



## The Pruning Process

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

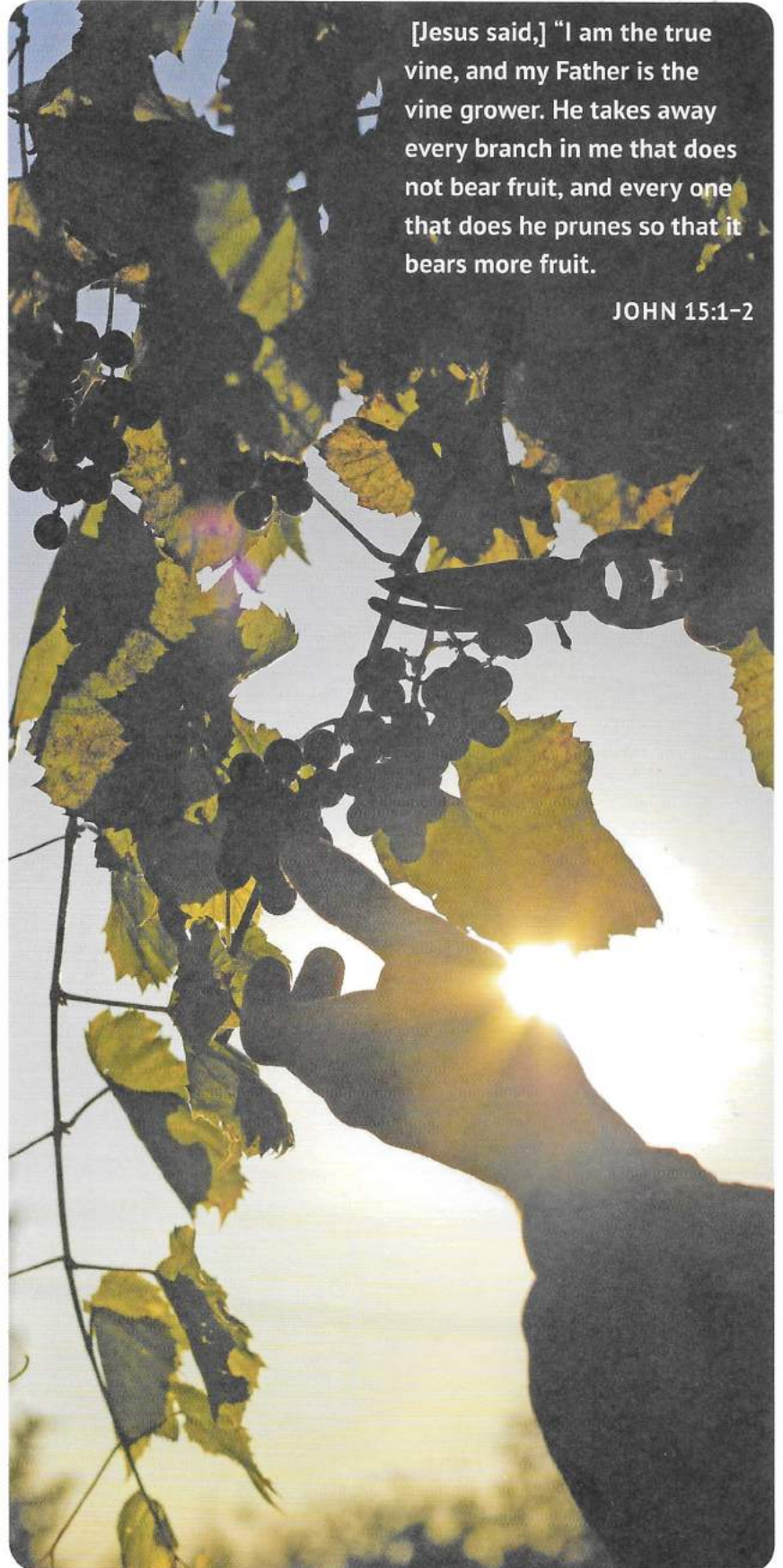
**T**he common myth is that we receive a new body every seven years as cells die and are replaced. However, stomach cells are renewed every two days or so because of acids and enzymes. Skin cells are replaced every two to three weeks. Bone cells last about ten years, and our brain cells stay with us for our entire lives. In a sense, then, we might say that our bodies are pruned, part of us remaining long-term to nurture and sustain like the trunk of a tree, and part of us severed so that life may be renewed and continue on.

If so with our bodies, are not our spirits also pruned? There is a core part of who we are that wends its way throughout our lives. Yet that “who” has rough edges in need of being smoothed; barbs need to be dulled; and certain inclinations simply need to be severed. Spouses tend to prune one another, the grace of a loving marriage. Children sometimes keep parents honest. Life events may grind down our independence and self-sufficiency. Illnesses, aging, job loss, the death of loved ones—all forcing us to recognize that we are not in control of life. We are thus pruned, forced to surrender much of what we once thought we could control.

Where is God in all of this? If God is woven into the warp and woof of all life, then all the events and rhythms of life can draw us closer to God, pruning us into goodness and fruitfulness. ●

### Reflect

***How have you been pruned and has this pruning led to new growth, new life?***



[Jesus said,] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.

JOHN 15:1–2

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

APRIL 27 & 28, 2024

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

### Saturday, April 27- 6:00 PM

✠ Larry Butler by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

### Sunday, April 28- 9:00 AM

✠ Theresa Soulis by Vicki Lijoi

### Tuesday, April 30- Noon

✠ Pro Popula

### Wednesday, May 1- 9:00 AM

✠ Dolores Pritchett by St. Anne's Altar Society

### Saturday, May 4- 6:00 PM

✠ Larry Butler by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

### Sunday, May 5- 9:00 AM

✠ David Bellini by Vittoria Lijoi



**Office Hours:** 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

**Food Pantry Hours:**

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3: First Friday Mass 6 pm

May 4-5: Jerusalem Carvings

May 5: First Communion Mass 9 am with reception after

May 6-9: Fr. Out of Town ~No Mass

May 10-12: Seminarian Tupta Visits

May 12: Mother's Day

May 13: Beckley Vicariate Meeting 11am

May 12: Daniel Maul Presentation in Princeton 4-5 pm

May 13: Daniel Maul Presentation in Bluefield 6-7 pm

May 14: Primary Elections in Lounge

May 14: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11am

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, Assoc. V.E., V.F.  
sdevasya@dwc.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.  
julia@sacredheartblfd.org

**YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR:** Wendi Aiello  
w.aiello@yahoo.com 304-320-2150

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Lucy Brinegar  
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

**PARISH BOOKKEEPER:** Kim Hickman  
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

**NEWMAN CENTER:** Paul Krause  
pkrause@dwc.org 216-402-1450

*To our non-Catholic friends, we extend a warm invitation to for you to come forward and receive a Blessing when our Catholic brothers and sisters come forward to receive Holy Communion. Please come up to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister with your hands folded across your chest, so we will know that you wish to receive a Blessing. We are grateful for your presence.*



John Crist	1	Karen Kidd	16
Mike Starre	1	Joshua Husband	17
Alex Aiello	3	Vesita Lowman	21
Sherry Ciccolini	3	Barbara Lynch	21
Yvonne Suehs	3	Kathy Richards	21
Lucas Ott	5	Justin Bays	22
Brogan Hudson	10	Emily Morgan	22
Gina Rasi	10	Rodney Rust	25
Robert Station	10	Shawn Farmer	27
Deborah Johns	11	Matthew French	28
Clara Morgan	12	O. Perry	29
Venus Dellorso	13	Delores Shumate	29
Julia Harrison	14	Megan Vescio	29
Carl Mariotti	15	Johnny Rasi	30

HAPPY  
*Anniversary*

*Rocky & Sandra Malamisura*

*Bill & Toni Albert*

*Ron & Katie Goodwin*

*May 4th*

*May 13th*

*May 29th*

*Johnny & Gina Rasi*

*Michael & Michele Smith*

*Michael & Mary Malamisura*

*May 6th*

*May 20th*

*May 31st*



## JERUSALEM CARVINGS

**MAY 4 & 5**

On May 4 & 5 the group from the Holy Land will display beautiful olive wood carvings, from Bethlehem in the Holy Land. The Christians of the Holy Land have been suffering



and continue living in hard economical situations. Many of them have fled the Holy Land which in turn has decreased their population from 37% to 5%. Our mission is to help support these families by selling their religious carvings, which is a major source to their income to help them work and live in dignity in the Holy Land. Your support through purchasing these items will result in 200 families being helped, also it will support peace in the middle east.

Olivewood carvings area part of a tradition handed down from generations. Please stop at their table and purchase a nice gift from the little town in Bethlehem.

## FAITH FORMATION

### *Faith Formation Spring of 2024*

*“Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.” Matthew 11:28*

**The schedule through May 2024:**

April 28 ~ Last Sunday of Faith Formation

May 5 ~ First Communion Sunday



### **A Big Thank You to our Catechists this year:**

Grade 1 ~ Jennifer Farmer and Laura Rogers

Grades 2, 3, 4 ~ Courtney West

Grades 5, 6 ~ Babette Pascasio and Donella Crigger

Grades 7-9 ~ Carey Ott

Grade 10 Confirmation ~ Ashley Rebuck and Sherry Ciccolini

First Communion Class ~ Courtney West

Youth Ministry ~ Wendi Aiello, Kim Matzel-Brown, and Katie Kidd

Altar Server Training ~ Mary Malamisura

RCIA ~ Julia Harrison and Barbara Musolin



*Please pray for our First Communicants  
as they prepare to partake of the  
body and blood of our Lord Jesus.*

*~ Brayden Farmer and Jillian West~*

*There will be a reception after the First Communion Mass  
on May 5 in the parish lounge.*

*All are welcome!*

## RCIA



# RCIA

*Next RCIA meeting is Wednesday,  
May 1st at 5pm in the school*

## YOUTH MINISTRY



### CRUSADERS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

May 19th - Youth Sunday

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



## Annual Seminarian Support Raffle

Tickets available from any Knights of Columbus member

Donation \$5.00

1st Place - \$1,000 ~ 2nd Place - \$500 ~ 3rd Place - 3 \$100 Winners

# HANDBELL CHOIR

*Many thanks to our Hand Bell Choir  
for the beautiful performances this weekend at both Masses!  
The bells will start ringing again after a summer break.  
Please consider joining the group when they restart in the fall.*



# FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE



Calling All Graduates! We need to know the names of any graduates for this coming May. They will be honored at Sunday Mass on May 19th. We don't want to miss anyone! Please call the parish office or email Julia with the name of your 2024 graduate.

### Graham High School:

Jaiden Borich - will be attending Bluefield State University to pursue a Degree in Engineering.

Blake Zinsmeister - will be attending Southwest Community College to pursue a degree in Mechatronics Technology.

### College:

Grace Aiello - graduated Cum Laude in December of 2023 with a BSN, RN or Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing and is a Registered Nurse at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV

## OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

With Deepest Sympathy we announce that Marie Featherstone passed away on April 19, 2024

We send our sincerest condolences to Marie's children, George, Theresa, Patricia, and Mary Lou on the loss of their Mother.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday April 27th at 2 pm at Cathedral of Christ the King in Atlanta, GA.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to the Women's Auxiliary to the American Institute of Mining Engineers, West Virginia Southern Chapter, c/o Susan Harwood 1020 W. Spiller St. Wytheville, VA 24382

## Parishioner News

Richard Canterbury has been moved to a new nursing home. If you would like to visit him or send him cards, his new address is as follows:

Richard Canterbury  
Carrington Place  
290 Commons Parkway  
Daleville, VA 24083



**Spring Reflections**  
**Facilitated by Daniel Maul**  
**Director of Evangelization & Catechesis**  
**For the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston**  
**Monday, May 13 in the Church**  
**6:00pm – 7:00pm**



Join us to deepen our spiritual lives with the topic:  
**The Truth of Jesus Christ through Scripture**  
**that Prepares Us to Share the Gospel with Others**  
**Everyone welcome!**



# Welcome

Seminarian Joe Derico



Joseph Derico is in his third year of formation at St. John Paul II seminary in Washington, DC. He is from St. Patrick Parish in Weston, and grew up there with his parents, Tim and Kim and one younger brother, Tom. He joined seminary because he felt that the Lord was asking him to give his life over in a radical way. Furthermore, Joe felt that he was deprived of a lot of basic catechesis when he was younger, and through learning more and more about the faith, his desire became to give his life to the Church as a priest. Last year, Joe was assigned to a Spanish immersion program in Guatemala. Academically, Joe is particularly interested in the sacred liturgy, sacred music, studies on marriage and the family, and studies on the virtues. In his free time, he loves cooking, baking, hunting, fishing, and reading.

## Camp Carlo

Eucharist



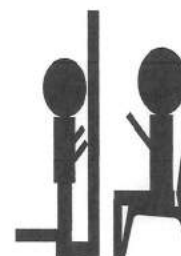
Tent Camping



Hiking



Confession



Diocese Youth Event

Interested in a Catholic Summer Camp?

Grow in your faith while having fun outdoors with LOTS of FUN ACTIVITIES!

Register today at [campcarlowv.org](http://campcarlowv.org)

June 30th-July 6th

July 7th -July 13th

July 14th - July 20th

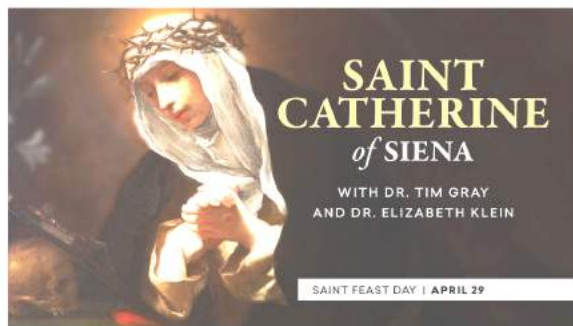
July 21st - July 27th

## Sacred Heart History Book

A NEW BOOK ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IS BEING WRITTEN.

What are your favorite memories of our parish or school? Please share them!

If you have photos (label date and people) or memories you would like to share, please email them to [tbales54@gmail.com](mailto:tbales54@gmail.com) or give them to Theresa Bales at church.



**FORMED**

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

### Who is St. Catherine of Siena?

In light of St. Catherine of Siena's feast day, join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Elizabeth Klein, as they celebrate this holy woman: a nurse and mystic with papal influence who became a doctor of the Church.

**April 2024 Ministry Schedule**

Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
Sat. 4/27 6:00 pm	T. Lowery	T. Lowery	P. Buenafe	A. Peretti	1.D. Garton 2.V. Hager 3.T. Hager	J. Monaco	Wendi Aiello  George Aiello
				C. Saunders			
Sun. 4/28 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	R. Aiello	A. Rebuck	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello 3.J. Stacy	R. Albert	
			A. Zinsmeister	M. Rebuck			

**May Ministry Schedule**

Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters <b>(Sundays)</b>
Sat. 5/4 6:00 pm	P. Peretti	D. Garton	A. Peretti	M. Zalduondo	1.P. Peretti 2.D. Garton 3.F. Moran	The Pascasio's	Randy Albert
			E. Peretti				
Sun. 5/5 9:00 am	The Winfree's	A. Torrez	TBA	TBA	1.TBA 2.TBA 3.TBA	B. Buzzo	Cindy Albert
				TBA			
Sat. 5/11 6:00 pm	T. Lowery	T. Lowery	P. Buenafe	V. Hager	1.L. Mariotti 2.T. Behrmann 3.T. Hager	J. Monaco	David Duritza
Sun. 5/12 6:00 pm	M. Malamisura	M. Malamisura	H. Wills	R. Albert	1.T. Lampert 2.K. Kidd 3.M. Malamisura	R. Malamisura	Rocky Malamisura
			K. Wills	A. Torrez			
Sat. 5/18 6:00 pm	J. McCloud	M. Zalduondo	D. Kelley	D. Garton	1.J. McCloud 2.P. Peretti 3.C. Saunders	The Pascasio's	Delores Shumate
Sun. 5/19 9:00 am Youth Sunday	The Winfree's	Youth TBA	Youth	Youth	1.S. Copolo 2.C. Stacy 3.A. Robinson	Youth TBA	Marilyn McCoy
			TBA	TBA			
Sat. 5/25 6:00 pm	P. Buenafe	P. Buenafe	P. Buenafe	C. Saunders	1.T. Hager 2. V. Hager 3.A. Peretti	J. Monaco	Wendi Aiello  George Aiello
Sun. 5/26 9:00 am	T. Lampert	B. Musolin	R. Aiello	C. Ott	1.T. Lampert 2.W. Aiello 3.G. Aiello	R. Albert	
			A. Zinsmeister	R. Ciccolini			



**Attention Parishioners**

We have refreshed our prayer list, if there is anyone you would like to add to our new list, please call the parish office at 304-327-5623 or you may email Lucy at lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

*Sacred Heart Prayer List*

**Parishioners:** George Bowling, Mary Bruch, Ron Ciccolini, Donella Crigger, Benny Disibbio, Angie Genovesi, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Sharon Rothausen

**Homebound Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, Alex Ercoline, Joanne Ercoline, Lou Ercoline, Mary Claire Keenan, Sue Mazol, Joan Monaco, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Puckett, Kathy Richards, Rosalie Rochetti, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

**Friends & Family:** Teddy Bradshaw, Chuck Comer, The Family of Lisa Dalton, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Jason Fortney, Steve Hamm, Yael Issacs, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Stan Lawson, Bob Mahood, Chase Miller, Laura Lee Null, Leanna Smith, Larry Sarever, Joyce Shamro, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Steve Vaught

*Catholic Sharing Appeal*

We have raised \$21,065 which is 86% of our goal of \$24,620.

Please continue to donate if you can. You can mail in your donations to:

Catholic Sharing Appeal  
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston  
P.O. Box 230  
Wheeling, WV 26003



	weekend Apr 20-21	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	3,582.00	86,983.10	72,000.00
Maintenance	200.00	1,473.00	1,600.00
Loose Offertory	543.00	7,761.00	7,500.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 4,325.00</b>	<b>\$ 96,217.10</b>	<b>\$ 81,100.00</b>
Food Pantry	475.00	10,349.00	0.00
Dioc: Disaster Relief	844.80	844.80	0.00
Dioc: Priest Retirement Fund	10.00	1,680.00	1,500.00
<b>attendance:</b>	<b>6pm: 51</b>	<b>9am: 81</b>	

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:**

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

**In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying:** {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

**In case of illness:** Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

**Nursing homes & Hospitals:** are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

# Dear Padre,

**Several months ago my son died in a tragic car accident. Life, work, family, and even religion seem so meaningless now. How can I find my way back?**

You have suffered a great loss. When you are able, you can choose to live in a way that will respect both your son's memory and your own ongoing life. Here are a few gentle steps that might help.

- Expect to feel numb at first. This is nature's way of helping you deal with your loss. Keep following the normal patterns of your life and, eventually, meaning will return.
- Allow your friends to help. "Sorrows shared are sorrows lessened."
- If you are sad, let the tears come! Even Jesus cried at the death of his friend Lazarus (John 11:32-35).
- If you are angry, look for a healthy release. Focus the energy of your anger into productive work, even if it's just doing dishes or yard work.
- Use your experience to help others. While helping others, the Lord often reveals to us the meaning of our own losses.
- Don't be afraid to seek professional help. A therapist has the expertise to help you talk about your loss and cope with your grief.
- Pray for yourself, for your son, for all whose lives he touched, for all those who are grieving.
- After you have done everything you can, leave your loss in God's hands. The Lord will do for you what you cannot do for yourself. ●



## The Redeptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 29 <i>St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i> Acts 14:5-18 Jn 14:21-26	April 30 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 14:19-28 Jn 14:27-31a	May 1 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 15:1-6 Jn 15:1-8	May 2 <i>St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Acts 15:7-21 Jn 15:9-11	May 3 <i>Sts. Philip and James, Apostles</i> 1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14	May 4 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 16:1-10 Jn 15:18-21	May 5 <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**Jesus needs us, like the vine with the branches. Perhaps to say this may seem bold to us, and so let us ask ourselves: in what sense does Jesus need us? He needs our witness. The fruit that as branches we must bear, is the witness of our lives as Christians.**

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 2, 2021