

A thought for Sunday 23rd August

on Matthew 16. 13-20

'But who do you say that I am?' said Jesus.
Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son on the living God'.
Jesus said, 'I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church'.

I find that the more time I spend reading about Peter, the more I like this person. Time and again he gets things wrong, says the wrong thing and I find myself thinking, 'wasn't he so very human!', I think I could have been friends with him.

I wonder what you think about him?

Below is a Sonnet about Peter, by a poet I enjoy, Malcolm Guite. I hope you enjoy reading it and maybe even finding something of yourself within it.

Blessings
Revd Tonya

A Sonnet for St. Peter **Malcolm Guite**

Impulsive master of misunderstanding
You comfort me with all your big mistakes;
Jumping the ship before you make the landing,
Placing the bet before you know the stakes.
I love the way you step out without knowing,
The way you sometimes speak before you think,
The way your broken faith is always growing,
The way he holds you even when you sink.
Born to a world that always tried to shame you,
Your shaky ego vulnerable to shame,
I love the way that Jesus chose to name you,
Before you knew how to deserve that name.
And in the end your Saviour let you prove
That each denial is undone by love.

