

POPE FRANCIS

1936-
2025



At the Cross

Chris Tomlin



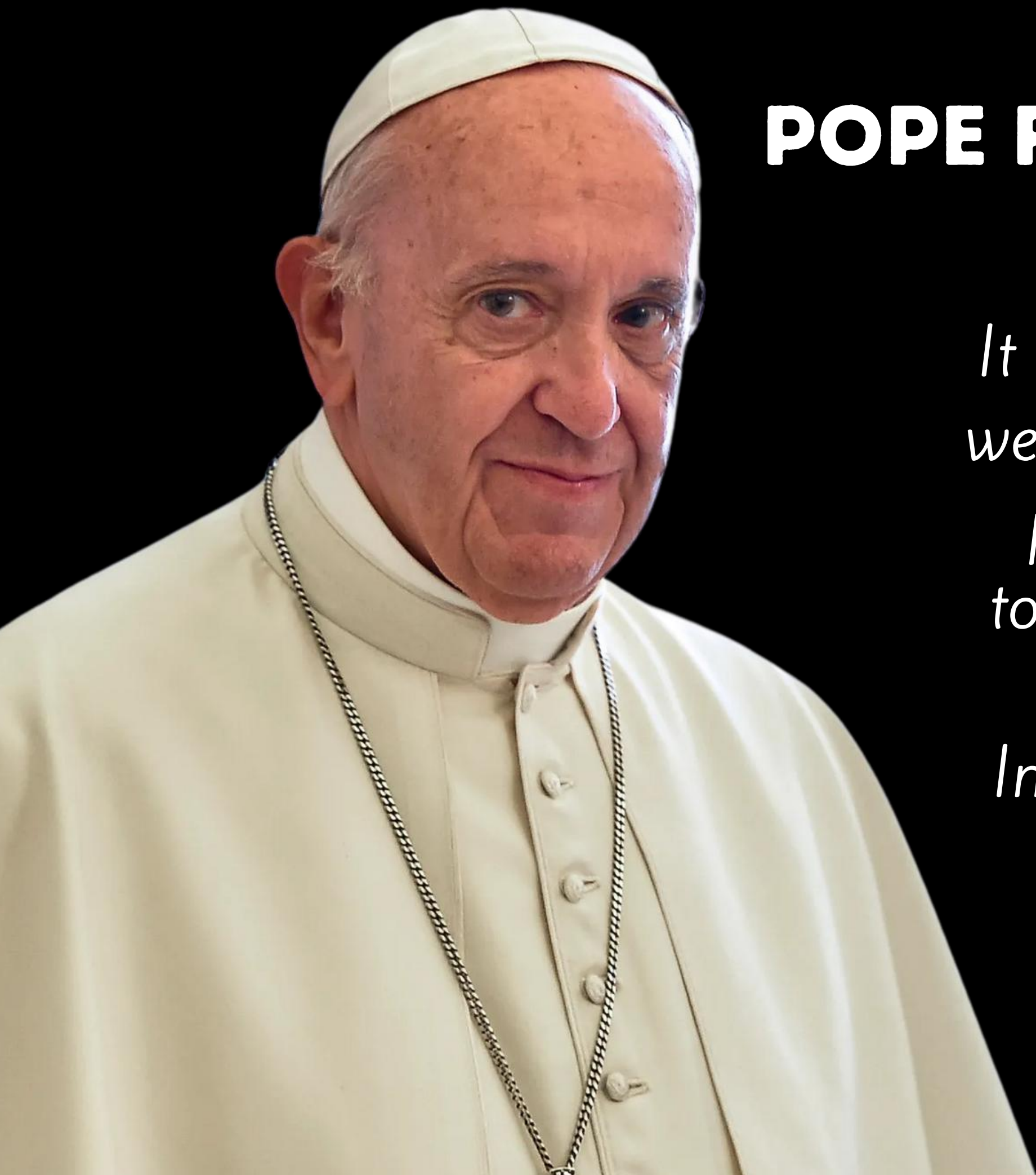
**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Celebration of the Word **Let's Pray**

Together

*Remembering Pope Francis
Our Shepherd Has Gone Home to God*





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*It is in great sadness and thanks giving
we turn to the Lord today. We start our
prayer by inviting everyone to join
together making the sign of the Cross*

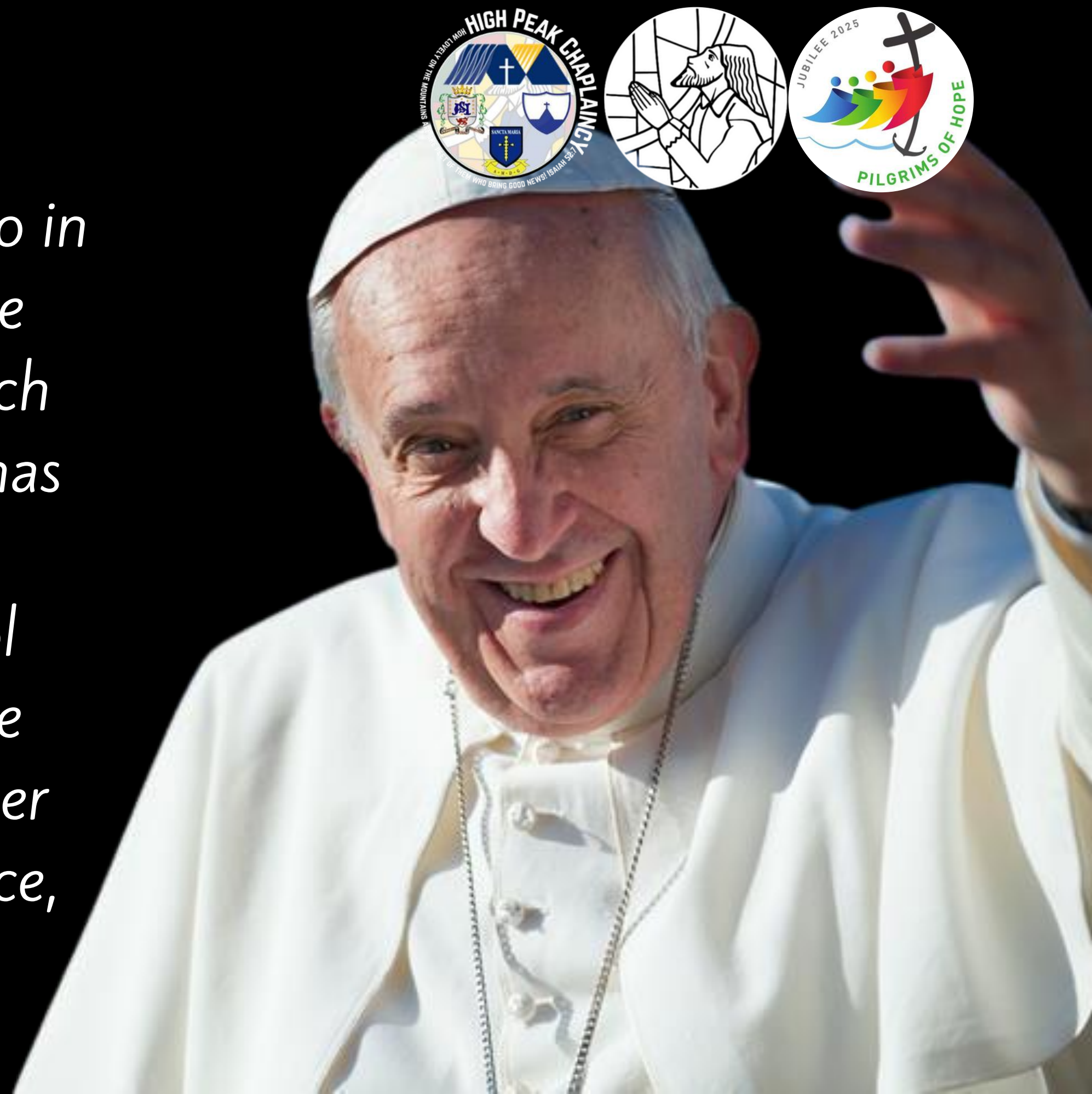
*In the Name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit
Amen*

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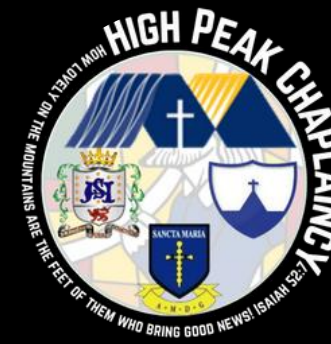
Today, we gather in sadness but also in faith and hope. Our beloved Pope Francis, the shepherd of the Church and the Vicar of Christ on Earth, has gone home to God.

We come together as one school family to pray for his soul, to give thanks for his life, and to remember what he taught us about love, peace, and care for others.



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*Loving and merciful God,
we come together today with hearts that are both sad and full of love
as we remember Pope Francis,
our Holy Father, shepherd of Your Church,
and a humble servant of Your people.*

*Thank You, Lord, for the life of Pope Francis—
for his kindness, his courage, and his gentle heart.
He showed us how to love like Jesus,
to care for the poor, to protect the Earth, and to walk in peace.*

*Now that You have called him home,
we pray that he may rest in Your eternal embrace.
Comfort all those who are grieving, especially the Church he led,
and help us to carry forward his example of faith, hope, and love.*

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

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*As we gather today in prayer,
fill our hearts with peace,
and help us to remember that in Jesus,
death is not the end, but the beginning
of new life with You.*

All: Amen



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*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John
Glory to you O' Lord*

"Do not be worried and upset," Jesus told them.

"Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am.

*The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ*

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Pope Francis loved children, the poor, and the whole world that God made. He taught us to care for each other, to protect creation, and to be kind. He showed us that God's love is for everyone.

Even though we feel sad today, we also remember that Pope Francis believed in the promises of Jesus—that there is a place for us in heaven, and that we will be together again.

Let us hold on to hope and keep doing what Pope Francis asked us to do: live with joy, kindness, and faith.



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Now, he has been called home to that place Jesus prepared for him. We grieve, but we do not grieve without hope. The same Christ who walked with Pope Francis in life has now welcomed him into eternal rest.



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Let us now offer our prayers to God.

Student 1:

We pray for the soul of Pope Francis. May he rest in the loving arms of God.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Student 2:

We pray for all those who are sad at his passing—his family, his friends, and all Catholics around the world.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Student 3:

We pray for the Church, that it may stay strong and faithful as we wait for a new shepherd.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Student 4:

We pray that we may live like Pope Francis: with love, humility, and care for others.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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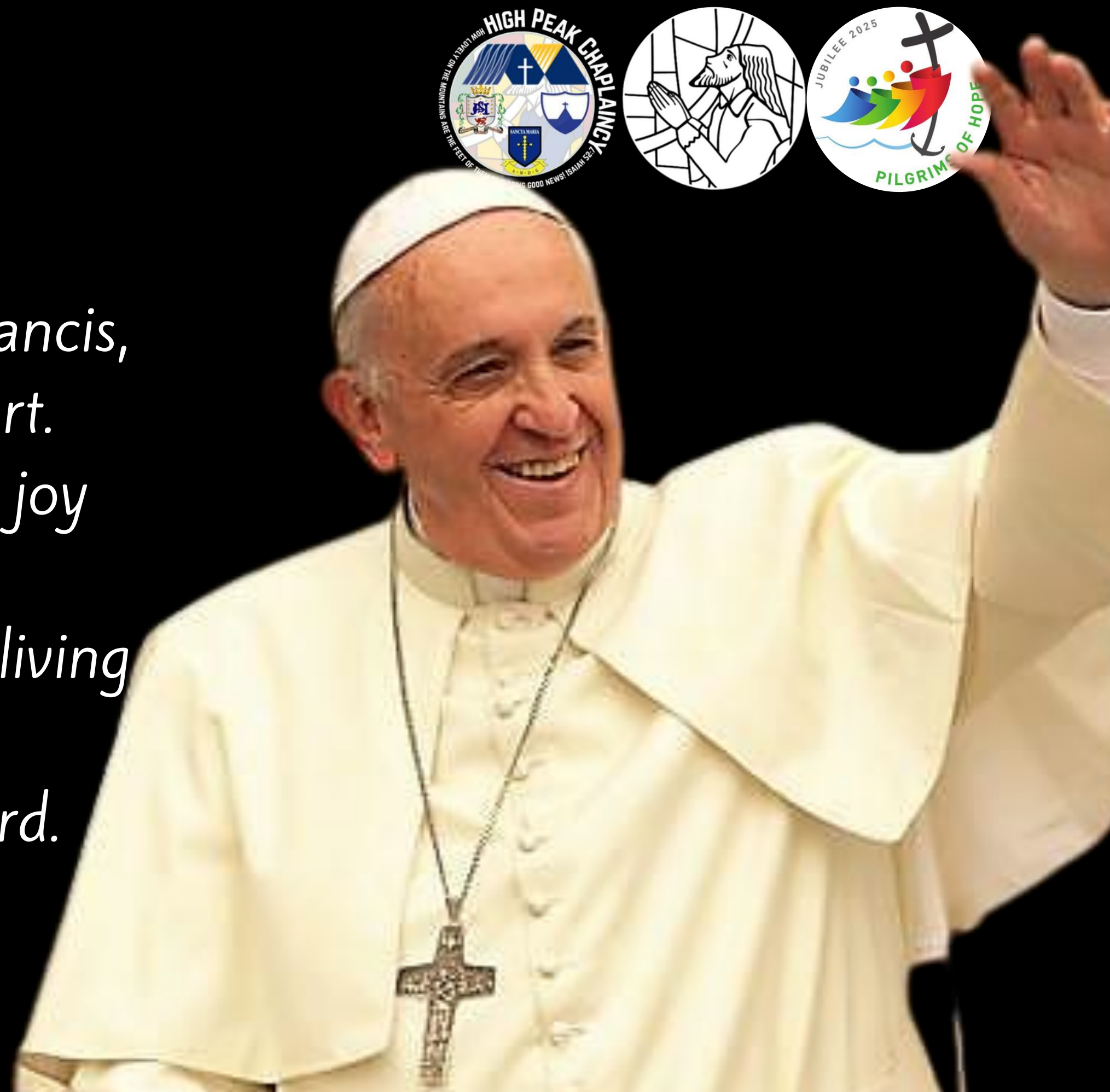
Song of Farewell (May the Choirs of Angels)

(c) Ernest Sands

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*Heavenly Father,
We thank you for the life of Pope Francis,
for his gentle spirit and his big heart.
May he now live in your peace and joy
forever.
Help us to keep his memory alive by living
like Jesus every day.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.*



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*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine
upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.*

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Before going on his international journeys, Pope Francis visited the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome to pray before the icon of the Virgin Mary. He would lay a bouquet of flowers and prayed silently, entrusting the journey to her protection. After his return, he would also visit the basilica to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the successful completion of the journey. As we reflect on Pope Francis' life we offer up all our prayers spoken and unspoken up to Mary as we say together

*Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.*

Amen.

*In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
Amen*



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Hail Mary

From *The Promise* by Boyce & Stanley

Music by Chris Rollinson © CJM MUSIC