



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 6, 2023

Transfiguration of the Lord

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



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

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

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

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.



Holy Cross Summer Office Hours for Parish Office and School Office:

Monday thru Thursday : 9 am to 1 pm
Friday: Closed

Immaculate Conception Summer Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9 am to 3 pm
Wednesday and Friday: Closed



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 only a handful of intention slots available at Holy Cross for 2023. We do have openings for the Adoration Chapel candle or Tabernacle candle. Thank you.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending July 16, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$20,141	\$26,376	(\$6,235)
YTD	\$95,430	\$105,504	(\$10,074)
Needs	\$1,902	\$1,712	\$190

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending July 16, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,255
Second Collection	\$512

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,

I am sure you have all heard the phrase, “*this Mass is being offered for...*” or “*We remember in a special way ... for whom this Mass is being offered.*” Did you ever wonder what that actually means? Now one might think, from the sense of the language used, that we are simply “remembering” someone at Mass, and praying for his or her soul in the most generic sense. But that’s not quite right; it is in fact way more than that. You see, the graces and fruits of that Mass are actually being applied to that person (to his or her soul).

Good Intentions. In the history of the Church, the idea of Masses being offered for a person has faced some bumpy roads, especially from some who had, wrongly, rejected the supernaturality of the Mass and the Priesthood. With this background, I want to write a little about the history of what we commonly call “Mass Intentions.”

An Offer You Can’t Refuse. Since the earliest days of the Church, Masses have been offered for the souls of the dead, as a way to ease them along and support them as they make their way from Purgatory to Heaven. Over time, this idea of “Mass offering” or “Mass intention” became more formalized. This led to the long-standing practice of a parishioner making a donation to a parish to have a Mass “offered” for a person they so designate.

Who’s on First? Thus, at Mass, you may often hear us praying for several folks from the parish who may have died in the past weeks, but that is usually capped-off by a phrase like “and at this Mass we pray in a special way for the repose of the soul of ... for whom this Mass is offered.” That person, for whom the Mass “is being offered” is the primary person for whom the Priest is, by his intention, offering the Mass. So, is the Mass only being offered for that one person alone? No. The

Mass is also being offered (as we hear in the Eucharistic prayer), for the Pope, the Bishop, the Clergy, the faithful, the Church, and the dead, among others.

Playing the Numbers. Thus arises the question: If the Mass is being offered for a specific person, then how is it also being offered to all of those other categories of people? A very good question! And the best way that I can answer this is to reduce this concept to numeric-values (which I don't like to do in spiritual matters). Thus, if a Mass is being offered for the late Mr. John Doe, he gets at least 51% of the fruits and graces from the Mass, and the other persons and groups noted above get 49% or less.

Meanwhile Back in 1786. How did we get to this understanding of things? Here’s how: In 1786, Grand Duke Leopold of Tuscany, doing the political bidding for the Austrian Emperor, sought to invoke a sense of national supremacy over the Church (kind of like Henry VIII did in England, but in a more nuanced manner, called Josephinism). In his effort to effect the changes that he sought, Leopold with political support from a local Bishop, called the Synod of Pistoia.

Say, What? At the Synod of Pistoia, several propositions were put forth (two particularly odious ones were that the synod’s decisions overrode the teachings office of the Papacy, and that the Pope’s role in the Church is merely ministerial, not authoritative). One item of the many adopted by this Synod was that it rejected Church teaching that the Priest celebrating Mass is able “to apply the fruit of the sacrifice” to a specific person. The Synod said that, contrary to Church

(continued on page 10)

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Msgr. Daniel McGlynn	Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Brennan Ferris	Parochial Vicar

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
Michele Dornberger	Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., 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

Linda Pollitt	Principal, ext. 111
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MAILING ADDRESS

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

CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER COLLECTION

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 12 & 13. More information is available at www.cathedralofstpeter.com. You can make a secure, online donation at www.cdot.org/cathedral. We thank you for your generosity

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, August 12th, tune-in for part-two of our two-week salute to Father Roberto Balducelli, OSFS, who passed away 10 years ago, on August 9, 2013. On this episode, we will chat with Dr. Maria Finamore and Sister Margaret Cunneff who both worked closely with Father Roberto at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Wilmington. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640.

19TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (AUG 13)

FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 19:9, 11-13

God was not in the great wind, the earthquake or the fire, which were the traditional manifestations of God's presence, but in the silence.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 9:1-5

Paul's concern is that his Jewish brothers and sisters should learn to accept Jesus and his teachings.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:22-33

Jesus calls to his disciples in the midst of the wild and restless sea. When they see him walk on the water, they acknowledge that he is the Son of God.

GOLF LEAGUE

Our Golf Tournament will be on August 30 at Jonathan’s Landing Golf Course. For information about the tournament, contact Phil at 302-382-2979, Wes at 302-270-8111, or Greg at 302-883-4000.

RETROUVAILLE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Upcoming programs will be held August 18 - 20 and again October 6 - 8, 2023 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

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@holycrossover.org.

**MASS INTENTIONS
AUGUST**

- 7 MONDAY**
HC 8:00 am Karen Bergman
- 8 TUESDAY**
HC 8:00 am Dave and Alice Gehringer
- 9 WEDNESDAY**
HC 8:15 am Hans and Virginia Crews
- 10 THURSDAY**
HC 8:00 am DM Mulloy Family
ICC 6:00 pm For the People
- 11 FRIDAY**
HC 8:00 am Michael Iavecchia
- 12 SATURDAY**
HC 8 am Tam Doan Vu
HC 5:00 pm Virginia and John Hulka
- 13 SUNDAY**
HC 7:30 am LI Len and Marie Dornberger
ICC 8:30 am Raul Lopez
HC 9:30 am Robert “Bob” Sadusky, Jr.
ICC 11:00 am Joan Schwartz
HC 11:30 am Alan Molina

*(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)*



**Holy Cross School
FALL CRAFT FAIR**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

10:00am-2:00pm

Holy Cross Gymnasium

631 S State Street, Dover, DE 19901



- *craft vendors
- *food trucks
- *kid activities
- *silent auction
- *bake sale

****please bring cash, not all vendors accept credit cards****

Sponsored by Holy Cross School HSA
Interested in being a vendor or volunteer?
Email: HSA@holycrossover.org



AUG 12/13, 2023

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

F. Ernst
D. Field

P. Gerard
C. Helwig

G. Coyle
M. Coyle
S. Murawski

LECTORS

D. Dixon
V. Viddy

7:30 AM

J. Davis
J. Denney

R. O'Neill
R. Pritchett

L. Boggs
B. Gyamfi
E. Gyamfi

LECTORS

A. Wyllie

9:30 AM

D. Martinez
P. Ford

F. Hanlin
C. Jones

J. Beugre
C. Beugre
M. Ford

LECTORS

C. Petka
M. Sherlock

11:30 AM

C. Garcia
B. Guzman

A. Luna

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

E. Costello

LECTORS

T. Thompson

11:00 AM

M. Soule

LECTORS

L. Soule

1:00 PM

TBD

If you or someone from your family is going to be in one of our local rehabilitation facilities or nursing homes, our Extra-Ordinary ministers 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 where you

can spend quality time with Our Lord. Call the Parish Office at 674-5787 to reserve a time for you.



SUNDAY

7 am, 4 pm, 5pm, 8 pm

MONDAY

5 pm

TUESDAY

5 am, 8 pm

WEDNESDAY

7 am

FRIDAY

6 am

SATURDAY

9 am, 10 am, 12 pm,
1 pm, 2 pm

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families of the following who have recently passed. May they rest in passed away.

- Kenneth Smith
- Cathleen Davison
- Jason Davis

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to our newest members:

- Mia Bella Porreca
- Issac Asher Saint

SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY

Our Samaritans food pantry can always use donations to keep our shelves stocked with food for the needy in our community. When shopping please consider donating a few containers of the following foods:

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.

Trabajo Comunitario en Nuestra Parroquia. Cada año nuestra comunidad hispana tiene un día de trabajo comunitario en nuestra parroquia. El sábado, 19 de agosto, tendremos un día de Limpieza general en los predios de nuestra parroquia, Se podaran los árboles y arbustos, se pondrá Mulch alrededor de toda a propiedad. Se limpiará dentro y fuera del templo. Necesitamos voluntarios que se anoten y traigan sus herramientas de trabajo. Si quiere ayudar anótese con el presidente de nuestra Junta Directiva el Sr. José Cruz Pérez y su esposa Mireya Rodríguez.

Entrenamiento para monaguillos. El domingo, 20 de agosto, después de la misa habrá un entrenamiento para monaguillos los que ya son y están sirviendo y los nuevos que desean servir como monaguillos. Si usted desea que su hijo o hija y si ellos desean servir como monaguillo deberán asistir al entrenamiento con el padre Ferris. Recuerda que es un privilegio pero también es un compromiso que con lleva una responsabilidad de servir en cualquier ministerio de la iglesia. Si usted está interesada por favor anotarse con la Sra. Arline Dosman.

Festival Hispano y Cuadrangular de Futbol El domingo 24 de Septiembre celebraremos 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 cualquiera de los miembros de la Junta directiva o llame a la oficina parroquial al 302-674-5787 ext.118.

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.

ICC

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 \$50 por 1 niño, \$100 por 2 niños, \$150 por 3 niños y \$180 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@iccmmarydel.org o 410-482-8939.

La Inmaculada Concepción Invita a los niños a la EBV Estelar: ¡Nuestro agradecimiento a todos los que ayudaron, donaron y participaron, tuvimos una semana espectacular.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Have a child or children in grades K-8 who need 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

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis) 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. 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!

Interested in enrolling your family in the LAFF program for the 2023-24 school year? 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.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

Reminder - please return your Confirmation Preparation registration if your child will be preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation next spring.

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 \$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 Pop-piti @ dre@icmarydel.org or 410-482-8939.

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

Vacation Bible School: We had a "Stellar" week and want to thank all our children for attending, volunteers for all your help, and all those that donated goodies to the week! We appreciate you all. See you next year!

"The future starts today, not tomorrow." – Pope John Paul II

We are working on it! Every single day. One satisfactorily completed objective per day---that's my goal... because.....

At this writing, we are but a couple of days shy of the month of August, quite possibly the fastest month of the entire year. I have always believed that once the 4th of July celebrations are wrapped up, the season of sweat is just about over with. We take the last two weeks of June to recoup before getting back down to brass tacks. Never a day goes by that someone doesn't make the passing remark referencing the quick passage of time. "I can't believe it's August already," said in disbelief by Mrs. Arndt. "Where does the time go?" she further declares. Moms and dads new to Holy Cross are expressing their own concerns over uniforms, where to locate certain school supplies, and the fast approaching 28th of August. The phone continues to ring. The voice on the other end inquiring into possible enrollment, or requesting assistance in the online enrollment process. Meanwhile, the floors have taken on a bright shiny new look in readiness for the new school shoe footprints and inevitable scuff marks. And, we are keeping the UPS and FedEx drivers busy with deliveries of instructional materials for the new year. Holy Socks, it seems we just said good bye to the children only yesterday!

"How did it get so late so soon. It's night before it's afternoon. December before it's June.

My goodness, how the time has flown. How did it get so late so soon?" – Dr. Seuss

Throughout the summer I have been conducting interviews with those who have responded to the call to serve in a Catholic school. I have spoken with men and women who have expressed interest in our support programs such as Before and After Care, our Librarian position, and substitute teaching opportunities. I have spoken with those who have expressed interest in teaching in our middle school and Kindergarten. At the time of this writing, I am very close to being able to divulge the final-outcome of all those conversations. God has been so wonderfully good in sending good men and women in response to our call. We will open the new school year with an additional section of Kindergarten and an additional section of sixth grade.

Recently I met with our representative from Back To Basics. Back To Basics is the tutorial agency that provides a resource teacher to work with our students who will benefit from some additional one-to-one instruction in Reading. We will welcome Mrs. Emily Gaestal in October. Mrs. Gaestal will serve Holy Cross as our resource teacher in Reading. Services received through Back To Basics are funded through our Title One allocation.

The new classroom sets of Chromebooks for our precious first and second graders are on order, as well as the new radios for our faculty and staff. Both of these very large purchases made possible by the successful fund-raising efforts of our HSA.

Our very hard-working Religion Committee met for the annual summer planning session. Mrs. White had many examples of ideas for the new diocesan theme *Lef Us Build the Kingdom of God*. The focus each month will be on The Beatitudes. Our new image this year is a small structure built with mounded rocks. You will see it everywhere you look; in every classroom, office, and bulletin board. The month of September will be busy for us with our Back To School prayer service where we will officially introduce the new theme, along with the observance of our Parish Feast Day. Weekly Mass attendance will begin shortly after the school year begins, and before you know it, we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week!

There is much to look forward to at Holy Cross this year. But, as we go forth in preparation, as well as in our consistent welcoming of new students into our growing school family, I believe it is important to note that we do not forget our graduates.

We are proud of the strong foundation and unqualified readiness for their transition into high school; many of whom return to testify to that very fact. We share in their pride as they outshine their peers in accomplishment. As they enter into the month of August with great, albeit nervous anticipation of and excitement for the next four years, we would like to remember our most recent graduates as we once again wish them Godspeed and more blessings than they can count in making new friends, meeting new teachers, and realizing academic success, with the gentle reminder to always keep Holy Cross in their hearts.

Leah Altidor
Alexander Costa
Marvin Gaye
Ava Layton
Paityn O'Leary
Giovanni Riviello
Eva Sheppard
Bridget Welch
Zoe Yehiri

Jackson Arndt
Grace Coyle
Madeline Glick
Brennan Macklin
Victoria Pate
Isabella Sebastian
Max Southard
Ava White
Mary Younan

Brooke Carlson
Chelsea Eyong
Dylan Harrison
Jillian Novack
Kari Perza
Dana Shanklin
Brennyn Torbert
Travis White

Before we turn around twice, it will be Thanksgiving!

teaching, it is false to believe that the person for whom the priest offers the Mass “will receive from [that Mass] special fruit.”

Of Popes and Porcupines. Nearly all of the Bishops of the Church rejected this synod and its assertions. The Holy Father, Pope Pius VI likewise rejected the Synod’s assertions. In fact, he was more riled than a porcupine in a balloon factory. Thus, on August 28, 1794, he addressed this very question the teaching in a Papal document called “*Auctorem fidei*.”

Corrective Measures. The Pope made 85 corrections of teachings regarding the assertions of the Synod. Among them was a correction regarding “The Application of the Fruit of the Sacrifice” (i.e., the matter of Mass Intentions). The Pope noted that:

1. The Synod was incorrect when it claimed that (1) the person for whom a Mass is offered does not receive any special fruit or grace and, (2) that the Priest can’t direct the Mass in that way).
2. The teaching of the Church on this matter: namely, that a person or person(s) for whom a Priest offers the Mass benefits “more than any other” by the Prayers of that Mass.
3. The person(s) for whom the Priest offers a Mass will receive a “special fruit” from that Mass.
4. The assertions by the Synod on this matter were “false, rash, dangerous, injurious to the Church, [and] leading into error[.]”

Imperial Retreat. The imprudent (or is that impudent) actions of the Synod of Pistoia were stopped by Pope Pius. Ultimately, this proved the last gasp for nationalistic (i.e., King over Pope) control of the Church. By 1790, with the death of Emperor Joseph, “Josephinism” – for which this Synod was a tool – died a quiet death. Josephinism did re-emerge one more time: in the early years of the 20th century, when the Austrian Emperor vetoed a candidate for the Papacy. Appalled, the newly elected Pope Pius X, delivered the knockout punch on this matter, and vetoed the veto power of the Emperor for good.

Passion Fruit. And so, jumping back to the present day, with the Papal document, *Auctorem Fidei*, still applicable, I would commend to you that those persons for whom Masses are offered, here at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception parishes, are more than just remembered or commemorated. Their souls receive the “fruits” of the Mass – the blessings and graces that God bestows through the Mass. They receive this by the grace and merits of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection. They receive more than just a remembrance, but receive aid and assistance, blessings and grace, as they make their way to God’s kingdom. And all by the grace of God.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor