

Saint Study Podcast

Podcast # 102

St. Peter the Apostle

- **Hello everyone and welcome to Saint Study Episode 102 – “St. Peter”**
 - *Thank you for joining us – maybe we can all learn enough today that by the end of the program we will say, “I didn’t know that” (But now I do!)*
 - *What is a saint? A Canonized Saint is someone recognized by the Church as having lead a life of great charity & heroic virtue. A Saint has a humility of heart and love of their brethren. Their example of how to conquer any sin imaginable is so important that it was worth recognizing these men & women in a significant way. Anyone (canonized or not) whose soul was cleansed in Purgatory and now resides in Heaven is a Saint. It should be every Christians goal to become a Saint.*
- We always begin our learning by inviting the Holy Spirit to be with us...
 - *In the Name Of The Father, Son & Holy Spirit. Amen.*
 - *Dear Heavenly Father we ask you to be with us as we learn about the lives of your Saints. We ask that our minds be open and that you may fill us with the knowledge that was so loved by the men and women who lived lives of heroic virtue and great charity. Allow us to understand and emulate these Saints who we now know are in your company. In your name we pray, Amen.*
- **Saints Name & Birth, Death, Feast Day, Main Bio – Life**
 - **Given name was Simon (or Simon bar Jonah)**
 - **Born in a small village called Bethsaida near Lake Tiberias. (Galilee) In year c.1**
 - **St. Peter lived and worked as a fisherman on Lake Genesareth.**
 - **St. Andrew was St. Peter’s brother. (And one of the Apostles)**
 - **St. Andrew Introduced St. Peter to Jesus. “I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:18-20)**

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.
 - **Jesus changes “Simon” to “Peter” (Kephas or Caphus in old Aramaic)**
 - **The name change tells us the special leadership role God has in mind. (Abram, Jacob, Saul)**
 - **Jesus spent great deal of time with Peter.**

- Jesus performed a miracle at St. Peter's home once while He was visiting. Jesus healed St. Peter's mother-in-law who was with fever. (Matthew ch. 8)
- St. Peter was with Jesus when He performed the Miracle at the Wedding in Cana.
- According to the data I read, St. Peter's wife traveled with him often. (Her name I could not find)
- Jesus asked the Apostles ***"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 Messiah, 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 Messiah. From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.

(Matthew 16:13-21)

- This is a significant foundation for interpreting that Jesus had given Peter the authority over church affairs as the first Pope. This interpretation sets the formal concept of the Papal Primacy.
- Matthew 19:17-30 (27 is the actual verse)

Now someone approached him and said, "Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?" He answered him, "Why do you ask me about the good? There is only One who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." He asked him, "Which ones?" And Jesus replied, "'you shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; honor your father and your mother'; and 'you shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to him, "All of these I have observed. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to (the) poor and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this statement, he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Amen, I say to you, it will be hard for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and said, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible." Then Peter said to him in reply, (27 starts here) "We have given up everything and followed you. What will there be for us?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

○ **Matthew 16:13 – 28 (23)**

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi 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 Messiah, 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 Messiah. From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, **(23 begins here)** "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct. Amen, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

- **Peter was the first apostle to perform a miracle after Jesus had risen. Healing a lame beggar who asked for money.**
- **Peter took it upon himself to replace Judas.**
- **Peter combined preaching with defending the new Christian faith in the courts of the day. Even going as far as settling disputes between the early Christians.**
- **Eventually met St. Paul in Antioch where they worked very closely together, setting up a system for a succession of Bishops to head the new church.**
- **In Rome (the center of the empire at the time) St. Peter became the first “Bishop of Rome” – a title still used today when referring to the Pope.**
- **St. Peter was arrested many times for preaching the new faith. Every time he was miraculously set free. The last time he was arrested he was condemned to death.**
- **Emperor Nero (Circa 54-68) – Peter asked to be crucified upside down so as not to die in the same manner as his Master.**
- **Died c.64 in Rome, Italy (Martyred)**
- **Shares Feast Day with St. Paul on June 29. (More on this in episode# 107)**

- Patronage

○ **is the patron saint for many things**

against feet problems	against fever	against frenzy
bakers	bridge builders	butchers
fishermen	diocese of Las Vegas, Nevada	London, England
longevity	popes	Rome, Italy
Saint Petersburg, Russia	And Many More!	

- Conclusions – Interesting notes about their life or sainthood
 - *Readings-- from a sermon by Pope Saint Leo the Great*

Out of the whole world one man, Peter, is chosen to preside at the calling of all nations, and to be set over all the apostles and all the fathers of the Church. Though there are in God’s people many bishops and many shepherds, Peter is thus appointed to rule in his own person those whom Christ also rules as the original ruler. Beloved, how great and wonderful is this sharing in his power that God in his goodness has given to this man. Whatever Christ has willed to be shared in common by Peter and the other leaders of the Church, it is only through Peter that he has given to others what he has not refused to bestow on them. Jesus said: “Upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” On this strong foundation, he says, I will build an everlasting temple. The great height of my Church, which is to penetrate the heavens, shall rise on the firm foundation of this faith. Blessed Peter is therefore told: “To you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound also in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed also in heaven.”

- *From a sermon by [Pope Saint Leo the Great](#)*

- e-mails
 - See Attachments (if any)
- Homework

○ **Vocabulary for today...**

- **Apostle**
- **Saltire Cross**

- Preview of next episode - **St. Andrew – Episode #103 - Brother of St. Peter - First Disciple of Christ**
- References, Plugs & Web Sites

- www.newadvent.org
- www.catholic-pages.com
- www.ewtn.com
- www.americancatholic.org
- www.usccb.org
- www.sqpn.com
- www.vatican.va- Official Vatican Web Site
- **The Everything Saints Book (by Ruth Rejnīs)**