

In the gospel today Jesus uses an image from agriculture to express our intimate connection with God through Jesus himself: *I am the vine, you are the branches*. We are also reminded that we are meant to be fruitful: *Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit*. It's another way of saying we are meant to be productive as Christians and that we can't just sit on our faith.

This is not the same as being 'busy', which, we know, weighs down the soul and is so counterproductive. We see the all-too-evident affects in our world of this 'busyness', which can be so destructive. No, the fruitfulness that Jesus speaks of is the fruit of love.

On Friday we celebrated the Feast of St Joseph the Worker in which members of the St Joseph the Worker parish team were invited to attend. It was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and thank the St Joseph the Worker parish team. This group of parishioners put in hours of their time to ensure the maintenance of the parish buildings and grounds. Our parish can only continue to grow thanks to these and many other parishioners who are involved in various works and ministry in the parish. So thanks again to all those who have filled in the time and talent forms; those who are continuing in their ministry and those who are new.

***Easter blessings,
Gerard***