



Title: Saints Peter and Paul

Scripture

1 Peter 2:4 -10

Come to the Lord, the living stone rejected by people as worthless but chosen by God as valuable. Come as living stones, and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple, where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ. For the scripture says, "I chose a valuable stone, which I am placing as the cornerstone in Zion; and whoever believes in him will never be disappointed." This stone is of great value for you that believe; but for those who do not believe: "The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all." And another scripture says, "This is the stone that will make people stumble, the rock that will make them fall." They stumbled because they did not believe in the word; such was God's will for them. But you are the chosen race, the King's priests, and the holy nation, God's own people, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his own marvellous light. At one time you were not God's people, but now you are his people; at one time you did not know God's mercy, but now you have received his mercy.

Prayer in action this week:

- Behave as if you know God has chosen you!
- Inspired by St Peter be a wonderful leader.
- Inspired by St Paul make positive changes.
- Be courageous like the Saints.

Prayer to St Julie Billiard

Saint Julie, through your great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, you were miraculously cured and favoured by many graces.

By your powerful intercession, obtain for us above all, a great trust in God in all the difficulties of life, the strength to accomplish in all things the adorable will of God, and the special grace we now ardently ask of you.

"We must have courage in the times we live in. Great souls are needed, souls having the interest of God at heart"

St Julie Billiard

Reflect: Unusually the scripture reading used this week isn't the Sunday Gospel, it's from a book attributed to St Peter, and it tells us that we should be "as living stones" allowing ourselves to be used to build something holy. He goes on to tell us that we are "God's own people, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God" As we think about saints Peter and Paul this week, and all the wonderful words of inspiration, comfort and guidance they gave us, perhaps we should ask ourselves HOW we are living up to their example. Saints were ordinary people who ended up doing extraordinary things, things they never in their wildest dreams imagined they would. Each of us has it within us to be extraordinary in ordinary ways. Start today!

- What do you think it means to be 'living stones'?
- How can you do ordinary things in extraordinary ways?

Lord,
help us to follow the example of Saint Peter.
Jesus recognised him as a strong and faithful
person who loved Jesus.
May everyone you place in our lives today
see those same characteristics in us.
Saint Paul wrote many letters to guide and
inspire
the early Christian communities;
we pray in thanks for all those who have a
positive influence on us.
We ask that all our actions and words serve only
to better our world. **Amen**

Form discussion...

- Why are Saint Peter and Saint Paul role models for us today?
- Who in your life (people you know personally) is an inspiration to you and why?
- Who in our wider world is an inspiration to you?

TASK: Perhaps you could create a prayer (a thanking or asking prayer?) based on one or more of the above discussions?

Lord, we know that when two or three are gathered together in your name that your Spirit is among them.
We pray that you are among the young people and the whole community of our Catholic College. We pray that we are all renewed in our faith and become aware of the ways in which your Spirit is leading us in our lives.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God our Father, we thank you for our College community, for those who dedicate their lives in so many ways to making this a place of learning, of living and of love. We thank you for the friends we have made here and the opportunities we are all given. Help us this week to show our gratitude for all that is done here for us in the name of, Peter and Paul and your Son, Our Lord.
Amen

The whole class response after each prayer is:

Thank you Lord

For the example of Saint Peter, the 'rock' on which You built Your church.

Thank you Lord

For the inspiration of Saint Paul, his words of wisdom and Your assurance to us through him that it's never too late to change our ways

Thank you Lord

For the work that everyone in this College does on our behalf, in order to give us the best possible chance in life.

Thank you Lord

Lord, we ask your blessing upon all those who will sit important examinations this week.

Give them your guidance that they may show commitment to their studies.
Give them your comfort that they may not feel over burdened by the pressures they face.

Give them your peace to know that you are walking with them through these difficult times. **Amen**