

**Saint Peter  
School News  
May, 2023**

Dear Parents,

As we continue in the Easter Season, we now approach many spiritual opportunities. We prepare for the beautiful celebration of Pentecost which is the official birthday of the church. It was the great feast that empowered the early Christians to recognize the many gifts that God had given them and to boldly use them for God's greater honor and glory. As parents, we too need to be able to enable our children to recognize the many spiritual and temporal gifts that God has given to each of them and encourage them to discover, cultivate, and use these gifts and talents in their daily routines. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, beautifully expresses in his Pentecost homily: "The Holy Spirit is practical, he is not an idealist. He wants us to concentrate on the *here and now*, because the time and place in which we find ourselves are themselves grace-filled. These are the concrete times and places of grace, here and now. That is where the Holy Spirit is leading us. The spirit of evil, however, would pull us away from the here and now, and put us somewhere else. Often he anchors us to the past: to our regrets, our nostalgia, our disappointments. Or else he points us to the future, fueling our fears, illusions and false hopes. But not the Holy Spirit. The Spirit leads us to love, concretely, here and now, not an ideal world or an ideal Church, an ideal religious congregation, but the real ones, as they are, seen in broad light of day, with transparency and simplicity. How very different from the evil one, who foments gossip and idle chatter. Idle chatter is a nasty habit; it destroys a person's identity. The Holy Spirit wants us to be together; he makes us Church and today – here is the third and final aspect – he teaches the Church *how to walk*. The disciples were cowering in the Upper Room; the Spirit then came down and made them go forth. Without the Spirit, they were alone, by themselves, huddled together. With the Spirit, they were open to all. In every age, the Spirit overturns our preconceived notions and opens us to his newness. God, the Spirit, is always new! He constantly teaches the Church the vital importance of going forth, impelled to proclaim the Gospel. The importance of our being, not a secure sheepfold, but an open pasture where all can graze on God's beauty. He teaches us to be an open house without walls of division. The worldly spirit drives us to concentrate on our own problems and interests, on our need to appear relevant, on our strenuous defense of the nation or group to which we belong. That is not the way of the Holy Spirit. He invites to forget ourselves and to open our hearts to all. In that way, he makes the Church grow young. We need to remember this: the Spirit rejuvenates the Church. Not us and our efforts to dress her up a bit. For the Church cannot be "programmed" and every effort at "modernization" is not enough. The Spirit liberates us from obsession with emergencies. He beckons us to walk his paths, ever ancient and ever new, the paths of witness, poverty and mission, and in this way, he sets us free from ourselves and sends us forth into the world."

**First Communion**

Our children will receive this special sacrament on Saturday, May 6 with mass at 10:00 am.

We are grateful to our choir members who will enhance our celebration. We rejoice with:

Andrea Arroyo (2)	Oliver Yepez (2)
Jazlyn Covington (2)	Iker Moreno (3)
Yeylin De La Rosa (2)	Jesus Reyes (3)
Jackson Gallo (2)	Estrella Santis-Diaz (3)
Jacob Garcia-Guzman (2)	Nicole Bueno (4)
Jonael Gil (2)	Jorge Rodriguez (4)
Braylen Laboy (2)	Carlos Sanchez (4)
Gabriela Mendez (2)	Nyleah Connor (4)
Joannie Menegildo (2)	Adalis DeLa Cruz (5)
Monica Ramirez (2)	Manuel de Jesus Ramirez (5)
Max Valerio(2)	Nathalie Buenano (6)



**Declamation**

We are so proud of our 7th and 8th graders who competed in the Berks County Declamation Competition Berks Catholic:

Madison Carrillo (8)--2nd Place  
John Oleas (8) Isai River (7)--2nd Place  
Gabriela Rosas (7)--1st Place



**Honor Roll**

We congratulate our students who received 1st or 2nd Honors on their 2nd Trimester Report Card:

<b><u>First Honors</u></b>	Allison Diaz (8)
Alyvia Barreto (3)	Jessica Dominguez (8)
Missael Fernandez (3)	Ennybel Mejia (8)
Denian Garcia (3)	Nathalie Ortiz (8)
Samantha Martinez (3)	<b><u>Second Honors</u></b>
Iker Moreno (3)	Areli Perez (3)
Esau Pedroza (3)	Raylan Rijo (3)
Jesus Reyes (3)	Maily Garcia (4)
Elias Santiago (3)	Yolenny Moronta (4)
Valerie Torres (3)	Monserrat Martinez (4)
Kendo Varela (3)	Kayden McIntosh (4)
Alejandro Cruz (4)	Naleigha Merritt (4)
Maria Martinez (4)	Danilyn Muñoz (4)
Emilio Perez (4)	Edlyann Ortiz (4)
Adalis DeLa Cruz (5)	Rocky Taveras (4)
Lisbeth Perez-Savinon (5)	Xitlali Uribe (4)
Manuel de Jesus Ramirez (5)	Emily Frias (5)
Liliana Santiago (5)	Joendrys Marquez (5)
Annalise Sierra (5)	Missael Moreno (5)
Alexa Torres (5)	Hadassa Perez (5)
Angel Vargas (5)	Nathalie Ortiz (6)
Janellys Abreu (6)	Olivia Rodriguez (6)
Viviana Cruz (6)	Gabriela Caloca-Ortiz(7)
Ana Frias (6)	Juan Diego Castañeda (7)
Isabella Gonzalez (6)	Jenelsie Espinal (7)
Jiovani Peña (6)	Gabriela Rosas (7)
Dulcemaria Ramirez (6)	Jovanna Zabala (7)
Saray Rodriguez (6)	Chris Artilles- Colon (8)
Milagros Solis (7)	Jarieu Bah (8)
Josander Tavarez (7)	Maxine Mayo (8)

