

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE 2024 kept as ST PETER AND ST PAUL

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdom, grant that your Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation which is Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (12: 1-11)

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 125

R: Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good and to those who are true of heart

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.
The hills stand about Jerusalem,
so does the LORD stand round about his people,
from this time on and for evermore. **R**

The sceptre of the wicked shall not hold sway
over the land allotted to the just,
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good and to those who are true of heart
As for those who turn aside to crooked ways
the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers.
But peace be upon Israel! **R**

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy (4: 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 forever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Hear the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew (16: 13-19)

R: Glory to you, O Lord

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,^[c] 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: **R: Praise to you, O Christ**

For our prayers

That we may live our lives eucharistically in thanksgiving witnessing to the reality of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and in our lives
For all pilgrims to the holy places of the faith and all who support them
All who are caught up in war or conflict
All those without adequate food or shelter
The peoples of Gaza and Israel
& for lasting peace in the Middle East
The people of Ukraine and a just and peaceful end to the war there
Those who suffer as a result of the climate emergency
For responsible stewardship of our planet
For compassion and responsibility in those elected to govern us, and for integrity during the election campaign.
For migrants & refugees, and all forced
to flee from their homelands

For the Church:

For the bishops of the Church:

Cherry, Bishop of Monmouth, Philip, Episcopal Visitor of the Society of the Holy Cross in Wales, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury. & for all who hold and teach the Catholic faith that comes to us from the Apostles.

All bishops, priests and deacons and all baptised Christians

For the reunion of all Christians: for Pope Francis, for Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew, & for the leaders of the Reformed traditions

For the Severn Wye Ministry Area,
for its priests, licensed lay ministers
and all its people.

For the Sick & those in need:

Father Michael Gollop, Roy Staples, Ralph Hamilton, Sylvia;

The Revd Helen Rodwell; Elisabeth; Anne-Louise; Helen; Mary; Peter;

Kenneth Cameron; Ken Reece; Margaret; Margot Davies, Margi; Althea; Eira & Naylor Firth; Ivor Cavill;

Jenny Sherwood; James Burnam; Anne Octon, Rita.

For the Departed:

Kate Price. Our own departed relatives & friends, and those whose anniversaries of death fall at this time.