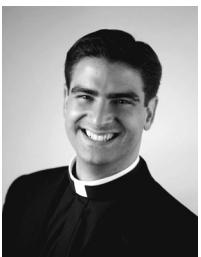


SEPTEMBER 3 & SEPTEMBER 4, 2022



Dear Friends in Christ,

Many of us have heard of people who have done wrong in some way, and then declared they have turned their life around. Perhaps they even claim they have "found Jesus."

First, thank God for that! That is the very definition of "repent and believe!" And while some may be skeptical, it is never a bad thing to see how God is working in another's life.

Second, it's good for us as Christians to pray for these encounters to be genuine, sincere, and fruitful, because we know of our dependence on God, and how he meets and transforms us in our weakness. As such, these instances are prime opportunities to look not at others, but at our own selves, and determine whether we, too, have not only *found* Jesus, but are *following* him by turning our lives around where it is necessary to do so.

Throughout the Gospels, we encounter stories of thousands of people who came out to hear Jesus preach, see a miracle, and catch what all the buzz was about. But when he talked about what it meant to follow him, many left. The miracles might have been amazing, the preaching awe-inspiring, but following him – well, Jesus seemed to be asking too much (Cf., John 6:25-70, especially, v 60, and v 66).

Today's Gospel would definitely be one of those times. Jesus starts off with that quote that sounds as jarring now as it did 2000 years ago: *If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.* That sounds really harsh.

Jesus is using hyperbole to grab our attention because he's about to tell us something central to discipleship: To follow Jesus means he has to be the most important thing in our lives. Nothing can distract us from our role as followers of Jesus. The rest of our lives *flow from* that primary relationship we have with him. Think of it as the lens through which we ought to see everything, and the filter through which we both receive, and interact with, the things of the world. Following Jesus enables us to see that some of our cultural norms today may actually *not* be good.

This isn't easy! We are human beings – we make mistakes, we sin, we make choices that affect our moral freedom. But the Lord provides for us in our lives, through

the Church and the sacraments. Here we are blessed with his word; here we are blessed with his real presence among us; here we receive the grace we need to seek him, to find him, and to follow him.

Let us make that choice to follow him, and give thanks for those whom the Lord continues to call to himself, whether in a public way or in the quiet of their hearts.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Fr. Marco

75th ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE The 75th Anniversary committee will be raffling a hand painted Nativity set, to defray expenses for our 75th Anniversary celebration dinners. The set was painted by one of our parishioners and will be on display starting Labor Day weekend. Tickets will be: 1 ticket for \$5, 6 tickets for \$25. For more information, contact Anne Krech at 301-373-6106, or at kamp-krech@md.metrocast.net.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will begin September 19 for 5 weeks from 7 to 8:30 pm in the large classroom at IHM. We will be doing "A Biblical Walk through the Mass" by Edward Sri. We will be doing "A Biblical Walk thru the Mass" by Dr. Edward Sri. In order to get the materials needed, please RSVP for the class by calling Nancy Baysinger at 240-298-4713 by Friday, September 9. All are welcome!

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will begin this fall on September 21 for 5 weeks from 10 to 11 am in the large classroom. We will be doing "A Biblical Walk thru the Mass" by Dr. Edward Sri. In order to get the materials needed, please RSVP for the class by calling Nancy Baysinger at 240-298-4713 by Friday, September 9. All are welcome!

GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE If you are grieving the loss of a loved one or friend, St. Mary's Church in Bryantown will offer a six-week Catholic-based grief support workshop, on Saturdays from September 24 to October 29 from 9-11 am. Grieving with Great Hope is presented in a DVD format that offers prayerful reflection, practical learning and personal fellowship. To register or for more information, please contact Gemma Nelson (240-216-7845; gemanelson@gmail.com) or Wendy Slay (301-653-0111; wendymslay1@gmail.com).

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



September 5 — September 11

Monday	1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/ Lk 6:6-11
9:00 am	Hannah Marie Thompson (L)
Tuesday	1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/ Lk 6:12-19
5:30 pm	Dr. Sylvia Lizlovs (L)
Wednesday	1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/ Lk 6:20-26
9:00 am	Cesar Martinez (D)
Thursday	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/ Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
5:30 pm	Hilda Maria Ismail (D)
Friday	1 Cor 9:16-19, 22B-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/ Lk 6:39-42
9:00 am	Justin Dale Rison (L)
Saturday	1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/ Lk 6:43-49
9:00 am	Jim Brown (S)
4:00 pm	Tracey Ledesna (L)
Sunday	Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/ 1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32
8:30 am	Ron Sableski (D)
11:15 am	All IHM Parishioners
1:00 pm	All IHM Volunteers

PEWS AND BENCHES FOR SALE, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED If interested in purchasing a pew (with ends) or a bench (without ends), please contact Linda Hidalgo at 240-298-5264. We are also looking for volunteers with carpentry skills to help out with the orders.

75TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING Our next 75th anniversary committee meeting is on Wednesday, September 7th at 1 pm in the large classroom.

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.



The Maryland Knights of Columbus 53rd Annual Incentive Raffle benefit is underway! Monies raised will benefit the state's charity and scholarship programs as well as the charities and programs of Knights of Columbus Council #9968 at IHM. Raffle tickets are available in the foyer after Mass until September 18th.

Events Calendar	September 5 — September 11
Mon:	All Day
Tues:	9-11 am
Wed:	1:00 pm
Fri:	6:00 pm
	Parish Office Closed
	First Tuesday Coffee in Room
	Phillip
	75th Anniversary Committee Meeting
	Youth Group at St. Cecilia's

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED Monday, September 5 for Labor Day.

7TH ANNUAL LFS PATRIOT DAY 5K RUN commemorating 9/11 will take place on September 10, 2022. For details of the event, to nominate your "Patriot of the Year", or to register for the event go to <http://patriotday5k.org/>. All proceeds for the event go to the Patriot of the Year's charity of choice and to Little Flower School.

LANDINGS TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED We are in need of volunteers to become team members in the Landings Ministry at IHM. The Landings Team will serve as loving support for people wishing to return to the Catholic Church. If interested, please call Nancy Baysinger at 240-298-4713 or email nbaysinger1@gmail.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK THAT THEY MAY BE RESTORED TO FULL HEALTH

Audrey Somers, 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, Hector Perez, Josephine, Glenn Thompson III, John Worrell, Tim Brosnihan, Jim Makin

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 SEPTEMBER
We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

Follow us on



SEPTEMBER 3 & SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

ADDITIONAL HOURS FOR FOOD PANTRY The IHM Food Pantry has additional operating hours! Along with Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 to 11:30 am, the Food Pantry will be open the second Tuesday of the month from 4 to 6 pm and on the fourth Tuesday from 5 to 7 pm. As always, call the Food Pantry at 301-863-8193 during operating hours to get assistance.



Registration for RCIA has started. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming catholic or you know a catholic desiring to learn more about the faith, please contact Tess Crowe via email at rcia@ihmrcc.org or contact the office at 301-863-8144 to register.

LOCAL YOUTH PILGRIMAGE Join an awesome pilgrimage to St.Clement's Island September 24. Cost of \$45 per participant includes t-shirt, giveaways, lunch, dinner, boat transportation, concert with Joe Melendrez and more! Middle schoolers are invited to join the pilgrimage concert with Joe Melendrez on the mainland at 7 pm, prepaid for \$5 or at the gate for \$10. Visit www.southernmarylandroots.org for more information. Help with the cost is available. Contact Cookie Pontzer by Sep 12 to register: 301-672-0075 or cookiepontzer@gmail.com. (RSVP by August 1 to ensure correct T-shirt size.)

UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY AND STRESS IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD workshop series starts Thursday, September 8. Learn how to feel stronger and healthier in a post-pandemic world by attending this upcoming series of workshops presenting talks and time to practice learning a new technique experientially. Presented by Dr. Kathleen Musslewhite, Executive Director of the Alpha Omega Clinic, the series will run monthly on Thursday evenings: Sep 8, Oct 13, Nov 10, Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 2; each session duration: 7:00-8:30pm. The cost for each session is \$60 per person, or sign up for the entire series for \$300 per person. Come to all or some. This program is a collaboration of Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center with the Alpha Omega Clinic, both located at 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. Find more information and links to register on their website: www.ourladyofbethesda.org

WOMEN'S NIGHT OF RECOLLECTION on Tuesday, September 13 at 7 pm at St. Cecilia's. This month's talk is "Pride - The Silent Destroyer" given by Fr. Larry Swink. The evening includes Adoration, talk, Confessions starting at 6 pm, and Healing prayers.

PRAYERS FOR FR. DAN On August 14, Fr. Dan Gallaugher began his SOLT novitiate year. You can keep up with him by reading the monthly letter he will be posting on his blog; his August letter is already up! You can also find his mailing address there. <https://frdangallaugher.wordpress.com/>

PARISH COOKBOOK SALES Our 75th Anniversary parish cookbook "Favorite Recipes to Feed the Heart" is here and available at the parish office. Each cookbooks is \$20. Payment accepted in cash, check or credit/ACH through cookbook.ihmrcc.org.

FIRST TUESDAY COFFEE The next First Tuesday Coffee will be held on Tuesday, September 6 from 9 until 11 am in Classroom Philip, please bring a friend and a non-perishable food item for the Food Pantry.

ARCHIVING IHM PHOTOS Looking for help in putting IHM photos in Albums for archiving. Please contact Pat DeCarlo at 240-925-0021 or decarlodp@verizon.net if interested in helping. Also, in need of some photos of Father Dignan. If anyone has any, please contact Pat.

FORMED To sign up for 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!

RECRUITING In need of singers for the Choir! If you are a singer from High School on up who would like to use your vocal talents to serve at IHM, you are needed. The first rehearsal is this coming Wednesday, August 31 at 7 pm in the Church. We are also in need of Youth Musicians to join the group at the 11:15 Mass every first Sunday. Singers in Middle and High School welcome! Proficient instrumentalists needed too. It's not too early to start thinking about Christmas! All children are welcome to sing for the 4 pm Christmas Eve Mass. We will need proficient instrumentalists for the Youth Orchestra, as well. If you are interested in any of these groups, please contact Mary at 240-434-8876(leave a message) or mary@ihmrcc.org.

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.



September 4, 2022

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 9:13-18b | Phmn 9-10, 12-17 | Lk 14:25-33

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

Often, before writing these reflections, I take a minute to pray. I decided to add a minute of mindfulness using my new Apple Watch, which conveniently provides a meditation prompt. Today's happened to be: "Bring to mind a close relationship that can be challenging, and think about what it can teach you." Like those paper messages in fortune cookies, even this auto-generated prompt carried a grain of truth. Our thoughts may turn to our spouse, a prickly co-worker, or a moody teen. However, given today's readings, it struck me that this description can also fit our relationship with Jesus. Yes, we know that Jesus loves us, shepherds us, forgives us ... but he also challenges us! He reminds us today that being a disciple requires that we go all in, prepared to place our relationship with Jesus above all else. Easier said than done. But we can start, one minute at a time, with our prayers, priorities, and actions. We can also follow the example of saints such as Paul, imprisoned for preaching the Gospel, and the saints among us who teach us by example.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I bet we all know people we would consider saints, or at least well on their way: A compassionate friend, a priest or lay minister at our parish, a generous neighbor, that person who has not let suffering and loss shake their faith. Then there are the saints we Catholics celebrate each day: Francis, who threw off the cloak of privilege to live for Christ; Mother Teresa, who served others day in and day out even as she faced a spiritual drought; Paul, the one-time persecutor who built up the early Church and whose letters continue to inspire Christians. Each of them took Jesus' words at face value and laid down their lives for him. Learning how to be a disciple of Christ from studying the lives of the saints can be an ongoing pursuit throughout our lives. But perhaps we can also learn from a "living saint," if the opportunity presents itself, and ask, in so many words, "what's your secret?" It may be praying first thing in the morning, or something practical that we had not considered, such as managing their time in such a way that allows them to volunteer regularly or to be a continuous presence in the life of someone who needs them. If other priorities have gotten in the way of our relationship with Jesus, perhaps we can challenge ourselves to develop new habits. Even an incremental change – such as spending less time or money on nonessentials or reading an inspirational book – can help us reignite our faith and free up our time to focus on someone or something other than ourselves.

STUDY Take time to read about the lives of a few saints. What habits did they create to lead holy lives? What vices did they give up for Christ's sake to truly become his disciple?