



Saints Peter and Paul Feast Day

Monday 29th of June.

Every year we honour the lives and deaths of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. Both of our Saints were martyred, meaning they were killed for refusing to renounce their faith.

Happy Saints Peter and Paul day to our whole school community.

Take care and stay safe everyone,
Mrs Butt

The Peter and Paul Press

Ss Peter and Paul RC Primary School's new and exclusive newsletter.

Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul Special



Commemorating the lives of important saints and martyrs has always been an important aspect of Catholic faith. The Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul are of particular importance to us, not just because of their link to our school and church, but because of the influence they had in the development of the early church. The Roman Catholic Church considers this feast day a holy day, ordinarily including an obligation to attend mass. In Rome it is a public holiday full of celebration because St Peter and Paul are patron saints of the city.

St Peter, originally named Simon, is usually viewed as the leader of Jesus' Twelve Apostles. Simon and his brother Andrew were fishermen in Galilee before being called by Jesus to be his disciples. Simon was given the name Peter by Jesus. Peter also means 'rock'. As a follower of Jesus, Peter was witness to countless teachings and actions demonstrated by Him. In the New Testament Peter is portrayed as a strong and bold follower but is also shown to have imperfections. He promised to never betray Jesus but went on to deny him three times before he was crucified. After the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, Peter travelled to spread the news of the Gospel. This contributes to the Catholic view that St Peter was the first leader of our church- our first Pope. This idea of him being our first Pope is cemented by the knowledge that he founded the first church

St Paul's background is very different to St Peter's. Originally known as Saul, he was a devout Jew from a city named Tarsus. In the first years of the Church, Saul was a persecutor of Christians. However, on a journey to Damascus he received a dramatic conversion experience and was baptised. He then became known by his Greek name of Paul and travelled very far to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the others. It is thought that St Paul never met Jesus. Nonetheless, his contribution to the early Church was astounding. A great deal of the writings in the New Testament are thought to be written by him. Considering he never met Jesus, his influence on the evolution of our faith is phenomenal. St Paul was beheaded during the reign of Emperor Nero for refusing to give up his faith.

“You are Peter, and, on this rock, I will build my Church.”
Matthew 16:18

“We walk by faith, not by sight.”
Paul the Apostle
2 Corinthians 5:7

Getting to know... Saint Peter

One of Jesus' 12 apostles.

Are you known by any other names?

Yes, I am. Some of you may know me as Simon. Jesus renamed me Peter to represent my spiritual transformation. Peter means 'rock' which is important in the role that I went on to play as a follower of Jesus.

Before becoming an apostle did you have any other jobs?

Before becoming a follower of Jesus I was a fisherman and worked with my brother, Andrew.

What are you the patron saint of?

I am the patron saint of many things. As a former fisherman I am the patron saint of fishermen, net makers and ship builders. Some say I hold the keys to heaven and therefore I am the patron saint of locksmiths.

What is your special relationship with our history of Popes?

Jesus made me the rock of the church. I was the foundation that Jesus built his church upon. Because of this I am thought of as the very first Pope of the Roman Catholic Church. I have been succeeded by 266 popes!

When you died, why were you crucified upside down?

I asked to be crucified upside down. I didn't feel as though I was worthy enough to die in the same way Jesus did. You may see portraits of me with an upside down cross because of this.

Why are you often depicted holding keys?

Jesus gave me the keys to the kingdom of Heaven. With the keys came the responsibility of governing and caring for the Church that I lead. The keys also represent my ability to open hearts to the love and word of God.

Getting to know... Saint Paul

One of Jesus' 12 apostles.

Are you known by any other names?

Yes, I am. You may know me as Paul the Apostle but I am also known as Saul of Tarsus.

Before becoming an apostle did you have any other jobs?

As a young boy I quickly learned that I was good at working with my hands. This is why I became a tent maker and travelled from place to place, with my tools, making tents.

What are you the patron saint of?

I am the patron saint of missionaries, writers, journalists, tent makers and public workers. I am also the patron saint of Rome alongside St Peter.

If you were a tent maker, why are you the patron saint of writers?

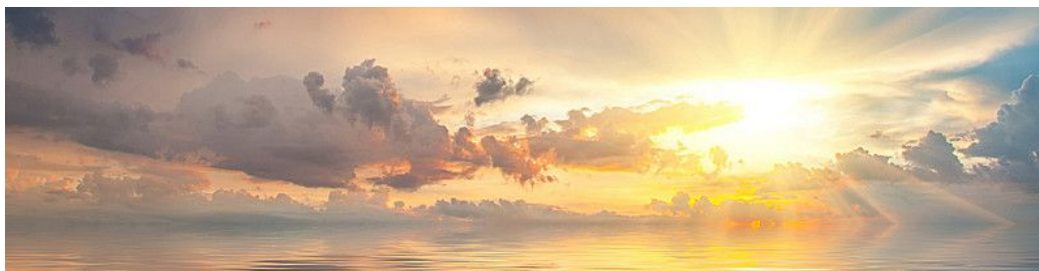
I am responsible for the writing of thirteen of the twenty seven books in the New Testament. I received a relatively good education as a young boy enabling me to become a great writer.

Did you ever meet Jesus?

Surprisingly, no! I was converted to joining Jesus in Christianity after His crucifixion.

Why are you often depicted holding a sword?

The sword represents a spiritual armour that protects us from the evils of the world. Some people also believe that I carry a sword because that is the tool that was used to bring me to my death.



Prayer Space



Light a candle if you have one. Spend a few moments of quiet remembering that Jesus is right there with you. On this special day think about your school friends; think about the children in your class and in your house group; think about your teachers and the other adults who help you on school; think about the people in school who you're missing. (If you close your eyes you might be able to see them on the back of your eyelids as you think). Aloud or in silence, say whatever you want to say to God about those people.

A prayer to say if you want to

Loving God, thank you for all the people in our school family. Bless them and keep them safe as we look forward to the day we can all be together again. Amen.

Before St. Peter started working with Jesus to spread his good news, he was a fisherman and St Paul's first job was mending nets for fishermen. So today, let's remember all those who work at sea, often in dangerous conditions, to bring food to our tables.

A prayer to say if you want to

Lord, we bring to you all people who work at sea. Bless them all and bless their families. Amen.

Churches welcoming visitors for individual prayer

St. Mary's Cathedral,

Newcastle upon Tyne: Open daily from 1.00pm – 4.00pm (including Saturday and Sunday) plus 9.30am – 11.15am on Saturday and Sunday only.

St. Aidan's Church,

Ashington: Open from 1.00pm to 4.00pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Last entry will be 3.30pm.

St. Patrick's Church,

Consett: Open Monday to Saturday 11.00am to 2.00pm and Sunday 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

St. Joseph's Church,

Hartlepool: Open Wednesday 11.00am to 12.30pm and Sunday 11.00am to 12.30pm and 4.00pm to 5.30pm.

St. Mary's Church,

Sunderland: Open from 10.00am to 1.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Due to social distancing measures, there will be a limited capacity in each church. Should the maximum capacity of a church be met, a queueing system will be implemented outside of the Church.

SS Peter & Paul RC Primary School
Olive Street, South Shields,
Tyne & Wear, NE33 4RD
Tel: (0191) 4552862
Head teacher: Mrs MT Butt B Ed.Hons.MA Ed.
email: mbutt@sspeterpaul.s-tyneside.sch.uk

