



CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS

631 South State Street
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687
iccmarydel.org



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

January 12, 2020

Baptism of the Lord

holy cross

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2 pm

SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:15, 11:00 am, 6 pm
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish
First Saturday, 5 pm, Children's Choir
Fourth Saturday, 5 pm, Gospel Choir
Alternate Sundays, 6 pm, Youth Choir

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, 6:30, 8 am
Wednesday, 8:15 am, Saturday, 8 am
During Lent, Monday-Friday, 12:10 pm also
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day,
MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,
Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4 pm, First Friday, 8:30 am
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am-Midnight

icc

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm
Friday 9 am-noon, closed Wednesday

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

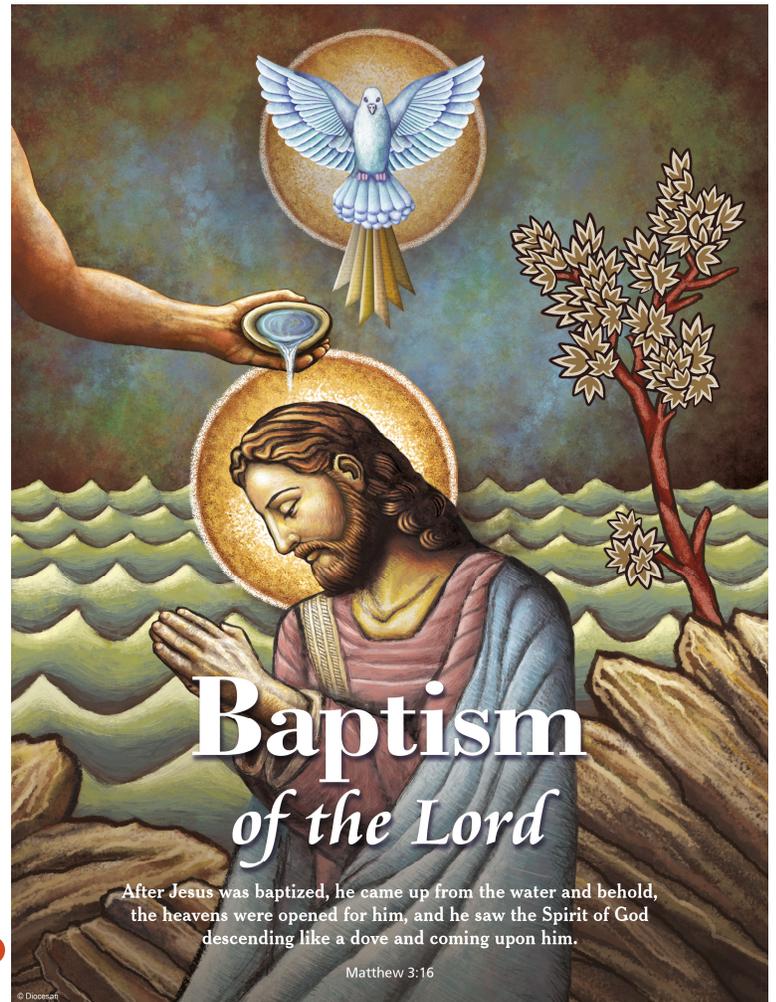
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 7 pm, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Sunday, after 8:30 am Mass
Thursday, 6:30 pm



Baptism of the Lord

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him.

Matthew 3:16

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE (HC AND ICC)

Mary, Mother of God, January 1
Assumption, August 15
All Saints' Day, November 1
Immaculate Conception, December 8
Christmas, December 25

Mass schedules for Holy Days of Obligation and other special days will be printed in the bulletin as each one draws near

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

The seven Sacraments of the Church were instituted by Christ to confer grace.

Sacrament of Baptism. Call the parish office to register for Parent Pre-Baptismal Instruction. For adults seeking to enter the Church and be Baptized, contact our Religious Education Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for Confession at age seven as part of First Communion preparation.

Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for First Communion at age seven. Adults seeking First Communion should contact our Religious Education Office. To request a visitation for Holy Communion to the Sick, contact our parish office.

Sacrament of Confirmation. Young people in our parish are prepared for reception of Confirmation in the ninth grade (age 14). Adults seeking Confirmation should contact our Religious Education Office.

Sacrament of Marriage. Couples planning for Marriage are to contact a parish priest or deacon one year in advance to set the wedding date and plan for pre-Cana instruction.

Sacrament of Holy Orders. If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the Priesthood or Diaconate, please contact one of our parish priests.

Anointing of the Sick. For the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, which is administered by a Priest, a person or an immediate family member must make the request. Late night requests may not be able to be answered until the next day.

THIS WEEK (HC OR ICC)

12 SUNDAY *Baptism of the Lord*

HC 9 am, RCIA, MT/MK
 ICC 9:40 am, SRE
 HC Noon,, LAFF, LK
 HC 12:30 pm, Sodality, MT/MK
 ICC 2:30 pm, Adolescentes, CC
 ICC 3:30 pm, Jovenes, Church Basement
 HC 3:30 pm, Confirmation Class, MT/MK
 HC 3:30 pm, CCD, EL

13 MONDAY *St. Hilary of Poitiers*

HC 8:45 am, Spirituality Group, LK
 HC 11 am, Young at Heart, MT/MK

14 TUESDAY *St. Raymond of Penyafort*

ICC 1 pm, Exercise, hall
 ICC 6:30 pm, 1st Communion Prep, Hall
 ICC 7 pm, Juan XXIII, cc
 HC 7 pm, Adult Ed, MT/MK

15 WEDNESDAY

HC 9 am, Adult Ed, MT/MK
 HC 6 pm, Confirmation Class, MT/MK

16 THURSDAY

ICC, 1 pm, Exercise
 ICC 7 pm, Misa

17 FRIDAY *St. Anthony of Egypt*

ICC, Band Practice
 ICC 6 pm, Formation, Hall
 HC 7 pm, Foro Cristiano, LK

18 SATURDAY

ICC 6:30 pm, Culto

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

ending December 29

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$41,845	\$30,000	\$11,845
YTD	\$751,021	\$741,800	\$9,221
Needs	\$1,637	\$1,586	\$51
Christmas	\$44,452	\$50,500	(\$6,048)

Please Note: In a cost savings effort we have stopped envelope delivery for inactive envelope users. This will be effective January 2020.

If your envelopes stopped being delivered but you would like to use them, please contact the Parish Office or email mdornberger@holycrossdover.org.

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$3,674
Second	\$540
Christmas	\$7,166

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs, and activities of Holy Cross and ICC are made possible.

“Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold.”

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday, we end the Christmas Season with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, recalling when Christ was “baptized” in the Jordan. That is to say, He underwent a what was called a baptism of repentance. Now in truth, Jesus Christ did not need this Baptism, but underwent it as an encouragement to us to turn back to God. And God expresses his approval: *“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.”*

Ain’t Nothing Like the Real Thing. In life, sometimes we can take common-place items, and make something more of them (or as it said today, we “re-purpose” them). This is what Jesus did: He took the action and elements of Baptism and made of it a Sacrament that is genuinely efficacious and of great dignity. Thus, the Sacrament of Baptism isn’t symbolic; it’s real. When a person is baptized, he leaves that Sacramental moment differently than he entered; not merely in terms of spiritual awareness, but substantially changed. When the water of Baptism is poured upon a person, and the words: “I baptized you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” are spoken, something happens. The natural and the supernatural world coalesce, and that person has an encounter with Jesus Christ: or as I like to call it, parodying a famous movie title, a “close encounter of the best kind.”

Cause and Effect! What happens to that person when he encounters Christ in Baptism? Well, let me start by noting that the water that is poured upon a person in Baptism is water that a Priest or Deacon has invoked God upon, and is blessed. That water is understood to be the water that flowed from the side of Christ at his crucifixion. And as this water is of God, specifically of Christ, it does more than just wash, and it is more than just a symbol. It is now efficacious – it has an effect. In fact, the Sacrament of Baptism has six effects on a baptized person:

1. **Wipeout!** In movie franchises today, like *Spider-man* and *Star Trek* or even the eminently forgettable *Point Break*, the origin of the characters or the storyline is not merely retold, but “reimagined” – usually making scads of money. In Baptism, our life with God is reimagined for what it can be at its best and purest; and our human nature is rebooted. In Baptism, all sins (original and extra crispy, as I like to say) are forgiven. Original sin, personal sins, and punishment due for those sins are wiped away. Thus, Baptism gives a rebirth, and nothing remains that would impede one’s entry into heaven. For all this talk of newness, however, the consequences of original sin (given to us by Adam and Eve’s disobedience) remain for all of us, especially concupiscence (an inclination to sin) which we all wrestle with throughout life but can resist by God’s grace.
2. **Connections.** There’s an old saying in business: It’s not *what* you know, it’s *who* you know. This is true also in the realm of the faithful. A baptized person has connections. Those connections may not get you into Harvard, but they’ll get you

into heaven. You see, in Baptism one is made a new creature – an adopted child of God who shares in God’s divine life. The baptized person becomes claimed by and connected to Christ and a co-heir with him, as well as becoming a temple of the Holy Spirit.

3. **Grace-fullness.** In Baptism one receives “Sanctifying grace” (a share in God’s Divine Life). This enables one to believe in God with faith, hope and love; it enables one to be guided by the Holy Spirit; it enables one to grow in goodness and virtue. The Devil hates this, and tries to tempt us away from faith, hope and love, and move us to doubt, despair and selfishness, but keeping strong in faith, allows to maintain (to paraphrase an old TV series title) *Grace Under Fire*.
4. **Catholic Church, Inc.** In Baptism one becomes incorporated as a member of the body of Christ, and shares in Christ’s priestly, prophetic and kingly mission. This membership as a part of Christ’s mystical (supernatural) body, makes one a member of the Catholic Church and calls for that baptized person to serve others and to obey and submit to the authority of the Church in faith.
5. **A “Bunch” of Christian.** Just as TV’s Marcia, Jan and Cindy (and their mother Carol) became Brady family members with Greg, Peter and Bobby because of their new relationship to the father (Mike Brady), so, too, in Baptism one becomes connected by Sacramental bond to all baptized Christians. We all become brothers and sisters in Christ. Thus, Baptism is important, as it connects all Christians as brothers and sisters in Christ.
6. **Stain Alive, Stain Alive.** Did you ever have a Sharpie Marker (a.k.a. laundry marker) in your pants or shirt pocket without the lid on it? Embarrassingly, I can say that I have. And it makes a terrible mess; it makes a stain that cannot be removed! Hence, that type of marker it is oft referred to as an “indelible marker.” In Baptism, an indelible spiritual mark is made upon one’s soul which can never be removed, not even by sin. It impresses upon the soul a character (often referred to as seal or mark), by which we are incorporated into Christ and made members of the Catholic Church.

Beginnings. The rock group Chicago started its career with an early hit called **Beginnings**, which acclaimed: *“It’s only the beginning, of what I want to feel forever.”* Likewise, Baptism, the first of the seven Sacraments, is only the beginning of our life with Christ and it paves the way to the other Sacraments, and further encounters with Him. Today, we celebrate the Christ’s Baptism in the Jordan, which he would later recast into what is our Sacrament of Baptism, which is “the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit.”

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F. Pastor
 Rev. Idongesit Etim Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Mano Salla Parochial Vicar

HC CLERGY

Msgr. Daniel McGlynn Pastor Emeritus
 Mr. Philip Belt Deacon
 Mr. John Harvey Deacon
 Mr. Robert McMullen Deacon
 Mr. Scott Peterson Deacon
 Mr. Vincent Pisano Deacon

ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell Deacon
 Mr. James Tormey Deacon

HC STAFF

Parish Office 302 674 5787
 Jane Green/Susan Cutrona Receptionist, ext. 110
 Diane Belt Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
 Kenneth Trojan Business Manager, ext. 119
 Michele Dornberger Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., ext. 116
 Arline Dosman Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. 118
 Tammy Korosec CRE Religious Ed, ext 122
 Linda Darling Youth Ministry, ext. 123
 Justin Wurzel Maintenance Director
 Len Dornberger Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135
 Michael Perza Dir. of Music Ministry, 302 698 9302

MAILING ADDRESS

Church of the Holy Cross
 631 S. State St.
 Dover, DE 19901

ICC STAFF

Parish Office 410 482 7687
 Marilyn Dixon Office Manager
 Alicia Poppiti DRE Religious Ed.
 Susan Venezia Bookkeeper
 Arline Dosman Dir. of Hispanic Ministry

MAILING ADDRESS

Immaculate Conception Church
 P. O. Box 399
 Maryland, MD 21649-0399

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Catholic Education Pre-K3 to Grade 8
 302 674 5787
 holycrossdover.org/school

Linda Pollitt Principal, ext. 111

MAILING ADDRESS

Holy Cross School
 631 S. State St.
 Dover, DE 19901

ST. THOMAS MORE ACADEMY

Catholic Education Grades 9 to 12
 302 697 8100
 saintmore.org

Rachael Casey Principal

MAILING ADDRESS

St. Thomas More Academy
 133 Thomas More Dr.
 Magnolia, DE 19962

PRO LIFE CORNER

- Help save lives of the unborn in Dover. Join Holy Cross and other local church groups in prayer each Friday morning from 9 AM – noon at Planned Parenthood of Dover.
- The 1st trimester -- Fetal development begins soon after conception. Find out how your baby grows and develops during the first trimester. Week 6: The neural tube closes --- Growth is rapid this week. Just four weeks after conception, the neural tube along your baby's back is closing. The baby's brain and spinal cord will develop from the neural tube. The heart and other organs also are starting to form. Structures necessary to the development of the eyes and ears develop. Small buds appear that will soon become arms. Your baby's body begins to take on a C-shaped curvature.
- About 40 Days for Life: The next 40 Days for Life Campaign begins February 20, 2020. Mark your calendar and sign up online at www.40daysforlife.com/dover or www.40daysdover.com.
- Annual March for Life: January 24, 2020. For bus rides and local marches information, check DRTL website www.derighttolife.org.

“Defend the unborn against abortion even if they persecute you, calumniate you, set traps for you, take you to court or kill you.” ~Pope Francis

READINGS FOR JANUARY 19 2ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 49:3, 5-6

In this, the second of the “Servant Song”, a mysterious servant is called upon to be a light to the nations.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-3

At the start of his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul sends greetings to “the holy people of Jesus Christ”.

GOSPEL: JOHN 1:29-34

John the Baptist points to Jesus as the one who “existed before me” and who is to “baptize with the Holy Spirit”.



MEN OF HOLY CROSS (HC)

Are you a male between the ages of 18 and 99? Do you wish to learn more about prayer, faith and your vocation? Do you want to become a stronger father, husband or son? Do you want to build lasting friendships with like-minded men? Join the Men of Holy Cross for our weekly meetings: Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM at the

Early Learning Center in the Luke Room (second floor) for prayer, timely discussions on current events, Church teachings and good fellowship. For more information contact call 302-313-6935 or e-mail MenOfHolyCross@gmail.com.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

The appearance of Jesus to the three wise men from the East reminds us that Jesus came for all humankind, not just the Jewish people. So too, married love is not a gift to be hoarded. Reach out to someone who is sad, in trouble, or from a different culture. Can you do it together?

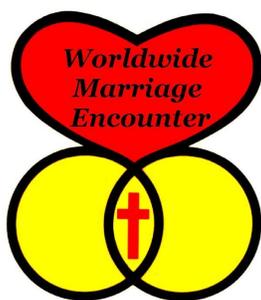
PARENTING POINTERS

As we start a new calendar year resolutions are common - but too soon forgotten. Perhaps remembering important things is timely. Share as a family: The happiest time for me this past year was _____ & a regret (sadness) I have about last year is _____.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER – MARRIED COUPLES

Want to give a gift that keeps on giving? A gift filled with Romance and Excitement? Enrich your relationship by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Weekend on March 6-8, 2020 in Rehoboth Beach, DE. For more information visit our website at www.wvme-delmar.org or to register for the weekend, please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302 220 9833.



RECENTLY DECEASED (HC)

Our prayers and sympathy to the families of the following:

- *Albert Clark*
- *Arlene Rose Ensslin*
- *Rita Lewis*

May the Souls of the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY

13 MONDAY

HC 6:30 am Arthur Thorstensen, Sr.
HC 8 am Dec. Members Dorigo Family

14 TUESDAY

HC 6i:30 am John McMahon
HC 8 am Ciccardi Family (LI)

15 WEDNESDAY

HC 6i:30 am John McMahon
HC 8:15 am Virginia Crews

16 THURSDAY

HC 6:30 am Ron Bogia
HC 8:00 am Josephine Nardone
ICC 7 pm For the People

17 FRIDAY

HC 6:30 am Christine M. Spalletta
HC 8:00 am Dec. Members Tedeman Family

18 SATURDAY

HC 8 am Catherine Mary Castiglione
HC 5 pm Kurt Malloy

19 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Joan Subasic
ICC 8:30 am William F. & Ann R. Sullivan
HC 9:15 am Dec. Mem. Durk & Kerr Fam.
HC 1 pm Maya Felio
ICC 1 pm For the People
HC 6 pm Theresa Regan

(LI = LIVING INTENTION)

TABERNACLE & SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS (JAN 12—JAN 18)

HC Adoration Chapel Holy Souls in Purgatory
HC Church Erica Wool

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION HOURS AVAILABLE (HC)

Our Lord is waiting for YOU to come spend an hour each week with Him. Please help us to fill some of the available hours. Contact JoAnn Pate 302-674-4496 for one of the hours listed below.

SUNDAY 11 am, 11 pm

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY 5 am, 5 pm, 11 pm

THURSDAY 7 am, 4pm

FRIDAY 10 pm

SATURDAY Noon, 4 pm, 6 pm, 8 pm,
9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm

MASS MINISTERS JAN 18/19

HOLY CROSS

EMHC SERVERS

5:00 PM	D. Devigili	C. Helwig	G. Coyle
	J. Clendaniel	J. Killman	J. Tinger
	J. Davis	K. O'Neill	D. Song
	B. Holmes	J. Priest	LECTORS
D. King	R. Vinsen		
		F. Hettinger	D. Dixon
			J. Cuyet

7:30 AM	C. Brown	R. O'Neill	N. Umobi
	B. Gattuso	H. Speed	C. Umobi
	L. Davis	K. Speed	E. Wadhams
			LECTORS

			D. Kilby
			C. Cuffee

9:15 AM	G. Wessel	L. Olmsted	R. Torbert
	A. Hlafka	J. Chandler	A. Torbert
	T. Arndt	J. Bieker	B. Torbert
	R. Wiley	M. Wessel	LECTORS
	M. Malloy	C. Fortier	
	D. Diaz	P. Jones	
		T. Baurys	

11:00 AM	W. Aschenberg	K. Maddalena	C. Cannon
	R. Aschenberg	D. Petka	J. Novack
	P. Keller	T. Petka	J. Novack
	C. Robinson	R. Bratz	LECTORS
	D. Lyons	R. Bratz	
	C. Barnes	C. Petka	
		J. Amoako	

1:00 PM	M. Ramirez	R. Dosman	A. Sandoval
	C. Valdes	E. Pastoriza	D. Chavez
	T. Hernandez		LECTORS
		F. Mendoza	
		R. Dennis	

6:00 PM	D. Balcerak	L. Darling	A. Payus
	V. Balcerak	M. Rathbun	L. Payus
	R. Katcher	D. Novak	N. Kosior
	R. Katcher	A. Wyllie	LECTORS
	D. Darling	T. Stier	
		R. Kosior	TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM	T. Costello	E. Costello	A. Locke
			LECTORS
		L. Small	

11:00 AM	G. Taraila	J. Carrow	I Meyer
			J. Santizo
			LECTORS
			J. Ward

1:00 PM	A. Escalante	F. Perez	B. Cuin
	A. Velasquez	A. Perez	D. DeLeon
	M. Lopez		LECTORS
			D. Ramirez
			L. Tomas

PURSE BINGO (HC)

Join us Saturday evening, February 29 for a fun-filled evening, and a chance to win a great purse! Cost is \$20 for 10 games, door prizes and light refreshments served. 50/50 and Chinese Auction chances for sale. Must be 18 to play. Please see Linda Darling for tickets - tables of 8 may be reserved.

ldarling@holycrossdover.org

Proceeds will go to help our high school teens attend Catholic Heart Work Camp this summer in Hartford, CT. Thank you for your support.

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum every Saturday morning at 11:00 on Relevant Radio 640. Next Saturday, January 18th, hear an interview with Father Mike Barth, President of the Trinity Missions and learn about their work with the Native American community. After it airs, listen online anytime at www.cdow.org/CatholicForum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Catholicforum.

VOCATIONS

Christ spoke of the talents each one of us has, talents which must not be buried. Our calling is to take those talents, develop them fully, and then use them in establishing His kingdom on earth. Are you using your talents to fulfill your vocation to service? Are you an active Christian in the parish, at your workplace, and in the home? Take some time today to reflect on how you might use your special talents in the service of the Kingdom.

Serra for priestly and religious vocations

COLLECTION COUNTERS (ICC)

Jan. 19 Frank & Joyce Cristiano

Jan. 26 Robin & Paul Engstenberg

Feb 2 Elisa & Tom Costello

CHURCH CLEANING CREW (ICC)

ENERO 16: GRUPO #11

Maurilio Gabriel, Carlos Miguel, Aurora Rivera, Bernarda Miguel, Darlo Ortega

ENERO 23: GRUPO #12

Anseimo Escalante Adelaida Velasquez, Idith Ortiz, Cesario Escalante, Ada Escalante, Haylen Bartolon.

RETRouvaille

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their Marriage through Retrouvaille (Retro-VIE). If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program please pass it on. Couples learn to build communications skills and rediscover intimacy. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program in your area begins on the weekend of February 21-23 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Another weekend will be held in April. For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215 766 3944. All inquiries are confidential.

YOUNG AT HEART

Young at Heart will meet January 13 at 11:00 a.m. in the Early Learning Center Matthew/Mark room. The speaker is Dr. Joe O'Donnell. His topic is the Life and Times of William H.

Taft. You can begin arriving at 10:30. Should the school be closed due to weather we will not meet. If school is delayed we will still meet. Lunch is \$5:00. All seniors are welcome.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

As temperatures start to decline, Catholic Charities is preparing to *Warm Up Winter* for its most vulnerable neighbors by collecting new and “gently used” blankets and other bedding, coats, hats, and gloves at each of its office locations now through the end of January 2020. Catholic Charities will freely distribute donated goods through its various programs. Staff at all locations will accept donations between the hours of 9 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. All donated blankets and bedding, coats, and other clothing items should be clean, in good condition, and ready to use.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

When the holiday excitement and busyness is over, it is a good time for us to slow down and enjoy an evening with LADIES ONLY. Brother Vincent Columbiettes invite you to enjoy a “LADIES NIGHT OUT”, Sunday January 19, 2020, 6:00-9:00 P.M. at St. Polycarp Parish Hall, Ransom Lane & South Street. Smyrna, Delaware. Join us for a fun filled night of: Dinner, Dancing & Entertainment by: IMAGINE, 50/50, Chinese Auction and much more. Tickets: \$20.00. Contact: Beth Bishop. 1-845-443-1799.

- Agradecemos a la directiva del Ministerio Hispano muy en especial a la presidente a la Sra. Tayde Hernández por su trabajo en estos pasados dos años. Tenemos que seleccionar una nueva directiva, si usted desea participar o conoce a una persona que desea formar parte de la nueva junta directiva, por favor hable con algún miembro de la directiva saliente o con la directora del Ministerio Hispano. Que se necesita para ser miembro de la junta directiva? 1. Ser miembro inscrito en la parroquia, 2. Orar y poner todo en las manos de Dios. 3. Compromiso de que es su responsabilidad de participar en los eventos que se hacen empezando por su participación en la Santa Misa. 4. Ganas de trabajar por el bienestar de la comunidad parroquial, 5. Iniciativa traer nuevas ideas para el mejoramiento de la comunidad parroquial y seguir los reglamentos de la parroquia. La nueva directiva tomara posesión el 1 de julio, 2020 hasta el 30 de junio 2022. El día 16 de febrero tendremos nuestra reunión de planeamiento, se someterá a votación todas las nominaciones para la selección de la nueva junta directiva.
- El domingo 2 de febrero tendremos la celebración de la fiesta de la Presentación del Señor y la fiesta de Nuestra Sra. de la Candelaria, los

que fueron bendecidos con el niño de la Rosca serán los anfitriones y nos traerán los tamales para compartir, también se les invita a traer a sus niñitos dioses para la levantada en la cafetería de la parroquia seguida después de la santa Misa.

- Conozca su Fe católica venga todos los viernes al el Foro Cristiano comenzando el viernes, viernes 3 de enero, 2020, a las 6:30 de la tarde en el ELC la nueva serie “Symbolon. Más de 2000 años de enseñanza de la Fe católica explicada sistemáticamente y presentada en video.
- Los Bautismos son los primeros domingos de cada mes, después de la Santa Misa en Español 2:30 pm. La clase pre-bautismales son los segundos domingos de cada mes. Los requisitos para ser padrinos tienen que ser Católicos practicante, y en comunión con la iglesia.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

REGULAR CCD CLASSES

Wednesdays- Next Class January 15th 6:00pm-7:30pm

Sundays – January 12 3:30pm-5:30pm

Next Class January 26th 3:30pm-5:30pm

Reminder: Parents are to walk their children to the classroom and pick them up from the classroom. Please do not drop children at the door.

ADULT EDUCATION (HC)

We are continuing the series Catholicism: The Pivotal Players with the following players: St. Augustine, St. Benedict, Fulton J. Sheen, Flannery O'Connor

Classes will run January 14—February 5 on either Tuesday evenings at 7pm or Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the Matthew/Mark Room in the Parish Office. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or by calling (302) 674-5787 ext.122..

CONFIRMATION CLASS (HC)

Sunday, January 12 and January 26 at 3:30 pm

Wednesday, January 15 and January 29 at 6 pm

Reminder - Please have your Sponsor Form turned in at class.

MOUNT 2000 RETREAT (HC)

February 7-9, 2020 at Mt. St. Mary's University. All high school teens are welcome to join us on this awesome weekend retreat with teens from Delaware, Maryland and surrounding states. Cost is \$100. **Deadline is January 15** - Please contact Mrs. Darling for instructions on registering

MARCH FOR LIFE: (HC)

Friday, January 24. Bus will depart back parking lot at 5 am. Teens will attend the Youth Rally and Mass, then we will walk to the National Mall to hear the speakers, and join the March. A stop at McDonalds for dinner and back by 7 pm. Please see Mrs. Darling for a spot and permission slip- spots limited.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP (HC)

Monday, January 27 at 7:30 pm. All High School teens (including 8th graders) welcome to come hear about our Mission Trip to Hartford July 5-10, 2020. Questions answered, and teens available to talk about their experiences with trips in the past.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SRE (ICC)

- Parent Reminder: Parents are to walk their children to the classroom and pick them up from the class-room. Please do not drop children in parking lot or at the door.
- Classes for School of Religious Education on resume on the January. 5 at 9:40 am.

SACRAMENTAL PREP (ICC)

First Reconciliation: On January 11, 34 of our young people attended their first reconciliation. Please continue to hold them in prayer as they continue on their journey of faith towards their first Communion.

First Communion: Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30-7:30 in the Hall. Parents, please attend with child.

Confirmation Prep: Sunday, January 19, 2:30—5 pm in the Hall.

WANTED (ICC)

Person or persons to coordinate the Annual Penny Party at Immaculate Conception. All information will be given to you, and you will be “trained”. Many hands work this event and they are in need of a new leader. Please contact ICC office at 410 482 7687 if interested. Thank you.

At this time, the office asks that you do not bring any donations to the office or otherwise until we have a new coordinator.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS (ICC)

The next meeting Tues, January 28, at 7pm in the Knights Hall. All members are encouraged to attend. Membership is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. For more info, contact Grand Knight, Keith De-Francesco



at weldaway@msn.com. Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509

UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS (ICC)

- January 19th Catholic University and Catholic Communications
- January 26th St. Thomas More Academy

MRS. POLLITT'S PONDERINGS

The heartbeat of the Catholic Church is Catholic Schools.

Bishop John Newman

As we find ourselves in the midst of the Holy Christmas season, I thought it would be appropriate for us to take stock of one of the facets of the HCS experience that makes us most unique; that which sets us apart from all the rest...and that which parents appreciate in an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence. I know it's been said by those possessing far more wisdom than me, in that "pride goeth before the fall." I'm willing to take that fall I suppose, because I am exceedingly proud of our Catholic Identity at HCS!

One of the greatest blessings at Holy Cross is our faculty and staff of dedicated, caring, and effective men and women who always put our students first and foremost in **providing an academic curriculum that integrates faith, service, culture and appreciation for life.**

Recently NCEA published a list of guidelines for emphasizing the mission and Catholic culture in our schools. I have included that list for your information. I am exceptionally delighted to be able to say that at HCS we have "nailed it" across the board!

Mission and Catholic Identity

- Provide faith formation for staff, such as a staff retreat.
- Participate in the Arch/diocesan Catechist certification program.
- Create a Spirituality Committee.
- Prepare for prayer services and school liturgies (themes, servers, Eucharistic ministers).
- Communicate a timeline and details about Sacramental Preparation and Ceremonies.
- Plan service projects.
- Use NCEA resources to plan Catholic Schools Week.

Each school year the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wilmington observe a spiritual theme that we incorporate into our celebrations, lessons, and classroom activities. Previous spiritual themes have included the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, as well as a yearlong celebration of the Holy Spirit. This year our theme is *Believe and See the Glory of God*. At HC we have truly embraced this theme! Our Spirituality Committee has worked diligently in planning school wide events incorporating the theme for this year. Our focus has been on the miraculous

works of our Savior. Over a period of one month our students have been given the opportunity to discuss, examine, and develop an appreciation for the goodness and mercy of our Lord. This goodness and mercy has been bestowed upon us for well over two thousand years. His countenance and endless mercy continues to sustain us through all our days. Despite his goodness, our Lord was forced to endure unimagined suffering for our benefit in fulfillment of the prophecy. Despite his divinity, his love for us endured through the great hardship which he was unable to avoid.

It will be upon us in what will seem like a flash, so don't blink! During the Lenten season one of our observances of The Stations of the Cross was through the eyes of the Blessed Mother. These stations, called Mary's Way of the Cross, present her viewpoint. We are given a glimpse of the agony suffered by both Jesus and his holy Mother as he walked the road to Calvary and his crucifixion. This particular rendition of the Way of the Cross is especially heart-rending, and our girls depict each station with the highest degree of piety and reverence.

Our students participate in the Living Stations as well as the Shadow Stations. They participate in the planning as well as the presentation of the Lenten worship service. It is the gift of the actor who literally "becomes" the character portrayed in their performance. One of my favorite actors is Anthony Hopkins. He is a master in his portrayal of the characters he brings to life on the silver screen. It presents a unique form of learning when one adopts the role of a character. This is one of the motivations behind having our students re-enact the Stations of the Cross. To take on the role, to recite the words, to don the costume makes for so much more the meaning behind the excruciating suffering of our Lord.

Sign us up!! We are well into the season of re-registration. It made for a great Christmas present when mom or dad turned in that re-enrollment form! I say...take advantage of the lowered re-registration fees! For a mere \$75.00 you too can guarantee your child the Catholic school experience. Catholic education is a priceless gift, an investment that will produce benefits over a lifetime. For those of us who have answered a call to the vocation of teaching; we, too, have been gifted over a lifetime. Thank you for entrusting your children to us, and may God continue to bless our schools.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Did you know that seven of our faculty and staff have children who attended STMA? Or that four more are graduates themselves? Those stats really mean a lot to me as principal of a school which we commonly refer to as a family. That label is certainly one I would apply when I seek to explain STMA because it has been my own experience. I am proud that I have spent 13 years of my career at this school, where I have grown and learned much myself with the caring support of colleagues, students, and STMA families. My family by blood all live in Pennsylvania, so my home has very much become my Delaware family - the people of STMA! I have adopted a feeling of responsibility and connection to each of you, truly excited for the futures my students are working hard to build.

But my definition of STMA as family can't compare to the experiences of those who teach and work here who've chosen to send their own children to our school. I asked them what that decision has meant for them and their families, and here is what Mrs. Fair and Senora Bohorquez had to share.

Mrs. Fair has two children, Katelyn, Class of 2006, and Kelsey, Class of 2012. Mrs. Fair says: *It has been an interesting trip down memory lane recalling Kate's and Kelsey's time here at STMA! The majority of our memories from their time at STMA have been positive, and the lessons the girls learned here were a continuation of the purposeful, holistic foundation we wanted for them. Yes, the size of the school and the atmosphere were important features to us. Both girls were able to discover their own gifts and talents, hone them, build their critical thinking and writing skills, and carry the confidence they gained from those new-found strengths to college. Both girls felt well-prepared for the rigor of higher education. They also felt a sense of social responsibility when they moved on, which I attribute to the encouragement they received here. They didn't leave STMA with rose-colored glasses, contrary to what some parents might worry about when choosing a small, Catholic high school. They faced difficulties and disappointments here, as they would have elsewhere; the exception here is that the daily reminders that we are in God's care served to support them beyond these walls.*

So, the question remains...was their attendance here worth the sacrifice? *Most definitely! As parents in a very tumultuous world, we get one opportunity to provide a nurturing and spiritually solid*

foundation for our children. Some parents believe that when their children have finished elementary or middle school, they have been properly taught the moral and academic basics they need to carry them through high school. I have even heard some parents say that their children need to "get out into the real world" and not be in such a "sheltered" environment. I disagree. During their formative years, our children should be able to focus on learning who they are and what they can accomplish without the fears they often face in public schools. Our students have all of their adult lives to "deal with the real world." STMA absolutely was the best choice for my daughters, and I am proud that they are part of the fabric of this school's history.

I believed then, and I still believe, that the lessons and the love this school offers students and families are worth the commitments they make to be here. It is why I choose to be here myself.

Senora Bohorquez's daughter, Ana Maria Alba-Bohorquez, also graduated in 2006. Senora says: *Having a dual role at STMA as both teacher and parent has allowed me to look at things from both sides. Twenty years ago, my daughter and I came to this country from Colombia, South America. I was hired as a languages teacher at STMA. At that time, my daughter was in fifth grade at Holy Cross. Every day she witnessed my love and enthusiasm for the students, faculty and school community. When we were deciding where she wanted to go to high school, it was a "no brainer" that she would come to "my school."*

STMA gave both of us a warm welcome to a completely new environment. We always felt accepted, acknowledged, loved and appreciated. The STMA community became a "home away from home". Currently, my daughter is a very successful and happy professional due in great part to the education she received at STMA. I encourage every parent to consider giving their child the gift of education at STMA. You will see the fruits of your labors. This community surrounds your child with people who truly care about developing the whole person: body, mind and spirit!

I'd like to thank Spanish teacher, Senora Bohorquez, Nurse Cozine, English teacher Mrs. Fair, Theology teacher Mr. Freud, Receptionist Mrs. Garzarella, Science teacher Ms. Goodrich, and teacher and Administrative Dean Mrs. Powers for their sincere dedication to our Catholic school as both parents and staff, sharing their inspiring and impressive children with us during their high school years and helping to establish our school as a family!

Rachael A. Casey, Principal