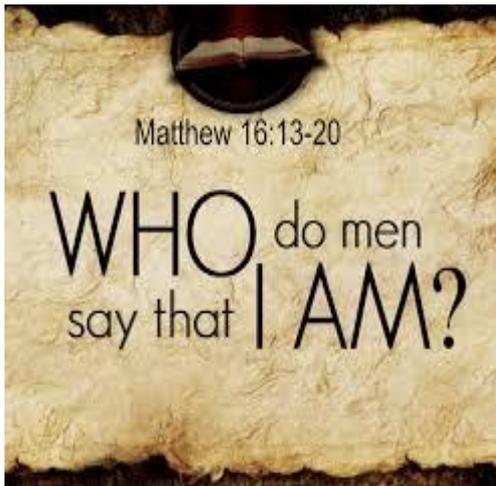


# *Reflections & Prayers for 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*



*Who do people say the Son of Man is?*

*'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God'.*

*You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.*

*What begins with a simple question ends with the building of the church! At the center is the revelation of Jesus as 'the Christ, the Son of the living God.' The Church can be solidly built only on the person of Jesus; the Church can stand firmly only by faith in him.*

*At this point we are about halfway through this longer period of Ordinary Time, a time for deepening our understanding of the identity of Jesus and deepening our identity as Church.*

*There is a tendency to think of faith in Jesus only as a personal commitment. The gospel reminds us that faith finds its deepest expression in the community of the Church.*

*Brisbane Liturgia*

**Dear Parishioners, let us be daring, like Peter, and confess Jesus as the Christ, let us pray to the living God with trusting hearts.**

We pray for Christian communities in every land, that they will minister the healing mercy of God to all who seek it. **We pray to the Lord**

May all those facing greater loss because of the COVID pandemic, especially women and the young, that just economic measures will ease their burden. **We pray to the Lord**

We pray for all whose mental health is at breaking point that they will reach out for the help that is offered to them. **We pray to the Lord**

We pray for families and friends unable to come together for celebrations of joy or of sorrow, that bonds of love will keep them united. **We pray to the Lord**

We pray for the people of Lebanon, that they will unite in support of one another and receive the urgent assistance they need from the international community. **We pray to the Lord.**

May the recently deceased and all the faithful departed, rejoice in God's presence for ever. **We pray to the Lord.**

**Living and life-giving God, you anointed your Son Jesus as Saviour of the world. Keep us true to his name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen**