

MAY 21 & MAY 22, 2022



Dear Friends in Christ,

Two weeks ago was “Good Shepherd Sunday” (because of the Gospel reading each year) and so also World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

What is a “vocation”? In everyday English we often mean someone’s job, as in “vocational training”; but in the Catholic context it means a calling (directly from the Latin root *vocare*, to call), the Lord’s calling to each person.

To what has he called us? First of all, the Second Vatican Council spoke about the “Universal Call to Holiness”: “...all the faithful, whatever their condition or state, are called by the Lord, each in his own way, to that perfect holiness whereby the Father Himself is perfect.” (*Lumen gentium* 11; cf. 39-42). Each of us is called to become holy, to become a saint.

But how will Christ make us holy? In many ways, but above all as we live out the state of life to which he has called us, which is what we often mean when we speak of “vocation” in a Church context. What are those states of life? Basically three: holy orders (bishop, priest, or deacon); consecrated or religious life (monk or nun, friar or sister, etc.); and holy marriage and family.

Do those seem very different from each other? But at root they have a lot in common: all involve lifelong vows, by which we commit ourselves to love and serve a particular group of people. For any young person or adult, to believe that Christ will call us to one of these states of life, and to desire to discern that vocation, puts us in a very different attitude of mind and heart than someone who seeks only their own interests, goals, and enjoyment in life!

When I am preparing couples for marriage, at times we speak about how essential it is to recognize that your spouse and each of your children belong first to God and need to respond to his calling in their lives. He might call your child to holy marriage—or to become a priest or sister. He calls you and your spouse to live marriage in a holy way, as two of Christ’s disciples partnered for this earthly life, praying regularly together and with your children, and communicating well, as you help each other to become saints.

And he might call you or your spouse to some special project of loving service, even while you live out your calling to marriage and family. St. Teresa of Calcutta had lived 18 years as a sister teaching in her religious

order’s schools in India, when she experienced the “call within the call”: Christ’s invitation to continue as a sister but now to care for the poorest of the poor and to found the Missionaries of Charity, and so to become the Mother Teresa that we all knew. So too one of you might be called to serve as a catechist, or a coach or tutor, or in the food pantry or thrift store, or in a variety of other ways of reaching out with the love of Christ.

When the “Called and Gifted” program (of the Catherine of Siena Institute) teaches about the spiritual gifts that each of us is given to use to serve others, they work with a list of 24 gifts, compiled from Scripture and elsewhere. But in the end, each person’s specific gifting and calling from God is even more specific and one-of-a-kind. Only you can live the unique mission to which God has called you! And the world needs you to.

In *The Sound of Music*, the Mother Superior sings to Maria with words that I think describe this well: a call “that will need / All the love you can give / Every day of your life / For as long as you live!”

Let us pray for each other, and for each of our brothers and sisters in Christ, that each will listen for God’s call, and say yes!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. Dan

Events Calendar	May 23 — May 29
Mon: 7:00 pm	Mass with Healing Service
Tues: 7:00 pm	Evening Bible Study
Fri: 5:30 pm	Youth Group at IHM

IN NEED OF ABLE BODIES On Saturday, June 4th at 3 pm and on Sunday June 5th starting after the 8:30 am Mass and most especially at 2:30 pm. We need help removing pews and other items from the church in preparation for the removal of the floor. In order to volunteer, please contact the parish office at 301-863-8144. Please bring work gloves!



On May 27 at 9:30 am the Knights will be placing flags on all the veterans graves in the IHM cemetery. We have over 150 Vet’s buried in our cemetery. The task takes about 1 1/2 hours but the more help the shorter the time. Please come out and help!

Also because it being mowing season the flags must come down on June 3 at 9:30 am. This takes about a 1/2 hour.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



May 23 — May 29

Monday	Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/ Jn 15:26—16:4a
9:00 am	Noah Christopher Thompson (L)
Tuesday	Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/ Jn 16:5-11
5:30 pm	Rev. Zygmunt Kurzawinski (L)
Wednesday	Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
9:00 am	Doria White (D)
Thursday	Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Jn 16:16-20
5:30 pm	WiKaren Brobst (D)
Friday	Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Jn 16:20-23
9:00 am	Sandra Lizlovs (L)
Saturday	Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/ Jn 16:23b-28
9:00 am	Kaylee Wright (L)
4:00 pm	Bill Snyder (S)
Sunday	Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23/ Lk 24:46-53
8:30 am	Terry Wayne Thompson, Jr. (L)
11:15 am	All IHM Parishioners
1:00 pm	Maria and Joel Alvarado Flores

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

There are Ministry Booklets available on the table in the main foyer. Here's a spotlight on two of our ministries:

Christmas Giving Tree – Wrap, shop for, or prepare for distribution Giving Tree presents. Organize gifts and food for individual families. Help distribute gift baskets. This is done the weekend before Christmas. Coordinator: St. Vincent de Paul of IHM, Janet Hodkiewicz 301-863-7263 janethodkiewicz@verizon.net

Parish Christmas Party – Help set up, organize, clean up for pot-luck dinner on a Saturday in December. During the party, the Hall is decorated for the Christmas season. Coordinator: Parish Council assisted by the Knights of Columbus

THANK YOU! To all the bakers who provided baked goods during the Lenten Seafood Dinners! The dessert table was a huge success bringing in \$1,499.25.

ADDITIONAL HOURS FOR FOOD PANTRY The IHM Food Pantry has additional operating hours! Along with Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 am until 11:30 am, the Food Pantry will be open the Second and Fourth Tuesdays. On the Second Tuesday, the hours are from 4 pm until 6 pm, and on the Fourth Tuesday hours are from 5 pm until 7 pm. As always, call the Food Pantry at 301-863-8144 during operating hours in order to get assistance.

THANK YOU! To Martha Davie and her team of volunteers that have worked tirelessly to keep our grounds beautiful!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED On Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.

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.

MEN'S DISCERNMENT MASS AND BRUNCH A Men's Discernment Mass and Brunch will take place on Sunday, May 22 from 10 am to 12:15 pm at Saint John Paul II Seminary, 145 Taylor Street, NE, Washington, D.C. This is an opportunity for young men, college age and up, to discuss the priesthood with priests and seminarians from The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. There is no cost for this event, but attendees must register at <https://dcpriest.org/2022-mens-discernment-mass-and-brunch>

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, 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, David Kalil, Wanda Slate, Jim Brown, Enedina Melendez

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 MAY

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Follow us on





ALMOST IMMACULATE IHM THRIFT STORE is in need of help! Please stop by the store during operating hours to check out what we do. Then, if you want to help, please contact Deacon Mike 240-542-8369. We are located in the Kerr House (white building at the street entrance). The thrift store is open Fridays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Donations (no clothing) accepted during those hours. The thrift shop supports the food pantry and our local community, so stop by and see what

ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY MASS The Memorial Day Mass at the St. Mary's Queen of Peace Cemetery will be held on Monday, May 30 at 10 am. This special field Mass is offered at this time of year for the deceased members of the parishes of St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert and Prince George's Counties, and especially for those who have passed away during the past year. The Catholic Cemeteries staff will respectfully include the names of the deceased from the Spring of 2019 to Spring of 2021 due to the pandemic precluding the hosting of this special Mass. A commemorative presentation of the faithful departed will begin at 9:15 am, then a time honored flag ceremony performed by the Knights of Columbus at 9:45 am, followed by the Mass starting at 10 am. The cemetery is located in Helen/Mechanicsville, MD at 38888 Doctor Johnson Road adjacent to the Mother Catherine Academy (Route 238). An enclosable tent will be erected for everyone's comfort so the Mass will be held in the cemetery rain or shine. If you need additional information, you may contact our office at (301) 475-5005 or (301) 932-1766.

TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE The Troops of Saint George apostolate aims to use the outdoors as our canvas and the sacraments as our path to light the way for the formation of Holy Catholic men and boys. Whether called to the vocation of the priesthood, the religious life, or that of Holy fatherhood, our fathers and sons will take a prayerful pilgrimage together to fulfill Christ's desire for them to grow in virtue and in their Holy Catholic faith as they journey toward heaven. Anyone interested in learning more are encouraged to attend Mass on the Feast of St. George (Saturday, April 23 at 9 am) at St George Catholic Church, Valley Lee. After Mass you can learn more about TSG and join us on a short family hike at Myrtle Point Park.

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.



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 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).

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: POSITIONS AVAILABLE Catholic Charities' Angel's Watch Emergency Shelter in Waldorf is looking for both full time and part time employees for Program Assistants, Receptionist, and Social Work Manager. These positions must be applied for on the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington website, under 'career opportunities.' The website will have a summary of each position as well as a description of essential duties and responsibilities.

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.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine has a prayer line where you can talk and pray with someone over the phone. The prayer line is open Monday thru Friday from 10-5. Call 1-866-202-4934.

ROSARY PILGRIMAGE Please join us for a Glorious Mystery Rosary Pilgrimage on Saturday June 4, 2022 from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm at Camp Maria Retreat Center-41290 Camp Maria Rd, Leonardtown MD 20650. Speaker is Dr. Gail Yearick, PhD, Cost \$50.00 scholarships are available if needed. Registration: Submit your name, address, phone number and church to normayearick80@gmail.com for more information normayearick80@gmail.com or Camp Maria office 301-475-8330.

May 22, 2022

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 | Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 | Jn 14:23-29

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

In the reading from John's Gospel today, Jesus eases into the message he has for his disciples - a message he knows they don't want to hear: He has to leave them. But Jesus tells his disciples that if they love him and keep his commandments, he and the Father will "make their dwelling" within them. He then assures them they will not be alone: The Advocate will come to not only remind them of all he taught them, but also teach them everything they need to know in the future. Finally, he offers them peace, the peace that comes only through the Spirit and draws them closer to God. Though Jesus knows they are broken-hearted that he is leaving, he tells them to rejoice if they love him, for he is returning to his Father. Jesus' words to the first disciples ring true for every disciple throughout the ages. He does not leave anyone who loves him alone. He sends his Spirit to dwell in us, to teach and remind us of his love and how to love one another. The Spirit guides us, encourages us, and sustains us - always. We are never alone.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The first Christians, guided by the Holy Spirit, shared this message with the Gentile communities to whom they were ministering: "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities." This is a profound moment in the Church as it shows first, the power of the Holy Spirit working in and with the Apostles; and second, the importance of faith (not ritual circumcision, or other human laws) for salvation. The Gospel is intended for all, without exception, and the Holy Spirit is our help and our Advocate in our own lives of faith, and in our sharing of that faith with others. Let us seek the counsel of the Holy Spirit in all we do, that we might be a blessing, not a burden, for everyone seeking the glory of God's light.

STUDY The Acts of the Apostles is an amazing account of how Jesus' followers grew from a small group of frightened people into the courageous and zealous missionaries who founded his Church. Read the *catechism* from 687-747 to learn more about the Holy Spirit and pray for the grace to let him work in and through you for the salvation of all who seek him.

"Peace I
leave with

you;

my peace I

give to you."

(Jn 14:27)