

THE KEYS



Church of St. Peter the Apostle
Anglican Catholic Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States
www.dmas-acc.org

The Rev. Canon Peter Geromel, OHI, DMin - Rector
July/August 2025
<https://stpetersacc.org>

The Rector's Ramble

St. Peter's Images and Icons, Part 2



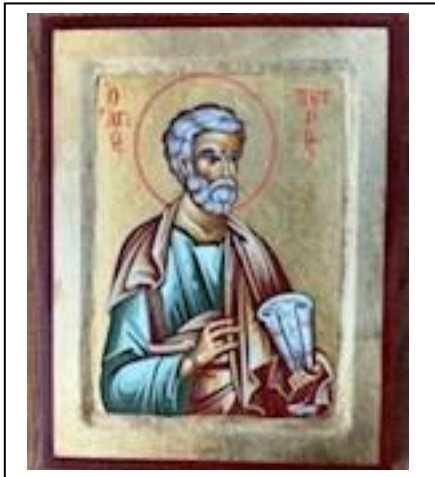
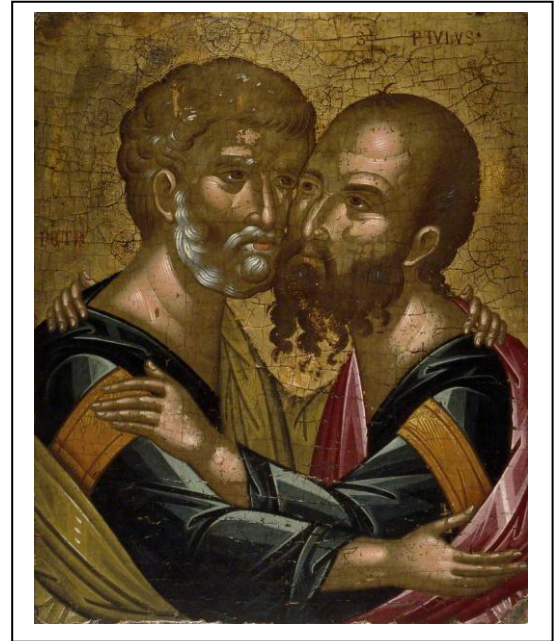
Saints Peter and Paul. Just above our Votive Stand, you will observe an Icon of Saints Peter and Paul. This is of our Patron Saint and another Saint that comes along with him, Saint Paul. In the Prayer Book, June 29th is St. Peter's Day but in the older missals and tradition of the Church, the two are celebrated together. In our missal, both can be observed on June 29th, or you can observe a separate remembrance of St. Paul on June 30th. The concept of this icon, the duality of these two great saints of the Church, both historically associated with the city of Rome, is matched nicely by the fact that we have the stained glass window shields of both saints within our sanctuary, St. Peter on the Gospel side (congregation's left) and St. Peter on the Epistle side (congregation's right). Here, in this icon, Christ is standing above them, blessing both of them, in the manner that an Eastern (Byzantine) Bishop blesses, with both hands.

In a recent sermon that I listened to on that Feast Day found on YouTube, the preacher, Canon Dwight Duncan, SSC, Rector of St. Matthias in Dallas, pointed out another icon of St. Peter and Paul. In this one, the two saints hold up a church building. The holy image to the left is from the Cretan school and can be viewed at: <https://orthodoxartsjournal.org/st-peter-on-the-right-st-paul-on-the-left/> And I quote from this blog article the following: "Very early, from the time of St-Clement of Rome, St-Peter and St-Paul have been hailed as the two Pillars of the Church. On a 5th century image from Saint-Sabina in Rome there appears a proto-ascension, with Christ in glory at the top and with Sts Peter and Paul grasping a chrism over the head of a figure that is most probably Ecclesia, a symbolic figure standing for the church (This figure will later be joined to the symbolism of the Holy Virgin.) It is in this respect, as the two pillars of the church, that they appear in so many images culminating in the icon of the saints holding a church together as a symbol of their role, incarnating in a way the two basic principles of the constitution of the Church. . . . To help us understand, we can look at an Old testament type prefiguring



the Apostles in their role as “pillars”. In the Temple of Solomon there were two prominent bronze pillars. These pillars are given names in Scripture. The first pillar is Jachin, which means “the Lord will establish”. This notion of establishing can be linked to our Lord telling Peter: “You are Peter and on this stone I will build my church.” The second pillar is called Boaz, and here we have an even more surprising relationship, because although the word Boaz has an obscure etymology, it refers to the ancestor of David known mostly for marrying Ruth, a gentile woman who converted. Boaz therefore strongly prefigures Paul as the “apostle to the gentiles”. . .”

To the right, from the same blog article, I want us to contemplate lastly this other icon of the two saints embracing. This was perhaps first found in gilt glass in the Roman catacombs and is known as *Concordia apostolorum* - *Apostolic Harmony*. This is ironic enough, since the two saints did not always get along. Or perhaps it is more fitting an icon because of that fact. In Galatians 2, Paul recounts: “But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation” (11-13). Here we see that they did not always agree, but their unity in the Faith was not diminished just because their personalities clashed and as such they are an image of the brotherly love that builds up rather than breaks down the Church of God.



St. Peter: The other image I want to point out in this edition is one of which we have two, one is to the left of the altar and the other in the back on the left of the back entrance. This one is particularly special to me as it is the icon I grew up with in my room as being that of my patron saint and namesake. Here we see St. Peter blessing with one hand, whilst he holds a text, likely one of his Epistles General, in the other.

News and Information

July 4th: Mass for Independence Day, 10 AM.

July 6th: Solemn Evensong & Benediction, 6 PM.

July 23: Vestry meeting at 7:30 PM, preceded by Mass at 7 PM.

July 24: St. James the Apostle Transferred, Mass at Noon.

Aug. 3: Solemn Evensong & Benediction, 6 PM.

Aug. 6: Feast of the Transfiguration, Blessing of Grapes, 6 PM.

Aug. 24: St. Bartholomew's, Mass at 8 am and 10 am.

NO VESTRY MEETING IN AUGUST

September 12-13: DMAS Men's Retreat in Mechanicsville, VA.

JULY, 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		[1]	[2]	[3] 12 noon HC	[4] 10:00 am HC INDEPENDENCE DAY	[4]
[6] 10:00 a.m. MP 6:00 p.m. Evensong & Benediction TRINITY III	[7]	[8]	[9]	[10] 12 noon HC	[11]	[12]
[13] 10:00 a.m. MP TRINITY IV	[14]	[15]	[16]	[17] 12 noon HC	[18]	[19]
[20] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY V	[21]	[22]	[23] 7:00 pm HC 7:30 pm Vestry	[24] 12 noon HC	[25]	[26]
[27] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY VI	[28]	[29]	[30]	[31] 12 noon HC	LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction	

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

	July 6	July 13	July 20	July 27
Coffee Hour	M. Slayton	E. Paisley	V. Williams	G. Terrell
Epistoler 8 a.m.	<i>No 8 am service</i>	<i>No 8 am service</i>	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede
Epistoler 10 a.m.	T. Paisley	T. Paisley	G. Terrell	P. Williams

Altar servers and ushers will be assigned as available before each service.

AUGUST, 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
[31] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY XI	LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction				[1]	[2]
[3] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE 6:00 p.m. Evensong & Benediction TRINITY VII	[4]	[5]	[6] 6:00 pm HC FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION	[7] 12 noon HC	[8]	[9]
[10] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY VIII	[11]	[12]	[13]	[14] 12 noon HC	[15]	[16]
[17] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY IX	[18]	[19]	[20]	[21] 12 noon HC	[22]	[23]
[24] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY X/ST. BARTHOLOMEW	[25]	[26]	[27]	[28] 12 noon HC	[29]	[30]

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

	August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
Coffee Hour	S. Darby	C. Kurstedt	E. Paisley	C. DeRosset	L. Olver
Epistoler 8 a.m.	G. Mauney	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede	G. Mauney	D. Drysdale
Epistoler 10 a.m.	P. Williams	T. Paisley	G. Terrell	T. Paisley	P. Williams

Altar servers and ushers will be assigned as available before each service.

2025 Vestry (term end): Clemens Von Claparede (‘27), Dan Drysdale (‘27), George Mauney (‘25), Mike Slayton (‘25), George Terrell (‘26), Vicki Williams (‘26)