



PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP

St. Mary's Maffra [Newry & Dargo]

St. Michael's Heyfield-Cowwarr

Phone: 03 5147 1921 email: Maffra@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs - 9.00am-3.00pm.

For Emergencies: St. Mary's Cathedral, Sale, Phone 5144 4100

Diocesan/parish website: https://www.cdsale.org.au/maffra_heyfield



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A, 23RD August, 2020

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Siju Xavier

Email: Siju.Xavier@cdsale.org.au

PRIEST EMIRITUS:

Fr. Frank Young

PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers

WEEKEND MASSES: Heyfield

Saturday Vigil: -6.00pm

1st & 3rd Sunday Cowwarr: 41.00am

WEEKEND MASSES: Maffra

Sunday: 9.00am

2nd & 4th Sunday - Newry: 41.00am

5th Sunday - Dargo: 42.00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

HEYFIELD

Tuesday: -9.30am

MAFFRA

Wednesday: 5.00pm

Thursday: -9.30am

Friday: 40.00am

2nd Friday Stretton Park 40.00am

Saturday: 9.30am

RECONCILIATION:

MAFFRA

Saturday: After Mass 40.00am

HEYFIELD:

Saturday: Before Mass 5.20pm

OR any other time by request

EXPOSITION: Maffra

Wednesday: After 5.00pm Mass

BAPTISMS:

During or After the Vigil / Sunday Mass

MARRIAGE:

At least six months' notice requested.

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL'S HEYFIELD

Principal: Jenny Miller

Davis St. Heyfield - 3858

Phone: 5148 2514

ST. MARY'S MAFFRA

Principal: Jason Slattery

4-12 Duke St. Maffra - 3860

Phone: 5147 1334

Catholic Care: 1800 522 076

Safe Steps: 1800 015 188

Facebook: [facebook/dioceseofsale](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofsale)

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY by Mary Coloe PBVM

'WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?'

Caesarea Philippi is in the far north of Israel at the base of Israel's highest mountain, Mt Hermon. At the foot of the mountain there is a large cave from which issues the Jordan River. The mountain, the cave and the river have provided a sacred site for many people. The Greek god worshipped here in the centuries before Jesus was Pan, the god of nature and fertility. The large mouth of the cave was seen as an entrance to Hades, the underworld realm of the dead. Standing before this cave, looking up at the rocky cliffs it is very clear that Jesus draws on the physical setting of this place in his words to Peter. You might check the English translation of this passage to see how it is translated. In the original Greek Jesus literally says, 'You are *Petros*, and on this *petra* I will build my community (*ekklesia*) and the gates of *Hades*, (the underworld) will not prevail against you.' To try to convey this play on words, you may need to say, 'You are Rocky and on the rock I will build my community.'

In this remote setting, away from the more populous villages Jesus asks the critical question of his disciples – Who do you say I am? These disciples have been with him now for some time, witnessing his deeds and hearing his words. The question probes their perception and their faith. Have they grasped Jesus' identity? Simon Peter's reply indicates his growing awareness that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah of Israel, the anointed one of God who will be Israel's saviour. His answer elicits from Jesus words of commendation.

Jesus then gives Simon the title 'Peter', from the Greek word 'rock' – *petros*. Perhaps looking at the rocky cliff-face with its dark cavern he speaks of the gates of the underworld and promises that the community founded on Peter the Rock will stand firm against the powers of death. Like a faithful steward with the house keys, Peter is given authority within the community.

It is important to be aware of the time when Matthew's Gospel was written – sometime around 80 – 85CE – that is fifty years after the death of Jesus. It is obvious from all the Gospels that Peter had a significant role among the group of disciples. In the Synoptics he is the first called with his brother Andrew, and is always listed first when disciples' names are listed. (In John, it is Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, who is called first and then Andrew tells Peter about Jesus.) In the letters of Paul and the Acts of the Apostles Peter continues to have a leadership role in the early Church, even though James is considered to have led the Church in Jerusalem.

Contd.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

VINNIES – MAFFRA – COVID - 19

In response to Covid – 19, [Maffra Vinnies](#) is continuing its welfare work, but has for now suspended its Monthly Sales and has closed receiving ALL donations of Clothes, toys, furniture etc. Thank you for your understanding.

Care for the Sick: If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and would like the Eucharist brought to them, please advise us on 5147 1921. **We pray for ALL who suffer (at present) in body, mind or spirit:**

Gerald Zed Hurley, Belinda Weatherley, Archie Schacht, Coral Justice, Julie Frew, Peter Smyth, Fr. Brian O'Connor, John Phelan, Lyn McLindin, Ann Martin, Lorraine Weatherley, Evelyn Bourke, Gerry Gray, Lee Allman, Father Frank, Maree Welsh, and all those who seek our prayers.

[Memorial of St Monica \[27 Aug\].](#)

Reflection

Today, with Google searches, online shopping, text messages, tweets, and instant credit, we have little patience for things that take time. Likewise, we want instant answers to our prayers. Monica is a model of patience. Her long years of prayer, coupled with a strong, well-disciplined character, finally led to the conversion of her hot-tempered husband, her cantankerous mother-in-law and her brilliant but wayward son, Augustine.

[Saint of the Day]

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

Anniversaries:

John Heron, Carmel Cuppari, Eileen Harkin, Richard Johnston, Joan Hanratty, Pat Powell, Valma Williamson, George & Allie Gray, Stefan Penkara, Kevin Conway, Florence GREG McCarthy, Henry (Harry) Justice, Unita (NITA) Nye, Leo Allman, Phylis Fraser, Barbara Payne, Kerri Ann Harrington, Thomas (Tommy) Feeney, Leonora (Angela) Howson, Evelyn Sage, Bernard Kelly. Frs. Thomas Shearman, Patrick Cremin

"An Act of Spiritual Communion 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."

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Any children, young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers. Contact Via the Parish Office: 03 5147 1921.

[Adapted from Moe parish]

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

ST. MARY'S: Terry Donahoe
ST. MICHAEL'S: Ed O'Brien

❖ What Should I do if I Can't go to Mass?

Catholics are encouraged to make a 'spiritual communion'. St. John Paul II writes that "it is good to *cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist*. This was the origin of the practice of 'spiritual communion', which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.'" (*Ecclesia Eucharistia*, no. 34).

❖ How Do I Make a Spiritual Communion?

Below are recommendations for how to make a 'spiritual communion' when unable to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The recommendations can be adapted based upon personal and family needs.

Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.

Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. You can find the readings at usccb.org and a Sunday Gospel reflection on our [YouTube channel](#). Additionally, a weekly televised Sunday Mass is available to watch at adw.org/tvmass.

Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.

Pray the Lord's Prayer.

Pray one of the following prayers of spiritual communion [see above left]

Close with the sign of the cross

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading: Is 22:19-23

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.

Responsorial Psalm

(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

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

Contd.....

According to the Acts of the Apostles, it was Peter who first realised that the Spirit was being given to non-Jews and so the Christian community should not restrict membership to only Jews (Acts 10). Matthew, writing after the death of Peter, affirms his leadership. I mention these considerations because this scene as presented in Matthew is quite different to the way it is narrated in Matthew and Luke.

Mark (70 CE)

8:27 And Jesus went on with his disciples, to the villages of Caesare'a Philip'pi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do men say that I am?'

28 And they told him, 'John the Baptist; and others say, Eli'jah; and others one of the prophets.'

29 And he asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Christ.'

30 And he charged them to tell no one about him.

Matthew (80's)

16:13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesare'a Philip'pi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do men say that the Son of man is?'

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.

Gospel Acclamation:

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!

Gospel: Mt 16:13-20

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.

Communion Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

First Reading: Jer 20:7-9

Second Reading: Rom 12:1-2

Gospel: See Eph 1:17-18

14 And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Eli'jah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'

15 He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' 16 Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' 17 And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'

20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Luke (80's)

9:18 Now it happened that as he was praying alone the disciples were with him; and he asked them, 'Who do the people say that I am?'

19 And they answered, 'John the Baptist; but others say, Eli'jah; and others, that one of the old prophets has risen.'

20 And he said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' And Peter answered, 'The Christ of God.'

21 But he charged and commanded them to tell this to no one.

While all the Gospels record this scene, which is a good indicator of its historicity, only Matthew expands it to emphasise Peter's leadership role and so this is most likely an addition by Matthew, needed for his particular community.

Here, in Caesarea Philippi, after some time in Galilee, Jesus faces his disciples, and all disciples with the key question – 'Who do you say that I am?'. It is not enough to answer the question in terms of what others say about Jesus, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah or one of the Prophets.' What really matters for discipleship is who Jesus is for each one personally. 'Who do YOU say I am?' This also raises the question of how we get to know anyone? What is needed to be able to answer this question about anyone – a friend, a spouse, a parent, a child?

What answer would you give to Jesus' question? Who is Jesus to you?

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A For Families and Households During Social Isolation The Introductory Rites

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

A short hymn might be sung.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one, and strengthens us by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.

We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

A

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you have built your Church on a firm foundation: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, your love is eternal: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Christ, the son of the living God: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

or B

GLORIA

Leader:

With peoples everywhere,
let us glorify our God (in joyful song).

All:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God on high
your son Jesus inspired Peter
to be a rock of faith for the Church.
Increase our faith in you.
When we are unsure of the right path
give us strength to follow in your way.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Is 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.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

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.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to N.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mt 16:13-20

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.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Brothers and sisters, let us bring our prayers before God, the source of all wisdom.

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope N. will use the key of the House of David wisely in opening God's plan for his people.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who work in public or national office will make decisions wisely and justly.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That missionaries will be blessed as they speak the challenging message of Jesus.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will live in obedience and reverence to the church as the key to God's kingdom.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will be raised in health and spirit, especially N.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will find eternal love in Heaven, especially N.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, your wisdom is beyond our understanding. Hear our prayers and help us to always praise you in the depths of our heart. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are
yours,
now and forever.
Amen.

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us
and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

or

Let us go in peace, glorifying the Lord.

or

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

[TAKEN FROM LITURGY HELP]

SAINT MONICA'S STORY

The circumstances of Saint Monica's life could have made her a nagging wife, a bitter daughter-in-law, and a despairing parent, yet she did not give way to any of these temptations. Although she was a Christian, her parents gave her in marriage to a pagan, Patricius, who lived in her hometown of Tagaste in North Africa. Patricius had some redeeming features, but he had a violent temper and was licentious. Monica also had to bear with a cantankerous mother-in-law who lived in her home. Patricius criticized his wife because of her charity and piety, but always respected her. Monica's prayers and example finally won her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. Her husband died in 371, one year after his baptism.

Monica had at least three children who survived infancy. The oldest, Augustine, is the most famous. At the time of his father's death, Augustine was 17 and a rhetoric student in Carthage. Monica was distressed to learn that her son had accepted the Manichean heresy—"all flesh is evil"—and was living an immoral life. For a while, she refused to let him eat or sleep in her house. Then one night she had a vision that assured her Augustine would return to the faith. From that time on, she stayed close to her son, praying and fasting for him. In fact she often stayed much closer than Augustine wanted.

When he was 29, Augustine decided to go to Rome to teach rhetoric. Monica was determined to go along. One night he told his mother that he was going to the dock to say goodbye to a friend. Instead he set sail for Rome. Monica was heartbroken when she learned of Augustine's trick, but she still followed him. She arrived in Rome only to find that he had left for Milan. Although travel was difficult, Monica pursued him to Milan.

In Milan, Augustine came under the influence of the bishop, Saint Ambrose, who also became Monica's spiritual director. She accepted his advice in everything and had the humility to give up some practices that had become second nature to her. Monica became a leader of the devout women in Milan as she had been in Tagaste.

She continued her prayers for Augustine during his years of instruction. At Easter 387, Saint Ambrose baptized Augustine and several of his friends. Soon after, his party left for Africa. Although no one else was aware of it, Monica knew her life was near the end. She told Augustine, "Son, nothing in this world now affords me delight. I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here, all my hopes in this world being now fulfilled." She became ill shortly after and suffered severely for nine days before her death. Almost all we know about St. Monica is in the writings of Saint Augustine, especially his Confessions.

[Franciscan Media]



FAMILY PRAYER

WEEK BY WEEK

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 23 August 2020



**"You are Peter;
to you I will give the keys
of the kingdom of heaven
and earth."**

Something to Think About

Do you remember when Peter tried to walk on water to Jesus - his faith let him down! Peter failed often but he kept coming back. It is easy to see ourselves in Peter - doubt, uncertainty, fear and lack of understanding. Peter was fully human, as we are. Yet Peter was the one Jesus chose to lead his community. We do not have to be perfect to be a disciple or a leader! We just need to hang in there and stick with Jesus, to the very end!

The Story

In this week's gospel story, Jesus is fishing for information - what are people saying about him? Who do they think he is? The disciples all have a go at answering but it is Peter who comes up with the answer: 'You are the Messiah' and that was how Jesus knew that Peter was to lead the Church.

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

16:15-18

Then Jesus asked them, "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter spoke up,

"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus told him:

"Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed!

You didn't discover this on your own.

It was shown to you by my Father in heaven.

So I will call you Peter, which means 'a rock.'

On this rock I will build my Church,
and death itself will not have any power over it."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

Click to watch the video.

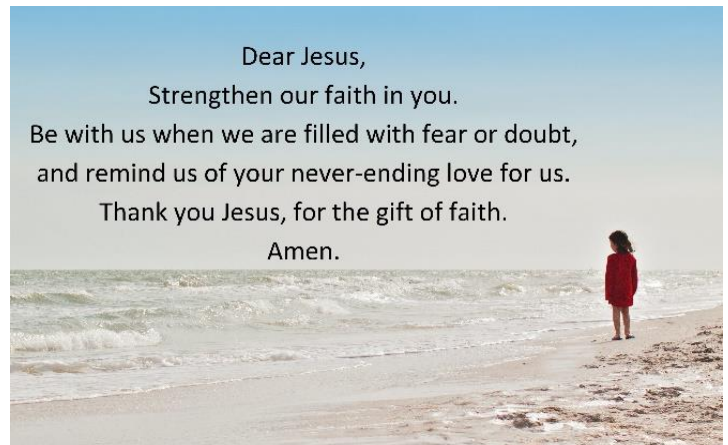
[God's Story: Peter](#)



THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Prayer

Say this prayer together during the week.



Family Discussion

Which people have helped you to be a disciple of Jesus? Who are some of the leaders in our Church today - In your parish? In the world?

What do you know about Peter and his importance to the early Christian community?

What we can learn from Peter and his faith in Jesus?

Family Activity

You will need one rock for the family or a pebble for each person, and marker pens.

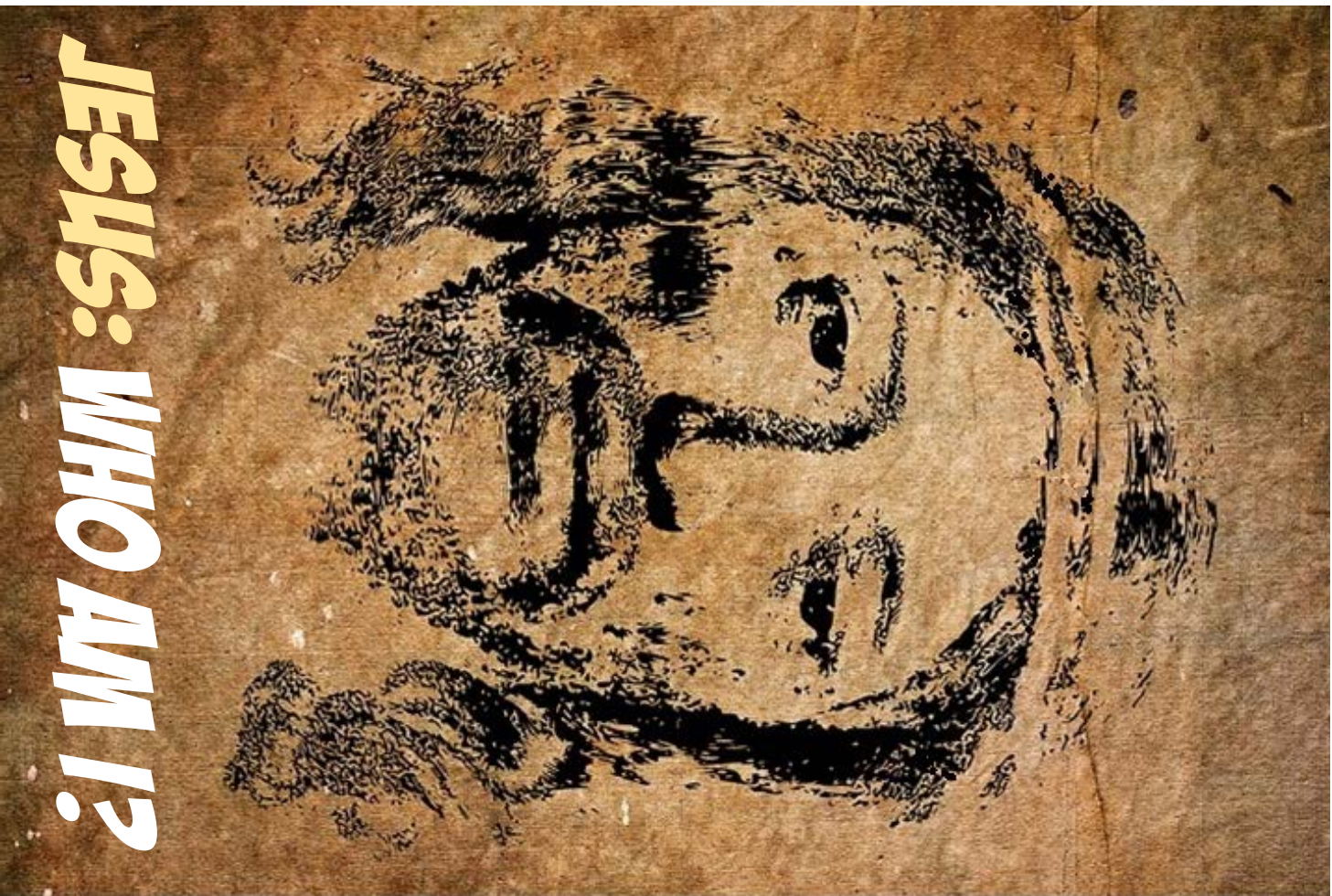
Think about what you would say if Jesus asked you "Who do you say I am?"

Take turns to answer the question, and then write or draw your word or symbol on the rock or one of the pebbles. Keep the rock or pebbles in the centre of the dinner table and remember to pray, thanking Jesus for the gift of your faith.



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JESUS: WHO AM I?

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVOURITE WORDS TO DESCRIBE JESUS?

BOLD. GENTLE. STRONG. LOVING. MERCIFUL. HUMBLE. _____

NOW DRAW YOUR OWN PORTRAIT OF JESUS

