

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

10th May 2009

GOSPEL: John 15: 1-8

In today's Gospel we hear that disciples who remain faithful will bear much fruit. Faithfulness is hard work. We pray today for the grace to meet the challenges of the faithful life.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; he who lives in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit, alleluia.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday 14th May Matthias, apostle

FRUIT OR FUEL FOR THE FIRE

There will always be those like St Paul among us to challenge and irk and enlighten, just as there will be those like the apostle St Barnabas to ease us through conflicts and mediate peace. We, for our part, are to respect all the other branches with whom we form the one vine that is Christ.

Rather than wish that the divine vine grower might prune away this one or that one who, in our estimation, is no more than a nuisance or dead weight, we might do well to heed the wise counsel of one of our ancestral branches on the vine of Christ. In today's second reading, the writer of St John's epistle urges each of us to love, not in word or speech but in deed and truth. This is the fruit-bearing called for in the Gospel: that those who are grafted onto the one true vine and who are privileged to be inspired by God's living Word might embody these gifts in all they say and do.

The choice is, as always, completely our own, because the great respecter of our freedom forces nothing. Each day, every day, it is ours to decide whether we will remain one with Christ and bear much fruit or be fruitless branches that are then pruned away to become fuel for the fire.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Allan Goddard, Ann Twomey, Mat Talbot, Jason Price, Fr Peter Thompson Cm, Brian Scanlan, Lionel West, Geoff Bray, Paul Moate, Eileen Carroll, Lyle Jansen, Maureen Burke, Kath Robinson, Gary McLinden, Paul Trotman, Mary Hamilton, Lillian Roberts, Norm & Joan McLaurin, Kevin Hynes, Mihovil Katalinic, Vin Griffiths, Juanita Jervois, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, John Hunt, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Mary Cooper, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben

Harper, Bess Harris, Patricia Bourke, Effie Ray, Joseph Doran, Nicholas Hetherington, Sandra Varrasso and Marie Cook.

Grant eternal life to:

George Hannan, Mary Hamilton, Maureen Withers, David Terrill, Norma Chadd, Laurie Macaulay, Enid McDowell, Eileen Brown, Jelka Kovacevic, Pat Esler (Wagga Wagga), Don McDonald and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

Grace Wighton, Eila Cain, Pauline Rodrigues, Murray Longmuir, Doris Morris, Brian Twomey and all our loved ones whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Lorraine Hill, Patrick & Noel Cain, Deceased Members of the Cain & Tredrea Families, Bride, Leo and Margaret McCormack, and all our dear ones deceased.

LORD HEAR US

BAPTISMS

Recently we welcomed into God's church the following newly baptised:

FELIX CLARK

FOR YOUR DIARY

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Thank you to all who gave so generously last weekend to our special collection Education of Priests. \$1,227.00 was gratefully received.

There will be a special collection at all Masses next weekend for Media Sunday.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Be part of the St Vincent de Paul Society's Good Works. Is there a desire in you to do something more? Would you like to live your faith by reaching out to those in need? Our local Conference and Centre are seeking new members and volunteers to join them in their work of assisting the disadvantaged and vulnerable members of our community. Information evening at Sacred Heart hall, North Albury at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th May. All welcome. Contact: Garvan Azzi.

PRESBYTERY FRONT GARDEN WORKING BEE

Gardeners are invited to assist this Wednesday 13th May from 9.30-11.30am to bring the front garden of the presbytery up to scratch. Please bring a gardening tool.

DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

A day of Prayer and Reflection will be lead by the Prayer Companions from the Week of Guided Prayer Team on Monday 11th May 2009 at 10.00am for 10.30am until 2.30pm in St Patrick's Hall Supper Room, Albury. BYO Lunch, morning tea provided. RSVP: Irene Bowyer by 4th May Ph (02) 6023 5670.

PALMS AUSTRALIA

Palms is holding a Focus Workshop on 23rd and 24th May at The Hermitage, Mittagong, NSW for anyone who has thought about volunteering for overseas mission work. For further information please contact Benjamin Oh on 02 9518 9551 or ben@palms.org.au

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of St Patrick's Parish Council will be held this Thursday 14th May 2009 at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

SCHOOL OF ST JUDE

Gemma Sisia, Founder and Director of the School of St Jude, Tanzania, will speak at a dinner function on Monday 18th May. The event will begin at 6.30pm in the Waratah Room, Commercial Club. The cost of tickets is \$27.50 per person, with drinks at bar prices. For tickets and details, please contact Leasa Brown on

(02) 6043 1346, 0409 827 531 or email: leasabrown@gotalk.net.au

YOU WANT YOUR MARRIAGE TO BE THE BEST

Committed, intimate, joyful and passionate!

Celebrate Love - a two-day retreat for newly married and 'very married' couples that empowers you to create a mutually satisfying, deeply tender and powerfully sensual marriage. Thurgoona 30th and 31st May.

www.celebratelove.com.au Ph. 02 9662 7272.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP FOR 18-35YRS

A weekly discussion group for 18-35yr olds meets weekly on Wednesday nights at 7.00pm in the upper room of St Patrick's Hall. Contact Miriam Kirley on 0400 419 981 or email mizmim@gmail.com John Burton 0400 574 958 or Marcus Shaw 0418 463 952.

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 7 ENROLMENTS 2010

Applications for Enrolment in Year 7 2010 close on Friday 12th June 2009. If you would like further information about enrolment at Xavier High School please contact Mrs Cerina Meredith on 6040 6388 or email info@xhsww.catholic.edu.au

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Scholarships for Xavier High School are available for students entering Year 7, 9 and 11 in 2010. Applications for Year 7 2010 close on Friday 29th May. Applications for the Year 9 and 11 scholarships will be called for later this term. For further details please contact Mrs Cerina Meredith on 6040 6388 or email

info@xhsww.catholic.edu.au

SNIPPET

With (Divine) Providence there is no such thing as chance; and so by some little unforeseen incident it can easily upset the cunning calculations of those hostile to spiritual good. (Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange, OP.)