

## The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

## Feast—February 22



While the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, celebrated on June 29, focuses on the martyrdom of St. Peter, this celebration draws attention to his role in the Church. The "Chair of St. Peter" is an image of his seat of authority—an authority that was given not for his own personal gain but so that he could be a source of unity for the Church. Jesus told Peter, "I have prayed that your own faith may not fail; and once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers" (Lk 22:32). Today, this feast reminds us of the significance of the ministry of St. Peter and the succession of popes who followed in his footsteps.



Copyright © 2016, Catholic News Service-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

Scripture excerpt is taken from the New American Bible, Revised Edition, © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Image detail: Feast of Saint Peter's Chair from Working in a Vineyard, February, in Spinola Hours, Workshop of the Master of James IV of Scotland, The J. Paul Getty Museum.