

**GOSPEL**

Jn 15: 1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.*

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.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

28 APRIL 2024

**'MAKE YOUR HOME IN ME'**

The juxtaposition of the story of Saul (Paul) in the first reading from Acts with the image of Jesus as the vine in the Gospel speaks to the formation of disciples of Jesus. In Acts we have a glimpse into the beginnings of Saul's (not yet called Paul) ministry who, with all the zeal of his experience of the risen Christ, joins the believers. Barnabas takes him under his wing. Trouble erupts with the Hellenists and Paul is whisked away from Jerusalem to his hometown to where he contemplates his call.

When we then hear the Gospel's beautifully elegant description of the vine and the branches we can connect with the formation of the disciples and discern our own call. The clear instruction is 'to make your home in me', to make our home in Jesus. It is a symbiotic relationship just like the vine and its branches. We need to remain/abide in Jesus to bear fruit. No matter our zeal, our life of faith and ministry grows and flows from Jesus. This is further enriched by the words of the second reading from the First Letter of John where we hear that 'our love is not to be just words or mere talk but something real and active'. We are to live the life God wants, to love one another and live in God.

Vines and their fruit are no stranger to us here in Australia, so we take time to reflect on this image to see how closely we abide in Jesus the vine.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

**FIRST READING**

Acts 9: 26-31

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.**

*He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.*

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.

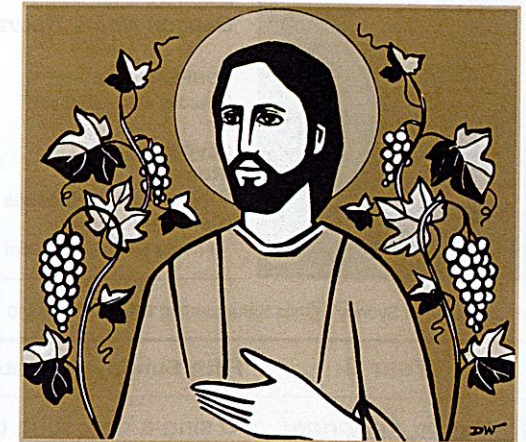
■ **The word of the Lord.**

**RESP PSALM**

Ps 21: 26-28, 30-32. R. v. 26

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (or Alleluia!)**

1. 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.**
2. 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.**
3. 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**

1 Jn 3: 18-24

**A reading from the first letter of St John.**

*His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.*

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.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Jn 15: 4-5

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; / my branches bear much fruit. / Alleluia!**

# OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH PAGEDWOOD

25 Donovan Ave, Maroubra 2035 Tel: (02) 9344 7914 Office hours: Fri 8:15am to 2.15pm  
 Email: olapagewood@gmail.com Website: www.olapagewood.org.au



**Parish Administrator** **Fr Daney Irudayadoss**  
**Deacon:** **Deacon Nonie Tiburan**

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 4:15 - 5:00 pm

**DEVOTIONS**  
**:Rosary** after weekday Masses  
**:Cenacle Prayers** Fridays 5:00pm – 6:00pm

**MASS TIMINGS:**  
 Monday 8:00 am; Tuesday 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday to Friday 8:00 am  
 Saturday 8:00 am and Vigil 5:30 pm  
 Sunday 8:00am & 10:00 am

**Baptisms and Marriages:** By appointment

**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help**  
 Wednesday after the 8:00 am Mass.

**Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament**  
 Saturday from 4:15pm to 5:00 pm  
 First Fridays from 11.30am to 12.15pm

Archdiocese of Sydney's Child Safeguarding Office: 9290 5810 safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org

**Year B: Fifth Sunday of Easter 28-04-2024**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**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.**

**Prayer for ANZAC Day:** God of love and liberty, we bring our thanks this day for the peace and security that we enjoy, which was won for us through the courage and devotion of those who gave their lives in times of war and peacekeeping. We pray that their labour and sacrifice may not be in vain, but their spirit may live on in us and in generations to come. That the liberty, truth and justice which they sought to preserve may be seen and known in all the nations upon earth. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who gave his life for the sake of the world. Amen. (modified from Prayer One of ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee)

### We offer special prayers for:

**The sick:** Jorge Azar, Milagros F. Cannistraro, Sarah Cannistraro, Sevi Zachary Claveria, Marieta De Venecia, Speranza Dorigo, Lynette Drew, Sue Domancich, Vivian Felice, Jim Lisbona, Doris Magri, Celin Malkun, Javier Malkun, July Malkun, Nayade Malkun, Manuel Mantilla, Marija & Barclay Family, Owen McLoughlin, Felomina Moulic, Jay R. Moulic, Salvador Murillo, Yvonne Parry, Jessa Reina De Vera-Cruz, Thelma Soriano, Ann-Marie Stevens, Venus Tabayoyong, Dea Maria Tjahjana, James Trewhella, Aurea Visperas, Alison Wilkinson, Jessica & Joseph Wilkinson, Helen Yu, all our sick parishioners, sick members of our families and friends and all the sick in the world.

**The deceased: Recently:** Denis Ryan, Jack McCoy, Felicidad Yabut Delos Reyes  
**Anniversary:** Rosario & Bonifacio Bautista, William Malkun (2<sup>nd</sup> on 26/4), Antonio Castillo (28/4), Susan Lee (4<sup>th</sup> on 30/4), Wilfred Tsen, Shirley Bell (2<sup>nd</sup> on 22/4),

**Others:** Maria Vucetic, Miko Vucetic, Des Ebejer, Andrew Spiteri, Jenny Chen, Vincenzo & Elena Sellaro; Gerace, Cosentino, Rizzo, Artese & Sellaro Families, Giovanni Family, the deceased members of our families and friends and all Souls in Purgatory.

Roster May 4/5	5.30pm	8am	10am
<b>Lectors:</b>	John Heffernan Lyra Menczer	Darren Lee Bernadine Lavender	Maria Visto Edwin Kolencherry

**Church Cleaning & Preparation:** Roster 4 May (first Saturday of the month)

**Flowers Arranging:** Mona Rezcallah **Dusting & Tidying Pews:** Mona Rezcallah  
**Vacuuming Church Floor:** (volunteer needed)

**Feast Days of the Week:** 29 April – Saint Catherine of Siena  
 2 May – Saint Athanasius 3 May – Saints Philip and James

**First Friday of the month Anointing of the Sick** during 8am mass on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024.

**First Friday Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 from 11.30am to 12.15pm

**Welcome to Deacon Nonie Tiburan:** who has been appointed to OLA Pagewood Parish from 12 April 2024; the date of his ordination to the Diaconate. He will assist Fr Daney at Pagewood Parish from Thursday to Sunday. We pray for him for God's blessings and guidance in his ministry.

**Volunteer(s) are needed to vacuum** on the Saturday morning of 4<sup>th</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> June, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 10<sup>th</sup> August. If you are able to help, please contact the parish.

**Charitable Works Fund Appeal:** takes place next weekend 4/5 May. Funds raised will be used to support the Sydney Archdiocese' social, training and advocacy programs. All donations above \$2 are tax deductible. Thank you.

**The First Collection** taken after the Prayer of Faithful supports our Archdiocesan clergies' stipends and presbytery expenses. **The Second Collection which will be taken immediately after The First Collection** supports our church's liturgical and running expenses as well as repairs and maintenance.

**Tap donations are divided equally to First & Second Collections.**

**NO FOREIGN COINS Please:** Please do not place any foreign coins and currency in any collections as they cause problems with our counting machine and the bank's.

**Books, pamphlets, Items left in Church Foyer without approval:** Please DO NOT leave books, pamphlets or items in the church foyer without permission from Fr Daney. Unwanted and unauthorised dumping of items clutter the foyer; and weekly effort & expense has to be taken to throw them out.

**The Catholic Weekly** for only \$2 each in the foyer.

**Prayer to the Good Shepherd :** Lord of the 23rd Psalm, I have known death and you have refreshed my soul. I have known fear, and you have comforted me. I have known hunger, and you have set a feast before me. In the darkest valley no calamity of humankind or nature has separated us. Teach me to walk as you walk. Beside those in mourning so that they will know joy, Beside those in fear that they will know comfort, Beside those in hunger that they will feast until their cup overflows. As your goodness and love follow me, May mine follow my neighbour. That the threat of the worst terrors, may tum to the knowledge of the comforts of the house of the Lord, Where you have invited us to dwell forever. And so let me strive to help build on earth. What you have promised us in heaven. In the face of all calamity, present and yet to come, Let me lead my neighbour beside quiet waters, The quiet waters of the Good Shepherd. Amen. (from www.crs.org/resource-center/prayer-good-shepherd)