

# Worthing Deanery Prayer

The theme of this week 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

## Church



## Reflection

The theme of the readings on 25<sup>th</sup> June is about giving witness to our belief in God and in Jesus through the Church. On 29<sup>th</sup> June we celebrate the feast day of two great saints; Saint Peter and Saint Paul. Peter was a fisherman on Lake Galilee and was called 'Simon' and received his special name, 'Peter' meaning 'Rock', from Jesus himself. Peter was one of his first chosen disciples and was named by Jesus as the leader of the Twelve, the apostles. He was in fact the first Pope. Jesus told Peter that he was 'the Rock' on which the Church would be built, meaning that Peter was strong enough to gather and found the early Christian Church. Paul(Saul) never met Jesus in his time on earth. Saul only met Jesus in a vision after Jesus had risen. This took place on the road to Damascus as Saul was going there to arrest the Christians. Saul was blinded and knocked off his horse and he heard the voice of Jesus asking him why he was hurting the followers of the early Church. This event changed Saul of Tarsus into Paul, apostle to the Gentiles, those who were not Jews. What joined them was their love of Jesus and their (witness) martyrs' death in the city of Rome; Peter was crucified upside down and Paul, as a Roman citizen was beheaded with the sword. We owe a great deal to these two saints who laid the foundations of the Christian Church. **Let us continue to build on these foundations and be witnesses to our Church this week.**

## Prayer



“May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace through your belief in Him, so that you will overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Amen (Romans 15: 13)



## From the bible

“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.”