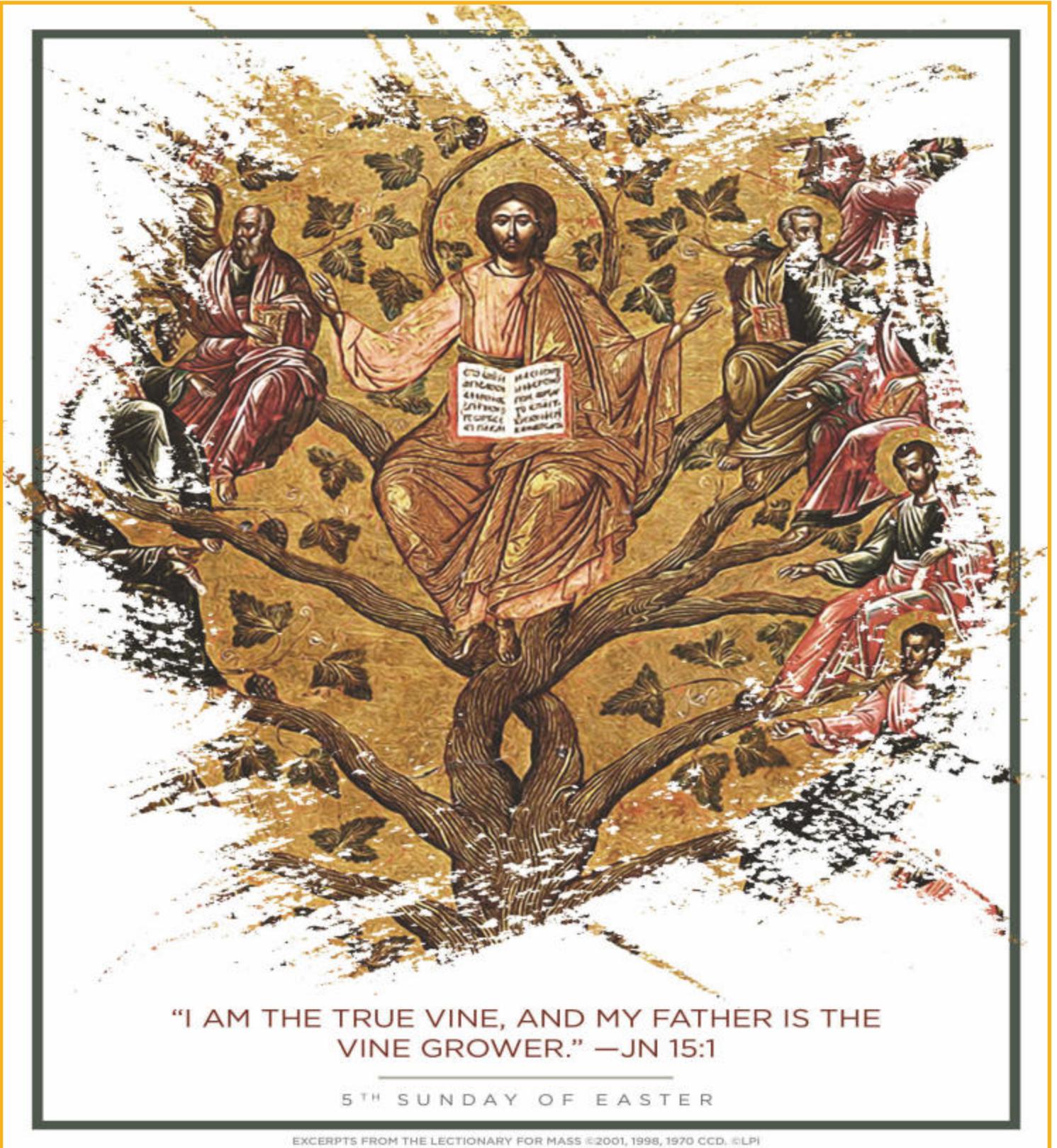




# *Saint Matthew Church* **The PULSE**

May 2, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



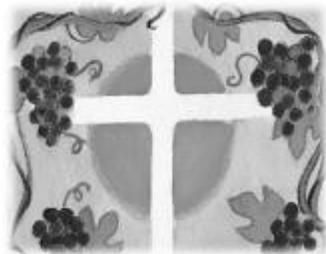
“I AM THE TRUE VINE, AND MY FATHER IS THE VINE GROWER.” —JN 15:1

5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Readings for the Week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8  
Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14  
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a  
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8  
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11  
Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17  
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21  
Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

### 5th Sunday of Easter



“Spiraling out of control,” is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or

missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that “feelings” have become a “new god” and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God’s life.

Giving up our will to God’s can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God’s commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be “human freedom.” They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

## Sts. Philip and James’ Story Feast Day ~ May 3rd



**St. Philip:** The Apostle Philip was one of Christ’s first disciples, called soon after his Master’s baptism in the Jordan. The fourth Gospel gives the following detail: “The next day Jesus was about to leave for Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him: Follow Me. Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him: We have found Him

of whom Moses in the Law and the Prophets wrote, Jesus the Son of Joseph of Nazareth. And Nathanael said to him: Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Philip said to him: Come and see.”

Philip is the Patron of hatters; Luxembourg; pastry chefs; and Uruguay. He is often portrayed as an elderly bearded man holding a basket of loaves and a cross which is often t-shaped; an elderly man casting a devil from the idol of Mars; an elderly man crucified on a tall cross; an elderly man with a snake nearby; a man baptizing the Ethiopian eunuch; or a man holding a book or scroll reading *descendit ad inferna*.

**St. James the Less**, a brother of the Apostle Jude, was from Cana of Galilee. He is the author of one of the Epistles in the New Testament. He was favored by an appearance of the Risen Christ. After the dispersion of the Apostles, he was made Bishop of Jerusalem and was visited by St. Paul. He spoke after Peter at the meeting of the Apostles. When he refused to deny the Divinity of Christ, the Jews cast him down from the terrace of the temple and clubbed him to death.



The Breviary contains a very moving description of his death. “When he was 96 years old and had governed the Church for 30 years in a most holy manner, the Jews sought to stone him, then took him to the pinnacle of the temple and cast him off headlong. As he lay there half dead, with legs broken by the fall, he lifted his hands toward heaven and prayed to God for the salvation of his enemies, saying: Lord, forgive them for they know not what they do! While James was still praying, a fuller\* struck his head a mortal blow.”

His relics now rest next to those of St. Philip in the church of the Holy Apostles in Rome, and their names are mentioned in the first list in the Canon of the Mass.

St. James is the Patron of pharmacists, dying people, fullers, milliners, and Uruguay. He is often portrayed as a man holding a book; his symbols include a vertical saw, fuller’s club, and a loaf of bread.

**\*Note:** In Bible times, clothes were washed by beating them with a bat, or stomping on them, in a tub of water. Various alkaline substances were used as a crude “detergent.” While soap may have been employed, natron or salt was equally helpful here. Cimolite, a white clay, or chalk were used as “bleach” or whitening agents. As in the Books of Kings and Isaiah, fullers worked in a “field” outside the city of Jerusalem. They needed large spaces to air or dry the laundered articles. Also, since their work involved pungent and unpleasant odors, they were situated away from populated areas.

## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Saturday, May 1, 2 pm** - Ridella / Ching Nuptials

**Weekend of May 8 and May 9** - Mother's Day Layette for Pregnancy Aid

**Tuesday, May 11, 6 pm** - Finance Council Meeting, Church Auditorium

**Weekend of May 15 and May 16** - Launching the 2021-2022 CSA Campaign



### Mother's Day Layette For Pregnancy Aid

This year we will hold our annual Mother's Day Layette next weekend, May 8 and 9, for Pregnancy Aid who offer new mother services, counseling, medical help, and, of course, the necessities for baby care.

The bassinette is placed at the Blessed Mother's altar to accept your donations. It has also been suggested that gift cards to Meier, Walmart, and Aldi would be welcome in any amount. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please enclose your check (no cash) in an envelope clearly marked "Pregnancy Aid." The list of most needed items is below, but anything you can do is most appreciated.

- Diapers, sizes 4 and 5
- Girls' clothes, sizes 0 to 12 months
- Receiving blankets
- Baby afghans, caps (knitted, crocheted, or fabric)
- Onesies or baby sleepers, sizes 0 to 6 months
- Baby bottles
- Baby hygiene products, especially wipes, shampoos, soaps, and lotions (no talcum powder)
- Baby bibs, wash cloths, and towels

Please be generous in this effort for they are truly dependent on the goodness and kindness of others in their ministry.



TO  
THOMAS RIDELLA AND ALISHA CHING  
WHO ENTERED INTO HOLY MATRIMONY  
ON SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021,  
CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES  
ON YOUR NEW LIFE TOGETHER

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Your Gifts Make a Difference in Celebrating Catholic Cultural Diversity - Black Catholic History Month is celebrated each year in November. Its history in the Archdiocese began in the 1900s.

A man named Norman Dukette visited St. Mary's Parish in Greektown, Detroit, where he volunteered to help organize a black Catholic mission inside the church. Dukette also joined the seminary and in 1926 became the first African-American to be ordained a priest in Detroit.

Similar chapels and missions for black Catholics were set up throughout Detroit beginning in the 1870s. Dukette's mission at St. Mary's was later moved to the Sacred Heart Church near Eastern Market where it became known as St. Peter Claver Parish, the first full parish in Detroit dedicated to black Catholics.

In the New Testament, Acts of the Apostles, Philip the Evangelist is called by God to leave Jerusalem and travel south. On the road, he meets an Ethiopian whom he converts to Christianity. This is believed to be the story of the earliest known African Catholic and significant to today's black Catholics because the converted man went on to create the Ethiopian Church. Today, the Church has approximately 40 million members.

Another early connection between the Catholic Church and Africa was made during the era of the Roman Empire, which included many modern-day nations surrounding the Mediterranean Sea, including Africa. Between 189 and 496 AD, three popes from the northern African region of Rome rose to the papacy, Popes Victor I, Gelasius I, and Melchades, all three of whom were later canonized.



### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Like the vine grower in today's Gospel, parents must "prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits, and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting, so our children will grow and "bear fruit."

### 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

TO OUR FIRST TIME VISITORS, YOU'LL FIND WE ARE A WELCOMING, FRIENDLY PARISH COMMUNITY.

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Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

*In your prayers...*

*Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.*

Joe Petrylka  
Anthony Mastronardi  
Stephanie Smith  
Janet Law  
Laura Alix  
Betty Leone  
Jo Marie Nardi  
Anthony Crimauco  
Rosemary Schoolcraft  
Tiffany Gelle  
Robert Stark  
Pauline Williams  
Bill Solomon  
Eloise Parker  
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Doreen Redman  
Sarah Wagner  
Nenette Ferreria  
Lolita Dorado  
Albert Fajardo

Eduardo Fajardo  
Aurora Guinto  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mary Spansky  
Marie Kane  
Mike Dulapa  
Irene McCann  
Kathy Bush  
Mary Zainea  
Sue Allasio  
Richard Goll  
Tim Fitzgerald

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

## SERVERS

Saturday, May 8, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Bryan Jones

Cory Fullilove

Sunday, May 9, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Bill Ridella

Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, May 1 - Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

### Sunday, May 2 - 5th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. - Chuck Schuster, Helen Quirk Nowak

### Monday, May 3 - Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

### Tuesday, May 4 -

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

### Wednesday, May 5 -

9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

### Thursday, May 6 - National Day of Prayer

### Friday, May 7 -

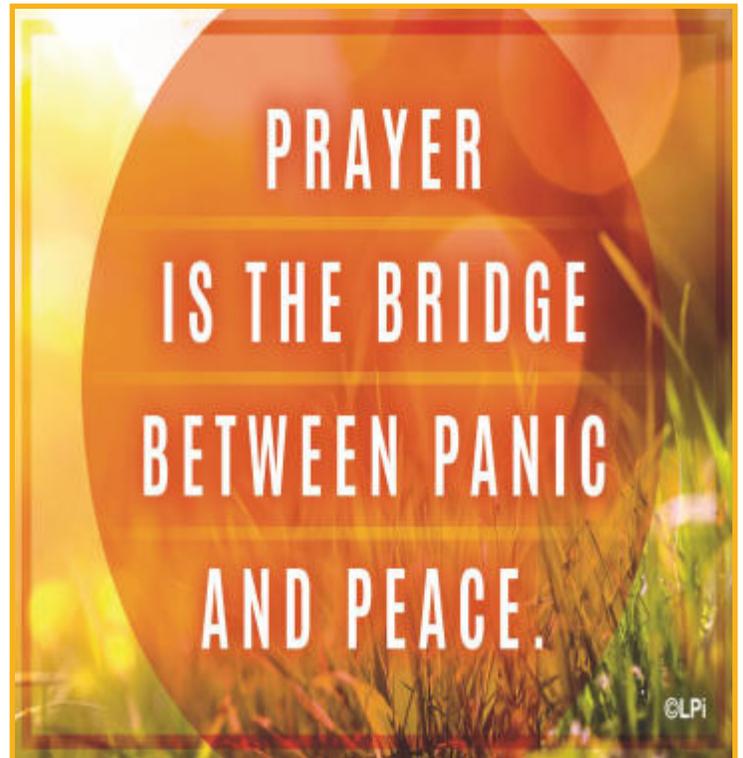
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

### Saturday, May 8 - Vigil: 6th Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. - Betty Amara, Anna Martinelli (26th Anniv), John (Jack) Brehmer, Gaston Carlesso

### Sunday, May 9 - 6th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. - John Sasinowski, Chuck Schuster, Pantaleon Vivo, Ofelia Vivo, Robert Lynn (19th Anniv)



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