



Building Faith@HOME

1st Reading: Acts 9:26-31
Responsorial Psalm: 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:18-24
Gospel: Jn 15:1-8

May 2, 2021



Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Vine and the Branches

Last week we were reminded that we are “children of God,” loved by our heavenly Father and called to love one another. Jesus showed us his Father’s love by laying down his life for us, the ultimate sacrifice of love. Today’s readings continue to share that message. St. John, in his letter, reminds us that love is empty without “deed and truth”. In other words, actions speak louder than words. God gave to us his commandments to know how to love God and others; Jesus exemplified this by demonstrating his love for us and that we are to love one another in the same manner. This is how we remain with Jesus.

We then hear in the Gospel of John, more of what it means to remain with Jesus through the parable of the “Vine and the Branches.” Societies throughout the world and throughout history all have some form of hierarchy. Within societies, there may be political agitators, political tyrants, groups fighting for power. The same was true in Jesus’ time, but Jesus gave a different view of how to live with each other in a much more gentle and loving way. The image of the vine and branches is completely opposite of any hierarchical structure, Vines are so intertwined that it is hard to see where one branch begins and another ends. The tangling of the vines continue to grow from the one stock, branching out to give more and more fruit. But, fruitfulness depends on pruning.

As we reflect in our own hearts, what is not true of the love of God, is to be pruned. What is not sharing the love of Jesus is to be pruned away, so that all that remains is the fruitful branch.

Faith Sharing Questions:

What spiritual practices help you to “remain” rooted on the true vine? What in your life needs “pruning” so that you are able to share the love of Jesus more freely?

May is the Month of Mary

Home May Altar



Create a Mary altar
CatholicLiving.com

Put an image of Mary in your work space

Do a Work of Mercy - help a pregnant mother in need, visit a nursing home, provide assistance to a women’s shelter

The ABCs for Fostering Vocations

Name the gifts of each family member this week. Say a prayer of gratitude for these gifts.



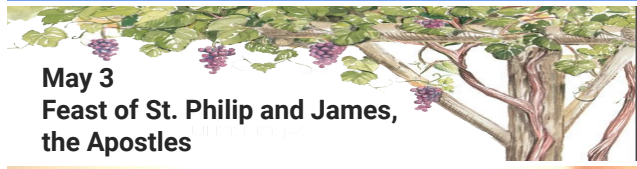
5th Sunday Of Easter

Youtube.com - CatholicKidsMedia



Where in the world...
FLY around the diocese to find the Traveling Icon and learn more about our diocese!

A Google Earth Activity
May 1 - May 8



May 3
Feast of St. Philip and James, the Apostles

ACTION OF THE WEEK

“Love one another”
Service to others

[LINK](#)

Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

- [NRegister](#) - Why is May the Month of Mary? (Teens & Adult Faith Builders)
- [Bustedhalo.com](#) - Why is Mary known as Queen of Heaven – doesn’t that put her on a par with God? (Adult Faith Builder)
- [Youtube.com](#) - I Am the Vine by John Michael Talbot (Adult Faith Builder)
- [Youtube.com](#) - The Mass Box: Vine, Branches & Fruit Craft (Children Faith Builder)

ADOPT A SEMINARIAN DURING THE EASTERTIDE! Contact egarn@syrdio.org for more information!



Our website RCfaithquest.syrdio.org has many ideas during this Easter Season!

