

# **St Peter's/St Joseph's Bidding Prayers**

## **27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

### **Priest:**

Today we celebrate the feast of St Peter and St Paul. We pray for those who guide our church and those who spread its message of love.

### **Reader:**

Let us pray for the successor to St Peter, Francis our Pope: May the Lord grant him wisdom to guide the whole church and be a voice in the world.

**Lord in your mercy.**

Let us pray for the successors to St Paul, all those engaged in missionary activity: May the Lord grant them courage and sensitivity as they bring Christ to others.

**Lord in your mercy.**

Let us pray for our world, recovering from the effects of the Coronavirus: May the Lord grant consolation to those bereaved and strength to those suffering.

**Lord in your mercy.**

Let us pray for our parish: May St Peter be an example to us as we seek to follow the Lord and discover how best we can serve the master.

**Lord in your mercy.**

We commend to the loving mercy of the Father in heaven those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: May they rest in the arms of their saviour.

**Lord in your mercy.**

Both St Peter and St Paul were changed by the power of the risen Lord Jesus. Let us share with the Lord all of our hopes and all of our fears.

***[After a pause]***

**Lord in your mercy.**

Mary knew and supported Peter. We can ask her to intercede on our behalf.  
**Hail Mary....**

**Priest:** Father, we thank you for raising up in your church leaders and apostles. We make these prayers today in name of Jesus because he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

# Reflection for the feast of St Peter and St Paul

## Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020

*If you do not have a copy of the missalette, you can find today's readings at [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)*

Today we celebrate the feast of St Peter and St Paul. This feast has special significance for us as our parish church is dedicated to St Peter. Today is our patronal feast.

One thing that the two saints have in common is that they both had a change of name. Saul of Tarsus was given a strict Jewish upbringing, so we can safely assume that he was called Saul after the first King of Israel. In Hebrew the name Saul literally means “ask” or “question”. On the road to Damascus Jesus uses this name: “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”. It is only 13 years later that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, without explanation switches from Saul to Paul. It coincides with the first missionary journey, where Paul is accompanied by Barnabas.

Paul was unknown as a name in Jewish circles and is of Latin origin. Literally it means “small” or “humble”. Paul probably chose the name because it sounded similar to Saul, but also because it would be more acceptable to non-Jewish hearers of the word to have a non-Jewish name. The questioning king becomes the humble servant of the Lord.

Peter also underwent a similar rebranding. The name Simon (or Simeon) means “listen” in Hebrew. The name is not found in the Old Testament, but there are several people of this name in the New Testament, including the prophet who welcomed Jesus when he was presented in the Temple. Jesus calls Peter by his full name in John 21 when he asks him: “Simon, son of John, do you love me?”

It was after the profession of faith at Caesarea Philippi, where Peter recognises Jesus as the Christ, that Jesus gives him his new name. Often thereafter he is referred to as Simon-Peter. Peter is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word “eban” meaning “rock”. As Jesus gives this name to Peter, he insists that “upon this rock I will build my church”. Thus the one who listened to Jesus, and recognised who he was, becomes the foundation of the group who would follow Jesus and make his name known.

After the resurrection of Jesus, Peter and Paul follow quite different paths. Peter is acknowledged as the first amongst the apostles but ministers to the Jewish community, in Jerusalem and then in Antioch. He goes to Rome to become the first bishop there and it is in Rome that he met his death around the year 66AD.

Paul, on the other hand, travels widely to proclaim the message of the resurrection. He always addressed the Jews he found in each city first, but when they would not listen he turned his attention to gentiles. When he is arrested he claims his right as a Roman citizen for his case to be heard by the Emperor. He was in Rome, under house arrest from 64 to 66AD.

We don't know how much contact Peter and Paul had with each other in Rome. They were martyred at about the same time, but probably not together. Because Peter was not a citizen, his sentence was crucifixion. However, tradition tells us that he felt unworthy to share the same death as his master, Jesus, so he asked to be crucified upside down. The statue of Peter in our church represents him with an upside down cross and also holding a key. Most statues have Peter holding 2 keys – why ours has only one I don't know, but Jesus did promise Peter “the keys to the kingdom of heaven”.

In art Paul is often depicted with a sword and a book. As a Roman citizen he would not have been crucified but beheaded. The book would represent the corpus of letters he wrote to keep in touch with the communities he had visited.

The execution of these two giants of the early church sent a shock wave through the scattered Christian communities. Many thought that the second coming would happen first. It prompted a disciple of both Peter and Paul to write an account of the life of Jesus. This we call the gospel of Mark. Another friend of Paul, Luke, set about collecting copies of his letters. Thus, after their deaths the church was transformed from a church of personal witness to a church of the written word. We owe both a debt of gratitude.

# ST PETER'S CHURCH

(with St Joseph's, Hurst Green)

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Registered Charity No 2500374

**28<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**THE NEWSLETTER**

**Feast of St Peter and Paul**

[Early Edition]

Mass Schedule for this week

*Fr Tim will offer a private Mass each day for the following intentions*

Date	Time	Fr Tim's Private Mass Intention	Feast
Sa 27 <sup>th</sup>		Maureen Golding L	Vigil of Feast of St Peter and St Paul
Su 28 <sup>th</sup>		For the parish	St Peter and St Paul
M 29 <sup>th</sup>		Private Intention	Weekday in Ordinary Time(week 13)
T 30 <sup>th</sup>		For the College and SMH	Weekday in Ordinary Time
W 1 <sup>st</sup> July		Margaret Holden L (Gloucestershire)	Weekday in Ordinary Time
Th 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Barbara Webb L	Weekday in Ordinary Time
F 3 <sup>rd</sup>		Angela Kershaw Snape A	St Thomas, apostle

(No Holy Hour or Benediction until further notice.)

L = Lately Dead, A = Anniversary of Death, R = Remembrance

M = Martyr, V = Virgin, B = Bishop, Pp = Pope

P = Personal Intention, S = Sick, B = Birthday F = Founders Mass

D = Doctor, P = Priest, R = Religious

**Please pray for the following, the anniversary of whose deaths occur at this time.** William James Cross, Elsie Marie Hardwick and John Ignatius Hayhurst. *May they rest in peace.*

Readings at Mass

	St Peter and St Paul	14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of OT
First	Acts 12; 1 - 11	Zech 9; 9 - 10
Second	2 Tim 4; 6-8, 17-18	Rom 8; 9, 10 - 11
Gospel	Matt 16; 13 - 19	Matt 11; 25 - 30

**Diocesan Website:**

<http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk>

for information on our Diocese and what is happening.

**Praying with the Pope in July 2020**

We pray that families may be supported with love, respect and guidance.

Look at [www.ThePopeVideo.org](http://www.ThePopeVideo.org) for more information



*St Peter and St Paul  
Pray for us*

**We shall continue to send out the newsletter until we are able to gather again in church. Together with other resources, it is also available on line on the parish website and in the parish resources box by the Cenotaph.**

#### **Fr Tim's availability**

Each day Fr Tim will be in the Parish Office from 9am to 10am and available on the parish number (01254 826268). At other times, leave a message on the parish answer machine, which will be responded as soon as possible. A daily prayer sheet is now available on-line and in the box by the cenotaph in the village.

#### **Guild Day**

This Saturday (27<sup>th</sup> June) was due to be Guild Day. The Guild were hoping to mark this day in some way, but alas, it was not possible to do so and also keep members safe.

#### **Today**

Is the feast of St Peter and St Paul. This is the patronal feast of the parish. It is a shame that we still cannot have Mass. Fr Tim will say Mass in St Peter's at 5.30 pm on Saturday and in St Joseph's at 9.30 am on Sunday.

#### **Our School**

SMH and Stonyhurst both break up for the summer on Tuesday. You can follow the end of term celebrations by going to You Tube and searching under "Stonyhurst Anywhere". Years 1, 6 and reception continue at St Joseph's until 17<sup>th</sup> July.

#### **Feast days in the Week**

Friday is the feast of St Thomas the apostle, often known as "doubting" Thomas.

#### **Next Sunday**

Is the 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time. In the gospel Jesus invites all of those in need to come to him for strength.

#### **Box by the Cenotaph**

Contains daily reflections and some booklets. This week there are some copies of the *Day by Day* and *Messenger* magazines. A small selection of cards are available in the parish box by the cenotaph.

#### **Statistics**

Last week we delivered 120 copies of the newsletter (thanks to those who deliver them) and 79 people accessed it on line. 8 people took printed copies of the daily reflections and 18 people read these on line!

#### **Preparing for the reopening of churches**

Thanks to those who have offered help with the reopening of St Peter's for private prayer. We were inspected by the diocese last Tuesday. We are expecting to be authorized to open by the Vicar General of the diocese.

We intend to open St Peter's on Saturdays from 2pm to 5pm. Thanks to those who have volunteered to help clean the church beforehand and to be stewards while the church is open.

*More offers of help to Fr Tim, please.*

Those coming to the church to pray should wear a face covering. Do not come to church if you are shielding or have flu like symptoms.

This will begin next Saturday (4<sup>th</sup> July).

#### **Resumption of Masses**

The government has announced that Masses can resume in July. The bishop has sent through his guidelines to ensure this is done with a minimum of risk to those attending Mass.

From 11<sup>th</sup> July Mass will be held in **St Peter's** at 5.30pm Saturday and 9.30am and 11am Sunday. *(For the time being it is not safe to have Mass in St Joseph's).*

Those who wish may use a face covering to come to Mass.

#### **Churches already open for private prayer:**

St Michael & St John, Clitheroe (11 to 12noon)  
St Mary's, Bamber Bridge (10 to 12 and 5 to 7)  
St Wilfrid's, Chapel Street, Preston (10am to 2pm)  
A more complete list is available on the diocese website.

*(Best to check before making the journey)*

#### **Donating to the parish on line**

The Diocese of Salford has put a donate button on their website, so that you can donate to individual parishes. Click on the link, and type "Stonyhurst" in the parish box, and your donation will end up in our parish bank account. Go to

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/>