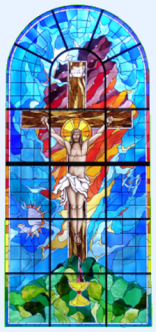

Church of the Holy Cross

631 South State Street
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687
iccmarydel.org

Immaculate Conception

April 27, 2025 — **Divine Mercy Sunday**

holy cross

Parish Office Hours
School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

Schools Office Hours
School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish

Daily Mass Schedule
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8 am
Wednesday – 8:15 am
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day, MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day)

Confession Schedule
Saturday, 8:30 am—10:00 am,
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

Adoration Chapel Hours
Daily, 5 am—9 pm

icc

Parish Office Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm
Closed Wednesday and Friday

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

Daily Mass Schedule
Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

Requiem Aeternam
("Eternal Rest")

Pope Francis
December 17, 1936 - April 21, 2025

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Requiem Prayer

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

sacraments

Receiving the Sacraments

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

Sacrament of Baptism. Call the 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.

happenings

Bishop Koenig will celebrate a special Mass in honor of the passing of the Holy Father on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 12:10 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Sixth and North West Streets, in Wilmington. The public is invited to attend. The Mass will be live-streamed on the Diocese of Wilmington's YouTube channel – www.YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace. Amen.

stewardship

Weekly Offering (HC)

Ending April 13, 2025

Weekly Offering (ICC)

Offertory Type	Received	Budgeted/ Needed	Difference
Regular	$28,813	$27,000	$1,813
YTD	$1,093,777	$1,107,956	($14,179)
Needs	$1,870	$1,775	$95

Ending April 13, 2025

Offertory Type	Received
Regular	$4,497
2nd collection	$717

Thank you to all advertisers in our bulletin.
We appreciate your support!

If you know of someone who would like to advertise in the bulletin, please contact Diocesan Publications at 800-233-8200.

pastor's column

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we observe Divine Mercy Sunday, which focuses on the Divine Mercy of God as seen during Holy Week. The devotion built on this concept is called the Chaplet of Divine Mercy — it be can prayed on regular rosary beads. By the goodness of the Hallow app, I am presenting the below a simple guide to praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. If you have never prayed this beautiful devotion, consider trying it and perhaps integrating it into your prayer life. Using regular Rosary beads:

1. **Begin with the sign of the cross.** *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

2. **Prepare your heart and mind.** *You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.*

3. **Pray the prayer of St. Faustina.** On each of the three small beads, pray (three times in succession): *O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!*

4. **Pray one Our Father**. *Our Father, Who art in heaven…*

5. **Pray one Hail Mary.** *Hail Mary, full of grace…*

6. **Pray the Apostle's Creed.** *I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.*

7. **First decade** On the first large bead (note: in the traditional Rosary prayer, we say the Our Father for each large bead). In the Divine Mercy Chaplet, we pray the following: *Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.*

8. **Then on the ten small beads:** In a traditional Rosary prayer, we pray the Hail Mary on each small bead, however in the Divine Mercy Chaplet, we pray the following on each of the ten small beads: *For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*

9. Then Repeat this pattern four times. For each successive decade: begin with the "Eternal Father" (#7) prayer, and then pray, "For the sake" (#8) ten times.

10. **After completing all five decades, pray for mercy.** Repeat the following prayer three times in succession: *Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*

11. **Concluding Prayer.** Let us pray: *Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. [Amen].*

12. **Conclude with the sign of the cross.** *In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.*

—

As TV series begin to go into reruns, I will share a secret – this week's column is a rerun. You see, this past week I have been away for a few days get some down time. Being away, I decided to use a column that I have used once each year over the past few years on the important topic of marriage. And so, on this Divine Mercy Sunday, I want to share God's great mercy and avail folks of the gift and blessing Christian marriage and exhort folks who are perhaps living together or who were perhaps married outside the Church, to consider getting married (or getting their marriage "blessed") in the Church.

Ratings, Weddings and Genies. TV lover that I am, I can remember back in 1970, watching the wedding episode of "I Dream of Jeannie" when in a play for better ratings, using wedding-based glitz and glamor, Jeannie and Major Nelson (a lady genie and her astronaut beau) tied the knot. Alas, not even a genie and a wedding could save the show; it was soon cancelled. This episode "I Dream of Jeannie" tell us something about weddings and marriages that life experience confirms. A wedding should not be about show and flash, or glitz and glamour; rather it should solemnly celebrate the first day of a lifetime of a marriage of a man and a woman.

Wedding Bell Blues? In our world today, weddings seem to have taken on a greater importance than the marriage itself. There are wedding TV shows, wedding registries, wedding planners, and a whole host of things that have made weddings the second largest expense in a person's life, after buying a home. The problem with this is that "the wedding" has become the focus of attention, while marriage has become some mere echoed after effect. To make an analogy, it would be like having a child and making the entire focus on the child's birth, and then once he's born, tossing him aside and just looking back on that birth

(Continued on page 10)

connections

HC & ICC Clergy

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Rev. John Enemuo	Parochial Vicar
Fr. Wilson Paulose	Parochial Vicar
Rev. John Hynes	In Residence

HC Clergy

Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	Deacon
Mr. Richard Kosior	Deacon
Mr. Robert McMullen	Deacon
Mr. Vincent Pisano	Deacon

ICC Clergy

Mr. Sherman Mitchell	Deacon

HC Staff

Parish Office	302 674 5787
Jane Green	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
Sharon Seelig	Records Office, ext. 116
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. I18
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
Marydel, MD 21649-0399

Holy Cross School

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

Mallory O'Mara	Principal, ext. 111

Mailing Address

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

faith in action

3rd Sunday of Easter (May 4)

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

Peter witnesses to the name of Jesus and declares his obedience to God.

Second Reading: Rev. 5:11-14

John's vision is of all creation worshipping the Lamb of God on the throne.

Gospel: John 21:1-19

Jesus appears to the disciples on the shore, there is a miraculous catch of fish and Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?"

Men's Retreat at Malvern

We invite the men and their sons to a weekend encounter with Jesus at the Mid-May & Archbishop Fitzmaurice Men's Retreat, May 16th–18th, 2025. Our Retreat Director is Fr Simeon Gallagher, OFM, Cap, and guest speaker is Phil Martelli, former BB Coach, at St. Joseph's University. Register at: www.malvernretreat.com/events/mid-may-arch-fitzmaurice-2025/ or contact Maurice Sadowsky at mjsadowsky@yahoo.com. Malvern has retreats for women, men, married couples, families, young adults, and addiction recovery, please visit malvernretreat.com. At Holy Cross you can also contact Deacon Bob McMullen at deaconmcmullen@hotmail.com At Immaculate Conception you can contact Francesco Cristiano at 302-222-3422 or joycenchris@comast.net

Samaritan's Food Pantry

The Samaritan food pantry is still in need of the following items: Cereal, oatmeal, one pound bags of white rice, peanut butter and jelly, Brownie mix, hamburger helper, Manwich, and Progresso or Campbell's chunky soups. Meat donations can be left in the freezer drop off behind the rectory. Dry-good items can be left there or the drop box in the church.

Spartan Lecture Series Featuring Father Gregory Boyle

Saint Mark's High School is excited to introduce the Spartan Lecture Series, a new initiative designed to bring distinguished speakers from across the country to educate and inspire our community on a range of engaging topics. The inaugural event is set for May 6 at 7pm. Father Gregory Boyle will be the guest speaker. Father Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, the world's largest gang intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program. Tickets are $25 and may be purchased t www.stmarkshs.net/father-boyle. Saint Mark's High School is located at 2501 Pike Creek Road in Wilmington.

Spaghetti Dinner

Holy Cross is raising funds to send our Odyssey of the Mind Team To East Lansing, MI for the World Competition

Thursday, May 8, 2025
4:30 to 6:30
Parish Hall (Take out is available)

Adults are $15.00 and children 10 and under are $8.00. Takeouts will be available. The dinner includes spaghetti (gluten free will be available), salad, bread, dessert and beverage. Join us for a delicious dinner while helping us raise funds to send our team for the World Competition

Adult Confirmation Prep

Are you a baptized Catholic who has received First Communion but not yet been confirmed? We invite you to join our Adult Confirmation Preparation program! This is a amazing opportunity to deepen your faith, strengthen your relationship with God and the Church, and receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Classes will be held throughout the year as determined by need in preparation for the Diocese Pentecost Adult Confirmation Mass.
For more information and registration contact Tammy Korosec, Coordinator of Religious Education at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122.

Jubilee Pilgrimage Sites

Bishop Koenig has designated six adoration chapels in Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore as Jubilee Pilgrimage Sites. These chapels are located at the following churches: **Holy Cross, Dover;** Immaculate Heart of Mary, Wilmington; St. Ann, Wilmington; St Christopher, Chester; St. Francis de Sales, Salisbury; and St. Jude the Apostle, Lewes. Catholics who visit one or more of these sites and/or the Cathedral of St. Peter, during the Jubilee 2025 year, and fulfill the other requirements as outlined by the Holy See, may obtain the Jubilee Indulgence. For more information, visit cdow.org/Jubilee2025.

2025 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal – "Together in Hope"

Did you know? Through your support of the Appeal, Catholic Charities is able to serve thousands of families each year — providing housing, food, pregnancy support, and so much more. If you have not committed to the Appeal as of yet, please return your envelope this week. Blank envelopes are available in the Gathering Space on the tables. May God guide you in your decision of your sacrifice to this important campaign.

Mass Intention
April/May

28 Monday
HC 8:00 am Nancy Penfield

29 Tuesday
HC 8:00 am Leona Spencer

30 Wednesday
HC 8:15 am DM of Doroshenko Family

1 Thursday
HC 8:O00 am Linda Den Beyker
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

2 Friday
HC 8:00 am DM Frank Family

3 Saturday
HC 8:00 pm Jovina Mendonza
HC 5:00 pm Ann & William C. Sajko

4 Sunday
HC 7:30 am Mildren and Victor Passer
ICC 8:30 am Marge Messner
HC 9:30 am Bruno Family
ICC 11:00 am William & Phyllis Kriss `
HC 11:30 am Jorge G. & Elans B. Rodriquez
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

Apr 27—May 3 *Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intention of Walter and Jovina Mendonza.*
Apr 27-May 3 *Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intention of Kiana Nemecek.*

Catholic Forum

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week, tune in to get a Catholic perspective on near-death experiences when author and theologian, Scott L. Smith, Jr. is interviewed. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30

Cemetery News

Pre-need planning. Still trying to decide on what to do with this year's income tax refunds? During our lifetime we spend a lot of time planning and preparing for future events, such as weddings, vacations, college for the kids, retirement, etc. It's easy to put off planning for the day when the Lord will call you home. Planning for the inevitable and securing space in our cemetery is a wonderful gift for the whole family. When that day does come, with all its emotional trauma, sparing your spouse and children those difficult decisions is a blessing. Interest-free financing is also available. Contact Len Dornberger at the parish office at 302-674-5787 x135 for a no obligation discussion.

May 3/4, 2025

	EMHC		Servers
5:00 PM	C. Bugglin M. Casey	J. Clendaniel D. Field	J. Novack J. Novack
			Lectors
			D. Dixon
7:30 AM	C. Brown T. Svienty	M. Jacobs W. Thomas	S. Corpuz L. Thomas
			Lectors
			C. Cuffee
9:30 AM	T. Arndt D. Banach	K. Boyer R. Wiley	B. Torbert C. Torbert
			Lectors
			C. Petka M. Sherlock
11:30 AM	A. Cisneros C. Garcia	B. Guzman	TBD
			Lectors
			TBD

Immaculate Conception

8:30 AM	J. Moore		**Lectors**
			. E. Cramer
11:00 AM	A. Poppitti		**Lectors**
			S. Tucker

Are you interested in becoming a registered parishioner of Holy Cross or Immaculate Conception? We would love to have you joining our parish families.

Registrations at ICC can be obtained by calling the their Parish Office.

Registrations for Holy Cross can be obtained by calling the Parish Office or picking up one in the racks in the Gathering Space.

Adoration Chapel

Catechism 1380"The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease."

Adoration Chapel is open from 7AM to 9PM daily. Stop by any time. There are hours available if you would like to commit to an hour in adoration.

Contact John Murphy for more information. Phone or text at 302-233-1779 or email jkm@verizon.net.

Holy Family Carvings

We are the Holy family carvings group, and we are proud to represent the Christian woodcarvers of Bethlehem. These artisans rely on tourism, but due to the war in Israel, they have lost their jobs and are unable to provide for their families.

Our goal is to sell beautiful hand-carved Olive Wood religious items, including Nativity Scenes, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Statues, Pictures of the Last Supper, and many other religious items, to Catholic Churches in the United States. By purchasing one of these exquisite items, you will be supporting the Christian families in the Holy Land and helping them provide for their families and maintain their jobs.

We invite you to take a moment to browse through the carvings that **will be available on the weekend of April 26&27**. By supporting this project, you are making a significant contribution towards keeping the Christian community present in the Holy Land.

Please join us in this worthy cause and help us make a difference. We deeply appreciate your support and understanding in this crucial matter.

Rachel's Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of May 2-4, 2025. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with grief and loss from abortion. Whether you are post-abortive or know someone who is, freedom awaits. Contact Nan Bernardo-Freeman at 302-463-7711 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com by April 18.

- **Domingo de La Divina Misericordia.** Esta fiesta, que se celebra el segundo domingo de Pascua, Todo católico debería en este domingo de la Divina Misericordia meditar y reflexionar sobre el gran amor de Dios un amor sin límite siempre dispuesto a perdonarnos, cuando nos acercamos a Él con un corazón contrito. es una oportunidad para renovar la fe en la misericordia de Dios y buscar su perdón y gracia.
- **¡ Alelaluya Cristo Resucito!** Seguimos en tiempo de Pascua fiesta de la esperanza y la redención para todos los católicos. Cristo venció sobre la muerte y con esto nos abrió las puertas del Cielo.La Resurrección de Jesús es un hecho histórico y evidente cuyas pruebas son el sepulcro vacío y las numerosas apariciones de Jesucristo a sus apóstoles. Bendecida Pascua de Resurrección. ¡Aleluya Cristo Resucito!
- **Agradecimientos:** Gracias al grupo de Arte y Ambientación por el trabajo que hicieron por embellecer la casa del Señor durante la Cuaresma y la Pascua. Que el Señor se los pague abundantemente. Alos jóvenes y a todas las personas que facilitaron los distintos eventos propios de este tiempo.
- **Nominaciones:** Se les pide que oren, vean y recomienda personas para servir en la nueva Junta Directiva 2025 – 2027. Necesitamos personas que se comprometan y que tengan la voluntad de trabajar y de servir, que sean lideres activos inscritos en la parroquia y sepan acatar los reglamentos de la iglesia. Se les pide que recomienden a personas que ustedes creen que pueden trabajar juntamente con el párroco y con el personal parroquial. Las elecciones para los puestos se seleccionarán el viernes, 2 de mayo, 2025, en el ELC donde se contarán los votos. Seleccione a la persona que usted piensa que puede servir a nuestra Comunidad Hispana..Puede nominarse o nominar a alguien más. Yo recomiendo a_____para servir en la Junta directiva.
- **Foro Cristiano:** Foro Cristiano "Santos y Camino a la Santidad" todos los viernes, de 6-8 de la noche, en el ELC. Salón Mateo/Marcos. Quedan todos cordialmente invitados.
- **Voluntarios:** Si usted está interesado en participar y compartir sus talentos como lector, ministerio de música, ujier, ministros Extraordinario de la Comunión, Arte y Ambientación, dar Clases Pre-bautismales. Por favor hable con los coordinadores de los ministerios o llame a la oficina al 302-674-5787 ext. 118
- **Peregrinos de Esperanza:** "El Año del Jubileo 2025 "Peregrinos de Esperanza,¿Cómo ganar la indulgencia plenaria? Según las normas publicadas por la Penitenciaría Apostólica, pueden recibir la indulgencia, con la remisión y perdón de los pecados, ir al Sacramento de la reconciliación, "movidos por el espíritu de caridad", alimentados por la Santa Comunión, y oren por las intenciones" del Papa. Los fieles pueden obtener la realizando una peregrinación a cualquier lugar sagrado jubilar designado por la diócesis son las siguientes: Misa, Celebración de la Palabra de Dios. Liturgia de las Horas (oficio de lecturas, laudes, vísperas)Nuestro Señor Obispo William Koenig a declarado los siguientes sitios: Nuestra Capilla de Adoración, Holy Cross, Dover, St. Ann Wilmington, La Catedral de St.Peter,Wilmington, IHM, Wilmington, St, Jude, Lewes, St. Francis de Sales en Salisbury, MD. Somos Iglesia, Somos parroquia, somos comunidad, somos familia en camino al jubileo,oremos y seamos peregrinos de esperanza uno para el otro.

ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

- **Clases se reanudan hoy domingo27 de abril**
- El último día de clases será el 4 de mayo con la coronación de nuestra Santísima Madre la Virgen María y el Rosario viviente
- Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa 2025-2026
- Felicitaciones a los que en el día de ayer 26 de abril de 2025recibieron su Sacramento de la Confirmación : Lauren, Freddy, Anthony, Jhonaton, Haidy, Marlon, Lesly, José, Larry, Cristofer, Axel, Neyda, Nalleli, María, and Israel

Sacramentos:

- **Primera Comunión:** El sacramento de la Primera Comunión ensayo: viernes 2 de mayo a las 7 pm en la Inmaculada Concepción, Marydel,
- Sacramento de la Primera Comunión, sábado, 3 de mayo a las 10AM en la parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción
- Nueva Pelicula se estrena en los teatros 27-29 de abril de 2025 solamente.

faith formation

Religious Ed at Holy Cross

Next Classes are 3pm-5pm on the following dates: Final class on April 27

Please note that students are not to be dropped off at the crossing guard. Park your vehicle and walk your student to the building. Stopping your vehicle in front of the school office creates a safety issue for all and blocks other vehicles from entering the parking lot. Also, that point of entry is one way only! Exit the parking lot on the south side, past the junior high building.

Parents, please remember your children will be dropped off at the usual double doors and picked up in the Parish Hall at 5:00pm for this final class. Go through the ramp doors, into the Parish Hall, and check in with your student's teacher before leaving with your child (ren). Textbooks and snack will not be needed at this class.

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith)
Next class: 4/27/25

Deacon Bob's Adult Education Class

Deacon Bob's Adult Ed Class
Starting on April 29th and continuing every Tuesday until May 27th
9:00am or 7:00pm in the Matthew/Mark room of the Parish Office, 2nd Floor, Building C

"Divine Mercy: In the Second Greatest Story Ever Told"
Best-selling author and popular speaker Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC presents "the dramatic history of Poland, the transformative message of St. Faustina Kowalska, the prophetic apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, the powerful witness of St. Maximilian Kolbe and the world changing papacy of St. John Paul II."
This is a free class; workbook will be ordered upon request for a cost of $20

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122.

Remember the Adult Education information of The Catechism in a Year, The Bible in A Year, and the Rosary in a Year offered by Ascension Press. Go to: ascensionpress.com

Youth Ministry Confirmation Class:

Congratulations to our 50 Holy Cross teens who received the Holy Spirit in His fullness on April 26 in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Thank you for your continued prayers for our young people.

No Heart Camp in Dover This Year

Catholic Heart Work Camp will not be coming to Dover this June. Thank you to everyone who has welcomed teens and adults into your home for so many years. They have been able to assist you with so many worthwhile projects and built so many friendships - thank you for giving them this opportunity.

Religious Education at ICC

Classes resume April 27th
Registrations are available for 2025-2026 year and being accepted now.

Last day of classes for SRE is May 4th, with May Crowning and Living Rosary.

Sacraments:
Congratulations to all who received the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday: Lauren, Freddy, Anthony, Jhonaton, Haidy, Marlon, Lesly, Jose, Larry, Cristofer, Axel, Neyda, Nalleli, Maria, and Israel

First Communion: Rehearsal: Friday, May 2nd @ 7pm at Immaculate Conception Church, Marydel

Sacrament of First Eucharist, Saturday, May 3rd @ 10am at Immaculate Conception Church, Marydel

New Film on Carlo Acutis in Theaters April 27-29 ONLY
Discover the incredible life of soon-to-be Saint Carlo Acutis in Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality. This powerful new documentary film explores his life, legacy, and the impact of technology on young people today. Through firsthand accounts from family and friends, plus insights from Catholic leaders and tech experts, the film tackles urgent questions about technology's impact on humanity, holding up Carlo as a model for young people as they engage the digital world. Learn more at **CarloAcutisFilm.com.**

Dear Parishioners,

This past week, we celebrated Easter break, and we hope that all of our students were able to enjoy meaningful time with their families and loved ones. It is our prayer that each of you gathered to celebrate the Easter season and the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. May this time of rest have brought renewal and peace to your hearts.

On Easter Monday, we received the sorrowful news of the passing of Pope Francis. As a school rooted in our Catholic faith, we are deeply saddened by the loss of our Holy Father. At Holy Cross, our students learn about the pope as a spiritual leader, someone who inspires prayer, faith, and service. Entering the Jubilee Year of 2025, a year marked by hope and renewal, we take comfort in our belief that Pope Francis now rests in eternal life with Christ. We trust in God's promise and are reminded that even in mourning, we are never without hope. Pope Francis leaves behind a powerful example of humility, compassion, and faithfulness. As a school community, we strive to follow that same path.

Upon our return to school on Monday, we will begin our day in prayer for Pope Francis. We will gather as a community to honor him and encourage our students not to be burdened by sadness, but rather to be inspired by the life he lived in service to God and others. Holy Cross is blessed to be a place where children can grow in their faith each day, supported by teachers, classmates, and the grace of God.

As we step into the final stretch of the school year, we do so with a spirit of gratitude and anticipation. On Monday, we are honored to welcome the Sisters of Mercy to campus. They will speak with our students about the journey to sainthood and share the story of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Although his canonization has been postponed, our students will have a special opportunity to learn more about his faith and ask questions about vocations in the Church. We are thankful to Sister LaVerne and Sister Rosalie for spending time with us and for sharing their wisdom and joy.

On Tuesday evening, our school choir will travel north to participate in the annual Night of Sacred Music. This beautiful event brings together Catholic schools from across the Diocese to lift their voices in praise and worship. We are so proud of our students for representing Holy Cross and sharing their musical gifts in such a special way.

Later in the week, we will celebrate Easter joy with egg hunts for our early childhood students and a bake sale. On Friday, we will conclude the week with our annual Walk-A-Thon. We are grateful for the many hands that make these events possible and for the spirit of community that shines through each celebration.

We look forward to seeing everyone back on campus. May the joy of the Risen Christ remain in our hearts throughout this Easter season.

In Christ,

Mrs. O'Mara

Calling All Cars!!! Calling All Cars!!!

Car Wash

Where: Holy Cross Parking Lot

When: May 17, 2025

Time: 10 AM-2 PM

Cost: Donations Accepted

*****Help the National Junior Honor Society of Holy Cross in their efforts to support the Odyssey of the Mind team as they participate in the World Competition at East Lansing, Michigan!**

event.

Gifts and Marriage. To be clear, in the Catholic Church, there is a not a Sacrament of Wedding; there is a Sacrament of Marriage. The focus of that Sacrament is not on the event (the wedding), but on the vocation (married life). Thus, I often tell couples preparing for marriage to stop watching TV wedding shows. Why? Because marriage is not about the "event" of a wedding but, rather, about a life spent together. Thus, while a wedding passes into history in a few hours (after the cutting of the cake and the receiving of some Kenmore blenders, gift cards, and perhaps a set of Ginsu knives), the marriage endures. And marriage in the Church — received as a Sacrament — allows the Baptized parties of the marriage to share in the marital graces, given by God, to bless married life.

Mission Not Impossible. To this end, as Pastor of the parish, I want to commend our couples who are not married in the Church, to consider addressing that status. Many folks think that getting your marriage "blessed by the Church" is an arduous or even impossible task; in most cases, it is not. To this end, I would ask men and women, in non-Church marriages, to seek to amend that situation, and come into the fold of those married in Christ.

How to Get Your Marriage Blessed in the Church: There are several different situations that entail slightly different actions to address marital status. To list all the possible circumstances would take a book the size of a Herman Wouk novel. So, I will focus on the three most common circumstances below:

1. **If you are married civilly and this is your only marriage:** If you are couple who, for whatever reason, married civilly, but not in Church — and you have only been married once — you can have your married "convalidated" in the Church (a.k.a. "blessed in the Church"). This takes your civil marriage and makes it into a marriage in the Catholic Church.

If you have been civilly married (or married in another faith without Church approval) for over four years, you need only to meet with one of our Priests or Deacons, complete a pre-marital inquiry to determine your marital status, and then a convalidation via the Catholic Rite of Marriage may be scheduled.

If your civil marriage is more recent (four years or less), you may have to do pre-Cana preparation before the Convalidation of your marriage.

2. **If you (or your spouse) are Catholic and had a previous civil marriage before this one:** This is usually fairly simple. Since you (or your spouse) are Catholic and married outside of the proper Catholic form of marriage without permission of the appropriate Church authority, that civil marriage reflects a "lack of canonical form" and can be deemed null. This entails some paperwork. Once I get the approved documentation back from the Diocese (usually, in a week or two), we can get your Convalidation planned (and if married over four years, the simpler process noted above applies)

3. **If you are Catholic and have a previous marriage in the Catholic Church (or married with Church permission in another Christian Church/location):** In this circumstance, you may need an annulment. An annulment speaks to the questions of whether a marriage was validly contracted at the time of consent (i.e., was there duress, were there impediments, etc.). If it is deemed that the circumstances on the day of the marriage were not proper or that informed consent was impeded, an annulment may be issued, freeing you to marry. The good news is, is that process, with emendations put forth by Popes Benedict and more recently Pope Francis, has become much quicker (usually about six months or less).

Please note: For more complicated scenarios you'll need speak to one of our Priests or Deacons. Also, if you are in a marriage currently, and you or your spouse are non-Catholic: If the non-Catholic party had been married previously, that original marriage of theirs is considered valid and thus an annulment process must ensue (as noted in #3 above).

Marriage in the Church. And so, I commend you: If you are married outside of the Church, seek to have your marriage convalidated (blessed) in the Church. This is the faith and teaching of your Church, moreover, this is the call of Jesus Christ to a man and a woman in the vocation of married life. Christ is asking: Do you want to do what is necessary to marry according to our faith and the laws of His Church? I hope you say, "I do."

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor