

# 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](http://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.*

## February 3, 2019 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 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  
Rev. 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**.

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This week, during Catholic School's Week, I turn my column over to the principal of STMA, Ms. Casey.

In Christ, Fr. Lentini

Greetings Parishioners,

I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to start and conclude our celebration of National Catholic Schools Week by speaking to you at Masses last week, and now again by way of the Pastor's Column! It was incredibly heartwarming to hear from so many of you wishing to share your thanks and congratulations for STMA's achievements and for your pledges to keep me and our school in your prayers. It was wonderful to see and hear from so many former students and families as well. To know that you are out there in the "real world" studying and working hard to be the young men and women God intended is a wonderful reminder that God reaps what he sows in our Catholic schools. In fact, I'd like to share two stories of STMA graduates which I feel illustrate

that point, and, more importantly, the mission of our school with you today.

The mother of one of our alumni reached out to me recently to share what she found to be a surprising and moving comment her son made during an occasion of public speaking about his time in high school. Speaking to a crowd of educators, this young man reflected that his favorite part about Saint Thomas More Academy was attending weekly Mass as a school. This was striking to her, and again for me when she relayed the story, primarily because this young man was Jewish, not Catholic. He explained that while our Masses did not represent his personal faith tradition, he appreciated the regular opportunity for quiet introspection and spiritual nourishment. I imagine it was a powerful experience for him, a student who had attended a public elementary school and who may have felt like an outsider at the outset of his Catholic high school experience, to have found acceptance and a place in the "family" during

those Masses.

Another alumnus approached me after Mass last Sunday to tell me that he is happy and doing well in his studies at Delaware State University. I admit I was surprised to see him as I recalled he was not Catholic. It was great to see him and to catch up, but I couldn't square my memory with his presence at our Catholic church. It was then that he shared with me that he is currently enrolled in the RCIA program at Holy Cross. His words were, "the seeds Saint Thomas More planted have taken root!" I left that Mass feeling so proud of him and so eager to report this back to my faculty. Please pray for him as he begins this journey of faith!

"Prosper the work of our hands!" (Psalms 90:17). God truly works to use our Catholic schools as fertile ground for raising up young men and women to consider not just their studies, but their souls. Father Lentini shared a beautiful homily with the students of Holy Cross Elementary and Saint Thomas More Academy during Catholic Schools Week in which he reminded us that the great blessing of Catholic schooling is that it trains students not for a living, but for a life. Well said, Father!

Though faith will always serve as the reason for our being, another key element of our mission is to achieve high standards of academics. I'm proud to report that our standardized testing scores outpace our rival schools. The Class of 2018 had an average SAT score of 1167. Our average is 100 points higher than the national average, and 170 points higher than the state average. In a competitive college admissions field, our Ravens soar high! That same graduating class of 36 students was offered \$6 million in college scholarships, of which they were able to accept \$1.8 million. I feel confident in

saying our pursuit of graduating well-rounded citizens ready to embrace their God-given gifts has been, and continues to be, successful. We provide this exceptional high school experience at the lowest tuition in the Diocese, indicative of our commitment to remain accessible to families seeking a quality Catholic education for their children.

Perhaps our biggest challenge is being known in our community, so I ask you to inquire about our school, encourage family, friends and neighbors to do the same, and to help me recognize the good work of our faculty, staff, and students. If you have never been to our campus, fellow parishioners, please visit us for a sports game, drama production, or fundraising event. Our basketball season continues into February, with schedules published on [www.ravenssports.com](http://www.ravenssports.com). The Midnight Dreary Players will present *Little Shop of Horrors* March 29-31 at STMA. And our next big fundraiser is our annual ForeverMORE Silent Auction on Saturday, February 23. Tickets are on sale now! Please follow us on Facebook, or tour our campus on our website.

As a final note, I'll remind you that now is the time to apply for the 2019-20 school year. We welcome new applicants. Thank you again for this opportunity to share with you, and may God continue to bless this parish and both of its schools.

Rachael A. Casey, Principal

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### MASS INTENTIONS:

#### **Sunday, February 3**

8:30 Christina Godfrey

11:00 Charles Beck

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

#### **Thursday, February 7**

7pm Misa For the People

#### **Sunday, February 10**

8:30 Christina Godfrey

11:00 Charles Beck

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

**Tax letters are available in  
the office now.**



### COLLECTION TOTALS:

**Offertory: \$ 4235.95**

**St. Thomas More Academy: \$ 653.00**

***Second Collection Today: Supplementary***

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

***Join our Parish Family....Registration Forms are  
Available at the front vestibule or the Parish Office.***



### **BREAKFAST:**

**TODAY February 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Hall at  
9am!**

## STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

### Altar Servers

February 10

8:30am Mass – Mike Dixon, Anna Clancy  
11am Mass – Joanna Santizo Vince Haass  
Spanish Misa 1pm – Justin Godinez, Itzel Roblero

### Lectors

February 10

8:30am Mass – Theresa Thompson  
11am Mass – Alicia Poppiti  
Spanish Misa 1pm – Oyuki Galán, Pavel Rivera

### Eucharistic Ministers

February 10

8:30am Mass – Tom & Elisa Costello  
11am Mass – Paul Lardizzone, Bob Vanvessan  
Spanish Misa 1pm – Alberto Morales, Carlos Miguel,  
Flora Pérez, Miguel López, Antonio Pérez

### Collection Counters

Feb 3 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel  
Feb 10 Ann Lawson & Julia Moore  
Feb 17 Frank & Joyce Cristiano

### Church Cleaning Crew

Febrero 8 2019 Grupo # 9  
Reynaldo Pérez, Maribel Ortiz, Juventino López,  
Isenia Escalante, Clemente Escalante

Febrero 15, 2019 Grupo #10  
Marcos Domingo, Orelia Berdugo, Carmen Gabriel,  
Susana Ortiz Morales, Alberto Morales.

## **Marriage & Family Life Corner**

### Parenting Pointer –

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you."  
(Jeremiah 1:4) Even before your child was born you had hopes for him or her. Even before you conceived, you had hopes. Even if you adopted your child, you wondered how this person would grow and change you. Ponder how God knows you and your child even more deeply than the surface knowledge you now have.

### Marriage Moment –

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous..." (1 Cor. 13:4) Which of these qualities is your beloved strongest in?

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Feb 3 9am – Knights Breakfast in Hall  
Sun, Feb 3 9:40am – SRE Classes in Classrooms  
Sun, Feb 3 11 am – Confirmation Prep- hall  
Mon, Feb 4 6pm – St. Vincent DePaul  
Mon, Feb 4 7pm – "Catholicism" Series in Hall  
Tues, Feb 5 7pm – Juan XXIII  
Fri, Feb 8 7pm – Band Practice  
Fri, Feb 8 7pm – RCIA

### St. John Vianney Heart Relic coming to our Diocese TOMORROW



The incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney will be visiting Corpus Christi Church, 909 New Road in Elsmere, Delaware on Monday, February 4. The Shrine of Ars, France, has made this major relic available for a national tour in the U.S. The relic will be available throughout the day for private veneration. A Mass with Bishop Malooly as celebrant and homilist will begin at 8:30 a.m. Rosaries and prayer services are scheduled throughout the day. Visit [cdow.org/Vianney](http://cdow.org/Vianney) for details.

### **Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat**

The next retreat is May 3-5, 2019 at Malvern Retreat House. The retreat weekend is a beautiful opportunity for emotional and spiritual healing for any woman or man who has struggled with abortion. For more info contact Nan Freeman at 302-333-1904 or visit [rachelvineyard.org](http://rachelvineyard.org).

## **Plan to Join Us!! SAVE THE DATE**



**ICC PENNY PARTY**  
**March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**6PM**

## **Knights of Columbus**

Next meeting  
Tues, February 12  
6:30pm Rosary  
7pm Meeting  
in the Knights Hall  
All members are encouraged to attend.



## FROM THE DRE'S DESK

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

Registrations for the 2019-2020 School of Religious Education year will be out in early February, they are available online now.



### **Sacramental Prep:**

**Confirmation Prep:** Sun, February 3rd 11am in Hall.

**1st Communion Prep:** Tuesday, February 12 at 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Parish hall.

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

### **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Theme:** Jesus' words and love are for everyone!

**Question for Children:** What ways do you show God's love to someone who is lonely or hurting?

**Question for Youth:** Who are the people in your life who mean the most to you? How do you show them how important they are to you?

**Question for Adults:** What is a way you show members of your family your love for them?

### **4º domingo en tiempo ordinario**

**Tema:** Las palabras y el amor de Jesús son para todos.

**Pregunta para los niños:** ¿En qué maneras muestran el amor de Dios a alguien que está solo o que sufre?

**Pregunta para los jóvenes:** ¿Quiénes son las personas en tu vida que más significan para ti? ¿Cómo les demuestras lo importante que son para ti?

**Pregunta para los adultos:** ¿Cuál es una manera en que muestran a los miembros de su familia el amor que sienten por ellos?



**“A Church in Two States: The History of Immaculate Conception Parish 1918-2018”** is now available for \$10 a copy, at the office or RE desk during SRE.

## **Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?**

Find out more about the priesthood at [www.diocesanpriest.com](http://www.diocesanpriest.com)

Find out more about the religious life: [religiouslife.com](http://religiouslife.com). Let us help you to discover God's plan for your life. E-

mail: [vocations@cdow.org](mailto:vocations@cdow.org) or

Call us: (302) 573-3113 today!



**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.

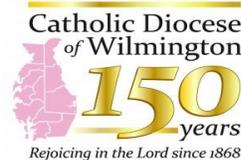
Retrouvaille can help heal a marriage, as it has for tens of thousands of couples throughout the world. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 8-10 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site

at: [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 1-800-470-2230.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

### **Archives to hold exhibit in conjunction with Diocesan 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.**

The Archives of the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington will present a special exhibit in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Diocese. The exhibit will take place on Sunday, February 24, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Family Center of Saint Joseph on the Brandywine Church, 10 Old Church Road in Greenville, Delaware. The exhibit will feature dozens of items and documents going back to the 1600s when the first Catholic Europeans arrived in present-day Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. It is free and open to the public.



### **History of the Diocese of Wilmington**

Get your copy today of the Illustrated History of the Diocese of Wilmington.

Cost is only \$30 for this hard cover—glossy paper—336 pages, full color throughout. Stop by the Parish Office for your copy today. Also available is a soft cover graphic book for only \$12.

## **COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 3 DE FEBRERO 2019.**

Esta semana, durante la Semana de las Escuelas Católicas, entrego mi columna a la directora de STMA, la Sra. Casey.

En Cristo, P. Lentini

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Saludos feligreses,

Me siento bendecida por haber tenido la oportunidad de comenzar y concluir nuestra celebración de la Semana Nacional de las Escuelas Católicas hablándoles en las Misas la semana pasada, ¡y ahora nuevamente a través de la Columna del Pastor! Fue increíblemente reconfortante escuchar a muchos de ustedes que desean compartir sus agradecimientos y felicitaciones por los logros de STMA y por sus deseos y promesas de mantenernos a mí y a nuestra escuela en sus oraciones. Fue maravilloso ver y escuchar a tantos ex alumnos y familias también. Saber que están en un "mundo real" estudiando y trabajando arduamente para ser los hombres y las mujeres jóvenes que Dios quiso crear, es un maravilloso recordatorio de que Dios cosecha lo que siembra en nuestras escuelas católicas. De hecho, me gustaría compartir dos historias de graduados de STMA que creo que ilustran ese punto y, lo que es más importante, hoy compartir nuestra misión de nuestra escuela con ustedes.

La madre de uno de nuestros ex alumnos se acercó a mí recientemente para compartir lo que ella encontró como un comentario sorprendente y conmovedor que hizo su hijo en una ocasión que tuvo la oportunidad de hablar en público sobre su tiempo en la escuela secundaria. Hablando con una multitud de educadores, este joven reflexionó que su parte favorita de la Academia Saint Thomas More era asistir a la misa semanal como escuela. Esto fue sorprendente para ella, y de nuevo para mí cuando relató la historia, principalmente porque este joven era judío, no católico. Explicó que, si bien nuestras Misas no representaban su tradición de fe personal, apreciaba la oportunidad frecuente de compartir la introspección silenciosa y el alimento espiritual. Me imagino que fue una experiencia poderosa para él, un estudiante que había asistido a una escuela primaria pública y que pudo haberse sentido como un extraño al comienzo de su experiencia en la escuela secundaria católica, haber encontrado aceptación y un lugar en la "familia" durante esas misas

Otro alumno se me acercó después de la misa el domingo pasado para decirme que está contento y que le está yendo bien en sus estudios en la Universidad Estatal de Delaware. Admito que me sorprendió verlo porque recordé que no era católico. Fue genial verlo y ponerme al día, pero no pude cuadrar mi memoria con su presencia en nuestra iglesia católica. Fue entonces cuando compartió conmigo que actualmente está inscrito en el programa RICA en Holy Cross. Sus palabras fueron: "¡las semillas que Saint Thomas More plantó y han dado raíces!". Salí de la misa

sintiéndome muy orgullosa de él y tan ansiosa por informarle de esto a mis educadores. ¡Por favor, oren por él al comenzar esta jornada de fe!

*"¡Que la dulzura del Señor nos cubra y que confirme la obra de nuestras manos!"* (Salmos 90:17). Dios realmente trabaja para usar nuestras escuelas católicas como tierra fértil para educar a hombres y mujeres jóvenes para que consideren no solo sus estudios, sino también sus almas. El Padre Lentini compartió una hermosa homilía con los estudiantes de Holy Cross Elementary y Saint Thomas More Academy durante la Semana de las Escuelas Católicas en la que nos recordó que la gran bendición de la educación católica es que entrena a los estudiantes no para ganarse la vida, sino para la vida. ¡Bien dicho, padre!

Aunque la fe siempre servirá como la razón de nuestro ser, otro elemento clave de nuestra misión es lograr altos estándares académicos. Me enorgullece informar que nuestras calificaciones en exámenes estandarizados superan a nuestras escuelas rivales. La clase de 2018 tuvo un puntaje promedio en el SAT de 1167. Nuestro promedio es 100 puntos más alto que el promedio nacional, y 170 puntos más alto que el promedio estatal. ¡En un campo competitivo de admisión a la universidad, nuestros Ravens tuvieron un puntaje alto! A esa misma clase de graduados de 36 estudiantes les ofrecieron \$ 6 millones en becas universitarias, de las cuales pudieron aceptar \$ 1.8 millones. Estoy y me siento confiada al decir que nuestra búsqueda de graduar ciudadanos completos y listos para abrazar los dones que Dios les ha dado, ha sido y continúa siendo un gran éxito. Ofrecemos esta excepcional experiencia de escuela secundaria con la matrícula más baja en la Diócesis, lo que indica nuestro compromiso de permanecer accesibles para las familias que buscan una educación católica de calidad para sus hijos.

Quizás nuestro mayor desafío sea ser conocido en nuestra comunidad, por lo que le pido que averigüe sobre nuestra escuela, exhorta a sus familiares, amigos y vecinos a hacer lo mismo y ayúdame a reconocer el buen trabajo de nuestro personal docente, personal y estudiantes. Si nunca ha estado en nuestro campus, hermanos feligreses, visítenos asista a un juego de deportes, producción de drama o evento de recaudación de fondos. Nuestra temporada de baloncesto continúa en febrero, con horarios publicados en [www.ravenssports.com](http://www.ravenssports.com). The Midnight Dreary Players presentarán Little Shop of Horrors del 29 al 31 de marzo en la STMA. Y nuestra próxima gran recaudación de fondos es nuestra subasta china anual de ForeverMORE, el sábado 23 de febrero. ¡Los boletos ya están a la venta! Por favor, síganos en Facebook o visite nuestro campus en nuestro sitio web.

Como nota final, les recordaré que ahora es el momento de aplicar para el año escolar 2019-20. Damos la bienvenida a los nuevos solicitantes. Gracias nuevamente por esta oportunidad de compartir con ustedes, y que Dios continúe bendiciendo a nuestras dos parroquias y a sus dos escuelas.

Rachael A. Casey, Directora