

he brought the sacrifices of old to fulfilment
in the reality of the Cross
and, by commending himself to you for our salvation,
showed himself the Priest, the Altar, and the Lamb of sacrifice.
Therefore, overcome with paschal joy,
every land, every people exults in your praise
and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts,
sing together the unending hymn of your glory as they acclaim:

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 mystery of faith. **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

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.**

REFLECTION The vine and the branches.
Lord, you said: 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Separated from me
you can do nothing, but united with me you will bear much fruit.' Thank you,
for the bond you formed with us. Thank you for the bond that exists among
us because of our union with you. Thanks to this bond we have riches to
share with one another. Grant that we may never be separated from you,
so that we may produce in the world the fruits of faith, hope, and love.

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.**

Final Blessing:

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
May almighty God bless you, **Amen.**
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Go forth, the Mass is ended alleluia. **Thanks be to God alleluia.**

Prayer:

My God, I know you are near. But I need to see you, touch you, feel your
presence in my life. In my need, I beg you to send me a Barnabas to be
my companion as I journey. Let me, also, be that kind of sojourner with
others. Help all of us to understand, remember, and live with the deep
belief that you are our vine, then we, the branches, will live well in you.
Show us that you are choosing to live your life in us. Amen.

Fifth Sunday of Easter B



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.**

There is no such thing as a solitary Christian. Every
Christian is linked to Christ and to all other Christians.

This is clear from Jesus' words: 'I am the vine, you are the branches.' But
often we ignore and hurt others, and live for ourselves.

Lord, you are the vine, we are the branches. Lord, have mercy.

You unite us with yourself and one another. Christ have mercy.

You call us to have your words abide in us. Lord have mercy.

**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.**

Let us pray:

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, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 9: 26-31

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

Psalm 21

Response: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

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/.**
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/.**
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

A reading from the first letter of St John. 1 John 3: 18-24
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. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia!
Make your home in me,
as I make mine in you, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you. John 15: 1-8
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. **And with your spirit. Glory to you, Lord.**
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 you Lord Jesus Christ.**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

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

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.**

Preface:

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And with your spirit.
We lift them up to the Lord.
It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
at all times to acclaim you, O Lord,
but in this time above all to laud you yet more gloriously,
when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.
By the oblation of his Body,