

**WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS**

Mass at 50% capacity

**Sunday's Facebook LIVE!**

**Sunday, May 2, 2021 9:00 am Mass**

Monday May 3rd NO MASS

Tuesday May 4th 9:00 am

Deacon Melvin Payne

Communion Service

Wednesday, May 5th, 9:00 a.m.

Deacon Melvin Payne

Communion Service

Thursday, May 6th, 9:00 a.m.

Deacon Melvin Payne

Communion Service

Friday, May 7th, 9:00 a.m.

Deacon Melvin Payne

Communion Service

Saturday, May 8th, 4 p.m.

Reconciliation by appointment

(N.B. You can request Mass to be offered for you, your love ones, or any deceased or living person. Speak with the Pastor or call the office to schedule your mass intention).

**READINGS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sun. May 2-** Acts 9:26-31 Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:4a, 5b Jn 15:1-8

**Mon. May 3-** 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 Jn 14:6b, 9c Jn 14:6-14

**Tues. May 4-** Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 Lk 24:46, 26 Jn 14:27-31a

**Wed. May 5-** Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 Jn 15:4a, 5b Jn 15:1-8

**Thurs. May 6-** Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 Jn 10:27 Jn 15:9-11

**Fri. May 7-** Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-9, 10 & 12 Jn 15:15b Jn 15:12-17

**Sat. May 8-** Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 Col 3:1 Jn 15:18-21

**May Birthday List**  
Happy Birthday to:

Cecilia Davis	3
William Davis	10
Ronald Warnell	21
Charles Rogers	21
Mary Alexander	22
Dorothy Broussard	22
Ashley Anderson	30
Marva Hebert	31
Herman Richard	31

**Happy Anniversary**  
Fred & Peggy Green 8th

**LECTORS SERVING IN MAY**  
Saturday's/ one reader

May 1st- Leo Jackson  
May 8th - Gary Mims  
May 15th - Felicia Richard  
May 22nd - Freda Guillory  
May 29th - Veronica Berry

**Sunday's/ one reader**

May 2nd - Mona Richard  
May 9th - Horace Broussard  
May 16th - Peggy Green  
May 23rd - Cindy Hampton  
May 30th - Tins Richard

**Bishop Faith Appeal**  
Goal : 17,049.

While we are facing challenging times, keeping safe and preventing the spread of the coronavirus. God challenges us to share what we have with others, to make a commitment to serving His people. Romans 8:28 say's "For those who love God, all things work together for the good." Making your pledge to the BFA is one of the ways we are all called together, one parish, supporting others with what we have. Thank you for your support.

**Chairpersons, Adam & Dorothy Jacobs and Fr. Donatus.**

**COORDINATORS OF MINISTRIES**

- Activities \* Brushelle Scott
- BINGO \* Evangeline Platt
- Bishop Faith Appeal \* Adam Jacobs & Dorothy Jacobs
- Bereavement Committee \* Rose Bottley
- Donut Sunday's \* Freda Guillory
- Environmental \* Ina Chavis
- Extraordinary Minister of Communion \* Dorothy Broussard
- Custodian \* Veronica Berry
- Finance \* Janice Semien
- Fund Raiser \* Walter Davis
- Hospitality \* Horace Broussard
- Lectors \* Peggy Green
- Life Center \* Adam Jacobs
- Maintenance \* Joseph Ware Sr.
- Mission/Retreat \* Cecilia Davis
- Music Director \* Leo Jackson
- Pastoral Council \* Lester Popillion
- D.R.E \* Sanja Popillion
- Youth \* Felicia Richard
- Stewardship \* Gary Mims

**Last week**  
**Income & Expenses**

Attendance Sat: 10 Sun: 33  
Collection

Home Mission	\$ 97.00
Memorial	\$ 100.00
Saturday	\$ 117.00
Sunday	\$ 1,630.00

**Total Deposit \$ 1,944.00**

**Expenses paid out**

Entergy <\$ 873.69>  
Admin Spect. <\$ 136.63>

**St. Therese Catholic Church**

Established in 1924; Served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul from Nigeria since 2000

1409 6th Street 77630  
Email: sttherese1350@yahoo.com

Phone: (409) 883-3783  
Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400

Fax: (409) 883-4918  
Website: stthereseorantex.org



**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Donatus Mgbeajuo, MSP**

Email: donachrisneo@yahoo.com  
Contact information: cell (409) 454-3958

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday thru Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
Lunch 12-1:00 pm  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



**PARISH SECRETARY**

Cindy Hampton (409) 882-0935

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Lester Popillion, Chairman  
(409) 670-0808

John Semien, Vice Chairman  
(409) 313-0594

Mona Richard, Secretary  
(409) 779-1442

Horace Broussard (409) 883-7937  
Ina Chavis (409) 779-4096  
Clifton Richard (409) 882-4739  
Peter Roberson (409) 221-1866  
Ralph Wilkes (409) 553-1451

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sonja Popillion (409) 670-0808

**MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS**

Joseph Ware Sr. (409) 886-5331

**CUSTODIAN & HOUSEKEEPER**

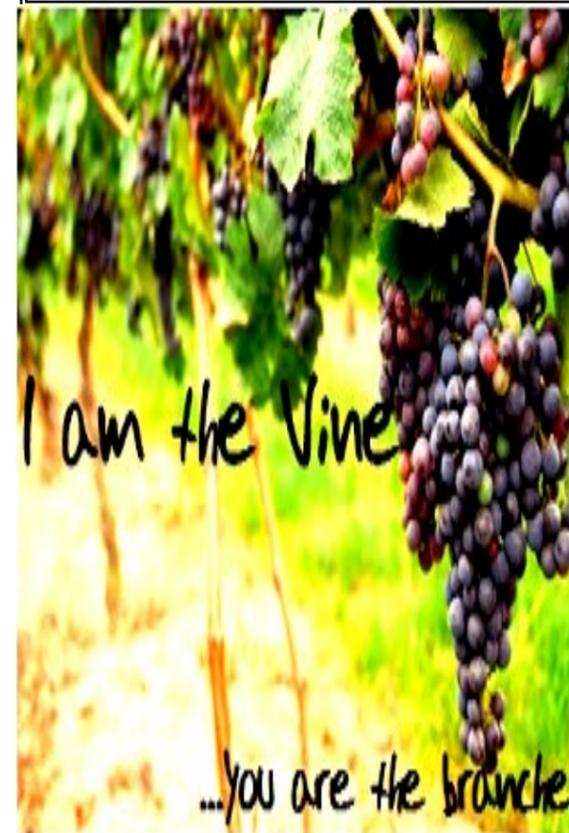
Veronica Warren (409) 238-1427

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Janice Semien (409) 883-7126  
Sheila Arnold (409) 313-2062  
Tina Kindle (409) 238-4447  
Andre' Robertson (409) 882-0012

**5th Sunday of Easter**  
**Year B**  
**May 2, 2021**

**"I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the  
vine grower."**



**Eucharistic Celebration**

**Weekends:**  
Saturday  
Vigil 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday  
9:00 a.m.

**Weekdays:**  
Tuesday-Friday  
9:00 a.m.

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturdays  
3:20 p.m. - 3:55 p.m.

**Adoration & Benediction**  
1st Tuesday of each month  
5:30 p.m.—  
6:30 p.m.

**Exposition & Adoration Of the Blessed Sacrament**  
every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

**Infant Baptism:**  
Please contact the Pastor  
two months prior  
to desired date  
of baptism

**Marriage:**  
Please call the Rectory  
six (6) months prior to  
proposed date

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Tending

For as long as memory serves, agricultural peoples have tended vines and orchards. Spring was pruning season, when the strongest branches were strengthened, the weak and dead branches fed to the fire. When Jesus looked out over the vineyards at night, he saw the small fires burning the discarded branches. All day long the vines were trussed and tended. Before long, there would be good new wine.

**FIRST READING: Acts 9:26–31    RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 22:26–27, 28, 20, 31–32**

**SECOND READING: 1 John 3:18–24    GOSPEL: John 15:1–8**

## Comment

The Gospel for this Sunday is drawn from Jesus' long Last Supper discourse. This is Passover time; the moon is full. The signs of spring tending are everywhere. The apostles know well that this is the time of trussing and splicing of branches. Jesus uses these strong reminders to speak of his relationship to the apostles. They must be tightly grafted to him, as branches are to the vine. He is the strong vine from which they all draw their life.

Jesus does not speak here of the apostles' solidarity with one another, but focuses instead on the source of that solidarity—himself. He is the source of each life. They can flower from this single, vital source. He will be the source of their life and of all of their relationships.

The first reading offers a glimpse of this flowering, which takes the form of a formidable challenge. Here we have the newly converted Saul, moving rather casually, it seems, among the disciples in Jerusalem who are understandably very frightened of him. They are not entirely sure of this one-time ferocious enemy. So, Barnabas takes on the challenge of introducing Saul to the apostles and explaining how he had spoken fearlessly "... in the name of Jesus." Barnabas is successful, and in the end, it is not the new Christians who locked horns with Saul, but rather the Greek-speaking Jews. As a result of their wrath, the apostles think it best to spirit Saul away and send him home to Tarsus until things cool down.

## Reflection

We are assured in this reading that, excepting this incident, the Church was fundamentally at peace and growing steadily. Surface tensions may occur, and this is to be expected. Life is messy, after all. 'Twas always thus and 'twill always be. The only real trouble arises when the Church fails to adhere to Jesus as the sole source of its life. The second reading can be seen as operating instructions to help the Church avoid this sad state. We are advised to live by faith in the name of Jesus Christ and by a love that shows in deed and truth. That kind of active, honest love is a good test of our adherence to Jesus, the vine.

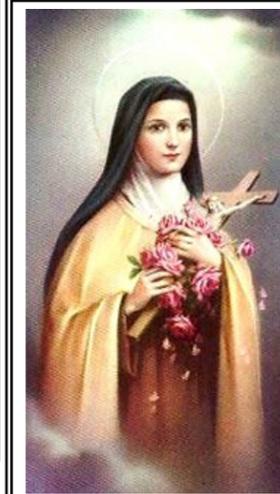
Like the early Church, we may be faced with injustice and a lack of tranquility inside and outside our ranks. We are called to pray for peace and justice and to act in love and deed to bring about that very peace and justice. If we do not, there is no truth in our words. We can ask ourselves quietly and our communities out loud how willing we are to *act* as people grafted tightly to Christ. How willing are we to accept irresponsible disengagement from the place where we live? How willing are we to choose virtual lives, "wired" to someone else's machinery?

Jesus calls for our solidarity in him, which is the source of our solidarity with one another. This solidarity means engagement. Our prayers and deeds and openness cannot exist in some ethereal realm. They must be down-to-earth and carried out by down-to-earth people, like us. Human connections have fragrance and taste and texture and warmth.

First, we are called to consider the source, the risen Lord. Then to consider the flowering—the Church, that is, the people. This is the continuing Easter time of new growth and flowering. This is spring time for the soul. We are to support one another in our efforts to be at peace and to act in fairness. We are asked to take on the tough love that shows in the deeds that match our words.

## PRAY FOR THE SHUT-IN

Mary Alexander  
Mary Brown  
Courtney Chavis  
David J. Carey  
Hollis Fain  
Beatrice Guillory  
Ella Mae Garrett  
Mary Gray  
Mark Mitchell Jr.  
Westley Papillion  
Gloria Richard  
Mormon Richard  
Alma C Thibodeaux



"My mission - to make God loved - will begin after my death," she said. "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth. I will let fall a shower of roses." Roses have been described and experienced as Saint Therese's signature. Countless millions have been touched by her intercession and imitate her "little way." She has been acclaimed "the greatest saint of modern times." In 1997, Pope John Paul II declared St. Therese a Doctor of the Church - the only Doctor of his pontificate - in tribute to the powerful way her spirituality has influenced people all over the world.

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jalen A. Chambers  
Carroll Durio  
Mable Durio  
Margaret Green  
Mrs. Freda Guillory  
Mrs. Doris Hayes  
Roy Hayes  
Mrs. Dorothy Jacobs  
Ruby Milton  
Clayona Pillette  
John Richard Sr.  
Claudine Riggs  
Sammie Ware  
Tiffany Winphrey  
Roger Dell White

## How Has God Revealed Himself?

In the generations after our first parents disobeyed God, breaking their relationship with him (see Gn 3), their descendants' knowledge of their Creator seems to have become faded and even distorted. We find in the Book of Genesis, however, that God chooses to reveal himself to a series of individuals and their families, to begin the restoration of his relationship with humanity. His revelation to Abraham (see 12:1-9) begins a series of events that leads to the formation of the Jewish people, and eventually to the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ, to a Jewish woman.

As "the Word [who] became flesh" (Jn 1:14), Christ most perfectly reveals God the Father; the entire divine revelation is perfectly summed up in him. He is not only the Son of God, but also God the Son: equal in essence and glory with his Father in heaven. The Holy Spirit — the Spirit sent by the Father and breathed on the apostles by the Son — is also a divine Person, and fully God (see Jn 14:9-11, 16:17; 20:22)

Catholics believe that this revelation of the triune God — who is three Persons in one essence (or being) — is communicated in the holy Scriptures and through the Church, which authoritatively and infallibly interprets the Bible according to unbroken apostolic Tradition (see 1 Tm 3:15; 2 Thes 2:15). It is true that individuals can come to know God, even if they have never heard the gospel ("good news") of Jesus Christ, on the basis of nature and what it reveals of the Creator, and through the laws of their conscience (see Ps 19:2-3; Rom 1:19-21; 2:12-16). Various non-Catholic, Christian communions also teach a great deal that is true about God. However, the fullness of the Christian revelation is entrusted to the Catholic Church, the guardian of the apostolic deposit from the beginning.

This Christian message, most fully proclaimed by the Catholic Church, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, who leads the Church into all truth, reveals God's nature and character, his love for us, his mercy, and his holiness and commandments. Revelation is God's message to us about himself and about how he wants us to live. It teaches us what is right and wrong, good and evil. It is passed on through the generations by the Church through words and deeds that testify to its truth. (See also "What Is the Holy Trinity?" C-1.)

## ATTENTION "Job Seekers"

St. Therese is seeking a Parish Director of Youth Ministry, must be a practicing Catholic with Theology, Religious Education, or related educational field and or certificate in ministry or theology or one to three years related experience in education of youth. Under the direct supervision of the Pastor and in accordance with established policies and procedures, is responsible for the development, coordination, supervision, and execution of parish programs designed to engage and educate the youth of the parish. Will act as an advocate and link for youth and their families to the pastoral team, the parish family, and the surrounding community. Please send your resume to the St. Therese Catholic Church 1409 N. 6th Street, Orange, TX77630 or email at sttherese1350@yahoo.com. For more information please call the Parish Office 409-883-3783.