

**Homily — Pentecost 2019**  
**by Rev. Bob Schramm, OSFS**

**The purpose of our coming here this morning  
is to nurture all of us into believing  
that our lives are immersed in, overflowing with, grace.**

**My role in leading this celebration is to somehow convince us that's true:  
we are all just gushing with grace, holiness and goodness.**

**Part of my role is to help us all hear the Scriptures in way  
that convinces us that what we are hearing is really true.**

**That Jesus can penetrate our locked doors  
and that his word to us really is peace,  
not some kind of scolding for past offenses.**

**That the likes of us have been sent  
as messengers of that same peace in God's name.**

**That it is true, "If you forgive people's sins they are forgiven them  
and if you fail to forgive you stand in the way God's mercy."**

**That giving and proclaiming forgiveness is the way  
we are meant to exercise God's life-giving power in the world.**

**Forgiveness is the Pentecost vocation God gives us today, all of us.  
Pope Francis constantly emphasizes forgiveness:  
that we be instruments of God's mercy.**

**I'm here to tell you that the Scriptures today say:**

- we are all gifted in remarkable, significant ways;**
- that none of us has all the gifts;**
- and they are not simply given to enhance our own bank accounts  
They are given "for the common good."**

**Part of what nurtures us here into believing that we are overflowing with grace  
is our prayer.**

**Prayer at its best is some form of awareness.**

**To pray is to live in the awareness that I, and all of us, are immersed in grace  
all the time.**

**Prayer is not about begging.**

- Mary Laubacher, IHM - nearly 102 years old and 84 as IHM**
- National Gun Violence Awareness Day - Wear Orange, 6/7-9**

- **D-Day = the DAY it's all coming down. 6/6/1944**

**All these call for a deeper awareness.**

**AND . . . it seems that the Spirit insists we keep a sense of humor about it all:**

**. . . Some days I amaze myself.**

**Other days, I'm frantically hunting for my cell phone  
while I'm talking on it.**

**SFS: "Humility, humility, humility"**

**We dearly need one another . . . and the help of God.**