



**Archdiocese of St. Louis  
Office of Sacred Worship  
Lectio Divina**

**Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, apostle**

**Lectionary: 535: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5,6/Mt 16:18/Mt 16:13-19**

Read the following passage four times.

- The first reading, simply read the scripture and pause for a minute. Listen to the passage with the ear of the heart. Don't get distracted by intellectual types of questions about the passage. Just listen to what the passage is saying to you, right now.
- The second reading, look for a key word or phrase that draws your attention. Notice if any phrase, sentence or word stands out and gently begin to repeat it to yourself, allowing it to touch you deeply. No elaboration. In a group setting, you can share that word/phrase or simply pass.
- The third reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?*" Notice what thoughts, feelings, and reflections arise within you. Let the words resound in your heart. What might God be asking of you through the scripture? In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.
- The fourth reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*I believe that God wants me to . . . . . today/this week.*" Notice any prayerful response that arises within you, for example a small prayer of gratitude or praise. In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.

**Reading**

*1 Pt 5:1-4*

Beloved:

I exhort the presbyters among you, as a fellow presbyter and witness to the sufferings of Christ and one who has a share in the glory to be revealed. Tend the flock of God in your midst, overseeing not by constraint but willingly, as God would have it, not for shameful profit but eagerly. Do not lord it over those assigned to you, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd is revealed, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.



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**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6*

***R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

***R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage.

***R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

***R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

***R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.***



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**Verse Before the Gospel**

*Mt 16:18*

You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church; the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

**Gospel**

*Mt 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."