

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

CATECHUMENATE SESSION: THE CHURCH CARRIES ON THE MISSION OF CHRIST

Fifth Sunday of Easter • Year B • April 28, 2024

**Jesus,
you are the vine
and we are the branches.**

**Help us to remain strong in you
by keeping your Word,
honoring your Commandments,
and loving others.**

Amen.



Sunday Word

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

The above readings are available at
usccb.org/bible/readings.

To Help You Remember



1. The disciples were at first afraid of Saul, but Barnabas assured them that Saul had changed.
2. We are to love in deed and truth, believing in the name of Jesus Christ and loving one another as Christ commanded us.
3. Jesus is the vine, and his Father is the vine grower. We are the branches, called to bear much fruit.

Key Teachings



Vine and Branches

Jesus uses the image of the vine and branches to explain how his followers are connected to him and to his Father. As branches, we are expected to bear fruit in our Christian living and to make a difference in the world by sharing God’s love with all.

The Mission of the Church

The goal, or mission, of the Church is to spread far and wide the Good News of Salvation in Christ and the love of God for all people. Every baptized member of the Church is called to share in this mission.

Faith Words



church/Church

The word *church* means *those who are called together*. The Church is the people whom God the Father has called together in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.



mission

A mission is a special job a person sends someone to do. The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ so that all come to know, believe in, and follow him.

My Mission

With My Family



We Listen

The vine and the branches is an image used to describe our relationship with Jesus. We are so closely connected to Jesus that we cannot live without him. If the branch is cut off from the vine, it will die. So, too, our lives are connected to Jesus. He is the vine that gives us life.

We Believe

In Baptism we are united to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. We are permanently connected to the vine, Jesus Christ. Baptism also connects us to the Body of Christ, the Church.

We Live As Disciples

We are the branches. We must stay connected to the vine. Our life in Christ connects us to a Christian community, too. How are you connected to your parish community? Name some of the people you are connected to most closely, and some of the ways you stay connected to the life of the parish. To help you recall these things, do the Vine and Branches Mind Map activity on the following page.

We Pray

Ask God to help you “bear fruit.” Use these or similar words:

*Lord Jesus,
you are the vine
and we are the branches.
Help us to bear fruit
and to be signs of your love.
We ask this in your name. Amen.*

Vine and Branches Mind Map

Jesus is the vine. Many people are connected to that vine and through that vine. Much good fruit is produced from the branches.

Make a mind map of Jesus, the Vine, and of the branches and the fruit they bear. A mind map means that you draw lines from one idea to the next. For example, on the mind map started for you here, Jesus is the vine. Your parish is one of the branches. It bears fruit by collecting food for the food pantry.

Now it's your turn! Draw your own branches and fruit, and make connections wherever you want!

FOOD PANTRY

MY PARISH

JESUS