

# 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 3, 2025

18th 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

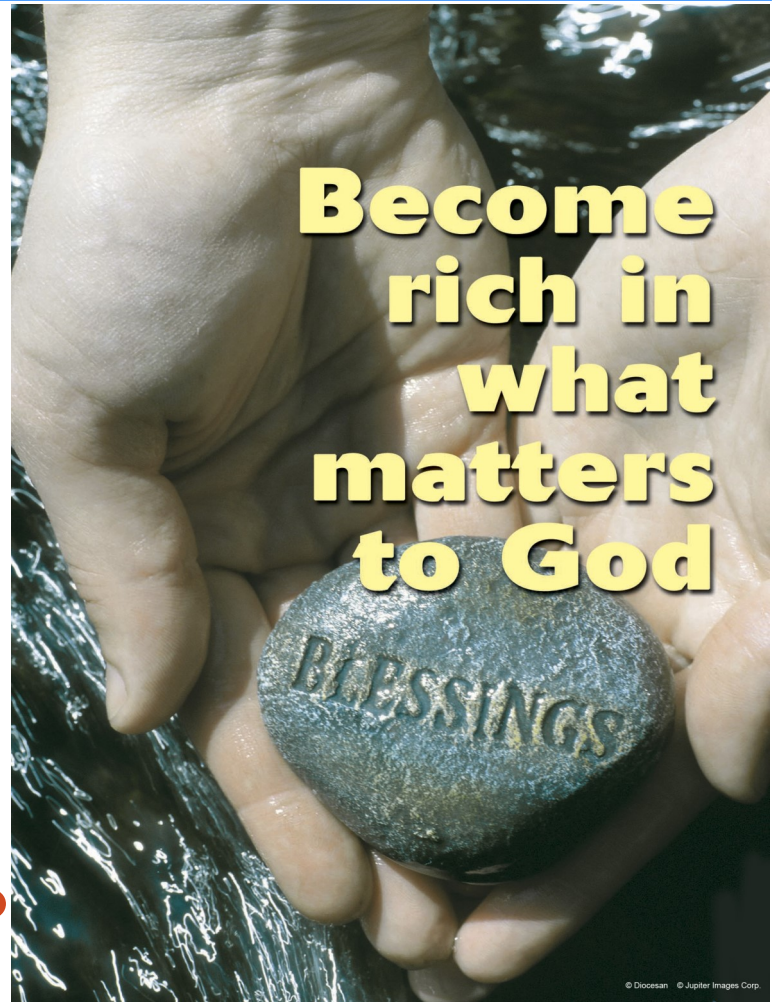
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm  
Closed Wednesday and Friday

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish



**Become  
rich in  
what  
matters  
to God**

### 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.

## 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.

## ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

**Catechism in a Year:**  
<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechism-in-a-year>

**Bible in a Year:** In English: Father Mike Schmitz <https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>

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

## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC) Ending July 20, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$26,097	\$26,150	(\$53)
YTD	\$80,195	\$78,450	\$1,735
Needs	\$1,981	\$1,775	\$206

## WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC) Ending July 20, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,090
Second	\$462

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,

There is an interesting slice of history from 1958 that contains a great deal of insight into how we, as mankind, measure our worth, sometimes. It deals with the country of France and one of its African colonies back in the 1950s. The country was the small African colony of French Guinea. During the 1950s, while other Empires were beginning the process of decolonization, France held on tightly to its overseas territories, determined to maintain them. This practice ultimately led to battles in Indochina, the Spanish Sahara, the Suez, Madagascar, and, most famously, in Algeria.

**Community Organizers?** With all that, France, with its “Community of Nations,” as it was called back in the day, wanted to be seen as egalitarian towards its overseas territories. So, in 1958, when the nation of France was drafting a new constitution, it allowed all African nations under French rule to vote on that constitution. Those nations were told that if they ratified the new constitution, they would soon thereafter achieve independence under French patrimony – that is, there would be a shared constitutional bond between that nation and France. Nearly every French-speaking African territory did just that: they voted overwhelmingly in favor, and a constitutional bond was established (at least for a little while).

**Taking a Break.** However, there was one African nation that would prove to be a problem for France, and that was the small nation then known as French Guinea. You see, in French Guinea, there was an independence movement on the ascendancy that sought a complete break from France. The folks in that movement did not want to be part of any French Community. They didn’t want to be a French anything. Nonetheless, the Government of France believed that the people of French Guinea, when push came to shove, would not reject France’s constitutional plan.

**An Overwhelming Result.** The signs that France’s overture would be rejected in French Guinea were obvious to even the casual onlooker. Nevertheless, Charles de Gaulle, the President of France, held fast to the belief that if the people of French Guinea were given the chance to vote, they would overwhelmingly want to remain connected to France. He let the vote go forward in French Guinea, and, let me tell you, the vote was overwhelming... but not in the way Charles DeGaulle wanted it. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of a complete, total, and absolute break from France. The people of French Guinea voted down that French constitution decisively.

**Breaking Up is Hard to Do.** Having received the results (18,012 in favor, 686,281 against), Charles DeGaulle was stunned. But his shock turned into anger. He was incensed that this small French territory would seek freedom and not want to be French. The French government decided to act on the people’s referendum wishes but did so bitterly: If the people of French Guinea wanted France out, France would leave.

But it would do so in a terrible manner. According to a report in the Washington Post, “the French pulled out of Guinea over a two-month period, taking everything they could with them. They unscrewed light bulbs, removed plans for sewage pipelines in Conakry, the capital, and even burned medicines rather than leave them for the Guineans.” The French government left angrily, withdrawing its personnel, halting all projects, and ceasing aid. In short, France took its ball and went home.

**A Vanity Project.** I don’t tell you this story as a history lesson or an observation of the French governing styles of the 1950s, but I tell it to you because these stories reflect, in some way, the worst aspects of our human nature. In this Sunday’s first reading at Mass, we hear:

*“Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity! Here is one who has labored with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not labored over it, he must leave property.”*

In Sunday’s Gospel reading, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, looking out for us men and for our salvation, makes the point even clearer:

*“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of one’s possessions.”*

**Not So Well Defined.** The problem that France faced in the late 1950s, as related to French Guinea, in some sense, is a problem that all of us face at one time or another. At some moment, in some way, we all start believing that we are to be defined by our possession -- that is to say, we start falling for lie of the Devil, who tempts to believe that our significance, our worth, our value, is to be defined by what we have, and not by who we are. And that lie, when we believe it, is the ultimate act against our basic Christian faith.

**Me. Me. Me.** When we start to define ourselves by our possessions, and we start to hang on tightly and manically to our possessions, with a fervor that should be reserved for the way we hang on to our faith in God, we are going down a dangerous road. We are going down the road to perdition. But we mustn’t. We must reject defining ourselves by our possessions. For what happens if we lose those possessions? Does that make us a little less human? Does that make us a little less of a person? Of course, it should not. However, as we saw in the story from the 1950s, the desire to be defined by what one owns brings out the worst in human nature – it reveals the face of greed and gives us a selfish sense of ‘me-me-me’.

**A Story to Treasure.** In this Sunday’s Gospel, the real sin of the matter is exposed, though it is presented in between the lines. We hear these words:

*“There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful*

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Rev. John Enemuo	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 10—19TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: WISDOM 18:6-9

“God is faithful and saves his people when they are in need.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 11:1-2, 8-19

Even though they did not live to see it fulfilled Abraham and Sarah had faith in God’s promise.

GOSPEL: LUKE 12:32-48

Jesus tells us that where our treasure is, tht is where our hearts will be.

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](http://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

We can surely use your help in stocking our 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 on the weekends of August 2 and August 9. 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 center 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](http://www.downtowncatholic.com). We thank you for your generosity.

### RECENTLY BAPTIZED (CORRECTION TO LAST WEEK'S INFORMATION)

Congratulations to our newest baptized members:

- Zailey Kiara Fernando, Benicio Wolf Saez, Aliyanah Lourdes-Thahyssia Laguerre

### RECENTLY DECEASED

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

- Ann Skeens ,Edward Mitchell, Adelaida Cruz, Judith Barnes, Thomas John Rickard. Sr., Barbara Davis

### 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,

### MASS INTENTION AUGUST

#### 4 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Helen Bugglin

#### 5 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Emma Donato

#### 6 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:15 am Lolita Papas

#### 7 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am William Dye  
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

#### 8 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Mulloy & McMasters Families

#### 9 SATURDAY

HC 8:00 pm Yvon Gervais  
HC 5:00 pm Reynaldo Rosales

#### 10 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Benito Sefil  
ICC 8:30 am Bill & Bob Kriss  
HC 9:30 am Robert and Frances Cassidy  
ICC 11:00 am Peggy O'Meara  
HC 11:30 am For the People  
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

*Aug 3 -Aug 9 Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intention of HC Parishioners.*

*Aug 3-Aug 9 Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intention of Reynaldo Rosales.*

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](mailto:claireshep1502@gmail.com)

### CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week, Dr. Joseph Arminio discusses bitcoin and the sin of usury. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefWilm 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](http://cdow.org/CatholicForum) and [FaceBook.com/CatholicForum](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicForum).

AUGUST 9/10, 2025

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

M. Casey  
J. Clendaniel

D. Darling  
L. Darling

J. Nunez  
M. Rubino

LECTORS

S. Winfrey

7:30 AM

T. Dinan  
A. Fischer

J. Fischer  
S. Gede

J. Shevock  
S. Shevock

LECTORS

A. Wyllie

9:30 AM

D. Banach  
K. Boyer

S. Cordie  
D. Martinez

B. Torbert  
C. Torbert

LECTORS

M. Sherlock  
M. Sossich

11:30 AM

T. Hernandez  
E. Pastoriza

M. Richard

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

D. Smith

LECTORS

T. Woodeshick

11:00 AM

J. Carrow

LECTORS

L. Schlaupitz

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 Com-

munion, 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](mailto: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](http://Holycrossdover.com) to register

Any questions call Scott Davis '87 at 302-270-9290.

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](mailto:lucyminn929@gmail.com) by October 11.

MAS IMPORTANTE!

New Day Pregnancy Care Center needs Spanish speaking volunteers. Training is provided. Please consider donating a few hours a week. Contact Brittnee Finger 302-241-4270.

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:** 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 comunicarse con la oficina o con algún miembro de nuestra Junta Directiva. Todos están invitados a participar.
- **Conquistando las Naciones para Cristo Retiros:** de Adolescentes 14-17 años 6-7 Septiembre, 2025 en la iglesia Santa María del Refugio de los pecadores 2000 Hambrooks Blvd. Cambridge, MD 21613 Donación es de \$100. Cupo es limitado
- Retiro de Sanación Interior para Hombres y mujeres mayores de 18 años 10-12 de Octubre, 2025, en la iglesia Santa María del Refugio de los pecadores 2000 Hambrooks Blvd. Cambridge, MD 21613 Donación es de \$125. Cupo es limitado
- **Educación Religiosa 2025-26** Las inscripciones para las clases de Educación Religiosa 2025-26 K-8 "YA ESTAN ABIERTAS" **Opción 1:** Kinder 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 más—\$340. \$75.- adicional para la preparación sacramental de la Reconciliación y la Primera Comunión. Para más información comuníquese con: Tammy Korosec. Coordinador de E.R. tkorosec@holycrossdover.org .302.674.5787 ext 122
- **Cuadrangular de Fútbol** 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 aceptarán aplicaciones para las clases dominicales hasta el 1 de agosto. Por favor inscriba a su hijo ahora.
- **Escuela Bíblica de Verano :** Acompáñenos a la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones: "True North", del 4 al 8 de agosto, de 6 p. m. a 8:30 p.m. todos los días. Esté atento a los anuncios de la reunión. Si le interesa ayudar este año, comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti al 410-482-8939. Si aún no se ha reunido con la Sra. Alicia para la sesión de capacitación, por favor, comuníquese con ella ahora mismo es decir YA.
- True North: Confiando en Jesús en un mundo salvaje. En True North, los niños descubren lo que significa confiar en Jesús en un mundo salvaje. Participan en memorables actividades de aprendizaje bíblico, cantan canciones pegadizas, juegan juegos de trabajo en equipo, preparan y devoran deliciosos bocadillos, experimentan aventuras bíblicas únicas, coleccionan Amigos de Memoria Bíblica para recordar el amor de Jesús y realizan experimentos científicos divertidos que nunca olvidarán. Además, aprenderán a buscar evidencia de Dios a su alrededor a través de las Observaciones de Dios. Cada día concluye con un Cierre de la Brújula que involucra a todos a vivir lo aprendido. Se anima a los miembros de la familia a unirse diariamente a este momento especial al cierre de las 8:15 p. m.

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

Go to [Holycrossdover.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 return to the Religious Education Office at your earliest convenience.

**Peer Leaders for the 2025-2026 Confirmation Year**—If you are in 10th to 12th grade, have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to help share your faith with our upcoming Confirmation class and Confirmation retreats, please let Mrs. Darling know your desire to help. Email [ldarling@holycrossdover.org](mailto:ldarling@holycrossdover.org)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ICC**

Registrations are available at the office and online for 2025-2026 SRE year are being accepted now until August 1st. Please register now, so we can have enough teachers and plan.

Please join us for Vacation Bible School: "True North" August 4th - August 8th 6pm-8:30pm daily. Look for announcements for meeting. If you are interested in helping this year, please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939. \*\*\*Registration closes on July 27th, so we can plan appropriately.

True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World  
At True North, kids discover what it means to trust Jesus in a wild world! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' love, and test out sciency-fun experiments they'll never forget. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Compass Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 8:15pm closing  
Donations for VBS are greatly accepted and appreciated. Please call office at ICC for information or check website for list! <https://www.iccmarydel.org/bulletin/vacation-bible-school-wish-list>

Dear Parishioners,

It's hard to believe how quickly summer is flying by and that we're already in the month of August!

August has always been one of my favorite months. As a child, I looked forward to August because it meant I still had some time left to enjoy summer, but I also loved the feeling of anticipation that came with a new school year. I remember wondering who my teacher would be, who would be in my class, where my seat or locker might be, and what my days would look like once school began again. There was always a mix of excitement and curiosity that filled my heart. Now, as an adult and as part of the Holy Cross School community, I find myself reflecting on those same feelings but now, my thoughts are centered on our students. How are they feeling about the upcoming year? Are they excited about their new grade, their teacher, their classmates? There is something special about the energy that fills the building on that very first day. You can feel the joy and eagerness buzzing in the hallways as everyone begins their journey together.

As we prepare to welcome our students back to campus, I encourage all of us to embrace that first day energy and work to carry it throughout the entire school year. The start of a new year brings fresh possibilities, but we want that sense of excitement, encouragement, and joy to extend far beyond just the first week. At Holy Cross, we believe there is always something to look forward to whether it's a new lesson, a class celebration, a service project, or a chance to grow in faith.

Of course, it's natural to experience moments of nervousness or uncertainty. But those moments are often where the greatest growth happens. When our students step outside their comfort zones, they learn what they're truly capable of. That's why it's so important to surround them with positivity. The energy we carry into our classrooms, our homes, and our hallways shapes how they respond to both challenges and triumphs.

This year, we are committed to working as a united team: families, teachers, staff, and students. Together, we will create a school environment that is rooted in joy, encouragement, and, most importantly, Christ. We will continue to offer meaningful opportunities for family involvement, prioritize open and honest communication, and ensure that everything we do points back to our mission: providing a faith filled education that nurtures the whole child.

We are blessed with a community that supports this mission so beautifully, from our dedicated teachers and staff to our wonderful families and parishioners. Thank you for the role you play in building up our school. We can't wait to see our teachers back in just under two weeks and our students soon after!

Enjoy these last few weeks of summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back very soon. Be well and God bless.

Mrs. O'Mara

harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, "Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!"' But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.' (Luke 14:16-21)

**What's Not the Sin.** Now, to be clear, the sin of the man in the Gospel story isn't that he owned things – there's nothing wrong with owning things, there's nothing wrong with success, there's nothing wrong with profit. Owning things and having things we enjoy is a blessing and a good thing. The sin of the man in the Gospel isn't that he was successful and needed to expand his business.

**What is the Sin?** The sin of the man in today's Gospel story is one that tries to prey on all of us and seeks our ruin. The sin of the man in the story is one of the seven deadly sins. It is a sin that we can trace back to the Garden of Eden. His sin was greed, or at least a form of greed. Now, some might say, "What greed?" He succeeded, and he did well; he needed to do the responsible thing and expand his facilities to store his grain.

**Green, Blue, and Red.** You'll note in the scripture, Christ warns about all kinds of Greed. We tend to think of greed as "not sharing" or "hoarding." But there are other types of greed. For instance, in the Ten Commandments, we are cautioned against coveting – coveting is a form of greed that is painted green with envy, blue with lament, and red with heated disdain for the person who has more than you. But the greed in today's Gospel, well, this is a greed of another color. And it is subtle, as far as types of greed go, which makes it dangerous.

**Barn Raising.** In this Sunday's Gospel, we are given the image of a man storing up his grain in more and more and in bigger and bigger barns. And he is still building more and more, and bigger and bigger barns. And while doing this, he is not realizing his death is soon to arrive. And when it does, those barns and that grain will have no more value to him.

**A View of the World.** His greed... his greed lies not in what he did, but rather in what he failed to do. It can be right posited that greed germinates in us because of a lingering belief that there is no life after death. A belief that this world is all there is. And so, we grab what we can, grab it while we can, and grab it however we can -- and then we hold on to it tightly.

**Possession Obsession.** It is from this vantage point that Christ identifies the rich man as an example of greed. And this is why Christ, in this parable, goes so hard on greed. When all is said and done, greed is basically the worship of another god – a false God, a false truth. The name of that god is sometimes Mammon, money, or materialism. This Gospel invites us to believe in the God of Jesus Christ, the God who gave us life, the God who alone can give eternal life. Today's Gospel warns us not to buy into the false gods of this world, false gods who give us the false promise of immortality through the accumulation of possessions.

**Meanwhile, in Hooterville.** There was a television series in the 1960s called *Green Acres* – it was a very funny rural comedy set in the small farming town of Hooterville. One of the characters in that show was a huckster, a flim-flam man, a scam artist, named Mr. Haney. And Mr. Haney, well, he always had a deal – he always had an angle. He was a wheeler-dealer.

**Soul Survivors.** Mr. Haney always promised folks the world and gave them nothing. But folks bought it – and while funny in a comedy, it is sad in real life when so many people buy the lie, buy the deception, buy the scam that this world is all there is, so get it while you can. That's a lie. This life is a moment, a flicker, a blip, in our eternity, and thus we should live it well. Why? Because no matter what grain barns we have, or how many we think we have to build, the truth is that you can't take it with you. And at the end of life, all of these bright shiny things we cling to remain behind, while our soul goes to God, and our happiness, our joy, and the meaning of our life come to fulfillment. And it is, and it will be for each one of us, a fulfillment to which nothing in this world can compare, but which everything in a well-lived life will prepare us for.

So, do enjoy the things of this world, but be prepared to let all of them go. Because the verdant pastures (dare I say, the *Green Acres*) found in the hope of heaven are what we should want to grab onto and hold tight. The things of this world can give us passing happiness, but don't hold on to them too tightly, because, as Frank Sinatra would say, *the best is yet to come!*

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. James Lentini, Pastor