

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION

### Feast of Saints Peter & Paul - June 29<sup>th</sup>

Saints Peter and Paul were important followers of Jesus and we can learn a lot from their lives. They were leaders of the early Christian movement. **St. Peter** is depicted with keys and a book because he is the doorkeeper of Heaven, the patron of the



Church and the papacy. **St. Paul** is depicted with a sword and a book because he is well-known for his epistle to the Ephesians, where he famously describes the "armor of God." "And take the ... sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

**PETER was one of Jesus' first twelve Apostles.** (An apostle is a messenger, or someone who is sent.) Peter's birth name was Simon, but Jesus gave him the new name "Peter" which means rock. Peter was a rock on which Jesus would build his Church. Peter was close to Jesus and loved him very much but sometimes Peter's faith was weak. One time Jesus saved Peter in a storm at sea when Peter's lack of faith caused him to sink in the stormy sea. Another time, near the end of Jesus' life, Jesus said Peter would deny knowing Him. Peter said that would never happen, but he did deny Jesus three times. Peter cried in sorrow, but Jesus knew Peter's love and strength were great. Jesus asked Peter to be the leader of his people. Peter had a dream that taught him that God's love and Jesus' teachings were meant for all people in the world. After Jesus' death, Peter was the first Apostle to preach and work miracles in Jesus' name.

Peter became the first Bishop of Rome. Today the Bishop of Rome is the pope and successor of St. Peter - Pope St. Francis. The word pope means Father. Peter died a martyr in Rome and his relics are buried in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

**PAUL did not know Jesus when Jesus was living on earth.** A tentmaker by profession, Paul's birth name was Saul and he did not believe in Jesus. He hated the followers of Jesus and had some of them killed. He was present at the stoning of St. Stephen. One day, he saw a bright light, heard the voice of Jesus, and had a change of heart. His name was changed to Paul, and from that moment on he became one of Jesus' greatest apostles. Paul was a charismatic preacher, and a remarkable thinker whose ideas were important to the new Christian Church. He traveled thousands of miles and wrote 14 letters to teach the people and encourage them in their new lives as Christians. He died a martyr in 65 AD by being beheaded with a sword.

The Acts of the Apostles tell the stories of Peter and Paul after Jesus' death. Saints Peter and Paul are wonderful examples of how people can be changed and made strong by the love of God and faith in Jesus.

**We can pray to grow stronger in our faith so that we too, can be missionaries and spread God's message to everyone we meet!**

## OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 671.00
Loose	134.00
Total	805.00
Total from June 21, 2020	903.00
Building Fund	345.00
National Concern	115.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 735.00
Loose	135.00
Total	870.00
Total from June 21, 2020	1060.00
National Concern	384.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 452.00
Loose	104.00
Total	556.00
Total from June 21, 2020	526.90
National Concern	99.00
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 220.00
Loose	7.00
Total	227.00
Total from June 21, 2020	411.00
National Concern	167.00
<i>(Totals include only the basic collection)</i>	

*Together in Mission...  
Alive in Hope*

### Catholic Services Appeal 2020-2021

Pope Francis describes the present moment as a time to be open to the Spirit who can "inspire us with a new imagination of what is possible." Realize the Power of a Gift!

	Assessment	Payments & Pledges	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,438.00	\$ 4,630.00	\$ 6,808.00
St. John	\$ 8,969.00	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 3,669.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,430.00	\$ 3,273.00	\$ 2,157.00
St. Michael	\$ 2,843.00	\$ 2,407.00	\$ 436.00

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### OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

GILMAN CORNER STORE

447-8376

GAS - POP - BEER - BULK FOODS

SNACKS - MOVIES - LOTTERY

OPEN 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

7 DAYS A WEEK