

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

August 10, 2025

19th Sunday Ordinary Time

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

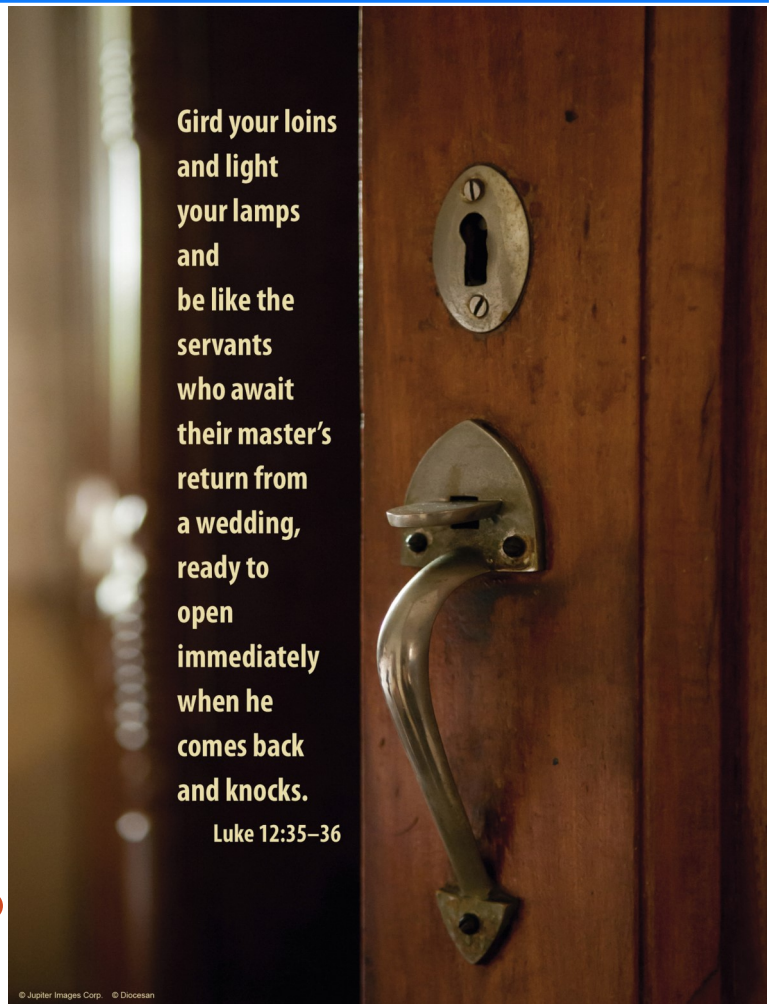
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

Gird your loins
and light
your lamps
and
be like the
servants
who await
their master's
return from
a wedding,
ready to
open
immediately
when he
comes back
and knocks.

Luke 12:35-36



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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 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.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses at Holy Cross will take place at:

7:00 pm on Thursday, August 14
8:00 am and 12:10 PM on Friday, August 15

Masses at Immaculate Conception will take place at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm (Spanish).

2025 FAITH AND CHARITY CATHOLIC APPEAL – TOGETHER IN HOPE™

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. We need your support to help reach our goal.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC) Ending July 27, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	Figures were not Available at the Time of printing. New figures will be in Next weekend's bulletin.		
YTD			
Needs			

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC) Ending July 27, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,031
Second	\$689

**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.**

Dear Parishioners,

Some debates yield no winners. For Italians, there is the eternal question regarding what you call the tomato-based product you pour over pasta: Is it called sauce or is it called gravy? It's a heated topic for some. There have been wars between nations that have been less heated than this gastronomical debate. However, the question of whether what you put on pasta is called "sauce" or "gravy" yields arguments with no clear winners.

Great Debates. For music lovers, the question of which is the best song about a car, "Little Deuce Coupe" (by the Beach Boys) or "G.T.O." (by Ronnie and the Daytonas), yields arguments with no winners. Likewise, for example, the question of which is better:

- Star Wars or Star Trek (My vote — Star Trek, of course)
- Adam West's Batman or Christian Bale's Batman (My vote — Adam West's Batman, of course);
- Pepsi or Coke (My vote — Coke, of course);
- Paul McCartney or John Lennon (My vote — Paul McCartney, of course).

These are all debate questions without definitive answers. There is a theological debate that seemingly traipses on that same type of split-viewpoint argument. It concerns the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which we celebrate this coming Friday.

Different Assumptions. There was, for many years, a great unanswered theological debate regarding the end of the Blessed Virgin Mary's life, relating to her Assumption into Heaven. Some theologians made the claim that, at the end of her life, Mary died and was then assumed into Heaven. Others claimed that Mary didn't die, but slept (entered a "Dormition"), and was then taken into Heaven. From the Fourth Century through the 20th Century, the debate raged. But, in 1950, that debate came to its conclusion, which, as with the debates I mentioned above, saw neither side win; more about that at the end of this column. First, I would like to provide some background information about the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which we celebrate on August 15.

Traditional Values. There were writings from the fourth century (or perhaps earlier) about Mary's young life, death (or Dormition), and Assumption. These events, while not explicitly found in Scripture, are nonetheless part of the Divine Revelation that we call "sacred tradition."

Tradition regarding the Assumption tells us that Jesus appeared to Mary in her house in Jerusalem, where she lived since Pentecost. Her Son tells her that she will soon pass from this life. Soon afterwards, the Apostles, who had travelled hither and yon to spread the Gospel, journeyed back to Judah

to gather together with Mary and bid her farewell. In the fifth century, a chap named John the Theologian wrote a text entitled, "Concerning the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God," which stated, in part:

Stretching out his hands, the Lord received her holy soul. And when her soul departed, the place was filled with a sweet smell and bright light... Peter and John, Paul and Thomas, ran to embrace her feet and receive her holiness; and the twelve apostles laid her holy body on a bier and bore it forth... and laid down her precious and holy body in Gethsemane in a new tomb... for three days the voices of invisible angels were heard glorifying Christ our God, who had been born of her. And when the third day was ended, the voices were no longer heard; and from that time forth all knew that her spotless and precious body had been transferred to paradise.

Mesore, Monsieur. Similarly, St. Theodocius of Alexandria related the scene of the Assumption, with the notable difference being that there were 206 days from Mary's entombment to her Assumption; he wrote, in part:

[Christ said to his Apostles] "There are two hundred and six days from her death unto her holy assumption... [when] I will translate her up to the heavens to be with My Father and the Holy Ghost, that she may continue praying for you all." ... And it came to pass when the two hundred and six days were fulfilled... on the evening of the fifteenth of Mesore... the body of the honorable Virgin arose, and embraced its own soul.

Okay, so this happened on the 15th of Mesore? What is Mesore? It was the twelfth month on the ancient Egyptian (Coptic) calendar, which corresponds to our month of August. This is how we come to observe the Solemnity of the Assumption on the 15th of August.

East to West. By 600 A.D., a feast called the Dormition of Mary, celebrated on August 15, honoring Mary's assumption into heaven, was observed in Jerusalem and in all the Churches of the East. Some centuries later, this observance would take strong root in the West under the title "The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary."

The Big Sleep? However, one question remained: In the tomb, was Mary in a state of Dormition (i.e., profound sleep), or had she experienced death? Those who claim Mary merely had a "Dormition" (sleep) say that since Mary was without sin, and as it is "the wages of sin" that yield death, therefore Mary could

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Rev. John Enemu	Parochial Vicar
Rev. 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
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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. 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
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
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MAILING ADDRESS

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

AUG 17—20TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 38:4-6, 8-10

A prophet is rejected in his own land.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 12:1-4

To follow the Lord is to run the race, steadily, constantly, always with Jesus in our sights.

GOSPEL: LUKE 12:49-53

Loyalty to our faith can mean paying a hard price.

O.C.I.A.

Here's your invitation to join us for a journey into the Catholic Christian Faith. Do you or someone you know have an interest in becoming a Catholic Christian? We will begin our classes on Sunday, September 7, starting at 9:00 AM on the second floor of the Early Learning Center. Not Sure? Asking for a friend? Join us on Thursday evening, August 28, at 7:00 PM on the second floor of the Early Learning Center to learn more about the process of becoming a Catholic Christian. Call our Religious Education Office at 302-674-5787, ext. 122, or visit our website at WWW.HolyCrossDover.org and click on the link, 'Receiving The Sacraments', and go to O.C.I.A. Looking forward to meeting you and answering your questions.

SAMARITAN'S FOOD PANTRY

Please help us restock our Samaritan Pantry. The pantry is still in need of the following items: Cereal, oatmeal, one pound bags of white rice, peanut butter, jelly, Brownie mix, canned goods, hamburger helper, Manwich, and soups/chunky soups. Meat or burger can be left in the freezer in the drop-off door behind the rectory.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Social Concerns Committee will be collecting school supplies in the Gathering Space this weekend. Items such as pencils, pens, glue sticks, 24 count Crayola crayons, notebooks, lined writing paper, and scissors for kids would be greatly appreciated.

CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER

The Cathedral of Saint Peter, in the historic Quaker Hill section of the City of Wilmington, is the Bishop's own parish and the cen-

ter of Catholicism in our diocese. It was built over 200 years ago – 50 years before the founding of the Diocese of Wilmington – and continues with a small but dedicated parish community and school. In 2015, the diocese instituted an annual special collection to support the maintenance and ministry of our Cathedral. This year, the collection will be held on August 16 & 17. For more information and to make a secure online donation, visit www.downtowncatholic.com. We thank you for your generosity.

NEWLY REGISTERED

Welcome to our newest members:

- Nick, Linda and Ellen Radovich
- Robert & Denise Turner
- Andrew, Abigail, Olive, Morgan and Trey Grippe

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families of the those who have recently passed:

- Mary Jane Tabbia
- Theo Alessandro Gail

40 DAYS FOR LIFE SIDEWALK ADVOCATES NEEDS YOU!

If you have the heart for praying for moms and babies as the last line of defense, please join our small group on Thursdays after mass till Noon. I'm also needing volunteers to be present in the afternoon. Many babies have been spared because a mother saw an advocate on the sidewalk. God saves even if no words are exchanged. He alone changes hearts! Let's chat!! Donna Latteri 862-266-1099 Next campaign begins Sept 24 - Nov 2.

OUR LADY OF PEACE RETREAT

Please join our group for a full weekend spiritual retreat on September 12 at 5 pm to September 14 at 12 noon at the Malvern Retreat House, St. Joseph Hall, 315 S. Warren Ave, Malvern, Pa., 610-644-0400
Cost is \$275 when you simply call the Malvern Retreat House to register.
For more information, you may call Claire Sheppard, 302-598-4922 or send email to claireshep1502@gmail.com

MASS INTENTION AUGUST

11 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Hans & Virginia Crews

12 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Al & Mary Fountain

13 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:15 am Len & Marie Dornberger

14 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Robert M. Sadusky, Jr.
HC 7:00 pm Gerardine Gavan

15 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Art & Camille Betts
HC 12:10 pm George & Alfina Seelig
ICC 5:30 pm For the People
ICC 7:00 pm For the People

16 SATURDAY

HC 8:00 pm Manuel Gonzalez
HC 5:00 pm Joe Casey, Jr.

17 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Thomas H. Combs
ICC 8:30 am Ed & Elvira Lemp
HC 9:30 am Soledad & Martin Banez
ICC 11:00 am Frank Erganzinger
HC 11:30 am For the People
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

Aug 10 -Aug 16 Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intention of HC Parishioners.

Aug 10-Aug 16 Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intention of Tom Steir .

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week, learn about AI and social media when Catholic educator and tech expert, Paul Sanfrancesco, is the guest. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DioceesofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30. More information is available at cdow.org/CatholicForum and [FaceBook.com/CatholicForum](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicForum).

AUGUST 16/17, 2025

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

D. Field
S. Garber

C. Helwig
D Kaltenbaugh

W. Shuron
t. Tiedemann

LECTORS

L. Christiansen

7:30 AM

L. Luckett
R. O'Neill

T. Svienty
W. Thomas

L. Thomas
G. Thomas

LECTORS

C. Cuffee

9:30 AM

F. Hanlin
K. Kelly

D. McGinnis
L. Olmstead

A. Wilk
C. Wilk

LECTORS

R. Alderman
J. Amoako

11:30 AM

A. Cisneros
C. Garcia

B. Guzman

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

D. Smith

LECTORS

D. Smith

11:00 AM

L. Schlaupitz

LECTORS

L. Soule

HELP WANTED—WE NEED YOU



We are looking for more volunteers to help us bring Holy Communion to the sick and homebound of our parish.

We can always use more volunteers to help at Mass as an Altar Server, Extra-Ordinary Minister of Communion, or a Lector. If interested please contact the Parish Office at 3020-674-5787.

ADORATION CHAPEL

The Christian life needs to be nourished by attentive listening to God's word and, above all, by the cultivation of a personal relationship with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration, the privileged "place" for our encounter with God.

Pope Francis - World Youth Day 2016

Hours open and needed:

Sunday 7AM 5-6PM 8-9PM

Monday 7-8AM 5-6PM

Friday 2-3PM

Saturday 12-1PM 1-2PM 7-8PM 8-9PM

If you are a current Adorer and can no longer make your hour, please make contact with Adoration Coordinator. Contact John Murphy for more information. Phone or text at 302-233-1779 or email jkm@verizon.net.

CLASS REUNION FOR HCHS

Holy Cross High School Alumni Reunion

Saturday August 16, 2025 at 6:30 in the Holy Cross Gym. Visit Holycrossdover.com to register Any questions call Scott Davis '87 at 302-270-9290.

COLUMBIETTES PAMPER CHEF PARTY

The Dover Columbiettes will be hosting a Pampered Chef Party on Sunday, August 17 at 1 pm at the Columbian Home, 219 Vepco Blvd.. Camden, DE. Join us for a few hands on recipes using some great kitchen tools. We will enjoy the fruits of our labors when we are done.

You may order online if you are unable to attend in person -

<https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/columbiette4182>

Proceeds go to assist the many community agencies we assist throughout the year.

RACHELL'S VINEYARD

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of October 24-26, 2025. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with grief and loss from abortion or miscarriage. 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 October 11.

HOLY CROSS GOLF LEAGUE

The Holy Cross Golf League is sponsoring a golf tournament at Jonathan's Landing on Wednesday, September 3 to benefit the Youth Ministry at Holy Cross. We're looking for golfers and sponsors. Please contact Phil Spampinato, 302-382-2979, Wes Grau, 302-270-8111 or Greg Coury, 302-883-4000 for more information.

- **Limpieza General de nuestra parroquia:** Se les invita a todos a la limpieza general el sábado 23 de agosto a partir de las 7:30 de la mañana. Traigan sus herramientas de limpieza. Si desea ayudar financieramente con el Mulch o las plantas o almuerzo para los voluntarios por favor de comunicarse con la oficina o con algun miembro de nuestra Junta Directiva. Todos estan invitados a participar. Somos iglesia, somos comunidad, somos hermanos en Cristo Jesus y la casa se limpia.
- **Fiestas Patronales.** La novena en honor a la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cross comienza el 5 de septiembre a las 7:00 pm. quedan todos invitados.
- **Festival Hispano celebrando las patronales:** El domingo 14 de septiembre en los predios de nuestra parroquia, Habra partidos de futbol, venta de comida y mucho mas, venga traiga a su familia, amigos, vecinos y pasemos un dia agradable con la familia parroquial.
- **Conquistando las Naciones para Cristo Retiros:** de Adoslecentes 14-17 años 6-7 Septiembre, 2025 en la iglesia Santa Maria del Refugio de los pecadores 2000 Hambrooks Blvd. Cambridge, MD 21613 Donacion es de \$100. Cupo es limitado
- Retiro de Sanacion Interior para Hombres y mujeres mayores de 18 años 10-12 de Octubre, 2025, en la iglesia Santa Maria del Refugio de los pecadores 2000 Hambrooks Blvd. Cambridge, MD 21613 Donacion es de \$125. Cupo es limitado
- **Foro Cristiano :** El Foro Cristiano comienza el viernes, 12 de septiembre de 6:00pm a 8:00pm en el ELC segundo piso. El tema de este año es Symbolon " LA FE DE LA IGLESIA". Quedan todos invitados a conocer y a profundizar mas en su Fe catolica.
- **Educación Religiosa 2025-26** Las inscripciones para las clases de Educación Religiosa 2025-26 K-8 "YA ESTAN ABIERTAS" **Opción 1:** Kínder a 4.º grado y preparación sacramental/OCIA: martes por la tarde, de 6:00 a 7:30. 5.º a 8.º grado: miércoles por la tarde, de 6:00 a 7:30. **Opción 2:** LAFF (Catequesis Familiar Viviendo en Familia de Fe); Reunión de adultos y niños, el primer y tercer domingo de mes. La familia trabaja en actividades entre ambos. Para situaciones familiares especiales en las que su hijo no pueda asistir a ninguno de los horarios mencionados, comuníquese con nuestra oficina para programar una cita y trabajaremos con usted. Por favor, no deje que la educación religiosa de su hijo se vea interrumpida. Para familias con niños con necesidades especiales, ofrecemos formación en la fe individualmente. Para más detalles, comuníquese con la Oficina de Educación Religiosa. La preparación para la Primera Reconciliación y la Primera Comunión generalmente se realiza en nuestro programa de Nivel 2. Está dirigido a niños que han completado el Nivel 1 (generalmente corresponde a 1.º grado) y que tienen al menos 7 años de edad. Además de la asistencia del niño a las clases regulares, se espera que las familias asistan a las siguientes actividades: Reuniones de Preparación para Padres, Día de Reflexión para Padres/Candidatos de Primera Reconciliación; Día de Retiro para Padres/Candidatos de Primera Comunión. La Primera Reconciliación tendrá lugar en marzo. La Primera Comunión tendrá lugar en mayo. Costo: 1 niño—\$150 2 niños—\$260 3 niños o mas—\$340. \$75.- adicional para la preparación sacramental de la Reconciliación y la Primera Comunión. Para más información comuníquese con: Tammy Korosec. Coordinadora d E.R. tkorosec@holycrossdover.org .302.674.5787 ext 122
- **Cuadrangular de Futbol** en ICC Los Jóvenes de nuestra parroquia gemela de la Inmaculada Concepción invitan a los jóvenes a participar en un cuadrangular inter-parroquial el domingo, 10 de agosto, a las 2:00 de la tarde, Habrá venta de comida y mucho más.
- **La Virgen Peregrina:** La Virgen Peregrina comenzará a visitar los hogares, si usted desea que la imagen de la virgen peregrina visite su casa por una semana, hable con nuestra hermana Marta Espinosa
- **APOSTOLADO DE LAS SIETE HERMANAS EN LA SANTA CRUZ**

Al fortalecer al sacerdote, fortaleces a toda la Iglesia... (P. Gerald Fitzgerald, SP)

Únase al Apostolado de las Siete Hermanas en Holy Cross para ofrecer: Una hora santa, Por un sacerdote; Cada semana, Un corazón de oración. Contacto: Delizabeth Díaz-Martínez correo electrónico 7sistersapostolate2023@gmail.com

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA DEL ICC:

- **Las inscripciones para el año escolar 2025-2026** ya están disponibles en la oficina y en línea. Por favor de inscribir a su hijo lo antes posible. Se aceptaran aplicaciones para las clases dominicales hasta el 1 de agosto. Por favor inscriba a su hijo ahora.
- Formación para catequistas el martes 9 de septiembre a las 7:00pm en el salón parroquial
- Día de Retiro para catequistas sábado 20 de septiembre de 10 de la mañana a 2 de la tarde

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025-26 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION K-8 SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN!

Go to Holycrossdover.org for more information and forms.

Parents, Jesus said, "let the children come to me." In God's love, bring your child to life, and accept our invitation to assist you in the faith formation of your child. Our religious education programs can communicate information and provide experiences for celebrating the sacraments, but the practice and example of your living out the faith as a family is of equal importance.

Children need to see a connection between what they learn in class and what they experience at home. Be assured that we are available to assist you in whatever way we can. We only ask in return for your active participation in the formation process by living your faith daily by good example, and by joining the parish community each Sunday for the celebration of Mass and the other sacraments. This is absolutely essential to make that connection. Please Contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122 for further information or assistance.

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If you feel you have a calling to become a catechist for either our K-8 program or our confirmation program, please contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122 for further information. Volunteers are required to complete a criminal background check.

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LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

Is your family interested in either starting or continuing their life-long faith journey together? Would you as parents like to be active participants in the faith formation of your children? Deacon Vince Pisano has the perfect Religious Education program for you and your family!

This program engages the family, whether it be parents with K-8 children, or a family who wants to enter the Catholic church and receive

the sacraments of initiation together hand in hand. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, and sharing our Faith Life experiences.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Ed Class with Deacon Bob is taking the summer off! Stay tuned for class offerings beginning in September! If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

Registration for preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring of 2026 may be found on the parish website. Copies were emailed home to parents as well. Please get your registration is ASAP. They must be in before the Parents' Mtg.

Parent Meeting for Confirmation Candidates: will take place on Sunday, September 7 at 7 pm in the Parish Hall OR Monday, September 8 at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Parents are asked to attend one of these meetings - teens are welcome to join.

Peer Leaders for Confirmation—Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 17 at 7 pm in the Matthew Mark room of the ELC building. Please be present.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ICC

Registrations are available at the office and online for 2025-2026 SRE year are being accepted now until August 1st. Registration is at the Parish office, weekdays and some Sundays. ***Please register now, so we can have enough teachers and plan accordingly. Do not worry about paying now, get your children registered now. Do not put off on Religious Formation. Classes start on Sunday, September 21 @9:40am. Children must be registered to attend.

Catechist in-service on Tuesday, September 9th @ 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Catechist Retreat Day: Saturday, September 20th 10am-2pm.

Dear Parishioners,

This past week was incredibly productive as we continue preparing for the start of another exciting school year. Many of our summer projects are wrapping up, including the transition and reorganization of several classrooms across campus. We have also been working on setting up new spaces to support our students, such as our Crusader Academic Center and the office for our new school counselor. We look forward to sharing more about these initiatives with you in the coming weeks.

We also welcomed some of our new faculty members to campus for introductory tours and orientation. It was a joy to see them beginning to connect with our community. We are especially grateful to the veteran teachers who took time out of their summer to offer guidance, answer questions, and share their love of Holy Cross. Their support helps ensure our new staff feel confident and prepared to step into their roles this fall.

This coming week, our new teachers will travel north to attend the Diocese of Wilmington's New Teacher Orientation. This day offers important faith formation and professional development, and is led by our superintendent and diocesan staff. It is also a great opportunity for new Catholic educators to build connections and form a sense of shared mission as they begin their journey within our diocese.

On Friday, we also sent out our first weekly staff memo for the year. Much like our Crusader Notes for families, our weekly faculty memo includes updates on the past week, previews of upcoming events and schedules, and any reminders or announcements needed to keep things running smoothly. While we hold regular faculty meetings each month, our campus spans four buildings, so consistent communication is essential. This memo helps keep everyone on the same page and fosters unity across our team. With that first memo sent, it is starting to feel like we are truly back in the rhythm of the school year.

Some of our teachers are already returning to campus, getting a head start on setting up their classrooms and planning for a great year ahead. Their excitement is contagious and reminds us how blessed we are to have such a dedicated faculty.

We hope our students and families are enjoying these final weeks of summer. Be sure to keep an eye out for our first Crusader Notes of the school year, which will be sent out this Friday, August 15. That edition will include all important back to school information, key dates, and helpful reminders in one place. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We are here to help and happy to connect.

Wishing you continued blessings and summer joy,

Mrs. O'Mara

not experience death, but rather “rested in peace” during her Dormition. Those who claim Mary died say that “Dormition” is merely a way of expressing death – hence, when the priest prays at Mass during the Roman Canon, “May all those who sleep in Christ, find a place of refreshment, light and peace,” he is speaking of those who have died.

Some Pius Thoughts. Who wins this debate? Well, in 1950 Pope Pius XII, in *Munificentissimus Deus* (say that three times fast), stated infallibly that the Assumption is to be held as part of the Deposit of Faith and must be believed by all the faithful. However, regarding the question of Dormition, he defined the Assumption as follows:

“Mary, the immaculate perpetually Virgin Mother of God, after the completion of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into the glory of heaven.”

So, Pope Pius XII clarified the matter by, in fact, not clarifying the matter. Rather, regarding the significance of the Assumption, he made that point, implicitly, that it has nothing to do with whether Mary slept or died. The key point of the Assumption has to do with the fact that Mary was assumed body and soul into Heaven, and that, therefore, we too can share that hope of Heaven. Moreover, it tells us that after death, and after the final judgment, we too can hope to experience what Mary has already experienced: having body and soul reunited for eternity. And, importantly, for us, this is more than just an Assumption – it’s a blessed hope.

The Assumption in 67 Words. All of that history and dogma are boiled down into 67 words that we hear on the Solemnity of the Assumption in the opening prayer (the collect). The prayer says the following:

Almighty ever-living God, who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of your Son, body and soul into heavenly glory, grant we pray, that, always attentive to the things that are above, we may merit to be sharers of her glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let me Preface these Remarks. With even greater definition, the Preface of the Mass for the Assumption (the Preface of the Mass is the text that is read before the Eucharistic Prayer), makes the significance of this Holy Day even clearer, as it expounds:

Today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church’s coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people; rightly you would not allow her to see the corruption of the tomb since from her own body she marvelously brought forth your incarnate Son, the Author of all life.

But perhaps Pope Benedict XVI, of happy memory, expresses the significance of Mary’s Assumption — her being taken, Body and soul, into heaven — in words he spoke in 2005. I will end this column with these beautiful words about the Assumption from the late Pope Benedict XVI:

“Mary is taken up body and soul into the glory of Heaven, and with God and in God she is Queen of Heaven and earth. But is she really so remote from us? The contrary is true. Precisely because she is with God and in God, she is very close to each one of us.

“While she lived on this earth she could only be close to a few people... Being in God and with God, she is close to each one of us, knows our hearts, can hear our prayers, can help us with her motherly kindness and has been given to us, as the Lord said, precisely as a “mother” to whom we can turn at every moment. She always listens to us, she is always close to us, and being Mother of the Son, participates in the power of the Son and in his goodness.

“We can always entrust the whole of our lives to this Mother, who is not far from any one of us.”

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor