

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

Today's Gospel reading is the beginning of Jesus' discourse about the vine and the branches. Its purpose is to show how effective prayer keeps the resurrected Lord and his followers in an organic living connection.

The Father is represented as the vine grower, Jesus as the vine, and Jesus' followers as the branches. The Father prunes all fruitful branches so that they will bear more fruit and casts out the unfruitful branches (John 15: 1-2). So what keeps people pruned so that they may remain fruitful? Jesus' word (15:3). This word takes away what is extraneous and enables the vital sap to flow most efficiently. Jesus' exhortation in 15:4 that his followers remain rooted in him implies that we do so by remaining rooted in his word.

Why does the word of Jesus keep us fruitful? John suggests that listening to the word keeps the dialogue open between us and God and sustains the relationship. By showing Jesus repeating the instruction that we are to remain in the word, together with the claim that if we do so then whatever we ask for in prayer will be granted (15:7), John demonstrates that our relationship with God primarily involves dialogue. In other words, speaking-specifically, asking-must be grounded in listening, that is, keeping in touch with Jesus' words. The relationship is nourished by listening.

The result of this attending to the word of God (listening) in conjunction with prayer (asking) is that God is glorified by people bearing "much fruit" and so becoming Jesus' disciples (15:8). The divine life is carried on when dialogue between us and God keeps us aware of the characteristics of a godly life. If we care, we listen. If we listen, we learn. If we learn, we are incorporated into Christ, the vine. Listening shows us what matters and opens us to the life of the One to whom we listen.

*Scripture Reflections and Commentaries by
Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis*

Readings for the Week of May 10, 2009

Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8
Monday	Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115; Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday	Saints Nereus and Achilleus, martyrs; Pancras, martyr Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday	Our Lady of Fatima Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday	Saint Matthias, apostle Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113; Jn 15:9-17
Friday	Saint Isidore Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday	Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday	Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

If you are interested in understanding more fully what we believe as Catholics, a sixteen lesson Basic Catholic Catechism Home Study Course will be offered covering the essentials of the Catholic faith in a systematic and comprehensive way. Written by the late Jesuit Father John A. Hardon, this challenging home study course is open to everyone. It will help you grow to a deeper knowledge and love of Christ and His Church. Study is done independently then participants meet twice a month to review the questions and answers and engage in a lively discussion of the lesson. An informational meeting will be held at St. Ann's Parish Center on May 13, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. Course materials will be explained and will be available for purchase. For more information or to register, contact Freddie Lampl @ 868-2325, Viv Sullivan @ 868-9865 or Mary Eichhold @ 863-3345.

The Benefits: Adult education at home; participation in the New Evangelization as requested by our late Holy Father Pope John Paul II; greater confidence in knowledge of your Catholic faith; deeper love for the Lord.

ST ANN SCHOOL NEWS Thanks to all who participated in our Max & Erma's Fundraiser. We received notice that we made \$355 for the school, and that we can have another fundraiser after 90 days. We really appreciate all of you helping us. This is the time of the year when so many things are happening: the 8th grade just returned from Chicago, and the 6th and 7th grades are getting excited about their Washington D.C. trip. Olympic Day will be this week, so we hope that the weather cooperates. May Crowning took place on May 5th and the 2nd and 8th grade students presented flowers to Mary during the ceremony. Our school picnic will be at the end of May, and several grades are planning field trips. 8th grade Graduation will be on Wednesday, June 3rd. It is a very busy time of the school year.

The St. Ann Youth Group needs large shoeboxes for Vacation Bible School. Please help us out and bring your shoeboxes to church. There is a container in the vestibule to collect them. We are hoping for 100 participants this year, and so we need 100 shoeboxes! Please help!

A Prayer for Those Afraid of their Motherhood

Lord God, we thank you, the Source of Life, for all those who have welcomed and nurtured our lives. In particular, we thank you for our mothers, who with trust in you and self-sacrifice beyond description, have made it possible for us to live and praise you today. Give them the reward of their labors.

Today, Lord, we also pray for mothers who are afraid of being mothers. We pray especially for those carrying a child within them, but afraid to bring that child to birth. Look with favor on these, your daughters, and give them trust and strength. Enable them to give themselves to their children, as you give yourself to us, and to experience the joys of motherhood. Enable us to do our part to encourage them and provide for their needs.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

ATTENTION ST. ANN PARISHIONERS: During the month of May the Rosary will be led each evening at 7:00 p.m. in front of the shrine outside church by a parishioner. Prayer leaders are needed for each of these sessions. There is a sign up calendar posted by the front doors which lists all the days available for those who would like to lead the Rosary. We hope everyone will join us! Thank you.

Cub Scout Pack 907 is recruiting new scouts. Boys in Kindergarten -4th grade are invited to join scouts on Thursday May 14th at 7pm in the St. Ann School Cafeteria. Upcoming summer events are the Raingutter Regatta (small wooden boat race,) 4th of July parade, and day camps in June and July. Weekly den meetings are held throughout the school year. For more information, contact Dan or Jennifer (Mann) Hongell at 860-5134.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, May 10th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
9-10 a.m. CCD classes
10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

Wednesday, May 13th

7:00 p.m. Basic Catechism information night –*everyone welcome!*
8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul
8:00 p.m. P.A.C. meeting

Thursday, May 14th

7:00 p.m. Pack 907 – Interested in Scouts? Join us tonight
7:00 p.m. Basic Catechism Class

Saturday, May 16th

9:00 a.m. 5K Run / Walk and Family Fun Day *Hope to see you there!*

3:30-4:30 p.m. Confessions
4:40 p.m. Rosary

Sunday, May 17th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS **Mary Altar** –Many of you have beautiful flowers in your yard, please feel free to place them or purchased flowers on the Mary Altar. Mark your vases and they will be returned to you. Hope many of you will share your flowers with Mary.

Spring Raffle- The ticket for the raffle were mailed out the past week. If you need more just call 863-1700.

David Endres, from Sacred Heart parish in Fairfield, will be ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk on May 23, 2009. Fr. Endres will celebrate his first Mass at Sacred Heart on Sunday, May 24, 2009 at 1:00 PM. All are invited to join him in the celebration of his first Mass.

DR J. C. WILLKE, founder of the Right to Life Movement, Lecturer and Author, will speak at Sacred Heart Church in Fairfield on Monday, May 11, at 7:00 PM. He will update us on the issues that doctors and nurses are facing on right to conscience and he will update us on Stem Cell issues. Mark your calendar... plan to attend ...free admission...free-will offering.

St. Julie Billiart Parish Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 17th from 9am – 1pm at the Fenmont Center located at 229 North Third St., Hamilton, Ohio. Menu: Pancakes, Sausage, Coffee Cakes, Coffee, Juice, Milk \$5 for Adults; \$3 for children 12 and under, \$15 immediate family

GUIDEBOOK and DIRECTORY We are in the process of updating our annual Guide Book and Directory for the Church. This book helps us all to know more about our Church. The who, what, where, when, why, and how of our Church. As last year, the book is being provided at no cost to our Church, including the mailing to each family, and again is being subsidized by local businesses who advertise in it. If you own or manage a business and want to find out how to advertise in the book, please call the Church office at 863-4963. Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1 % of families would rather patronize our Guide Book and Directory advertisers over a non-advertiser. It "does pay" to advertise in our Guide Book and Directory.

The Journey of Grief' What Can I Expect? Grief is with us in the many big and small losses we experience throughout our lives. It is a necessary part of healing. This program will explore the stages of grief and how to walk through the twists and turns on the journey, to experience a sense of peace. This free program will be held on May 14 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at Gate of Heaven Cemetery Chapel. To register, call Sandy Keiser at (513) 241-7745.



Saturday, May 9th

5:00 p.m. **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
Mary Ellen Solazzo (Family)

Sunday, May 10th

8:00 a.m. **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
For the Intentions of Lillian & Tony LoBuono on their 55th Wedding Anniversary
10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

Monday, May 11th

7:15 a.m. **Easter Weekday**
Marilyn Cassano (Family)

Tuesday, May 12th

7:15 a.m. **Easter Weekday**
Elaine Eichhold (Family)

Wednesday, May 13th

7:15 a.m. **Our Lady of Fatima**
Linda Lindner – Anniversary (Family)

Thursday, May 14th

7:15 a.m. **Matthias, apostle**
Communion Service
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church in Hamilton

Friday, May 15th

8:00 a.m. **Easter Weekday**
Gladys Kettman (Mark Finan)

Saturday, May 16th

7:30 a.m. **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
Intentions of the Celebrant
5:00 p.m. William Wolpert (Rick)

Sunday, May 17th

8:00 a.m. **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
For the Intentions of St. Ann People
10:30 a.m. Tom Pottenger (Betty Ulm)

Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$ 12,072.00
05/03/2009	\$ 8,901.25
Year to Date Budgeted Offering	\$ 521,168.00
Year to Date Actual Offering	\$ 422,225.60

STEWARDSHIP SURVEY

The St Ann's Stewardship Committee and several parish volunteers will be conducting a telephone survey to selected parish members during the weeks of May 17 and 24. We are attempting to update parish records and to promote opportunities for parishioners to get involved in parish activities.

JOIN US for a EUCHARISTIC MISSION May 25-28, 2009 here at St. Ann Catholic Church. The Mission will be presented by Father Chuck Zmudzinski, CPM Fathers of Mercy. Confessions will be heard at 6:30-6:50 p.m. each night and after the conference each night. Conference talks each night at 7 p.m. May 25-28th. Please join us in prayer as we anticipate the Feast of the Body and Blood of the Lord. For more information on the Fathers of Mercy visit them on the web at : www.fathersofmercy.com.

Fr. Chuck Zmudzinski, C.P.M. is a native of South Bend, Indiana. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame with the Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering, and from the University of Illinois with a Master's and Doctorate in electrical engineering. He conducted various engineering research projects at TRW when he entered the Fathers of Mercy in South Union, Kentucky. He earned an M.A. in theology from Holy Apostles Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood in 2002. He served for two years as associate pastor of St. Helen parish in Glasgow, Kentucky and subsequently earned a licentiate in canon law from the Catholic University of America. He attributes his religious and priestly vocation to the election of God and the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.