

Prophets in the Old Testament such as Isaiah, Jeremiah and others were called by God to proclaim his teachings and his will for us to guide and direct us. Most of them were rejected, and sometimes put to death by the powerful and elite.

Today, the Church celebrates the solemnity of his birth. Jesus told his Twelve Apostles: *Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist.* What made John the Baptist the greatest of all the prophets? Was it his personality? No. Was it the ascetical life that he lived? No. What made him the greatest of all the prophets was the role that he played in the great drama of our salvation. He was the one who would point to Jesus as the Lamb of God. His role was to point out the tremendous reality of God's Word made flesh and dwelling among us. No other prophet had that privilege. No other prophet could point to God's living presence among us.

See, the Old Testament meets the New Testament, and all that God has given us in the Old Testament is being crowned by all that he will give us in the New. Isaiah prophesied that Israel would be brought back to God, and the survivors restored, so that the Lord's salvation might reach to the ends of the earth. Now this child, called John by his father, is born to Elizabeth and Zechariah to prepare the way for the Lord.

Each one of us shares in John's prophetic calling, through our baptism. By our lives, by our words, by our deeds, we, too, are called by God to manifest his presence in our lives. We are called to point out to others that Jesus Christ is alive and well, risen from the dead and present to those around us.

Fr. Michael Jeeva Antony

2018 St. Peter Church

**YARD
SALE**
AUG 2-4

Donation Drop-offs for June:
Tue. - Fri. 9:30am - Noon
Before and After Weekend Masses

Furniture Pick-up:
Call for appointment: Parish Office (541) 688-1051,
Kathleen (541) 461-0485 or Betty (541) 688-5079

Helpers Needed in July

◆ Room Setup, Sorting and Pricing ◆

Tuesdays and Thursdays June
9:30am - Noon

Come any or all days. Come for all or part of the time. We're in the religious ed building. See you there!

DONATIONS
~ ALL KINDS ~
**GREATLY
NEEDED!!**

AREA NEWS

DID YOU KNOW? That our local Vicariate (Eugene area churches) now has a website? Check it out, to find out more about what is going on in our Vicariate and area churches, at: <http://catcommlc.wixsite.com/ccolc> (our St. Peter website also has a link to it in the “Beyond St. Peter” tab!)

TIME FOR A FESTIVAL! And it’s at the Mt. Angel Abbey, on Saturday, July 7th. It begins with noon prayer in the Abbey church, and ends with Vespers at 4pm. In between, enjoy an afternoon with the monks, including a picnic lunch, a tour of the Abbey’s icons, an organ concert, sampling of monk-brewed beers (& a visit to the brand new Benedictine Brewery!). Tickets for the 21 and older event are \$50/person, and include all activities ... tickets available online at: <https://www.mountangelabbey.org/sbf-tickets> or call 503-845-3030.

IT’S A PACKED SUMMER! All Catholics, ages 21-39, are invited to join Eugene Catholic Young Adults for camping, game nights, service activities, retreat and, and more! For details, contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA)

UPCOMING RETREATS:

JOURNEY TOGETHER IN HOPE — Join for a weekend of fellowship, prayer and fun for people who have disabilities and their families, at Aldergate Camp (Turner, OR), **August 24-26**. To learn more, contact Kelsey Rea: krea@archdpdx.org, or specialneeds.archdpdx.org, or 503-233-8399..

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND — The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is **August 17 - 19** at Our Lady of Peace Retreat House (Beaverton, OR). Learn how to once again foster **COMMUNICATION AND RENEWAL IN YOUR MARRIAGE!** For more information call 503-853-2758 or apply on-line at www.rediscoverthespark.org.

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHY IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH UNIQUE?

“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church” (Mt 16:18). When Jesus founded the Church, he established a concrete, visible institution, that can be traced in an unbroken line down through the centuries. The Church is both a living organism and an organization. So, Christian unity is expressed not only spiritually, but in an organizational and practical term as well.

Jesus spoke of the Church as “a city set on a mountain” (Mt 5:14) — it is not invisible, but intended by God to be readily identifiable.

When Jesus declared that the apostle Peter was the “rock” on which he would build his Church, he made it possible to identify that Church and to know where it could be found. St. Peter became the first bishop of Rome and the bishops of Rome (popes) have continued to fill his special office as the “rock”. The Church Jesus established is spiritually and organizationally in communion with the successors of Peter. We are designated as the Roman Catholic Church because of the Pope’s leadership role from that city.

The central role of the Roman Church in historic Christianity can be seen in its unique and decisive function in upholding Christian orthodoxy — literally, “correct doctrine” — throughout the ages. It is also evident in the papal leadership in ecumenical councils, such as the Council of Trent and the Second Vatican Council.

Why is the Church called “Catholic”? The word means “universal”, and describes both the scope of Jesus’ saving mission (to redeem the whole world) and the extent of the organization he established — a global Church embracing all peoples. The first recorded use of the term is in a letter written by St. Ignatius of Antioch (the bishop), who was taught by the apostle John, and may well have known the apostle Peter.

The Catholic Church, then, is the universal Christian family in communion with St. Peter’s successors, the popes. Founded by Jesus Christ himself through the apostles, it is unique both in its catholicity and in its adherence to the “rock”.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

Mt 18:15-17 · Jn 17:21-23 · Acts 1:20; 14:24; 15:1-29; 20:28-31 · Rom 13:13; 16:17 · 1 Cor 1:10-13; 12:12-27 · 1 Tm 3:1-4 · 1 Pt 5:1 ·
& Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Nos. 750-752 · 763-765 · 770-780 · 789 · 792 · 796 ·
805-826 · 830-838 · 846-849 · 855-868 · 874-892 · 936-939 · 2033 · 2044-2050 ·