

# KERANG, COHUNA AND PYRAMID HILL Catholic Parishes



## VISION-MISSION:

A welcoming faith-filled Community, guided by the Holy Spirit strengthened through the celebration of the Holy Mass, developing our strong and caring foundation.



### PRAYER FOR PARISH RENEWAL

Heavenly Father,  
we gather as a parish community,  
seeking renewal and transformation.

Guide us with  
your wisdom and grace,  
as we journey together in faith.

Renew our hearts, fill us with love,  
compassion, and hope.  
Inspire us to be instruments  
of your peace, and lights  
that shine in the darkness.

Grant us the wisdom and  
discernment,  
as we walk this path of renewal.  
Bless each parishioner  
with a willing spirit,  
to serve and build  
a vibrant parish family.

May our parish  
be a place of love and unity,  
Where your presence is felt,  
and your Word is lived.  
We ask this, through Christ  
our Lord. Amen.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God** –  
pray for us  
**St. Joseph**, pray for us.  
**St. Patrick**, pray for us.  
**St. Mary Mackillop**,  
pray for us.

This prayer is officially approved by  
Most Rev. Shane Mackinlay, DD,  
Bishop of the Diocese of Sandhurst



### STAY CONNECTED!

“I am the vine, you are the branches,” Jesus tells us in today’s Gospel passage. This is not a way of speaking but a wonderful reality, for at our baptism we have been grafted onto him. It is thanks to our deep union with Jesus that we can enjoy God’s salvation and produce the fruits worthy of our new life in him. Jesus’ statement that “apart from him we can do nothing” may hurt our pride, but it is the sober truth. Only those who accept it in all humility and live accordingly can experience the joy of being God’s children, and are in the best position to produce an abundance of fruits unto eternal life.

#### Fr. Novilito Lim

Administrator  
0450185021

#### CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Kerang: Kyra Laughlin  
Cohuna: Peter Doyle  
Pyramid Hill: Anne Grogan

#### PARISH OFFICE WEDNESDAY

(9.00am - 5.00pm)

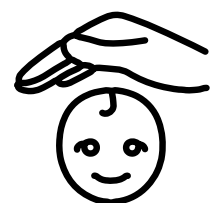
92 Nolan St. Kerang, VIC 3579  
(03) 5452 1041

stpatkerebigpond.com  
kerangecdos.org.au

www.kerangcatholicparishes.com

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

We are a child safe parish. Any children young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child Safety Officers at (03) 54521041



**FIRST READING**

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles***He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.*

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

**The Word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

**(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people**

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.  
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.  
May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,  
all families of the nations worship before him.  
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.  
(R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.  
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:  
'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!



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The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

**SECOND READING**

1 John 3:18-24

**A reading from the first letter of St John***His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.*

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

**The Word of the Lord.****GOSPEL**

John 15:1-8

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John***All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.*

Jesus said to his disciples:  
'I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit  
he cuts away,  
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes  
to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away  
- he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much  
fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

## LIVING THE GOSPEL

### BEARING FRUIT

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

### SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

#### IN CONTEXT

The imagery that Jesus used in his parables and in extended metaphors such as the one used in this week's gospel sometimes seems a little foreign to a 21st century audience. However, the world in which Jesus lived and taught was dominated by small scale farmers and producers in an agrarian economy. His use of images such as 'shepherd', 'vine', 'tenants', 'farmers' and 'wineskins' would all have been immediately recognisable to his audience. They would also have appreciated much more than we do the subtlety of Jesus' use of such images when he twists them in an unexpected way.

### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

#### THE 'TRUE' VINE

The image of the vine has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.' (Ps 80:8-9) However, the people of Israel have forgotten who they are and who it was that planted them in their country - it is like the rootstock of a grafted plant has taken over and gone wild. Jesus' presence as the 'true vine' reminds them of what they are called to be.

### ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



Why did the grapevine break up with the fig tree?

Because it said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit, he cuts away..." And the fig tree couldn't handle that kind of pruning commitment!



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Greg Sunter

The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt - we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to 'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old Karate Kid movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.

### QUESTIONS FOR ADOLESCENTS

- Q. In what ways can Jesus be compared to a grape vine?
- Q. In what ways are we like the branches of a vine?
- Q. What is some of the 'fruit' that you bear (talents, skills, positive actions)?
- Q. What aspects of your life need a little 'pruning' so that you might bear more fruit?
- Q. How are you able to do some 'pruning' for others in a positive way?

### QUESTIONS FOR ADULTS

- Q. Is the image of the vine an effective one for you?
- Q. Within the analogy of the vineyard, where would you place yourself?
- Q. Where do you find 'fruitful connections' with Jesus the vine?
- Q. What aspects of your life need a little 'pruning' so that you might bear more fruit?

Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.



# ST. PATRICK'S PARISH - KERANG

90 Nolan Street, Kerang, Victoria, 3579

## This WEEK 28th April 2024

Welcomers: **M Dagge & G Mannix**  
Comm/POF: **M Dagge**  
Reader/other: **F Kelly**  
Gifts: **J & A Ginnivan**  
Ministers: **F Kelly & M Lewis**  
Sick/Elderly: **J Hirst & G Prendergast (NH)**  
Power Point: **L Bland**  
Musician: **Mike, Tony, Maureen**

## Next WEEK 5th May 2024

Welcomers: **A Kelly & H Olcorn**  
Comm/POF: **P Hirst**  
Reader: **W Hall**  
Gifts: **M Mowat & D Schlitz**  
Ministers: **D Doyle & J Hirst**  
Sick/Elderly: **A Kelly & M Lewis (NH)**  
Power Point: **G Prendergast**  
Musician: **Hank, Tony & Val**

Mowers for April: **Aaron, Chris & Liz**

Counters for April: **E Phillips & M Messer**

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- Bernadette
- Lui Basile

## DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Gary Dowd, Mary Craig,  
Frances McConnell, Jean Orr,  
Esme Cooke, Kevin Doyle.

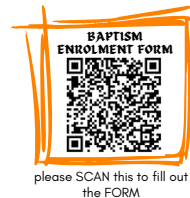
## MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

28th Apr 4th May 2024

* SUNDAY *	* Mass *	* 10.30am *
* TUESDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *
* WEDNESDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *
* THURSDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *
* FRIDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *

## MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SUNDAY *	* 5th May 2024 *	* 10.30am *
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### KERANG BANK DETAILS

BSB: 083 543  
Acc. Number: 457 423 724

Please let Marianne know if you are changing to Direct Deposits ie. How much and how often so we can then allocate you anew number.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

## SCHOOL



### ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL - KERANG

Principal: Mr. Chris Mitchell  
ph: (03) 5452 1426

St Joseph's School is open to all who seek a Catholic Education for their children and who are willing to support the values and purposes of Catholic Education.

The school conducts events such as 'Come & See St Joseph's' in Term 2 and 'Flying into Foundation' in Term 3 each year and families are always welcome to book a school tour with the principal at anytime.

Enrolment enquiries are welcome and interested families are asked to contact the school office on (03)54521426 or [admin@sjkerang.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@sjkerang.catholic.edu.au)



# ST. MARY'S PARISH - COHUNA

93-95 King George Street, Cohuna, Victoria, 3568

## MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

28th Apr 4th May 2024

* SUNDAY *	* Mass *	* 8.30am *
* TUESDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *
* THURSDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *
* FRIDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *
* SATURDAY *	* NO MASS *	* * *

## MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

* SUNDAY *	* 5th May 2024 *	* 8.30am *
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## This Week 28th April 2024

Comm/POF	<b>Anne-Marie Link</b>
Reader	<b>Peter Doyle</b>
Gifts	<b>Jarrold Mullavey</b>
Euch Minister:	<b>Betty McLoughlan</b>
Altar Clean Up	<b>Marg Main</b>

## Next WEEK 5th May 2024

Comm/POF	<b>Shaanie Webb</b>
Reader	<b>Jarrold Mullavey</b>
Gifts	<b>Garry Farant</b>
Euch Minister:	<b>Marg Learmonth</b>
Altar Clean Up	<b>Maxine Power</b>



please SCAN this to fill out the FORM



### COHUNA BANK DETAILS

BSB: 083 543  
Acc. Number: 4574 0718 5

Please let Kylie or Marianne know if you are changing to Direct Deposits ie. How much and how often so we can then allocate you anew number.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

## DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Kaye McGann

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- Elderly and Residents of Cohuna Nursing Home and Retirement Village and patients in Cohuna Hospital

- If you wish for a loved one to be prayed for please let me know and I can start a diary with all the names in it. Just need Month, Date and Name.

## SCHOOL

**PREP ENROLMENTS**  
NOW OPEN

**ST. MARY'S COHUNA**  
Principal: Mr. Jarrold Mullavey Phone: (03) 5456 2062

## ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL-COHUNA

Principal: Mr. Jarrold Mullavey  
ph: (03) 5456 2062

# ST. PATRICK'S PARISH - PYRAMID HILL

5 Victoria Street, Pyramid Hill, Victoria, 3575

## ROSTERS

**This WEEK 27th April 2024**

Comm/POF	<b>Marilyn Fernandez</b>
Reader	<b>Kate Wood</b>
Gifts	<b>J Bermasa &amp; J Balajadia</b>
Euch Minister:	<b>M Kelly</b>

## MASS SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

27th April 3rd May 2024

\* SATURDAY \* \* Mass \* \* 06.30pm \*

**Next WEEK 4th May 2024**

Comm/POF	<b>Colleen Hampson</b>
Reader	<b>Ayeshi Domingo</b>
Gifts	<b>Eva Santos Family</b>
Euch Minister	<b>Carmen Cauchi</b>

## MASS SCHEDULE NEXT WEEK

\* SATURDAY \* \* 4th May 2024 \* \* 06.30pm \*



please SCAN this to fill out the FORM

**PYRAMID HILL BANK DETAILS**  
BSB: 083-693  
Acc. Number: 51-598-4571

Please let Rachel or Marianne know if you are changing to Direct Deposits ie. How much and how often so we can then allocate you anew number.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

## DEATH ANNIVERSARY

John Walls, Carol Dingwall, Margaret Kennedy, Mary Walls, Lawrence Cox, Eileen Gray, David Taylor, Stephanie Borg, Richard Piutrowka, Leo Lemmons, Heather Taylor, John Merrigan, James O'Neill, Mary Carmody.

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK

- Margaret, Phil S.
- Terry W.
- P. Ocampo
- all the sick members of the community

**WE JOYFULLY WELCOME THE NEW MEMBER(S) INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST!**

## SCHOOL

At St. Patrick's, we love being part of the Pyramid Hill Parish and wider community. We provide a contemporary curriculum that develops the intellect, imagination, spirituality, social skills, wellbeing and physical growth of each learner, in the context of the Catholic faith tradition. Our school is currently taking enrolments and enquiries from interested families are welcome at any time. Please contact the school via email at [principal@sppyramidhill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sppyramidhill.catholic.edu.au) or by phone on 54557220 to arrange a visit or a brochure.



### ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL-PYRAMID HILL

Principal: Mr. John O'Connor  
ph: (03) 5455 7220





# FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

☎ (03)8372 5722 / 0415 461 665 - Mina

☎ 0401 337 433 - Fr. Dean

✉ deerpark@precillatravel.com.au



Through the Sorrowful Mother, we find the mirror that reflects the depth of Jesus' suffering, unveiling a love that conquered even the darkest of hours.



**30 SLOTS**  
ARE AVAILABLE

Let us journey  
**TOGETHER WITH MARY**



## OUR LADY OF THE SORROW PILGRIMAGE

26 October - 07 November 2024

**Fr. Dean Bongat**  
Pilgrimage Chaplain

### OUR LADY OF SORROW PILGRIMAGE ITINERARY

26 October - 07 November 2024

#### DAY 1 DEPARTURE 26

DEPARTS MELBOURNE

#### DAY 2 PARIS ARRIVAL 27

##### ARRIVES IN PARIS

Welcome to Paris. One group arrival transfer included from Paris international airport. An orientation tour before heading to the hotel. (depending on flight arrival times).  
Meal(s): Dinner.

#### DAY 3 PARIS SIGHTSEEING 28

##### CROWN OF THORNS GAZING

Enjoy an easy and relaxed morning at your leisure. This afternoon we put the joy in joie de vivre when you embark on a panoramic city tour. Delve into the highlights of Paris with a local guide. Your sightseeing will take you past the Champs-Élysées, the Arc de Triomphe and the 'Iron Lady' herself, the Eiffel Tower and a visit to the **Notre Dame Cathedral to see the crown of thorns** brought from the Holy Land believed to be the Crown of Thorns Jesus worn during his crucifixion. Finish your sightseeing with a one-hour Seine River cruise.  
Meal(s): Breakfast, Dinner.  
Hotel(s): Paris Hotel

#### DAY 4 PARIS TO LOURDES 29

**LIGHT IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS.** You are transferred to the station where you board your TGV train to Lourdes. On arrival embark on a walking tour with your Travel Director to gain a real sense of the devotion that pilgrims over the centuries have felt for this place. **This evening presents an opportunity to join a procession, a truly magical and moving experience.** MEAL (S): (B,D)

#### DAY 5 LOURDES 30

**ENCOUNTER MARY IN PERSONAL WAY:** Today is a day at your leisure to explore Lourdes as you wish. Note: No coaching services available today.  
Meal(s): B,D

#### DAY 6 LOURDES - SPAIN 31

##### SANTANDER

**VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS:** Today travel to **Santo Toribio De Liebana Monastery, Spain** - to venerate the "Holy Cross" reflecting on Mary at the foot of the Cross.  
Meal(s): B,D

#### DAY 7 SANTANDER - AVILA 1

##### VISIT THE RELICS OF ST. TERESA OF AVILA

Continue our journey to Avila. Avila, the perfectly preserved eleventh-century walls surrounding the old town and the mystic writer Santa Teresa, who was born here and whose shrines are a must-see for all Catholic pilgrims! Meal(s): B,D

#### DAY 8 AVILA - SALAMANCA 2

Next stop is Salamanca. On arrival walk the streets of one of the oldest Universities in Europe, the University of Salamanca, built in 1218.  
Meal(s): B,D

#### DAY 9 FATIMA 3

##### EXPERIENCE THE PRESENCE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Today is dedicated to Fatima. Follow the road taken by pilgrims over the last 100 years to the Shrine at Fátima, site of a celebrated religious miracle.  
Meal(s): B,D.

**\$7,890.00**

per person as per itinerary\*\*

IT INCLUDES MEAL,\*\* AIRFARE AND HOTEL ACCOMODATION

#### DAY 10 FATIMA - SANTAREM- LISBON 4

##### EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE OF SANTAREM

After a moving experience in Fatima, stop in **Santarem**. The town is hosting one of the most visited Eucharistic Miracle Shrines in Europe! Visit the "The Miracle Church", Church of Saint Stephen for a mass  
Meal(s): B,D.

#### DAY 11 LISBON TO ROME 5

This morning the group will be transferred to Lisbon airport for our onward flight to Rome. On arrival in Rome, the group will be transferred to the hotel.  
Meal(s): B,D.

#### DAY 12 ROME 6

##### ST. PETER'S BASILICA AND THE PIETA

A highlight today with a visit to Vatican City with a Local Expert. The dome of St. Peter's Basilica looms over the expansive St. Peter's Square - the impressive backdrop for time spent learning about the world's smallest country. Entrance to the Vatican Museum and Sistine chapel is included, to see Michelangelo's mournful Pietà up close.  
Meal(s): B,D.

#### DAY 13 DEPARTURE 7

Farewell Rome today and the end of our Spiritual Journey. (B)



Scan to Register even if you are not yet FULLY DECIDED



# I am the vine and you are the branches



5th Sunday of Easter, Year B

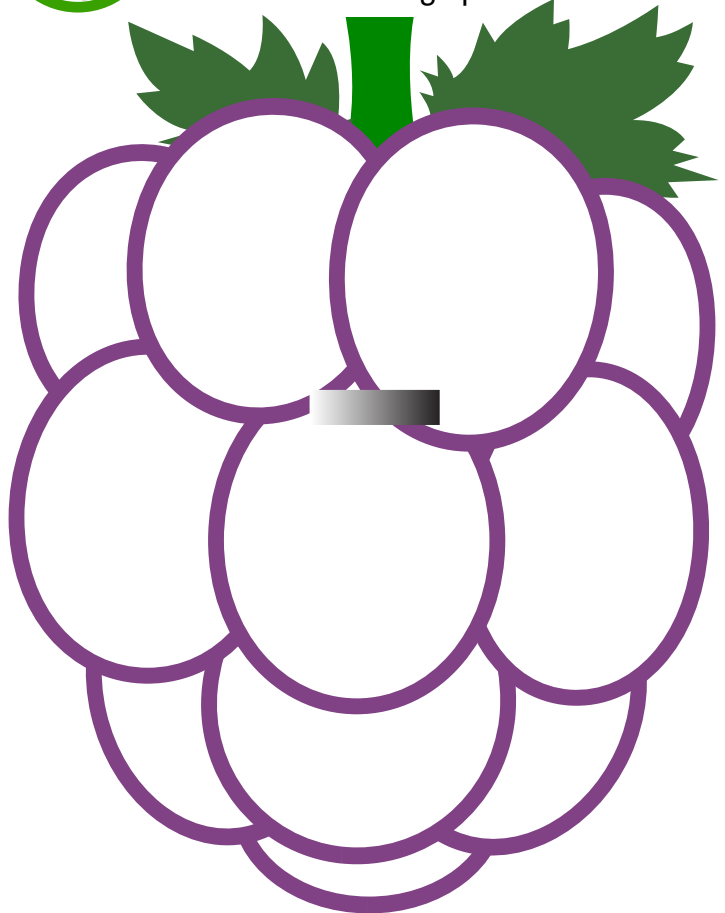


Who are some people in your community who are like branches of the vine? On each branch, write down a name and how they contribute their 'fruit' to the community.

Jesus says that we must be fruitful disciples. What are some of the ways that you can be a disciple to Jesus? Write or draw your answers inside the grapes.

Mrs Smith

takes meals to elderly residents



Can you work out which of these three branches is the one bearing fruit?

