

August 23, 2020

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Isaiah 22:19-23 * Romans 11:33-36 * Matthew 16:13-20*

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” – Matt. 16:16

Who are the people in your family who have a key to your house? When I was young, I did not receive a key until I showed that I could be responsible with it. If my parents saw that I left my house key outside or if I invited friends in when my parents were not home, I would lose the privilege of having my own key for a while. In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives the “keys to the kingdom of heaven” to Peter. First, he asked Peter a question to be sure he would be able to use the keys widely. He asked Peter if he knew Jesus’ identity. Peter answered correctly. He said that Jesus is the Son of God. This showed that Peter truly believed in Jesus. Because of Peter’s great faith, Jesus gave him the responsibility to lead his Church as our first pope. Each pope has the same task as Peter did – to listen carefully to God so they can lead us to know, love, and serve him.

Thank you, Jesus, for giving us good leaders. Help them to always do what is best for your people in the Church.

Say a prayer today for our pope. He is human just like us and needs our prayers to serve as Jesus would want him to.

