

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399

Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253

www.iccmarydel.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Fridays 9:30-Noon, Closed Wednesdays.

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

April 22, 2018 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

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. John T. Solomon, 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

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**.

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend (at Immaculate Conception) and next weekend (at Holy Cross), our young people will be making their First Holy Communion. Let us all pray for them as they encounter that special sacramental union with our Lord.

The Bow. Seeing those children preparing to come to Holy Communion for the first time reminded of today Gospel text: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." That text, in turn, reminds me of my first communion back in New York City: There were 54 of us in my class at St. Anthony's School, and that First Holy Communion was the biggest happening of the year since the movie premiere of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." As was the practice in our parish, at First Communion the girls wore decorative white dresses, while the boys dressed in a black suit, black pants, a white shirt, and had a big, huge, humongous white Victorian bow tied around the upper

arm. This huge white bow on the jacket sleeve looked like a Martha Stewart version of a tourniquet; it was oversized, fancy-schmancy and shocking. I imagine that over the passing years, many therapists of my classmates have heard all about these huge ribbons.

Bow-dacious Behavior. Among the First Communion kids in my class, one boy, Frank -- I'll leave out his last name to protect the innocent -- was always getting in difficulties. If you can remember, Jackie Gleason, the comedian, used to have a character called the "Poor Soul" -- it was a guy who was always in the wrong place at the wrong time. This was Frank. And on that first communion day, Frank didn't follow Sister Margaret Vincent's instructions too well. Sister told us that as we processed into the church, not to lean on or scrape against the walls or doorways. Frank didn't listen. He leaned against railing up the steps to the church; against the foyer wall; and against the wall near

the door to the inside of the church. This made him a little dirty. But worse -- unbeknownst to him, poor soul -- his big white bow caught on a nail protruding from the wall. As Frank walked into the church, where we were forming our procession line, his bow caught on that nail began to unravel and unravel... and there was generated, a long white streamer coming from his arm.

Bring in the Nuns. Sr. Margaret Vincent – who was not one to be trifled with – was not pleased. She ran over and grabbed the ribbon strands to free them from the nail. This brought young Frank, to an abrupt stop (as the ribbon had by this point unraveled down to armband). With the same effect of pulling an emergency brake on a subway train, a little pile up of black-suited boys with bows ensued. Mother Herbert, the Mother Superior came over, like someone lining up toy soldiers, she got us all back into an acceptable line-up formation for Mass. It was a memorable moment for my First Communion class. But soon after it happened our young minds forgot about that event, that small faux pas. As we approached the altar later at mass and prepared to receive Jesus Christ, such little troubles evaporated. It was an important and memorable moment in our lives.

But again, a lesson to be learned was learned by a young boy. Before going to communion, before going to receive Jesus, listen to what you are told to do. But what about for us now, as we get older? Do we listen to guidance of the Church regarding Holy Communion? Well, we should.

Hooks and Crooks. It is worth noting that on this Good Shepherd Sunday, we are called to listen to Christ our Good Shepherd, and the good shepherds God gives to us in the form of the Pope and the Bishops of the Church. I am sure you have seen images a shepherd walking with his staff, and you see Bishop walking with a similar staff. Here's some shepherding insight: That staff is not to help the Shepherds walk. Nope. Rather it is to help them grab the sheep that wander off – using either the hook of the staff or the crook (or stem) of the staff. So, by hook or by crook (as the saying has developed) the Good Shepherd

keeps the flock in the fold. And our Church, through its magisterial teachings gives us guidance regarding the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist.

In this regard, for the remainder of this column and for all of next week's column, I will focus on teaching and practices regarding Holy Communion. For this column, as space is running short, I will focus on one point of our Church's teaching: the distinction between the Sacrament of the Eucharist and Holy Communion; we use them almost interchangeably, but they are not interchangeable:

The Eucharist is the Sacrament that is consecrated on the altar at the hands of an ordained priest. It is the re-presentation of the actions of Christ at the Last Supper and at Calvary -- but it is re-presented in an unbloody manner under the form of bread and wine. Eucharist is what the bread and wine becomes -- the body and blood of Christ. So, on this altar and in that tabernacle, we have Eucharist -- that is, we have Jesus Christ with us under the veil of the Sacrament.

Holy Communion or Communion speaks to time or the act of the person receiving Eucharist. The question might be asked, why do we use this word communion? Why don't we say we are "Eucharisting" ourselves? This is because the Church teaches that when a person takes the Eucharist, that person is called to be in Communion with the Church and with Christ who is present in the Sacrament. Simply put, this means that we are receiving the Eucharist in communion with the Church -- accepting that this is the body of Christ, accepting the authority of the Pope and his Bishop and so on. This is the beautiful communion of the faithful that we share in. And so, the moment that host goes in your mouth -- Holy Communion is made visible -- the communion between the recipient and Christ and his Church.

And with that distinction noted, next column will deal with the teachings of our faith regarding reception of Holy Communion.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, April 22

8:30 Ron & Rob Lawson

11:00 Larry Langham

Misa en Español **1pm For the People**

Thursday Apr 26 Misa en Español **7pm For the People**

Sunday, April 29

8:30 Tommy Smith

11:00 Bruce Schepens

Misa en Español **1pm For the People**

2018 Mass book is now open.

To schedule a Mass, please contact the office

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: \$3351.50

Supplementary: \$538.00

Second Collection Today: Supplementary

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Apr 22 Tom & Mary McGowan
Apr 29 Julia Moore & helper
May 6 Elisa & Tom Costello

Church Cleaning Crew

Abril 27, 2018 Grupo # 7
Rafael Morales, **Marcos González**, Osvaldo Miranda
Eleazar Santizo, Reyna Morales

Mayo 4, 2018 Grupo # 8
Reynaldo Pérez, Maribel Ortiz, Juventino López,
Isenia Escalante, Clemente Escalante

Altar Servers

April 29
8:30am Mass –Anna Clancy & Mikey Dixon
11am Mass – Joanna Santizo & Vincent Haass
Spanish Misa 1pm – Emily & Yorly Escalante

Lectors

April 29
8:30am Mass – Karen Cairns
11am Mass – Laura Schlaupitz
Spanish Misa 1pm – Levin Ramirez, Haydi Fuentes

Eucharistic Ministers

April 29
8:30am Mass – Karen Durham & Julia Moore
11am Mass – Paul Lardizzone & Joan Stewart
Spanish Misa 1pm – Adelaida Velásquez, E. Morales,
G. Morales, Adrián Miranda, Carlos Miguel



2018 Annual Catholic Appeal – *“Disciples of Christ Witnesses of Faith”*

We have pledged \$3383.00 of our
\$24,000.00 goal.

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to the diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have not yet participated, please consider doing so today. Your gift makes a real difference in the lives of thousands of individuals and families who reside within our 12-county diocese. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews and can be placed in the offertory basket. Thank you for your generosity and support.

To learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal, visit www.cdow.org; click "Giving" then "Annual Catholic Appeal".

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, April 22 – 9:40am SRE Classes in Classrooms
Sun, April 22 – 2pm RICA-Computer room
Mon, Apr 23 & Wed Apr 25 - 7pm ESL
Fri, April 27- 8pm Vigilia

Knights of Columbus

Next meeting Tues, April 24th
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, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or kelly29@comcast.net. Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

"Love one another." (John 13:35) You're married. Of course you love your spouse. But Jesus keeps repeating this command to love. Perhaps it is because love is never finished. Look for a new opportunity to show your love today. Surprise your beloved.

Parenting Pointer –

Often our children teach us how to be responsible recyclers, take care of nature, etc. Brainstorm with your child ways that your family can take a step to care for creation. Do one of the ideas today.

Are you being called to the Priesthood?

Come socialize, talk, and hang-out with priests, and men like yourself, who think the Lord may be calling them to be a priest. Find out about the *amazing* life of the Priesthood.



CAS – North will meet on May 16, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption in Hockessin, Delaware. **For more information, contact Father Chris Coffey at FrCoffiey@sjbde.org or call 302-999-0211.**

CAS – South will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Saint John the Apostle Church, 506 Seabury Drive, Milford, DE on April 30, 2018. **Contact Father John Solomon at fatherjohnsolomon@gmail.com or 302-674-5787.**

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education
September 24, 2017-May 6, 2018
9:40am-10:50am



Registration is open for next year Religious Education. Get your seat now, for next year's RE! Please get your registrations today and save a spot for your children next year. Spaces go fast, so do not miss out! Don't wait until September!

LAS MATRICULAS: para nuestro programa de formación cristiana de niños en domingo están todavía disponibles en el despacho parroquial, en la entrada principal del templo, y en el internet. Favor de someterlas en lo más pronto posible, con la cobra de \$35 por cada niño, y no más de \$150 cada familia.

NEEDED: TEACHERS! APPLY HERE FOR NEXT

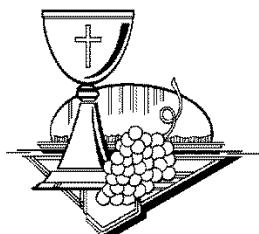


YEAR! Share your gifts and get the rewards in heaven.

We will need several more teachers for religious education on Sunday mornings from September to May. Please take the time during Lent this year in prayer and discernment on serving the young people and families of our Parish. Please contact Alicia Poppiti with any questions, 410-482-8939 at parish office. Thank you to those that have heard the call and responded.

Congratulations to our children and youth that have joined us at the table of the Lord: Belinda, Bradley, Brittany, Carlos, David, Daniel, Deyvi, Esdras, Erick P., Erick V., Eric, Eylli, Ezequiel, Jessica, Joel, Jose, Macey, Maria, Melissa, Perla, Selena, Shenny,

Yosly and Yimmy.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Theme: Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Question for Children: Jesus tells us he is the Good Shepherd, but how do you experience God guiding and protecting you?

Question for Youth: How do you feel about Jesus' being your shepherd? What does it mean to you that he lays down his life for you?

Question for Adults: What qualities of God does the image of the Good Shepherd suggest? How do you experience God in this way?

4to domingo de Pascua

Tema: Jesús es el Buen Pastor.

Pregunta para los niños: Jesús nos dice que es el Buen Pastor, pero, ¿cómo experimentas la guía y la protección de Dios?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: ¿Cómo te sientes acerca de Jesús sea tu pastor? ¿Qué significa para ti que entregue su vida por ti?

Pregunta para los adultos: ¿Qué cualidades de Dios le sugiere la imagen del Buen Pastor? ¿Cómo experimenta a Dios de esta manera?



VBS will be here at ICC soon!

July 30th - August 3rd

The Vacation Bible School planning meeting is in the works. Please let us know if you are interested in helping out this year.

Registration for VBS is open now. Registration forms are available at Ms. Alicia's desk in the hall.



Join us Sunday, May 6th, for May Crowning and Living Rosary at 9:45am.

COLUMNÁ DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 22 DE ABRIL, 2018.

Este fin de semana (en la Inmaculada Concepción) y el próximo fin de semana (en Holy Cross), nuestros niños harán su Primera Comunión. Oremos por ellos cuando tengan encuentro sacramental especial con nuestro Señor.

El Lazo. Al ver a esos niños preparándose para venir a la Sagrada Comunión por primera vez recuerdo el texto del Evangelio de hoy: "Mis ovejas escuchan mi voz, yo las conozco y ellas me siguen". Ese texto, a su vez, me recuerda mi Primera Comunión en Nueva York: Había 54 de nosotros en mi clase en la escuela de San Antonio, y esa Primera Comunión fue el evento más grande del año desde el estreno de la película "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang". Como era la costumbre en nuestra parroquia, para la Primera Comunión, las niñas vestían vestidos blancos decorativos, mientras que los niños vestían un traje negro, pantalones negros, una camisa blanca, y tenían un enorme, enorme y enorme lazo victoriano blanco atado alrededor del brazo. Este enorme lazo blanco en la manga de la chaqueta parecía una versión de Martha Stewart de un torniquete, era demasiado grande, elegante y chocante. Me imagino que a lo largo de los años, muchos terapeutas de mis compañeros de clase han oído hablar de estas enormes cintas.

Lazo-Comportamiento - Atolondrado. Entre los niños de la Primera Comunión en mi clase, un niño, Frank - voy a omitir su apellido para proteger al inocente - siempre estaba teniendo dificultades. Si puedes recordar, Jackie Gleason, el comediante, solía tener un personaje llamado "Poor Soul (Pobre Alma)": era un chico que siempre estaba en el lugar equivocado en el momento equivocado. Este era Frank. Y en ese día de la Primera Comunión, Frank no siguió las instrucciones de la hermana Margaret Vincent al pie de la letra. La hermana nos dijo que a medida que avanzábamos hacia la iglesia, no nos apoyáramos en las paredes ni en las puertas. Frank no escuchó. Se inclinó contra la barandilla de los escalones hacia la iglesia; contra la pared del vestíbulo; y contra la pared cerca de la puerta al interior de la iglesia. Esto hizo que se ensuciara un poco. Pero peor, sin que él lo supiera, este pobre alma- su gran lazo blanco quedó atrapado en un clavo que sobresalía de la pared. Mientras Frank entraba a la iglesia, donde estábamos formando nuestra línea de procesión, su lazo atrapado en ese clavo comenzó a desenredarse y desenredarse ... y se generó una larga serpentina blanca saliendo de su brazo.

Traigan a las Monjas. La Hna. Margaret Vincent, que no era alguien con quien jugar, no estaba contenta. Ella corrió y agarró los hilos de la cinta para liberarlos del clavo. Esto provocó que el joven Frank se detuviera abruptamente (ya que la cinta se había desenrollado hasta el brazalete). Con el mismo efecto de jalar el freno de emergencia en un tren subterráneo, se produjo que se amontonaran montón de chicos con traje negro y lazos. La Madre Herbert, la Madre Superiora vino, como alguien que alinea soldados de juguete, nos ayudó a todos hacer una formación aceptable para la Misa. Fue un momento memorable para mi clase de Primera Comunión. Pero poco después de que esto sucediera, nuestras mentes jóvenes se olvidaron de ese evento, ese pequeño paso en falso. Cuando nos acercamos al altar más tarde en la misa y nos preparamos para recibir a Jesucristo, esos pequeños problemas se evaporaron. Fue un momento importante y memorable en nuestras vidas.

Pero, de nuevo, una lección para aprender fue aprendida por un niño. Antes de ir a la comunión, antes de ir a recibir a Jesús, escucha lo que se te dice que hagas. Pero, ¿qué pasa con nosotros ahora, a medida que envejecemos?

¿Escuchamos la guía de la Iglesia con respecto a la Sagrada Comunión? Bueno, deberíamos.

Ganchos y Báculos. Vale la pena señalar que en este Domingo del Buen Pastor, estamos llamados a escuchar a Cristo nuestro Buen Pastor, y a los buenos pastores que Dios nos da en la forma del Papa y los Obispos de la Iglesia. Estoy seguro de que has visto imágenes de un pastor caminando con su báculo, y al Obispo caminando con un báculo similar. Aquí hay algunos consejos sobre el pastoreo: Ese báculo no debe ayudar a los pastores a caminar. No. Más bien es para ayudarlos a agarrar a las ovejas que deambulan, usando el gancho del bastón o el cayado (o tallo) del bastón. Así que, por las buenas o por las malas (como se dice), el Buen Pastor mantiene al rebaño en el redil. Y nuestra Iglesia, a través de sus enseñanzas magistrales, nos da orientación con respecto al Santísimo Sacramento de la Eucaristía.

En este sentido, para el resto de esta columna y para toda la columna de la próxima semana, me centraré en las enseñanzas y las prácticas relacionadas con la Sagrada Comunión. Para esta columna, dado que el espacio se está agotando, me centraré en un punto de la enseñanza de nuestra Iglesia: la distinción entre el Sacramento de la Eucaristía y la Sagrada Comunión; los usamos casi de manera intercambiable, pero no son intercambiables:

La Eucaristía es el Sacramento que se confecciona en el altar a manos de un sacerdote ordenado. Es la re-presentación de las acciones de Cristo en la Última Cena y en el Calvario-- pero es re-presenta de manera no sangrienta bajo la especie de pan y vino. La Eucaristía es en lo que se convierte el pan y el vino: el cuerpo y la sangre de Cristo. Entonces, en este altar y en ese tabernáculo, tenemos Eucaristía, es decir, tenemos a Jesucristo con nosotros bajo el velo del Sacramento.

La Sagrada Comunión o Comunión habla al tiempo o al acto de la persona que recibe la Eucaristía. La pregunta podría hacerse, ¿por qué usamos esta palabra comunión? ¿Por qué no decimos que estamos "Eucaristándonos" a nosotros mismos? Esto se debe a que la Iglesia enseña que cuando una persona toma la Eucaristía, esa persona está llamada a estar en Comunión con la Iglesia y con Cristo que está presente en el Sacramento. En pocas palabras, esto significa que estamos recibiendo la Eucaristía en comunión con la Iglesia, aceptando que este es el cuerpo de Cristo, aceptando la autoridad del Papa y su Obispo, y así sucesivamente. Esta es la maravillosa comunión de los fieles en la que compartimos. Y así, en el momento en que la hostia entra en tu boca - La Sagrada Comunión se hace visible - la comunión entre el que recibe y Cristo y su Iglesia.

Y con esa distinción señalada, la próxima columna tratará sobre las enseñanzas de nuestra fe con respecto a la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión.

Tuyo en Cristo,
P. James Lentini
Párroco