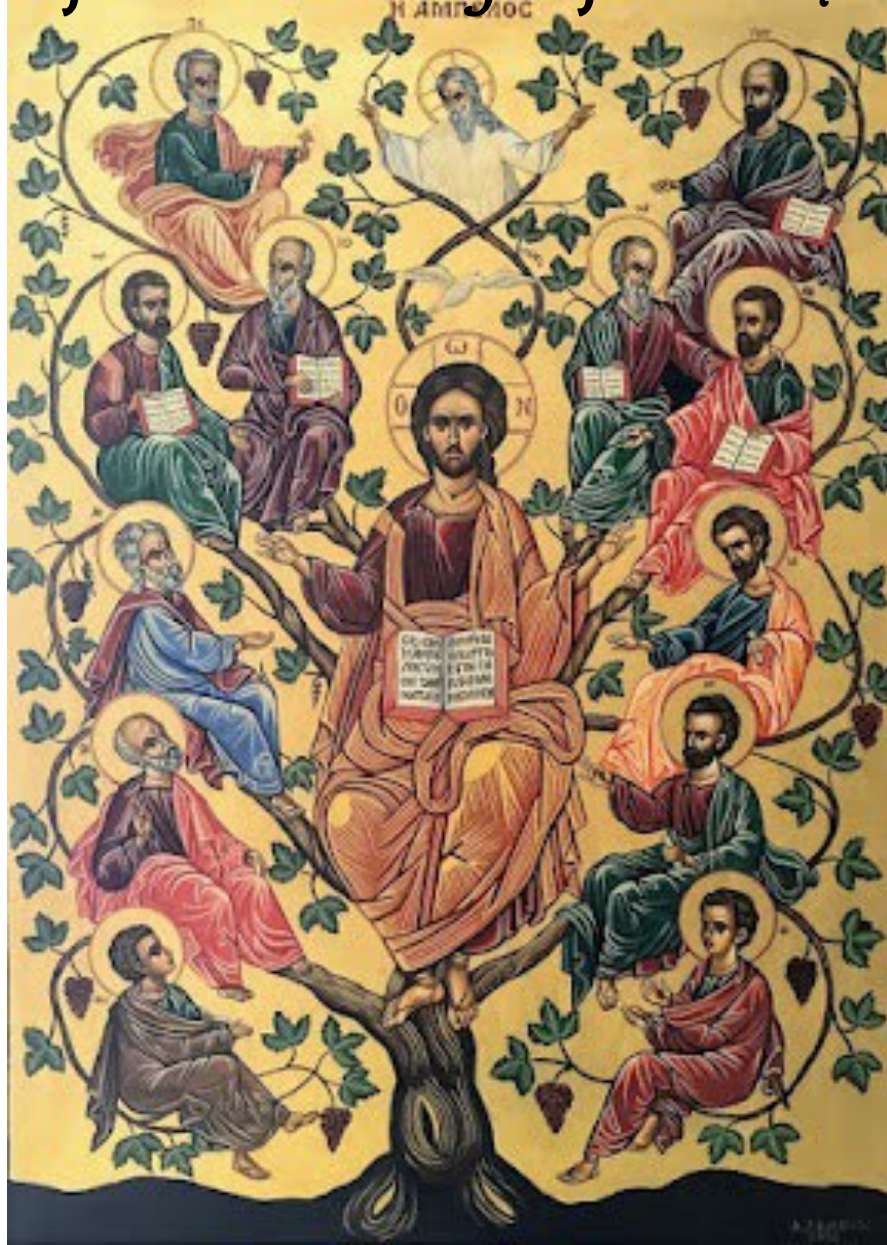


# St. Patrick Church Fifth Sunday of Easter



**"I am the vine; you are the branches." John 15:1-8**

April 28, 2024

Lake Forest, IL

Monsignor Robert Dempsey, Pastor

# Entrance Hymn: *I Know that My redeemer Live* S. Soper

Verses

1. I know that my Re-deem-er lives, the One who
2. I know that I shall one day see the good-ness
3. The last day I shall rise a-gain, shall be re-

1. calls me home. I long to see God face - to - face, to
2. of the Lord, when God will wipe a - way our tears, and
3. made like God. My home shall be by God's own side, the

Refrain

1. see with my own eyes. I know that my Re-
2. death will be no more.
3. dy - ing, ris - ing Lord.

deem-er lives, that I shall rise a - gain. gain.

Text: Based on Job 19; Psalm 27; Isaiah 25. Text and music © 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

# Glory to God: Mass of A Joyful Heart. T. Tomaszek

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to

peo-ple of good will. (1. We) A - men.

Verse 1

1. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri - fy you,

1. we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God,

1. heav - en - ly King, O God, al-might - y Fa - ther.

Verse 2

2. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of

2. God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the

2. sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a - way the

2. sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seat - ed at the right

2. hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.

**Verse 3: 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. ( Go to Refrain**

## **Liturgy of the Word First Reading: 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.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 22.**

**O. Alstott**

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

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## **Second Reading: 1 John 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.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia***

### **Gospel Reading: 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## Homily

### Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed: All Stand

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us men and for our salvation he came down**

**from heaven, all bow**

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

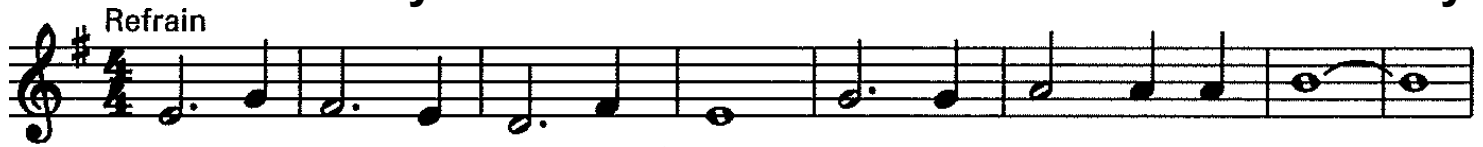
**Prayer of the Faithful:**  
**Our response: “*Lord, hear our prayer*”**



# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## Presentation Hymn: *Peace*

Prory



Peace I leave with you, my friends, peace the world can-not give.



Peace I leave with you, my friends, so that your joy be ev-er full.



1. The Fa - ther's love I came to give,
2. Take \_\_\_ his gift and be at peace;
3. By \_\_\_ this love which you should have,
4. Take \_\_\_ my words of life to heart,
5. All \_\_\_ I have I give to you;
6. I came so that you may have life,
7. If \_\_\_ you love me, keep my word,



to Refrain

1. to be the hope for all who live.
2. the Spir - it of our love I bring.
3. all \_\_\_ will know you are my friends.
4. and you will live with hope and joy.
5. I share with you the Fa - ther's love.
6. and have it to \_\_\_\_\_ the full.
7. and \_\_\_ our home we'll make with you.

# Mass of Creation.

M.Haugen

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.  
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## Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of

hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.

Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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## Mystery of Faith



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro -

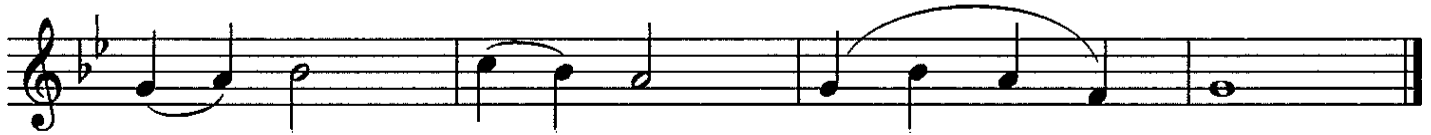


claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

## Amen



A - men, a - men, a - men.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the



world, have mer - cy on us.



world, grant us peace.

**Communion Hymn: *We Are Many Parts***

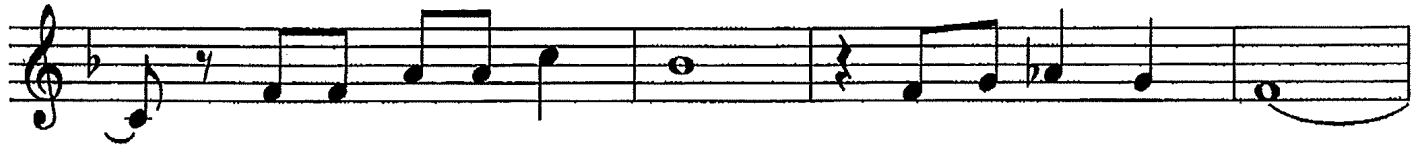
**Haugen**



We are man - y parts, we are all one bod - y,



and the gifts we have we are giv - en to share.



May the Spir - it of love make us one in - deed;



one, the love that we share, one, our hope in de -



spair, one, the cross that we bear.

Verses



- 1. God of all, we look to you, we would be your
- 2. So my pain is pain for you, in your joy is
- 3. All you seek - ers, great and small, seek the great - est



D.C.

ser-vants true, let us be your love to all the world.  
my joy, too; all is brought to - geth - er in the Lord.  
gift of all; if you love, then you will know the Lord.

# Closing Hymn: *They'll Know We Are Christians* P. Scholtes



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,
4. All \_\_\_ praise to the Fa - ther, from \_\_\_ whom all things come,



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,
4. And all praise to Christ Je - sus, his \_\_\_ on - ly \_\_\_ Son,



1. And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.
2. And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
3. And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save \_\_\_ each one's pride.
4. And all praise to the Spir - it, who \_\_\_ makes \_\_\_ us \_\_\_ one.



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love, Yes they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

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# Reflection

Until I spent time on a vineyard ten years ago, I always heard the parable of the vinedresser as a tough, “shape up or ship out” message. I always imagined God as the vinedresser having a field day lopping and cutting my dead branches, trimming my unproductive stems and uprooting all the rot that undermines my fruitfulness. It always felt like a violent activity.

It was a pleasant surprise then, to actually see a vinedresser in action. Far from an act of violence, the care paid by the dresser to each stem is extraordinary. He or she carefully inspects the branch, delicately cutting only the smallest amount so that the vine will be healthier and more productive. A good vinedresser pores over the vines and from experience knows that to cut too much or too little will render the vine without its distinctive character. Every cut is measured and aimed to prune back only the diseased branch, so as to bring about greater growth for the whole vine and a bigger yield for the vineyard. The vinedresser is not violent with the vine, but extremely tender. The first hearers of today’s Gospel would have known that this metaphor is anything but a “shape up or ship out” message.

This parable is a profound insight into the Christian life. We can claim to belong to the Christian family all we like. We can come to Mass every Sunday. But if the fruit we produce is bitter and poisonous, if we are unforgiving, unjust, and uncaring, we cannot claim to be on the vine of Christ’s love. And if that’s the case we are in desperate need of the gentle hand of the vinedresser, who only wants to see us bring forth the yield we are capable of achieving.

Rev. Billy Graham once said, “Being a member of the Church no more makes you a Christian than living in a garage makes you a car.” That’s the point of today’s Gospel: God will not judge us by what we say or the public face of goodness we can turn on, we will be judged by our acts of love in and through our kindness and compassion.

## Reflection (Continued)

This metaphor also reminds us that we are connected to each other. There are moments in our life of faith when we hear or see other Christians saying or doing things we cannot countenance. We can try to disown them by retreating into our denomination, but we are all connected in Christ's vineyard. We need the courage to tell them the truth as we see it, and charitably point out the problems we have with what they think is right. And we need the humility to listen when they challenge us.

It's even harder when the diseased part of the vine is in our own Catholic section of the vineyard. Our first instinct can be to lop off the branch, just to get rid of it. But as any vinedresser knows this is the last resort. Whether we find it easy or not, Christ calls us to limited surgical interventions over amputations every time. This is tough love. Even though there are people within our community who have committed terrible crimes and betrayed our trust, the Gospel calls us to hold on to them until it's clear that no matter what intervention we make, they are dying on Christ's vine already. And even then, we hope and pray that our action towards them might see a new growth within them which could be the beginning of a possible grafting back on to us in the future.

In the face of the world's "shape up or ship out" principle, today's Gospel challenges us to hang in there with each other, in season and out of season, because as the old folk hymn sings, "They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love."

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