

# Catholic Bible Study

## Gospel Reflection for Sunday, May 09, 2021 The Sixth Sunday of Easter



### “The Vine and the Branches” (Continued)

#### **Opening Prayer:**

Lord God, we open our hearts, minds and souls to worship you. Thank you that today we dwell in your kingdom and live in your presence. Thank you that as we gather together we join with all Catholic Christians across the world to glorify your holy name. Come be with us, inspire us and lead us in our time together. We ask all this in the beautiful name of Jesus. Amen.

#### **Gospel: John 15:9-17 - “The Vine and the Branches” (Continued)**

Jesus said to his disciples: “As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. “I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.”

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## Reflections Questions:

1. Jesus no longer calls us slaves but friends. What do you think was the reaction of the Apostles upon hearing this? How does this make you feel?
2. Does Jesus mean to say that if we don't keep His commandments, He won't love us? What is Jesus really saying here?
3. What is the "joy" that Jesus refers to in this passage?
4. What does it mean to "*go and bear fruit that will remain*"?

**Group Intercessions:** Invitation for group members to share their prayer intentions.

## Closing Prayer:

Lord, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Thank you that we can live in your light and walk in your truth. May the things that you have revealed and thoughts that we have shared dwell in our hearts and stir us to action. We ask all this in the precious name of Jesus. Amen.