

**MASS PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
May 1 & 2, 2021**

## Entrance Antiphon

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.

## Collect Prayer

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. Amen

## THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (9: 26-31)

When Saul had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples; and they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple.

But Barnabas took him, brought him to the apostles, and described for them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who had spoken to him, and how in Damascus Saul had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus.

So Saul went in and out among them in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.

He spoke and argued with the Hellenists; but they were attempting to kill him. When the believers learned of it, they brought Saul down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

Meanwhile the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and was built up. Living in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.

The Word of the Lord.

## THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever. *R.*

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. *R.*

I shall live for him and posterity will serve him. Future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it. *R.*

## THE SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of John (*1 John 3: 18-24*)

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and God knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God.

And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

## THE GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (15: 1-8)

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. “Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

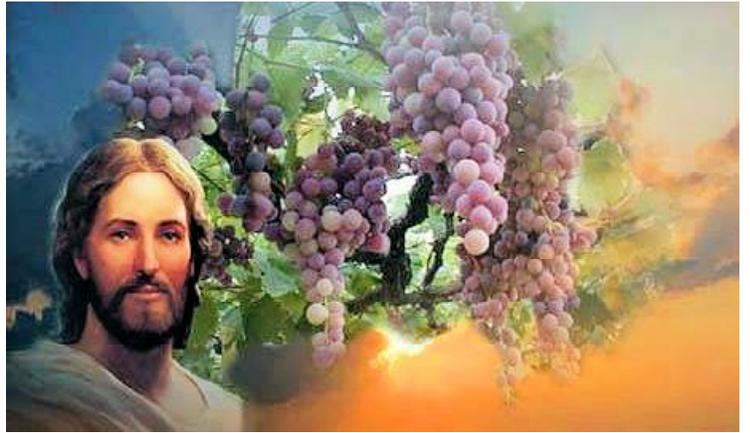
My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The Gospel of the Lord



May 1 & 2, 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS



1. For the members of the Catholic Women's League of our Parish and Diocese who are gathering virtually this weekend for their annual Diocesan Convention, that they may be inspired through the prayers of Our Lady of Good Counsel to continue in their good work for God and Canada.

We pray to the Lord.

2. As we observe Catholic Education Week across Ontario this week, we prayer for the students, teachers, parents and clergy of our Catholic Education facilities, that we may all continue to work together in the building up of authentic Communities of Faith and action.

We pray to the Lord.

3. During this week's annual "National Hospice Palliative Care" in Canada observance, we pray for all who dedicate their lives to the service of those who are close to death and to the ministry of consolation for those who are bereaved.

We pray to the Lord.

4. We pray for those in our Parish who are seriously ill in hospital or at home and especially for those who have asked us to pray for them, that God may grant them physical and emotional healing.

We pray to the Lord

5. For our deceased loved ones and especially for Janice Yoller who died this week. We pray to the Lord.

## Prayer over the Offerings

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. Amen

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### The Mass Prayer after the Our Father

*(especially relevant during this current pandemic)*

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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

## Communion Antiphon

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

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. Amen.

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## Recite the Prayer of Spiritual Communion

*by Saint Alphonsus Liguori*

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. When You come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.