

# THE COMMON OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH

READING I FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

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May your eyes watch night and day over this temple.

**A reading from the first Book of Kings**

8:22-23, 27-30

**I**n those days:

Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD  
in the presence of the whole community of Israel,  
and stretching forth his hands toward heaven, he said,  
“LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you  
in heaven above or on earth below;  
you keep your covenant of mercy with your servants  
who are faithful to you with their whole heart.

“Can it indeed be that God dwells on earth?

If the heavens and the highest heavens cannot contain you,  
how much less this temple which I have built!

Look kindly on the prayer and petition of your servant,  
O LORD, my God,  
and listen to the cry of supplication I, your servant,  
utter before you this day.

May your eyes watch night and day over this temple,  
the place where you have decreed you shall be honored;  
may you heed the prayer which I, your servant, offer in this place.

Listen to the petitions of your servant  
and of your people Israel  
which they offer in this place.

Listen from your heavenly dwelling and grant pardon.”

The word of the Lord.

## FOURTH OPTION

Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house.

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter**

2:4-9

**B**eloved:

**Come to the Lord, a living stone, rejected by human beings  
but chosen and precious in the sight of God,  
and, like living stones,  
let yourselves be built into a spiritual house  
to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices  
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**

**For it says in Scripture:**

*Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion,  
a cornerstone, chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame.*

**Therefore, its value is for you who have faith,  
but for those without faith:**

*The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,  
and*

*A stone which will make people stumble,  
and a rock that will make them fall.*

**They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny.**

**You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation, a people of his own,  
so that you may announce the praises” of him  
who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.**

**The word of the Lord.**

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## GOSPEL

## FIRST OPTION

You are Peter: I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.



**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

16:13-19

**W**hen Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi  
he asked his disciples,

“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

Simon Peter said in reply,

“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.

For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.

And so I say to you, you are Peter,

and upon this rock I will build my Church,

and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.

Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;

and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

**The Gospel of the Lord.**