Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399
Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253
www.iccmarydel.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Fridays 9:30-Noon, Closed Wednesdays.
Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.

December 17, 2017 – Third Week of Advent

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Weekday Eucharist
Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Holydays of Obligation
As announced in the bulletin

Reconciliation
After the Sunday morning Masses,
Thursday evening 6:30pm
And by appointment at any reasonable time

Pastoral Care and Liturgy
Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Parochial Vicar
Rev. John T. Solomon, Parochial Vicar

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.
Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

Christian Formation
Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.
Hispanic Ministry
Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of financial assistance, please call
St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702

The Sacraments

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children's first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life**.

Dear Parishioners,

The realm of music gives us lots of questions: "Why do Fools Fall in Love?" "How Can You Mend a Broken Heart," "What's the Frequency Kenneth?," "Where Did Our Love Go?," "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?," etc. Even at Christmas time we hear "What Child Is This?," and "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

A Question. There is another song, well, it is actually a phrase of sorts, that I have recently heard from many of our faithful. It goes like this: "Does this Mass count (for Sunday) (for Christmas)?" This season I've heard this little ditty more than usual. You see, this year Christmas falls on a Monday, which means Christmas Eve Vigil Masses land on Sunday evening (4pm onward). This also means that Masses for the 4th Sunday of Advent land on Sunday, also, though during the morning hours. So, the question I have been getting is this: "If I go to Mass on Sunday, after 4pm, does that Mass count for both my Sunday obligation AND my Christmas obligation?"

An Answer. My answer to folks who have asked this has been, "I'm not sure. Let me look into this question and get you a 100% accurate answer." And now, that accurate answer is here, by the grace of God and good work of the Catholic News Service. Below, I am reprinting their article below (though shortened for space limitations) for that accurate answer. Spoiler alert! The answer is going to be "no." One Mass cannot count for two distinct obligations. Here's the article:

In a newsletter issued earlier this year, the U.S. Catholic bishops addressed questions regarding whether Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligations can be fulfilled with a "two-for-one" Mass attendance at Christmas this year. In a

"relatively rare" situation which last occurred in 2006, Christmas Day this year falls on a Monday. Because Catholics are obliged to attend Mass for Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, some have asked whether a Sunday evening Mass on Christmas Eve would fulfill both the obligation for a Sunday Mass and the obligation for a Christmas Day Mass.

The U.S. Bishop's Committee on Divine Worship has said the faithful should attend two Masses to fulfill their Sunday and Christmas Mass obligations.

Since the mid-20th century, the Church has allowed for Catholics to attend vigil, or anticipated, Masses for Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation as "a convenience for many of the faithful."

"Most canon lawyers defer to Venerable Pope Pius XII's Apostolic Constitution Christus Dominus *(January 6, 1953), which gave 4:00 p.m. as the earliest time when anticipated Masses may be scheduled," the bishops said in their 2017 letter.*

This means that the Sunday obligation for Dec. 24 can be fulfilled on Sunday, or any time after 4 p.m. on Dec. 23, and the Christmas Mass obligation can be fulfilled on Monday, any time after 4 p.m. on Dec. 24.

In the case of two consecutive days of obligation, as at Christmas this year, the "prevailing view of many canon lawyers is that each obligation must be fulfilled with a separate Mass," the bishops

According to the bishops, the question of whether such obligations could be fulfilled in one Mass has been raised before by bishops in what is called a "dubium", which was "answered in the negative said. "Thus, when consecutive obligations occur on Saturday-Sunday or Sunday-Monday, the faithful must attend Mass twice to fulfill two separate obligations."by the Sacred Congregation for the Clergy and approved by Blessed Pope Paul VI in 1970."

"The Church's intention in extending the possibility of meeting Mass obligations through vigil Masses, while intended to make it easier to fulfill obligations, was never envisioned as a legal loophole, and, hence, separate obligations remain," the bishops said. The bishops emphasized that they hoped that Catholics "foster a love for the Sacred Liturgy and hold a desire to celebrate the holy days as fully as is reasonably possible."

And that's the answer to that Christmas 2017 question, "Does this Mass count?" And below we have more answers; these are the answers to last week's Advent Crossword Puzzle. My continued prayers that we are, all of us, experience a holy Advent!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. James Lentini

Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, Dec. 17
8:30: James & Elizabeth Griffith
11:00: Carl Erginzinger
Misa en Español **1pm** For the People

Thu Dec. 7 7pm For the People

Sunday, Dec. 24
8:30: John Hafycz
Misa en Español **11:00** For the People

All Christmas Mass intentions are For the People. Please hold all those you know who need prayers, and those that have passed in prayer during the Christmas Holiday.

2018 Mass book is open. To request a Mass, please contact the Office.

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory: $ 2477.25
Supplementary: $ 535.00
Immaculate Conception: $748.00

Second Collection Today: Christmas Flower Offering

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

Christmas Mass Schedule for Immaculate Conception and Holy Cross is included as an insert in this bulletin. Please be sure you have one and post it at home☺ Advent Blessings!

Christmas Mass Schedule

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

COUNTERS - NEW 2018 SCHEDULE is done and has been mailed. **If you can help with Christmas and New Years collections contact Alicia.**

Collection Counters

Dec 17 Margie Short & Laura Voshell
Dec 24 Need Counters
Dec 31 Need Counters

Church Cleaning Crew

Diciembre 22, 2017 Grupo # 4
Marinda Escalante, Elías González, Alfonso, Perez, Oscas Roblero, Edgar Velásquez, Rubelina Ortiz

Diciembre 29, 2017 Grupo #5
Olegario Cuin, Enma Rojas, **Egidio Macario**, Brendi Macario, Idalinda Pérez, Bersy Pérez

Altar Servers

December 24-morning
8:30am Mass –Anna Clancy & Avery Locke
Spanish Misa 11am – Sherlin & Joanne Santizo

Christmas Eve
5:00pm- servers needed
7:00pm- Mikey Dixon
12:00midnight-servers needed

Christmas Day
9:00am- Vincent Haass
Spanish Misa-10:30am- servers needed

Lectors

December 24-morning
8:30am Mass – Diane Smith
Spanish Misa 11am – Lucia Tomas, Marcos Díaz

Christmas Eve
5:00pm- Theresa Thompson
7:00pm- Marilyn Dixon
12:00midnight- Lani Small

Christmas Day
9:00am- Diane Smith
Spanish Misa-10:30am- Olegario Cuin, Froilan Berduo

Eucharistic Ministers

December 24-morning
8:30am Mass – Deacon, Alan Smith, **one needed**
Spanish Misa 11am – Adelaida Velásquez, Epifanio Morales, Guadalupe Morales, Adrián Miranda, Carlos Miguel

Christmas Eve
5:00pm- Deacon, Alicia Poppiti, **one needed**
7:00pm- Deacon, Marilyn Dixon, **one needed**
12:00midnight- Deacon, **2 needed**

Christmas Day
9:00am- Deacon, Alan Smith, **one needed**
Spanish Misa-10:30am- Ovidio Roblero, Natalina Capistran, , Salome Morales, Anselmo Escalante, Verónica Bravo

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Dec 16-Sun, Dec 24 – 7 pm Posadas
Sun, Dec 17 - 9:40am SRE Classes
Sun, Dec 17 – 2pm RICA
Sun, Dec 17- 2:30 pm Hispanic Group rehearsal Church
Mon, Dec 18- 7pm at Holy Cross- Penance Service
Mon, Dec 18 & Wed Dec 20- 7pm ESL
Tues, Dec 19 – 6:30-7:30pm Reconciliation Prep
Sat, Dec 23- 2:30 pm Hispanic Group rehearsal Church

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Our Annual Giving Wreath

is now at the back of the church. The tags pinned to the wreath each request a Christmas gift for one of the needy in our community. Please consider taking a tag, purchasing the requested gift, and making someone else's Christmas a little bit brighter this year. Gifts should be returned wrapped with the tag attached **on or before December 17th.** Gifts can be brought to the Donut Window in the Hall. **THANKS so much for your ongoing generosity!**

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:
Mon, Dec 18th at 7pm, at Holy Cross. This is for our Deanery (Holy Cross, ICC, St. Polycarp, St. John, Milford, and St. Dennis), with an opportunity to choose from many priests.

Are you being called to the Priesthood?

Come socialize, talk, and hang-out with priests, and men like yourself, who think the Lord may be calling them to be a priest. Find out about the *amazing* life of the Priesthood.

CAS – South will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Saint John the Apostle Church, 506 Seabury Drive, Milford, DE on December 18, 2017. Contact Father John Solomon at fatherjohnsolomon@gmail.com or 302-674-5787.

Knights of Columbus

Membership is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. For more info, contact Grand Knight, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or kelley29@comcast.net

Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education
September 24, 2017-May 6, 2018
9:40am-10:50am

No classes on December 24th or December 31st. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7th. Have a safe and blessed Christmas and New Year.

1st Reconciliation Prep: Tuesday, December 19, 6:30-7:30pm in the hall.
Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation: Saturday, January 13, at 9am or 11am, at Holy Cross in Dover.

BRINGING IT HOME- The message this week once again emphasizes the role of John the Baptist. John's humility is one that we should strive to emulate. He recognized that the Lord has given him gifts and talents, but more importantly, that these gifts are for the honor and glory of the Lord. Do you utilize your gifts and talents to bring glory to yourself, or to the Lord? This week evaluate your skills, and the gifts that Christ has blessed you with. How are you utilizing them to bolster your faith, and bring glory to the Lord? There are numerous parish ministries that can benefit from your participation, join one, and watch how your gifts flourish in serving the one that provided them to you.

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

Don't let the busyness of Christmas preparations blind you to the gift of your relationship. Don't let shopping or decorating or worries keep you from treasuring the presence of your beloved.

Parenting Pointer –

Where does God live? Ask your child. Perhaps each of you can draw a picture of God's home. Is God in the sky, in nature, inside you, even in your enemy? YES. Help your children recognize God as an omnipresent Holy Spirit who makes everything they see, hear, and touch sacred.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Third Sunday of Advent

Theme: God is doing great things for us.
Question for Children: As we get closer to Christmas, name one thing you really want for your home or the world, such as peace, friendship, or food for the poor.
Question for Youth: John tried to help people prepare their lives for the coming of the Messiah. What do you need to change about your life to be ready for Jesus' coming?
Question for Adults: If you were to write three suggestions for those who follow Jesus, to keep them strong in their faith, what would you write?

3er domingo de Adviento

Tema: Dios está haciendo cosas maravillosas por nosotros.
Pregunta para los niños: Como nos estamos acercando a la Navidad, menciona algo que desees para tu hogar o para el mundo, por ejemplo: paz, amistad, o alimento para los pobres.
Pregunta para los jóvenes: Juan intentó ayudar a las personas a preparar sus vidas para la Venida del Mesías. ¿Qué necesitas cambiar en tu vida para estar listo/a para la venida de Jesús?
Pregunta para los adultos: Si tuviera que escribir tres sugerencias para los que siguen a Jesús, para que se mantengan firmes en la fe, ¿qué escribiría?

Saint Thomas More Academy

133 Thomas More Drive, Magnolia, DE 19962

Saint Thomas More Academy is a Catholic College Preparatory School located in Kent County. Saint Thomas More is Faith Focused, Teacher Connected, Arts Inspired, College Centered and Honor Guided.

Here's what's happening at Saint Thomas More:

Dec. 24th @ 4:30pm – Christmas Eve Mass

Accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year.

Affordable, quality, Catholic education with tuition rates starting as low as $8,000 for Immaculate Conception Parishioners!

Financial Aid Application Deadline: January 16, 2018

A Catholic high school education at St. Thomas More Academy does not have to be out of reach solely for financial reasons. STMA families are eligible for both local and diocesan needs-based financial aid. Apply for aid online at https://factsmgt.com/parent-resources/grant-and-aid/

If you are interested in spending a day at STMA or learning more about STMA, we encourage you to visit us in person or through our website www.saintmore.org to learn why we were voted

2017 Best Private School in Kent County.

Queridos feligreses,

En el ámbito de la música nos dan muchas preguntas: "¿Por qué los tontos se enamoran?" "¿Cómo se puede sanar un corazón roto?", "¿Cuál es la frecuencia de Kenneth?", "¿A dónde se fue nuestro amor?", "¿Alguien realmente lo hace? ¿Sabes qué hora es? ", Etc. Incluso en Navidad escuchamos" ¿Qué niño es este? "Y" ¿Escuchas lo que oigo? "

Una Pregunta. Hay otra canción, bueno, en realidad es una frase, que recientemente escuché de muchos de nuestros feligreses. Dice así: "¿Esta misa cuenta (para el domingo) (para Navidad)?" Este tiempo he escuchado esta canción o frase más de lo habitual. Verán, este año la Navidad cae un lunes, lo que significa que las Misas de Vigilia de Nochebuena caen el domingo por la noche (4:00pm en adelante). Esto también significa que también las Misas para el 4º domingo de Adviento caen el domingo, por supuesto durante las horas de la mañana. Entonces, la pregunta que he estado recibiendo es esta: "Si voy a Misa el domingo, después de las 4 p.m. ¿esa Misa cuenta tanto para mi obligación del domingo COMO TAMBIEN para mi obligación de Navidad?"

Una Respuesta. Mi respuesta a las personas que me han hecho esta pregunta fue: "No estoy seguro". Déjame investigar esta pregunta y obtener una respuesta 100% correcto y precisa ". Y ahora, esa respuesta correcta y precisa está aquí, por la gracia de Dios y el buen trabajo del Catholic News Service. (Servicio de Noticias Católicas) Y a continuación, voy a imprimir su artículo (aunque abreviado por limitaciones de espacio) para obtener una respuesta precisa. ¡Alerta de spoiler! La respuesta será "no". Una misa no puede contar para dos obligaciones distintas. Aquí está el artículo:

En un boletín emitido a principios de este año, los obispos católicos de los EE. UU. Respondieron preguntas sobre si las obligaciones de la misa del domingo y el día santo pueden cumplirse con una asistencia a Misa de "dos por uno" en Navidad este año. En una situación "relativamente rara" que la última vez que ocurrió fue en 2006, el día de Navidad de este año fue lunes. Debido a que los católicos están obligados a asistir a Misa los domingos y días festivos de obligación, algunos han preguntado si una misa dominical en Nochebuena cumpliría tanto con la obligación de una misa dominical como con la obligación de una misa de Navidad.

El Comité Episcopal de Culto Divino de los Estados Unidos ha dicho que los fieles deben asistir a dos Misas para cumplir con sus obligaciones de la misa dominical y la misa de navidad.

Desde a mediados del siglo XX, la Iglesia ha permitido que los católicos asistan a la vigilia, o que sea Misa anticipada para domingos y Días Santos de Obligación como "una conveniencia para muchos de los fieles".

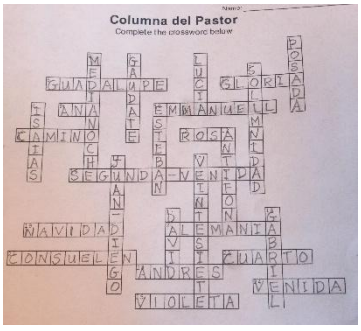
"La mayoría de los abogados canónicos se someten a la Constitución Apostólica del Venerable Papa Pío XII, Christus Dominus (6 de enero de 1953), que dio las 4:00 p.m. como el momento más temprano en que se pueden programar misas anticipadas o de vigilia ", dijeron los obispos en su carta de 2017.

Esto significa que la obligación del domingo para el 24 de diciembre se puede cumplir el domingo o en cualquier momento el o 23 de diciembre después de las 4 p.m., y la obligación de la misa de Navidad se puede cumplir el lunes, en cualquier momento o el 24 de diciembre después de las 4 p.m. En el caso de dos días consecutivos de obligación, como la Navidad de este año, la "opinión predominante de muchos abogados canónicos es que cada obligación se debe cumplir con una misa separada", dijeron los obispos. "Por lo tanto, cuando las obligaciones consecutivas ocurren el sábado-domingo o el domingo-lunes, los fieles deben asistir a Misa dos veces para cumplir con dos obligaciones separadas".

Según los obispos, la pregunta de si tales obligaciones podrían cumplirse en una misa ha sido planteada anteriormente por los obispos en lo que se llama un "dubium", que fue " negativamente respondida por la Sagrada Congregación para el Clero y aprobada por el Beato". El Papa Pablo VI en 1970. "

"La intención de la Iglesia de extender la posibilidad de cumplir con las obligaciones de misa a través de *misas de vigilia, mientras se pretendía facilitar el cumplimiento de las obligaciones, nunca se concibió como una escapatoria legal y, por lo tanto, quedan obligaciones separadas*", dijeron los obispos. Los obispos enfatizaron que esperaban que los católicos "fomenten el amor por la Sagrada Liturgia y tengan en lo posible y como sea razonablemente posible el deseo de celebrar los días de preceptos plenamente".

Y esa es la respuesta a esa pregunta de Navidad 2017, "¿Cuenta esta Misa?" Y a continuación tenemos más respuestas; Estas son las respuestas al crucigrama de Adviento de la semana pasada. ¡Mis continuas oraciones para que todos nosotros experimentemos un santo Adviento!



Suyo en Cristo
Fr. James Lentini
Párroco