St. Mark's Catholic Church

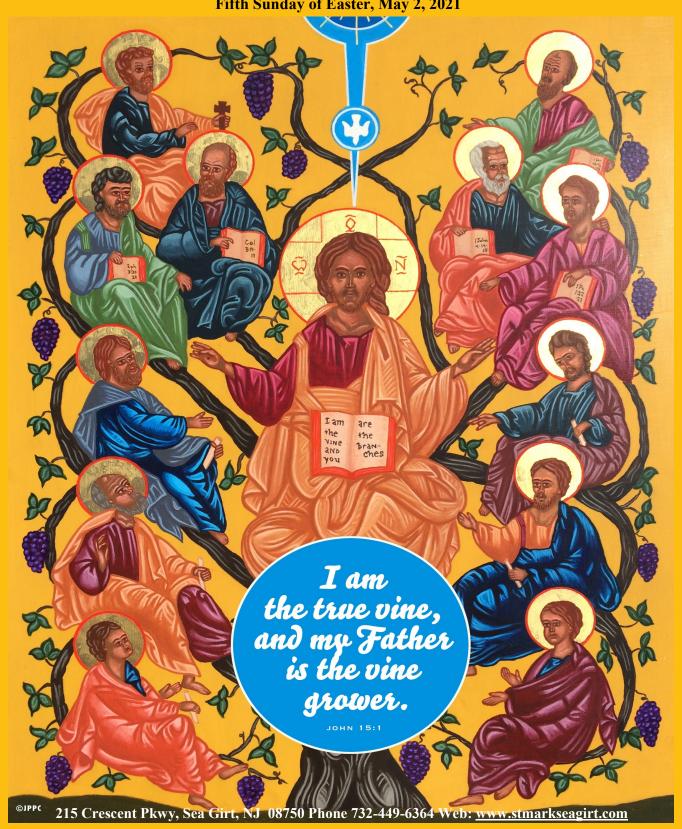
Rev. Msgr. Sean P. Flynn, Pastor

Rev. José Fernandez-Bangueses, Resident Priest

Rev. Bernard N. Mohan (Wednesday and Friday)

Deacon Michael Keary

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 2, 2021





Fifth Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 53

Reading I Acts 9:26-31

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.

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, and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem, and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord.

He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. And when the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him on his way to Tarsus.

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

Responsorial Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

R. (26a) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

or:

R. Alleluia.

I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: May your hearts live forever!"
R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your

people.

or:

R. Alleluia.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of the nations shall bow down before him.

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

or:

R. Alleluia.

To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth;

before him shall bend all who go down into the dust. R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

or:

R. Alleluia.

And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him. Let the coming generation be told of the LORD that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice he has shown.

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

or:

R. Alleluia.

Reading II <u>1 Jn 3:18-24</u>

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. 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. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

Alleluia <u>Jn 15:4a, 5b</u>

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit. R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Jn 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

"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 every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.

You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.

Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.

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.

Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither;

people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."



† This:Week's:Mass:Intentions

† Barbara Sundvall † Deceased Members St. Mark's Holy Name † Dorothy Wright Living & Deceased Members of St. Mark's Altar Rosary † William Schier † Veronica Vivino † Rose Marie LaTorre † Fortunato Virdo † 1st Anniversary Alberto Marquez † Agnes Morgan † William Connolly † Bonnie McGonegle † Barry J. Osborn † Vito Sanopoli † Daniel Garrett	Geri Zalom Family Geri Zalom Ed and Judy Blaha Doster Family Bertucci Family Kate Tombs Estate Gemini Restoration, Kim, Joe, Guy & Matt Boriotti Family Lissa and Fred McGrath Kathy and Bob Flammer
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† Barry J. Osborn † Vito Sanopoli	Lissa and Fred McGrath Kathy and Bob Flammer
† Vito Sanopoli	Kathy and Bob Flammer
	Helen Hopkins
† Edward Reuter	Irene and Leo Hurley
† John Donoher	Mary and John O'Beirne
	Peggy Hardiman
· ·	Estate
	Sue Meyer & The Fister Kids
† Tom Whelan	Peggy Whelan
† Helen G. Malloy	Family
† Colette Casey	Estate
	Maria and John Checton
	Jerry Flynn
† Estelle Spillane	Marge Loenser
† Maureen Smith	Family
† Barbara Heindle	Estate
† Mary Jane Pluscauski	Eleanor and John Sullivan
† Urie Parkhill † Estelle Spillane	Walking with Purpose Sisters
	Karen and Stephan Dushnick
† Harold E. Meehan	Clarke Family
8:00 AM † Harold E. Meehan † Catherine Donatelli	Donatelli Family
† Genevieve Cahill	Maureen and Rick Heilmann
People of the Parish	
† Hernestina Cruz	Avila Family
Yolanda Perez (Special Intention)	Family
† Pedro Barsenas Leon	Daughters
	† John Donoher † Marion and Tony Fitzgerald † Barbara Heindle † Bonnie McGonegle † Tom Whelan † Helen G. Malloy † Colette Casey † Harry Arnold † Krug and Walsh Families † Estelle Spillane † Maureen Smith † Barbara Heindle † Mary Jane Pluscauski † Urie Parkhill † Estelle Spillane † Harold E. Meehan † Catherine Donatelli † Genevieve Cahill People of the Parish † Hernestina Cruz Yolanda Perez (Special Intention)



May 2, 2021

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14 **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**: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-9, 10, 12; Jn 15:12-17 **Saturday**: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21 **Sunday**: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; 1

Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17



May Crowning is Monday, May 3rd after the 11:00 AM Mass, St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society will be crowning our Blessed Mother followed by recitation of the rosary with meditations by Monsignor Flynn. Please join us.



Thank You! We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and it's ministries!

We would especially like to thank all of those who faithfully use their weekly

parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through the Parish Giving Program.

April 25, 2021 collection amount \$8,687.00.



Please Note: New Policy for the Pray for our Sick. Names will remain on the sick list read at mass for 4 weeks and then removed unless the requester calls to remain on the list for another 4 weeks. To ensure the consent of the person whose name appears here, the pastor's policy requires that only they or a family member may request a name be added to this list. Names will remain in the bulletin until the person or family request it be removed.

Alice Healy, Benjamin Ohlweiler, Jeremy Pavlick, Lucy Gargano, Christine Frauenheim, Robert MacPherson, Jake Gilbert, Bill Lesniak, Jim Bogan, Bruce Bogan, Sr., Bobbie Woods, Julia Buonocore, Alexandra Gavilanes, Sarah Gallagher, Jimmy Azzollini, Vivian Wilson, Ken Hauck, Dorothy Waugh, Patricia Cavanaugh, Rose Courtney, Grace Philhower, Maria Valdez.

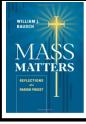
If you are a parishioner who has not been able to attend Mass and would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Holy Communion to you, please contact Donna at the rectory, 732-449-6364 x100 or email donna@stmarkseagirt.com.

Eternal Rest grant onto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Please remember in your prayers those of our diocese, parish, friends, and family members who have recently died:

† Daniel Hennessy

May the angels lead you into paradise...



MASS MATTERS

Fr. Bausch's book "Mass Matters" is on sale in the rectory for \$15.

Please call ahead and we will have it ready for you to pick it up!

Please note:

The celebration of the Solemn Feast of the Ascension of the Lord has been transferred by the bishops of New Jersey from Thursday, May 13 to Sunday, May 16, 2021 for this year only.

Scholarship Offered

Once again, the Pastor and the Lorette E. Jordan Trustees are pleased to announce the offering of a scholarship in her memory which recognizes the achievements of first time freshmen who will be attending a Catholic High School in the fall. Application form is available in the Rectory.

To qualify for the \$1,000 scholarship, please note the following requirements:

- •the freshman's family must be registered at St. Mark's
- •the student must be an incoming freshman at a Catholic high school
- •the student must have volunteered in some way at St. Mark's.

The scholarship application form provides details about writing a short essay and providing your academic accomplishments.

Please submit your application to the Rectory no later than Friday, June 11th, 2021.





Thank you!

Saint Mark's Parish would like to thank the Doster Family for donating the beautiful white bows placed on the end of every other pew. Gemma Doster's family was kind enough to purchase them and she was assisted by Lori Savino, Andi Parkhill and Therese Mancuso in arranging all the bows meticulously. As you can see, the bows added to our celebration of Easter and the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.



Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Your donations help strengthen the Church at home and ensure that the Gospel is spread across the United States. If you missed the appeal,

it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

BAPTISM



Congratulations to our Newly Baptized:

Camila Aliah Gonzalez, February 13, 2021
Lissandra Cruz-Espana, April 3, 2021
Natalie Gil-Arcos, April 3, 2021
Mia Isabella Gonzalez, April 3, 2021
Blake James Trainor, April 11, 2021
Jazmin Jimenez-Hernandez, April 17, 2021
Viridiana Alexis Vasquez García, April 17, 2021



ELC: CONNECT. SERVE. SUPPORT.
WORKING TOGETHER
TO STOP COVID-19

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton is providing COVID-19 vaccines, tests, contact tracing, and health education to underserved groups in Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean counties, especially those in the Latino, Black and immigrant communities.

- · Serve as a COVID-19 vaccine administration and testing site.
- Remove barriers and increase access for marginalized groups by offering vaccine pre-registration, appointment scheduling, technology assistance, and resource referrals for those who need transportation or childcare vouchers.
- Educate the community by creating wellness groups, working directly with vulnerable and hard-to-reach individuals through in-home engagement and multiple languages, and providing safe spaces for immigrants to ask questions and receive information.
- Help build a statewide, bilingual community health worker workforce - in conjunction with community colleges.
- Encourage people to join the "COVID Community Corps" as volunteers to help others find and access the vaccine.

Questions: Contact Lauren DeVries at (609) 819-6690 (M-F, 8:30am-4:30pm) or Idevries@cctrenton.org

Learn more at:

www.CatholicCharitiesTrenton.org/covid-19-community-outreach

This work is possible through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases [ELC] project, a statewide initiative providing resources to enhance detection, response, contact tracing and pervention efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19. The project is administered by the New Jersey Department of Health Division of Family Health Services and the Maternal Child Health Consortio, through a partnership with the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium as a regional grantee. CIFHC grants support community-based organizations serving vulnerable populations. ELC supports expanded access to COVID-19 testing and vaccines, and training for community health workers to connect artisk persons with needed services and reliable COVID-19 information.

ELC funding was made available through the New Jersey Department of Health Division of Family Health Services to enhance detection, response, contact tracing and prevention efforts to stop the propert of COVID-19







Some Thoughts for May,

By Marge Loenser

"Tis the month of our Mother, the blessed and beautiful days, when our lips and our spirits are flowing with love and with praise...". Beautifully, this hymn echoes back to me from St. Elizabeth's grammar school. I remember lining up in procession to sing and pray the rosary. Yes, May the month of Mary, is here already! What better way to start the month than celebrating the spouse of Mary, St. Joseph, the Worker. How I would love to go back in time to watch St. Joseph showing Jesus how to use the tools of his trade. "Now, now son, watch your fingers! Hand me that lathe and then go see what Mother has prepared for the meal." How humble our Lord Jesus was to allow Himself to be human and submit to all authority; to perform everyday tasks with love and grace; to obey His parents and be present to all his family in everything, their hardships and their joys. Thank you Lord for your example, for your submission to Your Heavenly Father.

On Sunday, May 9th we celebrate Mothers' Day. On this day we honor our mothers with flowers, cards and gifts and thank God for all they have done for us. For those of us who have lost our mothers, we think back fondly on all those years they were there for us, and we say a prayer that they sit with Jesus at His table. We ask that they continue to look after us with their prayers.

May 13th is the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. St. Mark tells us that before Jesus ascended He said: "Go into the world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Whoever does not believe, will be condemned". He tells them of the power they will have and the miracles they will perform. Then Jesus was taken up to heaven. I can picture this scene, and if I put myself in it, I see me running after Him, saying, "Wait! Wait! Take me with You!" But that's just my emotional reaction. I'm sure the disciples were kneeling with arms outstretched in deep rapture, crying tears of joy and sadness and contemplating what all this means. Jesus promised His Holy Spirit and when Pentecost comes they will be filled with the Spirit and they will preach boldly, speak in tongues and thousands will be converted that very day!

On May 13th we also think of the miracles of Fatima, and our blessed Mother's messages. She spoke of allegiance to the Holy Trinity, the Eucharist, Penance, the need to pray the Rosary and to make sacrifices for the conversion of sinners. More than ever we need to pray the Rosary. After the holy mass it is the most important prayer of the church.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us continue to pray for each other and for the end of the pandemic. Pray for our country, that we may once more be united under God. God bless you.

Love, Marge





The Fifth Sunday of Easter





May is the Month of Mary!

As the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary has a unique position among the saints, indeed, among all creatures. She is exalted, yet still one of us.

Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God, by which account she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth. At the same time, however, because she belongs to the offspring of Adam she is one with all those who are to be saved. (Lumen Gentium, no. 53)

Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and . . . all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf.

Foster Care Awareness Month

May is Foster Care Awareness Month! Join us in praying for all foster parents and children.





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CYO News!!



What fun last weekend solving our very first church mystery: "The Repentant? Thief of St. Mark's Parish!!!!!!!!" Can't wait to delve into another unsolved mystery involving St. Mark's parish!

May 2: A very special person Matthew White (Michael and Joseph's brother) is our featured guest. You do not want to miss this meeting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

TBA First week in May: Senior Supper with Monsignor Sean at 6:30 PM. Individual, pre-ordered dinners will be served. Seniors, please meet in the yard behind the rectory. (Contact Mrs. Reilly for date and time.)

May 9: (Service opportunity) We will be assisting Mary's Child Pro-Life Ministry with selling roses after the Masses in honor of Mother's Day. Proceeds will be donated to Good Counsel Homes, Birth Right, Madonna House and other pro-life organizations.

Coming Soon: Miniature Golf Night at Belmar Marina Pier. More details to follow.

May 31: (Service opportunity) See flyer below: Emily Walker Memorial Day Walk for Hunger.

Saint Marks CYO Presents: Emily Walker Memorial Day Walk for Hunger

Monday, May 31st at 7:00 AM



Meet at the North End Pavilion in Spring Lake.

Collect \$5 from 5 people (\$25 total).

All proceeds go to Manasquan Food Pantry, Fulfill, and Missionaries of Charity Meals for the Homeless.

Masks and permission slips are required.

Contact Mary Reilly at mary33angels@aol.com or Jonathan Caputo at 19jcaputo@gmail.com to sign up.

We hope to see you there! If inclement weather is expected, the event will be moved to May 30th.







Your Gift Matters!

Your donation is important in building up our Church. Gifts of cash, check, money order, credit card or electronic transfers from your bank account are gratefully accepted. Gifts of stock, IRA distributions, bequests and charitable annuities can be coordinated by contacting the Department of Development at 609-403-7197.

Three Ways to Make Your Donation

ONLINE: Access our secure website at www.dioceseoftrenton.org/catholicappeal to easily make a pledge, payment or outright gift.













BY MAIL: Send a check or money order to our processing center, made payable to *Annual Catholic Appeal*:

Diocese of Trenton PO Box 70170 Newark, NJ 07101

BY PHONE: Call our Department of Development at 609-403-7197 with your credit card information.

Thank you for your generosity.



You are invited to join in with Holy Innocents' Rosary Group that meets online Monday-Saturday at 10:00am to pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic. Please contact Kathy Lynch at 732-513-2970 or kathy.lynch65@gmail.com for more details. It is easy to join by phone or she can assist you to access the group via teleconference. Everyone is welcome, even beginners.

WE ARE THE NEW KIDS IN TOWN!

Starting in May the Secular Franciscan Fraternity of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be meeting at St. Denis! Although new to the parish, we have been around quite a while, more than 800 years! Founded by St. Francis of Assisi in the 13th century, we were founded as an Order specifically for laypeople. An Order is a way of life and, like all Franciscans, ours is to serve God and His people by joyfully bringing the Gospel to life and life to the Gospel.

Our first meeting will be on **Saturday**, **May 15th at 9:30 am in St. Denis School**. Like our founder, St. Francis, we are deeply devoted to Our Lady and we will include a talk and brief study on the Annunciation, as well as, a flower Dedication to Our Lady under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We hope that you will join us and come and see what we are all about. For more information please contact us at dawnrusinko@yahoo.com and yes, we will be following social distancing guidelines. All are welcome! Peace and all goodness be yours!

While everyone is not yet able to participate in person at Masses, you can watch them online by visiting our parish website: Saint Mark's Catholic Church – 215 Crescent Pkwy, Sea Girt, New Jersey 08750 (stmarkseagirt.com) and click on the Livestream logo or highlight the link below then right click and click open Hyperlink St. Mark Church Streaming Player | Powered by StreamSpot.







Prayer to Jesus for Coronavirus Healing

Jesus Christ You traveled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness. At Your command the sick were made well. Come to our aid now in the midst of the global spread of the corona virus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus, may they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Carry in Your arms those who have died from the virus and bring them home. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. May they know Your Peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who put themselves at risk in serving the sick. May they know your protection. Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they were meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long term solutions to help prevent future outbreaks. Our Lord Jesus stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us Your Peace. Jesus Christ heal us. Amen.

Please Note: At this time, because of Covid 19, we are not accepting clothing, or any personal books, devotionals, religious articles or Rosary beads. In the future we will gladly accept your donations, but at the present time and for the safety of all those concerned, we are asking that these items not be left at the church. Thank you.



St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society

St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society will be reciting the rosary after the 11am mass on the first Monday of each month.

We invite those that cannot make it to church, to join us from home in the recitation of the rosary. In this way we continue to honor our Blessed Mother

and follow her directions to continue praying for an end to abortion and all the intentions of her Immaculate Heart.

Eucharistic Devotion



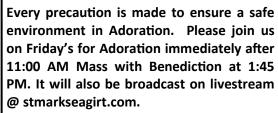
he importance of Eucharistic Adoration is shown in the fact that the Church has a ritual that regulates it: the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. This is an extension of the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which occurs in every Mass: "Behold the Lamb of

God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church. The Rite concludes with the ordained minister blessing the faithful with the Blessed Sacrament.

While everyone is not yet able to participate in the Mass in person, we encourage those who are able to make a visit on Fridays immediately after the 11 AM Mass for Adoration. Benediction begins at 1:45PM. Come spend some quiet time with the Lord.

There are less participants than at Mass and all safety precautions are being taken. Masks must be worn at all times in Church.

Adoration at St. Mark's Church

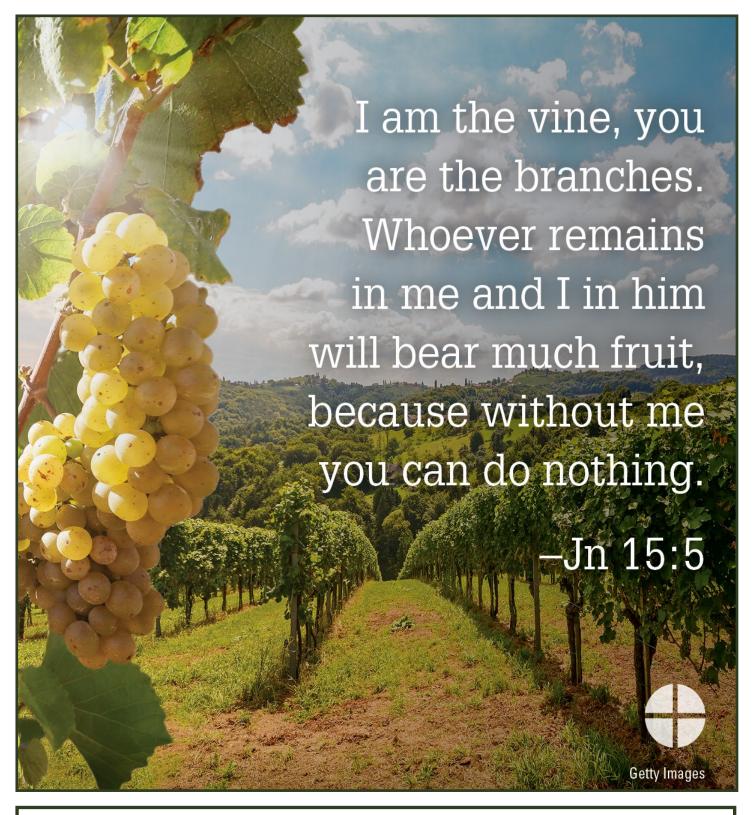






St. Mark's would like to let our Parishioners know what practices we have in place to protect them during the pandemic so that they can make informed decisions on whether they feel they would like

to attend in person Masses. Social distancing with roped off pews which allows those present to sit at least 6 feet apart, all pews, door handles and railings are sanitized after every Mass daily and during the weekend Masses and Sacraments, sanitizer is at the front and side entrances, bathrooms are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis, masks must be worn by everyone in the church, the priests and Extraordinary Ministers use hand sanitizer before distributing Communion, Communion is distributed one side at a time to allow for social distance, the windows are open during Mass to help circulate air, collection baskets are placed on the Altar rail rather than the Ushers handling the collection, weekend requirement is entrance thru the front doors for Parishioner count but you may exit thru all doors. If you have any questions please call the Rectory Office at 732-449-6364.



Parish Mission Statement: We, the Parish Family of St. Mark's in our quest to follow the Gospel of Jesus Christ, are building a faith-based community that assists all people in life's journey to be open to God's love and to share His joy. We are further committed to address the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of all people through service to individuals, families, parish and the greater community. As responsible stewards using our individual gifts, we promise to celebrate, renew and strengthen our faith, and to live our lives as a reflection of Christ's love for others. St. Mark's is designated as a Center for Hispanic Ministry in the Diocese of Trenton.

Iglesia de "San Marcos" Apostolado Hispano Misa Dominical: Domingo 5:00 p.m. Misa de Semana: Martes 6:00 p.m.

Horario de oficina en Español:

Msgr. Sean P. Flynn, Pastor Rev. José Fernandez-Bangueses, Sacerdote Residente josefernandez@stmarkseagirt.com Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 122.

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Quinto Domingo de Pascua Mayo 2, 2021

Primera Lectura: Hechos de los Apóstoles 9, 26-31.

Cuando Pablo regresó a Jerusalén, trató de unirse a los discípulos, pero todos le tenían miedo, porque no creían que se hubiera convertido en discípulo. Entonces, Bernabé lo presentó a los apóstoles y les refirió cómo Saulo había visto al Señor en el camino, cómo el Señor le había hablado y cómo él había predicado, en Damasco, con valentía, en el nombre de Jesús. Desde entonces, vivió con ellos en Jerusalén, iba y venía, predicando abiertamente en el nombre del Señor, hablaba y discutía con los judíos de habla griega y éstos intentaban matarlo. Al enterarse de esto, los hermanos condujeron a Pablo a Cesarea y lo despacharon a Tarso. En aquellos días, las comunidades cristianas gozaban de paz en toda Judea, Galilea y Samaria, con lo cual se iban consolidando, progresaban en la fidelidad a Dios y se multiplicaban, animadas por el Espíritu Santo.

Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 21, 26b-27. 28 y 30. 31-32.

Bendito sea el Señor. Aleluya.

Le cumpliré mis promesas al Señor delante de sus fieles. Los pobres comerán hasta saciarse y alabarán al Señor los que lo buscan: su corazón he de vivir para siempre.

Bendito sea el Señor. Aleluya.

Recordarán al Señor y volverán a él desde los últimos lugares del mundo; en su presencia se postrarán todas las familias de los pueblos. Sólo ante él se postrarán todos los que mueren.

Bendito sea el Señor. Aleluya.

Mi descendencia lo servirá y le contará a la siguiente generación, al pueblo que ha de nacer: la justicia del Señor y todo lo que él ha hecho.

Bendito sea el Señor. Aleluya.

Segunda Lectura: 1 Juan 3, 18-24.

Hijos míos: No amemos solamente de palabra, amemos de verdad y con las obras. En esto conoceremos que somos de la verdad y delante de Dios tranquilizaremos nuestra conciencia de cualquier cosa que ella nos reprochare, porque Dios es más grande que nuestra conciencia y todo lo conoce. Si nuestra conciencia no nos remuerde, entonces, hermanos míos, nuestra confianza en Dios es total. Puesto que cumplimos los mandamientos de Dios y hacemos lo que le agrada, ciertamente obtendremos de él todo lo que le pidamos. Ahora bien, éste es su mandamiento: que creamos en la persona de Jesucristo, su Hijo, y nos amemos los unos a los otros, conforme al precepto que nos dio. Quien cumple sus mandamientos permanece en Dios y Dios en él. En esto conocemos, por el Espíritu que él nos ha dado, que él permanece en nosotros.

Aclamación antes del Evangelio: Juan 15, 4a. 5b. R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Permanezcan en mí y yo en ustedes, dice el Señor; el que permanece en mí da fruto abundante. R. Aleluya.

Evangelio: Juan 15, 1-8.

En aquel tiempo, Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: "Yo soy la verdadera vid y mi Padre es el viñador. Al sarmiento que no da fruto en mí, él lo arranca, y al que da fruto lo poda para que dé más fruto. Ustedes ya están purificados por las palabras que les he dicho. Permanezcan en mí y yo en ustedes. Como el sarmiento no puede dar fruto por sí mismo, si no permanece en la vid, así tampoco ustedes, si no permanece en mí. Yo soy la vid, ustedes los sarmientos; el que permanece en mí y yo en él, ése da fruto abundante, porque sin mí nada pueden hacer. Al que no permanece en mí se le echa fuera, como al sarmiento, y se seca; luego lo

recogen, lo arrojan al fuego y arde. Si permanecen en mí y mis palabras permanecen en ustedes, pidan lo que quieran y se les concederá. La gloria de mi Padre consiste en que den mucho fruto y se manifiesten así como discípulos míos".

