

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 27, 2023

PARISH OFFICE HOURS School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

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

Schoon Summer, Mon... SCHOOLS OFFIL. School Year, Monday-Friday, 6. Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 p SunDAY MASS SCHEDULE Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Frida 'av, 8 am 'ay – 8:15 am 's, 9 am only (Pre-'ay, Indep Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Satur-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

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

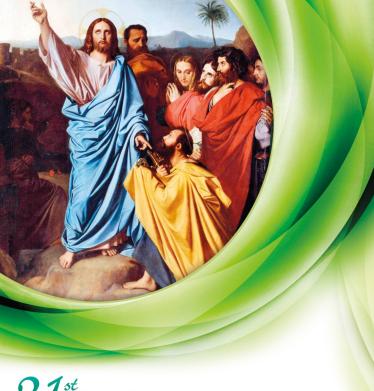
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 9:30 am Thursday, 6:30 pm

21st Sunday Ordinary Time



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

sus Returning the Keys to St. Peter by Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, 1820 © Dincesan

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.

happenings

DISASTER IN HAWAII

We've gotten several inquires regarding donations to help with the disaster in Hawaii. Interested parishioners should be directed to Catholic Charities USA to donate to the recovery effort.

https://www.catholiccharitiesusa. org/?form=hawaii23 is a direct link to the donation page.

Please note that the Mass Book for 2024 does not open until November 1, 2023. We cannot take intentions for 2024 until we can open the new year Mass Book.

We have NO intentions slots available at Holy Cross for 2023. We do have openings for the Adoration Chapel candle or Tabernacle candle.

Thank you.

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC) Ending August 13, 2023

Offertory Type	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$27,471	\$26,180	\$1,291
YTD	\$181,707	\$184,240	(\$2,533)
Needs	\$1,293	\$1,712	(\$419)

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC) Ending August 13,2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,026
Second Collection	\$585

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,

On television in recent years, there have been revivals of tv series from the past. These revivals were of shows wellremembered, usually constantly still before our eyes in reruns, and that have or had a committed following. Thus in the past decade or so, we saw revivals of *Dallas*, *Roseanne, Murphy Brown, One Day at a Time, Hawaii 5-0, The Twilight Zone, X-Files, Melrose Place, Magnum P.I., S.W.A.T., McGyver, Lost in Space*, and many more.

Seeking a Greater Audience. Now, some say that bringing these classic shows back — reviving them — with new episodes is proof that Hollywood has run out of ideas (true), and is just doing retreads. But, others say that there is a benefit to these revivals as it gives a new generation a taste of what once made television so good (also, true). Some shows are just carbon copies of the original, others put a different focus — all are to make one appreciate the elements of what made the original so good. In either event, the goal is to expand the audience to a new generation.

The Eucharistic Revival. In the Church right now, we are in the midst of what is called the "National Eucharistic Revival" — a call to shine the light and focus of our faith on the Eucharist, that is, on Jesus Christ's Real Presence to us in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

Coming to Terms with the Terms. Now, I have to say, when I first heard of this initiative, I looked askance on the name of it: "Eucharistic Revival." I did so for two reasons:

- Firstly, the term revival is an old-time protestant evangelical term that brings to mind the "revival tents" of a certain era, and certainly some "revival tent charlatans" who were less than sincere in their reasons for the "revival."
- Secondly, and more importantly (because words mean things), a "revival" is bringing back something that went away. The Eucharist has never, and will never go away as Christ said, "I will be with you always, even unto the end of the age." With that in mind, how can you revive something that never went away? The vocabulary section of my brain went into full rebellion. But, after some comfort food and caffeine, I came to see that the "revival" here is not about "reviving" the Eucharist, but rather about reviving people's fervor and devotion toward the Eucharist.

Why Now? So, with my shift in understanding, the only remaining question I pondered was the pragmatic issue of, "Why now?" And I read a piece on the Eucharistic Revival that put thing into the great perspective and helped me understand the answer to the question, "Why now?" Here's what I read:

"Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response in this moment is pivotal. In the midst of these roaring waves, Jesus is present, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world. How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation."

Making it Personal. To that end, Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception are leading the charge here in the central part of the Diocese on this matter. There have been events since June that highlight the Blessed Sacrament and there are more opportunities to come. Though, that being said, this can't be an event-driven revival — people, the faithful, must revive their personal devotion to the Eucharist. In addition to attending Mass, they can do this by, for example:

- spending time in prayer in our two parish Churches (which are two of the few that are open all day, every day, morning to early evening) before the tabernacle in which is reserved the Real Presence of our Lord.
- signing up for prayer time in the Adoration Chapel at Holy Cross which is open morning to night on the campus of Holy Cross.
- reading-up on the saints with a special devotion to the Eucharist (like St. Clare of Assisi, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Peter Julian Eymard, Pope St. John Paul II, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, St. Margaret Mary, St. Alphonsus Liguori, St. Cyprian of Carthage, and the three St. Theresas (St. Theresa of Calcutta, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Teresa of Avila)
- reading the Catechism of the Catholic Church's teachings on the Eucharist
- reading the Bread of Life discourse in the Gospel of St. John (6:22-59)
- reintroducing oneself to key doctrine on the Eucharist (transubstantiation, Real Presence, and concomitance)

A Pastor's Role. In the coming year, as Pastor, I will be writing on the Eucharist (maybe a "revival" of my former writings on the topic revised), preaching on the Eucharist as appropriate, and, to the point of this column, providing many opportunities for Eucharistic devotion.

The Year Ahead. Back in June, both Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception parishes did something that, sadly, many other parishes didn't do: our two Par-

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini, V. F. Msgr. Daniel McGlynn Rev. Brennan Ferris

HC CLERGY

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

ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell

HC STAFF

Parish Office Jane Green Diane Belt Kenneth Trojan Michele Dornberger Arline Dosman Tammy Korosec Linda Darling Justin Wurzel Len Dornberger Michael Perza

302 674 5787 Receptionist, ext. 110 Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113 Business Manager, ext. 119 Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., ext. 116 Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. I18 CRE Religious Ed, ext 122 Youth Ministry, ext. 123 Maintenance Director Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135 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 Marilyn Dixon Alicia Poppiti Susan Venezia Arline Dosman

410 482 7687 Office Manager DRE Religious Ed. Bookkeeper 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

Linda Pollitt

Principal, ext. 111

MAILING ADDRESS

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

Pastor Pastor Emeritus Parochial Vicar

> Deacon Deacon Deacon Deacon Deacon

Deacon

RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

When Jesus was approached by those who wished to become disciples, he invited them to "...come and see," that is to come and be with me and my disciples for a while. Walk with us learn who we are. Then make your decision to become a disciple.

Pope John Paul II said, "It is not enough to discover Christ - you must bring him to others!" The words of our Holy Father should encourage us to reach out to a neighbor, friend, relative and co-worker. If they do not have a church home, invite them to consider Holy Cross.

We are already making contact and responding to those who are interested in journeying with us to discover more about the Catholic Christian experience. Even if you have asked someone before and they have passed up the opportunity, today may be the time that the Holy Spirit has chosen for them. Invite them to discover at no obligation what the Catholic Church is really all about. Classes started in August on Sunday mornings at 9AM in the Early Learning Center. For more information, contact the Parish Office, 302 674-5787 extension 110.

LITTLE BOOKS

Immaculate Conception is taking orders for the Little Reflection books for the various liturgical seasons, Advent, Lent & Easter. The total cost is \$5.00 for the set.

Orders and payment can be takin at HC or ICC Parish offices. All who wish to purchase must place their order by October 15.

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF COM-MUNION

We are in need of more volunteers who would be willing to be trained and become an EMHC for the sick and homebound. Consider this important ministry. Please pray and discern if this ministry is right for you. A training class will be held the beginning of October. Any questions please call the Parish Office. More details to follow.

22ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (SEPT 3) FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 20:7-9

Despite the hardships of his calling, Jeremiah allows himself to be seduced by God. SECOND READING: ROMANS 12:1-2

Paul encourages the Christians of Rome to model their lives on Christ.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16:21-27

The paradox of the cross: this is the way to life.

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, September 2nd, we learn about the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society with guests Lynne Betts and Chuck Miller. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN

Saturday, Sept 9th

Across our country pro-life Americans will gather on this day to commemorate the more than *60 million children* who have lost their lives to legal abortion since 1973, and to remind our society of the humanity of the unborn child.

Please join us for this memorial service. If you would like to have a child remembered specifically, please provide his/her name to Donna Latteri in advance.

 When: 10:00 -10:45 Sat. September 9th
Where: Holy Cross Cemetery in Dover NW Corner near the Mausoleum (Corner of William and N Queen
Streets.)
Contact: Donna Latteri 862-266-1099 or dlatteri86@gmail.com.

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL CRAFT FAIR

We are looking for vendors to participate in our upcoming Fall Craft Fair on November 18, 2023. If interested please email HAS@holycrossdover.org.



FIRST SATURDAY MASS

First Saturday Mass will be celebrated at St. Francis Xavier Shrine at Bohemia Mission on Satur-

MASS INTENTIONS AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

28 MONDAY HC 8:00 am Darlene Thompson

29 TUESDAY HC 8:00 am Mary M. Gefell

30 WEDNESDAY HC 8:15 am Frances Cassidy

31 THURSDAYHC 8:00 amHoward RowlandsICC 6:00 pmFor the People

1 Friday

HC 8:00 am Cynthia Accime-Tobias

32 SATURDAY

HC 8:00 am Paulina Omeye HC 5:00 pm Gino and Margie Galli

3 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am ICC 8:30 am HC 9:30 am ICC 11:00 am HC 11:30 am ICC 1:00 pm

DM DiSandra Family James Haas Emma Zapanta Donata Nina Frank (LI) Bernard and Bridget Peris For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHAPEL FOR AUGUST 27-2 SEPT 2 IS FOR (LI) MAYA SEELIG.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHURCH FOR AUGUST 27-SEPT 3 IS FOR BENITO SEFIL

day, September 2 at 11:00 AM. Father Paul Mast will be the presider. Father Mast, a retired priest of the Diocese of Wilmington, is working with International Jesuit Prison Network to connect interested Catholics with those in jail through letter writing. Father Mast will hear confessions 30 minutes before the start of Mass. The Rosary will be recited after Mass. The rectory museum will be open at 9:00 AM for tours. The Jesuit order founded the mission, commonly known as Old Bohemia, in 1704 to minister to Catholics throughout the areas that are now Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Shrine, located at 1640 Bohemia Church Road in Warwick, MD, is the Mother Church of the Diocese of Wilmington. First Saturday Masses will continue through the end of the year. Email OldBohemiaHS@gmail.com or call 302.545.2126 for additional information.

faith in action

SEPT 2/3, 2023				
	E	мнс	SERVERS	
5:00 PM	J. Bieker C. Bugglin	M. Casey J. Clendaniel	A. Costa E. Costa M. Costa	
			LECTORS	
			J. Cuyjet-Davis V. Viddy	
7:30 AM	J. Davis T. Dinan	A. Fischer J. Fischer	L. Boggs E. Bydlon T. Catipay	
			LECTORS	
			C. Cuffee	
9:30 AM	T. Arndt G. Wessel	M. Wessel R. Wiley	J. Novack J. Novack W. Shuron	
			LECTORS	
			R. Alderman S. Ford	
11:30 AM	T. Hernan- dez	M. Richard	TBD	
	E. Patoriza		LECTORS	
			TBD	
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION				
9.20	B. Lawson			
8:30 AM			LECTORS	
			B. Thompson	
11.00	F. Cris-			
11:00 AM	tiano		LECTORS	
			D. King	
1:00 PM	TBD			

ΡM

If you or someone from your family is going to be in one of our local rehabilitation facilities or nursing homes, our Extra-Ordinary minsters of Holy Communion serve all of these facilities. If you are going to be in one of these facilities, even for a short time, please be sure to register yourself as a Catholic so that you will be on their list for our ministers to bring you the Eucharist on the weekend. All the facilities are very cooperative and will gladly add the name to the list for our ministers each week.

If you are in the hospital make sure you are on their Catholic list so we can have our ministers bring you communion daily. You must inform the hospital to put you on the Catholic list otherwise we do not know you are there.

ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

Can you spare an hour to spend with Jesus? Our Adoration Chapel is open from 5 am to 9 pm Monday through Sunday. We have openings.



Call the Parish Office at 674-5787 to reserve a time for you.

Sunday	4 pm, 5pm, 8 pm
Monday	5 pm
TUESDAY	5 am, 8 pm
Wednesday	7 am
FRIDAY	6 am
SATURDAY	5 am, 9 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm

SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY

Our Samaritans food pantry can always use donations to keep our shelves stocked with food for the needy in our community. Peanut Butter and Jelly; Canned Ravioli / Chili / Beef Stew; Canned Vegetables / Soups / Chunky Soups; Spaghetti / Spaghetti Sauce Macaroni and Cheese; Tuna/Hamburger, & Tuna/Hamburger Helper; Ramen Noodles Dried Black Beans / White Rice and Massa

Please drop the food in the Pantry Food Drop Box in the building behind the Rectory. We have a new green sign near the drop box door.

Coming Soon—Oktoberfest at St. John's

30th Annual Oktoberfest at St. John the Apostle, Milford is scheduled for October 6th from 6 PM to 10 PM and October 7th from 12 PM to 10 PM. Lots of good ethnic foods, good music and good fun for all ages. For more information please call Bonnie at 302-236-5296.



- El día 6 de septiembre, Fiestas Patronales: La novena de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz comienza el día 6 de septiembre en la iglesia a las 7:00 de la noche con la Exposición del Santísimo. Quedan todos cordialmente invitados a pasar una hora con Jesús Sacramentado.
- El día 10 de septiembre después de la misa tendremos una hora Santa con Exposición del Santísimo. Es una de las actividades que nuestra parroquia está haciendo en el Año del Avivamiento Eucarístico. El Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional es un movimiento para restaurar y avivar la comprensión y la devoción a este gran misterio, ayudándonos a renovar nuestra adoración a Jesucristo Sacramentado. Jesucristo Presencia Real en la Eucaristía, que muchos católicos no creen y por eso se está promoviendo en todo el país la presencia real de Jesús sacramentado que es la fuente y cumbre de nuestra fe .
- Venga y quédese una hora más con Jesús que nos da todo lo que tenemos y que no merecemos, es por puro amor por nosotros.
- Festival Hispano y Cuadrangular de Futbol El domingo 17 de Septiembre celebraremos la clausura de nuestras fiesta patronales y el comienzo de nuestra Herencia Hispana con un Festival de Comida y un Cuadrangular de futbol, venga y apoye nuestro evento. Si desea colaborar donando, su tiempo y talento hable con cualquier de los miembros de la Junta directiva o llame a la oficina parroquial al 302-674-5787 ext.118.
- El Foro Cristiano: Comienza el viernes, 8 de septiembre de 6:00PM hasta las 8:00PM. Venga y fórmese para poder defender su Fe Católica, esto será un curso de formación que termina el día 2 de junio 2024. El tema de este año es sobre " El Misterio Eucarístico" que sin duda es el centro de nuestra FE, de la Liturgia Sagrada y sobre todo de la vida cristiana.
- **Confirmación de Adultos:** El día 15 de Octubre tendremos la Confirmación de adultos, si usted es mayor de 18 años y no está confirmado por favor hable con el Sr. Luna para las clases. O llame a la oficina para anotarse.
- La Virgen Peregrina esta visitado casas. Si desea que la imagen de la virgen visite su hogar por una semana por favor de anotarse con la Sra. Martha Espinosa.
- Educación Religiosa: Inscriba a su niño para la Educación Religiosa que ya están abiertas. Si su hijo(a) no está asistiendo a una escuela católica debe de inscribirse en Las aplicaciones están en línea estarán llenando inscripciones después de la misa.
- **Comparta sus dones y Carismas:** Todo lo que tenemos es un regalo de Dios, y como cristianos tenemos la obligación de compartir esos dones que tenemos para la honra y gloria del Señor y para con el prójimo. Si usted desea servir en algún ministerio por favor hable con la Sra. Arline Dosman al 302-674 -5787 ext. 118 o con uno de los miembros servidores de la Junta Directiva.

ICC

- Show de Talentos: Sábado, 2 de septiembre de 5 PM-9PMCategorias: Canto y Pintura. También habrá venta d quesadillas, pupusas, pollo con papas fritas, granizadas y mucho más. Para más información llame al 302-331-6778 o al 410-739-2045.
- Educación Religiosa: Las inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa para el año escolar 2023-2024 ya están abiertas. Inscriba a sus hijos ahora, para que podamos planificar en consecuencia. Las tarifas son de \$60 por 1 niño, \$120 por 2 niños, \$180 por 3 niños y \$200 por más de 4 niños. Después del 1 de julio habrá una tarifa adicional de \$10 por niño. Las clases comienzan el domingo 24 de septiembre de 2023.
- Se necesitan voluntarios. Si usted o alguien que conoce está interesado en ser voluntario, ser un líder de pares para la Educación Religiosa o la Preparación para la Confirmación, comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti @ dre@iccmarydel.org o 410-482-8939.
- La Inmaculada Concepción agradece: ¡ A todos los que ayudaron, donaron y participaron, en la semana de Estudio Bíblico de Verano, tuvimos una semana espectacular.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Now is the time to register for K-8 faith formation!

Please go to the following link to register for religious education classes.

https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/ christian-formation/k-8-formation

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

Parents meeting, tonight, 8/27/23 at 3:00pm in the Parish Hall to discuss important information regarding this year's Religious Education Program.

LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH CAT-ECHESIS)

LAFF, Living as a Family of Faith. How is your Faith growing; personally, and as a family? I was once told, "show me a Bible that has not been opened and I'll show you a family falling apart; show me a Bible falling apart, and I'll show you a family living in Faith." Put down the electronics and pick up the Bible and pray together as a family and learn to communicate with God and each other. Learn more about our Faith and the Catholic Church. Understand what "The Source and Summit" of our Catholic Faith is all about. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, sharing our Faith Life experiences. Bring your communications equipment with you: Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. BIBLE!

Now is the time to register for LAFF classes with your family! Please go to the following link to register for the LAFF program using the religious education form.

https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/ christian-formation/k-8-formation

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

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

Confirmation Registration: Please return registration forms for preparation as soon as possible.

Forms may be found on the front page of the parish website.

Parent Meeting for Confirmation Candidates:

Please mark your calendars for our parent meeting to take place on Sunday, August 27 at 7 pm OR Monday, August 28 at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. We will go over the schedule for classes, retreats, and answer any questions. If you have not returned your childs' registration materials, please do so ASAP.

Youth Group Adult Volunteer Meeting: If you would be interested in assisting with Junior High and High School youth group this coming year, please join us at 7 pm in the Matthew Mark room 2nd floor ELC building on August 23. Help is needed in planning activities, chaperoning, fixing meals, or organizing an evening for our youth - any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Registration for Religious Education for the 2023-2024 school year are now open.

Please get your children registered now, so that we may plan accordingly. Fees are now \$60 for 1 child, \$120 for 2 children, \$180 for 3 children and \$200 for more than 4 children.

Volunteers needed! If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, being a peer leader for Religious Education or Confirmation Preparation team member, please contact: Alicia Poppiti @ dre@iccmarydel.org or 410-482-8939.

Classes begin on Sunday, September 24, 2023 and run thru May 3, 2024.

Sacramental Preparation for 1st Reconciliation/ Communion, Confirmation and OCIA/RICA for youth are online. Please fill out and return.

ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



https://ascensionpress.com/ pages/catechisminayear





In Spanish: Fray Sergio Serrano https://ascensionpress.com/ pages/biy-espanol-registration





Tonight is New Year's Eve!! Now, now, now...no need for bling, the frenzied excitement or the party dress, the bubbly or the noisemakers; the festive gatherings, the confetti, or the hugs at midnight. But, rather the nourishing dinner at the family table, and the hug before a sensible bedtime. No need for the fancy dress because tomorrow everyone will be wearing the same outfit; that is some form of our trademark hunter green and/or the tartan plaid. We will swap out the noisemakers and confetti for the new backpack and fresh, new school supplies. The first day is an abbreviated day so don't forget the snacks. Tomorrow is New Year's Day! And, tomorrow morning at 7:40 the first bell will ring. The door security light will change from red to flashing green and no matter what anyone says, students and faculty alike will have a flock of nervous butterflies in their tummies. **Tomorrow is the first day of school**. It has been 78 days, give or take a day or two since the final bell rang last June when we bid our students fond wishes for a safe and joyous, funfilled, memory-making summer.

In many cases, I think it safe to say that no two days are the same during the summer. We cast daily routine, schedules, and alarm clocks to the wind in favor of the care-free.

But, as days go by; the number of summer days dwindles, and the first day back to school is an inevitability. Teachers have been working hard to ready the rooms, out with the old, in with the new, making resolutions and plans to try something new, in the new year.

We are expecting some pretty important folks, and we are dressed to impress.

Last week I briefly introduced new faculty members with the promise of sharing additional news in this publication. Since then, I have learned that a change in the Librarian position has become a necessity. And so, we welcome Mrs. Erin Neili to our staff and look forward to working with her in the Library. Mrs. Neili, a Holy Cross parishioner comes to Holy Cross School with experience in teaching English as a second language to Chinese students. Additionally, we welcome Mr. Adam Bauer who will be teaching Old Testament Religion in sixth grade, as well as ELA in seventh grade. Mr. Bauer joins our faculty following service as a Media specialist in the Immaculate Heart of Mary School in the Diocese of Wilmington. The Early Learning Center is where Mrs. Lacey Cusatis will be located teaching in her Kindergarten classroom. Mrs. Cusatis has eight years experience teaching Kindergarten at Holy Angels School in the Diocese of Wilmington before her family moved to the Smyrna area. Mrs. Cusatis has two children who attend HCS. We welcome long-time parishioner Mrs. Judi Coffield to Holy Cross where she will be teaching seventh grade Religion as well as 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Math. Mrs. Coffield is coming to HC from St. John the Beloved School in the Diocese of Wilmington. An accomplished educator, Mrs. Coffield has served in many roles at both the middle and high school levels.

I ask for your fervent prayers for all our new faculty and staff members as they, too, face all things new beginning tomorrow at 7:40!

And, something else new in the new year, 2023-2024 is the diocesan theme. This year our focus will be on the Beatitudes and Let Us Build the Kingdom of God. Each month our students will focus on a different Beatitude and a different virtue. But, why rocks?

Throughout the year I will unpack the meaning and symbolism as we will be doing the same for our students. Our theme song for the year is another one of my personal and longtime favorites because the words not only outline the words of the Beatitudes, but serve for me as a true and heartfelt prayer. I share the refrain:

> Lead me Lord, lead me, Lord, By the light of truth To seek and to find the narrow way Be my way, be my truth, Be my life, my Lord, And lead me Lord, today.



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ishes each had a very public, very beautiful Eucharistic Process after the last Mass of the day on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. These were very well attended and piqued the faithful's devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. That kicked off the coming year in our National Eucharistic revival in the lives of our parishioners. Here are opportunities for greater devotion and focus on the Eucharist, that will be provided to our Parishioners in the year ahead:

• **All year long:** The Adoration Chapel at Holy Cross, in Dover, Delaware, provides the blessed opportunity for the faithful to spend an hour (or more) with the Lord. The Chapel is open daily, from 5 am to 9 pm — and we are always looking for adorers to sign up to spend time in that Chapel in prayer to and adoration of our Eucharistic Lord, really and truly present. Contact the Holy Cross Parish Office to find out information about signing up.

• **Monthly:** Once a month, on first Thursday, after evening Mass (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception Church in bucolic Marydel, Maryland, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed upon the altar for a Holy Hour. (Twelve Holy Hours in all)

• The Holy Cross Novena. From September 6-14, for nine nights (at 7:00 pm each evening), Holy Cross Parish will celebrate its Patronal Feast with the Holy Cross Novena. Each evening the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for a holy hour of scripture, the praying of the Litany of the Holy Cross, silent prayer and Benediction. An additional Holy Hour, in Spanish, will be held in anticipation of the Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Cross, on Sunday, September 10th at 12:30 pm (after the 11:30am Mass) (Ten Holy Hours in all)

• The Immaculate Conception Novena. From November 30-December 7, for nine nights (at 7:00pm each evening, though this may change on December 7 to accommodate Holy Day Vigil masses), Immaculate Conception Parish will celebrate its Patronal Feast with the Immaculate Conception Novena. Each evening the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for a holy hour of scripture, the praying of novena prayers for the Immaculate Conception, silent prayer and Benediction. (Nine Holy Hours in all)

• Stations of the Cross with Exposition and Benediction. During Lent, our two parishes will have, as per normal, Stations of the Cross carried out at 7:00 pm on each Friday of Lent. However for this Eucharistic Revival year, we will have the Blessed Sacrament exposed during the praying of the Stations of the Cross, and the evening will conclude with Benediction; this makes the Stations of the Cross take on the form of a Holy Hour of Prayer. As per Church teaching, the Blessed Sacrament will of course not be exposed during any Stations of the Cross devotions held on Good Friday. (Twelve evenings with Holy Hour-type devotions [though these may be less than an hour] — six at Holy Cross, six at Immaculate Conception).

• **Pentecost Novena**. From May 10-18 (the days between Ascension Thursday and Pentecost Sunday), for nine nights (at 7:00 pm each evening), Immaculate Conception Parish will pray the Novena for Pentecost — each evening the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for a holy hour of scripture, the praying of the Pentecost Novena, silent prayer and Benediction. (Nine Holy Hours in all)

• **The Corpus Christi Novena.** From May 24 (Friday after Pentecost) thru Saturday, June 1, for nine nights (at 7:00 pm each evening), Holy Cross Parish will pray a Novena for Corpus Christi — each evening the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for a holy hour of scripture, the praying of the Pentecost Novena, silent prayer and Benediction. (Nine Holy Hours in all)

• **Corpus Christi Procession.** On Sunday, June 2, both Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception parishes, will have a Corpus Christi procession following the last Mass of the day. The devotion will begin the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass, a procession (outside the Church, and onto the street) and conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Counting the Hours. For those counting, that is 61 Holy Hours this year (2023-24). This is in addition to personal holy hours that are observed by parishioners at the Holy Cross Adoration Chapel. The point I make is that the opportunities to experience that "revival" in devotion to the Holy Eucharist are there. I don't expect anyone to make everyone of those devotional gatherings of Adoration, but I hope to see many at many.

The National Eucharistic Revival marks a time for our recommitments to our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament, it marks an opportunity for each of it. If your devotional time with the Blessed Sacrament has been dormant now is the time for revival. If your devotional time with the Blessed Sacrament is strong, now is the time to further strengthen it and bring others with you.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini Pastor