**FOR THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 27-28th, 2024**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Gospel reading**

Jn 15:1-8

“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.

**Intercession**

That, abiding in the Vine, Jesus Christ, our Diocesan Ministry Appeal’s efforts will bear great fruit.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

Jesus, better than anyone else, understands what kind of trust it takes to achieve intimate, strong friendship. Today’s Gospel is a love-letter from Jesus. God longs to have true friendship with his children.

He is honest with us about what a relationship with Him requires and gives. Remaining with Him requires pruning, and it bears much fruit.

Who doesn’t want to bear “much fruit” (John 15:8)? Our parish seeks to abide in Jesus in this same way and you can help through your support of our Diocesan Ministry Appeal. As you discern, abide in Jesus. Respond to how He, the vine, moves you, His beloved branch. Help us bear fruit as a parish so we can yield a greater harvest for Him together.

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

Our parish relies on the fruits of its member-branches, as well as support provided by our Diocesan Ministry Appeal. Thank you for giving generously so that our parish can bear the fruit that will remain!

**Social media post/content**

Photo: Photo of people enjoying a meal together, smiling, with a crucifix or other religious art in background.

Text: *“Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit.”* – John 15:5

Copy: When we abide in Jesus, the true Vine, we are able to bear much fruit. One way we can bear fruit is through the Diocesan Ministry Appeal.