

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“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.” (Mt 16:17-18)



*In response to the coronavirus outbreak,
Pilot Bulletins is providing this bulletin.*

Journey OF Faith

23 AUGUST 2020

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In Word & Deed

Many people claim to be spiritual, but not religious. They acknowledge a spiritual reality, but it is often non-personal and non-specific. It does not involve church or community and resembles a 'feel good' pep talk rather than anything with the power to transform, change and bless. Being spiritual is noncommittal and easy; being religious requires something more personal and committed.

Jesus is not one to tiptoe around the question of faith and commitment. He does not suggest that discipleship is about feeling good or being happy. To follow Him, you pick up a cross. You sacrifice yourself for the sake of others. You follow Him wherever He goes. All this is done with hope in His promise of

(continued on back)



AND SO I SAY TO YOU, YOU ARE PETER, AND
UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH...

MATTHEW 16:18

Scripture Readings

FAMILY LIFE:

TO WALK AS ONE



Sunday

August 23

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

Monday

August 24

Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday

August 25

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday

August 26

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Mt 27-32

Thursday

August 27

1 Cor 1:1-9/Mt 24:42-51

Friday

August 28

1 Cor 1:17-25/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday

August 29

1 Cor 1:26-31/Mk 6:17-29

Sunday

August 30

Jer 20:7-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

The threat of identity theft has people taking extra precautions when they discard bills, personal papers and credit card receipts. Losing your identity can be costly, difficult to correct and cause a slew of problems. Restoring your good name, your credit and your bank account can take a very long time. Our soul, our spiritual identity can also be threatened by sin, apathy and pride. Losing your spiritual identity can be costly, difficult to correct and painful to restore. We need to take precautions to protect our souls from harm.

A strong family, a religious community and a daily dose of prayer can protect us from all evil because in them we are joined more closely to the Lord. It helps us keep focused on who we are and what

we are about.

It reminds us of our spiritual heritage in which God shares with us His endless wisdom, creative power and redeeming work. It calls us to be witnesses to and bearers of the Gospel message of love, hope, joy and peace. With and for each other, we remain committed to the Lord, His mission and His Church. There is no losing our identity, nor being confused for something or someone else. We know who He is and He knows who we are.

-Jim Gaffney
jim@stgeorgepublishing.com

In Word & Deed

(continued from front)

life and grace.

The quick way to decide if you are spiritual or religious is to answer the question that Jesus asks: Who do you say that I am? If you say He is a nice guy who preached about love, you are spiritual. If you say he is the Son of God who died for our sakes and rose from the dead and sits at the right hand of the Father, and He guides and directs my life through the Holy Spirit and through the Church, then you are religious. Look at the cross, and decide what your answer will be.

-Jim Gaffney



*He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Simon Peter said in reply,
"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."*

Matthew 16:15-16

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21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



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The word Jesus uses — “church” (ekklesia in Greek) — was used in the Greek translation of the Old Testament for the “assembly” of God’s children after the Exodus

‘Oh, the depths’

By Scott Hahn

“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!” Paul exclaims in today’s Epistle. Today’s Psalm, too, takes up the triumphant note of joy and thanksgiving. Why? Because in the Gospel, the heavenly Father reveals the mystery of His kingdom to Peter.

With Peter, we rejoice that Jesus is the anointed Son promised to David, the one prophesied to build God’s temple and reign over an everlasting kingdom (see 2 Samuel 7).

What Jesus calls “my Church” is the kingdom promised to David’s son (see Isaiah 9:1–7). As we hear in today’s First Reading, Isaiah foretold that the keys to David’s kingdom would be given to a new master, who would rule as father to God’s people.

Jesus, the root and offspring of David, alone holds the kingdom’s keys (see Revelation 1:18; 3:7; 22:16). In giving those keys to Peter, Jesus fulfills that prophecy, establishing Peter — and all who succeed him — as holy father of His Church.

His Church, too, is the new house of God — the spiritual temple founded on the “rock” of Peter and built up out of the living stones of individual believers (see 1 Peter 2:5).

Abraham was called “the rock” from which the children of Israel were hewn (see Isaiah 51:1–2). And Peter becomes the rock from which God raises up new children of God (see Matthew 3:9).

The word Jesus uses — “church” (ekklesia in Greek) — was used in the Greek translation of the Old Testament for the “assembly” of God’s children after the Exodus (see Deuteronomy 18:16; 31:30).

His Church is the “assembly of the firstborn” (see Hebrews 12:23; Exodus 4:23–24), established by Jesus’ exodus (see Luke 9:31). Like the Israelites, we are baptized in water, led by the Rock, and fed with spiritual food (see 1 Corinthians 10:1–5).

Gathered at His altar, in the presence of angels, we sing His praise and give thanks to His holy name.

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READING 1.....IS 22:19-23

Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace:
“I will thrust you from your office
and pull you down from your station.
On that day I will summon my servant
Eliakim, son of Hilkiyah;
I will clothe him with your robe,
and gird him with your sash,
and give over to him your authority.
He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
and to the house of Judah.
I will place the key of the House of David on
Eliakim’s shoulder;
when he opens, no one shall shut
when he shuts, no one shall open.
I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot,
to be a place of honor for his family.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM..... PS 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

R. (8bc) **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake
the work of your hands.**

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,
for you have heard the words of my mouth;
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;
I will worship at your holy temple.

R. **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the
work of your hands.**

I will give thanks to your name,
because of your kindness and your truth:
When I called, you answered me;
you built up strength within me.

R. **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the
work of your hands.**

The LORD is exalted, yet the lowly he sees,
and the proud he knows from afar.
Your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;
forsake not the work of your hands.

R. **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the
work of your hands.**

READING 2.....ROM 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and
knowledge of God!

How inscrutable are his judgments and how
unsearchable his ways!

*For who has known the mind of the Lord
or who has been his counselor?*

*Or who has given the Lord anything
that he may be repaid?*

For from him and through him and for him are all
things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

ALLELUIA.....MT 16:18

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my
Church
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail
against it.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL.....MT 16:13-20

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he
asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son
of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist,
others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the
prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that
I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply,
“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.” Then
he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he
was the Christ.

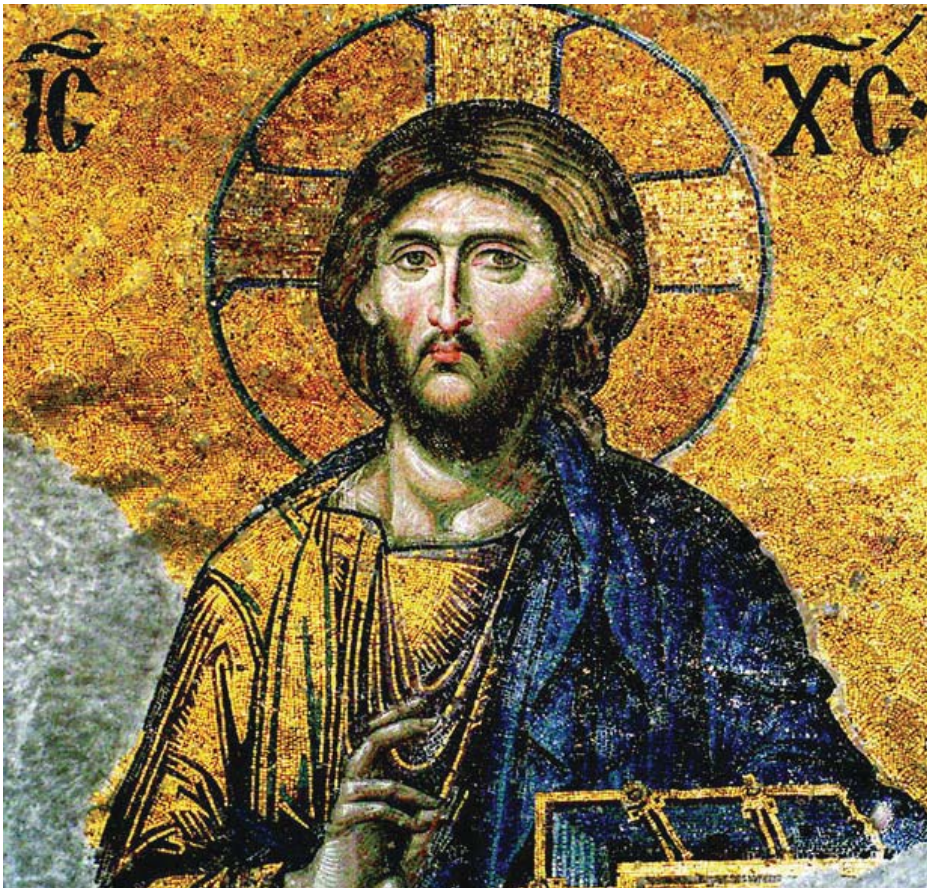


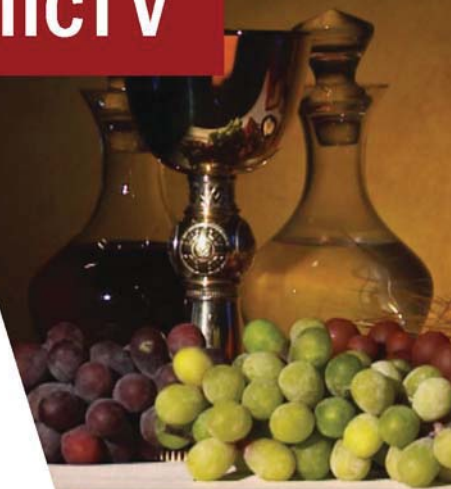
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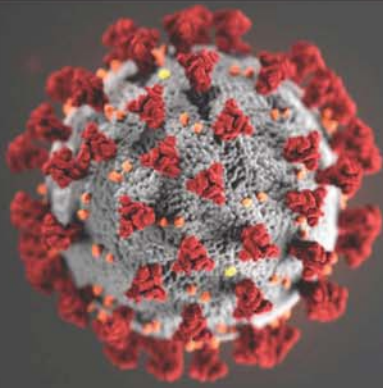
Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from
You.
Amen.

Watch the Mass on CatholicTV

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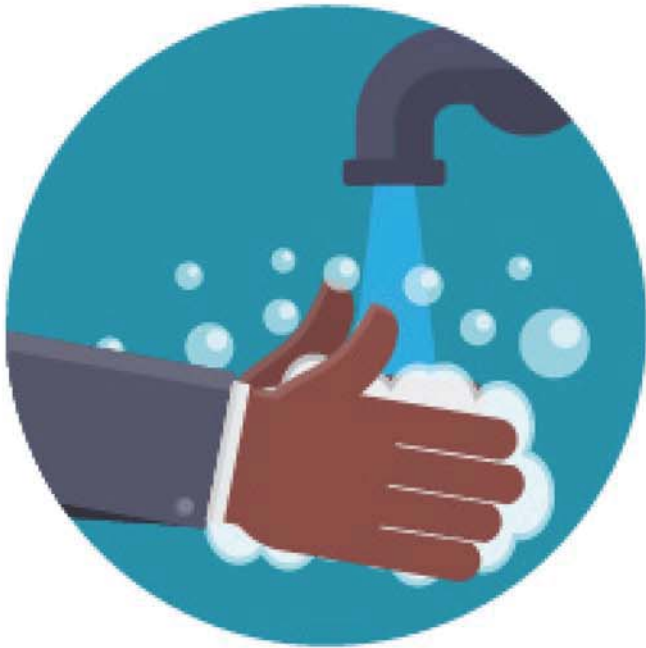




COVID-19

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



Clean and disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, counter tops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.



Take steps to protect others

Cover coughs and sneezes

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Wear a facemask if you are sick

- If you are sick: You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room. Learn what to do if you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK.

Rosary explanation

Portuguese language



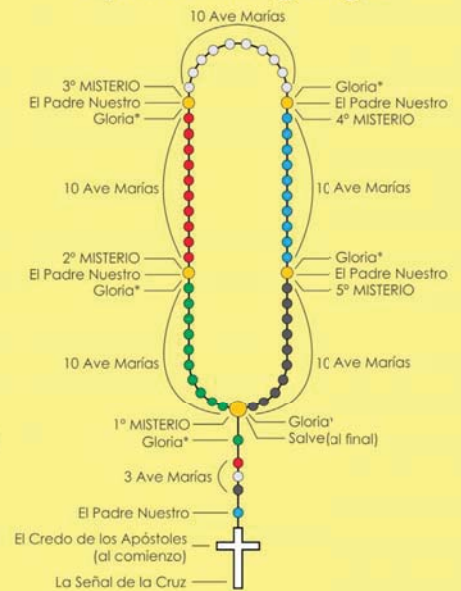
*Após a "Glória" rezar a Oração: Ó meu Jesus, perdoai-nos, livrai-nos do fogo do inferno, levai as almas todas para o céu e socorrei principalmente as que mais precisarem.

English language



*After the "Glory" pray the Prayer: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy

Spanish language



*Después de la "gloria" rezar la oración: Oh, Jesús mío, perdona nuestros pecados, libranos del fuego del infierno, y lleva nuestras almas al cielo, especialmente aquellos que necesitan más Tu Misericordia.

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

Familiarize yourself and/or your group with the prayers of the rosary.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the Apostles' Creed.
3. On the first bead, say an Our Father.
4. Say one Hail Mary on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the Glory Be
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery (perhaps followed by a brief reading from Scripture) then say the Our Father.
7. While fingering each of the ten beads of the decade, next say ten Hail Marys while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a Glory Be.
(After finishing each decade, some say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.)
8. After saying the five decades, say the Hail, Holy Queen, followed by this dialogue and prayer:

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God, whose Only Begotten Son,

by his life, Death, and Resurrection,

has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life,

grant, we beseech thee,

that while meditating on these mysteries

of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

we may imitate what they contain

and obtain what they promise,

through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

(A prayer to St. Joseph may also follow.)

Conclude the Rosary with the Sign of the Cross.



BIBLE DETECTIVE

See what you can discover for yourself about the background to the readings.

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

Isaiah was one of the most famous of Israel's prophets. What do we know about him?

Can you find out who Shebna was? Why was God displeased with him?

When did Isaiah and Shebna live? Who was the king of Israel at the time?

What great enemy came against Jerusalem at about this time? See if you can find the story, and how Jerusalem was miraculously saved.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus gave Simon Peter authority over his Church. Who has that authority today? Who has "the keys of Peter?"

FILL IN THE GAPS

The sentences below are missing key words. Can you find the correct ones? (They are all in today's readings.)

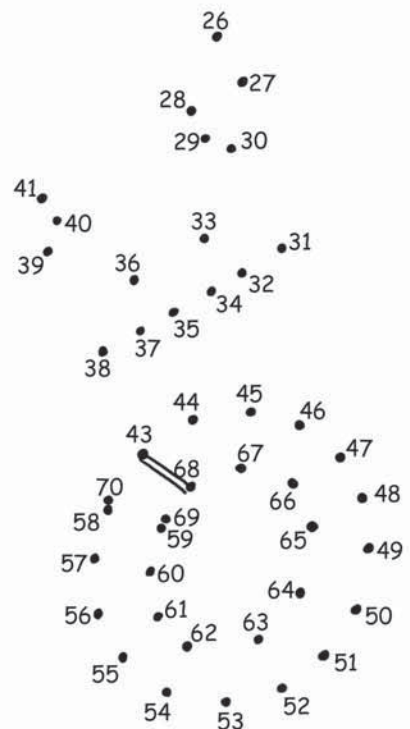
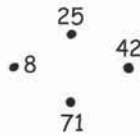
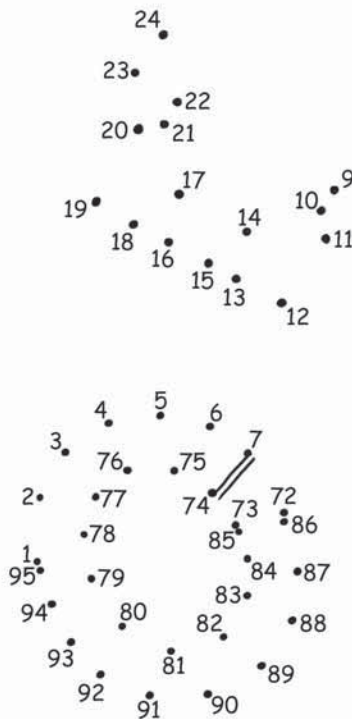
- I will _____ you from your _____ and pull you down from your _____.
- Lord, your _____ is _____; do not forsake the _____ of your hands.
- How deep are the _____ and the _____ and the _____ of God!
- No mere _____ has _____ this to you, but my heavenly _____.
- I will _____ to you the _____ of the _____ of heaven.

ANSWERS

1. thrust, office, station 2. love, eternal, work
 3. riches, wisdom, knowledge 4. man, revealed, Father
 5. entrust, keys, kingdom

CONNECT THE DOTS

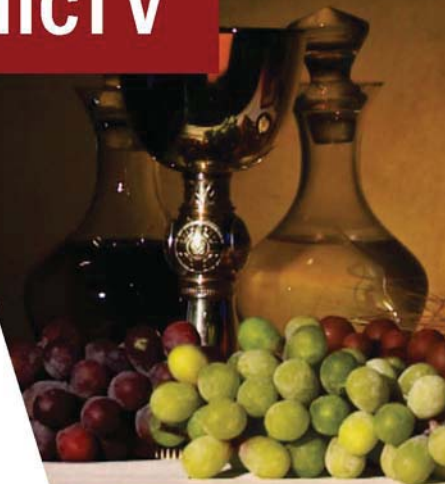
READING: MT 16, 13-20



David Fielding

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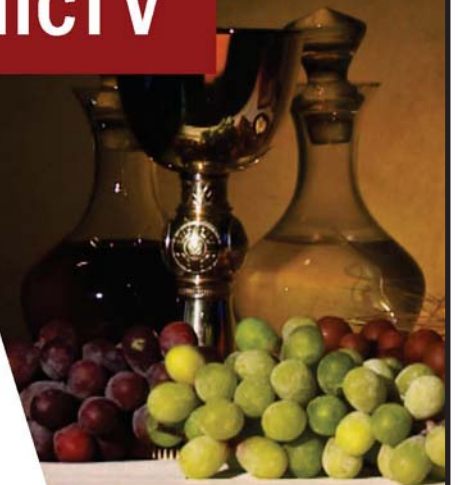
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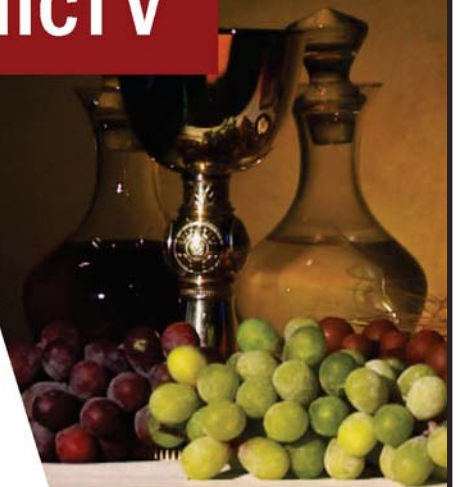
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