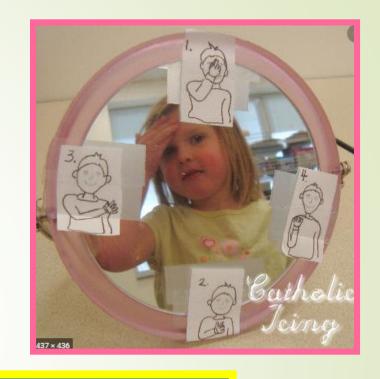
Good morning everyone!

Let us start our worship this morning by each one of us making the sign of the cross.





The Sign of the cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Lord be with you

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

Welcome

Today we hear how Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter, which means "rock".

Names are very important – we all have one and God knows all of us by our name.

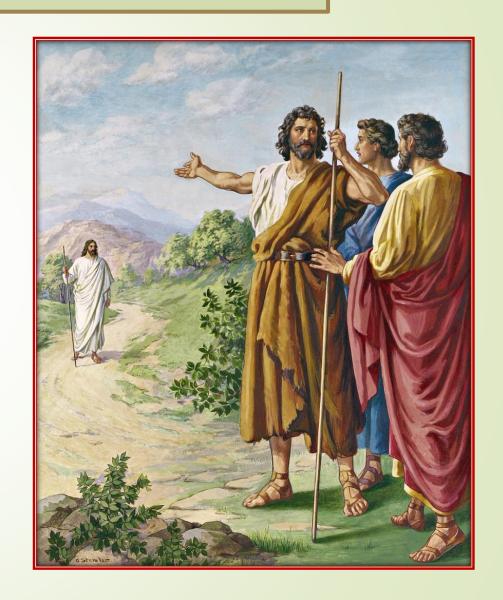
We will think a bit more about names today.

John 1:35-42

John (Jesus' cousin) was standing with two of his disciples, when he saw Jesus walking by.

"There is the Lamb of God!" he said.

The two disciples heard him say this and went with Jesus.



John 1:35-42

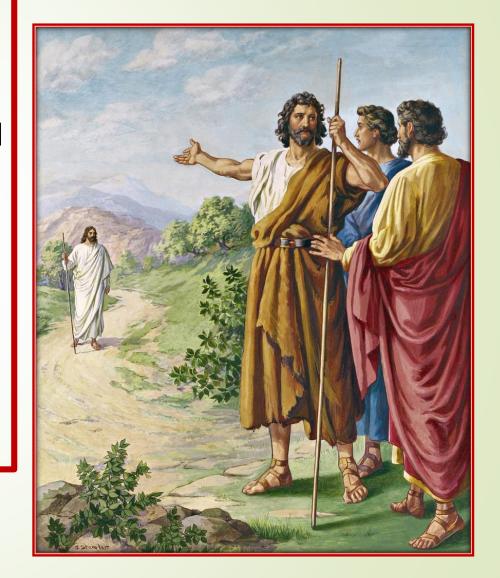
One of them was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

At once he found his brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah." (This word means "Christ.")

Then he took Simon to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "Your name is Simon son of John, but you will be called Cephas."

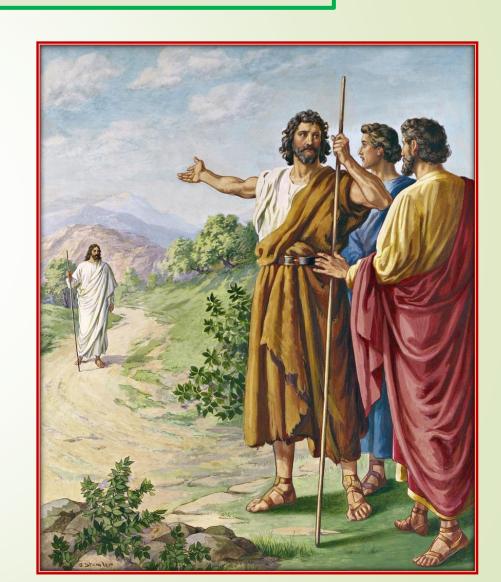
(This is the same as Peter and means "a rock.")



Why do you think Jesus chose this name for Simon Peter?

Simon Peter was strong (like a rock) and he was the foundation for the Church.

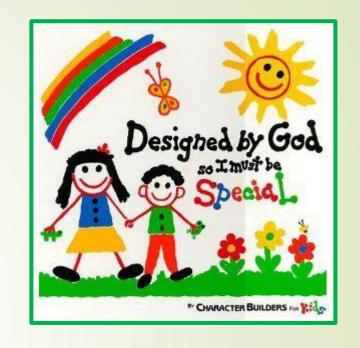
Buildings are built on rock foundations so that they do not fall over.



Names are very important.

We all have one, or two, or maybe even three names.

And some of us have a special name that our family or our friends calls us.





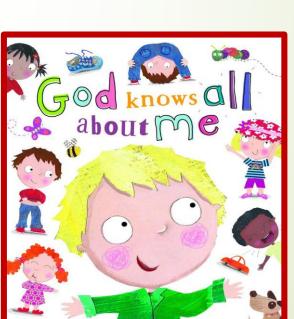
How many names do you have?
What are they?
Do you know what your name means?

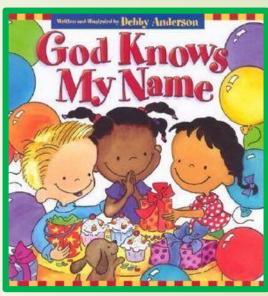
What do you like about your name?

God knows us by our name.

We are all part of God's family and so God knows us all by our name and loves and cares for us wherever we are in the world.

God's family spreads out all over the world and includes all kinds of different people.





How do you think God wants us to treat our brothers and sisters around the world – each of whom God knows by name?

God wants us to treat each other with love and respect and to care for one another.

So, how will you treat your brothers and sisters here in school this week?





Prayer

Dear God of all, you know us all by our name, and love and care for us, because we are all your children.

Help us also to love and care for our brothers and sisters around the world.

Amen.