

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

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.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord.



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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

23 AUGUST 2020

TREASURED KNOWLEDGE

Jesus questions his disciples about popular perceptions of who he is. Their report shows that people cast him in familiar but totally inadequate roles. The reality requires a leap in imagination and faith achieved in Simon Peter's response: 'You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God'. Beyond being Messiah of Israel, Jesus is God's Son in a unique way.

Peter has conferred a title upon Jesus. Now Jesus confers a blessing and three roles upon him.

He is 'blessed', not because he is virtuous, but because God has revealed to him a knowledge that unaided human understanding could never achieve. Everything the Church has to say flows from this God-given knowledge of Jesus. This is the inexhaustible treasure that it holds in trust for the world.

Simon's first role is indicated by his name: 'Peter' (= 'Rock'). He is 'rock', again not because of his personal qualities, but because of his knowledge of Jesus. Built on this 'rock', the Church will be a community of life, against which the powers of death ('gates of the underworld') will not prevail.

The gift of keys, a biblical image (see the First Reading) signifies delegated authority (from Jesus) in the household of God (the Church).

The final role, 'binding and loosing', refers to the power to interpret and apply Jesus' authoritative teaching to new situations. In this way the Church, as both expression and foretaste of God's reign ('Kingdom of Heaven') on earth, is equipped to discern God's will in the changing circumstances that will confront its passage down the ages.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Isa 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,

I remove you from your post,

and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe,

gird him with your sash,

entrust him with your authority;

and he shall be a father

to the inhabitants of Jerusalem

and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder;

should he open, no one shall close,

should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg

into a firm place;

he will become a throne of glory

for his father's house.

The word of the Lord.

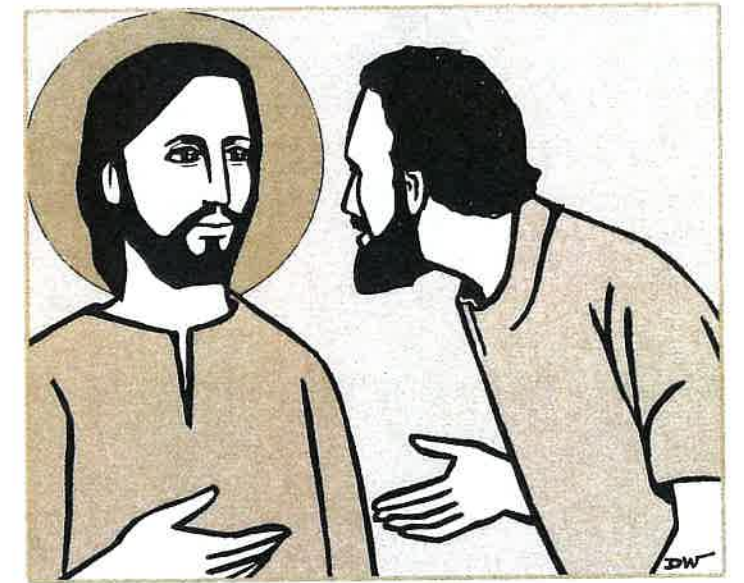
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8. R. v. 8

R. Lord, your love is eternal;

do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, / you have heard the words of my mouth. / Before the angels I will bless you. / I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love / which excel all we ever knew of you. / On the day I called, you answered; / you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**



3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly / and the haughty he knows from afar. / Your love, O Lord, is eternal, / discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia! / You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church / the gates of hell will not hold out against it. / Alleluia!



Sacred Heart Parish Church
 Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale
 81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)
 Email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
 Phone 67221103

PRIESTS: FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS. P.P., VF
 PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis
 Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066
 Parish Secretary: Marion Fitzgerald—67221103. Office Hours
 Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church Inverell

Saturday 5.30pm
 Sunday 9.00am

Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am
 Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon
 1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon
 First Wednesday Anointing Mass (suspended) 12 noon

McLean Village Each Friday except 1st Friday 11am
 (suspended)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8am - 9am
 Sunday 8am - 8.30am

Tingha St. Francis' Church Saturday 4pm
Ashford St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11am
Bundarra St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11am
Yetman St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;
Marriages and Funerals by Appointment
 For emergencies please phone 0428-126703



PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

MON 24h Aug	Rosary Mass	9.00am 9.30am
TUE 25th Aug	Rosary Mass	9.00am 9.30am
WED 26th Aug	Rosary Mass	11.30am 12 noon
THUR 27th Aug	Rosary Mass (St. Monica)	11.30am 12 noon
FRI 28th Aug	School Mass (Church) (St Augustine)	9.30am
SAT 29th Aug	NO MORNING MASS	

NOTE: Attendance at weekday Masses fulfil Sunday obligation during Covid19 restrictions.

OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION
 We as a PARISH, try to live out our
VISION: To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.
MISSION: To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and blessings we have and to be instruments of the Gospel message.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mass for Thanksgiving for answered prayers, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna), John Thomas O'Brien, Joseph Michael Stephen, Maurice John Moses, Bernadette Monaghan, Lucy MacManus, Cedric, Thelma & Maurie Aboud.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK
 Wayne Lackey, Tony Starr, Ron Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, All those with the Corona Virus, Terry Hopgood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keeffe, Carmel Hooper, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Alana Goldman, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbigin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Dorothy Ball, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Agnes Hannigan **and the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**

We Pray for the Recently Deceased
 Sr. Kathleen Price RSJ, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna) Jeremy Norman Campbell, Debrah Brown (sister-in-law of Margaret Jones).
We Pray for the Anniversaries of
 John & Madgie Casey, Dixie Casey, Thomas Robbins, Margaret Dickins, Bill McCormick.
 Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord May their souls and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH
 (authorised by the NSW Government for the State of NSW)
Mass attendance and Weddings: One person per 4 square metre distance. The Sacred Heart Church can accommodate 100 worshippers at a time.
Funerals: up to 50 attendees without the 4 square metre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance. Maximum 100. Please sit in the **Allocated Seats** to observe Social Distancing regulations.
Contact Sheets: placed at each opened entrance to the Church. Parishioners attending the Church are required to record their full names. Visitors are required to record their name and contact details. This is a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Virus outbreak. The sheets will be removed after each Mass and kept confidential.
If you are unwell please stay at home.
If you require Home Communion contact the office.

23RD AUGUST 2020 – 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
 A Special Mass for First Holy Communion is being held this Sunday 23rd August at 3pm for the children in Group One. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, this Mass is only available for the First Communicants and their family. A second Group will receive their First Holy Communion at a later date to be advised. We offer our prayers and our Congratulations to all the First Communicants this Sunday.

ALTER SOCIETY ROSTER FOR AUGUST
 Rosie Michael and Val McMahon


UPCOMING MEETINGS

Parish Council	Monday 7th September	5.00pm
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HOME ROSARY THIS WEEK

TINGHA Bernie & Colleen Graham
 11 Diamond Street
 Wednesday 26th Aug at 4.30pm
 (every Wednesday)

INVERELL NO HOME ROSARY THIS WEEK



RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION
 Due to Covid19 'Social Distancing' rules, parishioners are asked to **process in a single line** down either of the **two narrow aisles** to receive Communion, then **returning** to their pew via the main centre aisle or far aisles. Please maintain a 1.5metre distance between each other. Thank you.

Due to Covid19 we have suspended some of our Ministries and reduced numbers rostered in others. Thank you for understanding.

ROSTER	22nd AUG — SAT 5.30	23rd AUG – SUN 9AM	29th AUG — SAT 5.30	30th AUG – SUN 9AM
GREETERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
PROJECTOR	NOELA TURNER	DIANE BRYANT	SR CORAL	MARY JANE GUEST
READERS	MARIE WARD	JOHN THIVAKON	JENNY MONIE	SUZETTE DIZON
COMMENTATOR	PATSY ARM-STRONG	MARGARET ROBIN-SON	PAT MATHER	JUDY HARRIS
GIFTS	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
COMMUNION MINISTER	ROSS TUTT	ROEL GASCON	ROD TRAVES	SHARON HOLLIS
ALTAR SERVERS	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
MUSIC MINISTRY	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
CANTOR				
COLLECTION	<i>Collection baskets</i>	<i>are at each of the</i>	<i>entrances to the</i>	<i>Church. Thank you.</i>
MORNING TEA	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
COUNTERS		G. CHIE & G. FLEMING		L. MacDONALD & P. GIRLE

PRAYER TO GOD FOR HELP
 God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us your sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil.
 We ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and Saint Joseph, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLAN GIVING FOR THE UPKEEP OF THE CHURCH (2nd Collection)
 Weekly Plan Giving envelopes are available from the office. Alternatively, if you would prefer to submit your Plan Giving by direct debit, please advise the office and use the following bank details:
 BSB No: 082-105 Account No: 001001010
 Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell
 Please quote your surname for the reference
 Thank you