



# Fifth Sunday in Easter

May 06, 2012

**"I am the vine, you are the branches,"** Jesus tells us in today's Gospel. This is not a way of speaking but a wonderful reality, for at our baptism we have been grafted onto him. It is thanks to our deep union with Jesus that we can enjoy God's salvation and produce the fruits worthy of our new life in him. Jesus' statement that "apart from him we can do nothing" may hurt our pride, but it is the sober truth. Only those who accept it in all humility and live accordingly can experience the joy of being God's children, and are in the best position to produce an abundance of fruits unto eternal life...



## Branches of a Fruitful Vine



The claim, "Without me, you can do nothing," would sound empty or offensive and off-putting even on the lips of the most popular leader. Yet, when it comes from Jesus, we have to admit that it is simply true. In our spiritual life, in fact, we are absolutely dependent on him. Just as God is the only source of grace, so is JESUS CHRIST the only "channel" through which divine grace reaches us. Just as we have no alternative sources of life, aside from the Creator, so we have no "alternative ways" of reaching out to Him and enjoying the fullness of His saving love, except through Christ, the only Savior of mankind.

He is the one and only Mediator. (See 1 Tim 2:5.)

All the other "channels of grace" that we know of – the Church, the Sacraments, the Bible, prayer . . . – are all "secondary channels." They are valid and effective only because of Christ. They derive from him and are essentially oriented toward him. We share in God's life by being united with Jesus. Such a life-giving union started out at baptism, when we became part of him – members of his Body, thereby beginning to enjoy the fruits of his passion, death and resurrection. Jesus' union and solidarity with us caused him suffering and death. Our union and solidarity with him produces in us happiness and salvation. Such is the vital meaning of us being branches of the fruitful vine that Jesus is.

But our union with Jesus can be broken because of our weakness. It does get broken whenever we sin. This should never happen. Instead, we should steadily aim not only at preserving our union with Jesus, but actually at increasing it because such a union is not static, but dynamic and vital. We call it a COMMUNION : He is in us, and we are in Him. (See Jn 15:4.) A real communion can take place only among free beings. It is rooted in sincere appreciation and total mutual acceptance and is nourished by selfless love.

The preservation and growth of our union with our Lord Jesus Christ can happen only on one condition: that we keep his commandments. (See 1 Jn 3:24.)

Then shall we bear the abundant fruits of the new life inaugurated by Jesus with his resurrection, especially the fruits of peace, and the genuine love of neighbour which expresses itself "in deeds and truth and not merely in words" (1 Jn 3:18,19).

Then shall we enjoy the presence of the Holy Spirit in us, like the members of the apostolic community (see Acts 9:31, and 1 Jn 3:24), and continually experience in ourselves the reality and the power of Christ's Resurrection. (See Phil 3:10.)

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**To bear fruit is to allow ourselves to be crushed for the sake of the world, and become wine in the chalice so that others may drink of it. To bear fruit there is one condition: abide in Christ.**

**"Abide in me and I in you", says Jesus.**

**It is an interpersonal relationship where the believer is in Christ and Christ in us. It is to follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ who is both the Shepherd and the Sheep, the Farmer and the Wheat,**

**the Vine Shoot and the Wine in the Chalice, the Sacrifice and the Sacrificer.**



**We join the Officers and members of the PANGASINAN ASSOCIATION OF QUEBEC, INC. in their celebration of PISTA'Y DAYAT 2012. M A B U H A Y !**



**PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF MANAOAG**

Virgin Mother of God, Queen of the most Holy Rosary, you have chosen to raise your throne of mercy in Manaoag, to be the beloved protectress and patron of the Province of Pangasinan, and therefrom to bestow your graces on us your children, banished in this alley of tears, look down with your eyes of mercy upon me, who am beset with so many dangers of body and soul. Despise not my petition O dearest Mother, but intercede for me before your divine Son now and at the hour of my death. Amen.

**VIRGIN OF MANAOAG**, Pray for us.

**HONORING MARY DURING THE MONTH OF MAY**



During the month of May, Catholics traditionally give special attention to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A great way to honor her is by praying the daily Rosary, on your own or in a group. Here at the FCMM, on this month, the Rosary will be prayed before all the Liturgical services — with these prayers being offered for the intentions of the community. On Sundays, aside from the Holy Rosary, Novena Prayers to the Virgin Mary are recited, followed by a Floral Offering ( “**ALAY**”) by children and devotees of the Blessed Virgin Mary... Everyone is invited.



**THE SEARCH FOR THE 2012 FCMM KING and QUEEN OF ANGELS is in FULL SWING !**



The **First Canvassing** will be held on **Saturday, May 26, 2012, 6: 00 p.m.** at the Church Hall. The boy and girl candidates who would remit the highest amount of solicitations would be named the FCMM Reyna Elena and Constantino 2012. Entrance is \$ 7.00 inclusive of light refreshments. Tickets are now available from our FCMM Administrators.

**As we gather, may YOUR SPIRIT work within us...**



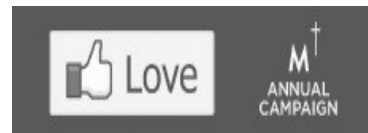
**COMMUNITY FAITH SHARING SESSION**

MAY 11, 2012 Friday - 8:00 PM  
FCMM Church Hall

**“We are all one body, we have the same Spirit and we have all been called to the same glorious future.” Ephesians 4:4**



**FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION TO THE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE DIOCESE OF MONTREAL !  
God Bless you !**



The **SANCTUARY LAMP** this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **AS THANKSGIVING** offered by **JOSEFINA, CELY and TOMAS GARCIA.**



# Upcoming Events

## Mark Your Calendars !

- May 26 (Saturday) – FIRST CANVASSING – King and Queen of Angels 2012
- May 27 - PENTECOST SUNDAY
  - CLEC Confirmation Day (11:30 a.m. Mass)
- June 3 (Sunday) – SANTACRUZAN sa FCMM 2012 (11:30 a.m. Mass)
- June 10 – CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY
  - CLEC First Communion (11:30 a.m. Mass)
    - ST. ANTHONY of PADUA TRIDUUM
- June 11 (Monday) – 7:00 p.m. - ST. ANTHONY TRIDUUM
- June 12 (Tuesday) - 7:00 p.m. - ST. ANTHONY TRIDUUM
- June 13 (Wednesday) – 7:00 p.m. - FEAST DAY MASS OF ST. ANTHONY
  - Perpetual Help Novena at 6:30 p.m.
- June 15 (Friday) –SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART (6pm Mass)
- June 17 (Sunday) – CLEC GRADUATION (11:30 a.m. Mass)



*“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” - Acts: 9:31*

How do we love in deed and truth? The answer is through stewardship – giving some of our time to spend with Our Lord in prayer, giving some of our talents to do ministry in the parish, giving some of our financial blessings to support the work of the Church.



Your Offerings for the week ending April 29, 2012 totaled **\$ 1, 221. 00**

Thank you for your  
God bless you



continuing generosity !  
always!!!



- ❖ To the New Arrivals from the Philippines
- ❖ To the Visitors from other places;
- ❖ To those who have been away and are back;



❖ We join in the Thanksgiving Intentions of:  
**ALICE PANADO, IMELDA TADEO, RHODALICE KAHULUGAN, MR. & MRS. CASTELLANO, DUSTIN-JACOB ALCAIDE, INO, LUMEN and DIAN GRACE SILVERIO, RAY & OHDA FOZ, ROSEMARIE FLORES CASTILLO & FAMILY, THE BELTRAN FAMILY.**



❖ Your prayers are humbly requested for all the Sick and Suffering members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially: **FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, SR. ELIZABETH RELACION mic, SR. LUZ PADERANGA op, ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., FE PADERANGA, JESS ALCAIDE, ELECITA ARACENA, ANNIE MOJADO, WILFREDO QUIRAPAS, BALDOMERA AMBAYEC, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, DAWN DELA PAZ, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, ANTONIO FOZ, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, WILFREDO DARIO, TRANQUILINO BIGCAS, BERNARDINO FERNANDO,**

**ADRIANA BACQUIAL, JOSEFINA CALDITO RAQUIZA, NIDA VIERNES, RODOLFO KAHULUGAN SR., MARIA QUIRAPAS.** May God bring them healing and peace.

❖ Remember also all of our Deceased Relatives and Friends, especially **RAYMUND TUVIDA, CRESCENCIA PASCUAL, MAYRU RIVERA, ERNESTO SALONGA, GUADALUPE BRIONES, VIRGILIO MANGUBAT, PIO & MARCIANA MANIGAO, RESTITUTA QUINSAN, BENJAMIN NIEVA, JOVITO FLORES SR., ALBERTO FLORES, BUENA FLORES, ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY** and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

**Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 387 – 5292) during normal business hours and have a Mass offered for your intention.**

