

- Very Rev. Henry J. Davis, SSJ, VF
Pastor/Dean
- Rev. Kingsley Ogbuji, SSJ,
Adminstrator
- Rev. John Odeyemi
In Residence
- Rev. Mr. Larry Calvin
Deacon

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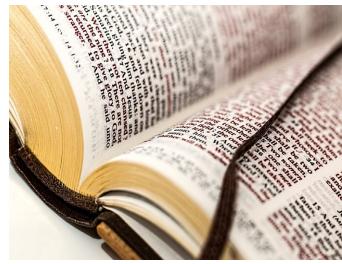
Rectory:(504) 945-8931-Fax:(504) 947-5347

Mrs. Linda Lagarde, Admin. Assistant



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“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 everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.” - Jn 15:1-2



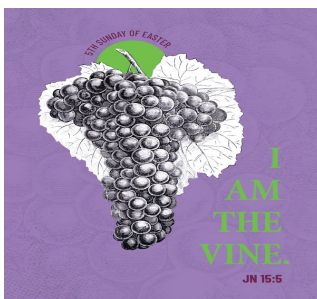
APRIL 28, 2024

Scripture Insights

Today's first reading appears near the end of chapter 9 of Acts. The opening verses of this chapter recount Saul's request for letters of approval from temple officials. These letters would acknowledge Saul's authority once he reached Damascus, where he intended to persecute followers of Jesus. In verse 3 of this chapter, the first of three accounts of Saul's conversion begins. (Two other recordings of this experience are found in Acts 22:3-16 and 26:4-23.) Thus, it is no wonder that in today's pericope, beginning in verse 26, we hear that the disciples were reticent to believe that Saul had become a follower of Jesus. In a few words, the text details how Barnabas intervened and how the Apostles accepted Saul as one who had seen the Lord. Immediately, Saul began to proclaim that Jesus is Lord.

The reading from the First Letter of John reminds us that love expresses itself most perfectly in action. While words are important, the lived expression of our words speak a truth more strongly. Belief in Jesus is identified by our actions, our love for one another.

The Gospel of John presents us with the metaphor of the vine and the branches. Jesus identifies himself as the true vine and speaks of his relationship to the father. Earlier texts that referred to Israel as the vine, primarily prophetic texts, quite obviously did not speak of the father. Here, Jesus identifies his Father as the vine grower, or vine dresser, the one who carefully tends to the vine so that it will bear fruit.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

April 28, 2024

5th Sunday of Easter

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— Father John Muir

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY

MOMENTS

Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be

"That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together."

I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

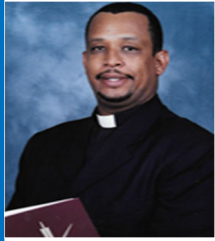
When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too. It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree. **"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes,"** the Psalms tell us. Well, I've never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — **"I've got this."**

It's tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I'll let you in on a secret: it doesn't matter what the question is, we don't have the answer. Take it to the One who does.— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



- **TUESDAYS, – BIBLE STUDY-6 P.M**
- **LAST SUNDAY, OF EVERY MONTH– YOUNG ADULT AND YOUTH MASS-10A.M.**
- **SATURDAY/SUNDAY, MAY 4-5TH – SODALITY MOTHERS DAY FLOWER SALE**
- **SUNDAY, MAY 5TH– FIRST HOLY COMMUNION-10 A.M. MASS**
- **THURSDAY, MAY 16TH-ST. AUG RITE OF PASSAGE-6:P.M. MASS**
- **SUNDAY, MAY19TH– MAY CROWNING OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY-9:30 PROCESSION**





REV. HENRY J. Davis

Lord, God, whose mercy and faithfulness are never-ending and unending, we beseech you now to look with favor upon your servant, Fr. Henry Davis, SSJ. We ask you please rain down your graces and blessings upon him in abundance for the healing of his body, his mind, and his spirit. We ask, if it please you, Lord, to restore him to full health, that you might be glorified once more to witness him presiding at your Eucharistic table and shepherding again the faithful flock that you have entrusted to his pastoral care. We know that you have invited all your faithful ones to partake of your suffering by sharing in your cross and bearing daily our own crosses with grace and dignity, so we implore you that his acceptance of this cross might bring your glory. We know that through his priestly ordination he declared his willingness to drink whatever chalice the Father might call him to imbibe. Our trust in you is complete, as we make this prayer through, with and in Christ, you Son, our loving, merciful and obedient Savior. Amen

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: 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. (Acts 9:27)

Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22) Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading: 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. (1 Jn 3:23)

Gospel: "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." (Jn 15:5)

SATURDAYS-9-3:00 P.M.

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." – Saint Padre Pio

COME!
LET US
ADORE

**ADORATION
HOUR**

**CORPUS CHRISTI EPIPHANY CHURCH
IN THE ST. KATHARINE DREXEL
CHAPEL**

Readings for the week of April 28, 2024

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

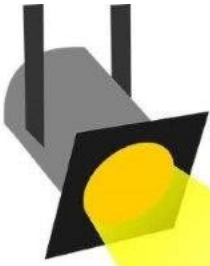
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17



SPOTLIGHT ON A PARISHIONER !

MEET...
Endya Alexis May



Endya Alexis is the daughter of Mr. Jay May and Dr. Michele Lagarde-May. She is a 3rd grade student at St. Pius X School. She enjoys dance at Centre Stage School of Dance, where she is in her 7th year. Endya is also a Liturgical dancer at Corpus Christi-Epiphany church. She studies piano and Taekwondo. She loves drawing and anything Art related. One of her favorite pastimes is nerf wars with her brothers and skating. She also loves swimming, cooking with her Gigi, and eating beignets.

PUZZLE
Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

vine	Father	honored
joined	pray	gardener
branch	fruit	clean

inev v i n e

Fareth _____

genarder _____

chanbr _____

fritu _____

lecan _____

jedoin _____

rapy _____

onhored _____

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.

GROWING WITH THE Gospel
CYCLE B

COLOR
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

A black and white line drawing of Jesus kneeling in a vineyard. He is holding a bunch of grapes in his right hand and a flower in his left. A vine with clusters of grapes is in the foreground. The background shows rolling hills and trees under a sun.

In loving of memory of our loving husband, father, & grandfather LASALLE RATTLER, SR, we miss you, Your loving wife, Angela, daughter, son-in-law and grandsons

In memory of my dear friend, Nadine Laurent, Love, Angela

In Memory of
**PATRICIA & PHILIP
HEBERT, SR.**

In Memory of Alvarez and Onelia
RODRIQUEZ



**DECAY
REMEMBRANCE**

In Memory of
PAUL LUCIUS, SR.

In Loving Memory of
Granny & Papa,
Love Kelly & Kids

By
Wife and Family



"Thanks for letting us stand on your shoulders, so we might see things of which you could only dream"

**Beverly Ann L. Favre
Joan Favre Holsten
Anthony C. Favre**

*In memory of our son,
brother, nephew, cousin
and friend*

**Irwin Anthony
Lagarde, Jr.**



*In memory of
our husband and father*
EMANUEL A. MAIRE
*Missing you with all of
our love,
Your Family*



**In Appreciation of Your
Love and Caring**

Joseph Jean Favre Cecilia Favre
Rosemary Favre Carmel Favre
Milirain Favre Mays
Josie Favre Barnes Joseph L. Favre
Marlene Favre Cornelius

**IN MEMORY OF
THE FAVRE FAMILY**

*For Healing and Complete
recovery from cancer,
Therese Peyroux Arroyo*



**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD
IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Love Indeed

"It's a Wonderful Life" is one of my favorite Christmas movies. It only occurred to me recently, though, that this film, for all its yuletide aesthetic, is actually more of an Easter story. I love this movie because it's a very Catholic film — not overtly, although we do see the main character, George Bailey, going to Mass. No, it's the themes that are Catholic, not the set dressing. It's a story about the choices we make — to love, or not to love? To sacrifice, or not to sacrifice? To put oneself first, or to put oneself last? It's a story about what the consequences of those choices look like here in the world, and what they look like in heaven.

In the film, we meet a young George Bailey who dreams of growing up to do amazing, impressive things. Over the years, he makes a choice here and he makes a choice there ... and when all is said and done, the adult George Bailey is a tired, over-worked husband and father with no worldly attributes that anyone would envy. But he's a man who has loved in deed, not just in word, and who has reaped the spiritual rewards of those choices.

The season of Easter is about rejoicing in true redemption, not in worldly triumph. The Word of God is not a bedtime story. It's a pruning shear. To hear it is to be changed, to be shaped. To live it is to lose some things, so that you might bloom in unexpected ways. To welcome the Word is to be willing to look different, to feel different. Anyone can say, "I love you, I accept you, I want to help you." But what does it actually look like, to love in deed and not just in word? It looks like giving something up: free time, wealth, comfort, worldly approval. It looks, to the casual observer, like pain.

To someone who has no concept of how plants grow and thrive, a gardener's pruning shears look like an executioner's sword. To someone who has no concept of how souls grow and thrive, a tomb barred by a stone looks like the end of a story, when in fact it's just the beginning.

"Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." — 1 John 3:18

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 27, 2024

4:00 p.m.

Stanley Cuillier, Jr. by family, Joseph & Yvonne Bechet, **memorial** by son; Barry, Valma Narcisse, **memorial**, by family, Jourdain/Wilis Families by children

Sunday, April 28, 2024

7:30 a.m.

Margaret Barnum, **memorial**, by Jerry & Rachal Gutter, Armand P. Mercadel, Sr., **memorial**, by wife & family, Dardenella Hamilton, **memorial**, by Hamilton Family, People of the parish

10:00 a.m.

Victor Duvernay, memorial, by Abbie Fazande, Walter Bonam, Healing by CCE Choir, Delores Yancy, memorial, by son, For the people of the parish,

Monday, April 29, 2024

Intentions of the priest

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Greer Rolland, memorial, by Glapion Family

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Sick and Shut-ins of the parish

Thursday May 2, 2024

Victor Duvernay, memorial, by Abbie Fazande

Friday, May 3, 2024

Christy Lagarde-Spears and Baby Cameron by family, Wayne Baquet, Sr.,



***SICK & SHUT-INS
PRAY FOR THEM**

Joseph Narcisse, Angela Frick Rattler, Alce Delille, Bernadine Prevot, Mary LeBlanc, Semella Rawles, Emelda Fortune, Corey Peters, Raymond V. Morrell, Cynthia Robertson, Sheryl Allen, Bernice Ferdinand, Aaron La Cabe, Jr., Marcel Fortune, Kenneth Thompson, Sr., Vernon Dobard, Leo Dobard, Ethel Ancar, Vanessa Galle, Gloria Scott, Joycelyn Brown, Shirley Brown, Una & Nolan Millet, Lorraine Smith, Carolyn Mercadel, Gerard Willis, Joshua Mercadel, Maria Hebert, Myrtle Dorsey, Yvonne Washington, Louise Maldonado, Lorraine Condoll, Cheryl Lucius, Delores Jett, Oliver Lucius, Phyllis Mercadel, Niley Bieniemy, Laura Davis, Shirley Ward, Alcide Delille, Yvonne Guidry, Rosie Francis, Kermit McGuilles, Michael Condiff, Earl Raymond, Betty Quiet, *, Garielle Winfield. Lurlyn Lacour, Rochelle Saunders, Audrey Fleury, Michelle Robair, Erica Condiff, Lawrence & Phyllis Cuillette, Jacquelyn Lucius, Sybil Condiff, **Fr. Henry Davis, SSJ, VF.**, Ashleigh Francis, Ida Lewis, Gwendolyn Lampkin, Sr., Harold Luke, Jr., Melvin Sentmore, Lydia Barrow, Wilbert Clementin, Nelda Jones, Assunta Jackson, Doris Cuillier, Walter Bonam, Avery Johnson, April Hampton, Barry Delaney, Charlotte Butler, Wilfred Duplessis, Warren Bastien

Please, do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Lagarde at 504-945-8931 to remove/add your family member to this list.

GOD BLESS



**PRAY THE
ROSARY
DAILY**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS/
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 2) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 3) Valerie Harding
- 4) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 5) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 6) Joseph Boucree, Jeanette Sylvester, Kevin Hawkins
- 7) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 8) Marlon Brooks,
- 9) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 10) Nelita Ramey
- 11 Phyllis Mercadel, Carla Stanfill, Shelia Honore',
- 12-*Happy Birthday to you*
- 15) "Happy Birthday to you"
- 16) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 17) "Happy Birthday to you"
- 18) Robin Lopez
- 19) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 20) Larry Reeves,
- 21) "Happy Birthday to you"
- 22) Marvin Dugue, Karen Glapion
- 23) Kenneth Evans
- 24) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 25) Wayne Bierria
- 26) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 27) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 28) Jeanne Thompson, Pamela Perry, Gregory Dandridge
- 29) "Happy Birthday to you..."
- 30) "Happy Birthday to you..."

**GOD BLESS YOU ON
YOUR BIRTHDAY/
ANNIVERSARY**

**IN HONOR OF
FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN**



We extend a warm welcome to all who attend our church. We hope that you will find our parish community a place where your life of faith will be nourished. We also hope that you will share your special gifts within the community. Your prayers, your presence and your talents are most welcome. Please, introduce yourself during the welcome to visitors and new parishioners. **God Bless You! Very Reverend Henry J. Davis, SSJVF, Pastor**

MISSION STATEMENT

Continuing the legacy of our establishing founders, The Josephites, whose exclusive apostolate is to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ in the African American Community. We, the Faith Community of Corpus Christi-Epiphany Roman Catholic Church are called and sent by Christ, to live gratefully the life God has given us, and to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to all we meet. We conduct our mission in a spirit of Faith, Service and Community, thus allowing us to become closer to God as we bring God closer

Ministries/Organizations

◆ Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers	Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #60
◆ Altar Society	Fatima Rosary Group	Knights of Peter Claver Junior Daughters
◆ Bereavement	Finance Council	Lectors
◆ C.C.D	Garden	Legion of Mary
◆ Church Environment	Holy Name of Jesus Society	Liturgical Movement
◆ Counters	Knights of Peter Claver #60	Men in Christ
◆ Ministers of Hospitality	Parish Council	Sacristan
◆ Music Ministry	RCIA	Sodality of the BVM
◆ Grief Share Ministry		
◆ Society of St. Vincent de Paul		

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil 4:00pm. Sunday Morning 7:30am and 10:00am.

Daily Masses: Monday -- Friday at 7:00am (In Church).

Novenas: Tuesday; Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena, Wednesday; St. Joseph Novena Friday; Sacred Heart Novena, after the 7:00am Mass.

Adoration: Saturdays in St. Katharine Drexel Chapel (Building D) 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSIONS: 1 hour before weekend Masses or anytime by request.

WEDDINGS: Make arrangements with office staff 6 months before event to begin the required preparation process.

CONTACTS FOR SACRAMENTS/ ORGANIZATIONS

Director of Religious Education: Mrs. Carla Mason
- 504-289-1979.

Directors of RCIA: Ms. Shannon Stanley - 504-722-0493. Mr. Henry Hottor - 1-402-301-4815.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Charlotte Brown, President 504-503-1119.

Interested in registering in the parish and receive envelopes?
Do you have questions needing answered by the priests? Fill out the information at the bottom and this page.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

Would like to register in parish and receive envelopes. Would like to speak with a priest about:

Would like to speak with a priest about:

Adult Education ----- Marriage ----- Baptism Other

* Fold and place in any church envelope addressed to Office and place in collection bag or bring to office.