

SUNDAY 29th JUNE 2025

St. Peter and St. Paul

(2nd after Trinity)

Collect

Almighty God,
whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul
glorified you in their death as in their life:
grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching
and example, and made one by your Spirit,
may ever stand firm upon the one foundation,
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



1st Reading - Acts 12.1-11

About that time King Herod laid violent hands
upon some who belonged to the church. He had
James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.
After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded
to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of
Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him,
he put him in prison and handed him over to four
squad of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring
him out to the people after the Passover.
While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed
fervently to God for him. The very night before
Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound
with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers,
while guards in front of the door were keeping
watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the
Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell.
He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying,
'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists.
The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on
your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him,
'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.'
Peter went out and followed him; he did not realise
that what was happening with the angel's help was
real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they
had passed the first and the second guard, they
came before the iron gate leading into the city.
It opened for them of its own accord, and they went
outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the
angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said,
'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and
rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all
that the Jewish people were expecting.'

Psalm - Psalm 125

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
As the hills stand about Jerusalem,
so the Lord stands round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore. *℟*



Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zi - on that stands for e - ver.

The sceptre of wickedness shall not hold sway
over the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous turn their hands to evil.
Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,
and to those who are true of heart. *℟*

Those who turn aside to crooked ways
the Lord shall take away with the evildoers;
but let there be peace upon Israel. *℟*

2nd Reading - 2 Timothy 4.6-8, 17-18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a
libation, and the time of my departure has come.
I have fought the good fight, I have finished the
race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is
reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which
the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that
day, and not only to me but also to all who have
longed for his appearing. But the Lord stood by me
and gave me strength, so that through me the
message might be fully proclaimed and all the
Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the
lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every
evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom.
To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 16.13-19

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea
Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people
say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some
say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still
others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to
them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter
answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living
God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessèd are you,
Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not
revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I
tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build
my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail
against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of
heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be
bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth
will be loosed in heaven.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us
faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

