

AUGUST 27, 2023
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Jesus established the papacy with Peter as the first pope. Keys can symbolize many things: responsibility, trust, safe-keeping, and the guarding of important or valuable items. They also symbolize authority. In ancient times, carrying the keys to the palace meant a person was the official representative of the king. The king himself trusted the keeper of the keys (whose position was similar to a prime minister).

When the Lord gives Eliakim the keys of the palace, he is giving him complete authority to make decisions. The Lord, as the true king, can give this position to whomever he pleases. The Lord says of Eliakim: He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah, and that when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open.

These have clear parallels to the papacy and to today's Gospel. We heard Matthew describe Jesus giving Peter the keys to the kingdom. We recognize this as Jesus making Peter the first pope. Just as the holder of the palace keys could act with the authority of the king, the pope acts as the vicar of Christ.

Another parallel is that we call the pope the "Holy Father," for he is a spiritual father to us all. Peter's papal lineage continues as well, with more than 260 popes over 2,000 years.

The Church that Jesus established here on earth is infinitely more valuable than a car, a house, or social security card. He knew that the Church would need supernatural help, so the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail.

Evidence of that supernatural help comes from Peter's declaration. Jesus asks who others say that he is, and his disciples answer that some say he is John the Baptist, Elijah, or another prophet. But Peter announces that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus responds that it was the Father who revealed this to Peter. Surely God's help would continue to help Peter with the immense responsibility of being Christ's vicar on earth.

We can trust that God will always give us guidance through the Church and through the Holy Father. Jesus is the king and he has established a keeper of the keys in Peter and those who have followed in apostolic succession. We can trust that the gates of hell will never overcome the Church, or our king.



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| OFFICE HOURS | 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI) |
| WEEKDAY MASSES | 9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI) |
| SATURDAY VIGIL MASS | 5:00 PM |
| SUNDAY MASSES | 8:00 AM 10:00 AM |
| HOLY DAY MASSES | 9:00 AM 7:00 PM |
| CONFESSIONS | 4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT |

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

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| Saturday | August 26 |
| 8:30 AM | Men's Coffee & Gospel |
| 9:30—11 AM | Food Closet Open |
| 5:00 PM | Mass: Living & Deceased Members of the Boivin & Robillard Families |
| Sunday | August 27 |
| 8:00 AM | Mass: Anthony Kachanis (RIP) |
| 9:15 AM | Rosary |
| 10:00AM | Mass: The Mosca Family (RIP) |
| 11:00AM | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Monday | August 28 |
| 8:35 AM | Rosary |
| 9:00 AM | Mass: Margaret J. Forrest (RIP) |
| Wednesday | August 30 |
| 8:35 AM | Rosary |
| 9:00 AM | Mass: Healing for Ali & Margot |
| Friday | September 1 |
| 8:35 AM | Rosary |
| 9:00 AM | Mass: Souls in Purgatory |
| 9:30—10:30 AM | Adoration of Blessed Sacrament |

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

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| 5:00 PM | Mass: Open for your Intentions |
| 8:00 AM | Mass: Healing for Cass Stallings |
| 10:00 AM | Mass: Clodomiro Gabriele (RIP) |

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

2023 Catechism Classes

Registration forms for the 2023-24 session will be mailed out next week.

Faith Formation is a continuous and life-long experience. Our catechism classes begin with the first grade and continue beyond the Confirmation program.

If you have a child entering first grade, or if you are new to St. Paul's Parish, please call /email 647-3664 faith@stpaulsfoster.org.

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Office of Marriage Preparation & Enrichment is hosting the annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration to honor couples of the Diocese of Providence observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and OVER anniversaries in 2023. The celebration will be held October 22, 2023, 1:00PM at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. It includes Mass, renewal of vows, a personalized certificate and a reception for the couples and their families. Bishop Richard G. Henning will be the main celebrant. Let the parish know if you will attend.

Prayer Request from Fr. Laporte

So often, I have asked you to pray for the priest—pray for me as I endure 44 radiation treatments five days a week for nine weeks. I have had prostate cancer for four years, but now it is getting more serious. The treatment begins August 17 and ends October 19. With radiation, there is an 85% chance that I will be cured—so pray for the priest through these days.

Fr. Paul Laporte

The Eucharistic Adoration

As the Fruit of The Eucharistic Revival, now onwards on the last Sunday of each month, we will have The Eucharistic Adoration with the Recitation of the Holy Rosary and Benediction after 10AM Mass, this **Sunday August 27**.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection – Aug 19/20
\$2,645.00

Mary Knoll Missionaries - Aug 19/20
\$ 809.00

Thank you for your support!

Wildfire Relief: Maui

As of Monday, August 21, at least 114 people have died and more than 800 people remain missing from fires that ravaged the Hawaiian island of Maui. Catholic Charities USA is actively providing lifesaving resources and relief on the ground.

If you wish to contribute to the relief effort, **donations can be made online directly to CCUSA** at the shortcut: <http://provd.io/maui> or there will be a **collection box in the back of the church this weekend and next**. Monetary donations are the best resource and 100% of donations will go directly to disaster relief.

2023 Christmas Bazaar Dec 2/3

Main Raffle Prizes

- \$1000 Gift Card Tree
- Ninja Foodi Digital Air Fry Oven
- MICLEON 27.5" Electric Bike
- A-Frame 17ft Telescoping Ladder

Thank you to the **40 people** who took envelopes to donate **\$25** toward **\$1000 Gift Card Tree**. **24 have already been returned. Thank you! Please** return your \$25 cash or check to St. Paul's either to the office or in the collection basket. **Thank you** for your support!

We will be asking for **Table Items:**

Hand Made Items
'NEW' Items for Penny Social Table
Gently Used Jewelry
Empty Jewelry Boxes

ADOPT-A-STATION

Thank you to the Parish families who signed up to adopt one of the prayer garden stations. We are very thankful for the help. The first thing to take care of is weeding around the station you choose. If we can get that taken care of by end of August then we can see what if anything. Having an easy maintainable and yet beautiful space is the goal. Contact the office with any questions and or after you have had a chance to weed and what supplies you might need. Thank you!



Elevator Project Update

We are in need of an architect to work on our elevator project. Our original plan fell through. Please ask around if anyone knows someone who could help us out please call the office or speak to Fr. Dore. Thank you!

The Wonders of The Mass

Prayers at Mass

We may use any prayers that we wish and that help us most, but it is generally admitted that it is best to use a prayerbook and follow, as closely as we can, the Mass with the priest.

The Confiteor. When the priest bends down at the beginning of the Mass and says the *Confiteor*, we, too, should unite ourselves with Jesus in His Agony, should humbly confess our faults and ask pardon for them through the merits of Christ's agony. We then follow the various prayers with the celebrant.

At the Sanctus we should remember that the Angels come down to assist at Mass in multitudes and that we are in the midst of them, and we should join our voices with theirs in adoring and praising God. They present our prayers to God.

At the Consecration we should be filled with the deepest reverence and love, for Jesus is really born in the hands of the priest, as He was born in Bethlehem. When the priest lifts up the Sacred Host, we should look on our God in an ecstasy of joy, as the Angels look on Him in Heaven, and say, "My Lord and my God."

At the Consecration of the Precious Blood we must remember that all the Precious Blood that Jesus shed on Calvary is in the Chalice, and we should offer it to God with the priest for God's glory and for our own intentions.

It is well to place ourselves, our sins, all our intentions, our dear ones, the souls in Purgatory in all the chalices being at this moment offered to God in every part of the world.

We must be full of holy awe and love from the Consecration to the Communion. We are in the midst of countless adoring Angels.

It is indeed a sign of woeful ignorance to manifest irreverence, to look around or speak during this most sacred time. It is much worse to leave the church, to abandon God dying on the altar for us. Nothing but the gravest necessity should induce one to go away until, at least, the Communion of the Priest.

Remember, Dear Reader, that the day you hear Mass is worth a thousand days to you, that all the labors and works of a day, or a week, or a whole year are nothing in comparison with the value of one Mass.

~Father Paul O'Sullivan, O.P.