

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.

Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about 'my church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.



Sunday, 23rd August 2026

Our Mission:
Building a Loving Christ-Centred Community



Parish Administrator:

Fr Joy D'Souza OCD

Chief Executive Officer:

Michael Darragh

Pastoral Associate:

Margaret Ryan

Church

Corner of East Street & Fourth Avenue, Sawtell

Parish Office - 02/6658 3544

1/44 Boronia Street, Sawtell
NSW 2452. Office Hours are
Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

Regular Church Mass Times

Tuesday 9:30am

Thursday 9:30am

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 7:30am & 9am

Reconciliation every Saturday

4:30pm, no appointment necessary

Regular Chapel Mass Times

Our Lady of the Way at SCC

Marian Grove, Toormina

Wednesday 9:30am

Friday 9:30am

PARISH GIVING

First & Second
Collection &
Donations



Tea and Togetherness

10am - 26th August

Mass and Morning Tea at
OLOW Chapel, Marian Grove

Join the Parish Office for
morning tea - all welcome!



Children's Choir

this coming Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians Catholic
Church in Sawtell

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Followed by pizza



Changes to Daily Mass for this week

Thursday 27th August

9:30am MHOC

Liturgy of the Word with
Holy Communion.

Friday 28th August

9:30am OLOW

Liturgy of the Word with
Holy Communion.

First Reading

Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

Second Reading Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

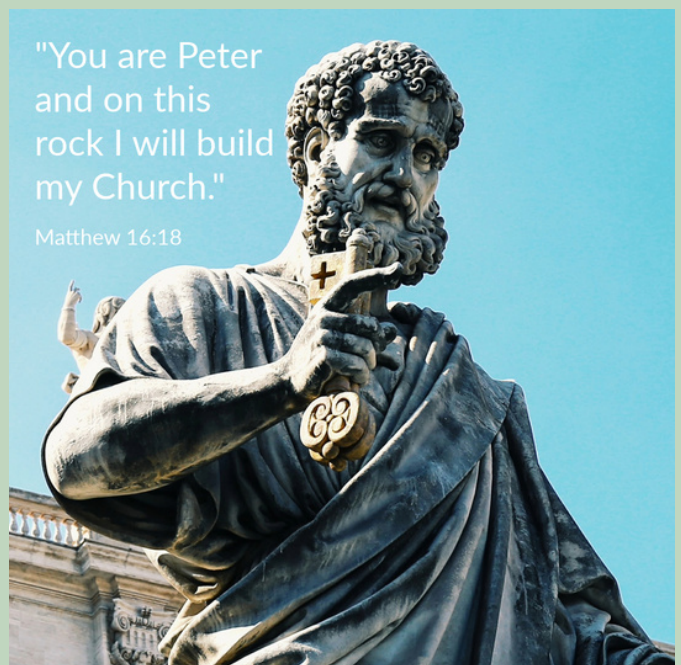
Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20

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.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 30th August 2026 YEAR A (green)

MASSES	Co-ordinator	Welcomer	Ex. Minister	Sacristan	Offertory	Reader	Powerpoint Op	Senior Altar Server
Saturday 5pm	Cheryl Hughes	Cate & Graeme Clark	Jenny Triglone	Les Michalik	Trish Maxwell	Jenny Triglone	Ann Brennan	Les Michalik
Sunday 7:30am		Eric & Sue Garvey	Paul Daly	John Hendriks	Brenda & Peter Graham	Leanne Feltis	Leanne Gennat	John Hendriks
Sunday 9am	Don Kirkaldy	Beth Schmahl	Lorraine Kirkaldy	Joe Baiada	Bob & Gai Roff	Les Thornborough	Brigid Flannery	

Recently Deceased

Carolyn Mash
Pauline Gatenby
Maureen Brown



The Sick

Marg Bryant



Planned Power Outage



Tuesday 25th August

There is a power outage scheduled from 7.30am - 3.30pm which will affect the Church and Parish Office. We will be unable to access emails and calls on this day. We thank you for your patience.

A Weekend Retreat on Prayer Friendship with God with St Teresa of Avila

27-29 November 2026

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre
Varroville NSW

*Come away for a weekend of prayer, silence
and renewal.*

Facilitated by Fr Aloysius Rego OCD



For more information, contact:
Leanne Hyland - 0421 927 435
leanne_hyland@hotmail.com

Sr. Di Moralde, CM - 0434 772 867
dmoralde@lismore.catholic.org.au

CLICK HERE

Please register before 1 October.

Reminder

The Saturday Vigil Mass will return to it's 6pm time slot in September, until winter next year (June, July, August 2027).

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office

the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



Cenacle Rosary
Every Tuesday at
3pm in the Church.
All welcome.



Diocesan
Investment
Fund

Interest Rate—4.15% (eff 1/8/2026)

For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516