

First Reading

Isaiah 22:19-23

God will remove Shebna from his office as master of the palace.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 138:1-3,6,8

God's kindness is forever.

Second Reading

Romans 11:33-36

Paul sings praise to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

Simon Peter acknowledges Jesus as the Christ and is given the key to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Background on the Gospel Reading

It is important to read today's Gospel and next week's Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew's Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church. Next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus' prediction about his passion and death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter's response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader.

In today's Gospel, Peter's recognition of Jesus' identity is credited to a revelation by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus' rebuke of Peter in next week's Gospel. When Peter rejects Jesus' prediction of his passion and death, Peter is said to no longer be thinking as God does but as humans do.

The use of the term *church* in today's Gospel is one of only three such occurrences in Matthew's Gospel. Peter in this Gospel is being credited as the foundation for the Church, a privilege granted to him because of his recognition of Jesus' identity. The Church continues to be grounded in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/>

Parish News



Back to School: August 31st marks the return to class for St. Anthony's Staff and students. We pray for a safe return and the health and safety of all our families throughout the school year!

Our parish relies on our regular offertory giving for maintenance and growth. By making your pre-authorized offertory gift, you are providing crucial support to care for your parish during this difficult time. You can also use the online giving page on the diocesan website to set up a one-time or recurring donation to your parish via credit-card. Funds donated will be transferred to the selected parish. Give now at <https://www.catholicyc.ca/give>

Faith Formation

For those unable to attend, consider watching Mass on television on the following networks:

Salt + Light TV (Daily at 4:30 & 9:00 am, 1 & 8:30 pm)

EWTN (Daily at 6 & 10 am, 5 & 10 pm)

Vision TV (Daily at 6 & 10 am)

TELUS Optik TV Channel 876 is now providing livestream from our Diocese: To access the livestream, go to Channel 876 after you turn on TELUS Optik TV, and select the [Diocese of Calgary](#) tile with the left/right arrows on the remote control. Click the OK button one more time to expand to full screen video.

News from the Diocese

Following the deadly explosions that devastated Beirut, the people of Lebanon need our solidarity. Development and Peace and CNEWA are responding to help those affected by this crisis. Please help us make a difference by donating to any of these funds:

- **Development & Peace Emergency Fund for Lebanon.** Donations received **before August 24 will be matched** by the Canadian government. To donate phone 1-888-664-3387
- **Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) Emergency Campaign for Lebanon.** To donate phone 1-866-322-4441. Cheques can be made to "CNEWA Canada" and mailed to CNEWA Canada at 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa, ON K1H 6K9.

Mass and Intention Schedule

Tuesday, August 25	6:30 pm	No Mass
Wednesday, August 26	9:00 am	No Mass
Thursday, August 27	9:00 am	No Mass
Friday, August 28	9:00 am	No Mass
Saturday, August 29	7:00 pm	(Spec) Rebecca Holmes
Sunday, August 30	8:00 am 10:30 am	(Spec) St. Anthony's Parishioners (Spec) Alberta School Teachers, Staff, Students

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9 am – 11 am

Sacraments

Reconciliation: The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 5:30 – 6:30 pm Saturday evenings and by appointment. To schedule an appointment, please call the Parish Office or email Fr. Lukas at fr.lukas.d@gmail.com.

Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office at (403)823-2683 to arrange an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to your desired date.

Scripture Readings

Monday, August 24: Revelation 21.9b-14 | Psalm 145 | John 1.45-51

Tuesday, August 25: 2 Thessalonians 2.1-3a, 14-17 | Psalm 96 | Matthew 22.23-26

Wednesday, August 26: 2 Thessalonians 3.6-10, 16-18 | Psalm 128 | Matthew 23.27-32

Thursday, August 27: 1 Corinthians 1.1-9 | Psalm 145 | Matthew 24.42-51

Friday, August 28: 1 Corinthians 1.17-25 | Psalm 33 | Matthew 25.1-13

Saturday, August 29: Jeremiah 1.17-19 | Psalm 71 | Mark 6.17-29

Sunday, August 30: Jeremiah 20.7-9 | Psalm 63 | Romans 12.1-2 | Matthew 16.21-27



ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church is an inviting family community united in Christ.

Pastor: Rev. Lukas Drapal

Email: fr.lukas.d@gmail.com

Secretary: Jennifer Ferro | **Book Keeper:** Linda Lacher

Pastoral Council Chair: Brian Viczko | **Finance Council Chair:** Mary Pavich

CWL President: Joanne Dumaine | **K of C Grand Knight:** Tony Ibrahim

Couples for Christ: Cen and Tess Felisilda

Parish Mission

Family: To encourage participation of children and families in the Church Community by offering family focused events.

Faith Building: To promote and host Church education, Bible Studies, and Parish Missions.

Liturgy: To formalize our Liturgy and elicit committed parishioners to participate in all aspects of the Liturgy.

Environment: To promote clean and well-maintained premises and decorate to highlight the Liturgical Seasons.

Social: To have a Social Committee to plan and hold Parish activities.

**21st Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 23, 2020**

My attention is riveted by today's Gospel and Jesus' poignant questions to his disciples: "Who do people say that the Son of man is?" and "Who do you say that I am?". Peter's quick reply to the latter was, "You are the Christ." Did he know what he was saying? I'm not sure. In the same situation, I would have been at a loss for an answer. Now, 2,000 years later, I ponder that second question

and I can come up with varied answers. Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd...I am the gate...I am the light...I am the true vine." A retreat I attended some months ago was based on this scripture passage and provided me with a new perspective. We spent our time for meditation and prayer focusing on reverse questioning: who am I? How do I see myself? How does Jesus see me? How do I want Jesus to see me? Reflecting on my relationship with Jesus offered me new insights and a heartfelt desire to follow him more closely. I often take for granted the fact that he is a constant in my life—always present to me, whether or not I acknowledge him. Today's Psalm proclaims, "I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart...your steadfast love endures forever." How blessed are we! *Barbara K. d'Artois, Ste-Genevieve, QC*

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