

Feast of ST. PETER & ST. PAUL



St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Forane Church, Houston
6400 W. Fuqua Rd, Missouri City, TX 77489

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul



Ancient and local tradition and written documents regarding the apostolic work and martyrdom of SS. Peter and Paul in Rome validly serve as the historical foundation for the universal celebration of their feast. The solemn commemoration of these two leading Apostles takes place on June 29.

1. St. Peter is referred to as the Prince of the Apostles and the Vicar of Christ on earth, the visible Head of the Church. His original name was Simon, but in view of his future role in the Church, our Divine Savior changed his name to Peter, which means rock. The significance of this

name change became evident only later when Jesus Christ, praising Peter's faith, said: "You are Peter (the rock), and on this rock I will build my Church; and the gates (powers) of hell shall not prevail against it." (Mt. 16:18) Thus, Peter became the indisputed head of the primitive Church.

As the head of the Church, Peter took the initiative in the election of Matthias to the Apostolic College in place of Judas (Acts 1:15-26). It was Peter who delivered the first sermon on Pentecost (Acts 2:14-40) and it was he who received the first Gentiles into the Church (Acts 10:9-48). After his arrest by Herod Agrippa I, Peter was miraculously set free from prison and, leaving James Jr. in "charge of the Jerusalem community," departed to "another place" (Acts 12:1-17), that is, to Antioch in Syria (Gal. 2:11). Subsequently, he presided over the Council of Jerusalem which resolved not to impose the obligation of the Mosaic Law on the Gentiles (Acts 15:1-12). After a short stay in Antioch, Peter began his long missionary journey through Pontus, Cappadocia, Galatia, Bithynia and Asia Minor (1 Peter 1:1). Finally he arrived in Rome. Here Peter spent the last years of his ministry and it was here that he gave witness to the Gospel by his martyrdom.

2. Paul, known as Saul before his conversion, received his education at the feet of the celebrated Rabbi Gamaliel in Jerusalem and was a member of the Pharisee sect (Phil. 3:5). In his zeal for the Mosaic law, he persecuted the Church. However, by the direct intervention of Christ (Acts 9:1-19), he soon converted to Christianity and became a leading champion of the Gospel. Paul's three extended missionary journeys and his thirteen epistles (the Epistle to the Hebrews is now being contested) eloquently testify to his unsurpassed apostolic zeal. Finally, in the winter of 61 AD, he reached Rome as a prisoner.

After Paul's release from the Roman prison, he journeyed "to the limits of the West" (cf. Epistles of St. Clement 5,7), i.e. to Spain, fulfilling his longstanding desire (Rom. 15:24). He then revisited his missionary territory of Asia Minor, leaving Titus in Crete (Tit. 1:5) and Timothy in Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:3) with full episcopal authority "to accomplish what had been undone." Paul returned to Rome where, during the persecution under Nero, he was arrested and, in all probability, he was beheaded in 67 AD. For Paul, life was Christ, and dying "the gain" (Phil. 1:21).

Thus, if Peter was the first among the Apostles because of his authority, Paul was equal first among the Apostles because of his apostolic labor. Therefore, in the Byzantine

Liturgy their feasts are celebrated together as "the first among the Apostles."

Peter and Paul gave living testimony to their faith by their glorious martyrdom during the first persecution of Christians by Emperor Nero. Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea (d. 339), the first Christian historian, wrote:

"Publicly announcing himself as the first among the enemies of God, he (Nero) was led on to the slaughter of the Apostles. It is recorded that in his days Paul was beheaded in the city of Rome and that Peter, also, was crucified.

This story is supported by the fact that the names of Peter and Paul are preserved in the cemeteries of that place even to the present day... For if you would go to the Vatican, or to the Ostian Way, you would find their trophies (monuments)" (cf. Eusebius, The Church History II, 25).

The first to mention the martyrdom of Peter and Paul in Rome was Pope St. Clement (88-97) in his Letter to the Corinthians. The second century writer, Tertullian, mentions that Peter was "crucified" on Vatican Hill, while Paul was "beheaded" and buried on the Ostian Way "outside the walls" (cf. On the Prescription, 36). The same Eusebius quotes Origen of Alexandria (d. 253), as saying: "Peter..., having at last come to Rome, was crucified head downwards, for he had requested that he might suffer in this way" (Church Hist. III, 1). Since that time, the tradition of the Roman martyrdom of both of these Apostles has been constant and unanimous. It has also been confirmed by recent excavations.

The Roman Church commemorates the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul on June 29, but it has no fixed tradition as to the year of their executions.

May God Bless you all
Fr. Suni Padinjarekkara



HOLY MASS, NIGHT VIGIL & NOVENA TIMINGS

Holy Mass:

Monday – Friday | 7 PM. Saturday | 9:30 AM.

Sunday | 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM (English), 11:30 AM

Night Vigil:

First Off Weekend Friday of the Month | 8 PM. to Midnight

Adoration

Every Friday | 9 AM - 7 PM.

Monday – Friday | 6-7 PM. Saturday | 8:30 - 9:30 AM.

Novenas : St. Antony Tuesday | After 7 PM. Mass

St. Jude Thursday | After 7 PM. Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Saturday | After 9:30 AM. Mass





June 23

Sunday Readings: June 2019 / St. Antony Koodarayogam

June 30

7:30 AM

9:00 AM

11:30AM

7:30 AM

9:00 AM

11:30AM

First Reading:

Deut 1:5-8



First Reading:

Deut 1:16-18

Second Reading:

1Cor 7:1-7

Second Reading:

1Cor 9:19-27

Holy Gospel:

Lk 10:25-37

Holy Gospel:

Lk 6:27-36



BIBLE QUIZ # 20

1. Who informed the king that Jeremiah was thrown into the cistern? ജെറമിയയെ കിണറിൽ താഴ്ത്തിയ വിവരം രാജാവിനെ അറിയിച്ചതാര് ?

2. What did the disciples do when Jesus was arrested? യേശുവിനെ ബന്ധനപ്പെടുത്തുകയായപ്പോൾ ശിഷ്യന്മാർ എന്ത് ചെയ്തു ?

3. What does the name Barnabas mean? ബാർണബാസ് എന്ന പേരിന്റെ അർത്ഥം ?

4. "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me." Whose words are these? ദാവീദിന്റെ പുത്രനായ യേശുവേ എനിക്ക് കനിയണമേ എന്ന് വിളിച്ചു പറഞ്ഞതാര് ?

5. How is wisdom vindicated? ജ്ഞാനം ശരിയെന്ന് തെളിയുന്നത് എങ്ങനെ ?

Name of the contestant

Family Name

Phone #

Quiz # 19

Selected winner: Thomas & Elsy Athimattathil.

Other Winners

Tessy Siby Mecheril
Elsy Neettukattu
Sherly Stany & Divya Stany -
Cheruthanniyil
Simon Thomas Karickal

Ancin & Alphonse Jose Thannichuvattil
Flora Philin Kudakasseriyl
Beenamol Maruthachickal
Alina Cheruvil
Elsamma Mathew Puzhakkarttu

Please refer to the POC Bible and the New American Bible only.

6. Who did Jesus first appeared to after he was risen from death? യേശു ഉയിർത്തെഴുന്നേറ്റതിനു ശേഷം ആദ്യം പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെട്ടതാര് ?

7. What did the Lord sent to swallow Jonah? യോനയെ വിഴുങ്ങുവാൻ ദൈവം നിയോഗിച്ചത് ആരെ ?

8. How is grace given to each of us? നമുക്കോരോരുത്തർക്കും കൃപ നൽകപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതെങ്ങനെ ?

9. According to St. Peter, how is one day like with the Lord? കർത്താവിന്റെ മുൻപിൽ ഒരു ദിവസം എത്രകാലം ആയിരിക്കും എന്നാണ് പത്രോസ് ശ്ലീഹ പറയുന്നത് ?

10. "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Who said this to Jesus? നീ ജീവനുള്ള ദൈവത്തിന്റെ പുത്രനായ മിശിഹാ എന്ന് ഈ ശോയോട് പറഞ്ഞതാര് ?

Bible Quiz # 19 Correct Answers.

1. The guild prophets in Jericho
2. Ziba
3. Darius and Cyrus of Persiah
4. Cistern of Prince Malchiah
5. Efesus
6. Joseph
7. Dorcas
8. The parable of the judge and the widow
9. The son of Man
10. 127 years



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

RETREAT by Bro.Sabu Aruthottiyil **July 19, 20 & 21**

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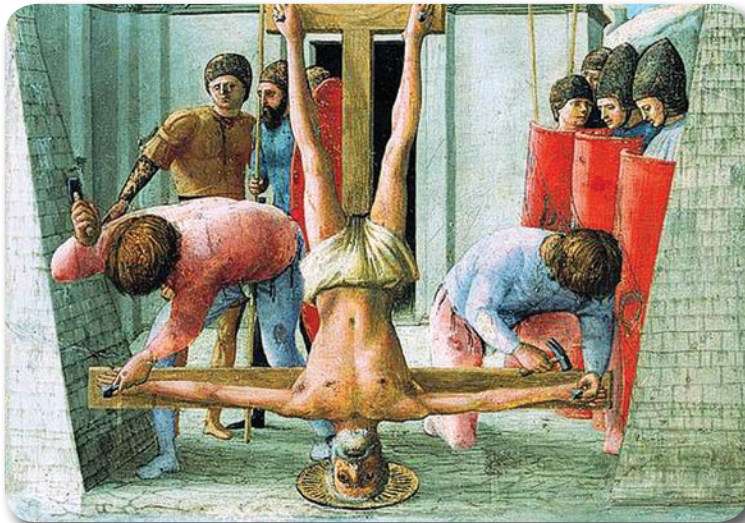
CONTRIBUTIONS & OFFERINGS

June 9

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Annual contributions | \$ 950.00 |
| Building Fund | \$ 000.00 |
| Sunday collections | \$ 1222.00 |

June 16

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Annual contributions | \$ 1000.00 |
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| Sunday collections | \$ 1156.00 |



St. Peter was crucified upside down



St. Paul was beheaded in Rome

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BIBLE READINGS


| | |
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"All wisdom comes from the Lord"


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