



WB 30.06.20  
VOLUME 5

# THE FEAST OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL

St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School





THE  
GOD  
WHO  
SPEAKS



Matthew 16: 13-19

# WORD OF THE WEEK



When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'



# WHOLE SCHOOL MASS



If we had been together as a school community under normal circumstances, then on Monday we would have celebrated the Feast of St Peter and Paul together as a whole school Mass.

Usually if the weather is on our side, this Mass happens outside at the front of school under the shade of the trees.

For many of us, it is a joyous feast and a wonderful day is spent in prayerful thanks giving to St Peter and Paul who are regarded as the most important Christian figures of the early Church.

But in lockdown and the safety of our homes, let us not forget the important work that these two saints accomplished in their life times.

In our Thought for the Week for this week, we will look closer at who these two great men were.



**"On the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, I would like to share two key words: unity and prophecy. The Lord asks each of us: "Do you want to be a builder of unity? Do you want to be a prophet of my heaven on earth?" Let's find the courage to answer: "Yes, I do!""**



# ST PETER AND PAUL FACTFILE:

## ST PETER

- Otherwise known as Simon Peter, Simeon or Cephas
- Considered the first leader of the early Church - The first Pope
- Jesus said to Peter; 'You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church
- He was a fisherman before leaving his family behind to follow Jesus as one of his disciples
- Peter denied knowing or having anything to do with Jesus after Jesus was captured to be crucified. Yet Jesus forgave him after the resurrection
- Peter is said to hold the keys to the kingdom of heaven - and is often depicted with a key in his hand like the picture below

## ST PAUL

- Otherwise known as Saul of Tarsus
- Taught the Gospel of Christ to the first century world and founded several Christian communities on his travels to spread the good news
- Paul is a notable writer and has written many of the letters accounting Christ's teachings and works alongside his vision for the Church which can be found in the New Testament
- Paul is therefore often depicted with a book in his hand or writing one of his letters like in the image below
- In Paul's early life, he actively persecuted the Church and Christians. But Paul says that God revealed Jesus Christ to him and so he was converted to Christianity.





# WE PRAY

So, whilst we cannot meet together to celebrate Mass in honour of St Peter and Paul, let us pray for them in our homes instead:



**Blessed Redeemer, Saints Peter and Paul were leaders and models in strengthening the faith of the infant Church, and I ask them to pray for my faith to grow strong. Saint Paul wrote in his second letter to Saint Timothy, “I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God that you have.” I ask Saints Peter and Paul to pray for me to grow into spiritual maturity. Help me, O Lord, to increase in faith and trust. Where Your presence is but a spark in me, fan it into a flame that brightens other people’s lives. Saints Peter and Paul, pray for me. Amen.**

## WHAT TO WATCH



- Fr John has been streaming his Masses on Youtube. Why not watch Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Peter and Paul from the comfort of your home at:

<https://youtu.be/tj15VbUt4T0>

- This video looks in more detail about who St Peter and St Paul were:

<https://youtu.be/heQGyDikark>

