

# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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[www.iccmarydel.org](http://www.iccmarydel.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday 9:30-12noon, Closed Wednesdays

*Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.*

## April 14, 2019 – Palm Sunday

### Eucharist of the Lord's Day

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.  
1:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

**Weekday Eucharist**  
Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

**Holydays of Obligation**  
As announced in the bulletin

### Reconciliation

After the Sunday morning Masses,  
Thursday evening 6:30pm  
And by appointment at any reasonable time

### Pastoral Care and Liturgy

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor  
Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Timothy J. Brady, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Mano Salla, Parochial Vicar

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.  
Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

### Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

### Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of financial assistance, please call

**St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702**

Dear Parishioner,

As I have noted many times before in this column, I find there to be a great deal of correlations between the game of baseball and our Catholic faith. And with the Phillies leading the National League East as of this writing (note: this is a not a misprint), and Holy Week upon us, I thought a laying out some of those correlations again.

**A Lasting Treasure?** Right now, with six wins and two losses, the Phillies are playing .750 ball (as of April 8). And question for fans like me who are joyful at this early season success is best summed up in the words of the Shirelles from their 1960 hit, "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow" in which they ask: "Is this a lasting treasure / or just a moment's pleasure?" My fear is that it is the latter, so I'm not getting my hopes up just yet.

### The Sacraments

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children's first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

**Pastoral Care of the Sick:** The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life**.

**Get in the Game!** As we enter this final week of Lent, Baseball is in -- dare I say -- full swing, and, hey, my team is winning! That being said, one of the key ways a winning team stays as a winning team is not by luck, but by continued intense practice that see the players mastering the basics of the game. They need to keep up their key skills of throwing, catching, fielding, batting, etc., not just at the beginning of the season but throughout the season. Players must work to hone their skill but also identify what areas they need to work on to keep on playing at their best. It is likewise for us in Season of Lent: the faithful are the players; we get back to mastering the basics: not throwing, batting and fielding, but rather praying, almsgiving and fasting. These Lenten disciplines that help us to draw closer to God and get ready for the Easter Season (and the year ahead). We strive better our ourselves (and our standings) before the Lord.

**The Long Game.** And in wonderful distinction, unlike a baseball player, we are not just focused on this one good season. Nope. In Lent, when we see the victory of Jesus Christ over death ahead on the horizon at Easter, we know full well that that victory, won once, and won for all time, will never fade. His victory is not for the season, but for the long game. Thus, death will not get the last word, Christ will! Our efforts during that period of preparation will make our Easter joy that much more joyful, as Christ pitches a perfect game defeating the Devil and death!

**HOLY WEEK.** Before we can get to Easter, we have to make a profound journey in the Holy Week ahead. It is a week that will see Christ welcomed joyfully into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday yet condemned to death and crucified five days later. And, we, as Catholic are to engage with and make that Holy Week journey with Christ – beginning on Palm Sunday, and continuing through Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday (the Triduum). Here are some thoughts and reflections on these days ahead:

**PALM SUNDAY.** On this day, we recall Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem before his crucifixion. As Jesus rode into the city on the “foal of an ass” (small donkey), the people of Jerusalem exult, throwing cloaks and palm branches on the road and praising him. Remembering this, at Palm Sunday Mass, we have a blessing of palms which the faithful hold as they process into church. The blessed palms are later kept in the home as a witness to faith in Jesus Christ, whom we welcome into our homes.

**HOLY THURSDAY:** On Holy Thursday, we celebrate the institution, by Christ, of the sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Holy Order. At the Last Supper, on the night before Jesus Christ was crucified, he changed bread and wine into his own Body and Blood, and he commanded the Apostles and their successors (Bishops and their priests) to re-present this sacrifice. Thus, at every Mass, by way of transubstantiation, the bread and wine offered by the priest becomes Christ's Body and Blood again. As Christ and his Apostles retreated to Garden of Gethsemane later that evening to prayer, so, too, after Mass, the Eucharist is carried out of the Church to an “altar of repose.” The faithful go that place of repose and spend time in adoration

and praying with the Lord. Meanwhile, in the Church, with Eucharist gone, the tabernacle door is left open, showing it is empty. The altar is stripped, candles removed, and holy water drained. The Church is left unadorned, setting the stage for Good Friday.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. On Good Friday, at 3 p.m. – the hour of Christ’s death on the Cross -- the church gathers for “The Good Friday of the Lord’s Passion.” As our Lord is not present in the tabernacle, the faithful are commended to genuflect to image of the crucified Christ, before they sit. This service, which is not a Mass, includes a reading of the Passion, and veneration of the Cross (e.g., kissing or touching the wood of the Cross). The service concludes with distribution of Holy Communion (consecrated on Holy Thursday).

**HOLY SATURDAY.** Holy Saturday is a day of waiting. It is on this day that the Church fathers noted that Christ descended to the dead, to the so-called “Limbo of the Fathers” – where those who died after the fall of man (by the sin of Adam and Eve) await the gates of Heaven to be re-opened. Today, the anticipation of peace between God and man, with the gates of heaven being opened again, comes into view. Or as put in the words of Psalm 24: *“O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!”* But anticipation is not yet reality, and so on this day, in prayer and reflection, we wait at the Lord's tomb, we ponder what has transpired, and await His glorious resurrection. Likewise, Mary waits with us in hope for her son's victory over death, and the joy of his victory to come.

As Lent end, and the Christ's Passion pours forth, a tragic scene emerges: The Messiah is condemned to an ignominious death; a Savior is crucified, betrayed and denied. To go back to a baseball metaphor, things look tough, but a grand-slam and a win lay ahead -- more on this great moment of joy and victory on Easter.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

### MASS INTENTIONS:

#### **Palm Sunday, April 14**

8:30 Charles Beck  
11:00 Michael Maroni  
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

#### **Mass of Lords Supper Thursday, April 18**

7pm Mass For the People

#### **Saturday, April 20**

8:00pm Vigil Mass For the People  
**Easter Sunday, April 21**  
8:30am For the People  
10:00am For the People  
Misa en Español 12noon For the People

### COLLECTION TOTALS:

**Offertory: \$ 5380.00**

**Supplementary: \$ 404.00**

**Second Collection Today: Supplementary**

*Your continued support of the work of your Church is much needed and appreciated*

**Join our Parish Family....Registration Forms are Available at the front vestibule or the Parish Office.**

## STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

### Supper of the Lord-Thursday, 7pm

Altar server– Vincent Haass

Lectors – needed

Eucharistic Ministers –Alicia Poppiti, one needed

### Altar Servers

#### **Easter**

**Saturday 8pm** – Anna Clancy

**Sunday 8:30am Mass** – one needed

**10am Mass** – Vincent Haass

**Spanish Misa Noon** – one needed

### Lectors

#### **Easter**

**Saturday 8pm**-Diane Smith, Roman Cuin

**Sunday 8:30am Mass** – one needed

**10am Mass** – one needed

**Spanish Misa Noon** – one needed

### Eucharistic Ministers

#### **Easter**

**Saturday 8pm-** one needed

**Sunday 8:30am Mass** – one needed

**10am Mass** – one needed

**Spanish Misa Noon** – Anselmo Escalante, Adelaida Velásquez, Miguel López, Flora Pérez, Antonio Pérez

### Collection Counters

**Apr 14** Tom & Mary McGowan

**Apr 21** Elisa & Tom Costello

**Apr 28** Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel

### Church Cleaning Crew

#### **Abril 19, 2019 Grupo #5**

Olegario Cuin, Enma Rojas, **Egidio Macario**,

Brendi Macario, Idalinda Pérez, Bersy Pérez

#### **Abril 26, 2019 Grupo #6**

**Santos Juárez**, Arturo Ramírez, Eva Bravo,

Herminda Bravo, Paulina Morales, Silvia Ramírez



**Palm Sunday:**  
ENCOUNTER OUR  
NEIGHBORS

We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, and those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org) for more.

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Sun, Apr 14 9:40am** SRE Classes in Classroom

**Sun, Apr 14 2:30pm** Junta Directiva - Hall

**Sun, Apr 14 6pm** – Rehearsal in Hall

**Mon, Apr 15 6pm** – Chrism Mass – Holy Cross

**Tues, Apr 16 1pm** Exercise class in hall

**Tues, Apr 16 7pm** Living Stations in Hall

**Wed, Apr 17 7pm** Reunion Directiva Basement

**Thur, Apr 18 1pm** Exercise class in hall

**Fri, Apr 19 12 noon** Walking Stations of the Cross-ICC

**Fri, Apr 19 3pm** Veneration of the Cross

**Fri, Apr 19 7pm** – Stations of the Cross

### **Join us on our journey to the Risen Lord!**



**Chrism Mass:** April 15<sup>th</sup>, 6pm at Holy Cross

**Living Stations of the Cross:** Tuesday, April 16 at 7pm in the Hall

**Holy Thursday:** Mass of the Lord's Supper-April 18, 7pm Mass. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11pm – Hall

**Good Friday:** Walking Stations 12 noon  
Veneration of the Cross 3pm  
Meditation of the Stations of the Cross 7pm

**Holy Saturday:** Easter Vigil 8pm

**Easter Sunday:** April 21- 8:30am Mass

10:00 am Mass

12 noon Misa (Spanish)



## **Knights of Columbus**

Next meeting Tues, April 23,  
7pm Meeting 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, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or [kelly29@comcast.net](mailto:kelly29@comcast.net). Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509



**Final Week  
of the Life  
of Christ**

## FROM THE DRE'S DESK

**TODAY - School of Religious Education  
9:40am-10:50am**

**NO SRE Easter Sunday**

**REGISTER  
NOW!**

Please get registrations in as soon as possible for next year SRE, so we can plan for classroom space and teachers.



### Sacramental Prep:

**First Communion: Rehearsal-** Friday, May 3 at 7pm at Immaculate Conception

**Sacrament-** Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am at Immaculate Conception

**Confirmation: Rehearsal-** Friday, May 10 at 6pm at Holy Cross, Dover

**Sacrament-** Saturday, May 11 at 10am at Holy Cross, Dover



**NEEDED: TEACHERS! APPLY HERE FOR NEXT YEAR! Share your gifts and get the rewards in heaven.**

We will need teachers for religious education on Sunday mornings from September to May.

If you see this, and are wondering "is this me?", inquire.

### Vacation Bible School

**August 5-9th**

Yes, the planning is underway! If you are interested in helping out this year, please inquire with Alicia Poppiti or Meg Haass. Registration is available now. Thank you



## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

**Theme:** Jesus shows us how much He truly loves us.

**Question for Children:** In your own words, what does the suffering and death of Christ mean to you?

**Question for Youth:** How can you spend time with each member of your family this week in a way that will communicate your love for them?

**Question for Adults:** What sacrifices have you made this week to show your love for others? What sacrifices have others made for you?

### Domingo de la Pasión/Domingo de Ramos

**Tema:** Jesús nos muestra cuánto nos ama de verdad.

**Pregunta para los niños:** En sus propias palabras, ¿qué significan el sufrimiento y la muerte de Cristo para ustedes?

**Pregunta para los jóvenes:** ¿Cómo puedes pasar tiempo con cada miembro de tu familia esta semana para hacerles saber cuanto los amas?

**Pregunta para los adultos:** ¿Qué sacrificios ha hecho esta semana para mostrar su amor por los demás? ¿Qué sacrificios han hecho otros para usted?

### **JOURNEY TO THE KINGDOM:**



**Saturday, 117 youth and young adults from Immaculate Conception carried the diocesan pilgrimage cross through the streets of Wilmington with the Bishop as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and His journey on Good Friday to Calvary, with hundreds of others from the Diocese. An incredible testament to our strong involvement and faith community. This is the continued journey of our faithful, and the beginning for many more. Please keep them in prayer and join us next year!!**

## COLUMNAS DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 14 DE ABRIL, 2019.

Querido feligrés,

Como he señalado muchas veces en esta columna, encuentro que hay muchas correlaciones entre el juego del béisbol y nuestra fe católica. Y con los Phillies al frente de la Liga Nacional del Este en el momento de escribir esto (nota: esto no es un error de imprenta), y la Semana Santa está sobre nosotros, pensé en establecer algunas de esas correlaciones nuevamente.

**¿Un Tesoro Duradero?** En este momento, con seis victorias y dos derrotas, los Phillies están jugando .750 (hasta el 8 de abril). Y la pregunta para los fanáticos como yo que están felices por el éxito temprano de esta temporada se resume mejor en las palabras de las Shirelles de su éxito de 1960, "Todavía Me Amarías Mañana", en el que preguntan: "¿Es este un tesoro perdurable? o ¿Solo un momento de placer?" Mi temor es que sea el último, por lo que no tengo muchas esperanzas todavía.

**¡Entra en el Juego!** Al entrar en la última semana de la Cuaresma, el béisbol está, me atrevo a decir, en pleno apogeo y, joye, mi equipo está ganando! Dicho esto, una de las formas clave en que un equipo ganador se mantiene como un equipo ganador no es por suerte, sino por una práctica intensa y continua que permite a los jugadores dominar los conceptos básicos del juego. Necesitan mantener sus habilidades clave de lanzador, receptor, jardinero, bateador, etc., no solo al comienzo de la temporada sino a lo largo de la temporada. Los jugadores deben trabajar para perfeccionar sus habilidades, pero también identificar en qué áreas necesitan trabajar para seguir jugando de la mejor manera. Es lo mismo para nosotros en Tiempo de Cuaresma: los fieles son los jugadores; Volvemos a dominar lo básico: no tirar, batear y correr, sino orar, dar limosna y ayunar. Estas disciplinas de Cuaresma que nos ayudan a acercarnos más a Dios y prepararnos para el Tiempo de la Pascua (y el año que viene). Nos esforzamos mejor por nosotros mismos (y nuestra posición) ante el Señor.

**El Juego Largo.** Y en una distinción maravillosa, a diferencia de un jugador de béisbol, no estamos enfocados solo en esta buena temporada. No, no. En Cuaresma, cuando vemos la victoria de Jesucristo sobre la muerte en el horizonte de la Pascua, sabemos muy bien que esa victoria, que se ganó una vez y se ganó para siempre, nunca se desvanecerá. Su victoria no es para la temporada, sino para el juego largo. Así, la muerte no conseguirá la última palabra, ¡Cristo lo tendrá! ¡Nuestros esfuerzos durante ese período de preparación harán que nuestra alegría de Pascua sea mucho más alegre, ya que Cristo lanza un juego perfecto para derrotar al Diablo y a la muerte!

**SEMANA SANTA.** Antes de que podamos llegar a la Pascua, tenemos que hacer una jornada profundo en la próxima Semana Santa. Es una semana en la que veremos a Cristo bienvenido con alegría en Jerusalén el domingo de Ramos, pero condenado a muerte y crucificado cinco días después. Y nosotros, como católicos, debemos comprometernos y hacer esta jornada de Semana Santa con Cristo, que comienza el Domingo de Ramos y continúa hasta el Jueves Santo, el Viernes Santo y el Sábado Santo (el Triduo). Aquí hay algunos pensamientos y reflexiones sobre estos días por venir:

**- DOMINGO DE RAMOS.** En este día, recordamos la entrada triunfal de Jesús en Jerusalén antes de su crucifixión. Cuando

Jesús entró en la ciudad montado en el "potro de un asno" (burrito pequeño), la gente de Jerusalén se regocija, arrojando capas y ramas de palmeras en el camino y alabándolo. Recordando esto, en la misa del Domingo de Ramos, tenemos una bendición de palmas que los fieles sostienen mientras se procesan en la iglesia. Las palmas benditas se guardan más tarde en el hogar como un testimonio de la fe en Jesucristo, a quien damos la bienvenida a nuestros hogares. —

**SANTO JUEVES:** El jueves santo, celebramos la institución, por Cristo, de los Sacramentos de la Sagrada Eucaristía y de la Sagrada Orden. En la Última Cena, la noche antes de que Jesucristo fuera crucificado, cambió el pan y el vino por su propio Cuerpo y Sangre, y ordenó a los Apóstoles y sus sucesores (Obispos y sus sacerdotes) que re-presentaran este sacrificio. Así, en cada misa, por medio de la transubstanciación, el pan y el vino ofrecidos por el sacerdote se convierten nuevamente en el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo. Así como Cristo y sus apóstoles se retiraron al Jardín de Getsemaní esa misma tarde para orar, también, después de la misa, la Eucaristía se lleva de la Iglesia a un "altar de reposo". Los fieles van a ese lugar de reposo y pasan tiempo en Adoración y oración con el Señor. Mientras tanto, en la Iglesia, sin la Eucaristía, la puerta del tabernáculo queda abierta, mostrando que está vacía. Se desviste o desnudan el altar, se quitan las velas y se drena el agua bendita. La Iglesia queda sin adornos, preparando el escenario para el Viernes Santo.

**VIERNES SANTO:** el Viernes Santo es un día de ayuno y abstinencia. El Viernes Santo, a las 3 p.m. - la hora de la muerte de Cristo en la cruz - la iglesia se reúne para "El Viernes Santo de la Pasión del Señor". Como nuestro Señor no está presente en el tabernáculo, los fieles son encormentados a realizar una genuflexión a la imagen del Cristo crucificado, antes de sentar. Este servicio, que no es una misa, incluye una lectura de la Pasión y la veneración de la Cruz (por ejemplo, besar o tocar la madera de la Cruz). El servicio concluye con la distribución de la Sagrada Comunión (consagrada el Jueves Santo).

**SÁBADO SANTO.** El sábado santo es un día de espera. Es en este día que los padres de la Iglesia notaron que Cristo descendió a los muertos, al llamado "Limbo de los Padres", donde aquellos que murieron después de la caída del hombre (por el pecado de Adán y Eva) esperan las puertas del cielo para ser reabierto. Hoy, la anticipación de la paz entre Dios y el hombre, con las puertas del cielo abiertas de nuevo, aparece a la vista. O como se dice en las palabras del Salmo 24: "¡Ea puertas, levanten sus dinteles! Elévense, portones eternos. ¡Y que pase el Rey de la gloria!" Pero la anticipación aún no es realidad, y así, en este día, en oración y reflexión, esperamos en la tumba del Señor, reflexionamos sobre lo que ha sucedido y esperamos su gloriosa resurrección. Del mismo modo, María espera con nosotros con la esperanza de la victoria de su hijo sobre la muerte, y la alegría de su victoria por venir.

Cuando termina la Cuaresma y se derrama la Pasión de Cristo, surge una escena trágica: el Mesías está condenado a una muerte ignominiosa; Un Salvador es crucificado, traicionado y negado. Para volver a una metáfora del béisbol, las cosas se ven difíciles, pero hay un gran cuadrangular y una victoria por delante, más sobre este gran momento de alegría y victoria en la Pascua.

Tuyo en Cristo  
Padre. James Lentini  
Párroco