

Readings for the Feast of St Peter and St Paul 29th June 2025

Collect

Almighty God,
whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul
glorified you in their death as in their life:
 grant that your Church,
inspired by their teaching and example,
 and made one by your Spirit,
may ever stand firm upon the one foundation,
 Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A reading from Paul's second letter to Timothy, chapter 4, verses 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 to 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 for ever and ever. Amen.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**.

Alleluia, alleluia.

I do not call you servants but friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew, chapter 16, verses 13-19.

Glory to you, O Lord

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

Now 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.

Praise to you, O Christ.