



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Some things to think about...

- Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God, like Peter says in this reading. This is the foundation of the Church.
- How have you heard Jesus being described? What do you think of when you hear the name “Jesus”?
- What are some of the most wonderful qualities of some people you know – friends or family. The best qualities in people are qualities that Jesus would have.

Activities

- On your brick template, write or draw some stories of Jesus and his disciples. Add words to describe Jesus.
- Stick these together on a display board to make an arch. Cut out and stick the title "On this rock I will build my church" on the display.
- You might see some paintings or stained glass artwork of these stories – keep an eye out for them at church!

Teacher's Notes

People thought Jesus was one of the prophets. Peter expressed deep faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

St Vincent de Paul saw Christ in the poor. Frederic was also inspired by an image of Jesus as compassionate to those who suffer. Have the children think of all the ways they could describe Jesus.

Notes:



“On this rock I will build my church”



Matthew 16:17