

THE CHURCH OF SAINT PIERRE

THE PATRON SAINT

Peter the Apostle, Simon, fisherman of Galilee, Disciple of Saint John the Baptist, was called by God, with his eldest brother Andrew. As Apostle, he received the name Peter. The main events that the evangelists reported about him and his recognition of Jesus as the Son of God (Matthew Ch 16, vs 15-19), to which God replied with the promise "You are Peter the rock, and on this rock I will build my church". Across the Evangelists, we see Peter always in the company of Jesus, as one of his intimate friends and as a witness to a great number of important events.

After the Ascension, he presided over the Church in Jerusalem and organised the first Council. Subsequently he was rendered to Rome where he became a martyr on Vatican Hill, crucified upside down. His relics are still under the main altar in Saint Peter's basilica in Rome. Art represents him as an old man, tall and strong, bearded with curly hair. He holds one or several keys or a book. Or else he is shown crucified upside down. Or, as a Pope, with one or several keys and holding a double cross.

L'ÉGLISE

The primitive church was founded around 573 by Saint Euphrone, bishop of Tours, and was replaced in the 11th Century by a larger one. The current church, constructed in 1866, has conserved the Roman remains at the base of the bell tower and the adjoining chapel. Following restoration work, fragments of a fresco from the 11th Century representing the Crucifixion were found, with symbols of day and night, marking the universality of redemption.

The stained glass window of Saint Martin, by Fournier, is pretty and realistic, where in countryside covered in snow, he shares his cloak, with miraculous scenes of the tree stopped in its fall and the halo showing his consecration.

Sainte Barbe is represented by a stained glass window by Lobin and by two statues, one of which is in oak from the 16th Century. A statue of Saint Joseph with the child Jesus is from the 18th Century,

