



Lenten

Reflections

The Divine Intervention

February 22, 2016

Scripture

Matthew 16:13-19

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi
he asked his disciples,

“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

Simon Peter said in reply,

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.

For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.

And so I say to you, you are Peter,

and upon this rock I will build my Church,

and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;

and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Our Scripture Reflection

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus makes a pit stop at an old Roman fortress town named

after the emperor and a Jewish King, hence, "Caesarea Philippi." There He inquires what the crowds are saying about Him and the responses are varied. But then, He looks Peter squarely in the eyes and asks him pointedly to which Peter responds, "You are the Christ", that is, Messiah. For His response, Peter is called "rock" and is given incredible power to lead and direct the community that will become The Church one day. Wonder what plan the Lord has for You?

Food for your Journey

G. K. Chesterton once said: "If God can make a saint out of someone like Simon Peter, maybe God can even do something with me!"

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, With the compassion that fills Your heart, please forgive me for the many times when, like Peter, I have denied knowing You through my words and my actions. Strengthen me with Your Grace so that I may become a rock solid witness to You. Amen.

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