

# HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Hudson and Germantown, New York

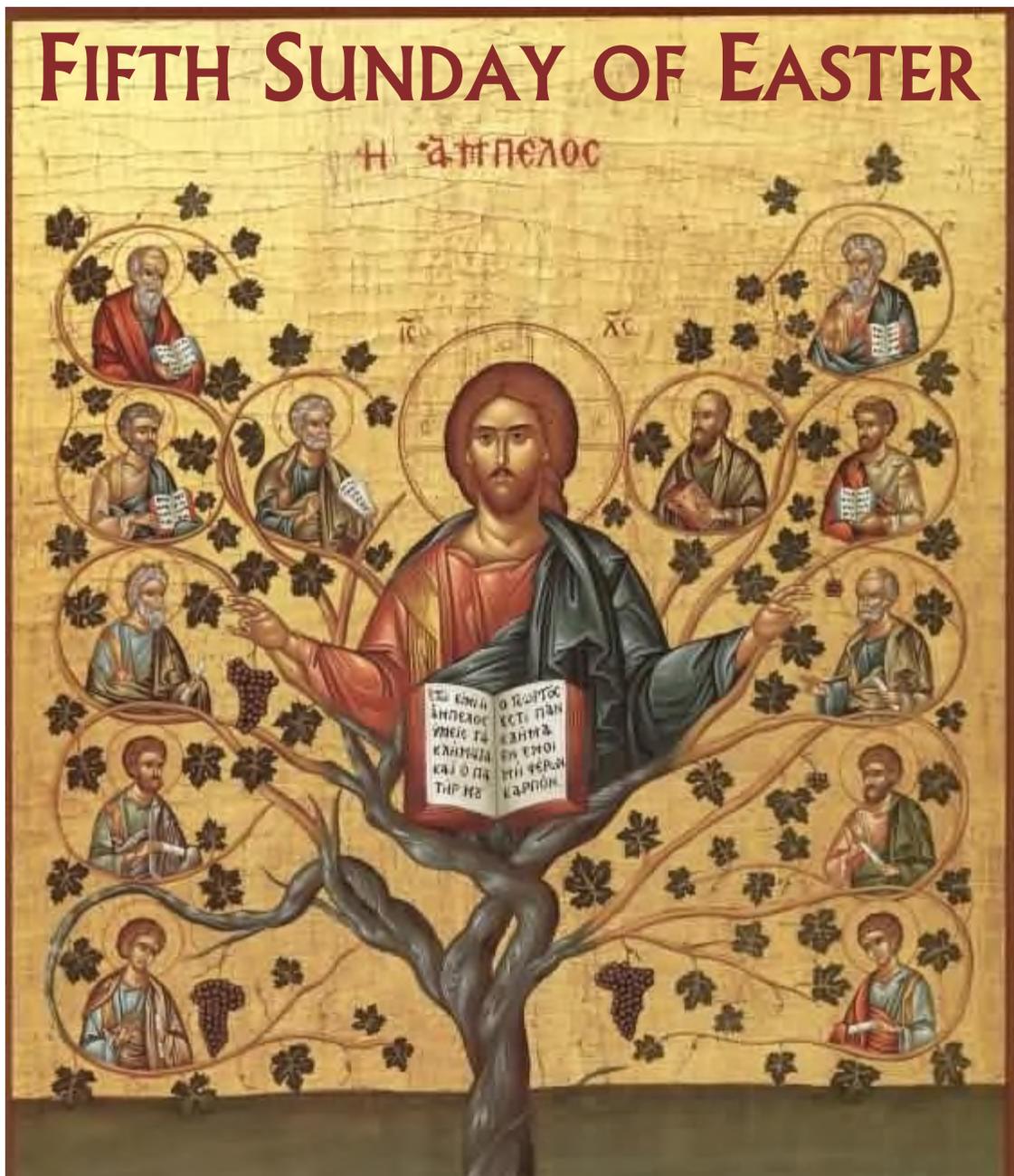
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**April 29, 2018**

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DEACON RICHARD WASHBURN  
*Deacon*

REV. ANTHONY BARRATT  
*Pastor*

REV. WINSTON BATH  
*Pastor Emeritus*

## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: THE TRUE VINE AND THE BRANCHES**

Last week, our Lord gave us that familiar and clear image of the Good Shepherd to help us in our reflections and prayers. This weekend we have another great image: a vine and its branches. Jesus is the true vine and if we are to bear fruit, we have to remain attached to him. As St. Augustine once wrote: "Without you Lord nothing; with you everything."

In our First Reading (Acts 9: 26-31), St. Paul, the great evangelizer and apostle of the nations, finally arrives in the holy city of Jerusalem. His mission and ministry over the three years since his conversion has certainly been fruitful, even though he has had many struggles. The same pattern continues as he reaches Jerusalem, for the disciples did not receive him well. In fact, they were afraid of him! Luckily Barnabas speaks up for Paul and so Paul is able to preach Christ fruitfully. It is a reminder that we may meet obstacles as we try to live a Christian life. We might also be asked like Barnabas to speak up courageously for someone; perhaps especially a person who undeservedly has a bad name.

The Psalm (Psalm 22) helps us to understand Jesus' image of the vine and the branches. The psalm sings about the sovereignty of God: for all "shall bow down before Him." We are not God and we are nothing without being attached to Him. Indeed, it is good to recall that all we are and all we have come from God. Our Second Reading (1 John 3: 18-24) also takes up this idea of attachment and dependence. How can we show that we belong to the truth and that we love God and others? St. John gives us a pithy and direct answer: we can do this, not by mere words or speech, but rather *in deeds and in truth*. In other words, if we keep God's commandment then we will indeed remain in Him. Some two thousand years later, the Second Vatican Council pointed out that our fruitfulness often comes simply in the performance of our daily tasks and of doing these in love. In being faithful to these tasks we are doing God's will and so we will also bear much fruit. The Gospel (John 15: 1-8) gives us what presenters would call a "visual." Jesus is the vine and we are his branches. Let us explore that image a little further...

If a vine is allowed to grow unchecked, that is without being pruned, then it makes lots of leafy growth. However, it is not then very fruitful. It will

have only a few bunches of grapes, because all the energy of the plant has gone into making that leafy growth. Moreover, the grapes that it does produce will be small and useless. No, a vine needs pruning. This is why the Lord "prunes" us by his Word. That pruning may sometimes seem harsh or even painful; but it is necessary if we are to make good growth and to bear fruit. St. Paul in our Second Reading with his joys and struggles is a good example of that process of pruning.

It is an obvious point, but if branches become detached from the vine, then they are not going to be fruitful either. In fact, they will wither and die. In 1987, a huge storm ripped across southern England during the autumn. The many fruit trees that are part of the agriculture of the area were major casualties of the storm. In the spring, something strange happened. All the snapped branches came into leaf and even produced blossoms. They were using up the stored energy and nutrients in the wood. However, as the season progressed, the leaves withered and the blossom shriveled up producing no fruit. The stored nutrients could not be replenished because the branches were severed from the parent tree.

So too with us. If we become detached from the Lord, and we might also say from his Body, the Church, then we may well be able to use our reserves for a while, but then they will be exhausted and so will we! We can no longer produce growth and fruit because we are cut off.

In our preparations for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress and the Perpetual Adoration Chapel here in Hudson, the image Jesus gives us of the vine and the branches also assists us in understanding and appreciating the Eucharist. The Eucharist is rather like the sap running through the vine that feeds and sustains us. In this sense, the Eucharist also helps us to be fruitful. Furthermore, many returning Catholics often say that it was the absence of the Eucharist and a longing for it that moved them to come back and to be reattached to the Church. Why not invite someone who has perhaps drifted away from the Church to come with you to Mass next week...?



Father Anthony

# THE WEEK AHEAD

**SUNDAY, April 29**

## Confirmation



Today, April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m., Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger will be in Hudson to confirm 90 young people from Columbia County (8 of whom belong to Holy Trinity Parish). The Mass is open to anyone who would like to attend.

We extend our prayers and best wishes to those who are being confirmed; and we pray that God's grace and guidance may be with them for the remainder of their earthly journey.

**MONDAY, April 30**

- **Finance Committee Meeting: 6:30 p.m. St. Mary's Rectory**

**TUESDAY, May 1**

- **St. Anthony Novena Prayer - following morning Mass**
- **Active Shooter Presentation: 6:00 p.m. St. Mary's Academy**
- **Adoration Committee Meeting: 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's Academy**

**WEDNESDAY, May 2**

- **The Gathering - 7:30 p.m. St. Mary's Academy**

**THURSDAY, May 3**

- **Our Lady of Grace Prayer Group - 6:30 p.m. St. Mary's Church**
- **Bible Study: NO BIBLE STUDY TODAY**

**FRIDAY, May 4**

- **First Friday: All Day Eucharistic Adora-**

The following **Eucharistic Moment** has been shared by the Perpetual Adoration Committee to promote Eucharistic adoration:

**Sunday, April 29**

*"The holy hour in our modern rat race is necessary for authentic prayer. Our world is one of speed in which intensity of movement is a substitute for lack of purpose; where noise is invoked to drown out the whisperings of conscience; where talk, talk, talk gives the impression that we are doing something when really we are not; where activity kills self-knowledge won by contemplation... There seems to be so little in common between our involvement with the news of the world and the Stranger in whose Presence we find ourselves. The hour means giving up a golf game or a cocktail party, or a nap... Sometimes it is hard, especially during vacation when we have nothing to do. I remember once having two hours between trains in Paris. I went to the Church of Saint Roch to make my holy hour. There are not ten days a year I can sleep in the daytime. This was one. I was so tired, I sat down at 2:00p.m.--too tired to kneel--and went to sleep. I slept perfectly until 3:00p.m. I said to the Good Lord: "Did I make a holy hour?" The answer came back: "Yes! That's the way the Apostles made their first one." The best time to make a holy hour is in the morning, early, before the day sets traps for us. By being faithful to it, and letting nothing interfere with it, we use it as the sign and symbol of our victimhood. We are not called to great penances, and many would interfere with our duty, but the hour is our daily sacrifice in union with Christ." – Ven. Fulton J. Sheen*

**Would you commit an hour of adoration for those suffering from mental illness?**

## REMINDER

### **The John Rutter "Requiem"**

**Saturday, April 28, 2018, 7:30 pm**  
Church of the Immaculate Conception  
[400 Saratoga Road, Glenville, NY 12302](http://400SaratogaRoad.com) **and**

**Sunday, April 29, 2018, 4 pm**  
First Presbyterian Church  
[400 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY 12801](http://400GlenSt.com)

**\$10 Suggested Donation – Derek Stannard @ [518-399-9168](http://518-399-9168) or [music.icglenville@gmail.com](mailto:music.icglenville@gmail.com)**

## TRAINING SEMINAR

On **Tuesday, May 1, at 6:00 PM**, Holy Trinity Parish will host a training seminar to help the churches of Columbia and Greene Counties prepare and respond in the event of an active shooter scenario. The seminar/training program will be presented by the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. There will be a question and answer session following.

All are welcome to attend.

This event will be held at St. Mary's Church in Hudson.



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday, May 6, members of Holy Trinity Parish will receive the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time at St. Mary's Church, Hudson at the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

We ask for God's blessings upon these young people and their families, praying that they may continue to experience His grace and blessings in their lives.

Our First Communicants and their families will be seated in the front rows of the Church; and the Mass may take a little more time than usual. For those parishioners for whom these matters may be a concern, we encourage them to plan accordingly.

Light refreshments will be provided by the Christian Service Committee following Mass.

## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS - MAY 5

**St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church  
206 Union St. - Hudson**

**8:30 a.m. - Confessions & Rosary**

## WALK FOR LIFE

**When: May 26**

**Registration: 9am - 10am**

**Walk begins: 10am**

**Where: Hudson Riverfront**

Fuel the mission of the **Alight Center** by partnering in our first annual Walk for Life! This is a crowd-funding event that mobilizes fundraising teams. Crowd-funding is asking others for small donations to help reach a personal and team goal.

Holy Trinity parish is coordinating a group to walk. If you would like to participate please contact Arlene Liepshutz @ 518-828-1334.



**THE BISHOP'S APPEAL**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ALBANY, NY

**Next weekend is the 2018 Bishop's Appeal Commitment Sunday.**

**This Appeal supports all of the vital ministries and programs throughout the Diocese. It is our one opportunity during the year to reach out in support of all the people of God beyond the boundary of our Holy Trinity Parish.**

**Please respond to the Bishop's Appeal by making a pledge that you can pay throughout the year. Your gift directly helps our parish to pay its share of the important work of the Diocese.**

**Let us strive for 100% participation: not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice!**

## SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Acquiring is good. Saving is smart. Generous giving is a blessing to both the giver and recipient.

### HUDSON

Regular Offertory (April 22).....	\$ 5868.00
Mother's Day.....	\$ 364.00
Utilities.....	\$ 387.00

### GERMANTOWN

Regular Offertory (April 22).....	\$ 2137.00
Insurance.....	\$ 217.00
Seminarian Support.....	\$ 45.00



# THE BISHOP'S APPEAL

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ALBANY, NY

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

First and foremost, I want to thank each and every one of you for all you do in your parishes and in your communities to build up the Church as the living Body of Christ.

You know we hear a lot these days about “spreading the joy of the Gospel”, so often in fact that sometimes it sounds cliché. I would ask that we prayerfully reflect on what “the joy of the Gospel” really means. What is the good news found in the Gospel, the message that has transcended the ages and which is repeated in many tongues over and over around the globe every day? The good news is that Jesus, the Son of the living and eternal God is alive in the world today and that He offers all of us the gift of His love, forgiveness, salvation and eternal life.

We, as Catholics, are called at our baptism to be Disciples of Christ in our own time to bear witness to Jesus and to share His Gospel, His good news with others. How do we share the good news? Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, writes, “An evangelizing community gets involved by word and by deed in people’s daily lives.” We need not go out and bang on doors or hit people over the head with Bibles. No, there are better ways. There are ways to volunteer, to [serve](#) in a parish ministry, in a soup kitchen or a food pantry, or by visiting seniors in a nursing home. We don’t have to look far to find people in need of our love and kindness. Spreading the joy of the Gospel need not be complicated. It most effectively happens one person at a time; it starts with you and with me!

Another very meaningful way to be an instrument of God’s love, which has a very real and broad impact, is to share our resources with those who have little or nothing at all. This can be done by making a monetary gift to help support the annual Bishop’s Appeal which, for the past 63 years, has provided the major financial resources which enable some thirty ministries of the Church to serve and to care for the spiritual and temporal needs of others.

I encourage you to read the brochure and to [visit](http://www.thebishopsappeal.org) [www.thebishopsappeal.org](http://www.thebishopsappeal.org) to learn how your [gifts](#) are put to use in serving others. Remember, every gift, no matter the denomination, makes a difference...one person at a time!

Thank you and may God bless you and yours. I place the success of the 2018 Bishop’s Appeal under the [protection](#) of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of our diocese and nation.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D.  
Bishop of Albany



# *Spring Enrichment 2018*

## *Companions Along the Journey*

### **LIFE IS AN ONGOING JOURNEY**

It begins with God who creates us, accompanies us through life, death and resurrection until we return to Him in glory. God holds our hand on the journey and we are invited to hold the hands of our brothers and sisters on every step. Along the journey we meet many people: parents, family, friends, teachers, classmates, co-workers. Each one has a purpose in our life. We are companions along the journey with God and with each other. The word “companion” comes from two Latin words: com – “with” and pan – “bread”. We “break bread” and share meals with the ones we love. Enjoy every moment of the journey. Appreciate where you are now while being grateful for the past and looking forward to the future confidently. Pope Francis says that “it’s not enough to build for oneself an image of God based on what one has heard said; it’s necessary to seek the divine Master and go where He dwells.” Come. Be the Church now. Seek the Lord and join your companions – both those you know and those you do not yet know – at Spring Enrichment 2018. Participants will have ample opportunities to deepen their knowledge of the faith and renew their relationship with the Lord Jesus and His Church. Offering numerous sessions that could benefit those seeking to learn more about the faith and different ministries in the Catholic Church, there is something for everyone.

### **FOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE**

The latest news and resources for this year’s Spring Enrichment – including schedule changes and other information – will be posted to the Spring Enrichment page on the diocesan website at [www.rcda.org/springenrichment](http://www.rcda.org/springenrichment). Information will also be posted to our Facebook page at Albany Spring Enrichment on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). Registrants who have provided a valid (and legible) email address should receive an information email a few days prior to the start of Spring Enrichment and those using our new online registration system should receive an email back acknowledging their registration. If you have any questions or need assistance in registering for this year’s Spring Enrichment, please contact the Catholic School Office at 518-456-6602 or email us at [spring.enrichment@rcda.org](mailto:spring.enrichment@rcda.org).

# SACRAMENTS

*The sacraments are wonderful gifts from God to us. Through outward, visible signs; the sacraments are channels of God's love and mercy and so they draw us in to the life of the Trinity. They therefore also continue the saving mission and ministry of Jesus Christ in and through His body, the Church. Below is some information on how to make contact regarding the celebration of the sacraments.*

**BAPTISM:** Congratulations! If you would like to arrange preparations and a date for Baptism, please contact the Parish Office.

**RCIA:** For those enquiring about the Catholic Faith or wishing to complete their sacraments: welcome! Please contact the Parish Office and we will be very glad to help you further.

**RECONCILIATION:** Celebrated on Saturdays 2.30-3.45 pm in Hudson, before and after Masses in Germantown, or at anytime by appointment. (Note: it is best to call ahead first to check on the availability of a priest)

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Priests regularly visit the hospitals, nursing homes and the homebound. Please do contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know is in need of the anointing of sick.

**MARRIAGE:** Congratulations! So that proper arrangements (paperwork, preparations etc.) can be made, please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Anthony at least six months before the desired date.

**VOCATIONS:** If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life, please contact Fr. Anthony to share thoughts and prayers further.

## Readings for the Week of April 29

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8  
 Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26  
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12] /Jn 14:27-31a  
 St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 7b]/Mt 13:54-58  
 Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8  
 Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

## READINGS AND HYMNS (HUDSON)

Reading: p. 176 Opening Hymn: # 510 Closing: # 466

## MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

### MONDAY: St. Pius V, Pope (April 30)

7:15 AM Louis Conte - Ed & Linda Colwell  
 Doris Kowal - Charles & Linda Meicht  
 Lydia Grima - Family

### TUESDAY: St. Joseph the Worker (May 1)

7:15 AM Mildred & John Roetina - James & Kelly Schermerhorn  
 Christopher Groll - Mary Ann & Charles Vieni  
 Geraldine Nero - Dee Marotta

### WEDNESDAY: St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the

7:15 AM Church (May 2)

Delores Housman - Charlie Housman  
 Louis Conte - David & Pat Hart  
 Geraldine Nero - John & Joanne Marsh

### THURSDAY: Sts. Philip & James, Apostles (May 3)

7:15 AM Francis W. Schmolz - Family  
 Joseph Augustino - Dick & Pat Nobes  
 Edward Kostzenskie - Charles & Linda Meicht

### FRIDAY: Easter Weekday (May 4)

7:15 AM Andrew, Amelia & Daniel Nabozny - Mike & Kathy

Nabozny

Chris Groll - Marlene Edgley  
 Robert (Butch) Shumsky - Dolly & Lee VanDeCarr

9:00 AM For Increased Vocations to the Religious Life (G'TWN)

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: (May 5)

4:00 PM Donald Callahan, Sr. - George Malchow (HUD)  
 Robert Gray - Kimberly Gray  
 Thomas C. Quigley/Mary Lou Bujanow - Family

5:30 PM Lena Keyser - Carogine Family (LNLTH)  
 For the Living & Deceased of the Parish

### SUNDAY MORNING MASS: (May 6)

9:00 AM Arthur Keiser - St. Mary's Choir (HUD)  
 Chris Groll - Tom & Vera Colwell



*Saint Joseph, The Worker,  
 pray for us.*

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