



02 MAY 2021
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

INTRODUCTION:

The “I Am” sayings of Jesus are full of deep meaning. Jesus is the Vine and we, as the branches are expected to produce much fruit. We have the powerful example of Paul. Once he meets and recognizes Jesus as the true vine, he bears much fruit as a branch of this vine, by bringing the Gentile community to believe in Jesus.

READINGS:

First Reading: Acts 9: 26-31.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 22: 26-27, 28, 30, 31-32.

Second Reading: First John 3: 18-24.

Gospel: John 15: 1-8.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

CELEBRANT: Jesus says to us, “Without Me you can do nothing.” Only through Jesus can we entrust ourselves and the needs of our world to the Father, and so we pray:

Our Response: **LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For Pope Francis, bishops, clergy and religious: that their daily ministry may bear much fruit, as they become ever more responsive to Jesus’ words, to abide in him and He in them, we pray to the Lord...

For the Church and the Christian faithful: that they may manifest to our world the abiding presence of Jesus, who enables them to live fruitful lives of good deeds, we pray to the Lord...

For people severely affected by the corona virus: that they may find hope and support in their distress, when they cling to Jesus as branches of the true vine, we pray to the Lord...

For suffering sections of the people of our country: that those discriminated by social, religious, political and economic divisions, may be able to live in harmony, with a just recognition of their human rights, we pray to the Lord...

For these and all the personal needs and intentions that we now bring to the Lord [*pause*], we pray to the Lord...

CELEBRANT: Lord Jesus, we implore you never to abandon us in our moments of need, but to constantly reassure us with your divine presence and grace. You who live and reign God forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS:

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Commission for Liturgy
Archdiocese of Bombay*