



ST. PETER'S PASTORAL AREA

Newsletter

comprised of the parishes of Buckie, Fochabers, Preshome and Tynet

Parish Priest: Fr. Kingsley Chigbo cilk@rcda.scot

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21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

23rd August 2026

The Announcer! By Fr. Kingsley Chigbo

We are called today to reflect on the responsibilities God has entrusted to us in the world. God gives all authority, and his grace is available to help us fulfil the responsibility.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah spoke about Shebna, a royal official who was entrusted with an important position. Because he failed to care for the people under his leadership, God declared that the key of David's house (i.e. the authority he had, his position) would be taken from him. Eliakim would be entrusted with that position of honour to care for others. Shebna's authority was taken from him because he didn't exercise that authority responsibly by serving the people under him.

In the second reading, St. Paul extolled the depth of God's wisdom and knowledge. God's ways are beyond our understanding. We may not always understand why God chooses certain people or allows certain things to happen, but we are invited to trust His wisdom. Everything comes from God, exists through Him, and is directed towards Him. Therefore, whatever responsibility or calling we receive should ultimately be used for God's glory and the good of His people.

In the Gospel, Jesus asks His disciples: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They give different answers, but then Jesus makes the question personal: "But who do you say that I am?" Peter responds: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus then entrusted Peter with the key to authority (the new responsibility) to be the rock on which the Church of Christ is to be built. He gave him the authority because He knew who Christ was, not because he was a very good administrator. Knowing who Christ is, what God wants of us, and confessing it boldly was enough to give him the authority of the Church.

Today is a special day to pray for leaders: in the Church, in government, businesses, schools and families, for every position, authority, gift, or responsibility is ultimately a trust from God. A good leader will always seek the mind of God, seek peace, love, justice, righteousness, and the common good, rather than selfish gains. The world needs divine intervention and the rise of good people who genuinely care for all of humanity.

St Peter's Buckie

St Mary's Fochabers

MASS DIARY AND INTENTIONS

Sat 22 nd	19:00 Vigil Mass	-----
Sun 23 rd	10:00 Mass	12:00 Mass: James Johnstone, RIP
Mon 24 th	-----	-----
Tues 25 th	18:30 Exposition/Confession 19:00 Mass – Gertrude Young	-----
Wed 26 th	-----	17:30 Exposition/Confession 17:30 Mass
Thurs 27 th & Fri 28 th	-----	-----
Sat 29 th	19:00 Vigil Mass	-----
Sun 30 th	10:00 Mass	12:00 Mass

St. Peter's Church Office, St. Andrew's Square, Buckie, AB56 1BU

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A Parish of the R. C. Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust, a registered Scottish Charity, number SC005122

Today we celebrate the **21st Sunday of Ordinary Time**. The Sunday readings are:

- First Reading: Isaiah 22:15, 19-23
- Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36
- Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Sacrament of Reconciliation: available any time on request, just ask the Priests.

Sick & Housebound: If you know of anyone who is sick and/or housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the priests.

Welcome: We warmly welcome all holidaymakers and visitors to our community and wish happy holidays to our parishioners — whether you're travelling now, recently returned, or preparing to set off!

A Heartfelt Thank You: to all who gathered in Keith and Huntly to celebrate Fr. Peter's 10th Anniversary of Ordination!

Sacramental Classes for Children @ St Peter's: Registration is now open for children and young people wishing to prepare for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion (P4+) or Confirmation (P7+). For more info see Sabrina or visit www.stpeters-pa.org.uk

Mary's Meals – Foreign Currency Appeal: Got leftover foreign currency or out-of-circulation UK coins and notes sitting in drawers or jars? Mary's Meals can turn your unwanted cash into life-changing school meals for children in some of the world's poorest communities. Drop your donations into the blue Mary's Meals collection mugs at the back of St Mary's and St Peter's.

Open Days at Scalan: From a secret seminary and 'heather priests' to the daily life of 19th & 20th-century farm workers, discover the hidden histories of the Scalan. The last open day for 2026 will take place on Saturday 5th September. Drop in between 13:00 and 16:00.

Lectio Divina & Benediction will take place on Sunday, 13th September at 16:00 in St Peter's Hall. (Benediction @ 17:00). All welcome!

Looking at Sacred Music in Our Parishes and Schools: Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB invites you to join a special presentation exploring the essential role of sacred music in our divine worship at Greyfriars Convent, Abbey St, Elgin on Saturday, 26 September 2026 from 10:00 to 16:00. Full information and register on the diocesan website: <https://www.rcda.scot/looking-at-sacred-music-in-our-parishes-and-schools/>

St Peter's Youth Group: Sunday 27th September from 17:45 – 20:00. All P7 – S6 welcome!

Ladies Retreat at Pluscarden Abbey: has been booked from the 16th to 18th October. For information and to register, please contact Moira by email moirajannetta8@gmail.com

LOTN: Welcome to this summer issue of the Light of the North and, once again, there's plenty of encouraging news from around the Diocese plus lots of interesting features. Read here: <https://www.rcda.scot/light-of-the-north-summer-2026/>

Men's and Women's Retreats: You are invited to encounter the power and freedom of the Gospel at these Men's and Women's Retreats at Kilcoy Castle run by the Dominican Sisters. Women's Philips Retreat: 18th to 20th Sept 2026 and Men's Philips Retreat: 30th Oct to 1st Nov 2026. Contact Sr Mary Gianna via ogilvie@rcda.scot

RCDA Youth Events 2026/27: S1-3 Power of Grace Retreat 18th – 20th September, Tomintoul and National Youth Pilgrimage to Pluscarden Abbey 26th September. For full information visit: <https://www.rcda.scot/diocese-of-aberdeen-youth-events-2026-27/>

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS:

St. Peter's:

- Main collection: £ 382.37

St. Mary's:

- Main Collection: £ 120.80

Thank you for your continued generosity!