

# On the Vine

**Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn**  
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Acts 9:26-31; Psalm 22:26-28, 30-32; John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be—the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations (see Sirach 24:17-24).

In baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist.

Paul in today's First Reading seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true vine—His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, he encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his life (see Matthew 7:16-20).

We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples, so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness.

Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will 'prune' us—as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as pruning, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness (see Hebrews 12:4-11).

We need to always remain rooted in Him, as today's Epistle tells us. We remain in Him by keeping His commandment of love, by pondering His words, letting them dwell richly in us (see Colossians 3:16), and by always seeking to do what pleases Him. In everything we must be guided by humility, remembering that apart from Him we can do nothing.

As we sing in today's Psalm, we must fulfill our vows, turning to the Lord in worship, proclaiming his praises, until all families come to know His justice in their lives.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**May 2<sup>nd</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

<b>Sat. May 2<sup>nd</sup></b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Saint Athanasius (First Saturday)</b> Intentions of the Parishioners
4:30 p.m.	Paciencia Manzo Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry and Ofelia Roy
<b>Sun. May 3<sup>rd</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> Jose and Maria Pereira – RIP – by Maria Melo Ponte
11:00 a.m.	Joyce Pratt – RIP – by Margaret Di Gaetano
<b>Mon. May 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tues. May 5<sup>th</sup></b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Intentions of the Parishioners
<b>Wed. May 6<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Weekday</b> For all the Souls in Purgatory
<b>Thurs. May 7<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Intentions of the Parishioners
<b>Fri. May 8<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Blessed Catherine of Saint Augustine</b> For all the Souls in Purgatory
<b>Sat. May 9<sup>th</sup></b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Deceased and Living Members of the Rodrigues Family – by Leo and Lavinia
<b>Sun. May 10<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> Maria Melo and Jose Ponte – RIP – by Conceicao and Jeremias Pacheco
11:00 a.m.	Maria and Leopold Yvorchuk – RIP – by the family

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**Collection:**

April 26, 2015 - **\$2,816.95** ..... **Thank you for your  
generosity.**

**Counters:**

May 3, 2015 – Rose Mangahas and Emma Lanzaderas  
May 10, 2015 – Chris Tugadi and Maria Ponte

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*Coffee Sunday*

Hosted by the **Be My Disciples Team**, everyone is cordially invited to a "Coffee Sunday" on **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, the second Sunday of the month, after the 11 A.M. Mass at the Church Hall.

### *Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day*

Come and join us in the celebration of the **feast day of Our Lady of Fatima on May 13<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday**. The celebration will commence with praying of the Rosary at 6:30 P.M. followed by a Mass at 7:00 P.M. (Please take note that there will be **no Mass at 9 A.M.**). Immediately after the Mass, there will be procession of Our Lady of Fatima statue from the Church door to the altar. Refreshments will be served.

### *Be My Disciples News*

Last Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 29 children celebrated their **FIRST RECONCILIATION**. They will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Confirmation candidates will have their Confirmation **RETREAT**, in preparation for their Confirmation on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please let us keep all these children in our prayers.

This catechetical year-end is fast approaching, and we are already thinking of next year. The **REGISTRATION** Forms for September will be ready within the next two (2) weeks. The children who are currently in the Be My Disciples program will take the new registration form home. Please look for it in their book or backpack. All other parishioners, who have children between the ages of Kindergarten and Junior High, please inquire at the office or call Connie Kuhr for information. Thank you to Our Lady of Fatima for the many blessings showered upon us.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

May 9, 2015 - **Confirmation Retreat** - for all Confirmation candidates.

May 23, 2015 - 4:30 p.m. Mass - **Confirmation**

June 6, 2015 - 4:30 p.m. Mass - **First Communion**

### *Pilgrimage to the Holy Land*

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Capharnaum, Nazareth, Tiberius, Jericho and much more) - **November 12-24, 2015**, organised by Spiritours and led by guide Thea and **Deacon Brian Cordeiro**. Information meeting is on Tuesday, April 28 at St. Luke's, DDO in the hall at 7.30pm. Deacon Brian will also preach at all masses at Our Lady of Fatima on the week-end of May 2 and 3 and be available after the masses to share information on the pilgrimage. For more information and details of the program, contact Deacon Brian at 514-545-8709 or by email [brian.cordeiro89@gmail.com](mailto:brian.cordeiro89@gmail.com).

The Pope's Prayer Intentions for May 2015 Entrusted to the  
Apostleship of Prayer

#### **UNIVERSAL:**

#### **CARE FOR THE SUFFERING**

That, rejecting the culture of indifference, we may care for our  
neighbors who suffer, especially the sick and the poor.