

**Parish Priest:** Fr Bartolomeu Blaj

**Deacon:** Rev Alan Mair

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**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

A registered charity

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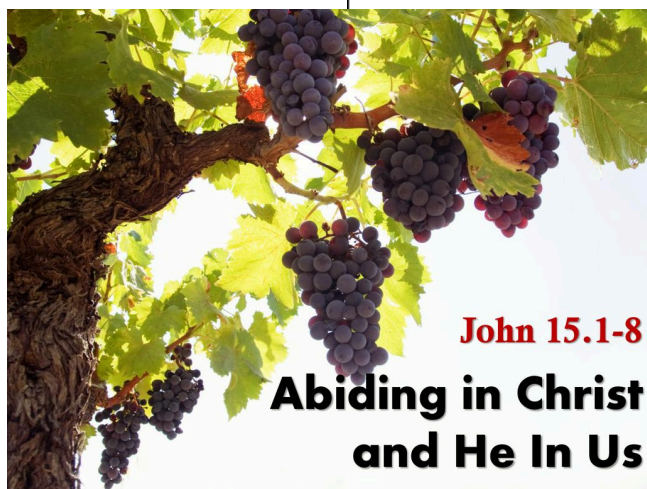
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## 5th Sunday of Easter – Year B

Please use the QR code for your weekly offertory. It is a safe and easy method to donate. Do Gift Aid if you are a Tax payer.



**John 15.1-8**

**Abiding in Christ  
and He In Us**

The Gospel passage for the 5th Sunday of Easter, part of Jesus's farewell discourse to his disciples during the Last Supper, aims to console and strengthen them for the challenges ahead. Jesus urges his disciples not to be troubled but to trust in God. Through the imagery of a vine and its branches, Jesus illustrates the intimate union between himself and his followers, with God the Father as the vinedresser. This metaphor of the vineyard was familiar in the Old Testament, where Israel was often depicted as God's vineyard. Now, Jesus declares that he and his disciples will form the new chosen people.

<https://slideplayer.com/slide/14714406/>

Central to this passage is the necessity of abiding in Jesus. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit unless it remains connected to the vine, Jesus emphasises that his disciples must remain in him to bear fruit. Those who fail to abide

in him will not be able to sustain life or produce fruit and will be cut off. However, the disciples have been prepared for fruitful discipleship through pruning by the Word of God. Discipleship, therefore, is not an individual endeavour but relies on the mutual relationship between Jesus as the vine and the disciples as the branches.

The goal of discipleship is not merely maintaining a relationship with Jesus but bearing fruit as a result of that relationship. Jesus emphasises the importance of mutual abiding between himself and his disciples, stating that those who abide in him and his words will bear fruit. This mutual abiding allows disciples to pray effectively, with the assurance that God will hear and answer their prayers, benefiting both themselves and others.

Those who fail to abide in Jesus sever themselves from the source of life and are likened to withering branches. Merely being a Christian and fulfilling religious obligations is not sufficient; true discipleship involves obeying Jesus's command to love one's neighbour and to be witness of God. Jesus warns that those who persist in sinful attitudes and neglect their duties as followers will be cut off from the life-giving vine and rendered useless. Conversely, those who remain intimately united with Jesus will have their prayers answered by the Father.

### **May, month of Mary, month of the Holy Rosary**

***“For all those who have no peace, let us invoke Mary, the woman who brought into the world the Prince of Peace.” Pope Francis***

As we start the month of May, The Catholic Church emphasises the importance of praying the Holy Rosary daily. I would like volunteers in our church during May to lead the Holy Rosary before Sunday

Holy Mass. Pope Francis made an invitation after leading the midday Regina Caeli on May 1, 2022. He asked the faithful to pray the Rosary for peace every day in May. But he followed the invitation with a searching question: If peace is truly being sought; whether there is the will to avoid a continued military and verbal escalation; whether everything possible is being done to silence the weapons. (<https://aleteia.org/2022/05/01/pope-asks-us-to-pray-rosary-every-day-in-may-for-peace/>)

**CAFOD INVITATION:** We pray especially for the people of Sudan as they face conflict and hunger at this time. Join us in praying these **luminous mysteries of the rosary** as we pray that the light of Jesus may be felt by our sisters and brothers in Sudan, and asking Mary to be beside us as we act in solidarity with those fleeing violence and facing famine. (<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/pray-the-rosary/prayers-for-the-month-of-may>)

## *Fr Barto*

**Baptism of infants & RCIA** Please contact the Office or speak to Fr Barto and Rev Alan. For Baptism it is essential that you make contact with us as soon as possible to ensure that Diocesan requirements are fulfilled and a suitable date can be placed in the diary.

**Confession** is after weekday morning Mass (Wednesday to Saturday) and on Saturday evening before the 6.30pm Vigil Mass. Confessions can be heard in English, Italian, Spanish and Romanian.

**Marriages** We welcome the marriage of parishioners and those who regularly worship here. Please notify Fr Barto or Rev Alan **at least six months in advance** to allow adequate time for preparation.

Can we persuade you to **set up a standing order** if you don't have one? Bank details at the front of the newsletter. If you are a taxpayer, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration Form found in the porch and send it back to the church. You can donate **online** through the Diocesan donation page following this link: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=south-woodford>

**Weekday Morning Prayer** Easter Octave: Psalter Week 1  
**Lectionary** Sundays Year B: Easter Week 5

### **CHANGE IN MASS SCHEDULE**

Fr Barto will be attending a conference for all Diocesan priests. Mass on Tuesday 30 April will be at 9.30am and on Thursday 2 May at 7pm. There will be NO morning Mass here on Wednesday 1 May.

Morning Mass will be celebrated at 10am at St Thomas of Canterbury, Woodford on those days.

### **DATES FOR BAPTISM COURSE**

The baptism course of 3 sessions starts on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April and thereafter 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the presbytery. Please speak to Fr Barto or Rev Alan if you have any questions.

### **MAY- MONTH of THE ROSARY**

Fr Barto would like parishioners to lead the rosary at the weekend Masses in May. Do speak to Fr if you can help. Please pray the rosary at home with your family.

### **FIRST FRIDAY NOVENA**

This will continue on **Friday 3 May** in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

### **LISTEN TO GOD**

In the parish hall after Friday morning mass we will be praying Lectio Divina. This ancient practice, encouraged after Vatican II, is a form of prayer using scripture. We are praying with the Gospel of Mark. See our website for details or just come along to find out more. <https://saintanneline.com/parish-news/lectio-divina/>

### **PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS**

**Coffee morning** Sunday 5 May after the 9.30am and 11am Masses in the hall.

**Our Common Home** Cheese & Wine evening Sunday 12 May 5-6.15pm in the hall.

**Afternoon Club** Next meeting will be on 8 May at 2pm in The George Pub, South Woodford.

**Murder Mystery at the Casino**, Saturday 22 June from 7.30pm. Tickets £12 must be bought in advance to be allocated a character. Contact Tina on 07941 227 743.

**Summer BBQ** on Saturday 13 July. Volunteers and donations of bottles **urgently** needed. Contact Tina on 07941 227 743.

### **CHILDREN's LITURGY**

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to help with Children's liturgy for primary school children during the Sunday morning Masses. Please contact Tina Marrai on 07941 237 743 for more information.

### **ACUPUNCTURE**

Veronica will be in the hall this Sunday, 28 April after the morning Masses. Donation is £10 for the Church.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Shelagh Dewhurst** who died on Monday 1 April. Her funeral will be held here on Wednesday 8 May at 11.30am. Please also keep Bob and the family in your prayers.

### **HOW BEAUTY DRAWS US CLOSER TO GOD**

St Patrick's Soho May 17, 2024 7-9pm. Delivered by Fr Patrick van der Vorst, a recently ordained priest of the Archdiocese of Westminster. He was a Director of Sotheby's Europe, founded ValueMyStuff.com, and launched the evangelistic project www.Christian.Art, Fr Patrick is very much at home speaking on How Beauty Draws us Closer to God. The lecture will be followed by a Q&A and refreshments will be available throughout the evening. Tickets at £10 from <https://ransom.churchsuite.com/events/5wzahnvlo>

### **A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER**

With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary

candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see [//cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information, including online sessions on Saturday 4th May to learn more.

### **A DAY WITH MARY 2024 PILGRIMAGES**

Further information on 2024 Pilgrimages to Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12 September) is available at [www adaywithmary.org](http://www adaywithmary.org) or email [adwmary.uk@gmail.com](mailto:adwmary.uk@gmail.com)

### **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE 2024**

Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Friday 19 – Friday 26 July). To book, please go online: Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours ([tangney-tours.com](http://tangney-tours.com)) If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young: [Lourdes@brcdt.org](mailto:Lourdes@brcdt.org)

### **MASS OF THANKSGIVING for MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE**

On Sat 13 July, 3pm in Brentwood Cathedral, followed by a reception in the hall. We have invitations for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries, recently married couples, or couples preparing for marriage. Please speak to Fr Barto if you would like an invitation.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

If you would like a Mass celebrated, please use the small brown Mass Offering envelope in the porch and hand it to Fr once you have completed the details.

### **WEEKLY MASS ATTENDANCE FORMS**

Are available in the porch as you enter for the Sacraments, (FHC & Confirmation) and for nursery, primary & secondary Catholic Schools. **Attendance at weekly Sunday Mass and Holy days of obligation by your**

**child is required** unless they are ill or isolating. Complete one per child and drop the completed form into the box provided **as you leave Church.**

### **DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS**

(To be left on the table by the organ loft)

- Jumpers, tee-shirts, fleeces, underwear jackets - all sizes
- Joggers, jeans, socks all sizes
- Toiletries (shower gel, deodorant, razor)
- Bleach, anti-bacterial hand wash, laundry detergent (liquid)

• **NO FORMAL CLOTHES OR FORMAL SHOES AND NO CHILDREN'S CLOTHES NEEDED**

### **Mass Intentions 27<sup>th</sup> April – 5<sup>th</sup> May**

Mass on **Monday and Wednesday** is celebrated privately. Exposition of the Blessed Holy Eucharist is at 9am from Friday to Saturday. Rosary will be prayed after morning Mass from Friday to Saturday.

**Saturday** 9.30am Fr Michael Daley RIP  
6.30pm Gabriel Palacio & Aura Vasco RIP  
*Sunday Vigil Mass*

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>** 9.30am Myles O'Malley (anniv)  
11am People of the Parish  
12.30pm Holy Mass in Romanian

**Monday** Holy Souls

**Tuesday** **9.30am** Ruby Soosay RIP

**Wednesday** Holy Souls

**Thursday** **7pm** Atal/Singh family Ints

**Friday** 9.30am Sr Patricia Ints

**Saturday** 9.30am Baby John Keating (anniv)  
6.30pm Fr John McCollough R

*Sunday Vigil Mass*

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** 9.30am Si-Ling Pang RIP  
11am People of the Parish  
12.30pm Holy Mass in Romanian

**Intention for the week** - "Yesterday was the 56th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act coming into effect. As we hope and pray for an end to abortion, we pray especially for our Government. That their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they

would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us".

### **Please pray for those who are sick.**

#### **Anniversaries 29<sup>th</sup> April- 5<sup>th</sup> May**

Fr Brian O'Higgins, Nora Carney, Elisabeth Blanchfield, Mr & Mrs Power, D Hawkins, Dr Kyndt, Peter Hurley, John Kavanagh, Fr John Kennedy, Eric Harding, Canon Thomas Norris, Fr A Robertson AA, Fr Fergus Saurin, Paul Crick, Canon Patrick Palmer, Canon Basil Booker, Isabella Burton, Mary Brahma, Edward Thomas Craft, Kathleen Magauran, Fr John O'Callaghan

**Last weekend** Mass attendance was 235.

#### **Stay In Touch**

Follow us on Facebook - [facebook.com/SaintAnneLine](https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnneLine) and also at [facebook.com/SALSocialCommitee](https://www.facebook.com/SALSocialCommitee). Follow us On Twitter/X - @Stannelinesw

#### **Safeguarding Coordinator**

Mary Lamb 020 8491 0970

[mary-annelamb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mary-annelamb@hotmail.co.uk)

#### **Parish Gift Aid Co-ordinator**

Anthony Collins 020 8989 9547

[anthony.collins53@ntlworld.com](mailto:anthony.collins53@ntlworld.com)

#### **NEW PARISHIONERS**

Welcome!! Please introduce yourself to Fr Barto and Rev Alan. Also complete a registration and GDPR form found in the porch and return to the Parish Office once completed.

#### **SVP SUPPORT**

If you, or anyone you know in our community, could benefit from support from the SVP please contact the Parish Office (in strict confidence)

#### **PARISH OFFICE (IN THE PRESBYTERY)**

The Parish secretary is in the office on Monday afternoons, Wednesday mornings & afternoons and Friday mornings.