

## **Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul- Year A June 28<sup>th</sup> 2020**

If possible arrange candles, a crucifix and a Gospel or Sunday Missal on a table.

### **Introduction**

Today is the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. Both men shared the Gospel and love of God with others in the very beginning of the church. They are leaders for us in our faith.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us.

An adult lights the candles.

### **Penitential Act**

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week. Especially when our daily routines are different just now. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful even when you don't feel like it and it's difficult?

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song".

We are sorry,  
Truly sorry,  
Heal us Lord,  
In Your love,  
Help us to do better, Help us to be kinder. Forgive us,  
  
Forgive us.

### **Gloria (Sung)**

*(To the Tune of Frere Jacques)*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
Almighty God and Father,  
we worship You, we give You thanks,

we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,

only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of the Father.

Amen

All stand to welcome the Gospel singing the **Gospel Acclamation:**

*(Sing to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It')*

Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord,

As we listen to the story,

let us praise him for his glory. Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord.

### **Gospel**

#### **A reading from the Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew**

All say "Glory to You Oh Lord" while making a cross on your forehead, on your lips and on your heart.

**Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-19 (refer to)

<https://cafod.org.uk>>Education>Children's liturgy)

**Finish by saying: The Gospel of the Lord All reply : Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

### **Lead a Discussion on the Gospel**

In today's Gospel we hear that Jesus asked an important question, what did he ask? (He asked his Disciples "Who do people think I am?") They had mixed responses like, the prophet Elijah or John the Baptist. He then asked them "Who do you say I am?"

How did his friends respond? (Simon answered, "You are the Son of the living God!" Jesus was very happy about this and said that Simon was blessed as God himself had revealed this to him. Jesus then said "From now on you will be called Peter" and "You are the rock on which I will build my Church") What did Jesus mean by this?

Discuss with the children that he was leaving Peter (which means "rock") as the leader of the Church to pass on the faith when He was no longer there. Peter was a Fisherman and was asked to leave what he had always known to spread the word God, telling people of God's great love for us. Peter faithfully did this for the rest of his life, and he died for his faith and was made a Saint. Saint Peter was the first Pope.

The other Saint we remember today is Saint Paul. Originally Paul (who was at that time called Saul) did not believe that Jesus was God and he sent people to prison, if they said they were Christian. One day, when he was travelling to a place called Damascus, God appeared as a blinding light and asked him why he was hurting His followers.

From then on Paul asked for forgiveness and became a missionary. He was somebody who travelled to tell others about Jesus. He and Peter both helped form our Church. Paul in particular, also wrote many letters so that others, including us would know about Jesus. Paul also died for his faith.

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

**Lord Jesus,**

Thank You for Saints Peter and Paul. We are inspired by their faith and actions showing their love for you. Help us to have courage like they did to show your love to others.

**Lord, in Your mercy.**  
All reply: **“Hear our prayer**

### **Closing Prayer**

Loving Father, help us to be beacons of light to all those we meet as we share the good news of your unending love for us by both our words and actions. May we follow the examples of Saints Peter and Paul and remain faithful to you always. AMEN.

*For Parents or Carers reading this at home, there are some further resources on the Archdiocesan website including some craft ideas to prepare in advance to help with reflection or enjoy afterwards.*