

Peter and Paul, apostles and martyrs *transf.*

24 June 2018

Sentence

Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord you know everything; you know that I love you.
John 21.17

Collect

Lord of the broken church
whose chosen foundations
are marked by faultlines:
we thank you for the grace
that took the denier and the persecutor
and made them witnesses
to your liberating gifts; through Jesus Christ,
who sets the prisoner free. **Amen.**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

This Herod is the nephew of the Herod of Luke's gospel, and his persecution of the infant church now touches the apostles. Peter is arrested at Passover, the same time of year that Jesus himself was taken, but Peter's 'hour' has not come and this time he is miraculously rescued. He will be martyred in Rome, fulfilling Jesus' words in John's gospel that Peter would be taken where he did not wish to go.

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.'

Acts 12. 1-11

Reader For the word of the Lord
ALL Thanks be to God

Ps 34.1-10 at 8am APBA, 254

This psalm celebrates the coming of other nations to Jerusalem foreshadowing the inclusion of Gentiles in God's redemptive purposes.

A reading from the second letter to Timothy

Close to death, Paul writes to his 'beloved child' Timothy, his co-worker in the gospel and reflects on his life and ministry.

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.

2 Tim. 4.6-8, 17-18

Reader May your word live in us
ALL and bear much fruit to your glory.

DIOCESAN CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CHILD SAFETY

(See parish website: <http://www.stgeorgesmalvern.org/bulletins/code-of-conduct-children>)

You will be aware that there are now new requirements for parishes as a result of findings by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Over the next few weeks everyone who is on a roster to take part in church services, welcome (sidespersons) or serve morning tea is required to read the policy and sign a form agreeing to comply with it.

Printed copies will be made for those available without internet and times will be made for signing. Please watch this space.

Prayer for the Week O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to suffer death upon a cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Readings next week 1 July 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 3.22-33 Ps 30 2 Cor. 8.7-15 Mark 5.21-43

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God: Brenda Dawson, Jill Slattery, Montolieu (Mon) Russell, Frank Townsend, *priest*, Amelia Corless, Robert Farquharson and John Hilsberg *whose anniversaries occur this week*.

Commemorations of the Week

June 24 The birth of John the Baptist. Recorded in Luke.1.5-25, 57-80.

June 27 Cyril of Alexandria, bishop and teacher (c. 376-444). The most outstanding theologian produced by the See of Alexandria.

June 28 Irenaeus of Lyons, bishop and teacher (c.130-200). The greatest theologian of the 2nd century.

June 29 Peter and Paul, apostles and martyrs. Well known to every reader of the New Testament. Both martyred in Rome c. 63-65.

Gospel Acclamation

ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!
Jesus said to Peter, 'Tend my lambs;
and feed my sheep'

ALL Alleluia!
Reader The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.
Reader A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Scholars generally agree that another writer added this chapter (which has been accepted into the canon of scripture) which tells a story of Peter affirming his love for Christ beside a charcoal fire at the dawn of a new day in Galilee, having denied Jesus three times beside the charcoal fire in Jerusalem on the night of Jesus' arrest.

When 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.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt 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. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.' Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!'

John 21. 15-22

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord
ALL Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ