



**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**A**PRIL 28, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ,

In the Gospel of the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Jesus clearly states: *"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."*

Today you and I need to examine our relationship with Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, and with His Church as well. We cannot separate Christ from His Church: Christ is in His Church and the Church is sustained and protected by Christ.

If we say we are still connecting with Christ, but not *"connecting"* with His Church (meaning not accepting and following His Church's teaching which comes from the True Vine, Jesus Christ), we contradict ourselves. Sometimes people try to reason with the Church's teachings in matters of faith and morality because these teachings go against their own desires/wishes. They do not want to see the intimate connection between Christ and His Church.

If we say we love Jesus Christ, but we do not love His Church, we renounce Christ. Remember what Jesus said to Peter: *"On this Rock (Peter) I will build my Church,"* and *"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me and whoever welcomes me welcomes the One who sent me."* Christ loves His Church so much and vice versa. Christ loves His Church by instituting the Eucharist so that He can remain with His Church; and the Church loves her Redeemer so much that she celebrates the Eucharist every day *"in memory of Him."*

If you love Jesus, you have to love His Church. If you love Jesus, you have to love the Eucharist. Come to celebrate the Eucharist in memory of our Lord, to connect with the True Vine, not only once a week on Sunday, but also a few times a week. Those who cannot come to daily Mass at 9:00 a.m. because of work or other duties can come to Mass on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

The Eucharist is where you and I draw our strength and courage to maintain and improve our relationship with our Risen Lord. The Eucharistic Celebration/Holy Mass is where we share in the Divine Life, where we are allowed a foretaste of the sweetness of God's love, the sweetness and peace of Heaven where you and I always wish to be when we leave this life.

Remain in Jesus Christ the True Vine, so we can bear much fruit.

*I am the vine,  
 you are the branches.*  
 John 15:5

Peace,  
 Fr. Tien

**LIFT UP THE WORD - LIGHT UP THE WORLD**

73<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him. 2 Samuel 22:29-31



Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.  
 Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the  
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m.  
 and benediction till noon.  
 Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass; Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.





The last two monthly collection for Capital Improvements have averaged around \$2,750. We need to average around \$3,000 each month to reach our goal of \$361,000 for the church renovations. That is an additional \$250 a month. If you have the means to donate an extra \$5, \$10, or \$20 dollars each month for Capital Improvements, please consider doing so. Thank you!

Next Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will Crown Mary and celebrate 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion for 6 communicants at our 9:00 a.m. Mass and 9 communicants at our 11:30 a.m. Mass.



If you are a new parishioner to St. Francis and have not yet registered, please come by the Parish Office and do so. Stop by or call if you need to update your address or phone number.

Please remember to SIGN OUT items borrowed from our Parish Library. Return them, and any DVD's, into the basket. Thank you! Any questions? Call Georgette at 349-4223.



Be sure to visit our website: [stfrancisassisifranklin.org](http://stfrancisassisifranklin.org). There is always a copy of our latest bulletin, along with lots of other useful information!

We have Pro-Life bumper stickers for your car or pins for you to wear in our Parish Office. If you would like one, please stop by during office hours. There is no charge for these items.



Donations made easy!!! Here is our QR Code that you can scan with your phone. Parishsoft.com will appear on your screen, simply click to open the link. You can create an account by following the prompts to set up for a one-time donation.

Please come to Mass early enough not to disrupt. Leave late enough not to insult. (The Mass does not end until the final blessing.) Worship reverently enough not to distract. And dress proudly enough not to offend.



**Pray for healing:** Shirley Allegretti, Donna Barbaro, Robert Barnable, Ray Behr, Rick Conner, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Sarah Fricks, Carter Hellerer, Daniel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Michelle Mercer, Dee & Germaine Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, Benjamin Nemeth, John Ontiveros, Doris Price, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Mike Scarborough, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell

Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:

Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriguez, Elizabeth Scoon



## Mass Schedule and Intentions

### Saturday, April 27

- 5:00 P.M. †Joey Hoefeyzers by Rosalie Perreault  
 †Sele Diaz Pacheco and †Holy Souls by Sele Ramos  
 †Tomasa Nuñes Sanchez by Silvia Ortega

### Sunday, April 28

#### Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 9:00 A.M. †Damaso Daniel Acevedo, †Holy Souls  
 †Cecilia Rios, †Juan Acevedo  
 John & Joyce Mielnik by Stan Michalik  
 11:30 A.M. †Modesta Ordiz, †David Ruiz Ordaz by Luisa Ruiz  
 †Petra Diaz Pacheco and  
 †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Sele Ramos

### Monday, April 29

#### Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

- 9:00 A.M. Basilia Ruiz & Antonio Ortiz by Abigail Ortiz  
 †Petra Diaz Pacheco and  
 †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Sele Ramos

### Tuesday, April 30

#### Saint Pius V, Pope NO MASS

### Wednesday, May 1

#### Saint Joseph the Worker

- 5:30 P.M. Abigail de los Angeles Ortiz-Ruiz  
 †Justina Gonzalez Cortes

### Thursday, May 2

#### Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church National Day of Prayer

- 9:00 A.M. Stephanie Ortiz-Ruiz and  
 †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia  
 †Petra Diaz Pacheco and  
 †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Sele Ramos

### Friday, May 3

#### Saints Philip and James, Apostles First Friday

- 9:00 A.M. Kristin, Josette, Wanda and Robert  
 †Margaret Moody

### Saturday, May 4

#### First Saturday

- 8:45 A.M. Benediction  
 9:00 A.M. Fr. Tien's intentions  
 5:00 P.M. †Petra Diaz Pacheco and  
 †Holy Souls in Purgatory by Sele Ramos  
 †Roger R. Sullivan by Darcy Wesseling

### Sunday, May 5

#### Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 9:00 A.M. †Damaso Daniel Acevedo, †Holy Souls  
 †Armando Acevedo, †Maria del refugio  
 Acevedo, †Marciano Diaz Acevedo  
 11:30 A.M. †David Ruiz-Ordaz, †Modesta Ordaz  
 †Petra Diaz Pacheco & †Holy Souls  
 by Sele Ramos