

21st Sunday of the OT
23 August 26 – Cycle A



UNFILTERED

Today we live surrounded by opinions. Above all. About politics, about football, about life... and also about God. Everyone has their version, their "like" or their "I'm not convinced". And we can spend our lives repeating what we have heard, without ever really asking ourselves what we think.

Today Jesus does not ask what others say. He asks point-blank: "*And you, who do you say that I am?*". No filter. No excuses. Without anyone being able to answer for you.

It is not a question to recite from memory or to look good. It is a question that can only be answered with life: with what we love, with what we fear, with what we are willing to let go of for Him.

May this celebration help us to drop the answers we have given and to discover, like Peter, that recognizing Jesus is not our merit, but a gift that God wants to give us if we open our hearts to him.

SINGING. WHOLEHEARTEDLY – AIN KAREM

<https://youtu.be/3MOtSAJWRCQ?si=tLlq6hwhf5nNn0phb>

GOSPEL – MATTHEW 16:13-20

Matthew 16:13-20. "When Jesus arrived in the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'What do people say about the Son of Man? Who do they say he is?' They answered him, 'Some say it is John the Baptist; others, Elias; and others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'" "And you," he asked them, "who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this has not been revealed to you by flesh or blood, but by my Father who is in heaven. And I say to you, You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the power of Death will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly commanded his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah."

TO DEEPEN THE WORD

Is 22:19-23. To lead his people, God has recourse to the "intendants." The keys are the badge of the authority He delegates to them.

Psalms 137:1-8. May God not stop the work of his hands! The humble, of whom He is the strength, will thank Him.

Rom 11:33-36. What can be said in the face of the wisdom and unfathomable knowledge of God, but words of adoration and praise?

Mt 16:13-20. It can be said with certainty that, in Matthew's eyes, this episode in Caesarea constitutes a turning point in the life of Jesus, because right after this account, Matthew adds: "From this moment on, Jesus began to show his disciples that it was necessary to go to Jerusalem, to suffer much because of the Elders, the priests and scribes, to pass through death and rise again on the third day." The expression "From this moment on" means,

without a doubt, that a stage had been overcome. A stage is overcome, but at the same time, and this is the most surprising thing in this story, nothing is said again in it! Jesus claims the title of Son of Man, which he has already done nine times in the Gospel of Matthew; and Peter attributes to him the title of Son of God and it is not the first time he has done so! First title, "Son of Man": an expression taken directly from the book of Daniel. The second title given to him in this account is "Son of God." In the language of the time, this was exactly synonymous with "Messiah-King". This expression goes back to the end of the episode of the march on the water, which tells us how the disciples, who remained in the boat, prostrated themselves before Jesus and said to him: "Truly, you are the Son of God." The novelty in what happens in Caesarea is that Peter utters this expression, but not in front of a manifestation of power of Jesus who, upon hearing him, responds: "It is not flesh and blood that have revealed this to you, that is, you have not found it alone, but my Father who is in heaven." God reveals himself, not as a God of power and majesty, but as love delivered into the hands of men. And as soon as Peter discovers who Jesus is, Jesus sends him on a mission for the Church: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church."

I pray with the Word

Today we are invited to review our relationship with Jesus in everyday life, not in the ideas, tradition, or culture in which we live. How do I live my relationship with Jesus on a daily basis? Am I able to get out of my ego, my ideas, my perceptions and open my interior to the relationship with the Jesus of the Gospel, letting grace act?



MAKASSY

<https://youtu.be/rrePvz5bjts?si=MMHxxEywwWktXcK>

MASSAI - MORNING STAR

<https://open.spotify.com/intl-es/track/2cOQrjod15svaB7xDs6nMx?si=7fb8e50c2bfd4cdb>

PASSWORD

Don't ask me what they say
about you—
the voices that flit across my
screen.

I don't want to parrot other
people's opinions
like someone copying
homework.

You ask me, directly, without
beating about the bush,
like someone who looks you in
the eye
and leaves you no way out.

Who are you to me?
Not the answer I learnt as a
child,
not the one I say out of habit,
but the one that comes out when
no one's looking.
If I tell you that you are the
Messiah,
let it not be merely a repetition,
let it be profound, from within,
let it be because it comes from
the Father.

I don't want a ready-made faith,
all set, but not yet put into
practice;

I want a faith that carves its way
through
like a root through concrete.

Give me the courage of Peter,
who was wrong so many times
and yet still dared to speak
before he had all the answers.

May my 'yes' not remain mere
words,
may it be seen in how I forgive,
in how I serve, in how I love,
in the decisions that nobody
sees.

Today and every day you come
to ask me again, face to face.

Here I am, Lord,
unfiltered, without copying,
without lending my voice, you
are the Son of the living God,
and I want to live by that.

SING. COME WITH ME, MARY

<https://youtu.be/UtWdKrwdc0A?si=iJkoDqBJKiAk2yzm>



Sisters of Charity of St. Anne

C/ Madre Ràfols, 13 - 50.004 - ZARAGOZA (Spain)

www.chcsa.org

