

Sunday 29 June 2025

**Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles - Solemnity**

*Liturgical Colour: Red. Year: C(I).*

## Readings at Mass

*These readings are for the Vigil Mass on the evening before the feast.*

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**First reading**

**Acts 3:1-10**

**‘What I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!’**

In those days: Peter and John were going up to the Temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the Temple, that is called the Beautiful Gate, to ask alms of those entering the Temple. Seeing Peter and John about to go into the Temple, he asked to receive alms. And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, ‘Look at us.’ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, ‘I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!’ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles

were made strong. And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the Temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God, and recognised him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

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## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 19(18):2-3. 4-5. R 5a**

*Their sound goes forth through all the earth.*

The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims the work of his hands.  
Day unto day breathes forth a word,  
and night unto night imparts the knowledge.

*Their sound goes forth through all the earth.*

No speech, no word, whose voice goes unheeded;  
their sound goes forth through all the earth,  
their message to the utmost bounds of the world.

*Their sound goes forth through all the earth.*

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**‘God who had set me apart before I was born.’**

Brothers and Sisters: I would have you know that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it. And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were Apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Then, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him for fifteen days. But I saw none of the other Apostles except James the Lord's brother. In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!

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Alleluia, alleluia.  
Lord, you know everything;  
you know that I love you.  
Alleluia.

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**‘Feed my lambs, feed my sheep.’**

When Jesus had revealed himself to his disciples and they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ He said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ He said to him a second time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ He said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’ Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ and he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.’ (This he said to

show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

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*These readings are for the day of the feast itself.*

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## First reading

Acts 12:1-11

**'Now I am sure that the Lord has rescued me from the hand of Herod.'**

In those days: Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up

quickly.' And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, 'Dress yourself and put on your sandals.' And he did so. And he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

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**Responsorial Psalm      Ps 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R5**

*From all my terrors the LORD set me free.*

I will bless the LORD at all times,  
praise of him is always in my mouth.  
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;  
the humble shall hear and be glad.

*From all my terrors the LORD set me free.*

Glorify the LORD with me;  
together let us praise his name.  
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.

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*From all my terrors the LORD set me free.*

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This lowly one called; the LORD heard,  
and rescued him from all his distress.

*From all my terrors the LORD set me free.*

The angel of the LORD is encamped  
around those who fear him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the LORD is good.  
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

*From all my terrors the LORD set me free.*

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**Second reading**

**2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18**

**‘There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.’**

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the

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## Matthew 16:18

Alleluia.

## Matthew 16:13-19

At that time: 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, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter,



and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'

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