
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. II. No. 34.

August 23, 2026

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



~ THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY ~

Our Mother and Sovereign Intercessor

On the 22 August each year, the Church invites us to celebrate the Feast of the Queenship of Mary. Instituted by Pope Pius XII in 1954 through his encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam*, this sacred feast follows in direct theological sequence from the Solemnity of the Assumption. She who was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory is rightly crowned by her Divine Son as Queen of Heaven and Earth. This royal dignity is not born of earthly ambition, but is the heavenly crown bestowed upon the humble maiden of Nazareth who declared herself the handmaid of the Lord. Because of her sinless life, her unique cooperation in the Work of Redemption, and her total union with Jesus Christ, Mary stands exalted above all choirs of angels and saints as Sovereign Queen.

To understand Mary's royalty through a solid biblical and Catholic lens, we must look to the Old Testament roots of the Kingdom of God. In the Davidic Kingdom of ancient Israel, the king's wife was not the queen; rather, that royal title belonged to the king's mother, known

in Hebrew as the Gebirah or "Great Lady." The subjects of the realm brought their petitions directly to the Queen Mother, knowing that the king held her in highest honour and would not refuse her requests on their behalf. Jesus Christ is the eternal King of Kings who definitively fulfils the Davidic Covenant. As the Mother of Christ the King, Mary is the true and everlasting Gebirah of the Kingdom of God. She possesses no independent or competing authority apart from her Son; rather, her royal influence flows entirely from Him. Her power of intercession before the divine throne is unmatched precisely because of her intimate maternal bond with the King.

Unlike earthly monarchs who govern through political power, laws, or force, Our Blessed Mother exercises a reign of pure grace, mercy, and maternal tenderness. St Alphonsus Liguori famously observed that while Jesus is the King of Divine Justice, Mary has been appointed by God as the Queen of Mercy. Her crown is not forged from gold or earthly jewels, but woven from her

unyielding obedience, her silent suffering beneath the Cross, and her immaculate love. Her royal throne is a sanctuary of hope for sinners, a comfort for the afflicted, and a source of strength for the weary. She desires nothing for herself; her sole aim as Queen is to reign over our hearts so that she may align our wills entirely with the Sacred Heart of her Son.

This feast also carries special significance within our parish as we mark the patronal feast of our Sisters of Mary Queen of the World - Australia. Their dedicated service, joyful witness, and faithful presence in our parish reflect Our Lady's gentle reign of care and guidance.

Mary's Queenship gives us immense spiritual confidence. Whenever we encounter trial, anxiety, or spiritual combat, we can fly to her patronage with childlike trust. Mary shields her children from the snares of the enemy and carries our prayers to the altar of God. Let us kneel before Christ the King and consecrate our homes, families, and parish to the maternal reign of Mary, our Queen and Mother.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Parish Administrator

Rev. Fr. Galbert Albino

Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Flower Arranging

Patricia Robertson, Sharon Minns

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 7:15 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 3:

Vietnamese Community

Readers

Vigil Rebecca Hanson, Racquel La Rosa,
Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Sisters, Mary Georges,
Merlin Sandhiya

Children's Liturgy

Armani Barakat and Victor Liu

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo
Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline
Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins,
Terese Jones, Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro,
Zoe Mrzljak, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo,
Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provost, Ricardo Tognini, Sam
Wardan, Gerard Watts.



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

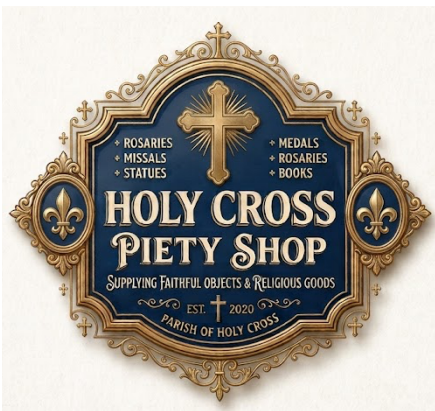
Geoff Armstrong, Norma Armstrong, Victor Azzopardi, Joseph
Baini, Carmen Bonello, Charlie Bonello, John Borg, Dick
Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea,
Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam
Grech, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Nouhad
Khoury, Kaye King, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe,
Mouna Malkoun, Bette McGrath, Roy McDonald, Aileen
McIntyre, Jack McIntyre, Lindsay McIntyre, Nancy McIntyre,
Mary McIntyre, Marie McDonald, Anthony Newell, Jack
Newell, Jean Newell, Joan Frances Nickols, Michael O'Brien,
Peter Olsen, Zackary Orenshaw, Jack Pickering, Samuel
Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Robert Pidgeon, Sheila Pidgeon,
Flory Pinto, Peter Robertson, Grace Saliba, Louis Saliba, Geoff
Senior, Garry Smith, Kerry Savvas, Alex Taktak, John Toye, John
Vella, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed
Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Noelene Yott, William Yott, Jessie
Zammit, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter

Maintaining the Cleanliness of Our Churches

A reminder to all parishioners and visitors to help maintain the beauty and solemnity of our churches. Recently, a noticeable amount of rubbish, including used tissues, service bulletins, and empty water bottles, has been left behind in the pews following Masses.

Our churches are the house of God, and caring for these holy places is a shared act of reverence and deep respect for His presence. Please take a moment to check your area before departing, ensuring all personal belongings and rubbish are taken with you.

Thank you for your thoughtful cooperation and continued stewardship in keeping our parish churches clean, welcoming, and worthy of solemn worship.



Visit our Church Piety Shops

Are you looking for a holy gift for an upcoming Sacrament, or a devotional aid for your own spiritual life? Our parish piety shops offer a beautiful selection of sacred items to deepen your faith and assist your daily prayers. Stop by after Holy Mass this weekend to browse our stock.

Our collection includes blessed rosaries, missals, Bibles, crucifixes, holy cards, and spiritual reading. Find the perfect sacramental keepsake or religious item to inspire devotion.

Parish Office Closure

Please be advised that the Parish Office will be closed from Friday 21st August and will reopen for normal business hours on Tuesday 15th September.

This extended closure is to allow our Business Manager, John Portelli, to take annual leave following his wedding which took place over the weekend. We appreciate your understanding and ask that you keep John and his new wife, Natalie, in your prayers as they begin married life.

For any urgent enquiries, emergency pastoral care, or sacramental support while the office is closed, please contact 0499 033 392.

Normal office operations will resume on Tuesday 15th September.



Requiescat In Pace John Borg

It is with sadness that we announce the death of long-time parishioner, John Borg, who passed away recently. John, along with his Late wife, Betty, were heavily involved in our parish for many years across various ministries including the Holy Trinity Friendship Group. We entrust his soul to the mercy of God and ask for your prayers for the repose of his soul and the consolation of his family.

The funeral service for John Borg will be held at Holy Trinity Church on Friday 28 August at 10:00 a.m.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Reminder for Mobile Phones to be Switched Off Before Commencement of Holy Mass

Before the Holy Mass begins, parishioners are reminded to turn off or switch their mobile phones to silent upon entering the church.

The church is the house of God and a place of sacred silence. A ringing phone directly disrupts the solemnity of the liturgy and distracts others from prayerful devotion before the Blessed Sacrament.

Please leave the noise of the world outside the church doors, offering our Lord your undivided attention. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining quiet reverence and sanctity in our churches.

Holy Trinity Church Audio System Upgrade Appeal

A sincere thank you to everyone supporting the audio system upgrade at Holy Trinity Church. To help fund this next vital step in our parish refurbishment, we have applied for a NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grant.

If you would like to make a contribution toward this project, please contact the Parish Office or donate securely online at holycrossgranville.org.au/donate or by scanning the QR code below.

Thank you for your enduring stewardship and care in preserving our sacred buildings.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

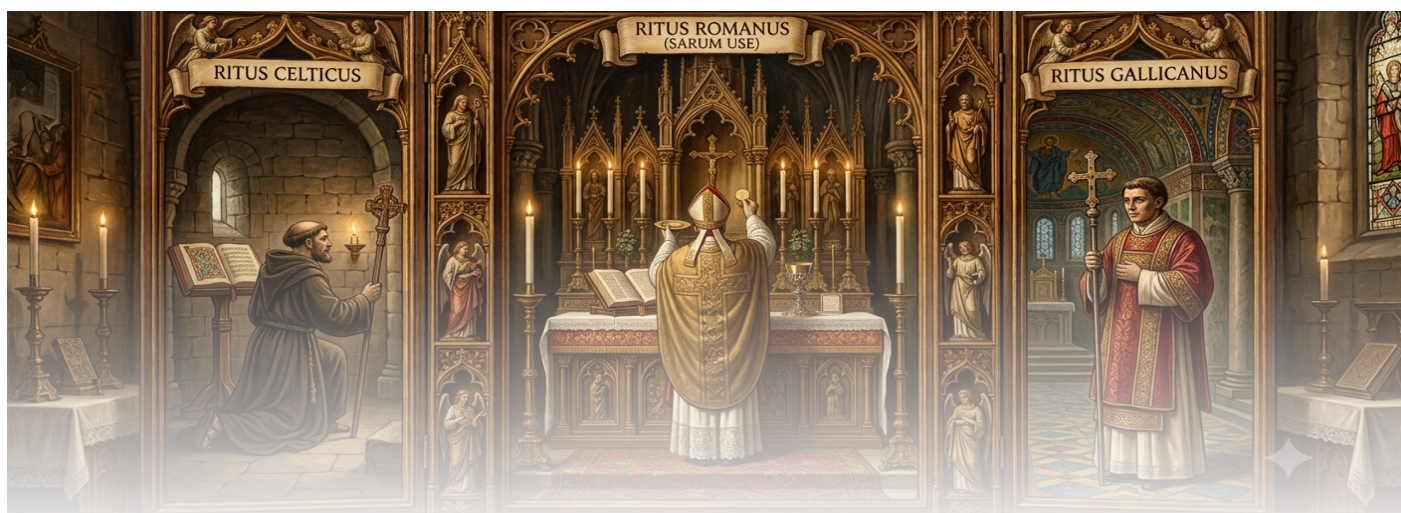
Volunteers Needed!



Help pass on our Holy Faith to the youngest members of our parish through the Children's Liturgy ministry!

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO VOLUNTEER TODAY
0497 190 444 - GRANVILLE@PARRACATHOLIC.ORG





THE KING'S DAUGHTER IN GILDED CLOTHING

~ The Vanished Rites of the Western Church ~

As our liturgical pilgrimage reaches comes to an end, we journey back across the Mediterranean to the ancient Latin West. Today, Western Catholicism is largely synonymous with the Roman Rite, whose noble simplicity and venerable antiquity have sustained generations of the faithful. Yet, in the first millennium of Christian history, the Western Church was a magnificent, multi-coloured tapestry of distinct local liturgies. Before the gradual centralisation and standardisation of Latin worship following the Council of Trent in the sixteenth century, flourishing regional rites reflected the unique culture and spiritual temperament of European nations. Examining these ancient Western rites, most of which have long ceased to be regularly celebrated, uncovers a lost treasury of Christian antiquity, revealing a rich liturgical inheritance that once spanned from the windswept Atlantic coasts to the heart of Central Europe.

Among the most evocative of these vanished traditions was the Celtic Rite, which blossomed in the monastic fastnesses of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Northumbria. Nurtured in iconic sanctuaries like Iona, Lindisfarne, and Bangor by holy monastics and saintly scholars, Celtic liturgy was deeply marked by an intense monastic asceticism, a profound reverence for creation, and a burning evangelical fervour. Celebrated with distinctive Eucharistic prayers, unique tonsures,

and a calendar closely tied to local monastic saints, the Celtic Rite produced magnificent illuminated manuscripts like the Book of Kells. Though gradually eclipsed by Roman customs following events like the Synod of Whitby in A.D. 664, its poetic prayers and deep penitential spirit left an enduring imprint on Western spirituality.

Across continental Europe, the Gallican Rite held sway throughout Frankish Gaul until the reign of Emperor Charlemagne in the eighth century. Marked by dramatic symbolism, elaborate ceremonial processions, and ornate rhetoric, the Gallican Liturgy shared striking thematic parallels with the Eastern rites. It featured vivid invocations, elaborate blessings before communion, and impassioned Eucharistic prayers that proclaimed the mystery of redemption. Nearby, in northern Italy, the ancient Aquileian Rite flourished along the Adriatic coast with unique liturgical structures and melodies, while the ancient Beneventan Rite of southern Italy likewise developed distinct liturgical customs during the early Middle Ages before quietly fading away.

In medieval England, while the Roman Rite formed the structural baseline, local variations produced magnificent cathedral uses, most famously the Sarum Use developed at Salisbury Cathedral in the eleventh century. Sarum was renowned for its extraordinary ceremonial grandeur,

complex rubrics, and distinctive liturgical colours, such as unbleached linen during Lent and vibrant red for major feasts. Its majestic processions, refined chant traditions, and highly evocative prayers deeply shaped the devotional life of pre-Reformation England, leaving an indelible imprint on sacred architecture and liturgical arts across the British Isles.

Though these ancient Western rites have become a part of history, driven by the desire for unity or lost through historical upheavals, their legacy remains invaluable. They remind us that legitimate liturgical diversity is not a modern innovation, but a sacred heritage woven into the fabric of the universal Church. These distinct usages were never competing creeds, but rather harmonious instruments in a grand divine symphony, each offering its own unique, radiant beauty to the praise of God. As our feature series comes to a close, we look back across the Eastern and Western traditions with renewed wonder.

May our contemplation of these ancient treasures deepen our reverence for the Holy Mysteries we celebrate today, uniting our prayers with those of generations past. In cherishing this vast spiritual ancestry, we walk forward inspired by the faith of our ancestors, forever drawn into the single, eternal song of praise—a timeless harmony echoing across heaven and earth, until the end of time.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

WEDNESDAY
AFTER 6:00PM MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

FIRST FRIDAY OF MONTH
AFTER 7:00PM MASS

*Sweet Sacrament, we thee adore;
Oh, make us love thee more and more.
Oh, make us love thee more and more!*

Saints & STUFF

St. John Fisher

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" After Peter confesses Him as the Christ, Jesus declares that on this rock He will build His Church, entrusting Peter with the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. A courageous, inspiring witness to this divine authority is St. John Fisher, a renowned 16th-century English bishop, cardinal, and scholar.

When King Henry VIII attempted to declare himself supreme head of the Church in England, Fisher stood virtually alone among the entire nation's episcopate in bold defence of the Pope's spiritual authority. Refusing to sign the Oath of Supremacy, Fisher maintained that Christ Himself had established Peter and his successors as the perpetual earthly shepherds of the flock. For his unyielding fidelity to Christ's words in Matthew 16, Fisher was imprisoned in the Tower of London and ultimately beheaded in 1535.

St. John Fisher's extraordinary life challenges each of us today to answer Jesus' personal question with unwavering conviction. His heroic sacrifice reminds us that standing with Christ means holding firm to the timeless, unchangeable truth of the Gospel, even when doing so comes at great personal cost.

St. John Fisher, Pray for us!

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Blessed Virgin Mary

495 Called in the Gospels "the mother of Jesus", Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, even before the birth of her son, as "the mother of my Lord". In fact, the one whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who has truly become her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly "Mother of God" (Theotokos).

969 "This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues uninterruptedly from the consent which she loyally gave at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, until the eternal fulfilment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office, but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation..."

970 "Mary's function as mother of men in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power. But the Blessed Virgin's salutary influence on men... flows forth from the superabundance of the merits of Christ, rests on his mediation, depends entirely on it, and draws all its power from it."

CATHOLIC Trivia

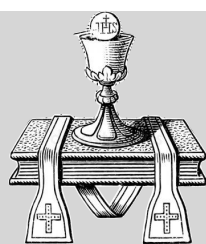
The Saint who Saved Lives with Beer

Have you ever heard of the 11th-century bishop who saved his entire village from a deadly plague by encouraging everyone to drink beer instead of water?

During a severe outbreak of illness in Flanders, Saint Arnold of Soissons noticed a curious pattern: villagers who drank water from local wells fell gravely ill, whereas those who drank brewed beer remained completely healthy. Unaware of modern germ theory or microbiology, Arnold did not realise that the brewing process—which required boiling the water—effectively killed off lethal, water-borne bacteria.

Guided by practical wisdom and deep pastoral concern, Saint Arnold famously submerged his crucifix into a brewing vat, blessed the ale, and urged his flock to drink it for their health. The parish eagerly complied, and the regional epidemic rapidly subsided, saving countless lives.

Today, Saint Arnold is fondly recognised as the patron saint of brewers, hop-pickers, and tavern keepers. His delightful legacy serves as a light-hearted reminder that holiness often intersects with practical care for our neighbours. He shows us that God can work through the most ordinary everyday elements to bring health, comfort, and fellowship to a community.



MASS MATTERS

~ The Lord's Prayer and Sign of Peace ~

We stand together to begin the Communion Rite by praying the prayer Jesus gave us. Calling God "Father" reminds us that we are one spiritual family preparing to share a sacred meal. When we ask for "our daily bread," we pray for both our physical needs and the ultimate spiritual nourishment—the Eucharist. Praying to be forgiven as we forgive others directly prepares our hearts to receive Christ.

Next comes the Sign of Peace. Before receiving Holy Communion, we are called to be reconciled with one another. The priest prays for the peace and unity of the Church, which we then share. Offering a sign of peace is not just a casual greeting; it is sharing the true, healing peace of the risen Christ. This gesture symbolises forgiveness, genuine love, and harmony within our parish.

The Readings

Introit
(Cf Psalm 85:1-3)

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading
The Prophet Isaiah
(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
(Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8)

℟. Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. ℟.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. ℟.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. ℟.

Second Reading
Letter of St. Paul to the Romans
(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
(Matthew 4:23)

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
The Gospel of Matthew
(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.

Communio
(Cf Psalm 103:13-15)

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

"Simon's confession does not stem from his human intellect or cleverness, but is a gift of revelation from the Heavenly Father. The Church is not built upon human power or political skill, but upon this divine revelation recognised and confessed by grace."

- Pope Benedict XVI