

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY Living the Gospel

August 27, 2023 • The Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Why did Jesus call Peter a "rock"?

By Philip Kosloski



Jesus chose Simon as the "rock" that would be the foundation stone of the Catholic Church.

Jesus gave one of his apostles, Simon, a new name. He called him, "Peter," an interesting word that previously was not used as a proper name.

Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 16:17-19

The Gospels were originally written in Greek and the word used is *petros*, meaning "rock." An article on *Catholic Answers* explains what this word meant in Greek.

As Greek scholars—even non-Catholic ones—admit, the words petros and petra were synonyms in first century Greek. They meant "small stone" and "large rock" in some ancient Greek poetry, centuries before the time of Christ, but that distinction had disappeared from the language by the time Matthew's Gospel was rendered in Greek. The difference in meaning can only be found in Attic Greek, but the New Testament was written in Koine Greek—an entirely different dialect. In Koine Greek, both petros and petra simply meant "rock." If Jesus had wanted to call Simon a small stone, the Greek lithos would have been used.

Foundation stone

Furthermore, according to the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, "evidence suggests that Jesus' words to Peter were originally spoken in Aramaic. In this language, the word *kepha* is the equivalent of *Peter* and denotes a 'sizeable rock' — one suitable as a building foundation. This Aramaic name is preserved [in its Latinized form] as Cephas 9 times in the New Testament."

This is why the Church continues to teach that Jesus appointed Peter as the foundation stone of the Catholic Church.

Simon Peter holds the first place in the college of the Twelve; Jesus entrusted a unique mission to him. Through a revelation from the Father, Peter had confessed: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Our Lord then declared to him: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it." Christ, the "living Stone," thus assures his Church, built on Peter, of victory over the powers of death. Because of the faith he confessed Peter will remain the unshakable rock of the Church. His mission will be to keep this faith from every lapse and to strengthen his brothers in it. CCC 552

Caesarea Philippi: Temple built on a rock

Jesus also said these words at Caesarea Philippi, a city that was literally built on a massive rock!

The *Catholic Encyclopedia* explains, "It was given (20 B.C.) by Augustus to Herod, who **built there a magnificent temple in honor of the emperor.** Soon after, the tetrarch Philip embellished it and dedicated it to his imperial protector Tiberius, whence its new name *Caesarea Philippi* or *Caesarea Paneas*."

This helps give more context to Jesus' actions, who was pointing out how Simon would be the "rock" for his Church, in contrast to the rock that the temple at Caesarea Philippi was built on.

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Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

DEACONS

Deacon Bill Lovelace Deacon Lionel Roberts, Deacon Emeritus

CLERGY ASSISTANCE

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM Fr. Anthony Fortunato, OdeM Fr. Victor Bartolotta

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses
Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM
Sunday
8:00 AM, 9:30 Am & 11:30 AM

Follow the Sunday Mass on our website, **btsp.org**.

Confessions will be held Saturdays 2:45-3:45

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FAX

(727) 864-2679

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Our parishioners are the best!



Thank you for responding so generously to our appeal for additional funds for St. Vincent de Paul to help cover the high demand for utility bill assistance, due to the extraordinary heat. Our second collection was in the amount of \$1,761.

Thank you to all who gave.

Scripture Class

Blessed Trinity Scripture Classes will resume on September 12th from 10:00 am - 11:30 am. We will begin with a new study from Q Place "celebrate", yes to life in Christ.

Class will be held in the Courtyard Hall and the books will be \$12.00 for 12 sessions. For further information and to confirm attendance, please call Barbara Townsend (727) 867-3605

Music Program

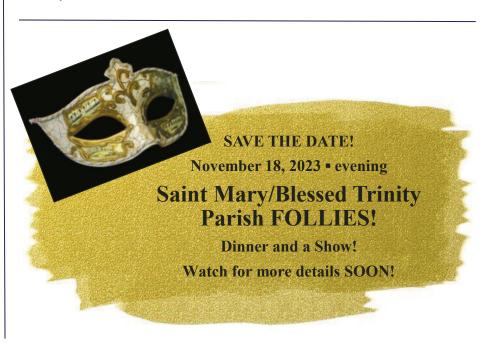
The Music Program has started up once again.

Rehearsals for the Adult Choir will be on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Handbell Choir at 7:30 p.m.

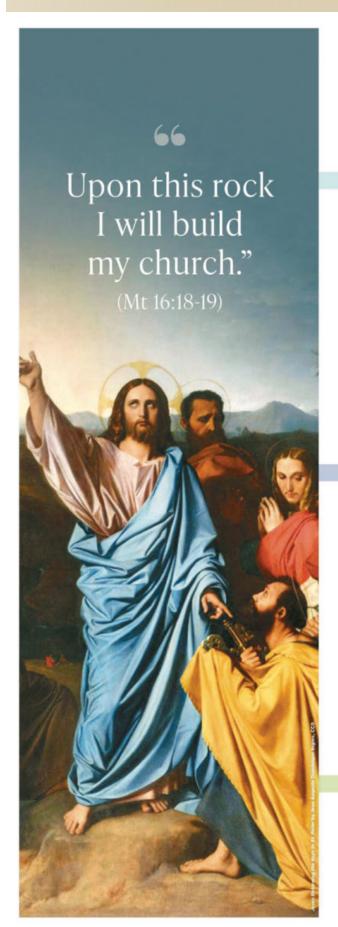
The Contemporary Ensemble will have rehearsals on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

If you are interested in joining the choir for the first time or returning, all are welcome. I look forward to seeing everyone.

~ Wayne Dieterich, Director of Music



Thoughts Worth Sharing



August 27, 2023

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 22:19-23 | Rom 11:33-36 | Mt 16:13-20

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

God is not looking for perfection when it comes to his leaders, he is looking for true and loving hearts. In the first reading, God is not impressed with the master of the palace as a father for the people of Jerusalem. Eliakim the servant has the heart God desires. God will give Eliakim whatever he needs to guide his people – the right clothes, authority, and a place of honor. And we learn in the Gospel that Peter has the heart of love Jesus knows is necessary to guide his followers after he is gone. There are more learned and powerful men, but they lack Peter's faith. Jesus knows Peter is not perfect and he has much to learn, but Peter has the right foundation for the Church. We don't need to be the smartest people or have money and influence to be God's leaders. We need hearts of love and faith, and God will give us the tools we need to do the work.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

There is much to be done in our parishes and God needs our hearts and faith to get to work. How can we use our gifts and talents to help make the parish a welcoming place? For some it might be liturgical ministry, but every church needs people to work behind the scenes. Dusting and cleaning the church is not a glamorous job, but caring for the house of God is a blessing in itself. Helping the parish office with special mailings or weekly tasks is welcome to the staff who have so many responsibilities. Why not use the eyes of the Father to look in our hearts and see how we can make our parish a foundation of faith for all our family? We can also use God's sight to look for people at Mass who need an invitation to be more active in the parish, sharing the reminder none of us have to be perfect people to participate. We just need hearts of love.

ACT Look over the bulletin this week and reflect on where your talents could make a difference in your parish. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the wisdom and guidance you need to find where God wants you to be and what he wants you to do. Extend an invitation to one person to join you in participating in a church ministry.



Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Seven Sacraments With Us?

Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for information regarding the pre-baptism class before scheduling a baptism.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4 Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 26, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Ann Deakins (Dec)

Saturday, August 26, Vigil for The Twenty-First Sunday in OT

4:00 p.m. Antonello DiMillo (Dec)

Sunday, August 27, The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Soledad Aquino (Dec) 9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners 11:30 a.m. Marlene Romani (Dec)

Monday, August 28, Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and

Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Dennis Dutilly (Dec)

Tuesday, August 29, Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the

Baptist

8:00 a.m. Ed & Alice Varville (Dec)

Wednesday, August 30, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, August 31, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Jerry Holley (Dec)

Friday, September 1, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Pat & Ann Varville (Dec)

Saturday, September 2, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mary Lou Deuel (Dec)

Saturday, September 2, Vigil for The Twenty-Second Sunday in OT

4:00 p.m. James Lawler & Pat Sullivan (Dec)

Sunday, September 3, The Twenty-Second Sunday in OT

8:00 a.m. Jerry Holley (Dec) 9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners 11:30 a.m. Jerry Holley (Dec)



Journeying Through Grief

"Grief is not a sign of weakness. It is a tribute to the loved one who died, and a healthy response to our heart ache."

If you would like to be part of a Grief-Support "group" or you would prefer "one on one" support, please call Rachel between 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the parish office, 727-867-3663

Prayer for Priests & Future Priests

Eternal Father, We lift up to you these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

08/27 • Rev. Kenneth Malley

08/28 • Rev. Richard L. Crager, SDB

08/29 • Rev. Dayan Machado

08/30 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

08/31 • Rev. Stephen Dornguast

09/01 • Rev. David De Julio

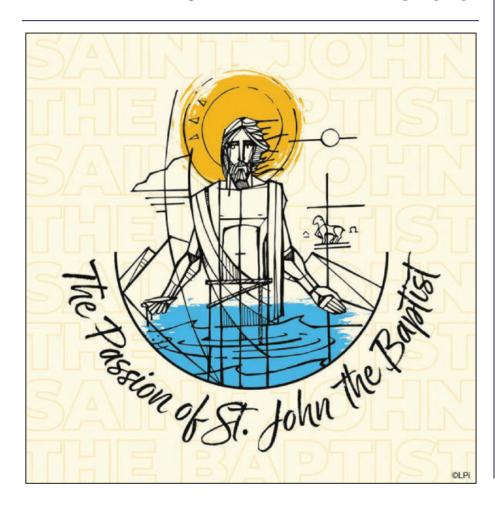
09/02 • Rev. Israel Hernandez

These are the names of the active priests and seminarians in our Diocese. Remember our Bishop has designated Wednesdays as Diocesan Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please continue to pray that more young people will hear and answer God's call to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Vocations

Are you called to serve the family of the Lord and share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?

Call Father Chuck Dornquast 727-345-3452 or write: scd@dosp.org

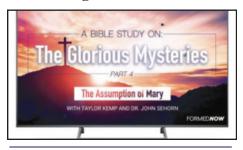


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Prayer for Protection from Hurricanes

God, Our Father, Creator and Lord of the universe, you have set the earth on its foundation and all the elements of nature obey your command. We humbly beseech you to keep us safe from all dangers and calm the storm that threatens us. May we be secure in your loving protection and serve you always with grateful hearts. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Sometimes when I ask one of my children about who they were with or about a classmate at school they answer me with, "You don't know them." Apparently, since I do not know him or her personally, I do not need to know the person's name. I may not know this person but I do know that he or she exists in the everyday life of one of my children. If my children don't share with me anything about their friend or classmate, I can only assume he or she has no great impact on my sons' or daughter's daily lives. Of course, sometimes the response I get is simply my teen being a typical teen.

Has Jesus had a significant impact on your life? Do you know Jesus personally? If someone asked you about him what would you say?

My children respond the way they do to me because they are still young and immature. However, some adults are immature as well: immature in faith. We shy away from any discussion of God in our lives and we rarely share our faith. Most days we will not be asked the question, "Who is Jesus?" But we will be in situations where we are being called to share a little bit about ourselves. If Jesus has truly changed our lives and we never seem to want to share something about him with others, they may as well assume that he has had no real impact on us. On the other hand, if we are mature disciples in Jesus Christ, I suspect that others can't help but know about the great friend we have in him.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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"Life in the Spirit" **Prayer Group**

Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in Courtyard Hall.

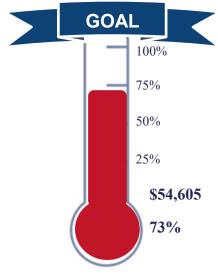
All are welcome!

For more information please call 727-867-3663.

St. Anthony's Prayer for Peace of Mind

O holy Saint Anthony, your deep faith in Jesus Christ comforted your heart, especially during times of trial and distress. Help me grow in faith, so I may experience peace of mind and heart in my present needs (Here mention). Free me from undue anxiety, needless worry, and burdensome fears. Grant me sure confidence, unfailing trust in God's loving mercy and daily serenity. ~ Amen



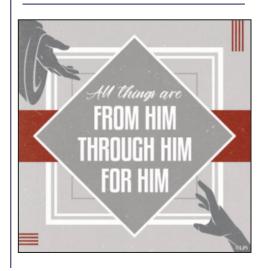


Thank you for your prayerful giving!



Keep in touch with us!

Text BTSP to 84576 or connect with us online at btsp.flocknote.com



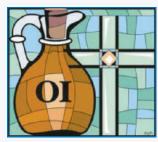
Arnold, Barbara
Austreng, Dick
Barr, Bill
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Cavaliere, Lois
Christ, Kathryn
Cisek, Marilyn
Comeau, Teresa
Curtis, Sherlyl
Daniels, Joshua
DeZarn, Vickie
D'Azzo, Lina
Feltes, Chuck & Lauren

D'Azzo, Lina
Feltes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferrara, Antoinette
Fitzgerald, Dan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Genereux, Carol
Grimberg, Carol
Hawkins, Barbara
Helbig, Len
Hoffman, Bette
Huff, Walt
Irvin, John
Kindel, Helen

Kirchgessner, Marie Lanigan, John Lashley, Diana Lawler, Matthew LeVan, George Lewis, Cynthia Maharne, Cecile Manley, Jan Manley, Paul Mays, Susan

Mays, Susan Membreno, Mary & Gus Mesick, Phil & Nancy Nagy, Matthew Newcomb, Jeff O'Connor, Mary Oliphant, Sean Parmigiani, Valerie Preeper, Helen Riley, Marie

Roberts, Deacon Lionel Romani, Angelo Shelby, Ron & Montez Stankiewicz, Cy Thompson, Susan E. Thuline, James and Lil Vanderbeck, Jay Walsh, Thomas Youngman, Ruth



Anointing of the Sick

To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.



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