



the object itself. The Chair of St Peter is a relic kept at the very back of St Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. It is a basic wooden relic throne that tradition claims was used by St Peter himself when he was leading the early Christians in Rome. The chair is now enclosed in a sculpted gilt-bronze ornamental chair designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, which he completed between 1647 and 1653. In 2012, Pope Benedict XVI described the chair as 'a symbol of the special mission of Peter and his Successors to tend Christ's flock, keeping it united in faith and in charity'. The chair is of course only a few feet away from St Peter's tomb.

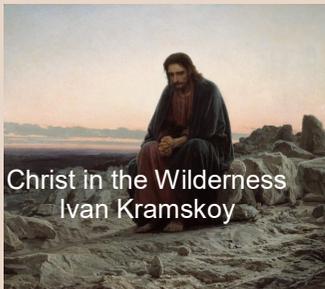
Independent Catholic News

Mon 22 is a feast day which has a rather peculiar name: the Chair of St Peter. How does the chair of an apostle merit a holy day? Let's first of all look at

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

First Sunday of Lent -- February 21, 2021

That prayer, penance and almsgiving will enable more men and women to follow the Holy Spirit as He leads them to discover their vocations in Christ, we pray to the Lord.



Christ in the Wilderness
Ivan Kramskoy

Saints of the Week

Mon 22	THE CHAIR OF ST PETER APOSTLE
Tues 23	St Polycarp, bishop and martyr

So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.

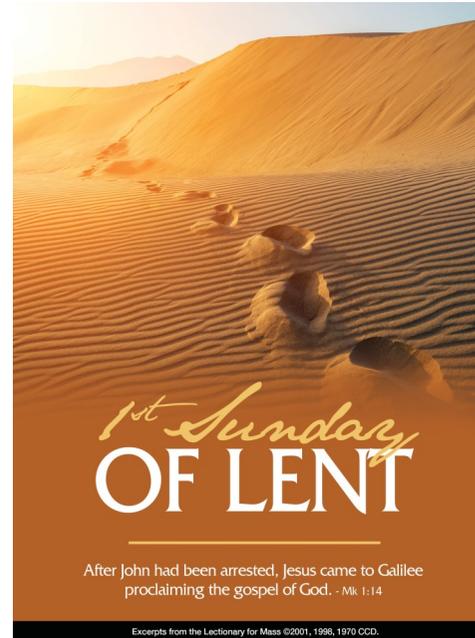
I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

Matthew 16 .18-19



FOXROCK PARISH
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 21st February



1st Sunday
OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God. - Mk 1:14

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

MASS INTENTIONS

6 pm Vigil Mass Sat 20th Feb:-

Vera O' Sullivan / 1st Anniversary
Paul Clancy / 11th Anniversary
Noel Dee Recently Deceased
David Whelan Anniversary

11.30 am Mass Sun 21st Feb:-

Sean Mc Gowan / 1st Anniversary
Eveline Butler / 1st Anniversary
William Osborne / Anniversary
Brian O' Keeffe / Birthday Remembrance
Other intentions:-

Recently Deceased:-

Robert (Bobby) Flynn
Joan Margaret Nolan
Mark Mahon Elizabeth Byrne
Dr. Paul Mc Dermott

Anniversaries:-

Shane O' Neill (9th)
Maud Flood David Whelan
Carmel Begley John Begley
Mary Begley Don Whelan

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Parish Pastoral Worker Maeve Davidson
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Recently deceased
Andrew (Andy) Seville
Rita Mc Kiernan
May they rest in peace





February 21,
2021
1st Sunday of
Lent

in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

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St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbour, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'see, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you.
(Gen 9:8-15)

PSALM

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
(Ps 24:4-9)

SECOND READING

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God.

(1 Pt 3:18-22)

GOSPEL

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan.
(Mk 1:12-15)

YCD Connected – Bringing Young People Together

The Young Church Dublin invite you to join our connected group for Young Adults (20's 30's) We meet online **every Wednesday, from 8.00-9.00pm** for some time of fellow, reflection on Scripture and prayer together. It provides an opportunity to connect in with other young adults in a community of faith. For more information please email:

kirsten.mahon@dublindiocese.ie

Pandemic Mass - Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Join us in Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mourne Road, Drimnagh, for our Pandemic Mass in this uncertain time for the whole world, for all those impacted by the virus, for the safety of all those on the frontline, and essential workers. This special Mass takes place **Monday to Friday at 7.00pm** This can be accessed, like all our Masses, on the Parish webcam at www.mourneroad.ie

Aware - Support & Self Care Groups

If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone In and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail. These services provide support, coping skills and information –

and most importantly help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. For more information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, **8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.**