

SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES



This coming Monday, June 29, we celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, the Apostles. This reminds us that our faith rests upon the testimony of ordinary people: a fisherman and a tent maker who had a real encounter with Jesus, saw Him crucified and risen. They testify that He is Lord of heaven and earth and invites us to acknowledge Him as Lord of our

own lives. Last year, on this great feast of Rome and the Universal church, Pope Leo in his first few weeks as Bishop of Rome and Pope gave this homily to remind us of the significance of these saints to all of us. Here is an excerpt:

Today we celebrate two brothers in faith, Peter and Paul, whom we honor as pillars of the Church and venerate as patrons of the diocese and city of Rome.

The story of these two Apostles has much to say to us, the community of the Lord's disciples, as we make our pilgrim way in today's world. Upon reflection, I would like to emphasize two specific aspects of their faith: ecclesial communion and the vitality of faith.

First, ecclesial communion. Today's liturgy reminds us how Peter and Paul were called to share a single fate, that of martyrdom, which united them definitively to Christ. In the first reading, we see Peter in prison awaiting judgment (cf. Acts 12:1-11). In the second reading, the Apostle Paul, also in chains, tells us, in a kind of last will and testament, that his blood is about to be poured out and offered to God (cf. 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18). Peter and Paul were both ready to lay down their lives for the sake of the Gospel.

Yet this communion of the two Apostles in the one confession of faith was the conclusion of a long journey on which each embraced the faith and lived out his apostolate in his own particular way. Their brotherhood in the Spirit did not erase their different backgrounds. Simon was a fisherman from Galilee, while Saul was highly educated and a member of the party of the Pharisees. Peter immediately left everything to follow the Lord, while Paul persecuted Christians before his life-changing encounter with the risen Christ. Peter preached

mainly to the Jews, whereas Paul was driven to bring the Good News to the gentiles.

As we know, the two were at odds over the proper way to deal with gentile converts, so much so that Paul tells us that, "when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned" (Gal 2:11). At the Council of Jerusalem, the two Apostles would once more debate the issue.

Dear friends, the history of Peter and Paul shows us that the communion to which the Lord calls us is a unison of voices and personalities that does not eliminate anyone's freedom. Our patron saints followed different paths, had different ideas and at times argued with one another with evangelical frankness. Yet this did not prevent them from living the *concordia apostolorum*, that is, a living communion in the Spirit, a fruitful harmony in diversity. As Saint Augustine remarks, "the feast of the two Apostles is celebrated on one day. They too were one. For although they were martyred on different days, they were one" (Serm. 295, 7.7).

All this invites us to reflect on the nature of ecclesial communion. Awakened by the inspiration of the Spirit, it unites differences and builds bridges of unity thanks to the rich variety of charisms, gifts and ministries. It is important that we learn to experience communion in this way — as unity within diversity — so that the various gifts, united in the one confession of faith, may advance the preaching of the Gospel. We are called to persevere along this path, following the example of Peter and Paul, since all of us need that kind of fraternity. The whole Church needs fraternity, which must be present in all of our relationships, whether between lay people and priests, priests and bishops, bishops and the Pope. Fraternity is also needed in pastoral care, ecumenical dialogue and the friendly relations that the Church desires to maintain with the world. Let us make an effort, then, to turn our differences into a workshop of unity and communion, of fraternity and reconciliation, so that everyone in the Church, each with his or her personal history, may learn to walk side by side. POPE LEO XIV

Let us pray for one another and ask the Lord to help us build up together in faith, hope, and love. Let us be true witnesses to Jesus, as St. Peter and St. Paul were.

Blessings on your week!

Fr. Johnson

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ST JUDE Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

Mon June 29	Tuesday June 30	Wednesday July 1	Thursday July 2	Friday July 3	Saturday July 4	Sunday July 5
9:00am Daily Mass 10:00am Women of Faith		8:30am Confessions 9:00am Daily Mass 7:00pm House of Prayer	No Daily Mass 12:15pm Steps to Freedom 1pm Rosary Cenacle	Holiday Observed: Parish Office Closed 9:00am Daily Mass No Adoration No Holy Hour	INDEPENDENCE DAY 3:30pm Confessions 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass	9:00am Sunday Mass 11:00am Sunday Mass

HOLY INNOCENTS Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

Mon June 29	Tuesday June 30	Wednesday July 1	Thursday July 2	Friday July 3	Saturday July 4	Sunday July 5
	9:00am Daily Mass 3:00-6:30pm Food Pantry Open	10am-12noon Food Pantry Open 6:00pm Daily Mass	9:00am Daily Mass	Holiday Observed: Parish Office Closed 9:00am Daily Mass 6-6:45pm Confessions 6-8pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	INDEPENDENCE DAY	8:00am Sunday Mass 10:30am Sunday Mass

ST ANTHONY Office Hours: July 3, 2026 Friday 10AM-12PM

Tuesday June 30	Wednesday July 1	Thursday July 2	Friday July 3	Saturday July 4
6:00pm Adoration & Rosary	7:30-9:30pm AA Meeting	6:00pm Bible Study	3:00-6:00p Flat Bed Decorating for 4th of July parade!	INDEPENDENCE DAY 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

- Holy Innocents: King County Crisis line at 211
- St. Jude SVdP: Helpline assistance: 206-767-6449
- To learn more or to join the ministry contact:
 - Connie Dunn at Holy Innocents: connie@conniedunn.com
 - Diane Murphy at St Jude: svdp@stjude-redmond.org
- To donate furniture or household items email: svdpfurniture@stjude-redmond.org

PARISH FAMILY FINANCIAL UPDATES

HOLY INNOCENTS YEAR TO DATE 2025 - 2026



OPERATIONS

Actual \$524,840
Goal \$490,385
Ahead/(Behind) **\$34,455**

BUILDING

Actual \$257,124
Goal \$284,815
Ahead/(Behind) **(\$27,691)**

ST JUDE YEAR TO DATE JULY 1, 2025 - JUNE 21, 2026



St Jude

Actual \$1,172,635
Goal \$1,092,650
Ahead/(Behind) **\$79,985**

SAFE PARKING AT ST JUDE

Safe Parking Helpline: 425-658-4982
safeparking@stjude-redmond.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Holy Innocents:
Contact George Doty 360-668-2224
Dotyga@aol.com
St Jude:
knightsforcolumbus@stjude-redmond.org