

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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

www.iccmarydel.org

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

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

August 21, 2016 – Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
7:00 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. John Olson, Associate Pastor

Rev. Michael Angeloni, Associate Pastor

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**.

Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

In 1976, comedic genius Mel Brooks, who had to that point crafted some amazingly funny movies – “Blazing Saddles,” “Young Frankenstein,” “The Producers,” “Silent Movie” to name but a few – decided to return to television comedy. He decided that he would produce a series that would be a comedic version of Robin Hood. The show was called “When Things Were Rotten.” It focused on Robin Hood and his Merry Men battling the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and the power of the King, in 13th century England. Very funny, but the show entered the graveyard of TV flops after but a season.

Kings: From Bad to Verse. While I cannot remember much about any one single episode of that series, the theme song (written by Mel Brooks) to this day still lingers in the recesses of my mind. The opening verse of that song, speaks to the understanding many people then and now had of Kings... and it wasn't a good one. The lyrics went like this: “Once upon a time when things were rotten / not just food, but also kings were rotten. /

Everybody kicked the peasants / Things were bad and that ain't good / ...then came Robin Hood, Voila!”

Rotten kings! From our American perspective, we buy that stereotype: Monarchy is contrary to democratic rule, therefore to our way of thinking, the presumption is that Kings are bad, dare I say rotten. However, Catholic history – and scriptural history – tells us that while there were bad kings there were also good kings, good monarchs – both kings and queens. Yes, there were bad ones – and the bad ones, back “when things were rotten,” were really bad. However, this month on August 16 (last week), and in the following week on August 25 (next week), we find the Church honoring two really amazing and saintly kings. I want to talk about these monarchs of Catholicism and what made them so memorable and gave them a place in Heaven.

St. Stephen and the Hungary Years: Putting last week first, let's roll back to August 16: On that day the Church honors St. Stephen of Hungary, the first King of Hungary. St. Stephen got the greatest Christmas gift ever (even

better than a ginsu knife or a Chiapet): On December 25, 1000, he was crowned the first King of Hungary. The crown he received came from the Pope. He reigned until 1038, outliving all of his children.

What did St. Stephen of Hungary do that was so amazing? Well, at the close of the 10th century, the area that we today call Hungary was one of the last areas in a Christian Europe still populated by practitioners of pagan religions. Those people – many of them – were the descendants of the barbaric tribe called the Huns (as in Attila, the Hun). Hence that area was informally referred to as “Hun-gary.” But these pagan religionists were on the decline, and St. Stephen, a Catholic, saw the rapid growth of Catholicism. He managed to win the throne from his uncle, the last of the pagan claimants to the throne. Upon becoming King, St. Stephen united the disparate factions of Hungary – notable the Magyar peoples – under the Catholic faith. Additionally, he declared the Hungarian kingship “apostolic”

St. Stephen brought a taste of peace and stability to a country previously disunited. He declared Latin the official language of the newly formed Kingdom of Hungary – a language that remained in use and official until the mid 19th century. St. Stephen loved his faith, and he loved his people – and he united his people under the Cross of Christ, in this kingdom. Bruce Springsteen might say that St. Stephen had a Hungary Heart (ouch). By the good work of St. Stephen, today, Hungary, the land that gave us goulash and Zsa Zsa Gabor, remains very Catholic in its composition: according to a recent poll, 58% of Hungarians are Catholic (and nearly three-quarters Christian, overall). The Hungarian constitution, which references back to the time of St. Stephen, “recognizes Christianity’s nation-building role [for Hungary].”

St. Louis meets the Cardinals. On August 25, the universal Church celebrates the memorial of another great King: King St. Louis IX (for whom St. Louis, Missouri is named). He became King of France in 1226 at the age of 12. He was famously devout in his faith. Once after his nation had been embroiled in a war, he made restitution to innocent people whose property had been destroyed in the battles, both at home and in the vanquished nation. St. Louis once made a trip to Rome but was scandalized by the behavior of some in the Papal court, including some of the Cardinals he encountered. He noted on his

return to Paris, that the fact the Church can survive such scandalous figures as he had seen on his 13th century trip to Rome, proves that Church must be Divine in its institution, or else it would certainly have collapsed.

For all his other accomplishments, what was most important to Louis IX, was – as it is for so many parents today – to pass his faith on this son. He knew his son was in line for the throne and wanted him to be a faith-filled ruler. To this end, here’s what King St. Louis wrote to his son, from his death bed.

“My dearest son, my first instruction is that you should love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your strength. Without this there is no salvation. If the Lord has permitted you to have some trial, bear it willingly and with gratitude; If the Lord bestows upon you any kind of prosperity, thank him humbly and see that you become no worse for it, either through vain pride or anything else. Be kindhearted to the poor, the unfortunate and the afflicted. Give them as much help and consolation as you can. Thank God for all the benefits he has bestowed upon you, that you may be worthy to receive greater. Always side with the poor rather than with the rich, until you are certain of the truth. Be devout and obedient to our mother the Church of Rome and the Supreme Pontiff as your spiritual father. My dearest son, I give you every blessing that a loving father can give a son. Do the Lord’s will so that he may be served and honored through you, that in the next life we may together come to see him, love him and praise him unceasingly. Amen.”

Following up this column on Kings, next week we will focus not on Kings, but on a Queen – our Blessed Mother, Mary, the Queen of Heaven and Earth. More specifically, I will be examining the history behind the memorial feast day (on August 22) known as the Queenship of Mary. Good King St. Louis (Aug. 25) and King St. Stephen of Hungary (Aug. 16), pray for us!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. James Lentini

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun., Aug 21 8:30am: Dave Stout
11:00am: Judy Lovett
Misa en Español **7:00pm:** For the People
Thu., Aug 25 7:00pm: For the People
Sun., Aug 28 8:30am: Catherine Gravenor
11:00am: Fuller & Hinebaugh families
Misa en Español **7:00pm:** For the People

Our Mass book is presently filled for the 2016 year. There are Masses available for intentions at Masses in Spanish.

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory: \$2475.00
Supplementary Offertory \$ 927.16

Second Collection Today: Supplementary Offertory

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



Knights of Columbus: Meet every 2nd & 4th Tues., at 6:30pm. For more info, contact Grand Knight, Harry Brown 302-233-8336 or daddyvofone12307@gmail.com

Join us for the next Knights of Columbus Breakfast on Sunday, September 11.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Aug 21 Tom & Mary McGowan
Aug 28 Julia Moore & Paul McQuaide
Sep 4 Marianne Lemon & Diane Nagyiski

Church Cleaning Crew

August 27, 2016 Grupo #1
Ovidio Roblero, **Natalina Capistran**, Fausto Ortiz,
Everilda Pérez, Amanda Salas, Ashley Salas

September 1, 2016 Grupo #2 Rectoría-Oficina
Rafael Morales, **Marcos González**, Osvaldo Miranda
Eleazar Santizo, Reyna Morales

September 3, 2016 Grupo #3
Reynaldo Pérez, Maribel Ortiz, Juventino López,
Isenia Escalante, Clemente Escalante

Altar Servers

Aug 28
8:30am Mass – Evan Nagyiski
11:00am Mass – Meg & Vince Haass & Sherlin Santizo
Spanish Misa 7pm – Haylin Bartolon & Jose Ortiz

Lectors

Aug 28
8:30am Mass – Marilyn Dixon
11:00am Mass – Sherry Tucker
Spanish Misa 7pm – Marcos Díaz, Froilán Berduo

Eucharistic Ministers

Aug 28
8:30am Mass – Deacon & Charlotte Tormey & Mark Plucenik
11:00am Mass – Deacon Mitchell, Judy Carrow & Bob Vanvessan
Spanish Misa 7pm – Carlos Miguel, Flora Pérez, Natalina Capistran

Going on Vacation?

The Catholic Diocese of Wilmington is blessed to have, a number of wonderful vacation and resort areas. Whether enjoying the history & natural beauty of the towns along the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay, or the family fun of a Delaware or Maryland Atlantic Ocean resort vacation; you'll find a Catholic community nearby ready to welcome you with open arms. To find Mass times, visit www.cdow.org or, anywhere else in the US, visit www.masstimes.org



SCHEDULED EVENTS

Mon, Aug 22 & Wed Aug 24 7pm ESL
Fri, Aug 26 6:30pm Wedding rehearsal
Fri, Aug 26 8pm Vigilia
Sat. Aug 27 4pm Wedding



Choir practice. Practice for Confirmation will be **Aug 28th, Sept 4th & Sept 11th** in between masses at approx 9:30.

Native American Retreat Sept. 24th

You are invited to attend a free Native American Retreat Day titled "Come Aside Awhile and Rest on Holy Ground: A Retreat with Black Elk" on Saturday, September 24, at 309 Green St, Bear, Delaware from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mass will be held at 5 p.m. at nearby Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Come and enjoy nature, and reflections of your own spirit. Register by Sept 14 with Sharon Ward, Sharon wsward2@verizon.net, phone 302-545-3383 or Gail Rando gailvets2@gmail.com phone 352-445-2350. Sponsored by Diocese of Wilmington Native American Ministry.

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

Through Mary, Jesus came into the world. She nurtured him, witnessed his passion, and stood by the apostles at Pentecost. Mary's life mirrors God's relationship with us during times of bliss and agony. Despite being the mother of God, she focused on those in need, the hungry, the poor, the lowly. Let go of your importance today and join Mary.

Parenting Pointer –

Imposing a punishment is no fun for the parent or the child. First parents must show self-discipline in deciding the best action, then execute it with loving firmness. What's your discipline of choice - an extra chore, removal of a privilege, time-out...?



This week, Luke talks about Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Along the way, someone asked Jesus "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" Jesus replies "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." Bring It Home by asking; are you strong enough to enter the Kingdom of God? Practice a Work of Mercy this week. Forgive someone who has hurt you, talk to someone who is doubting, help at a food pantry, donate clothes to those less fortunate. Take time to talk to each other, really listening, and not just talking.



FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education

Religious Education Classes for 2016-2017

Classes run Sept 25 - May 7 9:40am-10:50am on Sundays

- Please return Registrations to the office of Religious Education by August 15th in order that materials, text books, teachers and classrooms may be organized in time to start in September.
- Registrations for Sacramental prep will be in the mail in upcoming weeks. Please return with payment.

REGISTRATION: For Religious Education on Sunday mornings is being taken now. You may get a copy in the church, at the office or online. Cost for attendance to cover materials and books is \$25 per child, not more than \$100 per family. An additional cost of \$35 for Sacramental preparation of First Reconciliation/Communion, and \$40 for Confirmation Preparation.

LAS MATRICULAS: Para nuestro programa de formación cristiana de niños en domingo todavía están disponibles en la oficina parroquial, en la entrada principal del templo, y en el internet. Favor de entregarlas lo más pronto posible, con una donación de \$25 por cada niño, y no más de \$100 por cada familia. Un costo adicional de \$35 para los Sacramentos cobra para Primera Reconciliación/ Primera Comunión y \$40 para la Confirmación.



Hear the call? Share your talents, time & gifts with our parish. Not sure where? Call Alicia Poppiti, we can find a place for you here!! Training on site; knowledge of the Catholic faith, and a willingness to share your faith and your faith journey with the children and people of our Parish. Salary: the satisfaction of doing the right thing in this life! Benefits: a hundred fold happiness in the next.

Presently needed: a team for Jr. High School is needed and helpers, aides and substitutes are always appreciated. Thank you.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: Following Jesus calls us to risk and not always take the easy road.

Question for Children: How do you show that you are a follower of Jesus?

Question for Youth: Jesus tells us that being His disciple will be very hard. Of all the things that Jesus tells us about the way that we are to live our lives, what is the hardest thing for you to do? Why?

Question for Adults: As you wrestle with today's Gospel, what signs do you see in your own life that you are "with God."

Pregunta de la semana

21º domingo en tiempo ordinario

Tema: Seguir a Jesús implica tomar riesgos y no siempre tomar el camino fácil.

Pregunta para los niños: ¿Cómo muestran que son seguidores de Cristo?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: Jesús nos dice que ser su discípulo será muy duro. De todas las cosas que Jesús nos dice sobre la forma en la que vivimos nuestras vidas, ¿cuál es la más difícil de hacer? ¿Por qué?

Pregunta para los adultos: Mientras luchan con el Evangelio de hoy, ¿qué señales ven en sus propias vidas de que están "con Dios"?

Bishop to commemorate Sept. 11th attacks at two Masses



The Most Reverend W. Francis Malooly, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, will commemorate the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City, at the Pentagon, and Shanksville, PA, with

two Masses on Sunday, September 11, 2016, it was announced recently. The first Mass will take place at Saint Hedwig Church, Linden and Harrison Streets in Wilmington, Delaware at 9:00 a.m. The second Mass will be an outdoor Mass of Remembrance at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 32112 Vines Creek Road in Dagsboro, Delaware at 4:00 p.m. Both Masses are open to the public.

At the Masses, those who were killed in the terrorist attacks on the United States, including first responders will be remembered, and prayers for peace will be prayed.

COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO

PADRE JAMES LENTINI

21 DE AGOSTO, 2016

Estimados Feligreses,

En 1976, el genio de la comedia Mel Brooks, había creado algunas películas increíblemente divertidas - " Sillas de montar calientes ", " Pequeño Frankenstein ", " Los Productores ", " la película muda ", para nombrar sólo unos cuantos - decide regresar a la comedia de la televisión . Decidió que iba a producir una serie que sería una versión de comedia de Robin Hood . El espectáculo se llama " Cuando las cosas están Putrefactas. " Se centró en Robin Hood y sus felices hombres luchando contra el diabólico Sheriff de Nottingham y el poder del Rey , en el siglo 13 en Inglaterra. Muy divertido, pero el espectáculo entró en el cementerio de la televisión después de su primera temporada.

Reyes: De Mal a Verso. Aunque no recuerdo mucho, ninguno en particular de sus episodios de esa serie, el tema musical (escrito por Mel Brooks) para el día de hoy aún perdura en lo más remoto de mi mente. El primer verso de la canción, habla de la imagen que mucha gente tenía entonces y tienen todavía de los Reyes... y no fue una buena imagen. La canción decía así: "Había una vez cuando las cosas estaban putrefactos / no sólo comida, sino también los reyes estaban putrefactos. / Todo el mundo le daba una patada a los campesinos / Las cosas estaban mal y eso no es bueno /... luego vino Robin Hood, Voila! "

Reyes Putrefactos! Desde nuestro punto de vista como estadounidense, aceptamos este estereotipo: La monarquía es contraria a la democracia, por lo tanto, a nuestro modo de pensar, la presunción es que todos los Reyes son malos, me atrevería a decir podridos. Sin embargo, la historia católica - y la historia de las escrituras - nos dicen que si bien había reyes malos también había reyes buenos, buenos monarcas - ambos reyes y reinas. Sí, hubo malos - y los malos, en ese entonces "cuando las cosas estaban putrefactas," eran en realidad bien malos. Sin embargo, en este mes de agosto el 16 (la semana pasada), y la semana siguiente, el 25 de agosto (la próxima semana), nos encontramos con la iglesia honorando a dos reyes realmente sorprendentes y santos. Quiero hablar de estos monarcas del catolicismo y ¿qué fue lo que los hizo tan memorables y que les dio un lugar en el cielo.

San Esteban y Los Años de Hungría: Dando prioridad a la semana pasada, vamos a retroceder al 16 de agosto: En ese día, la Iglesia honra a San Esteban de Hungría, el primer rey de Hungría. San Esteban consiguió el mejor regalo de Navidad: El 25 de diciembre, 1000, fue coronado el primer rey de Hungría. La corona que

recibió vino del Papa. Reinó hasta 1038, sobreviviendo a todos sus hijos.

¿Qué hizo San Esteban de Hungría para hacerlo tan maravilloso y santo? Bueno, al final del siglo 10, el lugar que hoy llamamos Hungría, fue una de los últimos lugares en Europa cristiana todavía pobladas por los practicantes de las religiones paganas. Aquellas personas - muchos de ellos - eran los descendientes de la tribu bárbara llamados los hunos. De ahí que la zona fue conocida informalmente como "Hun-Gary." Pero estos religiosos paganos estaban en declive, y San Esteban, católico, vio el rápido crecimiento del catolicismo. Se las arregló para ganarle el trono a su tío, el último de los reclamantes paganos al trono. Cuando llegue a ser rey, San Esteban convertirá a las facciones paganas de Hungría - notables los pueblos Magyar - bajo la fe católica. Además, declaró el reino de Hungría "apostólica."

San Esteban trajo un sabor de paz y estabilidad a un país previamente desunido. Declaró el latín como el idioma oficial del Reino recién formado de Hungría - un lenguaje que se mantuvo en uso y oficial hasta mediados del siglo 19. San Esteban amaba su fe, y él amaba a su pueblo - y se unió a su pueblo bajo la Cruz de Cristo, en este reinado. Bruce Springsteen podría decir que San Esteban tenía un corazón Húngaro (ay). Por el buen hacer de San Esteban, en la actualidad, Hungría, la tierra que nos dio a Gulyas, y a Zsa Zsa Gabor, sigue siendo muy católico en su composición: según una encuesta reciente, el 58% de los húngaros son católicos (y casi tres cuartas partes Cristianos, en general). La Constitución de Hungría, hace referencia a la época de San Esteban, "reconoce el papel que hizo en la construcción nacional del cristianismo en [Hungría]."

San Luis de Francia se encuentra con los Cardenales. El

25 de agosto, la Iglesia universal celebra la fiesta de otro gran Rey: el rey San Luis IX (ciudades que llevan su nombre; San Luis Potosí, en México y St. Louis, Missouri).

Se convirtió en rey de Francia en 1,226 a la edad de 12. Fue famosamente devoto en su fe. Una vez después que su nación se había visto envuelto en una guerra, él hizo restitución a las personas inocentes cuyas propiedades habían sido destruidas en las batallas, en ambas partes, tanto en casa como en la nación vencida. San Luis hizo un viaje a Roma, estaba escandalizado por el comportamiento de algunos miembros de la corte papal, incluyendo algunos de los cardenales que se encontró. Observó a su regreso a París, el hecho de que la Iglesia puede sobrevivir esos comportamientos escandalosas como había visto en su viaje a Roma en el siglo 13, demuestra que la Iglesia tenía que ser divina en su institución, o de lo que sin duda se habría derrumbado.

EA pesar de sus otros logros, lo que era más lo importante para Luis IX, fue - como lo es, para muchos padres hoy en día - es pasarle su fe en sus hijos. Él sabía que su hijo estaba en la línea para el trono y quería que fuera una regla llena de fe. Con este fin,

esto es lo que el rey San Luis escribió a su hijo, desde su lecho de muerte

"Hijo amadísimo, lo primero que quiero enseñarte es que ames al Señor, tu Dios, con todo tu corazón y con todas tus fuerzas; sin ello no hay salvación posible.

Hijo, debes guardarte de todo aquello que sabes que desagrada a Dios, esto es, de todo pecado mortal, de tal manera que has de estar dispuesto a sufrir toda clase de martirios antes que cometer un pecado mortal.

Además, si el Señor permite que te aflija alguna tribulación, debes soportarla generosamente y con acción de gracias, pensando que es para tu bien y que es posible que la hayas merecido. Y, si el Señor te concede prosperidad, debes darle gracias con humildad y vigilar que sea en detrimento tuyo, por vanagloria o por cualquier otro motivo, porque los dones de Dios no han de ser causa de que le ofendas.

Asiste, de buena gana y con devoción, al culto divino y, mientras estés en el templo, guarda recogida la mirada y no hables sin necesidad, sino ruega devotamente al Señor, con oración vocal o mental.

Ten piedad para con los pobres, desgraciados y afligidos, y ayúdalos y consuélalos según tus posibilidades. Da gracias a Dios por todos sus beneficios, y así te harás digno de recibir otros mayores. Para con tus súbditos, obra con toda rectitud y justicia, sin desviarte a la derecha ni a la izquierda;

ponte siempre más del lado del pobre que del rico, hasta que averigües de qué lado está la razón. Pon la mayor diligencia en que todos tus súbditos vivan en paz y con justicia, sobre todo las personas eclesiásticas y religiosas.

Sé devoto y obediente a nuestra madre, la Iglesia romana, y al sumo pontífice, nuestro padre espiritual. Esfuérate en alejar de tu territorio toda clase de pecado, principalmente la blasfemia y la herejía.

Hijo amadísimo, llegado al final, te doy toda la bendición que un padre amante puede dar a su hijo; que la santísima Trinidad y todos los santos te guarden de todo mal. Y que el Señor te dé la gracia de cumplir su voluntad, de tal manera que reciba de ti servicio y honor, y así, después de esta vida, los dos lleguemos a verlo, amarlo y alabarlo sin cesar. Amén.

Siguiendo esta columna de Reyes, la próxima semana no nos centraremos en Reyes, sino en Reinas - Específicamente en nuestra Madre, María, la Reina del Cielo y de la Tierra., yo estaré preparando y examinaré la historia detrás del día de su fiesta conmemorativa (el 22 de agosto) conocido como la Realeza de María. Buen rey San Luis (25 de Agosto) y el rey San Esteban de Hungría (16 de Agosto), irueguen por nosotros!

Suyo en Cristo,

P. James Lentini

Pastor