

Dear Friends in Christ,

*Peace be with you.* In this short passage of four verses Jesus says those four words *twice*. Not only are these words repeated, but the Gospel passage itself is also a “repeat.” We heard this particular Scripture on a Sunday just a few weeks ago. There must be an important message here.

The more we reflect on those words the more it becomes clear. “Peace be with you” isn’t just a nice greeting. It’s not a statement of fact. It’s not an observation of a current situation. It’s an invitation. It’s a choice. It’s our choice, our decision whether or not to receive it. It’s our decision to utilize it, to *live it*. And it always has been.

The Gospel reminds us that on Easter night, Jesus’ Apostles had been filled with fear. The room was locked for fear of the Jewish leaders who had conspired with the Romans to kill Jesus, and who the Apostles feared were after them next.

Yet despite the sadness and sorrow which was still looming in their heads and hearts from Good Friday, despite their present real, legitimate fears, they choose to be there. Jesus enters into that locked room. He enters into that fear and then he offers them his peace, which is tied to his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Yet this doesn’t make them immune from their fears returning, even after the Holy Spirit comes upon them at Pentecost. It does give them the ability to face and live with their fears, and to overcome them when necessary. We heard in the first reading that the Apostles were transformed by this gift. And in the immediate aftermath, a newfound courage is unleashed. They speak in new languages and the Church begins to grow. But after that event, spreading the Gospel would become a choice they would have to make daily.

They would be confronted with difficult missions, hostile crowds, and angry leaders – and ultimately almost all of them would face death for being Apostles of Jesus. Yet they kept choosing *peace*, they kept choosing *the Holy Spirit*, and kept looking to him to provide the strength, to give them the words, to be their consoler in the moments of darkness when it seemed there was no one left in the world to support them.

We have received this same Holy Spirit; we already have this precious gift of God within us. It’s not a

distant spiritual reality. It’s not some confusing theological concept in which we need extensive instruction. Jesus, who remains with us in his word, in his body and blood in the Eucharist, in the Church – continues to pour out his gift of the Holy Spirit upon us. He has promised that he will never leave us. He has promised that he will continue to do tremendous deeds through each and every one of us who make up the Church. But it’s still a matter of a choice, a decision on our part. We must want the Holy Spirit. We must want his peace.

Yours in Christ Jesus,  
Fr. Marco

**UPDATE NEEDED!** The parish office is finding that much of our information for parishioners is outdated. Please call or email the parish office to update any new home addresses, email addresses, home and cell phone numbers, new family members, or any other parishioner data that may have changed in the past few years. The parish number is 301-863-8144, or you can email our secretary Julián Ortiz at [julian@ihmrcc.org](mailto:julian@ihmrcc.org).

**ORDINATION AND RECEPTION** Our own Ronnie Chavez is receiving his diaconal ordination at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in DC on Saturday, June 3 at 10 am. All are invited to attend this glorious Mass. All are also invited to celebrate the ordination of Ronnie Chavez with a Potluck Luncheon on Sunday, June 4 at 1 pm in the Parish Hall. To sign up to bring a dish, please go to <https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/MBXG1441>

**CAMP CREATION** Camp Maria will offer “Camp Creation” a care for the earth themed summer day camp for youth ages 7-14 years old. Camp Creation offers hands-on experiences for children to be outside together in nature and to have firsthand experiences of God in the beautiful natural surroundings at Camp Maria Retreat Center. Activities include ecosystem awareness, swimming, canoeing, crabbing and fishing off the pier, and arts and crafts. There will be two sessions offered. Session 1 is Monday, July 17 through Thursday, July 20. Session 2 is Tuesday, August 1 through Friday August 4. The Camp is \$215 per session (lunch and snacks provided). For more information and to sign up, go to [www.campmaria.org](http://www.campmaria.org).

**SECOND COLLECTION** next weekend is for the Building and Maintenance Fund. Please be generous in support for this collection!

# THE FEAST OF PENTECOST



**May 29 — June 4**

<b>Monday</b>	Gn 3:9-15, 20/87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/ Jn 19:25-34
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Terry Wayne Thompson, Jr. (L)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23/ Mk 10:28-31
<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Evelin Jackson (L)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	Zep 3:14-18a/Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/ Lk 1:39-56
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Grace Fuller (L)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	Sir 42:15-25/PS 33:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/ Mk 10:46-52
<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Rev. Donald Brice (D)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	Sir 44:1, 9-13/PS 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/ Mk 11:11-26
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Edith Coppinger (D)</b>
<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Luciano Moncivais (S)</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	Sir 51:12 cd-20/PS 19:8, 9, 10, 11/ Mk 11:27-33
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>A Special Intention (L)</b>
<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Leora Schachterle (D)</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/ 2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Dcn. Ronnie Chavez (L)</b>
<b>11:15 am</b>	<b>John Watson (D)</b>
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>All IHM Parishioners</b>

**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 if you have your hazard lights on.

**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](mailto: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).

**CARENET BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER** Pick up a baby bottle at the main entrances of the church and bring it back on Father's Day full of donations for the Southern Maryland CareNet Pregnancy Center. Please be generous to this charity that cares for the mothers and their children in our area.

## Events Calendar

**May 29 — June 4**

Thurs:	6:30 pm	Holy Hour for Vocations
Fri:	9 am	First Friday Mass and Confession
	5:30 pm	First Friday Mass and Confession
Sat:	9 am	First Saturday Mass and Confession
	10 am	Ronnie Chavez's Ordination, Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in DC
Sun:	12 pm-3 pm	Dcn. Ronnie's Ordination Celebration at IHM

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING** IHM will host an altar server training on Saturday, June 10 at 1 pm. To be an altar server, you must have received First Communion.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION** On Sunday, June 11, we will have a procession from the church and into the IHM Cemetery for the Feast of Corpus Christi after the 11:15 mass. All are invited to join this ancient church tradition.

**MASS CHANGE** Mass on Tuesday, July 4th will be at 9 am. Happy Independence Day!

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

### THE SICK

#### THAT THEY MAY BE RESTORED TO FULL HEALTH

Audrey Somers, Kathleen Floyd, Mary Oliver, Jane Kenyon, Linda F. Gieser, Ralph Gough Sr., Betty LePore, Joseph , Rylee Corliss, Alan Stapanon, Ruby Garcia, Mia Garcia, Matthew Riddell, Marie C. Williams, Kaylee Klier, Wanda Slater, Enedina Melendez, Hector Perez, Josephine, Glenn Thompson III, John Worrell, Jim Makin, Carmen Colby, Gary Green, Grace Miedzinski, Bruce Riddell, Katelyn Corliss, Robert Weaver, Linda Jones, Devlin Rich, Ana Gates, Mike Price, Corrine Geraty, Dennis Berg, Alejandra Spargo, Paul Crowe, Adele Bavani, Violette Ghalbouny

*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](mailto:bulletin@ihmrcc.org), or call the Parish Office.*

### PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

Follow us on





To sign up for Formed, the premier site to access Catholic Media online, go to [www.formed.org](http://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!



**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 email Mary at [mary@ihmrcc.org](mailto:mary@ihmrcc.org).

**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](mailto:cindy@ihmrcc.org).

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** Please email your submission to [bulletin@ihmrcc.org](mailto:bulletin@ihmrcc.org) by Wednesday at 10 am prior to the Sunday of publication. All entries are subject to editing.

**FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST** Join us in the Social Hall on Sunday, June 18 for a Parish Breakfast celebrating Father's Day from 9 am until 11:30 am.

**CATECHISTS NEEDED** The Faith Formation office is in need of catechists (teachers of the faith) for both the Children's Faith Formation and for the RCIA Teens and Adults. If you have a desire to teach the next generation of Catholics or just want to learn more about this calling, please contact Damaritza Ortiz at 301-863-8793 or [cff@ihmrcc.org](mailto:cff@ihmrcc.org).

**FIRST TUESDAY COFFEE** The next First Tuesday Coffee will be held on Tuesday, June 6 from 9 until 11 am in the Parish Hall. Please bring a friend and a non-perishable food item for the Food Pantry.

**EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION** St. Aloysius in Leonardtown is having a evening Candlelight Eucharistic Procession on Thursday, June 8 at St. Aloysius. The event will begin with Mass at 8 pm followed by a Eucharistic Procession to the Leonardtown Square and back, ending with Benediction in the church. The road will be closed for this event.

**QUO VADIS CAMP 2023** will be held from Sunday, July 23 to Wednesday, July 26. High-school age young men who desire to grow in holiness will have an opportunity for Mass, prayer, and Eucharistic Adoration. There will also be plenty of time for recreation, sports, and fraternity. Bus transportation with stops at Lexington Park, Largo, and Rockville will be available. Online registration is open at <https://dcpriest.org/2023-quo-vadis-camp>.

**HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS** IHM will be hosting its Holy Hour for Vocations on Thursday, June 1 at 6 pm. We will especially be praying for Ronnie Chaves and his permanent deaconate class, and for the priest ordinations for the archdiocese.

**THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE DESERT** The Bread of Life Center for Peace is hosting a retreat of this name on Saturday, June 24 at St. Aloysius. The retreat starts at 7:30 am with Mass and includes, several talks, lunch, and a Healing Service in the evening. The speaker is Fr. James Blount, SOLT. Registration is online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-voice-of-the-one-crying-in-the-desert-tickets-630527955087>. Eventbrite only allows 1 ticket per donation and requires each attendee to register separately, please keep this in mind when filling out your information. The suggested donation to cover Breakfast and Lunch is \$18 per person. For more information, call (301) 475-7139 for more information or to register over the phone.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** Monday, May 29. Happy Memorial Day!

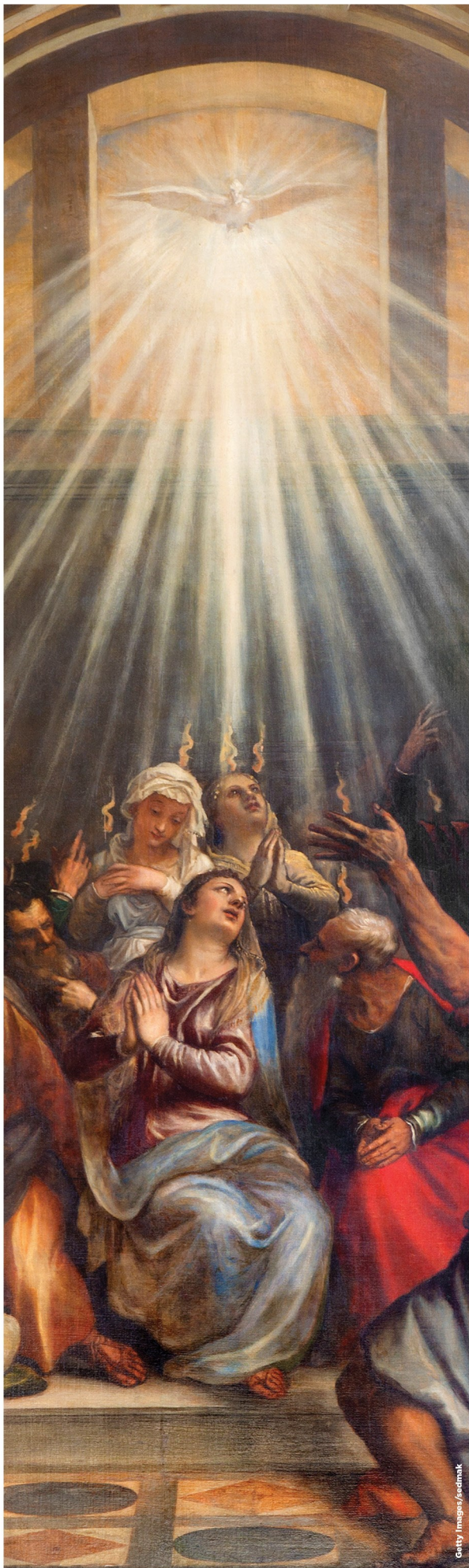
**IT SHOULDN'T HURT AT HOME** The Catholic community cares about families experiencing violence and unhealthy relationships. Visit [www.CatholicsforFamilyPeace.org](http://www.CatholicsforFamilyPeace.org) to learn more about this issue, how to help, who to call, and the rich Catholic teaching that supports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

**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!

**LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC**, A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD is open for various retreat weekends, for both men and women. Directed and Private Retreats are also available. See our complete Retreat Schedule at: [www.loyolaonthepotomac.com](http://www.loyolaonthepotomac.com), (301) 392-0800.

**HOLY LAND TRIP** Our Lady Star of the Sea Travel Club in Solomons is hosting a trip to the Holy Land this coming November. Last year's trip exceeded our expectations, so we have decided to offer it again. The trip dates are November 28 (depart the U.S) to December 6 (return home). The per person cost of \$999 includes hotel, daily breakfast and dinner, bus, and all tours with a private guide. Airfare and trip insurance is additional. (Current airfare is around \$900) Please contact Mary Beth Brown at 443-623-6368, or e-mail [marybeth@bytheseatravel.com](mailto:marybeth@bytheseatravel.com) for more information.





May 28, 2023

# Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2: 1-11 | 1 Cor 12: 3b-7, 12-13 | Jn 20: 19-23

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

As a college student, I found myself sitting near the information desk during a layover at a German airport. This was in the days before mobile phones and Google Translate. I remember being so impressed that the two young women behind the desk were able to answer questions in so many languages without missing a beat. Whether it was Spanish, French, German or English, each traveler heard an answer in their own language. I often think that must have been what it was like for the travelers to Jerusalem during Pentecost. They were in an unfamiliar place and yet God spoke to them in a way they could understand. And the beautiful thing about the Pentecost story is that it is not just relating one single moment in time. Instead, it is the start of the Holy Spirit's ministry here on earth, and in our baptism, we, too, receive the same gift of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation completes the grace we receive at baptism, since we receive a "special strength of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1285) We, too, are given the tools to go forth and speak to others even when we are afraid they may not understand. Let us remember St. Paul's words from the second reading: "To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." And then let us go out and use those gifts for the greater glory of God.

## GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The idea of evangelizing is uncomfortable for many people. Sure, it was fine for the disciples to go out and start talking to strangers, but us? No way. However, evangelization doesn't have to mean starting conversations on the street (although it can!). Instead, it might be making the sign of the cross before a meal in a restaurant, mentioning Mass when a co-worker asks what you did over the weekend, or displaying a crucifix in your home where visitors will see it. In these small ways, we can encourage others to open the door for God to "shine within these hearts of yours," as today's Gospel Sequence says.

**PRAY** St. Paul reminds us today that we are all "baptized into one body" and "we were all given to drink of one Spirit." In today's divisive world, it can be difficult to remember that. Let us pray for one another knowing that all Christians - even those who may annoy us - are joined together in the same body of Christ. Specifically, have as your at-the-ready prayer this week for all circumstances, the following: *Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.*