help me to stay connected to Jesus. **Mission:** Read Galatians 5:22-23 with your family. Write down the nine different kinds of fruit that will grow from your faith, when you stay connected to Jesus.

Is gossip a mortal sin?

Answer: To really ask this question, we must consider the Eighth Commandment: "You shall not bear false witness." In its reflections on this commandment, The Catechism of the Catholic Church invites us to not only think about what bearing "false witness" means, but to also consider how we understand the truth and how we communicate more broadly. This is why so much of this section of the Catechism has to do with the gift of language. With this in mind, we will notice that the word "gossip" isn't used by the Catechism. Instead, we find the words "detraction" and "calumny," which are actually two forms that gossip can take, and both can be quite serious.

First, detraction is the of revealing "another's faults and failings to persons who did not know them," without morally valid reasons. Calumny, by extension, is saying something about another person that is untrue, and it is sinful because it "harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgements" (see no. 2477).

In all of our communication, we have to always recognize that we have a moral obligation to the truth and to always work to protect the reputation and honor of our neighbors (see no. 2479).

Gossip can, in fact, prove to be a very serious sin. After all, the Catechism reminds us: "No one is bound to reveal the truth to someone who does not have the right to know it" (no. 2489). When we have gossiped, especially if we are aware we have damaged another person's good name or reputation, we want to make every effort to undo the damage we have done, including seeking the grace and forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Intentions</i>	<i>Office</i>
Sat, 5/1	4:00pm	† Teddi Miller Samuel and Theresa Caprici	Closed
Sun, 5/2	8:00am	† Nicholas & Zorica Dogic Office volunteers	Closed
	10:00am	† Matthew Herzog † Anita Coalter	
	4:00pm	Driving Ministry	
Mon, 5/3	8:00am	Bernice Grum † Jose Sicat	8:30am-12pm
Tues, 5/4	8:00am	† deLorimier Family † Robin Family	8:30am-12pm
Wed, 5/5	8:00am	† John Murphy † Louise Balchunas	8:30am-12pm
Thurs, 5/6	8:00am	† The Damiano Family † Edward & Marrie Lorraine O'Leary St. Luke's Volunteers	8:30am-12pm
Fri, 5/7	8:00am	Deacon Joseph Reid † Ilona Tolgyes	8:30am-12pm
Sat, 5/8	4:00pm	† Florida Morrisette † Jenetrose Anthony	Closed



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have an extra 15 minutes to share? Volunteers are need to serve as greeters prior to weekend Masses.

Greeters welcome parishioners and visitors to our Masses. They make people feel happy and that their presence is important.

Requirements: Your God-given smile (even behind a mask) and pleasant “hello.” No handshakes required!

Time Commitment: Your arrival 15 minutes prior to the Mass of your choice.

Meeting Times: Volunteers are scheduled based on personal time preferences.

Contact: The parish office or call Maureen Myers 314-471-4326

While we are at home, we can participate in Mass on your TV, radio, smart phone, or online. Please remember to mail your contributions. It may be convenient for you to contribute for the whole month with one check. For APA and building fund please send separate checks in the same envelope. One envelope but separate checks.

Direct Mailing of Your Contributions:

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Participate in Sunday Mass. Visit St.Luke's Youtube

- 1.) At Youtube.com, you can type in St Luke Palm Harbor
- 2.) Click on the corresponding image.
- 3.) You will see the recent Mass recordings from St.Luke.

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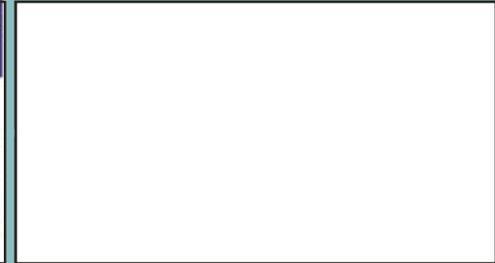
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