

MATTHEW: THE KING WHO SAVES
I Believe in the Holy Catholic Church
Matthew 16:13-20
April 19, 2026

Image of Caesarea Philippi

1. The Church is built on a CONFESSED FAITH (Mt 16:13-17).

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

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Da 7:13–14)

“Who do you say that I am?”

- You are the Christ (Messiah)
- You are the Son of God
- You are the living One

If you confess with your mouth that “Jesus is Lord” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. (Ro 10:9–10)

2. The Church is guaranteed a CERTAIN FUTURE (Mt 16:18-19).

“I will build my church”

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. (Mt 4:23)

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. (Mt 24:14)

“Upon this Rock”

- Upon Peter the rock (papal succession & authority)
- Upon Peter’s confession
- Upon Christ the Rock

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. (Eph 2:19–20)

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”

Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. (1 Pe 2:4–8)

Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.” Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” (Ac 4:11–12)

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven”

With people from all places [every nation] and all races [tribe and tongue]

3. The Church will prevail against a CONQUERED FOE (Mt 16:18)

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. (Heb 2:14–15)

“And the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”

- **Death (1 Cor 15:55-57)**
- Persecution (Acts 5:29-39)
- Martyrdom (Revelation 12:10-11)
- Government (Revelation 17:12-14)
- World (1 John 4:4)

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