

An open Bible is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are filled with text, and a blue bookmark is visible at the bottom. Several olive branches with green leaves are placed on the left side of the Bible, partially covering the pages. The background is a plain, light color.

**Getting Ready for Sunday!**

**Sunday, 17 March 2024**

## The Fifth Sunday of Lent

We are approaching the last part of our Lenten preparation for Easter!

If we really want to know Jesus we must be willing to share His life by serving one another, forgiving one another, doing and saying what we know is right.

We must be willing to see the world with Jesus' eyes adding to all that is good and beautiful as Jesus show us in the Gospel.

What more can you do this week to be as loving as Jesus and to spend time with God in prayer?

# John 12:20-30



We wish to see Jesus!

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him:

Sir, we wish to see Jesus.



These strangers knew that Philip was a follower of Jesus!

Would anyone know that you are a follower of Jesus by the way you live your life?



Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them:

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.



Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

A plant can only grow if a seed dies as it feeds new life.



Our own gifts and talents grow when we let our fears and limitations die and fall away so that we can change and grow!



Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.



When we are selfish we lose the chance to become more like Jesus and to be our best selves!

When we care for others and be our best selves we unite ourselves with God in love!





Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.



If we are followers of Jesus we must love one another, love God and believe that God has given us a great purpose in life.





‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—“Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.



Even Jesus was tempted  
to take the easy path!

...but He didn't!

He chose to do what was right  
instead!

Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder.  
Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’



Jesus did everything for love of us!

Jesus loves us completely and perfectly and shows us how to do the same so that we may be Christ for one another!

Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.’

# SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

## John 12:20-30

1. The parable of the grain of wheat reminds us of a truth that any parent can testify to, namely that it is in dying to ourselves that we can give life to others. We will never be of benefit to others if we remain wrapped up in ourselves. In what ways has your dying to yourself brought life to another? How has the generous giving of another brought life to you?
2. Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead and we feel like praying Father, save me from this hour. Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing so.
3. The story presents the death of Jesus as the moment of his glorification by God. It is the moment when the love of Jesus for us is shown in its greatest depth in his gift of himself, a gift he was able to make because God enabled him to do it. We are also glorified when the grace of God enables us to give generously of ourselves. When have you experienced this in yourself or in another?
4. This voice has come for your sake and not for mine. The angel spoke that we might recognise the love being shown us by Jesus. Sometimes it requires the voice of another to draw our attention to love which is being offered to us. When was this your experience?

# Bible Search

Read John 12:20-30 in your family Bible - this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.

18: "As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, Robbed his brother, and did what his people Behold, he shall die for his iniquity."  
18:17 "Following Masoretic Text, Targum, and Vulgate; Septuagint reads iniquity to compare with the iniquity which he dies." Again, Vulgate reads in your likeness.

17:7 "Following Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate; Masoretic Text reads in your likeness."



# Consider



What do you ask of God today?

What do you offer God today?

What do you need to do to try to be more like Jesus this week?

# Praying to Jesus



Pray for the grace to be open to God's will this week.

Ask God to show you the way to go today.

