

## 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.**

## 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.

## FIRST READING 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.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 21

Response: **You, Lord, are my praise in the  
great assembly.**

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 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.*

## 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 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.*

## 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.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**I am the 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.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



**IF YOU  
ABIDE IN ME  
YOU WILL BEAR  
MUCH FRUIT —**

**What does it mean to you to really live  
your Christianity? Are you ever tempted  
to observe rather than live a Christian  
life? Why or why not?**

Is a decision to follow God's will a choice  
you can make of your own free will? Can  
you always make a choice to stop following  
God's will if you so desire?

**What do these images mean to you: the  
Father is the vinegrower, Jesus is the vine,  
and we are the branches? Does this make  
your relationship with God a very direct  
relationship? How?**

If you abide in Jesus, can you accomplish  
more through him than you could by  
yourself? Why? How might a choice to  
follow enhance our ability to have a fuller  
life and accomplish more?

**How does following Jesus give us the  
chance to really be who we are?**

## GOSPEL ACTION

*Sit down this week and make a list of the  
different ways you try to be a better person.  
How does your faith help you in these  
endeavours? Pray for the strength to follow  
Jesus more closely.*

## Readings – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B

**First Reading:** Acts 10:25-26.34-35.44-48

**Second Reading:** 1 John 4:7-10

**Gospel:** John 15:9-17