

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time: Aug 23, 2026

"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

Today, Peter's profession of faith at Caesarea Philippi opens the last stage of the public ministry of Jesus and prepares us for the supreme occurrence of His death and resurrection. After the multiplication of breads and fishes, Jesus decides to retire with the apostles for a while to deepen in their formation; in them, the Church, seed of the Kingdom of God sown in us, starts becoming visible.

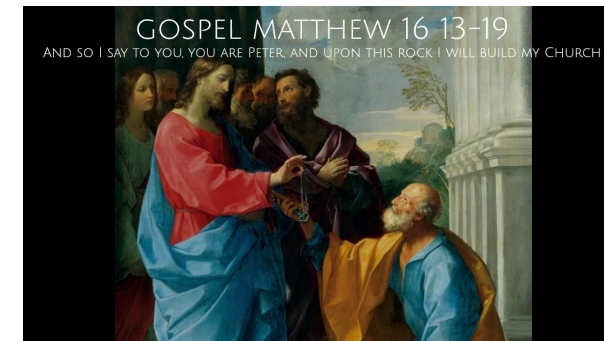
Two Sundays ago, when we were watching Peter walking on the sea and beginning to sink, we saw Jesus reprimand him: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Mt 14:31). Today, the scolding is changed to praise: "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah" (Mt 16:17). Lucky of Peter because he has managed to open his heart to the divine revelation and has recognized in Jesus Christ the Son of God, our Savior. Throughout history, the same questions have been asked time and again: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?... But who do you say that I am?" (Mt 16:13-15). At one time or other, we also have had to explain who is Jesus for me and what do I recognize in Him; through the faith received from testimonies (parents, catechists, priests, teachers, friends...) we have moved into a personalized faith in Jesus Christ, which we also have become testimonies of, because this is what the essential core of Christian vocation consists of.

Only from our faith and communion in Jesus Christ shall we prevail over the power of evil. The Kingdom of Death is manifested amongst us, it makes us suffer and opens up many question marks; but, at the same time, the Kingdom of God is also made available to us and it unveils the hope; and the Church, sacrament of the Kingdom of God in the world, built on the rock of the faith Peter confessed, allows us to expect the hope and the joy of eternal life. While mankind lives in this world, we shall have to bestow hope, and while it may be necessary to impart hope, the Church's mission will be necessary; this is why. the gates of the Kingdom of Death will never overcome it, as Christ, quite present amidst his people, guaranteed us (cf. Mt 16:18).

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Today's Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.



Holy Father's Intention for August: For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time: Aug 23, 2026

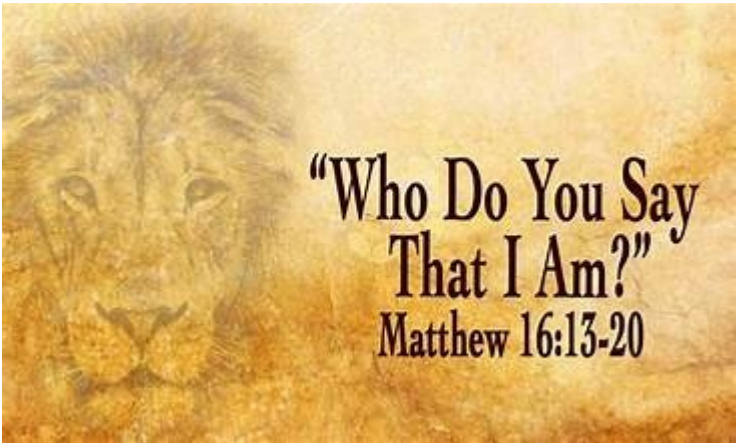
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time:

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.



Parish Council:

Mr. Lawrence Dao
314.679.0313

Finance Council:

Mrs. Thuong Hoai Nguyen
314.691.6508

Children Religious Education:

Sr. Mary Hanh Nguyen, LHC
314.736.9337

Liturgy Committee:

Mr. Hung Bui: 314.783.7266

Offering for Aug 16, 2026

Total Sum. Collection \$3,705.00

Flowers \$ 100.00

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time: “Who has known the mind of the Lord?” Through prayer our minds become better aligned with the mind of Christ and His will for us.

Vocation Office at
(603) 663-0196 or email:
cmartel@rcbm.org

Resurrection Our Lord Church

3900 Meramec St. St. Louis, MO 63116
Tel: 314-832-7023; Fax: 832-7024
Email: GxChuaPhucSinh@gmail.com

Emergency Only: Fr. Francis 202-368-6828;
Fr. Peter 773-888-3088
Fr. Francis X. Binh Thanh Nguyen SVD, Pastor
Fr. Peter Son Le, SVD, Parochial Vicar

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time: Aug 23, 2026

Baptism: Arrangements must be made one week in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday from 8:30 am to 9:00 am or by appointment.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to plan date of wedding.

Mass Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sun 8/23: * Ann Suong by Lich Ho
* Joachim by Trinh Tran
* 2 Maria, John and Theresa by 1 person
Mon 8/24: * Intention by 1 person
Tues 8/25: * All souls by family
Wed 8/26: * All souls and unborn babies by Soan Nguyen
* Dominic, Joseph, Peter & Theresa by Ca Do
Thus 8/27: * Joseph and Maria by Tuan Hanh family
* Ancestors both sides and all souls by 1 person
Fri 8/28: * Joseph Kim by Lieu Le
* Louis Canh by Holly Le
Sat 8/29: * Joseph by Thao An family
* Dominic and intention by Ca Do