"You Are Peter."

Today in the Gospel reading, Jesus asked His disciples who people thought that He was. Everybody seemed to think He was someone special, but none of them knew who He really was. When Jesus asked the disciples themselves who they thought He was, Simon said that He was "the Christ, the Son of the living God!" Simon only knew this because God had put it into his mind.

When Simon had said this, Jesus said that his name would now be Peter, which means rock, and that on this rock He would build His Church. He made Simon Peter the first pope. He also said that the gates of Hell would not prevail against the Church. Jesus was assuring us that He would always protect the Church from error.

Now whenever the pope, or the bishops who are agreeing with the pope, teach anything about God, we know that they are right. Jesus gave the teaching authority to Peter, and he passed it down to the bishops through all the centuries until now. Isn't that pretty amazing?

Blessed are your Simon son of Jona.
For he is not reserved
this to your own.
Heavenly Father

What were Peter and Jesus saying in today's Gospel reading?
Look in the mirror to find out!
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
BIRTHDAY: JUNE 24
DEATH: AUGUST 29

THE BIRTH OF JOHN WAS ANNOUNCED TO HIS FATHER ZACHARY BY AN ANGEL. AT FIRST HE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT BECAUSE HE AND HIS WIFE WERE SO OLD.

WHEN JOHN GREW UP, HE LIVED IN THE DESERT WHERE HE ATE ONLY LOCUSTS AND HONEY.

WHEN JOHN TOLD KING HEROD HE WAS WRONG TO MARRY HIS BROTHER’S WIFE, HERODIAS, SO THEY PUT HIM IN PRISON.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST IS LIKE A SIGN-POST THAT POINTS TO JESUS. EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS WEIRD, HE PREACHED THE TRUTH. HE EVEN GAVE UP HIS FREEDOM AND HIS LIFE FOR THE TRUTH. LIKE ST. JOHN, OUR LIVES SHOULD BE LIKE SIGNS THAT DIRECT PEOPLE TO GOD AND TO THE TRUTH.

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"Who do you say that I am?"
CROSSWORD
See how well you know what happened in today’s Gospel story!

5. "...the gates of the will not prevail..."
7. "...this rock I will build my Church..."
9. "Whatever you bind on earth shall ____ bound in Heaven."
10. "I will ____ you the keys of the kingdom..."
11. "On this ____ I will build my Church."
13. Jesus made Peter the ____ of the Church on earth.
14. "Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed ____ Heaven."
15. ____ and blood have not revealed this to you..."
16. ______ asked them, "Who do you say that I am?"
17. God ____ Peter in charge of His Church on earth.
18. Jesus changed Simon’s ____ to Peter.
19. "Flesh and blood ____ not revealed this to you..."
20. "...You are the Christ, the ____ of the living God!"

ACROSS
1. ______ said, "You are the Christ..."
2. "On this rock I will build my ________.
3. "Blessed ____ you, Simon..."
4. "...the gates of the netherworld shall not ______..."
6. "Who ____ people say that the Son of Man is?"
8. "Flesh and blood have ____ revealed this..."
10. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living ____!"
12. "I will give you the ____ to the kingdom of Heaven."
15. When will the gates of the netherworld prevail against the Church?
16. ____ belong to the Church that Jesus started.
17. The Heavenly ____ revealed to Simon who Jesus was.
18. "...the keys to the kingdom of ____..."
19. "Blessed are you, Simon, son of ____...
20. Peter’s name before Jesus changed it.
23. Jesus ordered the disciples to tell no one that ____ was the Christ.