

SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 2023



Dear IHM Parish Family,

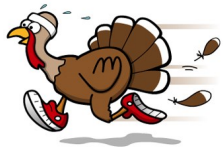
Thank you for all you have done to make my first months as a priest such a joyful time. You have all given me such a warm welcome to the parish and to St. Mary's County. I'm deeply grateful to you all for helping me grow into my new role as a priest of Jesus Christ by taking me into the parish family that is IHM. I received much support and affection in the short time I had here, and I will carry it all with me in the months and years to come.

I will treasure the many wonderful memories of time spent getting to know you all and receiving your kind hospitality. Hopefully I was able to serve you in the way the Lord would have me during this brief assignment. I certainly have many beautiful experiences of priestly ministry on which to reflect and pray during the next year as I complete my studies.

Regardless of where I end up when I return to the Archdiocese, know that you will remain in my prayers. Please pray for me also, that I may remain a faithful servant of Christ and that His work may be done through my ministry.

May the Lord bless each of you abundantly, and may Our Lady continue to hold you close to her Immaculate Heart.

Gratefully yours in Christ,
Fr. Taylor



INAUGURAL IHM TURKEY TROT 5K

IHM will be hosting our inaugural Turkey Trot 5K this year on Thanksgiving morning. Our next planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sep 27 5:30-6:30pm in Room Phillip. We are looking for a volunteer to assist with print marketing and social media, as well as a race-day photographer and DJ. There are several other fun opportunities to earn volunteer hours leading up to the event as well as that day. Join us on Sep 27 or contact Denise Mallett (mvmfam@gmail.com or 301-481-8586) to learn more!

PROMOTE A CULTURE OF LIFE Join us and visibly stand for Life as part of the Life Chain in front of IHM along Hwy 235. Sunday, October 1st, 2p m to 3:30 pm.



The Maryland **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 54TH 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 IHM's Knights of Columbus Council #9968. This is the last weekend to buy tickets in the foyer!



IHM will be hosting a craft/vendor fair on Saturday, September 30 from 9 am to 2 pm. Please plan on visiting the many vendors already confirmed (we're having to use overflow rooms!). If you have any questions, please contact Martha Worrell at craftfair@IHMRCC.org. Vendor sign up and payment is available online at fairvendor.ihmrcc.org.

DIVORCECARE Divorce is one of the most painful experiences you can face. You don't have to go through it alone. DivorceCare offers support, answers, and practical tools to help you manage the many stresses of separation and divorce and find healing. DivorceCare is a 13-week support group that helps you heal from the pain of separation or divorce. Each meeting includes a short video seminar each week and a confidential small group discussion. Meetings are Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:00 pm beginning September 28. To register, or for more information, please email attthewell@ihmrcc.org.

BIBLE STUDY STARTING SOON: GENESIS TO JESUS What is the Bible, where does it come from, and what is its purpose? How are Catholics supposed to read the Bible and what story does it tell? These are the ever-important questions answered in Genesis to Jesus. Join us to learn the basic Catholic principles for reading Scripture and to survey the broad outlines of the books of the Bible and their place in the story of salvation. The study will meet on Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11:30 am in the large classroom, from September 27 to December 13 (except November 22). For more information and to register, contact Nancy Baysinger at 240-298-4713. Suggested additional reading: *A Father Who Keeps His Promises* by Scott Hahn.

MOSES FILM FROM SIGHT & SOUND THEATER On Saturday, October 14 at 5:30 pm. The epic story of our father in faith, Moses is the first in a planned series of films we will show from Sight & Sound Theater in PA. To ensure seating availability, tickets are free at tickets.ihmrcc.org (see that site also for a trailer of the film). Freewill donations accepted at the door. Concession stand available.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS Intentions

September 18 — 24

Monday	1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/ Lk 7:1-10
9:00 am	May Flynn (L)
Tuesday	1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/ Lk 7:11-17
5:30 pm	Alice Parron (D)
Wednesday	1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Lk 7:31-35
9:00 am	Abigail Torres (D)
Thursday	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/ Mt 9:9-13
5:30 pm	Rev. Robert T. Guillen (D)
Friday	1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/ Lk 8:1-3
9:00 am	Jim Brown (D)
Saturday	1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/ Lk 8:4-15
9:00 am	Abraham Ugues (L)
4:00 pm	All IHM Catechists and Students
Sunday	Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/ Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
8:30 am	Cardinal Wilton Gregory (L)
11:15 am	All IHM Parishioners
1:00 pm	Maria Candida de Moreno (D)

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP

FY July 2023– June 2024	Offertory July & Aug.	Maintenance Fund July & Aug.
Offertory Online Giving	\$52,214.61 \$34,624.00	\$5,448.65 \$4,955.00
Needed Monthly	\$54,235.00	\$5,000.00
Collected YTD	\$86,838.61	\$10,403.65
Needed YTD	\$108,470.00	\$10,000.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN		
Campaign runs October 2019– June 2024	Total Pledged \$687,357.00	Given up to Aug. 31, 2023 \$739,152.00

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.

IHM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY The next Fellowship Sunday is on Sunday, September 24. Join us in the Parish Hall for coffee, donuts, and fellowship after mass!

MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS This month's Mass with Healing Prayers is at 7 pm on Monday, Sept. 25. 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 penitents.

PLEASE KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN We have been finding food crumbs, chewing gum, play-dough-like substances and other trash in the church, especially in the pews and pew bookracks. It would be a shame to have our newly-renovated church get dirty so quickly. Please refrain from bringing such items into the church, and if they are absolutely necessary, please clean up after yourself and your children.



PLEASE PRAY THAT THE SICK 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, Devlin Rich, Ana Gates, Dennis Berg, Alejandra Spargo, Lisa and Paul Crowe, Adele Bavani, Violette Ghalbouny, Helen Pearson, John Flynn, Linda Miedzinski, Michael Briscoe, Patricia A. Louis, Susan Marie Hollis, Norma Jean Jubeck

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 for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Follow us on



SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 2023

GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE St. Aloysius in Leonardtown is hosting "Grieving with Great Hope," a 5-week, small group workshop for those mourning the loss of a loved one. Sundays, 3-5 pm: Sept. 24 to Oct. 22. Sign up in the St. Aloysius church vestibule or contact Jennifer Bicknell at (301-475-8064, ext. 11) or jbicknell@saintaloyiuschurch.org.

ST. GEORGE ANNUAL CRAB CAKE DINNER is Back! Sunday, September 17 11:30 am until sold out! \$30 per dinner. Dinner consists of 3 famous homemade crab cakes, 3 pieces of fried chicken, baked ham, potatoes, green beans, beets and dinner rolls. Baked goods will be sold in the Annex of the Parish Community Center. **Drive-thru carry-out only!**

THE WAY RETREAT FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE The Church seeks to minister to all survivors of abuse. The Archdiocese of Washington is hosting a retreat for survivors of all kinds of abuse. The women's retreat is September 29 - October 1, 2023 and *the men's retreat is scheduled for April 26-28*. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information go to adw.org/the-way-retreat. To register email mcdonald@adw.org. Location disclosed to participants only.

HIGH SCHOOL PILGRIMAGE TO ST. CLEMENTS ISLAND The Southern Maryland ROOTS Youth Group is excited to announce the 2nd annual high school pilgrimage to historic St. Clement's Island on Saturday, September 30 from 8 am until 8 pm. Cost is \$65.00 per Student or Chaperone before August 30, \$90 until September 29. Price includes boat transportation, lunch/dinner/snacks/ Journey T-shirt, drawstring bag with goodies and so much more. Scholarships are available. Any student needing a group/chaperone can contact Cookie Pontzer at 301-672-0075, cookiepontzer@protonmail.com. To learn more about this event and to register, visit: southernmarylandroots.org or email southernmarylandroots@gmail.com.

ABIDE IN ME CATHOLIC GIRLS RETREAT Girls from 3rd to 12th grade are invited to a day retreat with religious Sisters featuring Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, confession, talks, games, lunch and a Rosary walk. The event is Saturday, October 7 starting at 8:15 am at St. John Francis Regis in Hollywood. For more information and to register, please visit <https://forms.gle/BxyaBaTVGKSSsa2m7>.

EVENTS CALENDAR

September 18—24

Fri:	6pm	IHM Men's Group
Sun:	After Mass	Fellowship Sunday

ST. MARY'S RYKEN IS OPEN FOR ADMISSION The St. Marys Ryken Admissions Application for the Class of 2028 is open! It's an exciting time to become a St. Mary's Ryken Knight! We are thrilled to start the high school journey with your family. We look forward to meeting you, and showing you why SMR is the ideal choice for your student's high school experience. The application fee is \$25 off through October 31. Apply today at <https://www.smrhs.org/admissions>.

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, (301) 392-0800.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE Sponsored by Knights of Columbus St. Mary's Council on Saturday, 7 October, 9 am to 2 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 41605 Fenwick St., Leonardtown. Sign up at: WWW.REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG then insert KOC1470 into the box FIND A DRIVE in the upper right corner.



ANNUAL RIDE FOR VOCATIONS

Saturday, September 30. 6 am Check-in; 7 am Mass, Sacred Heart, La Plata. Riders can choose their route—100 miles, 70 miles, 50 miles, or a 21-mile bike trail.

Fully-staffed rest stops at seven historic churches in Southern Maryland. Donations support Office of Priest Vocations, vocations events, and seminarians. For more information and registration, see <https://dcpriest.org/event/ride-for-vocations-2023> or contact vocations@adw.org.

SIGHT AND SOUND THEATER St. Joseph's Women's Group in Pomfret, MD is sponsoring a Bus Trip to Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. The play is the "Miracle of Christmas" and the trip takes place on December 6. The cost is \$140 and the bus boards at 7 am from St. Joseph's. Join us for an awe inspiring Christmas show! For details or for details, call or text Georgana Navarro, 301-643-0948.

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.



September 17, 2023

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30—28:7 | Rom 14:7-9 | Mt 18:21-35

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Forgiveness. It seems like a relatively simple *concept*, doesn't it? We ask our merciful Father for it every day when we pray the Our Father: "... forgive us our trespasses..." Then reality hits, as we remember the second part of that phrase: "...as we forgive those who trespass against us ..." *As we forgive others.* Oh, that long, hard road of forgiveness! Easier said than done. Sometimes those old sayings have some merit, don't they? And when we look at today's readings, there is nothing cryptic about them: forgive *not seven times but seventy-seven times*, let go of wrath and anger, forgive your brother and sister *from your heart*. Yes, forgiveness is a simple concept, but it's not easy. Perhaps the answer is to re-read today's Scriptures and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the strength to put in the hard work if there is someone in our lives to whom we need to offer our heartfelt forgiveness.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Bishop Robert Barron, in his *Word on Fire Bible* on the Gospels, has four suggestions related to this Gospel on how to become "a better forgiver." The one that stood out to me immediately is "forgive offenses quickly." Don't let them fester and "settle deeply into your psyche." This seems like very sage advice because we can all have a tendency to "stew" about things that are bothering us, which rarely makes them better. Bishop Barron's other suggestions are: Pay attention to your own sins, go to confessions regularly, and offer forgiveness through a concrete act or sign. Which brings us back to the simplicity of it all: God will always forgive us, so we must always forgive others. Doesn't it make sense that to live in the house of our merciful Father, we must emulate him and have loving hearts rather than vengeful hearts?

PRAY Examine your heart and take a hard look at whether you are holding on to a wrong that was committed against you. Take it to God in prayer. The more we open our hearts to forgive others, the more at peace we can be. Ponder the last words of today's reading from Sirach:

*Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor;
remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.*