

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Prayer for the Morning**

*Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you, alleluia!*

**Glory to the Father...Amen. Alleluia**

**Hymn** **Meter: LM**

The Word's good seed to all he brings,  
From which abundant harvest springs,  
And fruits of holy works supply  
God's everlasting granary.  
The lamp his burning faith displays  
Has filled the world with glorious rays,  
That evil may be overthrown,  
And in our hearts reign Christ alone.

**Psalm** **67:2-8a**

*I bud forth delights like the vine,/ my blossoms  
become fruit fair and rich. (Sir 24:17)*

*Easter abounds with images of new life rising from  
the buried seed. Christ, that seed, is the vine that  
flourishes for ever and the wheat that feeds the  
hungry. Let us give thanks and praise!*

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

**Glory to the Father...**

**Word of God** **James 3:18; 5:7**

The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for  
those who cultivate peace. Be patient, therefore,

brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the  
farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth,  
being patient with it until it receives the early and  
the late rains.

It is the seedtime of peace: the vine shall yield its  
fruit, the land shall bear its crops, and the heavens  
shall give their dew. (Zec 8:12)

**Canticle of Zechariah**

*Through Christ, then, let us continually offer God a  
sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess  
his name. (cf. Heb 13:15)*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has  
come to his people and set them free. He has  
raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house  
of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that  
he would save us from our enemies, from the  
hands of all who hate us. He promised to show  
mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy  
covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free  
to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in  
his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the  
Most High; for you will go before the Lord to  
prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of  
salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the  
tender compassion of our God the dawn from on  
high shall break upon us, to shine on those who  
dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to  
guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Glory to the Father...**

**Intercessions**

**R/ O God, be gracious and bless us!**

For those who have ceased to expect the harvest  
of new life: – renew them in the hope of Easter. **R/**

For those who hunger and thirst: – feed them on  
the fruit of Christ our vine. **R/**

For those who labor for the harvest: – sustain  
them in courage and generosity. **R/**

**Personal intentions**

## Our Father....

*Father and Vine Grower, you planted your vine in the hardened earth of sinful humanity and caused it to grow through death to life. Unite us in Christ, in faith and love, that we may bear much fruit. We ask this in his name, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

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### Reading 1 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.

### Reading 2 1John 3: 18-24

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.

### Gospel John 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."

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### Men of St. Joseph Prayer

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

*Prayer for the Morning text used with permission of  
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