

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 27, 2017

Isaiah 22:19-23 + Romans 11:33-36 + Matthew 16:13-20

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The image of the key struck me as I read this Gospel and the reading from Isaiah. I was thinking of how many kinds of key there are. Keys for front doors, back doors, cars, safety deposit boxes, diaries, electronic keys, skeleton keys, master keys, transponder keys, tubular keys, keycards, and more.

The key of the House of David was put on Eliakim's shoulder in the reading from Isaiah. He was given the power to open and close for the generations of his line. Jesus gave Peter the key to lead all generations to the kingdom through the fledgling church. So what about us? Are each of us given a key to do the same? Each of us is a key for others that opens the door to Christ. Imagine all of the opportunities that we have during the day to be a key. Remember all of the ways our parents, family, teachers and friends have been keys for us unlocking the mysteries of life and love.

I have the privilege of working with doctoral students who are all ministers in other denominations. I learn so much from them because they are so aware of being keys for their parishioners. They continually seek ways to open themselves and their members to grow deeper in the life of Christ. Their language and ways of praying are always Christ-centered and they speak in blessings, showering them on all they meet. They are truly inspirational and they came to mind as I was praying with these readings.

Each of us can reflect on who the keys in our life are and in what ways we are keys for others. Keys who open up thoughts, dreams, inspirations, and practical ways that impact our lives. Like Peter we are all given a key to the kingdom, maybe we call it a gift or a charism, that opens the door for others.

Reflection

Who have you been a key for this week?

