Fr. Joy homily. 5 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 2024

my sisters and brothers we are all invited to Bear good fruits. Now what is the fruit that the Lord is expecting from us. We know When we plant a tree, we expect fruits. What are the fruits God expects from us? Galatians 5:22 where the Lord gives us the fruits of the spirit. We are all invited to bear fruits of the spirit love, peace, Joy, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control. The Lord is inviting us to Bear fruits of the Holy Spirit. Again, we see in Gospel of St Matthew 3:8 “produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance”. So the Lord expects us to Bear fruits of repentance that is humility. The third fruit is our own responsibility. wherever we are placed, wherever we are planted, bear fruits. we should be able to make an impact to the place where God has planted us. Be it in our families, be it in our office, be it in our workplace, be it bears fruits of our responsibility.

Let us now think how we can bear good fruits. In the light of the scripture passage we can think about three ways in which we can bear good fruits in life. first and primarily have Roots. A tree without roots cannot survive, a tree without roots cannot bear fruit. Gospel of St John 15: 4 abide in me and I in you as a branch cannot bear fruit by itself. All that is reflected in our spiritual life. Especially our rootedness in the Holy scripture.

when our life is rooted on the Holy scripture when we read, study, meditate and live the word of God, the Lord says we will bear good fruits. So have Roots. second to Bear fruits we must cooperate with the pruning process of the father. Gospel of St John chapter 15 verse 2 every branch that does bear fruit he prunes. that it may bear more fruit. Pruning involves a painful process. so that we may bear better fruits. my sisters and brothers it happens in all our life. When we do everything well, when we are praying, when we are faithful suddenly, a sickness may come, a failure may come, a setback may come. at times we may think why God is punishing me? why is God punishing me through the sickness? why is God punishing me through the setback? that is not Gods punishment,rather he is pruning. but if you misunderstand Gods pruning as Gods punishment then We will never be able to cooperate. we will resist God; we will lose out the grace that God wants to give us. So, cooperate with the pruning process of the father. you will bear good fruits. and finally, to Bear good fruits the Lord says we must cleanse ourselves. Gospel of St John 15:3 you are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you. We must cleanse every day. we are to pluck out the weeds that grow in our lives. If you are not having daily examination of conscience, if you dont try to pluck out the weeds again the weeds will overpower the plant. So, cleanse us regularly through examination of consciousness. So, three ways in which we bear fruits first have Roots, second cooperate with the pruning process of the father, third pluck out the weeds go through the cleansing process.