

JESUS IS LORD!

PEOPLE OF HOPE

A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES ON MISSION



MAY 24, 2026



“ALWAYS BE READY TO GIVE AN EXPLANATION TO ANYONE WHO ASKS YOU FOR A REASON FOR YOUR HOPE”

1 Peter 3:15

I WANT TO BE WITH YOU FOREVER

From John 10:10, “I have come so that you might have life and life to the full”

I created you so that you may be with me and I with you. I want to be with you forever and ever. That's the life that I promise you, to be with me and have life to the full. So, in every tragedy, every disaster, every unfortunate situation that you experience, and every time you say or think, “that person's just wrong, that's not right, that's unfair, or do you know what happened to me?”, oh, my sons and daughters - consider me. Consider me in my passion. Was it fair when they said, “crucify him, crucify him, crucify him?” Consider my agony. Consider my pain. Consider the scourging. Consider my falls. Consider the ridicule that I underwent. When they said, “can he save himself?” Consider when you come into each situation, that I want to be with you. So, be with me. Accept those situations and love. Love like I did. Love like I do. Oh, my sons and daughters, I want to take you up, up higher in relationship with me. Respond in every unfair situation with the love that I have for you

YOU NEED PATIENCE FOR THE RESURRECTION

I have not called you to a life of comfort, to a life of ease. I have called you to me. I have called you to the cross, because that is where I am. But it doesn't end there. After the cross comes new life. The resurrection is after the cross. I just have a sense that we need perseverance in our patience in waiting for our resurrection, just like Martha and Mary in this morning's Gospel had to wait four days. We also have to wait. We have to wait for the Lord to bring that resurrection to us.

PROFESS LORD I BELIEVE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

Did I not tell you that if you only would but believe, you would see the glory of God? And I know every one of you in this room would say, yes, Lord, I believe. But do you live immersed in that belief day in and day out in all your circumstances? When things are difficult, profess, I believe, Lord, show me your glory. Even when things are desperate, remember to profess, I believe, Lord, show me your glory. Did I not tell you that if you would but believe, you would see the glory of God?

RUN WITH ME TO THE SUMMIT

Oh, the glory, the glory of the resurrection. What glories you will see from that vista. My light shining on you. My brilliance shining on you. But between here and there, there is a steep ascent to that summit. And now is the time to assess your life. What do I need to make that ascent? What do I need and what do I need to let go of to make that ascent? I say, let go of the crosses you put on yourself. Embrace my cross. I carry that cross with you. Embrace it. And when you do that, you can run up that incline. And I say these last days of Lent, assess your life, assess what you need, assess what you don't need, and run with me to the summit.

**Prophecies from March 22, 2026
Community Prayer Meetings**

Images used throughout bulletin:

Pentecost by Otto Van Veer, 1556-1629 (front cover)
Noli me tangere by Fritz von Uhde, 1894 (quote page 1)
Landscape Near Vetheuil, Claude Monet, 1881 (quote page 2).



Our Gapper Giovanna

A Thank You!

By Tim Margiotta

What can we say about our gapper Giovanna 😊 Ten months flew by! That alone is a credit to how well she entered into our life and served our community.

From the moment she arrived she was ready to serve, learn and go all in. Beginning with service at Camp Hope, she then added a host of other services into her routine; serving at KA, helping with Ignite, assisting new mom's, supporting community events and activities and much more – there was nothing she wasn't willing to do! And while just DOING the service is one thing, doing it with a great attitude and love for the Lord is another. Gio did just that – she brought her love of the Lord to NJ and carried it with her while she served.

“From the moment she arrived she was ready to serve, learn and go all in.”

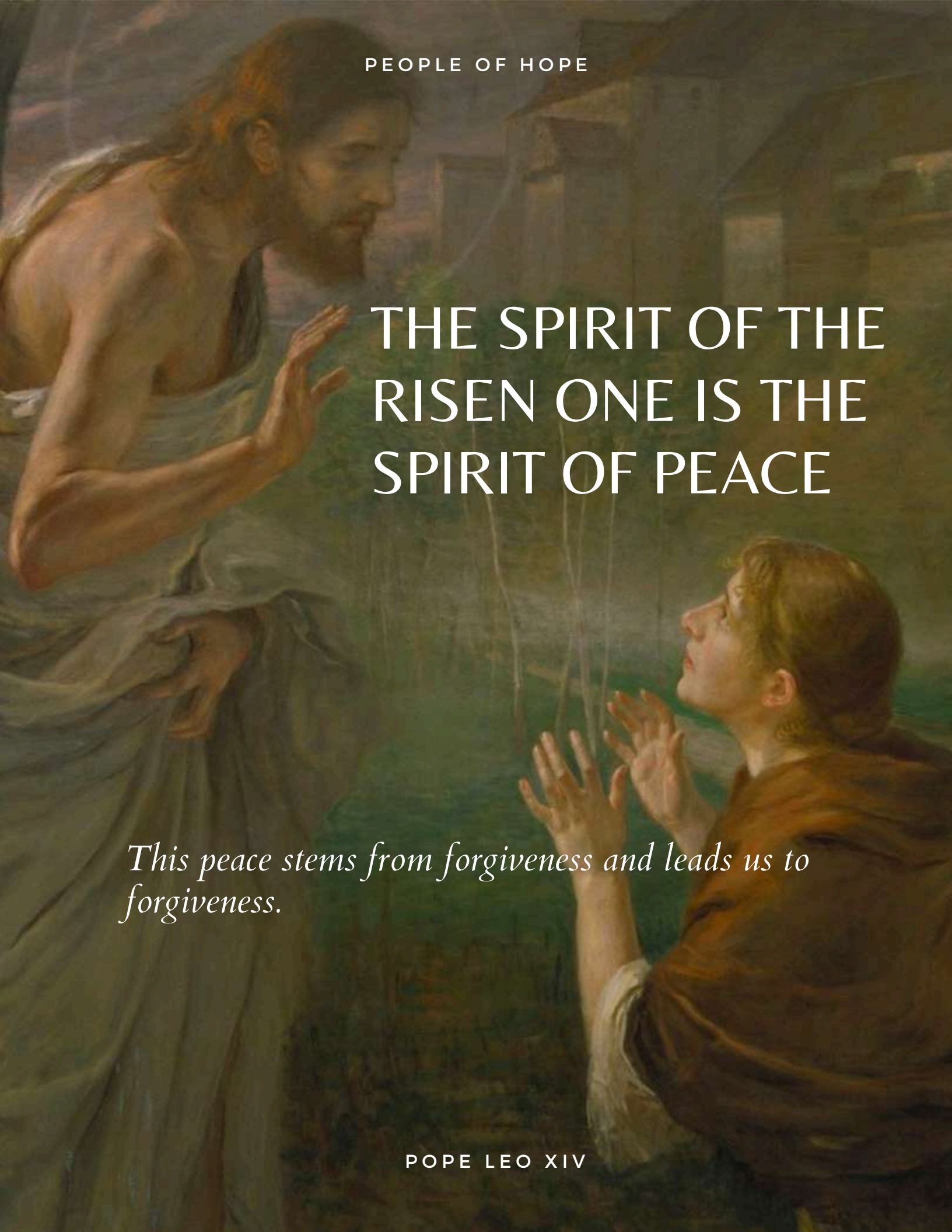
“It was inspiring to see a young woman right out of high school with a love for community life and a vision for mission and this calling.”

Of the many gifts and talents Gio shared with our community, her passion and zeal for community life is something that has left a mark. It was inspiring to see a young woman right out of high school with a love for community life and a vision for mission and this calling. Over the course of a number of conversations with her and with our other gapper Sofi, they helped highlight & explore the future possibilities for our young people and their participation in our community. These seeds combined with the Lord's grace and the Holy Spirit have helped push forward current efforts with our community youth and continue to be a source of encouragement and inspiration. What a gift for our community.

Thank you Gio for your generosity of heart; for giving of yourself over the last ten months. Thank you for being an example to youth and adults alike of how to serve others and not count the cost. At times there were challenges to be faced and yet with the Lord and others by your side, you faced them all and persevered. This is how growth takes place...and what growth we see in you! The Lord has truly worked in and through you and the People of Hope thanks you. Count on our prayers as you follow the Lord on your next adventure and know that you always have a home here in NJ.

EXCERPT FROM ANNIVERSARY BANQUET MESSAGE FROM GIO

“I don't have enough time or words to express how deeply grateful I am to the Lord for this past year. I learned a lot of things living here. God is no longer just God, but my God. His most complete and true self is not out there, but in the most intimate part of myself. He slowly molded my heart by the silence of prayer and made it more sensitive, loving, and humble. I learned that the greatest love is shown in the simplest actions and things: a hug, a smile, a question, a rock, a bagel, a cup, a bed, breakfast, a drawing, a flower, a soccer game, a dance, a class, a song, a joke, a ride home, and a prayer. He showed me that you don't need big actions to show great love. All of the people that I met here made that clear, because you not only praise God in prayer meetings, but in your homes. And I was an eyewitness to that when entering your homes. Your houses are houses set apart for the Lord. As the scripture says in Joshua, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. I was able to see Jesus in all of you, and I will take Jesus with me, but I will miss all of you.”



PEOPLE OF HOPE

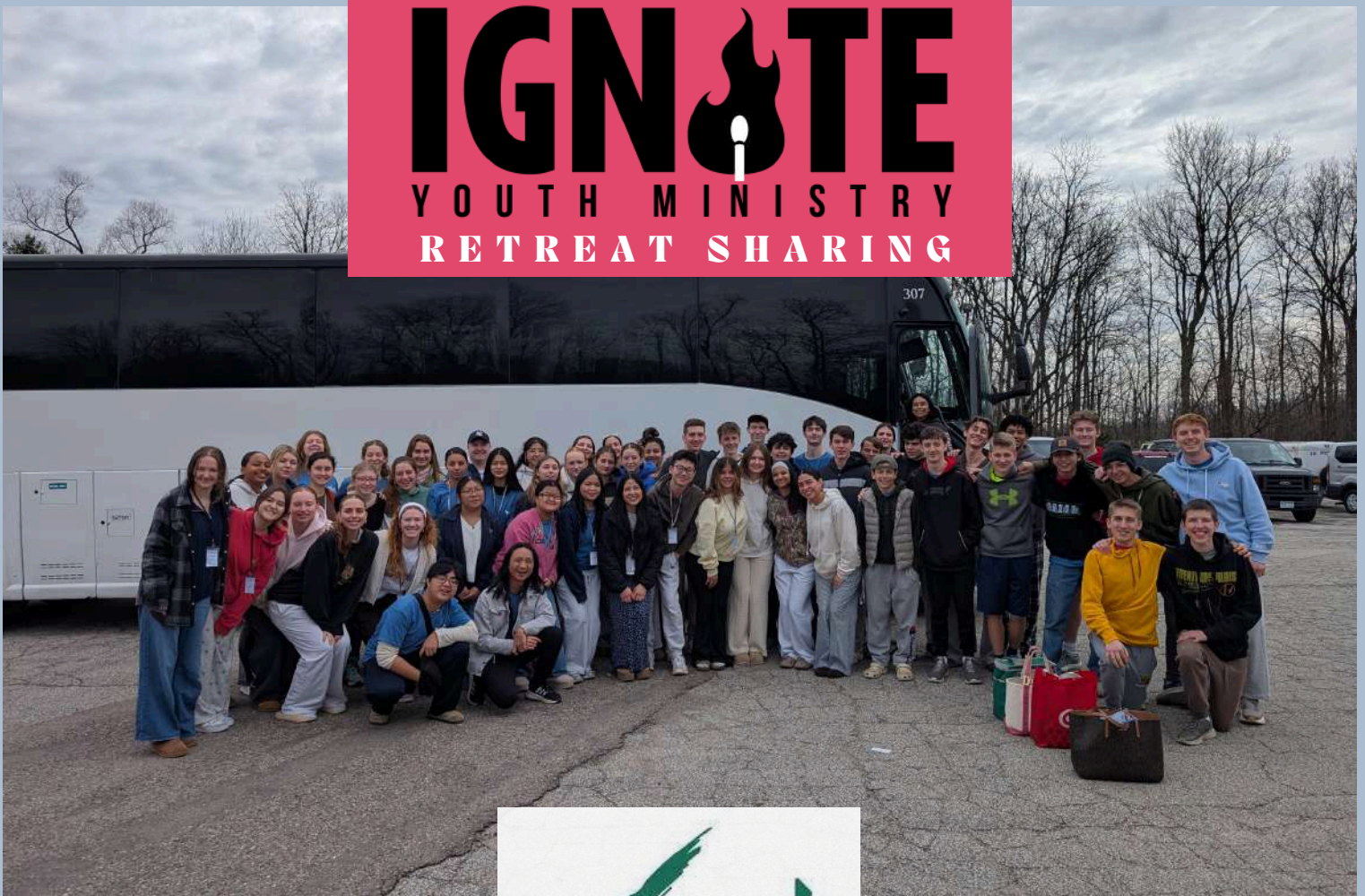
THE SPIRIT OF THE RISEN ONE IS THE SPIRIT OF PEACE

*This peace stems from forgiveness and leads us to
forgiveness.*

POPE LEO XIV

IGNITE

YOUTH MINISTRY
RETREAT SHARING



The Holy Spirit in Me

My name is Analise, I am a freshman at Koinonia Academy, and this was my first year on the YES Retreat. I went into this retreat feeling anxious and uneasy because I had been asked to give my testimony. I at first declined because I get very nervous about public speaking, but a few minutes after I told Giovanna that I didn't want to do it, I turned back to her and said YES. Even though I knew my stomach would be in knots the whole trip, I could feel God telling me to do it, that someone on the retreat needed to hear what I had to say. So when I got up on stage on Friday night I still felt really nervous, but I could literally feel the Holy Spirit in me. I started speaking and my voice sounded steady, I was a wreck inside but on the outside I looked confident, or at least that's what someone told me afterwards. My first YES Retreat couldn't have been better, I felt God that night in a new way, a way that I can't even explain, and I loved it.

ALWAYS GLAD I MADE THE EFFORT

ANCHOR DISTRICT MOVIE NIGHT

A reflection on experiencing love and fellowship with our community brothers and sisters

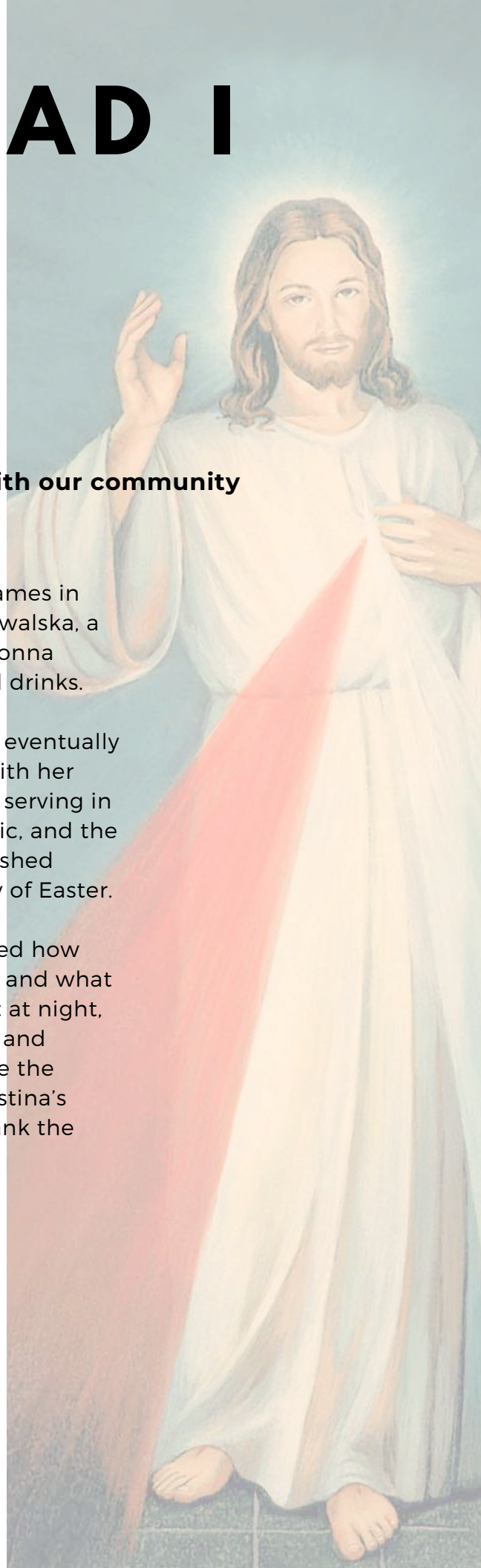
The night of April 10th the Anchor District gathered at St. James in Basking Ridge to watch a video about St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun and mystic. The night was hosted by Fred and Donna Bunsu, and for refreshments, we had twizzlers, popcorn and drinks.

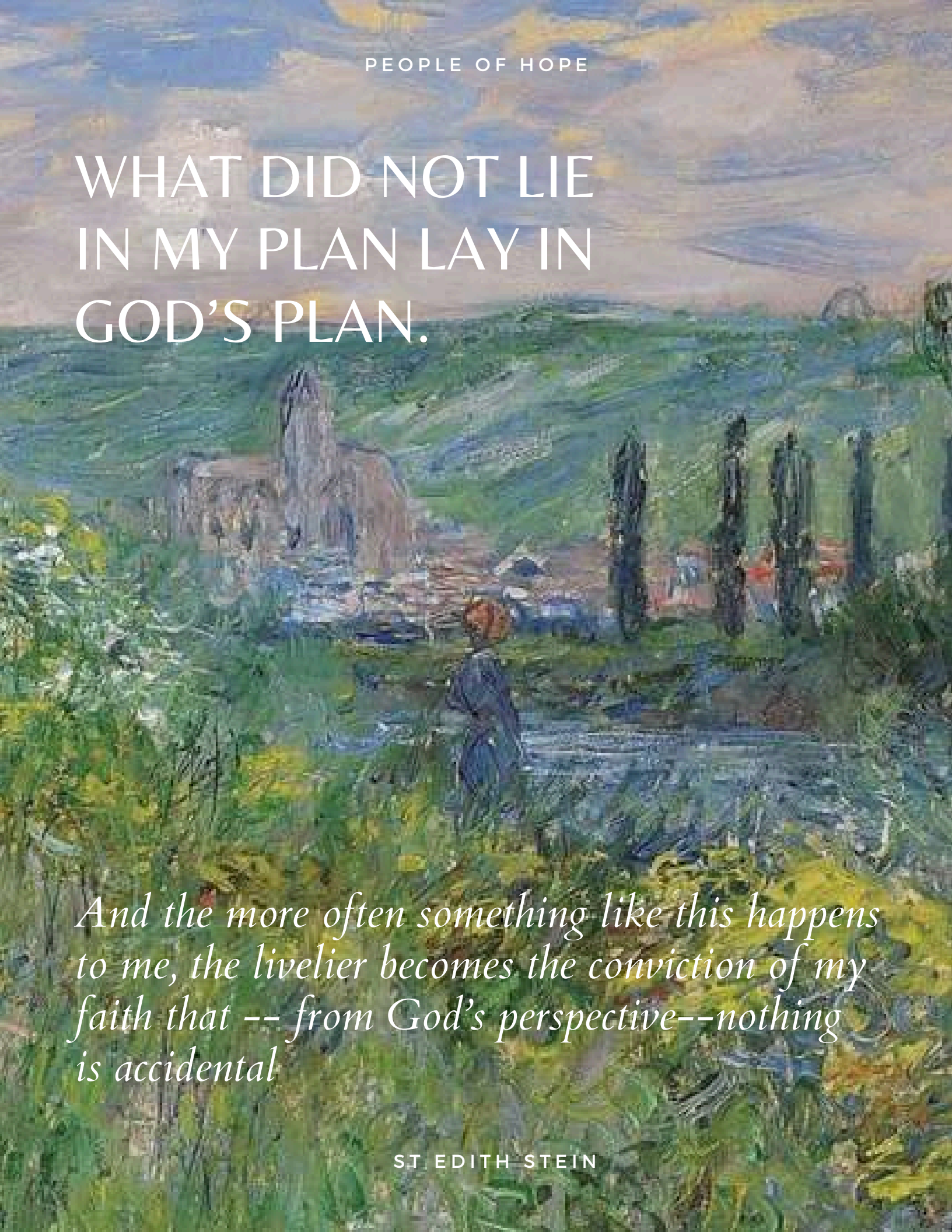
Sr. Faustina had a vision of the Divine Mercy painting, which eventually led to Divine Mercy Sunday. Sr. Faustina shared her vision with her superiors, but her vision was rejected. Finally, while she was serving in Lithuania, her bishop there recognized her vision as authentic, and the painting was commissioned. Pope Saint John Paul II established Divine Mercy Sunday on May 5, 2000, as the Second Sunday of Easter.

After the video, John Dalessio, Dennis Ryan and others shared how they first came into contact with the Divine Mercy painting, and what Divine Mercy meant to them. Often I am reluctant to go out at night, but when I experience the love and fellowship of my sisters and brothers in the Anchor District, I am always glad that I made the effort to attend. And I appreciated the inspiration of Sr. Faustina's vision of the Divine Mercy of Jesus painting. Personally, I thank the Lord Jesus Christ every day for His mercy!

LEN FORMAN, *oldest man in the People of Hope (87)*

**“I THANK THE LORD
JESUS CHRIST EVERY
DAY FOR HIS MERCY!”**



A painting of a woman in a field looking at a distant town. The woman is in the foreground, standing in a field of tall grass and wildflowers. She is looking towards a small town or village in the distance, which is nestled in a valley. The town has a prominent church spire. The background is a hilly landscape with more trees and a cloudy sky. The overall style is impressionistic, with visible brushstrokes and a rich, textured color palette.

PEOPLE OF HOPE

WHAT DID NOT LIE IN MY PLAN LAY IN GOD'S PLAN.

And the more often something like this happens to me, the livelier becomes the conviction of my faith that -- from God's perspective--nothing is accidental

ST. EDITH STEIN



Paul and James,
thank you for saying
yes to serving as
coordinators and
thank you Taryn
and Danielle for
supporting them in
their service! You are
all in our prayers.



IMMEDIATE NEED

- Kathy Garcia
- Eric Garcia
- Paul Major

SERIOUS & ONGOING

- Mary Ann Bastiaansen
- Eleanor Benson
- Clara Bickel
- Judy Bonnesen
- Peggy Camiolo
- Jackie Donnelley
- Margaret Fierro
- Ginny Gallic
- Shannon Hardy
- Lynn Hull
- Stevie McGill
- Joseph McMullen
- Gary Montemurno
- Danielle Neri
- Dan O'Mullan

Please visit our website peopleofhope.net/prayerintentions to see our complete list of our prayer intentions and to add to our list.

PRAYER PETITION HIGHLIGHT

EVANGELIZATION

Gracious Lord may the People of Hope be powerful instruments in proclaiming and communicating the Good News of Jesus Christ through our community initiatives and personal witness. Grant us courage and joy to recognize each day the opportunities You place before us to share your love and salvation. Please bless our evangelistic efforts and guide those seeking to become part of the community.

“Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and petitions full of gratitude.”

PHIL. 4:6

UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY PRAYER MEETING

Sunday, June 14th
2:30 to 4:30 pm
Koinonia Academy

COMMUNITY WIDE LORD'S DAY

Saturday, June 27th
Various Member's Homes

ANCHOR DISTRICT SUMMER SOCIAL

Friday, June 19th
7 to 9 pm
Provinsal's Home, 8 Mary Street
Details to follow

LIGHTHOUSE YOUTH PRAYER MEETING

Sunday, June 28th
2:30 to 4:30 pm
Koinonia Academy

IGNITE LARGE GROUP CLOSING EVENT

Thursday, May 28th
7:30 to 9:30 pm
Molnar's Home, 31 Valley View
Road, Warren

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