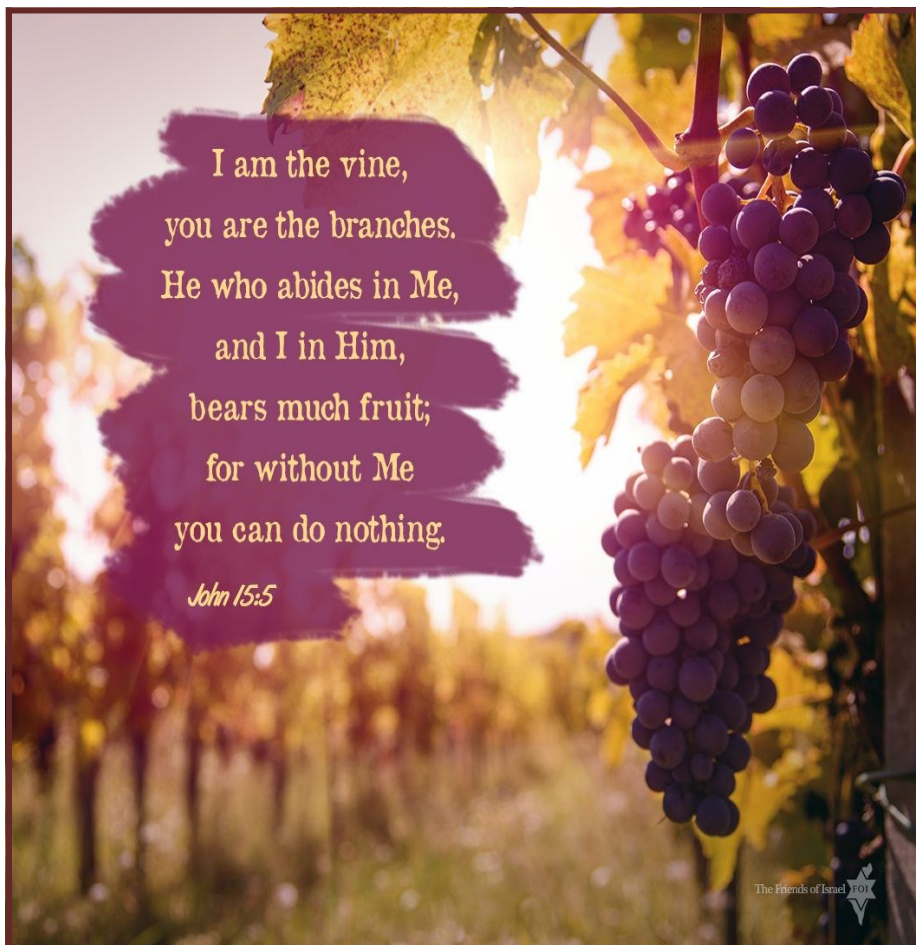




2325 HIGHLAND RD, HERMITAGE, PA 16148  
Phone: (724) 981-5566 / website: <httpS://notredame-pa.org>  
Email: [churchoffice@notredame-pa.org](mailto:churchoffice@notredame-pa.org)  
Religious Ed Email: [religioused@notredame-pa.org](mailto:religioused@notredame-pa.org)



## 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

### PARISH REGISTRATION

If you would like to join our parish and become part of the Notre Dame Church family, please complete this form and return by mail or drop in the collection basket.

#### REQUEST FOR PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name:

Address:

City/State:

Zip:

**SUNDAY  
APRIL 28  
2024**

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

M—TH: 9 am-12 pm & 1-3 pm  
Friday—Closed

#### MASS SCHEDULE

##### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4 pm  
Sunday: 8 am and 11 am

##### Weekday Masses

Tuesday: 9:00 am  
Thursday: 9:00 am  
Friday: 9:00 am  
Saturday: 9:00 am  
Saturday 3:00 pm - Confession

#### ~ PARISH STAFF ~

##### Pastor

Fr. Richard Allen

##### Deacon

Dcn. Frank Hannah

##### Director of Faith Formation

Mr. Joseph Ranelli

##### Director of Adult Education

Ms. Kathy Higgins

##### Liturgy/Music Coordinator

Mrs. Gretchen Wagner

##### Parish Secretary

Mrs. Carrie Hannah

##### Religious Education Secretary

Mrs. Mary Lou Hornyak

##### Business Manager

Mrs. Ann Miller

St. Rose / St. Mary Cemetery  
<https://www.strosemariyscemeteries.com/>

##### Contact information:

St. Joseph Parish  
79 Case Ave.  
Sharon, PA 16146  
724-346-3711



VIDEO MASS 4/28	+Billy & Ken White [Family]
MON 4/29	NO MASS
TUES 4/30 9AM	+Robert Michael Stawaisz [Stawaisz Family]
WED 5/1	NO MASS
THU 5/2 9AM	+Jean Mackey [Family]
FRI 5/3 9AM	+Ann Durisko [Skip & Becky Feigert]
SAT 5/4 9AM	+Andy Dorchock [Kaczmarczyk Family]
SAT 5/4 * 3-3:30PM	* Confessions
SAT 5/4 4PM	+Grace Nichols [Ed Robich]
SUN 5/5 8AM	+Margaret Kolbrich [Joann Convery]
SUN 5/5 11AM	+Jerry Elliott [Mike & Kathy Ballish]
1PM	First Eucharist Mass



Next Sunday's "Pantry Shower" Item is **PAPER TOWELS**. The upcoming item will be canned fruit.

Thank you for your care and concern for God's needy.



*Altar flowers this weekend are in Memory and Honor for all Family and Friends listed for a luminary candle at Christmas, which we were unable to do.*

## BORN INTO ETERNAL LIFE



Please keep the families of  
**Dorothy Jean Rummel**  
**Edward Stephenson**  
in your prayers.



"Into your hands Oh Lord we commend our brothers and sisters"

*Anna Krankowski*  
*God's Blessings on your*  
*100th birthday!*



<b>SAT 5/4 4PM</b> <b>LECTOR</b> M. Mondak	<b>EUCH. MIN.</b> A. Costar / C. Esmond B. Palisin / D. Palisin P. Stawaisz / P. Thornburg	<b>ALTAR SVR</b> A. Bowser
<b>SUN 5/5 8AM</b> <b>LECTOR</b> C. St. John	<b>EUCH. MIN.</b> T. Brandenstein / A. Joseph B. Rossi / P. Slezak J. Trenga / R. Vetica	<b>ALTAR SVR</b> B. Hunter B. Hunter
<b>SUN 5/5 11AM</b> <b>LECTOR</b> B. Moder	<b>EUCH. MIN.</b> K. Davenport / R. Fleis B. McVey <b>3 - Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>ALTAR SVR</b> C. Logue L. Perry
<b>ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>		
<b>THU 5/9 7PM</b> <b>LECTOR</b> K. Higgins	<b>EUCH. MIN.</b>	<b>ALTAR SVR</b>

**\*ATTN VOLUNTEERS!** Please sign-in prior to Mass

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW MASS SCHEDULE:

**DAILY :**  
MON, WED, FRI 7:30 AM  
TUES 6:00 PM / \*6:30 PM Confessions

**WEEKEND:**  
SAT 5:30 PM SUN 9:30 AM

## THE GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTION

Last weekend, our parish took a special collection to support our retired diocesan priest fund. We appreciate your generous response to share in the care of those faithful priests who have ministered to your spiritual needs. Your priests truly appreciate your support and thank you for contributing.

If you would like to add your support to this collection, you may still return the special collection envelope for Good Shepherd in upcoming collections or mail to the Parish Office.

## CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL

- **CSA checks must be made payable to Notre Dame Church only. "CSA or Catholic Service Appeal" can not be on the pay to line.**
- **Please do not use other offertory envelopes for CSA.**
- **When submitting a CSA payment without a notice, please indicate in the memo section of your check "CSA" to ensure credit is posted properly.**

## ADORATION

Tuesday 9:30 AM—11:00 PM Wednesday 9:00 AM—11:00 PM  
Join us for an hour of Prayer, Wednesdays during Adoration at 7pm

For more information call:  
Jo Feeney 724-699-3340 / Monica 724-977-7665



# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of April 28, 2024

### 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/  
Jn 14:21-26

### Tuesday:

Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/  
Jn 14:27-31a

### Wednesday:

Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/  
Jn 15:1-8

### Thursday:

Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/  
Jn 15:9-11

### Friday:

1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

### Saturday:

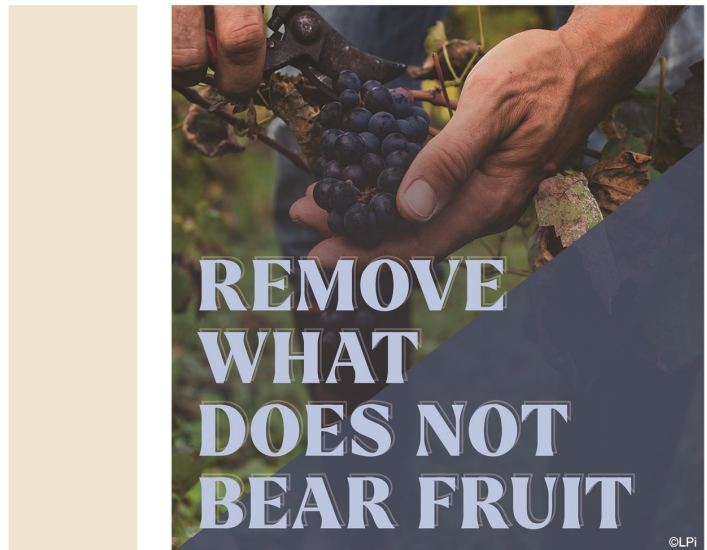
Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

### Next Sunday:

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3,  
3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, “Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you.”

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week’s Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, **“He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit”** (John 15:2) I don’t mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I’d wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God’s love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn’t it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it’s not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ’s body. Jesus’ rising is the brand-new growth. It is God’s promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— *Father John Muir*

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him. (Acts 9:27)

### Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. (Ps 22)  
Or: Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

And his commandment is this:  
we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. (1 Jn 3:23)

### Gospel:

"I am the vine, you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)

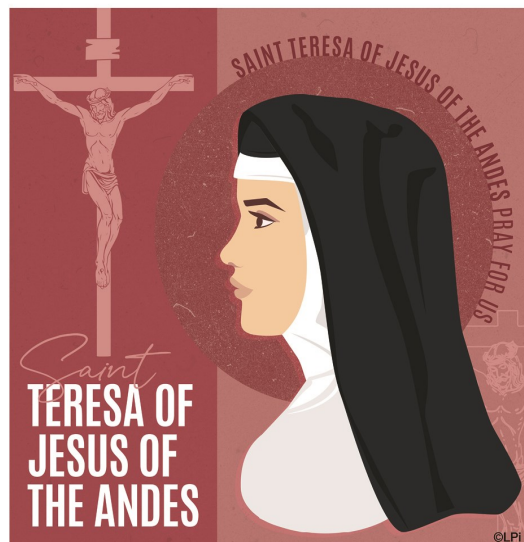
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Every Christian is a vine awaiting the loving attention of our gardener to prune and perfect us, to remove the parts of ourselves that are dead so that the fruitful parts burst forth with life. Trust the wisdom of the gardener. He alone can make us bloom.

## Observances for the week of April 28, 2024

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter  
**Monday:** St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
**Tuesday:** St. Pius V, Pope  
**Wednesday:** St. Joseph the Worker  
**Thursday:** St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; National Day of Prayer  
**Friday:** Sts. Philip and James, Apostles  
**Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter



## Saint of the week

St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes was a teenage Chilean Carmelite novitiate. Although she died of typhoid when she was 19, she proved that one's life doesn't have to be particularly long and filled with lofty accomplishments to be an amazing example of the love of Christ.

## Prayer of Fruitfulness

God in Heaven,  
Your grace surrounds us every day as we seek to live and move and grow in You. Prune the spaces in our lives that distract us from You! Plant Your word more deeply within us!  
Amen.

## 2023 - 2024 Religious Ed FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR

\*Mass schedule: Saturday 4:00PM / Sunday 8:00 & 11:00AM  
 \*Grades: **PreK-10<sup>th</sup>** / Sunday Mornings **9:15-10:45AM**  
 \*Grades: **11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>** / First Sunday of every month / **9:15-10:45AM**  
 Facilitator: Deacon Frank Hannah  
 \*Director: Joe Ranelli / Secretary: Mary Lou Hornyak  
 Email: [ReligiousEd@notredame-pa.org](mailto:ReligiousEd@notredame-pa.org) / Phone: 724-981-5566

**April**  
28 Last Class

**May**  
2 First Eucharist Rehearsal / 6PM / Church

## CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

### Child Abuse Prevention Month:

Recent statistics tell us one out of every ten children will be abused before they turn 18. 91% of sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone the child or the child's family knows. This means that on every Sunday in our congregation there are people who have been abused and may continue to experience the pain of that abuse. Reaching out to those who have suffered from abuse is critical in bringing hope and the love of Christ to them.

Assistance is available for victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse by contacting the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Gerard Tobin at 814-451-1521.



### BLUE ARMY OF MERCER COUNTY

The Blue Army of Mercer County invites everyone to gather on Monday, May 13, 2024 for the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. Our gathering will take place at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Farrell, PA. We will begin around noon with prayerful events including the Crowning of Our Holy Mother of God, Rosary Prayer, and community intentions. The Our Lady of Fatima traveling Pilgrim Statue will be presented with First Class Relics.

A special thanks given in advance to the Knights of Columbus, Knights of the Blue Army, and the Blue Army members praying with us.

Through the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary ~ God Bless You,  
 Tina Scoccia, President  
 World Apostolate of Fatima ~ Blue Army Mercer County, PA  
 724-877-0987

## NOTRE DAME EVENTS CALENDAR

**May**  
4 Women's Tea & Flower Arranging / All ages welcome / 2PM

**June**  
15 Men's Night / Hot dogs & Beer

**August**  
24 & 25 Rita's Italian Ice / following 4PM & 11AM Mass  
 Coffee & Donuts / following 8AM Mass

**September**  
8 **SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Parish 50th Anniversary Celebration**

**October**  
19 Wine & Cheese following 4PM Mass

**November**  
23 Family Advent Wreath Activity

**December**  
7 Women's Advent Breakfast

## Update: Joshua Babcanec Kidney Transplant

April 13<sup>th</sup> marked one year post kidney transplant for Joshua. Although the year was filled with many hurdles for Josh to overcome, we are most thankful for the gift of life.

In the last couple of months, Joshua has had 2 very difficult open biopsies, which has revealed rejection in the kidney, so Josh has received high doses of steroid infusions in hopes to reverse the rejection. Even with these challenges, Joshua is thankful that he can continue to do the things he enjoys.

This Easter we had much to be thankful for as we gathered around the dinner table to give thanks to our Lord for all that He has sacrificed for all of us. Charlie, Joshua's friend who donated a kidney for our Josh, joined us this Easter. It was so fitting to be able to share that day with the person who also sacrificed so much for our family. We are forever grateful.

Thank you to everyone for your encouraging words of love and concern for our Josh. Thank you for your continued prayers as he continues to heal. Thank you to all who have said yes or have considered being an organ donor, as April is Organ Donation Month.

God Bless you all. We hope you have a blessed Easter; He has risen indeed!

The Babcanec Family

## PRAYER Line

Keeping those in need in our prayers. If you, a family member or a friend are in need of prayer please call the prayer line with your request.

Prayer Line,  
 Kathy Higgins #724-342-7858

