St. Peter



Died AD 64
Feast Day:
June 29

Simon was a fisherman who lived around the time of Jesus. His brother Andrew introduced him to Jesus. Jesus called Simon and Andrew to be Apostles. Jesus told Simon, "You are Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church."

Jesus warned Peter that he would deny Jesus. Peter promised he would not. While Peter waited for Jesus outside the courthouse, people asked Peter if he knew Jesus. Peter lied and said he did not know Him. Peter remembered what Jesus had told him and left, weeping.

Jesus was crucified and rose from the dead. He came to Peter saying to him, "Feed my sheep."

Peter was the first Apostle to preach and to work miracles in Jesus' name. Peter was put in jail, but an angel freed him. He continued to preach to everyone. With St. Paul's help, Peter led the first Church council in Jerusalem. He wrote two letters that are in the Bible.

The Roman Emperor ordered Peter to be crucified. But Peter asked to be crucified upside down. He said he was not worthy to die as Jesus did. His relics are in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

© SOPHIA INSTITUTE FOR TEACHERS