

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2, 2021

Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.
—1 John 3:18

BEARING FRUIT

Few of us, even when we meditate on the image of the vine and branches, stop to really think about how God “prunes” us. For some there is the danger of thinking that we are already producing fruit for the kingdom, in deed and truth as John says, perhaps raising a family, being active in our parish, and so on. But even those branches which are bearing fruit, the Gospel tells us, can be pruned to produce still more. Today Saul, freshly “pruned” by his conversion, arrives in Jerusalem and meets resistance. Since he had been persecuting Christians, this was only natural. But even after he is accepted and begins to bear fruit, he meets further adversity, and his letters are filled with many accounts of how his trials “pruned” him to produce greater fruit for the kingdom. Like him, as long as we remain in Christ we will continue to bear fruit and, when the will of the Father determines it is time to prune us, the strength of the true vine must enable us to endure it.

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FEAST OF FAITH

The Homily

The ambo, or pulpit, is a special place—it is the place for God’s word. That is why it is not used for all the spoken words of the Mass, even important words like the collects and the blessing. The ambo is only used for the scripture readings, and for the homily and the prayer of the faithful.

The homily is part of the Liturgy of the Word. It flows from the readings we have just heard, and helps us to understand the way in which God is speaking to us today. The homily is not a lecture, a catechism lesson, or a speech. It is more like an exhortation; it has an urgency about it, for it calls us to find ourselves in the scripture, to live the faith we profess, to see our world by the light of the Gospel. The homily, in itself a response to God’s word, demands a response from us. There are many styles of preaching and many ways to respond to the scriptures. But whether the homily is weak or strong, an open ear and an open heart can find in it an abundance of spiritual nourishment.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Annual Catholic Appeal

Our Goal is **\$8,000** and 100% Participation
of our 51 registered Families

Participation 45.10%
Pledged \$5495
which is 68.69% of goal

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Onyekwe

Administrative/Financial Secretary:

Mary Alyce Fiechtl

DRE: Lois Freeland

Facilities Management: Joey Wall

Web Page:

saintandrewcatholicchurch.org/

E mail Address: finsecstanz@drew@outlook.com

Facebook.com: Saint Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church

Mass Intentions

May 1st 4:30 pm: Doris DelBaggio +
by Stan & Jean Stevens

May 2nd: Parishioners of St Andrew
and St Regina

May 7th: Harold Segerson +

May 8th: Gary Adams +
by Mark & Kay Bartel

May 9th: Parishioners of St Andrew
and St Regina

Liturgical Ministers

May 9th:

Lector: Marshall Mize

Server: Nicki Raudry

Sacristans— Carmen McDaniel

Altar Linens — Kathleen Kirkpatrick

Ushers—Men of the Parish

TODAY’S READINGS FOR YEAR B

First Reading — Barnabas reported to the apostles how Saul had seen the Lord on the way (Acts 9:26-31).

Psalm — I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people (Psalm 22).

Second Reading — This is God’s commandment: that we may believe and love (1 John 3:18-24).

Gospel — I am the true vine; whoever remains in me will bear much fruit (John 15:1-8).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectioary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Parishioners

Grant Adams, Ethel Huffman, MaryAnn Maness,
Peggy Moss, Joey Wall,

Relatives

Kelli Blankenship, Thomas Blankenship, Austin Ernst, Emily Ernst, Jackie Donnett, Andrew Grower, Christine Hart and the twin boys Benjamin and Theodore, Nicholas Kirkpatrick, Jenny Moore, Andrew Morlan, Yu Youn Suk

Friends

Emma Cupples, Sunny Maness, Fr Robert Ponticello

HOLIEST FLOWER

Mary is the lily in God’s garden.

—St. Bridget of Sweden

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The season of First Communions is here, and invitations pour in as the new communicants, mostly seven years old, gather extended families for their first reception of the Eucharist. Recently, the celebrations are often on Sundays, in the regular gatherings of the faith community. There, it becomes clear that First Communion is meant to initiate a regular pattern of reception, and that there is to be a second, third, hundredth, thousandth celebration.

Eastern Catholics and Orthodox children follow a different plan, since they are given a taste of the consecrated wine at their baptism as infants. We Western Christians delay until “the age of reason,” but many years ago, Communion was not for children at all. Twelve to fourteen was the typical time for Roman Catholics to receive for the first time, and in those days this was a transition into the adult world of work and marriage. The custom did not begin to shift to childhood until reforms set in place by Pope St. Pius X began to take hold in the 1920s. If you are going to a First Communion, you can give thanks that the table of the Lord is today open so much more lavishly than before.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21;
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

Sunday: Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4;
1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17
or Jn 17:11b-19

Mass Schedule

Monday: 11:30 am

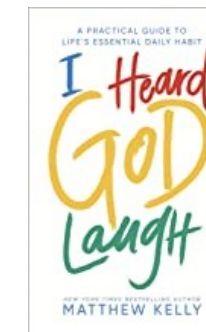
Wednesday: 11:30 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

First Friday: Adoration from 9:00
to 11:30 with Mass at 11:30 am

Vigil on Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am



Deacon Jim Moss will have a class on each Tuesday, at 1:00 pm. The book is *I Heard God Laugh*.

WEEKLY OFFERING

April 25th

Budget \$2100

Actual \$792

Bldg. \$0

Short \$1308

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Monday: Ss. Philip and James

Wednesday: Cinco de Mayo

Thursday: National Day of Prayer

Friday: First Friday