

Sunday Gospel Reflection

Today we celebrate Saints Peter and Paul—two very different men, yet united in one mission. Peter, the fisherman, was impulsive and often unsure, but chosen by Christ to be the rock on which the Church is built. Paul, the former persecutor, was fiery and intellectual, transformed by grace into the Church's great missionary and theologian. Together, they are the twin pillars of the Church: Peter stands for faith and unity, Paul for mission and proclamation. Their lives remind us that God uses flawed, ordinary people to build something eternal. Their witness encourages us to stand firm in our faith like Peter, and to go boldly into the world like Paul. As we honour them today, we are invited to renew our commitment to Christ and to the Church, trusting that God will work through us, as he did through them, to bring the Gospel to our world. Saints Peter and Paul, pray for us.

NOTICES

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

Thank you to everyone who came out to our garden party yesterday and to all our volunteers!

Check out Fr. Paul's Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflections on Instagram, Facebook and St. Edward's church website

Please support our church financially. Your donation makes a difference. Your kind support helps us to maintain this church and its work in and for the community. You can now donate to St. Edwards with our New Payment device which is found at the back of the church by using your card or smartphone.

**STS. PETER
AND PAUL**

June 29th



The Anglican Church of ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR



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CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SUNG MASS EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:30 AM

**LOW MASS EVERY FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 8:30 AM**

Wednesday mid-week Mass at 10:30 am

29th June 2025 Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul

10:30 am Sung Eucharist



The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (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 squads 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 realize 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." This is the word of the Lord **R. Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

The Angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall be every in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the Lord; the lowly will hear me and be glad

The Angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him

Glorify the Lord with me, let us together extol his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears

The Angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy and your faces may not blush with shame. When the poor one called out, the Lord heard and from all his distress he saved him.

The Angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. Taste and see how good the Lord is; blessed the man who takes refuge in him.

The Angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him

A reading from the second letter of Paul to 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 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 forever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord **R. Thanks be to God**

Sung Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia **All: Alleluia, 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.

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Gospel of Matthew (16:13-19)

The Lord be with you. **All: And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

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, 'Blessed 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord **R. Praise to you, O Christ**