

REFLECTION

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A, May 3, 2026

Scripture: 1 Pet 2:4-9

This passage provides us both comfort and a reminder of our calling; a powerful image of identity and belonging. Peter introduces Christ as the “living stone,” a vivid metaphor that emphasizes how Jesus, though dismissed by many, is cherished and selected by God. For us, that immediately raises a question: what standards are we using to judge what is valuable? We must endeavor to let ourselves “be built into a spiritual house.” Each life is a stone, uniquely placed.

The Christian journey extends far beyond a personal connection with God—it calls each believer to become an integral part of a greater community, a vibrant and active Church. Each of our lives is intended to narrate a compelling story, one marked by transformation, hope, and the presence of light breaking through even the deepest darkness. However, this path is not without its challenges. Just as stones cannot position themselves, but must be carefully shaped and sometimes even chiseled, so too are we formed through experiences that may be uncomfortable or require us to release certain attachments. This process of growth in Christ often leads us down roads we might not have chosen for ourselves, yet it is never arbitrary. Instead, every moment of shaping is guided by God’s loving and purposeful design, ensuring that our lives are built into something greater for the benefit of all.

Dear friends, take heart in knowing that you are being shaped for something far greater than you may realize. Your life holds a unique purpose—one that calls you to reflect and share the light of Christ within a world that still grapples to recognize it. As you journey forward, remember that every experience is part of a meaningful process, guiding you to radiate hope and faith where it is needed most.

