

Saint Peter: Donated “In memory of our parents, Jack and Ann Prokop & Jim and Martha Bachtel” by Jim and Elaine Bachtel, this window depicts the great Saint Peter, friend and disciple of Jesus Christ, and the first pope. Our Peter is an old man with white hair and a white beard, dressed in a red cloak over a white garment. His right hand is raised in blessing, and in his left hand he holds the keys of the kingdom.

In Matthew 16:10 Jesus says to Peter, “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven”; this passage shows the authority of Peter to guide the Church.

Peter’s original name was Simon, but Jesus gave him the name of Cephas, the Aramaic equivalent of the Greek Petros, which means “rock.” Jesus said, “You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.”

Peter led the Christians after the Ascension of Jesus, he named Judas’ successor, was the first apostle to preach to the Gentiles (non-Jews), and was the first apostle to perform miracles. His feast, shared with Saint Paul, occurs on June 29.

