

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Readings: 1) Acts 9:26-31 2) 1 John 3:18-24 3) John 15:1-8

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is: Jesus teaches us to stay connected always to the Father, through whom all good things come.

The image of the vine and the branches is a clear reminder of our dependence on God for our every breath. If we hope to bear any good fruit in this world, we must stay close to the source of goodness – God himself.

In the first reading, Saul, increasing in strength and fortitude, is preaching the truth that Jesus is the Christ. Barnabas brings him to the Apostles explaining that they need not fear, Saul is indeed converted. In John's Letter, he challenges us to love in deed and truth, and reminds us that our hearts are known by the Father. In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches that he is the vine and the Father is the vine grower. We must abide in him in order to bear good fruit.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Loving Father, confident that you know our hearts and hear our prayers, we bring forth our petitions this day.

For God's Church, may she remain always close to the Lord and his holy will,
We Pray to the Lord.

For government leaders and those in positions of power,
may they serve others selflessly and seek first the path of
collaboration and cooperation,
We Pray to the Lord.

For all those sick in body, mind or spirit,
and for their caregivers, that they be sustained by faith;
We Pray to the Lord.

For all those who have died;
may they bask in the light of the Lord in heaven;
We Pray to the Lord.

For this community of faith
may we reflect clearly the light of Jesus Christ
in its prayer and outreach,
We Pray to the Lord.

For our own personal intentions, (long pause),
We Pray to the Lord.

PRIEST:

God our Father, we trust that you will hear and
answer these and all of our prayers
in your time and according to your will.
We ask this through your son, Christ our Lord.