

# Children's Newsletter

## St Mary's

Sts Peter  
and Paul

### Matthew 16:13-19

Peter was one of the apostles who stayed with Jesus and learnt from him. One day, Jesus asked him what people were saying about Jesus. Then he asked Peter "Who do you think I am?"

Peter answered "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." How amazing that Peter had such faith in Jesus!

Because of Peter's faith, Jesus made him the leader of the apostles and said that he would have the power to forgive others.

Peter became the first Pope.

Peter lived near Lake Tiberius and he and his brother Andrew were fishermen.

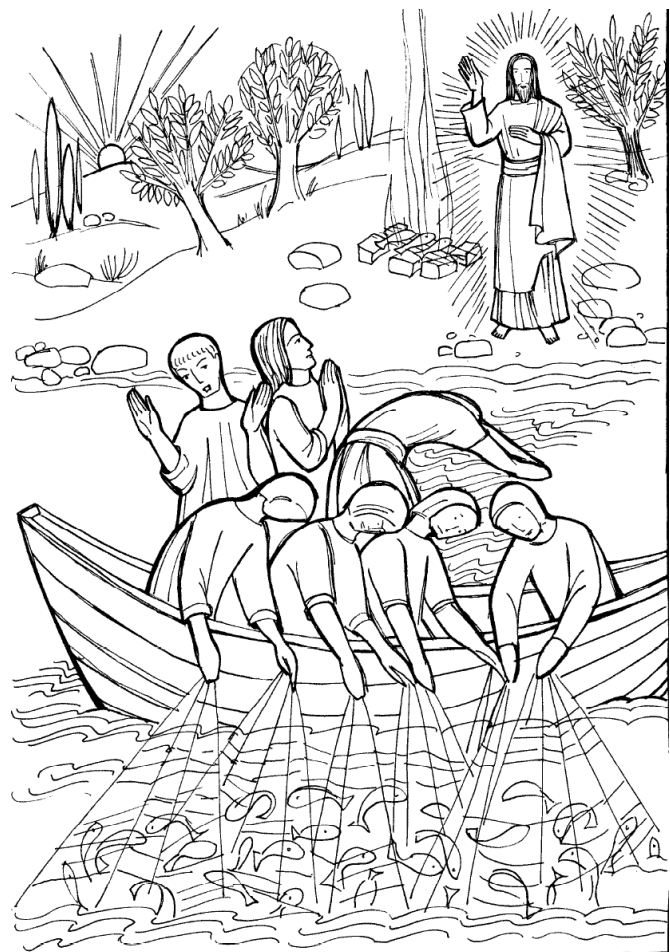
When Jesus called them to follow him, they left their nets and went with Jesus to become 'fishers of men'. Peter was with Jesus throughout the three years when he was travelling around preaching.

Peter saw the miracles that Jesus did and he believed that Jesus was the Son of God. But just like us, he wasn't perfect. When Jesus was arrested, Peter was with him and followed him to the temple, and it was Peter who denied ever knowing him. Peter was heartbroken when he realised what he's done.

Peter was one of the apostles who rushed to the tomb to find it empty on Easter Sunday. He was with Jesus when Jesus returned to Heaven at the Ascension and he was the first leader of the Church as it grew.

Peter was also the first apostle to perform miracles in the name of Jesus. He agreed that people who were not Jews could be taught about Jesus and that is why the church spread all over the world and became universal.

He died and was buried in Rome. Since then Rome has been where the Popes have lived.



## St Paul

St Paul was first called Saul and he didn't know Jesus personally. After Jesus died and the apostles started preaching about him, Saul did not like them at all. He worked hard to have many Christians arrested and killed.

One day he heard there were Christians in Damascus and he left with some friends to go there and arrange for the Christians to be arrested. But God had other plans for Saul. On the way Saul was blinded by a light and he heard the voice of God asking him why he was doing such terrible things to his people. When the light had gone, Saul had to be led into Damascus by his friends.

Saul heard about a healer in Damascus and he went to him and was healed so that he could see again. The healer was a Christian and he began to teach Saul about Jesus. Saul became a Christian and changed his name to Paul to show that he had changed. He returned to Jerusalem to meet with Peter and the other apostles.

The apostles did not trust Paul to begin with but Paul became a very important person in the new church. He travelled to many areas, starting Christian communities and staying with them for a while. When he wasn't with them he would write letters to the communities, telling them how to behave and how they should love each other.

Nearly every Sunday we hear some of the letters that St Paul wrote to the different churches he had started.

