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We are the *branches*. This strong and beautiful image enables us to understand the grace we received at Easter. St. John uses the notion of *must*, [newly-pressed grape juice]. This Easter *must* began to act at Calvary when one of the bandits, crucified with Jesus, heard the Lord's words: *Today you will be with me*. This *must* would unseat St. Paul on the road from Damascus and make him a disciple. It would make St. Peter a preacher and bring life to the early Christian communities. This *must* still gathers, feeds and connects us. This *must* produces fruit.

Jesus explains what is expected: *If you abide in me, and my words abide in you ... my Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples*. In his first letter, St John says: *Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action*. (I John 3:18). In the spirit of Jesus and St. John, the results that we anticipate and the bottles we expect to fill, are realistic and demonstrable. How connected are we?

Jacques Houle, c.s.v.

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



St. Lucy Parish

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Sunday April 29, 2018 Fifth Sunday of Easter

We're approaching the month of May. Spring always brings a feeling of *renaissance*: an appreciation of nature's generosity as we witness rebirth everywhere. Buds appear on our plants, birds are singing and pastoral images greet us every day. These scenes reinforce Jesus' comments about abundant vineyards where he says: *I am the true vine and my Father is the vine grower*.

This pastoral image is beautiful particularly when enjoyed with a glass of red or chilled white wine. It should not distract us from Christ's preoccupation, one which is also shared by St. John whose Gospel passage provides this lesson.

Jesus speaks about life and fertility. A vine worthy of its name will produce fruit. Yet for this vine to thrive and produce fruit, certain factors must be in place. The vine must be attached to a main source of life, "connected" in the true meaning of the word.

The image of the vine is often used in the Scriptures. People familiar with the Bible immediately recognize that the vine which God planted refers to Israel, God's chosen people, whom he cares for unconditionally. God is passionate about this vine and anticipates a great harvest.

Jesus referred to himself as the true and privileged vine, but actually is the first one in a great and completely new vineyard which he wished to see extended throughout the world. *I am the vine... you are the branches*.

The Week at a Glance

Sat Apr 28 7:30pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Gilles Favreau**
 Sun Apr 29 9:00 am Mass in Arborfield **For †Jack Lalonde**
 11:00am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**
 Mon Apr 30 *Fr Travis' day off*
 Tues May 1 Priest's Retreat
 Wed May 2 Priest's Retreat
 Thurs May 3 Priest's Retreat
 Fri May 4 Priest's Retreat
 7:00pm Adoration in Zenon Park
 8:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Monique Leblanc**
 Sat May 5 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield **For †Armande Renaud**
 Sun May 6 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Henri Lalonde**

Mass Times for March/April

Sat 7:30pm – Zenon Park
Sun 9:00am – Arborfield
 Sun 11:00am – Carrot River

NOTE MASS TIME CHANGE

Mass Times for May/June

Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield
 Sun 9:00am – Carrot River
 Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park

Kendrick Beler will be ordained in North Battleford on July 11, 2018. Father Jim, vocations director for the Diocese is asking all parishes to support him by sending a "spiritual bouquet" which are prayers or devotional acts offered by individuals to the recipient and combined into 'bouquets' for someone such as Kendrick at this time of his ordination. Please see poster on the bulletin board for more information.

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>April 29</u>	<u>May 5</u>
Commentator	Marie	Neil
Reader	Lisa	Pam
Cup	Neil, James	Sue, Beatrice
Hospitality	Bronners	Neil, Lorraine
Offerings	Brian, Pam	Brian, Pam
Sacristan	Pam	Pam

Cleaning Schedule

Apr 30-May 6, 2018	Grant & Beatrice Thesen
May 7-13, 2018	Randal & Joann Rusk

Last week's collection total: **\$ 580.00**

PA Diocese & Vocations : **\$ 340.00** **Thank You**

St. Lucy Parish is hosting a Youth/Family retreat on Saturday May 5, 2018 from 1:30 to 6:00 pm. Brian Bauche and Dave McQuaid will be in attendance. Supper will be served at 6:00 with mass to follow at 7:30 pm. Please plan to attend!

There will be a **Deanery Religious Vocations Appreciation Celebration** on Monday May 7, 2018 at Our Lady of Consolation Church in Melfort 5:30 pm Mass and supper to follow. Tickets are \$25 and available from the parish office.

Our three parishes now have a website!

<https://pasquiacatholic.com/>. Check it out!! St Lucy Parish also has a Facebook page: **StLucyArborfield**