



Dear Friends in Christ,

In our first reading today from the prophet Isaiah, the Israelites are once again living in the land of Judah after having been in exile. Life is harsh, the economic situation is bad, and pagan rituals are very tempting. The leadership's focus was to rebuild the once-great city, and the immensity of work and effort seemed daunting – near impossible. They were losing interest. They were losing hope. They were losing any motivation to enter back into right worship of God.

So Isaiah's words are really a rallying cry. The prophet Isaiah *will not be silent*. He *will not be quiet*. Why? Isaiah understands the importance of not only the city itself, but most importantly, the temple. For Jews, the temple was the pinnacle of right worship. It was the place where heaven met earth – the divine met humanity. God chose the Jewish people and he chose to dwell among them.

Everything we read in the Old Testament points us to Jesus Christ. In Jesus, the divine meets the human: *The Word became flesh and dwelt among us* (John 1:14). In the Son, God the Father communicates the depth and the abundance of his love for his chosen people – you and me.

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus as he performs his first miracle while at the wedding in Cana. This is important because it communicates to us the Father's intention. He intends, in a certain sense, to marry himself to his creation. He intends to bring us back into right relationship with him. As Isaiah prophesied, God would once again delight in his people, rejoicing in us as a bridegroom does his bride. Where once there was desolation, there would now be fruitfulness. From water would come the best wine.

Like the Jewish people who saw what seemed to be a hopeless situation, oftentimes we can see our circumstances from that same perspective, especially as this pandemic drags on. Our readings today, however, remind us that we have a God who delights in each one of us. We have a God who longs to marry us to himself so as to breathe his divine life into us to make us new and whole. Like Isaiah, let us never be silent. Rather, let us acknowledge God's effort and action in our lives and *proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations*.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. Marco



IHM 75th Anniversary PARISH HISTORY NOTE

With the establishment of NAS Pax River and the Navy's taking over of St. Nicholas Church as an interdenominational military chapel in 1942, the former parishioners of St. Nicholas Church were displaced to three locations: St. James Church (predecessor to the current St. Cecilia's) in St. Mary's City, St. Mary's Chapel in California, and St. Francis Hall in California. This last location gathered the larger portion of the former St. Nicholas congregation in the hall of the Colored Beneficial Society as a temporary chapel. St. Francis Hall was adequate as a house of worship... most of the time. In the winter, the wood stove was not enough to heat the hall, and the cold was disagreeable. Although Holy Face Church was (and is) relatively close, it was too far to walk for the mostly pedestrian (in the literal sense) congregation. A new church was needed to replace St. Nicholas.

This is where Thomas Brown enters the story. A white Washington, D.C. businessman, Brown often visited St. Mary's County and enjoyed worshiping with the congregation at St. Francis Hall, which was mostly African-American. When the Archbishop of Baltimore-Washington, Michael Curley, established Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in 1947, Thomas Brown funded the purchase of the land and the building of the original church.

Brown was in attendance on November 16 of that year when the church was formally dedicated, and three of his grandsons were altar servers for the Mass. Three other grandsons were also in attendance. We are trying to track down the family (and have some good leads) to see if any of those grandsons are still alive and remember the ceremony. It would be wonderful to have them join us for the 75th Anniversary Mass and Dinner tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 12, 2022 (mark your calendars).

MUSIC NOTES As we return to Ordinary Time (from "ordinal", or "counted" not "ordinary"!), you will hear that we are changing the service music for Mass. We will be using the Mass of Christ the Savior, which starts with #185 in the Journey songbook. We will use this until we return to the Chant Mass on March 2nd, Ash Wednesday.



75th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Those interested in helping to plan for our 75th Anniversary celebration are invited to attend a meeting at 1 pm on Wednesday, January 12 in the Parish Hall (to ensure the ability to safely distance). Those interested but unable to attend, please contact Fr. Marco at schad@ihmrc.org or 301-863-8144 x12.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



January 17 — January 23

Monday	1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/ Mk 2:18-22
9:00 am	Rev. J. Isidore Dixon (D)
Tuesday	1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/ Mk 2:23-28
5:30 pm	Helen Maroney (D)
Wednesday	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/ Mk 3:1-6
9:00 am	Sitch Family (L)
Thursday	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/ Mk 3:7-12
5:30 pm	Raphael Guzman (D)
Friday	1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/ Mk 3:13-19
9:00 am	Hannah Marie Thompson (L)
Saturday	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/ Mk 3:20-21
9:00 am	Lawrence Graber (D)
4:00 pm	Eve Taylor (L)
Sunday	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21
8:30 am	Juanita Marsh (L)
11:15 am	All IHM Parishioners
1:00 pm	Aloysius Bowman (L)

MASS INTENTIONS may be requested at the parish office during regular office hours (M—F, 8 am—4 pm) in person or by phone (301-863-8144 x11), or by e-mailing julian@ihmrcc.org. Your desired date may not be available. We now have the ability to accept Mass intention stipends online (but only **after** the date has been accepted by the office).

ALTAR FLOWERS/SANCTUARY CANDLES If you would like to donate the Altar Flowers or Sanctuary Candles in memory or for special intentions of a loved one, please call the Parish Office or email at cindy@ihmrcc.org.

LAZARUS COMMITTEE The Lazarus Committee provides funeral repasts for the funerals of active and registered parishioners. If interested in joining the Lazarus committee or for more information, please contact Pat at 301-863-5133 or Linda at 240-298-5264.

BULLETIN DEADLINE Please email your submission to bulletin@ihmrcc.org by Wednesday at 10 am prior to the Sunday of publication. All entries are subject to editing.

SYNOD LISTENING SESSION The entire Catholic Church is called to participate in the upcoming Synod of Bishops! In preparation for the international Synod of Bishops in 2023, Pope Francis wants your input on the topic of “For a Synodal Church, Communion, Participation, and Mission.” You are invited to join Fr. Marco and Fr. Dan for a parish listening session on Saturday, January 29th, 10 am - 1 pm with a snow date Saturday, February 12th at 10 am to 1 pm. Invite family, friends, neighbors- we want everyone to participate in this listening session. To RSVP, please email: julian@ihmrcc.org. If you can't make the parish listening session, share your opinion online at www.adw.org/synod.

SURVIVING DIVORCE brings hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. It is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. This group will meet at IHM on Sunday evenings from 6:30 pm until 8 pm starting on January 16, 2022. To register or to learn more about this program, email divorce@ihmrcc.org or call 240-298-4044. A suggested donation of \$25 covers the cost of materials.

FORMED To sign up to Formed, the premier site to access Catholic Media online, go to www.formed.org and press “sign up” and then “sign up as a parishioner”. Type in the ZIP code of the parish “20653”, follow the directions to create an account, and then enjoy!

PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE SICK THAT THEY MAY BE RESTORED TO FULL HEALTH

Audrey Somers, Louise Shafer, Helen Daye, Kathleen Floyd, Mary Oliver, Judith Ann Allgood, Vince Guerin, Jane Keyon, Linda F. Gieser, Ralph Gough Sr., Betty LePore, Bill Wagoner, Paula Coxon, Vincent Campanella, Joseph Hugh Weiland, Rylee Corliss, Rose Marie Weiland, Alan Stapanon, Ruby Garcia, Mia Garcia, Matthew Riddell, Marie C. Williams, Jim Hoffman, Kaylee Klier

Please note: names will remain on this list for two months, unless otherwise notified. To keep a name on the list, please resubmit by contacting bulletin@ihmrcc.org, or call the Parish Office.

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Follow us on



JANUARY 15 & 16, 2022

MASS IN THE PARKING LOT As a reminder, during IHM's weekend Masses we have in-parking lot options available. While parked at IHM, if you tune to 99.7 FM you can hear the Mass broadcast live. If you park in the second, smaller parking lot, we will bring out Communion at the appropriate time.

COME TO THE MINISTRY FAIR Mark your calendars now to attend the IHM Ministry Fair on Jan 29/30 after each of the Masses. Come and see all the activities in our parish in which you can participate! There is something for everyone! The Knights of Columbus will be passing out their delicious Breakfast Burritos on Sunday (FREE). It is also Fellowship Sunday, so there will be plenty of coffee and donuts. If you are the head of a ministry and have not yet been contacted, please call Mary at 240-434-8876.



WHERE HAS ALL THE MUSIC GONE? We are no longer livestreaming the Masses or making song sheets available online. Some parishioners might like to borrow a hymnal until the pandemic is over, for use in their car (while listening on 99.7 FM from our parking lot) or in the church. We have several hymnals that have been put aside during the pandemic. If you would like to borrow one long-term, please contact Mary at 240-434-8876 or mary@ihmrcc.org. You can also catch her at the piano at almost every Mass. She will be happy to bring one to your car!

IT SHOULDN'T HURT AT HOME The Catholic community cares about families experiencing violence and unhealthy relationships. Visit www.CatholicsforFamilyPeace.org to learn more about this issue, how to help, who to call, and the rich Catholic teaching that supports survivors. If you need help now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233 (24 hours); 800-787-3224 (TTY); www.ndvh.org to find assistance near you.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF IHM Our food pantry provides food to those who need assistance. We'd like to have you help us bag groceries from the food in our food pantry for our clients, or to pick up food from grocery stores in our area that donate to us. We do this throughout the week, excluding weekends. We have meetings just once a month. If you'd like to volunteer in our food pantry, please call 301-863-8193 on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays from 8:30 to 11:30 am, which is when the pantry is open. Leave your name and number and we will work to get you started as soon as you'd like.

MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS Come experience the healing power of Christ at our monthly Mass with Healing Service at 7 pm on Monday, January 31. Father Larry Swink, pastor of St. Cecilia's, will celebrate Mass. After Mass, we will have Eucharistic Adoration and prayers for healing with laying on of hands. Confessions begin at 6:30 pm and continue as long as there are customers!



IHM MUSIC MINISTRY If you are interested in sharing your musical talents with the parish, there is a place for you in this ministry! Please call Mary at 240-434-8876 (leave a message!).

GARDEN AND GROUNDS MINISTRY We have various projects around the church that need to be completed. Any adult or child would be welcome. If you want to volunteer, please contact Martha Davie by phone or text at 240-434-3510. Thank you!



THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE will be Friday, Jan 21 in Washington, DC. There will be a bus leaving IHM at 10 AM. For details, contact Mark Baysinger (240-925-2677 or nbay9@hotmail.com).

LUMINOUS MYSTERY ROSARY PILGRIMAGE/RETREAT Camp Maria Spiritual Center in Leonardtown invites you to explore the Mysteries of Light in the Life of Christ through a one-day retreat/virtual pilgrimage. Visit the Holy Land! Connect the New Testament to the Old Testament! Consider what the "Mysteries of Light" mean for your life! Saturday, February 12, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Cost is \$50.00, which includes continental breakfast and lunch (scholarships available). To register, submit your name, address, and phone number to normayearick80@gmail.com by February 8. <http://campmaria.org>

PERPETUAL ADORATION Did you know Perpetual Adoration has continued throughout the pandemic but we need to "clean up" the schedule because many people are no longer using their scheduled times. We would like to make those times available to others if that time slot is not being used. If you have signed in during your scheduled time anytime during 2021 your name will remain on the schedule but if you didn't sign in we'll remove your name in order to make that time slot available for others to use. Just for your information, did you know that although the church is locked after hours you can still take advantage of after-hours Adoration by using the combination lock on the right door as you face the main doors from the pond to enter the church? Feel free to contact Jeff Harmon at 240-538-5017 or email adoration@ihmrcc.org for the combination or for any Perpetual Adoration assistance.

January 16, 2022

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 62:1-5 | 1 Cor 12:4-11 | Jn 2:1-11

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

It was several years ago now, but the scene is still vivid in my mind. My son stood confidently in front of the altar as the music rose in a crescendo and his bride stepped into sight. The love and joy he felt trickled down his cheek as she walked down the aisle. He broke into a smile as she joined him, and proudly took her hand to promise to become one with her forever. Isaiah writes: “As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.” Isaiah was talking about the nation of Israel, but God loves and rejoices in each of his children and wants us to know the joy of being loved by him. He generously shares his gifts with us, “different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit,” St. Paul explains to the Corinthians. *All* spiritual gifts come from God, and *all* are important and necessary: “To each individual, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.” God’s gifts are distributed uniquely to each person to use in our own unique way to “announce his salvation, day after day,” and invite others to discover the joy of his great love.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

You are a masterpiece! This message was conveyed at the camp our diocese held each year to help teens recognize that they are God’s beloved sons and daughters, called and gifted by the Holy Spirit to be missionary disciples. Discerning what our gifts are and how to use them can be challenging. The Gospel about the wedding at Cana offers an interesting guide. Mary tells the waiters, “Do whatever he tells you.” By reserving time for listening and not speaking during prayer, we can hear what Jesus is “telling” us. Jesus then says to the waiters, “Fill the jars with water.” We can “fill our jars” with the knowledge of how to live as disciples by reflecting on Scripture. Finally, Jesus tells the waiters, “Draw some out.” We can “draw” on his love for strength and courage when we need it, but more importantly, we are called to “draw some out” to share with others. In sharing the “good wine,” the Good News of Jesus Christ, others will begin to believe in him, too.

PRAYER As the new year gets under way, devote time to discerning the unique spiritual gifts, or charisms, you have been given. Make time for silent prayer and reflecting on Scripture each day.

“There are
different kinds of
spiritual gifts
*but the same
Spirit.*”

(1 COR 12:4)