

Sunday, May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Jesus is “the true vine” and his “Father is the vine grower.” We are branches attached to Jesus. The Father “prunes” the branches “so that it bears more fruit.” Pruning snips away and that would cause some pain and discomfort. Yet, the fruits that it will bear are worth it. What is the fruit that we are called to bear? St. John tells us today in the second reading: “Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth... Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.”

As Saul converted, who once tried to stop the Gospel message from being proclaimed, he humbly submitted to Barnabas and was united to Jesus the true vine as a branch like the rest of the disciples. God will prune us through the events of life, like Paul, who was rescued from the Hellenists who tried to kill him. Like Paul, we have “the consolation of the Holy Spirit.”

God Love You!

Fr. Jim Starasovich

