

A brief sketch of our discussion, 8/20/26

Five of us attended, 2 men and 3 women, in the parish library

Son of Man... Son of God. Every son has the nature of his father. This is so Trinitarian.

Yes, and Peter understands this, but only through grace. We're falling into heresy just trying to discuss this theology.

Jesus uses the Greek masculine form of "rock" to name Peter, but the second time he uses the feminine form. These forms have different associations, the first being that of a pebble, while the feminine describes a large stone. Will Peter be transformed from a pebble into a stone? How do we understand these words? What does "church" mean at the time of Christ?

Whatever Peter binds on earth will be bound in heaven, and he holds the keys. Salvation is only through the Church. But there is baptism by desire and by blood.

Recently attending a baptism, the parents and godparents make vows to keep the faith for the infant. Ah, yes, we need each other: we don't reach heaven alone.

Why does Jesus command them not to tell? Would his nature be misunderstood, his kingdom mistaken for one of this world?

Past 8pm, we concluded with the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the lower chapel, using booklets as many of us learned this for the first time.

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and
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."

Then he strictly ordered his disciples

to tell no one that he was the Christ.