

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Sing a new song to the Lord!

## Masses For The Week

### Sun 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter

08:00 am +Jose M. & Catarina Soto (Maria Valles)  
+Ramon Villarreal (Carlos & Teresa Cassiano)  
+Francisca Perales (Nora Gonzalez)

### Thr 02 St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

12:05 pm +Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)  
+Anselma Aldaco (Mancha Family)

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

*The early Church was "at peace," and "being built up." "With the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers." Only one thing can account for such astounding well-being and prosperity: the presence of the risen Christ. "The way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us." Jesus warns, "Without me you can do nothing." Yet we live always with the confidence that comes from knowing "God is greater than our hearts." That greatness showed itself by transforming Saul into a disciple and apostle who "spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord."*

### The Sanctuary Candle



**This Week will be Burning for**  
+All Souls in Purgatory (Sandra Leyendecker)

# Good News!

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)

Acts 9:26-31 / 1 John 3:18-24 / John 15:1-8

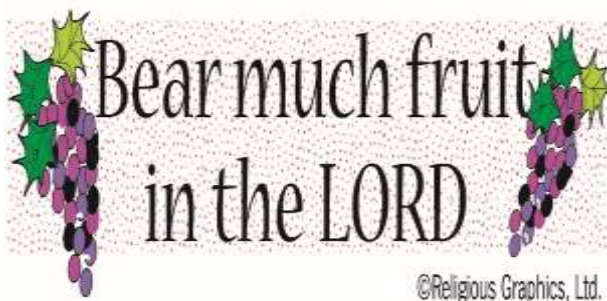
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The common myth is that we receive a new body every seven years as cells die and are replaced. However, stomach cells are renewed every two days or so because of acids and enzymes. Skin cells are replaced every two to three weeks. Bone cells last about ten years, and our brain cells stay with us for our entire lives. In a sense, then, we might say that our bodies are pruned, part of us remaining long-term to nurture and sustain like the trunk of a tree, and part of us severed so that life may be renewed and continue on.

If so with our bodies, are not our spirits also pruned? There is a core part of who we are that wends its way throughout our lives. Yet that "who" has rough edges in need of being smoothed; barbs need to be dulled; and certain inclinations simply need to be severed. Spouses tend to prune one another, the grace of a loving marriage. Children sometimes keep parents honest. Life events may grind down our independence and self-sufficiency. Illnesses, aging, job loss, the death of loved ones—all forcing us to recognize that we are not in control of life. We are thus pruned, forced to surrender much of what we once thought we could control.

Where is God in all of this? If God is woven into the warp and woof of all life, then all the events and rhythms of life can draw us closer to God, pruning us into goodness and fruitfulness. ●

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### LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Olga Gonzalez, Cristina Zarate, Mina Aldaco, Mario Garcia, Ramona Alaniz, Edna Flores, Ana Maria Finley, Mary G. Finley, Margarita Inocencio, Lucia Rodriguez, Maria Teresa Cassiano, Dotty Guffey, and Rodrigo Medina.



### MOTHER'S DAY MASS REMEMBRANCE

Pick up your *Mother's Day Mass Remembrance* envelopes located in the entrances of the church. Please deposit them in the collection basket. Mother's Day will be celebrated on

Sunday, May 12, 2024. Remember to include living and/or deceased.



### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Did you know... What is happening in the diocese to protect children? Training is provided for all adults and youth to identify warning signs and develop strategies for maintaining a safe environment for all. A designated Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to receive reports and accompany victims through their journey. A volunteer independent Review Board assists the bishop in the review of cases and makes recommendations for moving forward. A Safe Environment Coordinator assists parish and school personnel with training and background screenings for anyone who may have access to children. An audit is conducted by an independent firm to evaluate implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Findings are incorporated with those of other dioceses and made available in an Annual Report.



### Last Sunday's Collection

Envelopes: \$ 1,582.00

Loose: \$ 91.00

Children's Envelopes: \$ 2.00

**Total Sunday Collection: \$ 1,675.00**

**Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 488.30**

# Dear Padre

April 28, 2024

*Several months ago my son died in a tragic car accident. Life, work, family, and even religion seem so meaningless now. How can I find my way back?*

You have suffered a great loss. When you are able, you can choose to live in a way that will respect both your son's memory and your own ongoing life. Here are a few gentle steps that might help.

- Expect to feel numb at first. This is nature's way of helping you deal with your loss. Keep following the normal patterns of your life and, eventually, meaning will return.
- Allow your friends to help. "Sorrows shared are sorrows lessened."
- If you are sad, let the tears come! Even Jesus cried at the death of his friend Lazarus (John 11:32-35).
- If you are angry, look for a healthy release. Focus the energy of your anger into productive work, even if it's just doing dishes or yard work.
- Use your experience to help others. While helping others, the Lord often reveals to us the meaning of our own losses.
- Don't be afraid to seek professional help. A therapist has the expertise to help you talk about your loss and cope with your grief.
- Pray for yourself, for your son, for all whose lives he touched, for all those who are grieving.
- After you have done everything you can, leave your loss in God's hands. The Lord will do for you what you cannot do for yourself. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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