



**All Hallows Catholic School
Weekly Prayer Sheet 2020**

Week beginning 29th June

The Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul

Today, we celebrate the solemn feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. This week's theme is 'Self-awareness through God'. In Sunday's Gospel in Matthew 16:13-19, Jesus asks his disciples 'But who do you say that I am?' and Simon replies "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." It is at this point Jesus sees in this particular disciple the self-awareness of the quality of his faith and it is only through his faith that he could know Jesus as the Christ. In the same way Jesus asks us to have faith in our intuitive awareness of Him.

Monday First Martyrs of Rome

A Martyr is someone who dies because of their beliefs. Following the Ascension of Christ, the Disciples preached the Gospel message to many parts of Europe, including Rome, which became the centre of the early Church. Many of these disciples were martyred because they refused to give up their belief in God when threatened to do so. Tomorrow, the Church will celebrate the feast of the First Martyrs of Rome (64-68 AD).

Prayer:

Father, you blessed the Church of Rome with the blood of its first martyrs. May we find strength to cope with our difficulties, particularly at this difficult time, by thinking about their courage and rejoicing in their triumph. Help us when we feel that things are just too much for us. Give us the courage to persevere as the early martyrs did. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Tuesday Novena to St. Peter

St. Peter was chosen by Jesus to be the first Pope and therefore, to act as the foundation for the early Church. Today we pray to St. Peter, that he may pass our prayers on to God and help us to build the Church on Earth.

Prayer:

O Holy Apostle, you are the Rock upon which God has built His Church and so we pray to you for a lively faith, firm hope, and a burning love for Jesus Christ. We pray that you may obtain for us the patience, humility and purity of heart needed to work constantly for the coming of the Kingdom of God. By your intercession may we be made worthy to appear before Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever. Amen.

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Wednesday**St. Paul**

St. Paul converted the Corinthians by preaching about Jesus' crucifixion. Corinth was a large and wealthy city that was known for its promiscuous way of life. The people had indulged in every pleasure and were not satisfied. When Paul came to them preaching love they were ready to hear the Good News. Paul wrote: "Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous, it does not boast, it is not arrogant. Love is not dishonorable, it is not selfish, it is not irritable, does not keep a record of past wrongs. Love does not rejoice at injustice but rejoices in the truth. Love endures all things, love has complete faith and steadfast hope, love bears with everything." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Prayer:

St. Paul you reminded the Corinthians of the reality of love. Help our parishes and religious communities to always come together in love, helping each other during this time of the pandemic. Pray that we be patient with one another and endure each other's shortcomings. Amen.

Thursday

Let us pray for all those in our school community who are faced with difficult decisions during this pandemic and to remind them to trust in God's love and that He is always with us.

Prayer:

*Lord, You are my help and comfort.
Shelter and surround me in love so tender
So that I may always know your presence
Now and forever. Amen*

Friday**St. Peter and St. Paul**

St. Peter and St. Paul were two apostles of Christ, who were full of human weaknesses, but their lives were dramatically changed through encounters with the Lord Jesus and the experience of His Spirit in their lives. Their awareness of Jesus gave them courage and determination to do what was right and pleasing to God and so we pray today that we too may come to fully know Jesus so that we may act as his messengers like St. Peter and Paul.

Prayer:

Lord God, You breathed your Spirit upon the Apostles and gave them the power of forgiveness – set all people free today from the prison of sin. You promised to send us the Spirit of truth that we might become your messengers throughout the world – through his presence in the church may we always be true to you. Amen.

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