

**Saint Peter
School News
May, 2026**

Dear Parents,

Happy Easter Season! The joy and celebration of the Easter Season continues. We now anticipate the beautiful celebration of Pentecost which is known as the 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. I share with you the first Pentecost message of Pope Leo: "The Spirit accomplished something extraordinary in the lives of the Apostles. Following Jesus' death, they had retreated behind closed doors, in fear and sadness. Now they receive a new way of seeing things, an interior understanding that helps them to interpret the events that occurred and to experience intimately the presence of the Risen Lord. The Holy Spirit overcomes their fear, shatters their inner chains, heals their wounds, anoints them with strength and grants them the courage to go out to all and to proclaim God's mighty works....*The Spirit opens borders, first of all, in our hearts.* He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves. The Holy Spirit comes to challenge us, to make us confront the possibility that our lives are shriveling up, trapped in the vortex of individualism. Sadly, oddly enough, in a world of burgeoning "social" media, we risk being ever more alone. Constantly connected, yet incapable of "networking". Always immersed in a crowd, yet confused and solitary travelers. The Spirit of God allows us to find a new way of approaching and experiencing life. He puts us in touch with our inmost self, beneath all the masks we wear. He leads us to an encounter with the Lord by teaching us to experience the joy that is his gift. He convinces us, as we just heard in Jesus' words, that only by abiding in love, will we receive the strength to remain faithful to his word and to let it transform us. The Spirit opens our interior borders, so that our lives can become places of welcome and refreshment. *The Spirit also opens borders in our relationship with others.* Jesus tells us that this Gift is the love between him and the Father that comes to dwell within us. We then become capable of opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, overcoming our rigidity, moving beyond our fear of those who are different, and mastering the passions that stir within. The Spirit also transforms those deeper, hidden dangers that disturb our relationships, like suspicion, prejudice or the desire to manipulate others....*Finally, the Spirit also opens borders between peoples.* At Pentecost, the Apostles spoke the languages of those they met, and the confusion of Babel was finally resolved by the harmony brought about by the Spirit. Whenever God's "breath" unites our hearts and makes us view others as our brothers and sisters, differences no longer become an occasion for division and conflict but rather a shared patrimony from which we can all draw, and which sets us all on journey together, in fraternity. The Spirit breaks down barriers and tears down the walls of indifference and hatred because he "teaches us all things" and "reminds us of Jesus' words". He teaches

us, reminds us, and writes in our hearts before all else the commandment of love that the Lord has made the center and summit of everything...Pentecost renews the Church and the world! May the strong wind of the Spirit come upon us and within us, open the borders of our hearts, grant us the grace of encounter with God, enlarge the horizons of our love and sustain our efforts to build a world in which peace reigns. May Mary Most Holy, Woman of Pentecost, Virgin visited by the Spirit, Mother full of grace, accompany and intercede for us."

Honor Roll

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

First Honors

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Iker Buenano (3) | Jesus Hernandez (3) |
| Emely Burgos (3) | David Maya (3) |
| Jelsi Martinez (3) | Valeria Carrillo (4) |
| Jayleen Valerio (3) | Ana Figueroa (4) |
| Mayrenis Cabrera (4) | Jayden Garcia (4) |
| Namira Correa (4) | Jasslyn Moronta (4) |
| Dana Mago (4) | Talia Rodriguez (4) |
| Luciana Carrillo (5) | Marcus Fernandez (5) |
| Elijah Castillo (5) | Shan Haynes-Ali (5) |
| Esther Corona (5) | Braylen Laboy (5) |
| Jackson Gallo (5) | Gabriela Mendez (5) |
| Euriel Garcia (5) | Clamondie Pierre (5) |
| Oliver Yepez (5) | Loyal Spradley (5) |
| Ninel Lina-Rossis (6) | Rita Ramirez (6) |
| Jesus Reyes (6) | Benamy Ruiz (6) |
| Valerie Torres (6) | Jade Saint Hilaire (6) |
| Kendo Varela (6) | Maria Martinez (7) |
| Janelle Abreu (8) | Emilio Perez (7) |
| Nyleah Connor (8) | Jorge Rodriguez (7) |
| Hadassa Perez (8) | Naiyaliz Rodriguez (7) |
| Annalise Sierra (8) | Tais Batista (8) |
| Alexa Torres (8) | Nicholas Carmona (8) |
| Angel Vargas (8) | Naiyade Cedeno (8) |
| <u>Second Honors</u> | Alanna Peralta (8) |
| Dyland Escobar (3) | Manuel Ramirez (8) |
| Genesis Hernandez (3) | Keilly Santos (8) |
| | Helen Tineo (8) |



Bishop's Scholar Society Winners

We joyfully congratulate our eighth graders who received the honor and \$1000 in the Bishop's Scholarship to attend Berks Catholic High School. We are so proud of:

Alexa Torres
Alanna Peralta
Angel Vargas



Declamation

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

Janelle Abreu (8)--2nd Place
Nicholas Carmona (8)--1st Place
Maria Martinez (7)--2nd Place
Alan Sandoval (7)--1st Place & Grand Champion



Saints Scholastic Scrimmage at Berks Catholic

We are proud to announce our 8th Grade participants for this competition at Berks Catholic on May 7:

Randi Pascual-Galvez
Annalise Sierra
Nyleah Connor
Angel Vargas

