

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY, May 2, 2021 –
FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER**

FIRST READING: 1

John 4:7-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.

21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31

25 From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts
live
forever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the
Lord;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

28 For dominion belongs to the Lord,
who rules over the nations.

29 Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in
worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel
before
the Lord.

30 Their descendants shall serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

[Jesus said:] 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."