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., Friday 9:30-12noon, Closed Wednesdays
Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.

December 2, 2018 – First Sunday 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. Timothy J. Brady, Parochial Vicar
Father Mano Salla, 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,

Go West Young Man. In 1964, Eberhard Fuchs was a resident of the repressive Communist-led city of East Berlin; he decided to seek freedom. The Communists of East Berlin, and indeed of the whole eastern bloc, intentionally inflicted economic backwardness on their people, as a form of control. They likewise repressed religion, free thought and free movement. Mr. Fuchs decided that this was no way to live and no place in which a generation of children should be raised.

Digging the Scene. In seeking freedom, Mr. Fuchs gathered together with a group of 35 likeminded Berliners to engage in one of the most unlikely and death defying escapes to freedom of the Cold War period. To escape to the west, Mr. Fuchs and friends worked for some six months digging a tunnel that ran directly under a Communist military installation and then under the dreaded Berlin Wall. Digging and dragging dirt for many months was tedious, and indeed, fearful, for the diggers as they were wary of being found out, arrested and imprisoned. But they continued their work; their patience and endurance paid off. For on October 19, 1964, the completed tunnel which was 150 yards long, 2 feet wide, 2-1/2 high, led some 57 men, women and children to escape: from captivity to freedom, from oppression to liberty; from a doomed way of life into the light of hope.

Only the Beginning. Today, this Sunday, we start the season of Advent, amidst darkening days of diminished daylight. But, as the band Chicago propounded in its 1970 hit, "Beginnings" – "It's only beginning / only just the start." And so, today and for the next 23 days, we are called to be like those East Berliners who looked ahead to the joy that awaited them.

Here Comes the Judge. In Advent, we are to prepare patiently for two distinct events: the coming of Christ at the end of time as our judge, and – more proximately to our lives as Christians – the coming of Jesus Christ, our Savior at Christmas; when God became man. We await Christ, but even more so we prepare for Him; and we do so with prayer, reflection, confession, and a recommitment to living our faith.

The Great Escape. Now, while we may not have to dig a tunnel, or crawl in the dirt, we nonetheless, just like those freedom fighters of Berlin, seek Christ coming into the world so that we may make an escape from captivity to freedom, from oppression to liberty and from a doomed way of life into the light of hope. Christ is our freedom, our liberty and our hope, in a world that strives to strip those things away. All of this is what forms our Catholic perspective of Advent:

it is not a time for sales (though there are some great deals at Best Buy),
it is not a time to celebrate Christmas before Christmas (though in our society waiting patiently seems to be a virtue that absent),
it is not a time to think about what we will get, but rather about what we can give, what we have given by God.

Be Prepared. Let's apply this perspective of Advent, to the busy-ness many of us feel in our lives in these weeks that precede Christmas. I speak of the busyness that brings so much stress that we forget what Christmas really is, and what this preparation time of Advent is all about. We all say we want to keep Christ in Christmas, but let's not forget to keep Christ in Advent, too. I think that in preparing for the coming of Christ, we sometimes forget that he is already among us: We <u>are</u> a redeemed people.

Stop Sign. In this regard, please remember that those wonderful Christmas feelings that we want to feel: love, joy and peace, cannot flow from that chaotic month of stress society gives us which we call December; a month when Advent seems non-existent and Christmas seems to begin in November. As Christian we are blessed with a season to pause and reflect: Advent. Let's use it. Hit the brakes, folks! <u>We need a little Advent, right this very minute</u>.

Who's Coming to Town. To use my Berlin analogy, we simply cannot be at the end of the tunnel, while we are still in the process of digging it. And (dare I say) dig this: We need to be aware those gifts of love, joy and peace, those gifts of freedom, liberty and hope, those gifts of the Holy Spirit of God, will not come from Christmas presents, but rather from God's presence. And so, we have to tunnel our way through that tinsel, those lights, parties and songs and be sure, be certain and be admonished not to miss the truth that <u>Jesus Christ is coming to town</u>, the Lord coming to us.

And let me be clear: I am not telling you that there is anything wrong with Christmas songs, ornaments, lights, glitter, tinsel, decorations, parties or even Best Buy gift card in the pastor's mailbox – these are all joyful things pointing to the joyful light of the season: Jesus Christ, coming into the world. The Word being made flesh.

Big Mac Philosophy. But remember, these sign and symbols of the season that point to Christmas, <u>are not</u> Christmas. These things that point to Christ, are not Christ. Thus, as a philosopher once said, the finger that points to the Moon, is not the Moon, or as this culinary philosopher put it: the drive thru line at McDonald's is not the Big Mac but is a way of getting the Big Mac.

The Light at the End of the Tunnel. Yes, Celebrate. Yes, Decorate. Yes, sing, pray and praise God, every day! Fix up your Christmas tree, and string the lights. And if necessary be that voice crying out in the wilderness to people who are unaware. But, be sure to know why you're doing it all. For there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and his name is Jesus Christ. 23 days and counting.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, December 2
8:30 Anna & Louis Adam
11:00 Lynn Schepens
Misa en Español 1pm No Misa hoy

Thursday, December 6
7pm Misa Carlos Miguel- Living Mass

Sunday, December 9
8:30 James & Elizabeth Griffith
11:00 Bruce Schepens
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

The Mass book for 2019 is open.

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: $ 3292.02
***Feast Day Celebration*: $461.25**

Second Collection Today: supplementary

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Dec 2 Vicky Strauss & Karen Cabaud
Dec 9 Vicky Strauss & Karen Cabaud
Dec 16 Elisa & Tom Costello

****NEW Collection Counter schedule coming out. Thank you.****

Church Cleaning Crew

Diciembre7, 2018 Grupo #3
Natalia Domingo, Victoriano Pérez, Américo García, María García, Julio Hernández, **Hayde Fuentes**

Deciembre 14, 2018 Grupo # 4
Marinda Escalante, Elías González, Alfonso, Perez, Oscar Roblero, Edgar Velásquez, Rubelina Ortiz

Altar Servers

December 9
8:30am Mass – Anna Clancy & Mike Dixon
11am Mass – Vince Haass & Joanna Santizo
Spanish Misa 1pm – Sofia Ramirez & Jessica Ortiz

Lectors

December 9
8:30am Mass – Diane Smith
11am Mass – Alicia Poppiti
Spanish Misa 1pm – Roman Cuin, Juan Díaz

Eucharistic Ministers

December 9
8:30am Mass – Alan Smith & Greg Taraila
11am Mass – Paul Lardizzone, Bob Vanvessan
Spanish Misa 1pm – Ovidio Roblero, N. Capistran, , Salome Morales, A. Escalante,Verónica Bravo

LECTOR BOOKS are in the office. Please pick up your copy today.

Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?
Find out more about the priesthood at **www.diocesanpriest.com**
Find out more about the religious life: **religiouslife.com. Let us help you to discover God's plan for your life.**
E-mail: **vocations@cdow.org** or
Call us: **(302) 573-3113** today!

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Dec 2 9AM – Knights BREAKFAST
Sun, Dec 2 9:40am – SRE Classes in Classroom
Mon, Dec 3 6pm – St. Vincent dePaul
Tues, Dec 4 7pm – Juan XXIII
Fri, Dec 7 7pm – Band Practice-cc
Fri, Dec 7 7pm – RCIA-office
Sat, Dec 8 - 12 – Charismatic Group – Computer Center
Sat, Dec 8 – 100th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS
9AM – Bazaar & Secret Santa in Hall
5PM – Mass
6:30pm – Feast Day Dinner-Marydel Firehall

KNIGHTS BREAKFAST

TODAY 9AM

In the Hall

Please JOIN US !!

Knights of Columbus

Next meeting
Tues, December 11
6:30pm Rosary
7pm Meeting
in the Knights Hall
All members are encouraged to attend. 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**

Looking for the right fit for you child? St. Thomas More is now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Schedule a visit to see what amazing opportunities your child can experience both inside and outside of the classroom at STMA. The Class of 2018 was offered $6 million dollars in college scholarship and grants. Contact the Admissions Office to learn how your child can Get MORE @STMA! We encourage you to visit us in person or through our website www.saintmore.org

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education
9:40am-10:50am

We welcome parents to help and share their faith by helping during Religious Education. Please see Alicia Poppiti with questions and to register to help out.

Sacramental Prep:

First Reconciliation Prep: Next session is on Tuesday, December 11th from 6:30-7:30pm in the Parish Hall. If you missed the any session please see Alicia Poppiti as soon as possible.

Reconciliation Retreat: Saturday, December 15th, 9am-12noon in the hall.

Confirmation: Next session will be on Sunday, December 16th from 11am-1pm in the parish hall.

Sponsor meeting for Confirmation: Sunday, December 16th at 12noon in the computer center.

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Parenting Pointer –

Spouses, even very loving spouses, sometimes need a "Do Over." When you catch yourself (or you are caught) saying or doing something hurtful, be humble enough to ask for a *Do Over*. Apologize. Rephrase your statement in a more sensitive way.

Marriage Moment –

Teach your child some Latin. In Latin "Advent" means something is coming. For Christians, it points us to the coming of Jesus at Christmas. It's not here yet. We have to wait for it. Talk about how you wait for relatives or friends to arrive. It's hard to wait, but you shouldn't hurry it by celebrating before their arrival.

Old-Fashioned Carol Sing

Sunday, December 9 3pm at St. Francis Xavier Shrine (Old Bohemia) 1699 Bohemia Church Road, Warwick, MD 21912. Enjoy an Old-Fashioned Carol Sing featuring religious and secular music. Audience participation encouraged, led by the music ministers of St. Joseph's, Middletown. **Refreshments will be served following the concert. Tours of the historic facility, which is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places, will be available one hour prior to the concert.** For additional information, call Marji at 302.328.4803.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The General Directory for Catechesis reminds us that faith is both a gift from God and an ongoing call to a process of continuing conversion. Sacred Scripture holds a pre-eminent position in catechesis that needs to include opportunities for reflection where the disciple can be shaped by the Word of God.

First Sunday of Advent

Theme: Be on guard!

Question for Children: What helps you to grow in your faith? Who helps you?

Question for Youth: Advent is the Church season when we prepare for Christ's birth at Christmas. What is one thing you can do to prepare yourself spiritually for Christmas?

Question for Adults: Paul exhorts us to "make greater progress" in our spiritual lives. What one step could you take to make greater progress in your own life?

1er domingo de Adviento

Tema: ¡Estén vigilantes!

Pregunta para los niños: ¿Qué los ayuda a crecer en su fe? ¿Quién los ayuda?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: El tiempo de Adviento es la época en que nos preparamos para el nacimiento de Jesucristo en la Navidad. Menciona una cosa que puedes hacer para prepararte espiritualmente para la Navidad.

Pregunta para los adultos: Pablo nos insta a "mejorar más" nuestra vida espiritual. ¿Qué medida podrían tomar para mejorar más sus propias vidas?

Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples who can help a couple re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille can help heal a marriage, as it has for tens of thousands of couples throughout the world. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 8-10 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 2 DE DECIEMBRE, 2018.

Queridos feligreses,

Joven Va al Oeste. En 1964, Eberhard Fuchs residía en la ciudad represiva del este de Berlín, liderada por los comunistas; Él decidió buscar la libertad. Los comunistas del este de Berlín, y de hecho de todo el bloque del este, imponiendo intencionalmente el atraso económico a su pueblo, como una forma de control. También reprimieron la religión, el libre pensamiento y el libre movimiento. El Sr. Fuchs decidió que esta no es una manera de vivir, ni un lugar en el que una generación de niños debería ser criada.

Excavando el Escenario. En busca de la libertad, el Sr. Fuchs se reunió con un grupo de 35 berlineses con el propósito de participar en uno de los escapes más improbables y mortales del período de la Guerra Fría. Para escapar hacia el oeste, el Sr. Fuchs y sus amigos trabajaron durante seis meses excavando un túnel que corría directamente debajo de las instalaciones militares y el muro de Berlín. Excavando y arrastrando tierra, y de hecho, temerosos, para los excavadores, ya que si los descubren podían ser arrestados y encarcelados. Pero continuaron su trabajo; Su paciencia y resistencia dieron sus frutos. Para el 19 de octubre de 1964, el túnel completo que tenía 150 yardas de largo, 2 pies de ancho, 2-1 / 2 de alto, unos 57 hombres, mujeres y niños para escapar:

• del cautiverio a la libertad,

• de la opresión a la libertad

• De un modo de vida condenado a la luz de la esperanza.

Sólo el Principio. Hoy, este domingo, comenzamos el Tiempo de Adviento, en medio de días oscuros de luz diurna disminuida. Pero, como la banda de Chicago propuso en su éxito de 1970, "Comienzos" - "Es solo el comienzo / el comienzo". Y así, hoy y durante los próximos 23 días, somos llamados a ser como los berlineses del este que a la alegría que les esperaba.

Aquí Viene el Juez. En Adviento, debemos prepararnos pacientemente para dos eventos distintos: la venida de Cristo al final del día de nuestro juicio, y, más próximo a nuestra vida como cristianos, la venida de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador en Navidad; cuando Dios se hizo hombre. Esperamos a Cristo, pero aún más nos preparamos para él; y lo hacemos con oración, reflexión, confesión y un nuevo compromiso para vivir nuestra fe.

El Gran Escape. Ahora, no tenemos que excavar un túnel, o arrastrarnos en la tierra, como esos luchadores de la libertad de Berlín, queremos encontrar una manera de escapar del mundo. La libertad y de modo de vida condenado a la luz de la esperanza. Cristo es nuestra libertad, y nuestra esperanza, en un mundo que se esfuerza por quitar esas cosas. Todo esto es lo que forma nuestra perspectiva católica de Adviento:

no es un momento de ventas (aunque hay algunas ofertas excelentes en Best Buy),

• No es un momento para celebrar la Navidad antes de Navidad,

• no es un momento para pensar en lo que obtendremos, sino en lo que podemos dar, lo que hemos dado por Dios.

Estar Preparado- Apliquemos esta perspectiva de Adviento a la actividad que muchos de nosotros sentimos en nuestras vidas en estas semanas que preceden a la Navidad. Hablo sobre el ajetreo que es tanto estrés que olvidamos lo qué es realmente la Navidad y de qué se trata este tiempo de preparación de Adviento. Mantener a Cristo en Navidad, pero no olvidemos mantener a Cristo en Adviento, también. Creo que nos estamos preparando para la venida de Cristo, a veces olvidamos que ya esta entre nosotros.

Señal de Parar -En esta mirada, recuerda esas cosas maravillosas que queremos sentir: amor, alegría y paz, un mes cuando el Adviento parece inexistente y la Navidad parece comenzar en noviembre. Hemos sido bendecidos con una temporada para hacer una pausa y reflexionar: Adviento. Vamos a usarlo. ¡Ponga los frenos, mis amigos! Necesitamos un pequeño Adviento, en este mismo instante.

Quien Viene a la Ciudad -Para usar mi analogía de Berlín, simplemente no podemos estar al final del túnel, mientras aún estamos en el proceso de excavarlo. Y (me atrevo a decir) cava esto: debemos ser conscientes de esos dones de amor, gozo y paz, esos dones de libertad, emancipación y esperanza, esos dones del Espíritu Santo de Dios, no provendrán de los regalos de Navidad, sino de la presencia de Dios Y así, tenemos que abrir un túnel a través de ese oropel, esas luces, fiestas y canciones y estar seguros, estar seguros y advertirnos de no perder la verdad de que Jesucristo está viniendo a la ciudad, el Señor viene a nosotros.

Y déjeme ser claro: no les estoy diciendo que haya algo malo con las canciones navideñas, adornos, luces, brillo, oropel, decoraciones, fiestas o incluso la tarjeta de regalo Best Buy en el buzón del párroco: estas son cosas alegres que apuntan a la Luz alegre del tiempo: Jesucristo, que viene al mundo. La Palabra se hizo carne.

Filosofía Big Mac. Pero recuerda, estos signos y símbolos del tiempo que apuntan a la Navidad, no son la

Navidad. Estas cosas que apuntan a Cristo, no son Cristo. Por lo tanto, como dijo un filósofo, el dedo que apunta a la Luna, no es la Luna, o como lo dijo este filósofo culinario: el recorrido a través de McDonald's no es el Big Mac, sino una forma de obtener el Big Mac.

La Luz al Final del Túnel. Sí, celebra. Sí, decorar. Sí, canta, reza y alaba a Dios, todos los días! Arregla tu árbol de Navidad y enciende las luces. Y si es necesario, sea esa voz que clama en el desierto a personas que no lo saben. Pero asegúrate de saber por qué lo estás haciendo todo esto. Porque hay una luz al final del túnel, y su nombre es Jesucristo. 23 días y contando.

Tuyo en Cristo
P. James Lentini
Párroco

Join Us in Celebrating 100 YEARS

Iglesia Inmaculada Concepción
Diciembre 1918 – Diciembre 2018

UNISE A NOSOTROS para un día de Celebración

BAZAR ESTILO RETRO: 9am - 1PM

Disfrute comprando hermosas artesanías y productos horneados hechos por sus feligreses. Los recuerdos del evento (camisas, adornos conmemorativos, Cat Meows y adornos navideños) también estarán disponibles para su compra.

** Si desea alquilar una mesa para exhibir sus artesanías, el costo es de $ 5.

Por favor póngase en contacto con Judy Carrow (302) 653-8123.

LA TIENDA SECRETA DE SANTA - Solo para niños de 9 am a 1 pm

Una oportunidad para que los niños (menores de 12 años) escojan regalos para su familia y los lleven a casa envueltos y listos para regalar en Navidad.

** Si tiene artículos nuevos o usados en buenas condiciones, adecuados para hacer regalos, y desea hacer una donación... O si pudiera donar su tiempo para ayudar a los niños a comprar ... Por favor, póngase en contacto con la oficina o Sra. Judy Carrow.

MISA celebrada con el Obispo 5PM en la Iglesia y el Salón.

CENA de celebración - Los boletos están disponibles para la venta.

$ 25 para adultos / $ 10 para niños menores de 12 años.

La cena de Filete Mingón y torta de cangrejo se servirá en el Salón de Bomberos de Marydel.

Los boletos no están disponibles en las puertas. Para más información, póngase en contacto con la oficina de la parroquia para obtener más información

Join Us in Celebrating 100 YEARS

Immaculate Conception Church
December 1918 – December 2018

JOIN US for a Day of Celebration

OLD FASHIONED BAZAAR: 9am – 1PM

*Enjoy Shopping beautiful crafts and baked goods made by your fellow parishioners. Keepsakes of the Event (Shirts, Cats Meows & Christmas Ornaments) will also be available for purchase.

**Would like cakes donated for cake wheel.

**If you would like to rent a table display your crafts, the cost is $5.
Please contact Judy Carrow (302) 653-8123.

SANTA'S SECRET SHOP – For Children Only 9am – 1PM

A chance for the Children (Under 12) to pick out gifts for their family and take them home wrapped and ready for Christmas giving. With a Big surprise for children. Cookie decorating fun for all ages.

**If you have New or Gently used items, suitable for gift giving, and would like to make a for donation … OR if you could donate your time to help the children shop …. Please contact parish office or Judy Carrow.

MASS celebrated with the Bishop 5PM in the Church and the Hall

Celebration DINNER 6:30pm at Marydel Firehall – Tickets are available for sale $25 for Adults / $10 for Children under 12.

Dinner of Filet Mignon and Crab Cake will be served at the Marydel Firehall.

Tickets are NOT available at the Doors. Please contact the Parish office for more information.

If you need additional information or have questions, committee members are: Ralph Rossi, Judy Carrow, Mike & Peggy O'Meara, Bill & Terry Thompson, Diane Schepens, Alan & Diane Smith, Ashley Salas, Rafael Morales Perez, Gerry & Cathy Godfrey