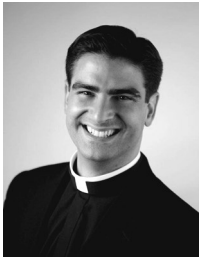

OCTOBER 21 & 22, 2023



Dear Friends in Christ,

Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar. These words from Jesus often leave people scratching their heads. What does this even mean? A shallow dive into ancient philosophy helps us here.

Aristotle described man as a “political animal.” His Greek words can literally be translated as “an animal intended to live in a city; a social animal” (*Politics*, I.ii.9). Through his careful observation of those living around him and insightful self-recollection, Aristotle noticed something which rings out in the Gospel today as well: We are creatures who live together, who need one another, and so always live in some form of political community. We are dependent creatures; we do not live alone, and we are responsible for others.

This can be realized through careful philosophical analysis, but it is also a fundamental truth revealed by God in his Word and clarified by the light of the Gospel. We are told in Genesis that it is *not good for the man to be alone* (2:18). God gives Adam the gift of community in the person of Eve. The family, then, is the first political community. It is where we learn how to live together, care for others, and make a gift of ourselves.

But in the story of the Fall, we hear how brokenness enters into even this most fundamental community. Throughout salvation history, people fail not only to know they belong to God but fail to build good and healthy political structures.

But this is not how it is meant to be. Christ came not only to restore our relationship with God, but with one another. As Christians, we are asked to be faithful to our Creator and also to care for all of His creation, which he loves.

This is also a great challenge. Like the Pharisees in today’s Gospel, we still feel the effects of sin. The work of salvation has been accomplished, but the kingdom is not yet come.

We are called to make our families and societies the best they can be. We have a right and responsibility to be engaged in our society. This is what is meant when Jesus says *repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar*. We must strive, with God’s help and grace, to build

communities of peace and justice. Beginning with the right order of our own households and moving out to the various local and national communities in which we live, Christians have political responsibilities. May God give us the courage, prudence, and grace we need for this work. And may we remember that, just as that coin bore the image of Caesar and “belongs to Caesar”, we are made in the image of God and belong to God.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Marco

IHM COAT DRIVE At last! The temperature outside is hinting that we may have a winter season! That means it is time to check your closets and your cedar chests for clean winter items in good condition that you no longer use. Members of St Vincent de Paul of IHM will be conducting a coat drive before all the Masses on November 4 and 5. The donated coats and other warm winter outerwear will be given to The Clothes Closet of the Lexington Park United Methodist Church for distribution to the needy members of our community.

ALL SOULS DAY ENVELOPES Parishioners are encouraged to use an All Souls Day envelope available at the main church entrances so submit the names of deceased loved ones. The envelopes will be collected during the offertory, and placed on the altar during the month of November and prayed for at every Mass at IHM.

CRAFT GROUP FORMING Are you a crafter who enjoys making things with your hands? If so, you are invited to join us for a monthly craft gathering at IHM. This is a casual and relaxed group that meets to share ideas, skills, and friendship. We will meet in the large classroom every second Thursday of the month from 10 am to 12 pm. You can bring any craft project you are working on or just come and see what others are making. This is a wonderful way to connect with other members of our church community and have some fun. If you have any questions, please call Pat DeCarlo at (240) 925-0021 or Anne Krech (301) 373-6106. We look forward to seeing you there on November 9th!

TURKEYS NEEDED For the Thanksgiving Dinner, we are in need of 10 frozen turkey breasts and 25 frozen whole turkeys 10-12 lb. size. Due to Safe Food handling regulations, we can only accept frozen turkeys. If you are interested in donating, please call the parish office at 301-863-8144. Turkeys need to be in our kitchen the Friday before Thanksgiving.

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS Intentions

October 23 — October 29

Monday	Rom 4:20-25/Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/ Lk 12:13-21
9:00 am	Ann Elizabeth Jackson (D)
Tuesday	Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38
5:30 pm	Rev. Gerge A. Wilkinson (D)
Wednesday	Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/ Lk 12:39-48
9:00 am	Abraham Ugues (L)
Thursday	Rom 6:19-23/Rom 6:19-23/ Lk 12:49-53
5:30 pm	Abigail Marie Thompson (L)
Friday	Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/ Lk 12:54-59
9:00 am	Scarlet Angus (L)
Saturday	Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/ Lk 6:12-16
9:00 am	Anthony DeStefano (D)
4:00 pm	Carol Ann Bush (D)
Sunday	Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51/ 1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40
8:30 am	Judy Nagy (D)
11:15 am	Anthony DeStefano (D)
1:00 pm	All IHM Parishioners

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP

FY July 2023– June 2024	Offertory September	Maintenance Fund September
Offertory Online Giving	\$24,555.60 \$20,906.00	\$2,764.25 \$1,885.00
Needed Monthly	\$54,235.00	\$5,000.00
Collected YTD	\$132,300.21	\$15,052.90
Needed YTD	\$162,705.00	\$15,000.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN		
Campaign runs October 2019– June 2024	Total Pledged \$687,357.00	Given up to Sept. 30, 2023 \$743,170.00

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. “The Church is Mother, the Church is woman. And since mothers bestow life, and women ‘keep’ the world, let us all make greater efforts to promote mothers and to protect women. How much violence is directed against women! Enough!,” said Pope Francis, January 1, 2022 at St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican. “To hurt a woman is to insult God, who from a woman took on our humanity.” For women suffering abuse at home, help is available. Contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1 (800) 799-7233 (24 hours); 1 (800) 787-3224 (TTY); <https://www.thehotline.org/> to find assistance.

TRUNK OR TREAT IHM is hosting a Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 28th from 1 pm to 3 pm. Set up for the event will begin at 12:30 pm. Please consider decorating your trunk and joining us for some safe fun for the kids! Donations of prizes and candy are needed as well as a few volunteers to run some short games and supervise the pumpkin patch. Most of all, come join us for some fun! If you have any questions please contact Martha Worrell at mfworrell1@hotmail.com.



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, Roger Berry

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 OCTOBER

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Follow us on



OCTOBER 21 & 22, 2023

STANDING (from Fr. Romano Guardini, *Sacred Signs*, 1927)

The respect we owe to the infinite God requires of us a bearing suited to such a presence. The sense that we have of the greatness of His being, and, in His eyes, of the slowness of our own, is shown outwardly by our kneeling down to make ourselves small. But reverence has another way of expressing itself. When you are sitting down to rest or chat, and someone to whom you owe respect comes in and turns to speak to you, at once you stand up and remain standing so long as he is speaking and you are answering him. Why do we do this?

In the first place, to stand up means that we are in possession of ourselves. Instead of sitting relaxed and at ease we take hold of ourselves; we stand, as it were, at attention, geared and ready for action. A man on his feet can come or go at once. He can take an order on the instant, or carry out an assignment the moment he is shown what is wanted.

Standing is the other side of reverence toward God. Kneeling is the side of worship in rest and quietness; standing is the side of vigilance and action. It is the respect of the servant in attendance, of the soldier on duty.

When the good news of the gospel is proclaimed, we stand up. Godparents stand when in the child's place they make the solemn profession of faith; children when they renew these promises at their first communion. Bridegroom and bride stand when they bind themselves at the altar to be faithful to their marriage vow. On these and the like occasions we stand up.

Even when we are praying alone, to pray standing may more forcibly express our inward state. The early Christians stood by preference. The "Orante," in the familiar catacomb representation, stands in her long flowing robes of a woman of rank and prays with outstretched hands, in perfect freedom, perfect obedience, quietly attending to the word, and in readiness to perform it with joy.

We may feel at times a sort of constraint in kneeling. One feels freer standing up, and in that case standing is the right position. But stand up straight: not leaning, both feet on the ground, the knees firm, not slackly bent, upright, in control. Prayer made thus is both free and obedient, both reverent and serviceable.

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).

EVENTS CALENDAR

Mon: 7 pm
Wed: 10 am
Thurs: 6 pm
Sat: 1 pm

October 23—October 29

Mass w/ Healing Service
Bible Study
DivorceCare Meeting
Trunk or Treat

BABY SHOWER FOR CARE NET During the month of October, we will be collecting items for Care Net Pregnancy Center. They are in special need for the following: Size 4 Diapers, all Pull-ups, sizes 2T-5T, toddler clothes, 2T -4T, infant and toddler socks, baby shampoo, body wash and lotion, pacifiers, bottles and nipples for bottles, washcloths, towels and blankets. Please place them in the bassinets in the rear of the sanctuary.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASS TIMES The Mass times for the **Solemnity of All Saints** are as follows: Tuesday, October 31st at 5:30 pm at IHM, Wednesday, November 1st at 9 am at IHM, 11:35 at St. Nicholas Chapel on Base, and at 7 pm at IHM.

ALL SOULS DAY MASS TIMES are on Thursday, November 2nd at 9 am and 5:30 pm. The Evening Mass will include a special remembrance of parishioners who died during the past year.

MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS This month's Mass with Healing Prayers is at 7 pm on Monday, October 23. 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.



JOIN THE KNIGHTS! Got questions about the Knights of Columbus? Want to be a member? Contact Grand Knight Craig Davie at 240-434-6810 or Membership Director Curt Winters at 240-434-1796.

BEING PRO-LIFE Talking persuasively to those who support abortion requires rebutting their major arguments.

Argument #1: A fetus is not alive.

Response: Life begins at conception. It's the teaching of the Catholic Church, but it is also supported by science. In a recent survey 96% of 5000 Biologists asked, stated that life begins at conception. By the way, 89% of those Biologists described themselves as Liberal, 85% as Pro-Choice and 63% as non-religious.

Argument #2: It's a woman's body and she has the right to do what she wants with it.

Response: The fetus is not part of the woman's body. It's genetics and (half the time) its sex, are different. Those fetal genes, not the mother's, direct its development. It's a separate body.

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL St. Mary's Youth Memorial All Soul's Day Candlelight Vigil will be on Thursday, November 2 at 7 pm at the Memorial - 20016 Point Lookout Rd, Great Mills, MD, 20634. All are welcome to support those who lost dear young family members. In case of inclement weather, the service will take place at Holy Face Church. Email any questions to: smyememorial@gmail.com.

FALL OYSTERFEST St. Francis de Sales in Benedict (is hosting a oysterfest in their parish hall Saint Francis de Sales Hall, 7209 Benedict Ave) on Saturday, November 4 from 12 noon to 3 pm. The menu includes local oysters fried, scalded and raw at an outdoor bar, ham, steamed shrimp, hush puppies, potato salad, green beans, cole slaw, candied yams, green beans, mac and cheese, and home made desserts. The cost is \$30 per adult, reserve a table for six and one person eats free! Family rates are available. Call for more info at 301-274-3416.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: LEAD COOK Camp Maria Retreat Center, a ministry of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, is currently conducting an employment search for a full-time head cook/food service manager. Located alongside the beautiful Breton Bay in Leonardtown, MD, Camp Maria Retreat Center hosts groups year round. For more details and information regarding this position, please call 301-475-8330 or visit the website at campmaria.org.

MEN'S DISCERNMENT MASS AND DINNER This event is open to men (18 to 40s), from the Archdiocese who want to learn more about a vocation to the priesthood. The event is Sunday, November 19 from 4:30 pm to 7 pm at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in DC (onsite parking available). Please register at <https://dcpriest.org/event/mens-discernment-mass-with-cardinal-gregory-and-dinner/>. For more information, contact Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations, at vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020.

CRAFT SHOW St. John Vianney in Prince Frederick is hosting its Annual Craft/Vendor Show on Saturday, November 11 from 9 am to 2 pm. Crafters and Vendors are welcome! Advanced registration is required. Information can be found on our website at: <https://sjvchurch.net/annual-craft-and-home-show>.

VETERANS RETREAT A retreat for those who served in the military will be lead by US Army Veteran Fr. Conroy November 10 through 12 at Loyola retreat house in Faulkner, MD. Fr. Conroy will lead veterans in prayer and reflection about their experience in the military. Registration can be done at loyolaonthepotomac.com or by calling 301-392-0801. Retreat fee is \$165.



IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS *Serving the Least Among Us* The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) is a Jesuit-sponsored organization that provides men and women, age 50 and older (retired or semi-retired) with substantive opportunities to serve others and transform lives. IVC matches the skills, talents and life experiences of these volunteers with nonprofit organizations that assist the materially poor or address issues related to poverty. A unique feature of IVC is a spiritual reflection component that helps volunteers discover the deeper meaning in their service, and their lives. To learn more about IVC, contact Mike Goggin, Senior Director, IVC of the National Capital Area: 202-277-4447 or mgoggin@ivcusa.org, or visit www.ivcusa.org.

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>.

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!

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.

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.

October 22, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 45:1, 4-6 | 1 Thes 1:1-5b | Mt 22:15-21

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

It strikes me that our readings today are about “belonging.” It may seem like a simple concept, but in practice its meaning and ramifications run deep. Picture a young child coming home after a day at school or child care: He or she may even audibly let out a sigh of relief at the familiar surroundings, the presence of Mom and/or Dad, and all that they hold dear. Is it so different for us? We are God’s, we belong to him. In the first reading God tells Cyrus, “I have called you by your name.” And Jesus says to repay “to God what belongs to God.” How do we do that? We, who have been called by name by virtue of our baptism, do this by putting God first in our lives. By loving God with all our heart, soul, and mind. And by giving him not the leftovers, but the first fruits of our talents, our treasure, and our time. Spend some time in prayer with God today and listen to the words he writes upon your heart.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We have been chosen by God to spread his Good News in the world. We are his witnesses. Sound intimidating? I took comfort in the words from Saint Paul in the second reading: “For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.” Is it always a “piece of cake” to be Christ’s disciples in the world helping to build his kingdom here on earth? No, certainly not. But the knowledge that we are beloved and valuable in the sight of God, coupled with the power and strength of the Holy Spirit, fortifies us for the task. Are we up to the task? Yes. We belong to God now and forever. Let us strive to act like a child of God in all things, and deepen our reliance on the Holy Spirit when things get tough.

WITNESS Today’s Gospel acclamation, from Philipians, says: “Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.” There is so much darkness in the world. Make an effort to be the “light” in someone’s life this week, whether it be a spouse, a child, a parent, or a co-worker.

**“I HAVE
CALLED
YOU BY
YOUR
NAME.”**

(IS 45:4)