

Liturgy Alive of Saints PETER and PAUL, Apostles, Solemnity

Saints PETER and PAUL, Apostles
Solemnity

June 29

Greeting

May the Lord stand by you
and give you power.
May he rescue you from all evil
and bring you safely to his kingdom.

May he always be with you.

Introduction

Today we celebrate with joy the solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. They are the two pillars on whom our Lord built his Church and to whom he entrusted the faith. Their own faith had been tested, when Peter denied Christ and Paul persecuted Christ in his disciples. Then their faith was strengthened and they dedicated their whole life to the spread of the gospel. We can learn from them today how to let Christ possess us so much that we live for him and his Church and are even willing to suffer for that faith. Let us give thanks today to the Lord for giving us these great apostles.

Penitential Act

We accept the faith of the apostles
but do we really live that faith?
Let us examine ourselves before the Lord.
(PAUSE)
When we show little interest
in the struggles of the Church in today's world,

Lord, have mercy. R/ *Lord, have mercy.*

When we criticize the Church too easily
and do little to make it better,

Christ, have mercy. R/ *Christ, have mercy.*

When we try to use the Church to serve us
rather than serving the Church,

Lord, have mercy. R/ *Lord, have mercy.*

Have mercy on us, Lord,
and forgive us all our sins.
Make us, your Church,
a true community of faith and love

and lead us to everlasting life. R/ *Amen.*

Opening Prayer

United in faith with Peter and Paul,
let us pray to God for fidelity and zeal
(PAUSE)
Lord our God, we thank you today
for your apostles Peter and Paul.
Give us their faith and fidelity,
that we may build among us,
as a community of faith and love,

the Church for which they lived and died.
Give us their conviction and courage
to let the whole world share in the Good News
of your Son Jesus Christ,
that he may be everything to all.

now and for ever. *R/ Amen.*

Liturgy of the Word

General Intercessions

Today let us pray for the Church, the People of God on the march, that we may truly be the Church of Christ. Let us say: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

- For the Church in our time, that the Holy Spirit may guide it through the present pains of renewal, keep it faithful to the gospel and inspire it to speak its message in the language of our time, let us pray: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

- For the Pope, Peter's successor, that he may be our rock of faith and the sign of unity in the Church, let us pray: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

- For our bishops, that they may exercise their authority as a service to building community; for priests and religious, that they may bear witness to what they preach by their way of living the gospel, let us pray: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

- For missionaries, that they may proclaim the gospel as Good News to all and that they may help each people and culture to encounter Christ each in its own way, let us pray: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

- For all Christians, that they may have compassionate hearts, open to all who suffer and are in need, to bring them healing and help, let us pray: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

- For us here present and for all Christian communities, that we may build up one another in faith and love, let us pray: *R/ Lord, remember your Church.*

God our Father, your Son promised to be with his Church until the end of time. Let him stay with us always for he is our Lord for ever. *R/ Amen.*

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord our God,
in these signs of bread and wine
you are about to give us Jesus, your Son.
Make us aware
that you let him come among us
not to keep him to ourselves
as a prized possession,
but, like your apostles Peter and Paul,
to take him to all people far and near.
Make your Son recognizable in us,
that all people may praise you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. *R/ Amen.*

Introduction to the Eucharistic Prayer

With the whole Church of Peter and Paul, with all who are strengthened and united by their faith and with all who are inspired by their missionary zeal, we now join in the sacrifice of our one Lord Jesus Christ.

Invitation to the Lord's Prayer

Concerned, with Peter and Paul,
to make God's kingdom come to all the world,

we now pray Jesus' prayer to the Father: *R/ Our Father...*

Deliver Us

Deliver your Church, Lord, from every evil
and grant it freedom and peace.
Help us to build up together,
a community of faith and love,
in which people can recognize the face
of him for whose return in glory
we wait in joyful hope,

our Savior Jesus Christ. *R/ For the kingdom...*

Invitation to Communion

This is Christ,
the Son of the living God,
who has the words of eternal life.
To whom else should we go?
Happy are we to be invited

to the table of the Lord. *R/ Lord, I am not worthy...*

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God, in Peter and Paul,
two pillars of your Church,
you have exemplified two characteristics
of the body of your Son:
fidelity to the living tradition
and to missionary dynamism.
Let the Spirit of Jesus stay with us
to give always room for both,
that in the diversity of gifts
we may all be united
in one loyalty and one faith,

in Jesus Christ, our Lord. *R/ Amen.*

Blessing

Let us ask for God's blessing,
that we may be the Church of Peter,
firm in the faith, built on rock,
united as the one body of Christ
which cannot be overcome.
May we also be the Church of Paul,
dynamic, without boundaries,
restless until Christ is known to all.
May God bless you and this one Church:

the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. *R/ Amen.*

Let us go and be to the whole world

the body of the Lord. *R/ Thanks be to God.*