

Sunday June 29th 2025

Solemnity of Saints

Peter and Paul

(ACTS 12:1-11, 2TIM 4:6-8,17-18, MT 16:13-19)

THEME: THE TRIUMPH OF GRACE

Conquered for Victory: Peter was untutored by human rating, but the grace of divine illumination gave him superior knowledge. He was the first to acknowledge the true identity of Christ, Son of the living God. A man of questionable academic credentials was under the power of divine grace in possession of superior knowledge. A mere weakling that denied his master before a slave girl but later stood before nobles in defense of the gospel. His human weaknesses before the power of grace gives way to bravery. Simon is overpowered that Peter the rock may emerge. This explains why we take up a new name at confirmation, yielding our natural selves to the power of the Holy Spirit to produce in us a new image.

Likewise, Saul was fanatical in his beliefs in Judaism and avid in his convictions. In terms of natural and social credentials, he was high-ranking. In his cause of persecution of the church, he had the elite approval and conviction of conscience. However, at the illumination of the heavenly light, he was overpowered. He counted everything he earlier cherished as a mere thrash: "I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ" (Phil. 3:8). In his new life, the former persecutor of the faith becomes a vigorous preacher of the gospel.



The duo of Peter and Paul were conquered by the power of God's grace that they may become instruments of victory in the hands of God.

The first victory lies in conquering the self. This is the fruit of grace but demands our cooperation. We have our individual weaknesses, temperamental dispositions and natural biases like Saul and Simon. When, however, they surrendered to the power of God and his will, they became completely new persons: saints Peter and Paul.

* **Read the complete Reflection at**

<https://stpeterchurchaz.com/reflections>



SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS:

9:00 am Mass - Jacob Burgess by Bill & Sue Moriarty

11:00 am Mass - No Mass

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Monday 10:00 Rosary and 11:00 Funeral for +Ray Barraza

Tuesday 9:00am – Thanksgiving by Eva Orona

Wednesday 9:00am - Healing of Eva Orona by Loretta Orona

Thursday 9:00am – Special Intention by Loretta Orona

Friday 9:00am – Nathan Krick by David & Judy Krick
Holy Hour 9:30am

Saturday - 9:30 Rosary and 10:00 Funeral for +Marian Castillo

PRAYER TREE - LET US PRAY FOR:

Maria & Clara Archuleta, Family of +Jason Pittman, Family of +Raymond Barraza, Family of +Marian Castillo, Jeanne Allen, Joe Warne, Raymond Morales, Karlene Ochoa, Larry Tyrrell, Tom Malone, Eva Orona, Rebeka Talbot, David & Geri Silva, Margie Govey, Cora Lee, Liz Ketring, Pauline Stoffel, Jeannette Davis, Maria Lopez, Pat Hanrahan, Angela Gonzales, Joe and Margie Tapia, Bernice & Roxanne Chavez, Lilly Hill, Sophie Pena, Juan Quevedo, Lydia Gonzalez, Sophie Montoya. **TO MAKE PRAYER REQUESTS.** Please contact the church office at (928) 333-4423. Leave a message, if there is no answer, please include your name and phone number with info.