

DAILY REFLECTIONS

MONDAY: [JOHN 14:25-26](#)

Reflect, today, upon this powerful promise that our Lord gave to His disciples and to us. Pray to the Holy Spirit. Open yourself to the Spirit's ongoing direction in your life and never allow fear to lead to confusion. Instead, allow God to dispel all confusion and to remind you of all that He has spoken to you throughout your life.

TUESDAY: [JOHN 14:27](#)

Reflect, today, upon whether you truly have peace in your heart. Do you recognize the still, strong and sustaining presence of God within your soul? Do your daily choices produce greater integrity of heart and clarity of mind? Do you find that you have joy and calm, even in the midst of life's greatest challenges? Seek out this peace, for if you do, you will be seeking out the good God Who produces this glorious gift within your heart.

WEDNESDAY: [JOHN 15:5](#)

Reflect, today, upon the beautiful and meaningful image given to us by Jesus of the vine and the branches. Think of a vine and then think of yourself firmly attached to that vine. Sit with that image prayerfully and let God speak to you. He wants to do great things in you and through you. If you will only cling to Him with all your heart, an abundance of good fruit will be produced.

DAILY REFLECTIONS

THURSDAY: [JOHN 15:10](#)

Reflect, today, though little is known for certain about Saint Mark's life, the Gospel attributed to him is unquestionably one of the most important scripts ever written. In a nearly breathless way, Mark recounts Jesus' public ministry in concise and vivid detail. The shortest of the four Gospels is packed with information. Mark's Gospel was most likely written primarily for Roman Gentiles, rather than for Jews, which is why he often describes various Jewish customs to the reader.

FRIDAY: [JOHN 14:8-9](#)

Reflect, today, upon these loving questions of our Lord as if they were spoken to you. Let His words encourage you to get to know Him more deeply. Pray for your relationship to become more personal and transforming. And as you get to know our Lord more intimately, know that it is also the Father in Heaven Whom you are getting to know.

SATURDAY: [JOHN 15:16](#)

Reflect, today, upon God's choice to call you to share in His divine mission. How He calls is up to God, but you can be certain that He does call you and invites you to share in His mission. Be open to any way that God appoints you to bear good fruit and humbly seek to conform your will to the Father's plan as you pray in Jesus' holy name.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

4255 HIGHWAY 165
YONGES ISLAND SC 29449-6011
(843) 889-8549
EMERGENCY (843) 731-1162
EMAIL: STMARYS165@GMAIL.COM
Website: www.stmarysyongesisland.org



**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 28, 2024**

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to form Christian Communities that will glorify God by our loving and serving one another, and to extend our love, support, and compassion to the needy.

**Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Juene
Bishop of Charleston**

**Rev. Jesuprathap Narichetti
(Father JP)
Pastor**

**Email:
jnarichetti@charlestdiocese.org
(843) 731-1162**

Parish Secretary Becky Chaski

MASS SCHEDULE

**Sunday 8am & 9:30am
Wednesday 9:00am
Friday* 9:00am**

***Adoration following Mass
on the 1st Friday**

RECONCILIATION

**Sunday 7:15-8am
Wed/Fri 8:30-9am**

**Diocesan Office of Protective Services
(843) 261-0430
Diocese Victim Assistance Ministries
(843) 856-0748**

PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

WELCOME: WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS TO ST. MARY'S! WE TRUST YOU WILL FIND US A WELCOMING AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY AS YOU JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE MASS TODAY. COFFEE IS AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH CENTER AFTER MASS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS: Today's 8am mass is in **Memory of Emma Glaze**, daughter of Chris and Rebecca Glaze on behalf of Wayne and Donna Hudson.

ST. MARY'S BOOK CLUB: Our next meeting is **1 pm on Wednesday, May 1** at 4199 Hwy 165. We are reading "A Voice in the Wind" by Francine Rivers. This is the story of Hadassah, a young Jewish slave girl. Her story is told in the Book of Esther, a story of a brave woman who was always faithful to God. You are welcome to join us at any time. For more information please call (843) 729-1644.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED: Mike Miller, our music director, was counting attendance at both 8 and 9:30 am Sunday Masses. Since his retirement, we are looking for someone to count parishioners attending the 8 am Mass. Please contact Carolyn and carolyn29449@gmail.com if you are interested. There is a yellow post-it pad and pencil on the table in the back of the Church, just write down the date and number of attendees. Thank You

NO WEEKDAY MASS: There will be no weekday Masses, April 28th - May 27th, while Fr. JP is away. Please be sure to welcome Fr. Augustin Torm, from St. Peter's Church in Beaufort.

THANK YOU TO ALL who helped with First Communion, the breakfast that followed and Confirmation.



We pray for each other. In your time of prayer, please remember the following people and intentions:



Helaine Ahern, Hazel Basilio, Chester Broton, Jr., James Butski Jr., Allison Condon Chappell, Jack Cooper, Cherry Constable, Maryanne Cortez, Colleen Cremin, Sonia Dees, Teresita Y. Domingo, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Frances Enos, Victoria Flanders, Ken Fleming, Sally Gorman, J. Gould, Jamekia Grampus, Krist Groover, Emily Meyer Hall, Petrina Jacques, Mary & Rod Jaros, Eileen Killennerger, Yvonne Livingston, Gus Long, John Lucas, Susan Mance Kelly Meyer, Patti McDermott, Ann Mitchum, Jane Morley, Suzy Patterson, Nirmala Mary Narichetti, John North, Sarah Proulx, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Bill Smyer, Diane Stokes, Eloise Stroud, Sandy Unger, Larry Walker, Mary Walker, Ellie Wilson, Mary Wilson, Edward Wolf, Jose Yabut, and All Parishioners of our parish family.

MASS INTENTIONS

Father JP welcomes your mass intentions for celebrating a special occasion, on behalf of a family member or friend, or a deceased loved one. A Mass request can be submitted by the following:

- Calling our Parish office at 843-889-8549. You may leave a message with your contact information.
- Completing a Mass Intention Envelope, checking the calendar located in the back of the church for date availability and placing your envelope in the box above the calendar.
- Requesting a Mass Card be mailed directly to you, for whose All Mass Intentions are voluntary offerings, since the Holy Eucharist is the universal prayer of all the church. The typical offering is ten dollars.

Stipends for Mass Intentions may be brought or mailed to the Parish office (cash or check).

**RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS
April 21, 2024**

	AMT		AMT
Envelopes	\$2,922	CASC	\$
Loose	\$148	Holy Land	\$
Votives	\$	Maintenance & Repair	\$932
	\$	Catholic Relief	\$
Sub Total	\$3,070		\$
Grand Total	\$4,002	Sub Total	\$932

8am	36	9:30am	83	Total	119
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GOSPEL REFLECTION

Pruning a vine is an important part of helping it to grow and produce not only more fruit but the best fruit. If left unpruned, a grape vine will eventually produce less fruit and poorer quality fruit. Good pruning helps to direct the nourishment of the vine to the new buds that are most fruitful.

Jesus' teaching above uses the imagery of pruning a vine to help us understand that faith must lead to charity. First, Jesus says that He is the "true vine." He is the only source of the nourishment we need for the new life of grace. He is the only way to Heaven and salvation. Knowing our Lord and being attached to Him firmly is faith. Second, our Lord says that He takes away every branch that does not bear fruit. This indicates that faith without the good fruit of charity is dead and is like a branch on a vine that produces nothing. Third, when Jesus finds a branch that bears good fruit, he doesn't leave it alone. Instead, He prunes it with loving attention so that "it bears more fruit."

To apply these teachings to your own life, begin by looking at your faith as if it were a branch firmly attached to a vine. Do you believe all that God has spoken through His holy Word? It is useful to regularly examine your conscience in regard to your faith. Since faith is the first step in the spiritual life, it must remain firmly grounded in the Truth God has revealed. This means we must regularly study the Word of God as it is revealed through the Scriptures and the catechetical teachings of the Church, and assent to those teachings with all our mind.

Next, after affirming your faith in all that God has spoken through the Scriptures and the Church, try to examine your charity. Do you see concrete acts of love in your life that result from your faith? In other words, we can "love" many things in a purely emotional sort of way. But charity is based on faith, not on how we feel. Charity is the fruit of faith. What acts of charity can you point to in your life? What have you sensed God calling you to do in a selfless and sacrificial way? Have you done it?

Finally, when you discover the ways that charity is alive within you, know that God will focus His pruning there. Pruning can be painful. It will require sacrifice, patience in the face of trial, overcoming selfishness, and doing things you don't feel like doing. In fact, sometimes God even makes charitable acts seem unpleasant as a way of pruning your motivations and making them more pure, based more on faith than on emotion. But this is good.

Reflect, today, upon this holy imagery from Jesus. It's a lesson from nature that reveals the supernatural life of grace at work. Don't be deterred by the pruning God wants to do. Embrace suffering with love, respond to injustice with forgiveness, offer mercy when you don't feel like it, and seek to serve selflessly those who seem undeserving. Doing so will prune you so that God will be able to build up His Kingdom in glorious ways through you.