



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

## Fr. Danny Murphy – 21st Sunday of the Year 2017

This evening we're going to take a peek at the first sentence from our second reading and then we'll reflect upon the conversation between Jesus and St. Peter in our Gospel. "Oh the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God. How inscrutable his judgments, how unsearchable his ways." We don't have to figure things out. We can let God figure things out. "Why this, why that, why not this why not that?" I don't know, but I don't have to know – because God knows and that's enough for me. The scriptures never ever have God saying; "Understand me." The scriptures often have God saying: "Trust me." If we trust God, we can relax, we can be at peace; trusting that God always knows what's best; trusting that God always does what's best. OK, now, let's take a look at the wonderful exchange between Jesus and St. Peter in our Gospel. First, Peter tells Jesus who Jesus is.

Then Jesus tells Peter who Peter is. Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter because Peter means "rock." Jesus saw something in Simon that Simon didn't know was there. When other people looked at Simon and when Simon looked at himself, they saw an uneducated, ordinary fisherman. When Jesus looked at Simon, he saw Peter – the rock upon which the world has forever changed. Jesus told Peter who he was. You and I can invite, allow Jesus to tell us who we are. Do you notice in the Gospel, do you hear that most people didn't have a clue as to who Jesus really was? Most people don't have a clue as to who I really am. Most people don't have a clue as to who you really are. And maybe, like Peter, we ourselves don't know who we are. It's been my experience that Jesus tells us who we are in prayer. In prayer, Jesus not only reveals himself to us, but also, in prayer, Jesus reveals myself to me. It's in prayer that I learn who I really am. Only someone who really loves you for who you are, can tell you who you are! Jesus really loved Peter for who he was with all his strengths and weaknesses. Jesus really loves me for who I am with all my strengths and weaknesses. Jesus loves you for who you are with all your strengths and weaknesses. So, let's try to spend more time with him so he can tell us who we really are.