

Sunday Message

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year B • 28 April 2024 • Psalter Week 1

THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES

JOHN 15: 1-8



We have been presented with many familiar images over the past number of weeks. The shepherd minding his sheep, Jesus appearing to the disciples praying peace upon them, and now we have another image of the vine and the branches, which shows the inextricable connection that exists between Jesus and his people.

This image of vines and grapes and branches was very familiar to the Jewish people, and therefore an image quite useful for Jesus. The Jewish writings pictured Israel as the vineyard of God, the Jews as branches of God's vine. Coins at the time of Jesus had the symbol of the vine on them. And the Temple had a great golden vine carved into the front of its Holy Place.

Jesus speaks of himself as the true vine, bearing sweet grapes, with us as his branches. We receive our spiritual life from our connection with him. He gives us himself so that we can continue to live on with him. When you think about it, we would be spiritually worthless if we cut ourselves off from the branch of the vine. Jesus maintained his contact with God through adversity, through his ministry, through his life. We maintain our contact with God through Jesus. We are connected to him like a vine and its branches. Through our lives, let us bear much fruit. ■

REFLECT

Jimmy Carter described a fishing outing with his father in a televised interview. He said they went to a local fishing spot and fished all day, catching several. In the afternoon, his father said it was time to go home but Jimmy wanted to stay and fish some more. His father agreed, telling him to bring the catch of fish, all hooked to a single line, when he returned home later. After fishing a while longer, Jimmy then started for home with the line of their catch attached to his belt loop. Like many boys, he did not walk the path, but waded through the flowing creek, poking at things and throwing rocks. On his way home, though, the line broke in the water and he lost the catch of the day.

He arrived to his front porch and sat on the steps afraid to go in and tell his normally austere father he lost the fish. As evening set, his father stepped outside to look for Jimmy and saw him on the steps. He asked him where the fish were. Jimmy told him he lost them. His father sat down next to him, put his arm on his shoulder and said, "It's okay Jimmy. We'll catch some more another time." Carter told the interviewer, "In that moment, I knew for the first time that my father loved me." To believe is more than agreeing to a system of beliefs; it is a vital connection, an abiding in the living Lord who loves us deeply. Our connection with him blossoms and flourishes like grapes in a vineyard. ■

DO

The Church must constantly be in appreciation of the missionary work that has gone before us. Take the opportunity this week to read about the missionary life of a lay person or religious events. What inspiration can you gather from their stories?

SAY

**'Sweetest Jesus,
Body and Blood most Holy,
be the delight and pleasure of my
soul,
my strength and salvation in all
temptations,
my joy and peace in every trial,
my light and guide in every word
and deed,
and my final protection in death.
Amen'**

St. Thomas Aquinas
(The Aquinas Prayer Book)

LEARN

'Only the certainty that the Crucified Christ lives on as the Risen Christ, glorified by God, gives us the solution to the riddle of Jesus as a person and makes the Church possible and real.'

(Fr. Hans Kung)

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF THE MOST HOLY AND UNDIVIDED TRINITY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN GRIMSBY, CLEETHORPES AND IMMINGHAM

St Mary on the Sea Church
Heneage Road, Grimsby
DN32 9DZ

Corpus Christi Church
Grimsby Road, Cleethorpes
DN35 7LH

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
Allerton Drive, Immingham
DN40 2HP

Parish Priest Very Rev Canon Andrew Cole
St Mary's Presbytery
Heneage Road
GRIMSBY DN32 9DZ
01472 342301 / 07943 059747
parishpriest@holyltrinitygci.uk

Rev Stephen Durkin 07505 559360
deacon@holyltrinitygci.uk
Sr Ann Helen Byrne CSJP 01472 692370
Sr Bridgetta Rooney CSJP csjp@holyltrinitygci.uk
Parish Office 01472 342301
Parish Administrator
Duncan Weston office@holyltrinitygci.uk
Parish Communications
Emily McCullagh comms@holyltrinitygci.uk

Website holyltrinitygci.uk
Facebook facebook.com/holyltrinitygci
Instagram/Twitter @holyltrinitygci_

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL 2024 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 'OPEN OUR HEARTS AND OUR MINDS'

Saturday 27th April	5.00 pm	Mass in Immingham (Hymns: 271, 284, 368, 269) (Adelita Gonzalez RIP – Lucy Mowforth)
	6.00 pm	Mass in Grimsby (Polish)
Sunday 28th April	9.00 am	Mass in Cleethorpes (Hymns: 880, 600l 627, 368, 787) (Golden Jubilee of Ordination of Fr Colum Kelly)
	11.00 am	Mass in Grimsby (Hymns: 272, 284, 769, 968, 368, 277) (<i>Missa pro populo</i>)
Monday 29 th April	2.00 pm	Open Prayer Hour in Cleethorpes
Tuesday 30 th April	10.00 am	Mass in Cleethorpes (Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse)
Wednesday 1 st May	10.00 am	Mass in Immingham (Sheila Stokes RIP – Brian & Dina Green and Family)
	6.30 pm	Mass in Grimsby (Special Intention)
Thursday 2 nd May	10.00 am	Mass in Grimsby (Jim Ellison RIP – Nanette Brown)
Friday 3 rd May	6.30 pm	Mass in Cleethorpes (Madeleine McCann and All Missing Children – MT)
Saturday 4th May	10.00 am	Holy Hour in Grimsby
	5.00 pm	Mass in Immingham (<i>Missa pro populo</i>)
	6.00 pm	Mass in Grimsby (Polish)
Sunday 5th May	9.00 am	Mass in Cleethorpes (Special Intention)
Sixth Sunday of Easter	11.00 am	Mass in Grimsby (In Thanksgiving – Adiotomre Family)

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday	5.45-6.25 pm	Grimsby
Friday	5.45-6.25 pm	Cleethorpes
Saturday	10.00-11.00 am	Grimsby

Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation

Wednesday	5.45-6.15 pm	Grimsby
Friday	5.45-6.15 pm	Cleethorpes

And also before and after Mass, by appointment, and at call

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Richard Mellows, Sarah Pollard and Shelagh Winter: if you have any safeguarding concerns or DBS enquiries, please email richard.mellowspsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call or send a text to 07513 725509.

Diocesan Schools in Our Parish

St Joseph's Catholic Primary Academy
Philip Avenue, Cleethorpes (01472 690672)
St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy
Wellington Street, Grimsby (01472 357982)

To celebrate the sacred liturgy online – youtube.com/c/HolyTrinityGCI

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia, alleluia!
We are an Easter People, and 'Alleluia' is our song!

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April, the Month of the Blessed Eucharist – the role of women: May the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and may there be an end to discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

Cycle of Prayer: During the Season of Easter, we pray for: new members of the Church; vocations; human work; the right use of the media; and the Church. We also pray for our young parishioners and those who mentor them, the sick and housebound, the recently deceased, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Annual Mission Appeal – 28th April 2024: This weekend, we welcome Sister Sebastian IHM, who will make our annual mission appeal, and there will be a second collection weekend to support the Sisters' missionary endeavours.

The Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on **Thursday 9th May**, the fortieth day after Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, and is a **holyday of obligation**:

Wed 8 th May	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass in Cleethorpes
Thu 9 th May	9.30 am	Mass in Grimsby
	11.30 am	Mass in Immingham
	1.15 pm	Mass in Cleethorpes

Where Christ 'the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope'. The Vigil Mass will be preceded by Eucharistic Adoration at 5.45 pm with Benediction at 6.15 pm, and 1.15 pm Mass in Corpus Christi Church will be attended by Key Stage 2 from both St Mary's and St Joseph's schools.

Crowning of Our Lady – 19th May 2024: May is Our Lady's month, and on the Solemnity of Pentecost, when we remember that the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples who were gathered in the Upper Room with Our Lady, we will crown the statues of Our Lady in Corpus Christi Church and St Mary on the Sea Church during Mass, and at 3.00 pm we will have Eucharistic Adoration with the recitation of the Five Glorious Mysteries on Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, followed by the Crowning of Our Lady in the Grotto.

Enabling Our Mission Campaign: As parishioners, we are all called to play an active role in the life of our parish, our Diocese and the Universal Church, proclaiming, celebrating and living our Christian faith in everything that we say and do. This weekend sees the conclusion of this campaign in our parish, and I am very grateful to everyone who has been so generous in making pledges to support our parish and the Diocese of which is a part. This weekend, I am asking someone from each household to complete a card before leaving church, which will be forwarded to the diocesan offices, and I am grateful for your cooperation with this. Fr Andrew

Fr Colum Kelly, who was, is and always will be a well-loved and always-welcome member of our parish family, celebrates his Golden Jubilee of Ordination to the sacred Order of the presbyterate this weekend. A priest of the Diocese of Leeds, Fr Colum has spent many of those years here in the Diocese of Nottingham, ministering in our parish, principally to seafarers as a port chaplain, but also to landlubbers who have found him a kind and gentle pastor. Both Fr Colum and I regret very much that we have not seen as much of him as we would have liked over these last few years, but we must all help him to look

after his health, he and I are in regular contact, and he often celebrates Mass with us online.

Fr Colum will celebrate Mass in Thanksgiving for his Golden Jubilee in Corpus Christi Church on Saturday 18th May at 11.00 am. There will be a retiring collection at each Mass next Sunday, 5th May, so that I can make a presentation to Fr Colum at the shared table in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, which will follow Mass, as a small way of saying a big thank you for his ministry here in north eastern Lincolnshire, where he will always be at home. Fr Andrew

Nottingham Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Bishop Patrick will lead this year's pilgrimage between Monday 15th and Friday 19th July. Flying from East Midlands Airport to Lourdes, prices for the full-board pilgrimage start at £819, including a full liturgical programme, and medical care and assistance for those who need it. It would be lovely for a group to go from our parish; if you would be interested, or would like to learn more, please come to St Mary's Presbytery this Thursday, 2nd May, at 6.00 pm for a 30-minute meeting in which Fr Andrew will explain everything he knows about the pilgrimage.

Safeguarding: This Tuesday, 30th April, is the Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse, which is observed in England and Wales on the Tuesday following the Fifth Sunday of Easter. This year's focus is on communities who have been directly affected by allegations or convictions related to abuse – especially, but not exclusively, within the Church. This may be associated with clergy, a teacher in a local school, a leader of a Catholic group or other person or group whose investigation or conviction is likely to affect the wider community. There will be legal and financial implications but, for the community, something that addresses their pastoral and spiritual needs can be very helpful. It can also support those who need to impart very painful information by helping them to draw on spiritual resources beyond themselves. This is not 'spiritualising' the situation as if to diminish it; rather, it is to say that, for us, the bar is set higher as we know that all involved are children of God and part of the Body of Christ. What harms one harms all, and we, by seeking truth, bringing hope and finding healing, can provide the safest environment for our young people and vulnerable adults in our parish family to which all are welcome and in which all belong.

As part of our constant drive to provide such an environment, we have been requested by the Diocese to circulate a *Volunteer Information Form*, which collects some basic contact information for any parishioner who volunteers for a ministry which does not require a DBS to be completed. We will circulate these forms and contact those parishioners who we believe need to complete one.

We will also be circulating an email to those parishioners who now need a DBS renewal completing. Packs will then be available at your usual place of worship, or from the Parish Office during opening hours.

If you have any queries, please get in touch with Richard Mellows (richard.mellowspsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk / 07513 725509) or speak to Richard, Sarah Pollard or Shelagh Winter after Mass. Safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us, and I am grateful for everyone's cooperation in keeping our parish safe and welcoming. Fr Andrew

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery
within us,
that those you were pleased to make new in
Holy Baptism
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 21 (22):26-28, 30-32

Response:

**You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.
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 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John.

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 own
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.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I
make mine in you.
Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.

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.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(all bow during the next two lines)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected
in this sacrifice
have made us partakers of the one supreme
Godhead,
grant, we pray,
that, as we have come to know your truth,
we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously be present to your people, we pray,
O Lord,
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly
mysteries
to pass from former ways to newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT

June 1st 2024 @ 7pm
Holy Trinity Parish Hall

Join the Grimsby Catenians for a social evening
of classic British entertainment

Hosted by Mark "Good game, Good game" Kingston

All money raised on the night will be given to Harbour Place Grimsby
Entry fee: Please give a donation when you arrive
Raffle: A raffle will be held during the evening
Bring Your Own Food and Drink



Follow the
Catenians on
Facebook

Grimsby Catenians

We meet at The Grimsby
Golf Club on the first
Wednesday every month

