

## Solemnity of Peter and Paul, Apostles - (6/29/08)

The feast of Sts. Peter and Paul remind us of the trials and triumphs of these two foundational figures of the early church. These two people were apparently very different in character and educational background, yet come together in Christ to preach God's intervention into human history. We may not grasp how difficult it was for the people of Jesus' time to believe that God had taken a direct hand into their history, much less the history of all humanity, and especially to believe that God would do this in complete humility. Yet there is real grace in realizing that our lives lived in the day-to-day activities of human existence is valuable enough that our God would spend so much time with us.

Each disciple, in fact every person in the world, at some time will have to answer the question posed by Jesus, "Who do you say that I am?" For most of us that means Jesus becomes real, perhaps for the first time in our lives. Who is Jesus and what does He mean to ME? If you haven't thought about it before now, please take some time to ponder this all important question. When we realize that Jesus lived and died for us, our lives take on new importance and will become a shining light for the world to see.

## 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (6/22/08)

This week we officially began summer. Although we may have different routines from the rest of the year, our readings remind us of the one eternal truth of our God's Love for us. The Lord asks us not to be afraid even when we face difficulties in living our faith. Our God will always be with us, not necessarily to do away with our troubles but to help us face them and eventually overcome them with God's grace. Nothing happens to us that God doesn't know about. Even the hairs of our heads are counted by God (Some of us make it easy on God in this category)!!

Jesus tells us that everyone who acknowledges Him before others He will acknowledge before His heavenly Father. So it is important that we not be afraid to witness to Christ in the world. We don't have to stand on a soapbox on the street corner to do so, but to be ready to ask the gentle question, "Do you think that's what Jesus would do?" Sometimes we just need to remind people that God is watching with anticipation for the good we will do with our lives. As we prepare to enjoy the summer season, let us not forget our daily companion! Amen.