



**LEVIN-TAITOKO**

**“A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”**

**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH**

56 Weraroa Road, Levin

**Website:** [www.stjosephlevin.com](http://www.stjosephlevin.com)

**Facebook:** [St Josephs Catholic Church Levin](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsCatholicChurchLevin)

**Parish Community Line:** 022 314 4642

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**SOLEMNITY OF PETER AND PAUL - 29th JUNE 2025**

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

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.

Matthew 16:18

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. These are the two Apostles whom our Lord chose to spread the gospel of repentance and forgiveness to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem.

Saints Peter and Paul both died in Rome at the time of the great persecution of Christians under Emperor Nero. Peter was crucified and Paul was beheaded around the same time. Both men glorified God by the sacrifice of their lives, in imitation of Christ.

In sharing in Christ's ministry of preaching, healing, suffering and death, they also now share in His resurrection. They still, with Christ, shepherd the Church. Their blood of martyrdom still bears fruit in the souls who are being saved today.

We are the fruit of their labour. We are part of the great harvest which they, with Christ, are still gathering for the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We also, by virtue of our holy communion with Christ and the Father in the Holy Spirit, participate in the great work of preaching the gospel by the sacrifice of our own lives in the family, the Church and society.

With Saints Peter and Paul, we recall our being unworthy. We are weak, but we are chosen by Christ, in whom is our strength, our Rock. With Him, the gates of hell will not prevail against us.

Saints Peter and Paul, pray for us.

**Father Simi**

**MIDWINTER LUNCHEON** At 12pm in the Parish Centre for a gathering of friends for food, fellowship and a shared heater. Bring a plate.



**TAX RECEIPTS** from St Vincent de Paul and the Parish are both available in the foyer. Thank you



**COMMUNITY LINE PHONE** I have had no offers at all to help with this parish phone and I am expecting to go back to hospital in the not-too-distant future. Please, is there someone who can help with this? Preferably more than one. The more people we share it with, for a week at a time, the less often you are needed. Please contact Kilian – 022-695-0056.



**MISSING! WHERE IS IT?** The Key!!! Where is it? Someone must have borrowed it! It is required urgently. Please return it – NOW!

**HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN**



Going to the hospital? Just phone the Community Line at 022 314 4642 and let us know your details before you go. The chaplain will be there for you.

**MEALS ON WHEELS** We are rostered to do the in the week of 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> July. If you can help please contact Yoka on 022 5022 645 or [dekkernz@gmail.com](mailto:dekkernz@gmail.com)



**PETER’S PENCE** is a gesture to support the Pope today in His mission on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. It is a concrete way to support the Holy Father in his mission of service to the universal Church. Peter’s Pence is a gesture of communion and participation in the Pope’s mission to proclaim the Gospel, promote peace, and spread Christian charity.



**PRAY**  
to one  
for another

JAMES 5:16

Submit  
your  
prayer request.

**PRAYER CHAIN**

Pray for the intentions of your fellow parishioners in your own home and in your own time. Phone the Parish Community Line: 022 314 4642.

**St VINCENT de PAUL CORNER**

As we pass the shortest day of the year and can expect winter to hit us at last, our thoughts go to those who may have to choose between keeping the family warm or feeding its members. We thank those who are generously assisting these families in providing the basics of life. May you be truly blessed.

**SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11**



**BABY ASSIST**

**John** 027 626 4792  
**Kilian** 022 695 0056  
**Brigette** 027 379 2802

Thank you so much for the generous donations we have received so far. It means a lot to the families who receive them. We would greatly appreciate knitwear for newborn babies as there have been a few born recently. Larger blankets for preschoolers to wrap themselves in and for cots would be most appreciated. Many thanks.

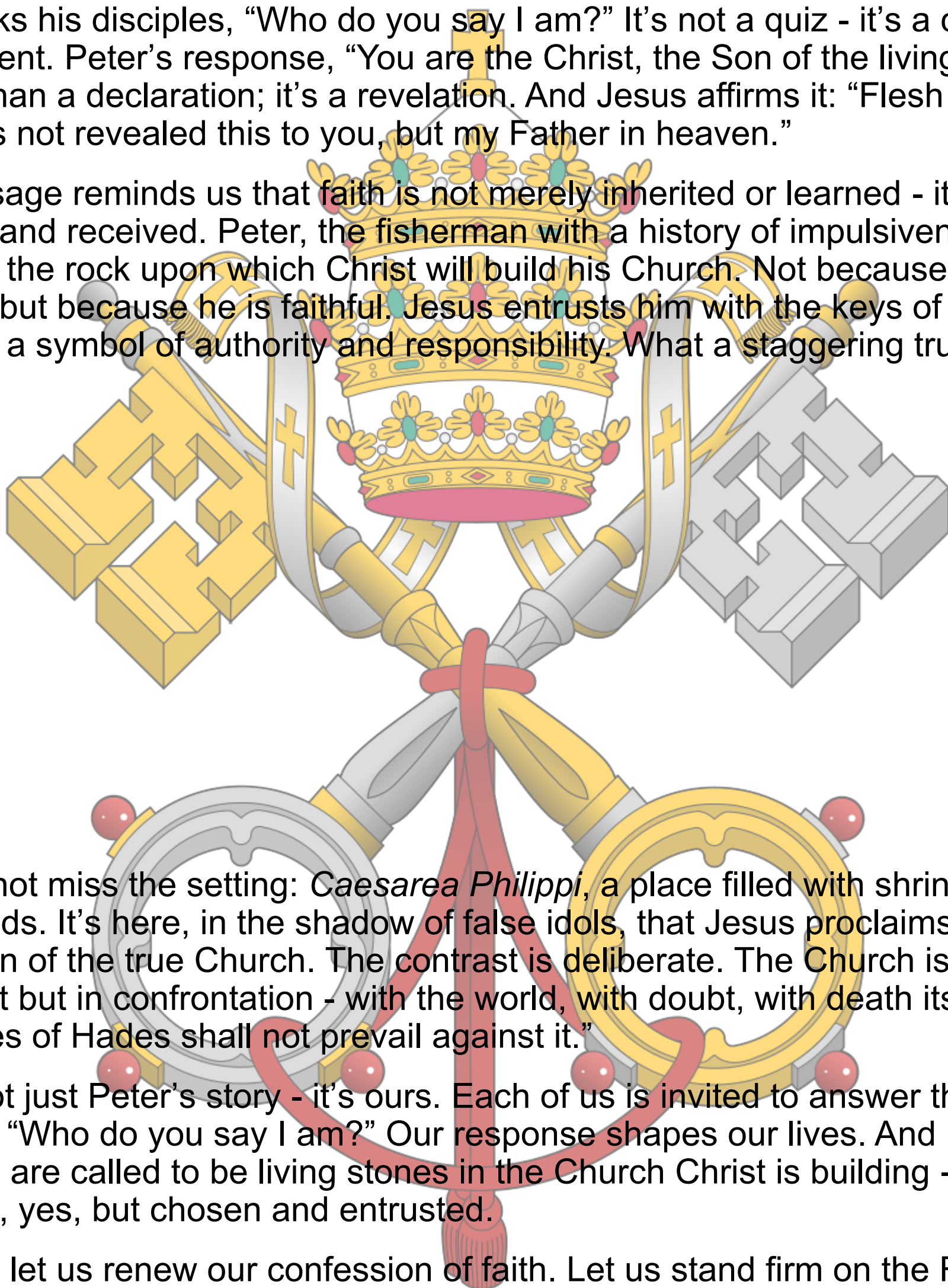


**That the world might grow in compassion** Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

### **THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM**

Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" It's not a quiz - it's a call to commitment. Peter's response, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God," is more than a declaration; it's a revelation. And Jesus affirms it: "Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven."

This passage reminds us that faith is not merely inherited or learned - it is revealed and received. Peter, the fisherman with a history of impulsiveness, becomes the rock upon which Christ will build his Church. Not because he is flawless, but because he is faithful. Jesus entrusts him with the keys of the kingdom, a symbol of authority and responsibility. What a staggering trust!



But let's not miss the setting: *Caesarea Philippi*, a place filled with shrines to pagan gods. It's here, in the shadow of false idols, that Jesus proclaims the foundation of the true Church. The contrast is deliberate. The Church is not built in comfort but in confrontation - with the world, with doubt, with death itself. "The gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

This is not just Peter's story - it's ours. Each of us is invited to answer the same question: "Who do you say I am?" Our response shapes our lives. And like Peter, we are called to be living stones in the Church Christ is building - imperfect, yes, but chosen and entrusted.

So today, let us renew our confession of faith. Let us stand firm on the Rock, not because we are strong, but because Christ is. And let us carry the keys - not to lock others out, but to open wide the doors of grace.

May the souls of our beloved dead and the souls  
of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Monsignor Joe Stack

*Suzanne Aubert says...*

*We must neither say nor take pleasure in listening to what we would not like to have said of ourselves.*

**Reflection:**

Politicians are daily faced with the repercussions of throw away lines they have spoken about other people. Sometimes they are forced out of their posts because of such unguarded utterances.

How easy it is for me also to utter or listen to words of criticism or condemnation of others without really thinking of what I have said. But when someone says something hurtful about me, my instinct is to retaliate in kind, of course. How much less stressful and more Christlike it would be if I thought about what I was going to say before I said it.



**Prayer:**

Lord, teach me to weigh the consequences of my words in advance.

W E E K L Y S C H E D U L E

Monday, 30th June	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tuesday, 1st July	9:30pm	Holy Mass, St Swithun
	12:00pm	Midwinter Luncheon Parish Centre
Wednesday, 2nd	9:30am	Holy Mass
	10:00am	Rosary in the Chapel
Thursday, 3rd	9:30am	Holy Mass, St Leo II, Pope
	7:30pm	Christian Meditation in the Chapel
Friday, 4th	11:00am	Exposition, St Finbar
	12:10am	Holy Mass, Reconciliation
Saturday, 5th	5:30pm	Vigil Mass, Mary's Seven Joys
Sunday, 6th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	11:00am	Legion of Mary Kiribati Group in the Chapel

**Readings at Sunday Mass**

(29/6/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 12: 1-11      **2nd Reading:** 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18  
**Gospel:** Matthew 16: 13-19

**Psalm Response:** *The angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.*

(6/7/2025) **1st Reading:** Isaiah 66: 10-14c      **2nd Reading:** Galatians 6: 14-18  
**Gospel:** Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20