



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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THE BEGINNING OF A JOURNEY

SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES - JUNE 29, 2025

The Gospel of today's Liturgy, the Solemnity of the patron saints of Rome, reports the words that Peter addresses to Jesus: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16). It is a profession of faith, which Peter pronounces not on the basis of his human understanding, but because God the Father inspired it in him (cf. v. 17). For the fisherman Simon, called Peter, it was the beginning of a journey: it would indeed have to be a long time before the scope of those words entered deeply into his life, involving it entirely. There is an "apprenticeship" of faith, similar to ours, that also affected the Apostles Peter and Paul. We too believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God, but it takes time, patience, and much humility for our way of thinking and acting to fully adhere to the Gospel.

The Apostle Peter experienced this immediately. Just after having declared his own faith to Jesus, when Jesus announces that He will have to suffer and be condemned to death, Peter rejects this prospect, which he considers incompatible with the Messiah. He even feels compelled to rebuke the Master, who in turn says to him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (v. 23).

Let us consider: does not the same thing happen to us? We repeat the Creed, we say it with faith, but when faced with the harsh trials of life, everything seems to falter. We are inclined to protest to the Lord, telling him that it is not right, that there must be other, more direct, less strenuous ways. We experience the laceration of the believer, who believes in Jesus, trusts in him, but at the same time feels that it is difficult to follow him and is tempted to seek paths other than those of the Master. Saint Peter experienced this inner drama, and he needed time and maturity. At first he was horrified at the thought of the cross; but at the end of his life he courageously bore witness to the Lord, even to the point of being crucified — according to tradition — upside down, in order to not be equal to the Master.

The Apostle Paul also had his own path, and he too passed through a slow maturation of faith, experiencing moments of uncertainty and doubt. The apparition of the Risen One on the road to Damascus, which changed him from a persecutor into a Christian, must be seen as the beginning of a journey during which the Apostle came to terms with the crises, failures and constant torments of what he calls a "thorn in the flesh" (cf. 2 Cor 12:7). The journey of faith is never a walk in the park for anyone: not for Peter nor for Paul, not for any Christian. The journey of faith is not a walk in the park, but is instead demanding, sometimes arduous. Even Paul, who became a Christian, had to learn how to be a Christian in a gradual manner, especially through times of trial.

In the light of this experience of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, each of us can ask ourselves: when I profess my faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, do I do so with the awareness that I must always be learning, or do I assume that I "already have it all figured out"? And again: In difficulties and trials do I become discouraged, do I complain, or do I learn to make them an opportunity to grow in trust in the Lord? For He, in fact — Paul writes to Timothy — delivers us from all evil and brings us safely to heaven (cf. 2 Tim 4:18). May the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles, teach us to imitate them by progressing day by day on the path of faith.

POPE FRANCIS — June 29, 2022

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 16,18-19

"Tú eres Pedro y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia. Los poderes del infierno no prevalecerán sobre ella. Yo te daré las llaves del Reino de los cielos; todo lo que ates en la tierra quedará atado en el cielo, y todo lo que desates en la tierra quedará desatado en el cielo"

Mateo 16,18-19

First Friday of the Month, July 4th Eucharistic Adoration will start at 10am, concluding with Benediction before the 11am Mass.

Viernes Primero del Mes (4 de julio): El Santísimo Sacramento se expondrá para adoración silenciosa después de la Misa de 12:00 pm hasta las 2:00 pm y nuevamente de 5 a 7p.m.

A las 6 de la tarde se tendrá una Hora Santa, que concluirá con la Bendición con el Santísimo a las 7pm.

Mientras el Santísimo esté expuesto, se ofrecerá el sacramento de Reconciliación.

ENGLISH MASS SCHEDULE

Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

Saturday, June 28 5:00 PM
+Dolores Sedlmeir

Sunday, June 29 9:00 AM
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, July 1 11:00 AM

Wednesday, July 2 11:00 AM

Thursday, July 3 Saint Thomas 11:00 AM

Friday, July 4 11:00 AM

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 5 5:00 PM
+Gerald Dombroskie

Sunday, July 6 9:00 AM
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL

Solemnidad de san Pedro y san Pablo

Sabado 28 de Junio 7:00 PM
+Carmen Rivas +Pedro Molina

Domingo 29 de Junio 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 1 de julio 12:00 PM

Miercoles 2 de Julio 12:00 PM
+Maria Alicia Rodas de Cortez

Jueves 3 de Julio St. Tomas 12:00 PM

Viernes 4 de Julio 12:00 PM

XIV Domingo Ordinario

Sabado 5 de Julio 7:00 PM
+Lilia Zulema Acero +Isabel Marin

Domingo 6 de Julio 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Pro-Life Prayer Vigil - Thursday, July 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Opposite Freeport Hospital, 3570 King St. E., Kitchener, for babies being aborted. All are welcome to pray quietly for those who have no voice, but our own! Parking- across the road, Schneider Park. Any queries, please contact Cathy at: cmlamers@rogers.com

PARENTING TIP OF THE MONTH: Summer is a time to unwind, relax, rejuvenate and enjoy the outdoors. Take the time to engage more often and more fully as a family. Do chores together, cook together, play games, do a puzzle, or hike together. Quality and quantity time spent with our children matters! This is the Jubilee Year of Hope, so do something to engage in and honour the year, perhaps by visiting one or more of our Diocesan Pilgrim Churches. You can find more ideas to celebrate the year on our website at hamiltondiocese.com. And whether you are having a staycation or vacation, remember that Mass and prayer as a family are important!