

[Jesus said,]
"I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and
I in him will bear much fruit."
JOHN 15:5

In or Not at All

The little word *in* appears eleven times in the Greek text of today's short passage from John's Gospel (ten times in most translations), and it has the same meaning in all cases. It refers to an intimate relationship: We are in Christ; Christ is in us. This being *in* does not mean "inside," like being in a room or in a country. It means being an intimate aspect of something, like the relationship of a branch to the vine. Perhaps a way of understanding this intimacy is to remember that the branch cannot exist by itself, and there is no vine if there are no branches. We cannot be partially in. We are either in or out.

If we want to live and thrive, we must cherish and protect our relationship with Christ, who is our source of life and nourishment. Otherwise we risk being nothing more than dead branches, the usefulness of which is mere fodder for the fire. This sounds

like a harsh punishment. However, it is not really punishment. Rather, it is the inevitable consequence of cutting ourselves off from our supply of life-giving nourishment. Furthermore, being cut off does not happen accidentally; we choose it deliberately.

Finally, this metaphor of vines and branches is an image of the Church. Though each of us, by grace, is "in Christ," our source of life, the risen life of Christ surges through members of his body. Thus, when we are united to Christ by grace, we live in him as Christ lives in all of us.

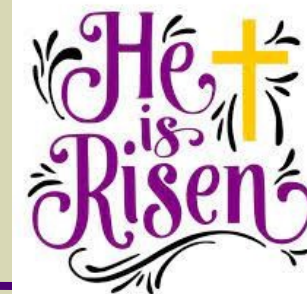
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ✦ Think for a moment of the ways Christ lives in you.
- ✦ Now think of how you might live in Christ.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

May 2, 2021
5th Sunday of Easter



Fr. Jaime Mencias,
Parochial Administrator
907-306-1158

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia. ~cf. Ps 98(97):1-2

St. John the Baptist
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Parish Secretary: Therese Lewandowski
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:30am-3pm

St. Peter the Apostle, 16145 Sterling Hwy
PO Box 39290, Ninilchik, AK 99639
907.567.3490 st.peter136@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Debbie Maclean

Mission Statement

St. John the Baptist Catholic Community is united through the Eucharist and the Sacred Scriptures and inspired by the Holy Spirit to know Christ and to make Christ known through worship, service and fellowship.

Mass Times

Saturday

St. John—5:00 p.m.
St. Peter—7:30 p.m. (summer only)

Sunday

St. John—11:00 a.m.
St. Peter— 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

St. John—12:00 p.m.

Wed. St. Peter—10:00 a.m.

St. John the Baptist Pastoral Council Members Next Meeting: May 20, Thursday, 5:30pm

Rick Abboud, Anita Harry, Bryan Hawkins,
Rick Hoover, Francis Neville, Terry Plant

St. John the Baptist Finance Council Members Next Meeting: May 14, Friday, 6:30pm

Clyde Boyer, Jay Cheroch, Van Hawkins,
Courtney Kiel, Leslie Lord-Coffing, Cinda Martin,
Alex Sweeney

Please thank these council members for their service and pass on to them any thoughts, suggestions or concerns.

All are also welcome to attend council meetings but please let the office know ahead of time.

If you wish to address the councils please provide a statement of your topic.

Weekend and weekday Masses celebrated following the Archdiocese approved guidelines.

We ask that you wear a face mask, sanitize your hands upon entering, enter at the front door, exit the side door. Please seat allowing for social distance spacing. There will be some modifications to the mass to limit contact. Communion will be given as you exit at the end of mass. Our mass will be livestreamed via FB which you can link to from our website.

Calendar

Finance Council meeting May 14, 6:30pm
Pastoral Council meeting May 20, 5:30pm
Pic'n Pay is open on Saturdays 10am-2pm.

Sunday Social Hours have been suspended.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

By appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact parish office one month prior to date

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact parish office six months prior to date

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Please call **Patty Brennan**
907-299-4337
with your prayer request.

MINISTRY FOR THE HOMEBOUND

If you or a parishioner you know is unable to attend Mass, please call the office at 235-8436. Arrangements can be made for Holy Communion, meals, or for a visit.

Pic'n Pay open Saturdays, 10am-2pm

Please consider helping with Saturday sales. The store is open 10am-2pm. Customers are asked to wear face masks, sanitize hands upon entry, enter 3-5 at a time at the back door and exit at the front after paying. Low-cost second-hand items are sold; proceeds go towards local charities. Contact the office or Terry Plant if you would like to help.

WOMEN'S GUILD Next meeting TBA

The Women's Guild normally meets monthly and oversees total volunteer operation of Pic'n Pay. Meetings are suspended, but Pic'n Pay continues!

Knights of Columbus If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus local Our Lady of the Seas Council see Rick Hoover or www.kofc.org or contact Rick, 907-227-1674, rallenhoo@yahoo.com

The Knights of Columbus will lead a Rosary on the 2d weekend of the month 20 minutes prior to Masses. And the Divine Mercy Chaplet on the 4th weekend of the month 20 minutes prior to Masses. All are welcome to participate.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

May 1 — Saturday

Lector: Bernie Griffard

Greeters/Ushers: Bob Bond, KoC

May 2 — Sunday

Lector: Jennifer Hawkins

Greeters/Ushers: Knights of Columbus

May 8 — Saturday

Lector: Steve Mueller

Greeters/Ushers: Bob Bond, KoC

May 2 — Sunday

Lector: Jennifer Hawkins

Greeters/Ushers: Knights of Columbus

If you have a desire to be a Lector who reads the Word of the Lord, or a greeter who gets to know all the parishioners, call us!



Archdiocese News

The Elizabeth Ministry of St. Andrew Parish in Eagle River is sponsoring a "Healing Mass for Pregnancy and Child Loss," on Friday, May 7, 2021, at 7pm with a light reception to follow. There will be an opportunity for individual or group prayer and fellowship with others who have experienced these painful losses after the Mass. **This Mass will also be live-streamed for those who cannot attend in person at <https://aksaintandrews.org/>** For more information see our ad in the May edition of the North Star Catholic newspaper, or contact Jo Martin, Elizabeth Ministry Coordinator, at [907-441-8917](tel:907-441-8917).

Community FOOD BASKETS

If you can, please remember those who can't afford to buy groceries for their families. You can bring your non-perishable food items to our drop box at the front church entrance. The Knights of Columbus are transporting to the local food bank.

Mass Intentions

Thursday/Friday through June 2021 — Rest In Peace for Anthony & Philomena Peragine



Eternal rest grant onto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

You may call or stop by the parish office with your Mass intentions.

Dear Padre,

Why is the Church considering a word change to the Our Father? It seems fine as it is.

Of the two versions of the Lord's Prayer in Luke 11:2-4 and Matthew 6:9-13, Luke's is more concise. The petition, "and lead us not into temptation" in Greek means both "do not allow us to enter into temptation" and "do not let us yield to temptation" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2846). The *Catechism* includes the explanation from James 1:13: "God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one," to certify that God "wants to set us free from evil. We ask him not to allow us to take the way that leads to sin." Consequently, Pope Francis reportedly approved the English wording, "do not let us fall into temptation" to replace "lead us not into temptation."

"It is not a good translation because it speaks of a God who induces temptation," the Pope said in 2017. "I am the one who falls. It's not him pushing me into temptation to then see how I have fallen." On the contrary, "a father helps you to get up immediately," he added. "It's Satan who leads us into temptation—that's his department."

However, unlike the change in the Italian Lord's Prayer that will appear in their third edition of *The Roman Missal*, no immediate plans have been made to change the wording in English-speaking countries.



Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Let us not forget that the Our Father is the prayer of the poor. Our asking for bread expresses our entrustment to God for our basic needs in life. Everything that Jesus taught us in this prayer expresses and brings together the cry of all who suffer from life's uncertainties.

FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, NOVEMBER 19, 2017



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Calendar

Monday
MAY 3
Sts. Philip and James,
Apostles
1 Cor 15:1-8
Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday
MAY 4
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19-28
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday
MAY 5
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1-6
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday
MAY 6
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:7-21
Jn 15:9-11

Friday
MAY 7
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:22-31
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday
MAY 8
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1-10
Jn 15:18-21

Sunday
MAY 9
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:25-26,
34-35, 44-48
1 Jn 4:7-10
Jn 15:9-17

