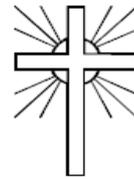


ALL SAINTS, OLD GLOSSOP, AND ST MARY CROWNED, GLOSSOP

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM

REGISTERED OFFICE: WILLSON HOUSE, 25 DERBY ROAD, NOTTINGHAM. NG1 5AW

COMPANY NUMBER 7151646 CHARITY NUMBER 1134449



TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF 2020

Sunday 23rd August 2020

Thoughts from today's Gospel Reading: Mt 16:13 - 20

Peter receives three attributions from Jesus: (i) To be a rock of support, (ii) to receive the keys of the Kingdom, and (iii) to be foundation of the Church.

(i) To be Rock: Simon, the son of Jonah, receives from Jesus a new name which is Cephas, and that means Rock. This is why he is called Peter. Peter has to be **Rock**, that is, he has to be a sure foundation for the Church so that the gates of the underworld can never overpower it. With these words from Jesus to Peter, Matthew encourages the communities of Syria and Palestine, which are suffering and are the victims of persecutions, to see in Peter a leader on whom to find support, to base themselves concerning their origin. In spite of being weak and persecuted communities, they had a secure basis, guaranteed by the word of Jesus.

At that time, the communities had very strong affective bonds with the persons who had begun, who were at the origin of the community. Thus, the community of Syria and Palestine fostered their bond of union with the person of Peter, the community of Greece with the person of Paul, some communities of Asia with the person of the Beloved disciple and others with the person of John of the Apocalypse. Identifying themselves with these leaders of their origin helped the communities to foster their identity and spirituality better. But this could also be a cause of dispute, as in the case of the community of Corinth (1 Cor 1:11-12). To be rock as the basis of faith evokes the Word of God to the people who are in exile in Babylonia: "Listen to Me you who pursue saying injustice, you who seek Yahweh. Consider the rock from which you were hewn, the quarry from which you were dug. Consider Abraham your father, and Sarah who gave you birth; when I called him, he was the only one, but I blessed him and made him numerous" (Isa 51:1-2).

Applied to Peter, this quality of 'peter-foundation' indicates a new beginning of the people of God.

(ii) The keys of the Kingdom: Peter receives the keys of the Kingdom to bind and to loosen, that is, to reconcile the persons among themselves and with God. Behold, that here again the same power to bind and loosen, is given not only to Peter, but to the other disciples and their own communities.

One of the points on which the Gospel of Matthew insists more is reconciliation and forgiveness.

In the years 80's and 90's, in Syria, because of faith in Jesus, there were many tensions in the communities and there were divisions in the families. Some accepted Him as Messiah and others did not, and this was the cause for many tensions and conflicts.

Matthew insists on reconciliation. Reconciliation was and continues to be one of the most important tasks of the coordinators of the communities at present. Imitating Peter, they have to bind and loosen, that is, do everything possible so that there be reconciliation, mutual acceptance, building up of the true fraternity "Seventy times seven!" (Mt 18:22).

iii) The Church: The word **Church**, in Greek **ekléisia**, appears 105 times in the New Testament, almost exclusively in the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters, only three times in the Gospels, and once only in the Gospel of Matthew. The word literally means "chosen". It indicates the people who get together convoked by the Word of God, and who seek to live the message of the Kingdom which Jesus came to bring to us. The Church or the community is not the Kingdom, but an instrument or an indication of the Kingdom. The Kingdom is much greater.

In the Church, in the community, what happens when a human group allows God to reign and allows God to be 'Lord' in one's life, should be rendered present to the eyes of all.

A picture of Saint Peter: Peter, a fisherman of fish, became fisherman of men. He was married, a good man, very human, a natural leader among the 12 first disciples of Jesus. Jesus respects this leadership and makes Peter the animator of His first community. Before entering the community of Jesus, Peter was called *Simão Bar Jona*, Simon, son of Jonah. Jesus calls him *Cefas* or *Rock*, who later becomes *Peter*.

By his nature and character, Peter could be everything, except *pietra* – rock. He was courageous in speaking, but in the moment of danger he allows himself to be dominated by fear and flees. When Jesus walked on the sea, Peter asks, "Jesus, allow me also to walk on the sea". Jesus says: "You may come, Peter!" Peter got off from the boat and walked on the sea. But as soon as he saw a high wave, he was taken with panic, lost trust, and began to sink and cry out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus assured him and saved him (Mt 14: 28-31). © Order of Carmelites

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Joint Parish Pastoral council: 08445 880856. Jenny Cieslik, Lorraine Doyle, Christine Hulley, Ann King, Natalie Mellor-Fallon, Sandra Mellor-Fallon, Sue Nash, Barbara Payne and Fr Martin Sylvester. (Calls to 0844 numbers cost 7p/min plus your network charge. The parish does not receive any income from this charge - it is retained by the virtual switchboard service provider.)
Parish Newsletter Editor Liz Nash **Website** www.glossopcatholics.org.uk
The Glossop Catholic Parishes are bound by Diocesan Privacy Policy – see <http://dioceseofnottingham.uk/privacy-policy>

The Week Ahead (ASC = All Saints Church, SMC = St Mary's Church)

Saturday 22nd The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am to 11.00am, ASC open for private prayer
6.00pm, ASC Holy Mass for Sunday -
visit www.massbooking.uk or phone 0115 648 1474 to book a place

Sunday 23rd Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
10.30am, SMC Holy Mass –
visit www.massbooking.uk or phone 0115 648 1474 to book a place

Monday 24th St Bartholomew, Apostle
3.30pm to 4.30pm, SMC open for private prayer

Tuesday 25th St Louis
1.00pm to 2.00pm, ASC open for private prayer

Wednesday 26th Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God, Priest
10.00am to 11.00am, SMC open for private prayer

Thursday 27th St Monica
7.00pm to 8.00pm, ASC open for private prayer

Friday 28th St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor

Saturday 29th The Passion of St John the Baptist
10.00am to 11.00am, ASC open for private prayer
6.00pm, ASC Holy Mass for Sunday –
visit www.massbooking.uk or phone 0115 648 1474 to book a place

Sunday 30th Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
10.30am SMC Holy Mass –
visit www.massbooking.uk or phone 0115 648 1474 to book a place

The Christian Way to Union with God :

*To find the right "way" of prayer,
the Christian should consider
what has been said earlier
regarding the prominent features
of the "way of Christ,"
Whose "food is -
to do the will of him who sent him,
and to accomplish his work" (Jn 4:34).*

Jesus lives no more intimate or closer.

(The Order of Carmelites)

Mass Intentions for the nine days beginning Saturday 22nd August, Fr Martin will offer Holy Mass this week:

For the Holy Souls; For the people of the parishes (this Sunday and next Saturday); For Tessa Sylvester RIP;
For a private intention; For Arthur Sylvester RIP; For Fr Martin's deceased relatives and friends, RIP;
For Fr Martin's deceased benefactors, RIP; and For Sarah and Tim Rudd (tenth wedding anniversary) (CH).

Live streaming services for This Weekend:

For Bishop Patrick, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/bishoppatrickmckinney/community>

For Nottingham Cathedral at 10 am, go to: <https://www.churchservices.tv/nottinghamcathedral>

For The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham at 9.30am, go to: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

This Sunday's Mass Readings are: Isaiah 22: 19-23; Psalm 137: 1-3, 6, 8; Rom: 11, 33-36; Mt 16: 13-20

News series

Fr Martin's Youtube channel has a news series for August. In addition to the daily homilies by Fr Martin, this month sees the launch of *Mysteries of Light*, a weekly series of meditations by Mgr Jonathan Moore, reflecting on the Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. View any time and for free at:

[youtube.com/fathermartin](https://www.youtube.com/fathermartin)

Friday 28th August: The memorial day of St Augustine:

St Augustine was one of the first visionary Christian authors, believing that the Grace of Christ was indispensable to human freedom and, with the early disintegration of the Roman Empire, he proposed the concept of the Catholic Church as a Spiritual City of God.

His prayer: *Pray for us that we will never give up on life, always seeing the good that's possible from within our life's trials.* Glory be to the Father,..

All Saints Monthly Draw: The winner of the July £100 Draw was M McDonald.