

Parish of Ribbleton

St. Mary Magdalene (SMM) The Ascension (ASC) -Longsands (LS)

Wednesday in the 5th Week of Easter

5th May

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Remain in me, as I remain in you, says the Lord;
whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

FIRST READING (Acts 15:1-6)

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers,
“Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved.”
Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them,
it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and presbyters about this question.
They were sent on their journey by the Church, and passed through Phoenicia and Samaria telling of the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brethren.
When they arrived in Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the Church, as well as by the Apostles and the presbyters, and they reported what God had done with them.
But some from the party of the Pharisees who had become believers stood up and said,
“It is necessary to circumcise them and direct them to observe the Mosaic law.”
The Apostles and the presbyters met together to see about this matter.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 122:1-5)

The response to the Psalm is:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced because they said to me,
“We will go up to the house of the LORD.”
And now we have set foot
within your gates, O Jerusalem.. **R/**

Jerusalem, built as a city
with compact unity.
To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD. **R/**

According to the decree for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
In it are set up judgment seats,
seats for the house of David. **R/**

GOSPEL (John 15:1-8)

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.

You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.

Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine,

so neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither;

people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

Please pray for

Those who govern and guide the nations, and all who work for peace, justice and healing.

Our government and parliament, for integrity and wisdom.

The people of India and of Brazil as they struggles to cope with coronavirus.

The people of Syria, of Yemen and of Lebanon, and all who are separated from home, family and loved ones'

Those working in our hospitals, emergency services and vaccination centres.

Those seeking office in our local elections.

Those caring for the elderly, frail and vulnerable in our parish. The staff of our residential and nursing homes, and those working in the community.

Those who struggle with the demands of this lockdown, with the separation from family and friends and the loneliness it may cause

The families using the Community Pantry and foodbanks in our city, and those struggling with debt and poverty.

The staff and pupils of the schools in our parish.

Our congregations until we can all worship together again.

Those named on our prayer list.

Fr Keith, as he serves our parish and makes decisions about his future

Capt. David and Linda, and our parish wardens, as they seek to keep in touch with our congregations
