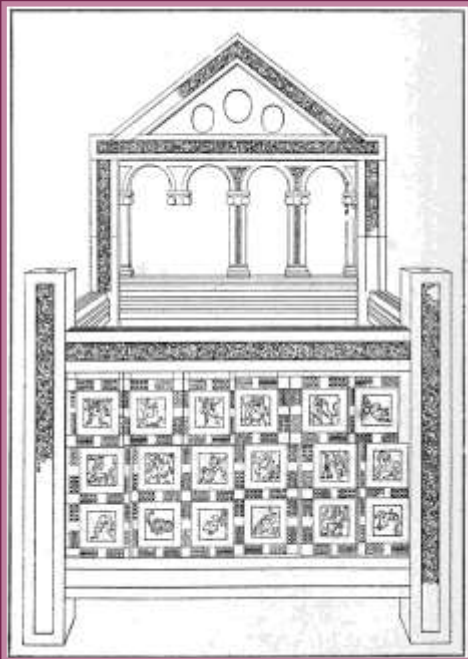


## The Chair of Saint Peter 22 February



### About the Chair of Saint Peter

The feast of the Chair of Saint Peter has been celebrated in Rome since the beginning of the fourth century, possibly earlier. It primarily celebrates Peter, first among the apostles, as the founder of the See of Rome and signifies the unity of the Church founded upon the Apostles.

The chair (cathedra) of a bishop is a primary sign of his authority and pastoral oversight of a local Church. From his chair he teaches and instructs the faithful of his diocese.

Origin: This feast has been celebrated in Rome since at least the fourth century. It signifies the unity of the Church founded upon the Apostles.

### What can we learn from Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter?

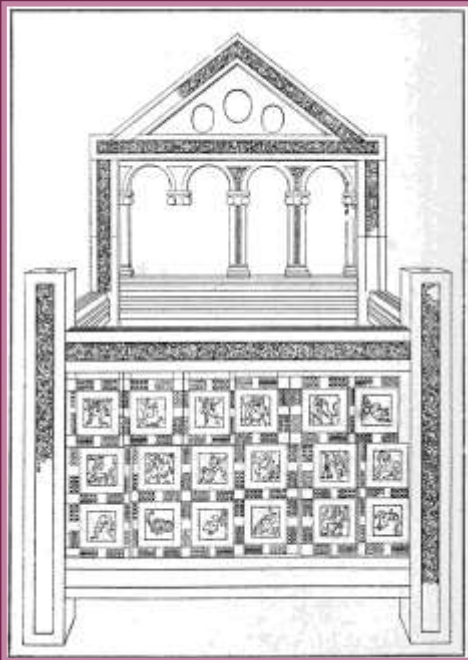
Bishops call the faithful to unity and fidelity to the Pope. We too, must proclaim what the Church teaches and live out those teachings. In this way we live out our faith authentically, and do not give mixed messages to a world that is already confused and does not know Christ.

### Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that no tempests may disturb us,  
for you have set us fast  
**on the rock of the Apostle Peter's confession of faith.**  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Chair of Saint Peter

22 February



Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi  
he put this question to his disciples,

'Who do people say the Son of Man is?'

And they said,

'Some say he is John the Baptist,  
some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'

'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?'

Then Simon Peter spoke up,

'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.'

Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man!

Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven.

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;

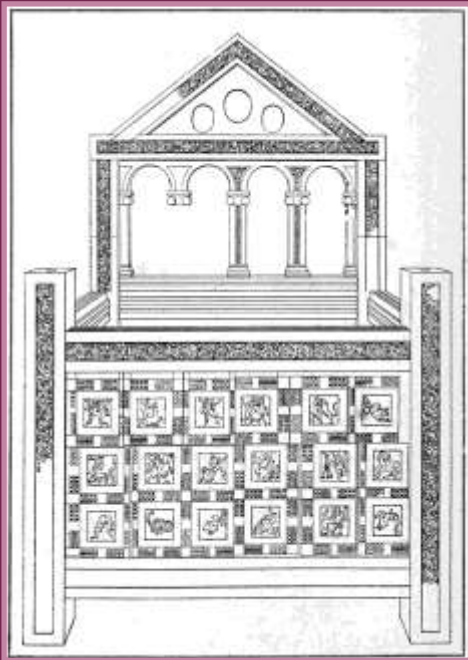
whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

Antiphon

Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

And Jesus replied: You are Peter,  
and upon this rock I will build my Church.

## The Chair of Saint Peter 22 February



### Hymn for the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter

**"But who do you say that I am?"**  
Jesus asked this question one day:  
the answer came back readily  
**"You are the Christ, " Peter did say.**

Peter would be the rock, O Christ,  
**the one on whom Your Church you'd build.**  
Whatever he would bind on earth,  
in heaven, too, would be fulfilled.

**Those who sit in Saint Peter's chair**  
proclaim the truth as he had done.  
They lead the true Church, Catholic,  
apostolic, holy and One.

May, we as followers of Christ,  
proclaim the Blessed Trinity:  
the Father and the Spirit blest,  
with Christ the Son, are One in Three.

Text: Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono  
Tune: LM (Anacrusis)

Other Music Suggestion  
[Because the Lord is My Shepherd](#)

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Jerusalem Bible Translation of Scripture used in Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III* (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981). All rights reserved.

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Universalis App: 22 February 2021