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

February 28, 2016 – Third Sunday of Lent

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
7:00 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. John Olson, Associate Pastor
Rev. Anthony Giamello, Associate Pastor

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 James M. Tormey, Sr., our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-697-2049.

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**.

Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

Penance Service. Immaculate Conception will be having its Parish Penance Service on Thursday, March 17 at 7pm. The Penance Service will take the place of the regularly schedule Spanish-language Mass that evening. We will have confessors coming from several parishes to join us for this Service (Confessions will be heard in English and in Spanish). If you haven't been to Confession in awhile, by all means join us on March 17 – you have a problem, we have absolution!

How Tweet It Is! Did you know that you can follow Immaculate Conception Parish on Twitter? Just go to www.twitter.com/iccmarydel and follow us! And don't forget you can also see our Twitter feed and our parish calendar events at our website: www.iccmarydel.org.

Mission Control. March 13-16 (Sunday-Wednesday) marks the time of the annual Lenten Mission held at Holy Cross in Dover. I commend our parishioners here at Immaculate Conception to join us for this time of spiritual reflection and renewal, if you able. This year, in planning the Mission program, I followed the advice of author L. Frank Baum, who in his book, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,* said that to find what is needed "I won't look any further than my own back yard." In that spirit, this year's mission will be an in-house event: Fr. Olson, Fr. Giamello and myself will each take a night of the Mission (with the second night, Monday, March 14, reserved for our Penance Service). The theme of this year's Mission is the Mercy of God; apropos as we celebrate this Year of Mercy, commended to us by our Holy Father. The schedule: Sunday, March 13, the Mission kicks off at 7:30pm. Monday (Penance Service), Tuesday and Wednesday, (March 14-16), the service starts at 7:00pm.

Good Knights! If you are Catholic male age 18 or over, consider joining the Knights of Columbus. Our local Council here at Immaculate Conception is always looking for new members. The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Fraternal organization with 15,100 councils and 1.9 million members throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam, Spain, Lithuania, Ukraine, and South Korea. Annually, Knights of Columbus donate more than $143 million to

charity and volunteer more than 64 million hours to their parishes and communities. For more information about the Knights of Columbus, check out their page at our Parish website: http://www.iccmarydel.org/knights-of-columbus.html.

Imponderables. Life has many imponderables – those things in life that cause us to excogitate endlessly trying to understand them (for example, who the heck still uses the word "excogitate"). But imponderables are also a source of humor, when considered in a certain manner. Some of my favorite imponderables:

- Why isn't phonetic spelled the way it sounds?
- Why is the third hand on a watch called a second hand?
- Why does the word "monosyllabic" have so many syllables?
- Why is the period of the day with the slowest traffic called the rush hour?
- If a cow laughs, does milk come out of her nose?
- What was the best thing before sliced bread?
- Why isn't there a mouse-flavored cat food?
- If the #2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still #2?
- Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him that he has the right to remain silent?
- If Lent is a season of 40 days, why is it 46 days long?

Okay, I'll let the first eleven imponderables pass, but let me use this column to answer that twelfth one – because every year that question comes up. Let's step into the Wayback Machine and set the controls for the year 325 A.D. At that time the Lenten practice had developed over a few centuries, and the Catholic Bishops gathered at the Council of Nicea discussed the *quadragesima paschae* (Latin for "the forty days before Easter") when acts of penance were performed in preparation for the coming of Easter. Now in the 4th Century, Lent did not begin on Ash Wednesday, it began on sixth Sunday prior to Easter Sunday, and it ended, as it does today, on Holy Thursday. Exactly 40 days. But the Council of Nicea noted that it would be wrong for folks to engage in penitential acts on a Sunday (as all Sundays are days recalling the Resurrection). So, Sundays got knocked out of the count – and the 40 days became 34 days.

Well, now there was a problem! Christ spent 40 days in the desert, the Jews wandered 40 years in the desert, Noah and the critters spent 40 days in the ark, Kings of Israel, Saul, David and Solomon each reigned for 40 years, there are 40 chapters in the book of Exodus, for 40 days the prophet Jonah warned the Ninevites to repent, Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days, etc. In short, connecting things to the number 40 has significance! (Imagine what would happen if the famous radio show starring Casey Kasem was called "American Top 34" instead of "American Top 40" – it would be a world gone mad!)

Long story short, all parties involved wanted to get to that 40-day mark for that season of Lent. So, the first thing that was done was to add Good Friday and Holy Saturday, and tack them into Lent. That got us to 36 days. Then it was noted that in addition to preparing folks for Baptism at Easter, those who needed to be reconciled to the Church due to serious sin, needed a period for Penance that should begin at the start of Lent. But the first Sunday of Lent on a Sunday would not be appropriate as it wasn't a day of Penance. Thus by starting that time of reconciliation and preparation on the Wednesday before the first Sunday of Lent (marking the penitents with Ashes, which they were to wear until Holy Thursday), it allowed for a welcoming of penitents AND it got the number of days of Lent back to 40. Thus from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday there are 46 days, less the six Sundays, gives us 40 penitential days before the celebration of Easter.
Today, the Church says the season of Lent formally ends on Holy Thursday, yielding to three days called the "Sacred Triduum" (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday) – however, during the Triduum the penitential Lenten practices do continue until the Vigil. Or perhaps, to think of all of this in simpler terms, we need to go back to 325 A.D. when the Council of Nicea called for a penitential "*quadragesima paschae*" ("forty days before Easter"). And that is what the Season of Lent, when combined with the Triduum, effectively give us: a penitential season of 40 days. And these days are not some imponderable mystery… but rather they are a blessing from God to bring us close to him. Let us use them well!

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun., Feb., 28 **8:30am:** For the People
11:00am: George and Mary Jopp
Misa en Español **7:00pm:** For the People
Thu., Mar. 3 **7:00pm:** For the People
Sun., Mar. 6 **8:30am:** Thompson & Harter Families
11:00am: Dorothy Sumesiski
Misa en Español **7:00pm:** For the People

Our Mass book for 2016 year is open.
Please stop by office or call to have Masses scheduled.

TAX letters are in the office ready for you to pick up. Please stop in to get yours today. Thank you.

WEB SITE: Don't forget to check out our new Web Site today!! See our tweets and scripture of the day!!!
www.iccmarydel.org

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory: $4282.80
Supplemental Offertory: $557.00

Second Collection Today: Black, Indian & Home Missions

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

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the success of our Parish Penny Party! Thanks to you we raised $1,888.72 for the parish.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Feb. 28 - Paul & Robin Engstenberg
Mar. 6 - Tom & Mary McGowan
Mar. 13 - Julia Moore & Paul McQuaide

Church Cleaning Crew

March 3, 2016 Grupo #15 Rectoría-Oficina
Delfino Ramírez, Raquel Morales, **Aníbal Simón**, Simón De Jesús Quevedo, Emilio García, Adulada De Paz

March 5, 2016 Grupo #16
Oscar Pérez, **Idolina Rojas**, Marco Antonio Ortiz, Dina Rojas, Eliseo Ramírez, Clara Bamaca

March 12, 2016, 2015 Grupo #17
Marcos Domingo, Juan Díaz Reynoso, Marlene García, Leonel Juárez, **Ángela Córdova**, Bernardo De Paz

March 19, 2016 Grupo #18
Marinda Escalante, Elías González, Roxana Cabrera Servando Pérez, Edgar Velásquez, Rubelina Ortiz

Altar Servers

Mar. 6
8:30am Mass – Evan Nagyiski
11:00am Mass –Carmine Poppiti & Joanne Santizo
Spanish Misa 7:00pm – Yareli & Jose Ortiz & Pavel Hernadez

Lectors

Mar. 6
8:30am Mass – Barbara Thompson
11:00am Mass – Jim Ward
Spanish Misa 7:00pm – Clara Gonzales, Juan Ramírez

Eucharistic Ministers

Mar. 6
8:30am Mass – Deacon Tormey, Gerry Godfrey, Ann Lawson
11:00am Mass – Deacon Mitchell, Bob VanVessan, Paul Lardizzone
Spanish Misa 7:00pm – Salome & Alberto Morales & Ovidio Roblero

Bishop Malooly invites youth and young adults from all parishes and schools to join him as we come together for the 7th annual Pilgrimage on Sat, March 19th. Young people from across the Diocese will carry the Diocesan Pilgrimage Cross through the streets of Wilmington with the Bishop as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and His journey on Good Friday to Calvary. Immaculate Conception has gotten a bus for our young people to ride north. To register, contact Alicia Poppiti. For more information, visit the website http://www.cdowcym.org/events/detail/pilgrimage-2016

Registrations due by March 6 to Alicia

SCHEDULED EVENTS

SRE TODAY: Sun, Feb 28, 9:40am, classrooms
RICA: Sun Feb 28, 1:30pm
JOVENES: Sun, Feb 28, 3:30pm, church basement
Estudios Biblicos: Tues, Mar 1, 7pm
ESL: Mon. Feb 29 & Wed Mar 2, 7pm, cc and Basement
Stations of the Cross: Fri., Mar 4 7pm in Church

- **Father James Lentini requests your presence on Monday, March 7th at 7pm in the Parish Hall for a "Final Week of the Life of Christ" This is a Lenten Adult Catechesis/Formation, no children please.**

- **Lenten Penance Services**

Immaculate Conception: Thurs, March 17th at 7pm. Holy Cross: Monday, March 14th at 7pm.

The St Vincent DePaul Committee is currently planning for the distribution of food baskets for Easter. If you, or someone you know, is in need for Easter, please contact our group now so we can plan. **(302) 670-6702. Thank you!**

Knights of Columbus: Meet every 2nd & 4th Tues., in the hall at 6:30pm. For more information contact Grand Knight, Clyde Hinebaugh 410-482-8699 or clydehinebaugh@gmail.com

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

Feb. 29 is Leap Day. In matters of courtship, historically men took the lead and pursued women. Of course our society is now more egalitarian. Women are more assertive, ask men out for dates, and even propose. Is it a leap for you to accept this change or does it seem natural?

Parenting Pointer –

Week 3: Assuming that everyone in your family has enough clothes, have each person pick one piece of clothing that you wear indoors to give away.

What parts of your life need to be cultivated by the Divine Gardener?

The Gospel this week includes the Parable of the Fig Tree. The gardener begged for time to cultivate and fertilize the tree so that it would bear fruit. We, too, are called to repent and bear fruit. Bring It Home by looking up your parish's Confession schedule. Attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a family and let the grace of God's mercy fertilize your family life so that Jesus may be present in all that you do.

FROM THE DRE'S DESK
School of Religious Education

SRE TODAY, 9:40-10:50, classrooms

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Third Sunday of Lent

Theme: Lent calls us to conversion.
Question for Children: God wants your faith to result in good living. What steps can you take during Lent to make sure that happens?
Question for Youth: What needs changing in your life right now? How will you invite God into that change?
Question for Adults: What steps are you taking this Lent to make sure that your faith bears fruit in good works?

Pregunta de la semana

3º domingo de cuaresma

Tema: La cuaresma nos llama a la conversión.
Pregunta para los niños: Dios quiere que su fe resulte en una buena vida. ¿Qué medidas pueden tomar durante la cuaresma para asegurarse de que esto suceda?
Pregunta para los jóvenes: ¿Qué necesita un cambio en tu vida en estos momentos? ¿Cómo invitarás a Dios a ese cambio?
Pregunta para los adultos: ¿Qué medidas están tomando en esta cuaresma para asegurarse de que su fe dé frutos en buenas obras?

Join the Maryland March for Life Monday March 7th in Annapolis. Schedule, transportation, & other information is available their website: www.marylandmarchforlife.org/schedule.html

Message from the Diocese Vocations Office

Third Sunday of Lent

God called Moses from the burning bush. Is His voice burning within your heart? Is He calling you to live out your Catholicism as a priest, deacon, religious sister or religious brother? If you've felt that holy fire and aren't sure what to do next, call or write Father Norman Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113, vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!

Rice Bowl: Third week of Lent
Hungering for a Healthy Start- The next stop on our CRS Rice Bowl journey is the African nation of Rwanda, where we're reminded to care for the unborn. This week we pray for pregnant mothers, that they may have the medical and nutritional support they need to raise healthy, thriving children. Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Help Catholic Relief Services & Church in Latin America on March 5 & 6 On March 5 & 6 parishes in the Diocese of Wilmington our parish will take up a collection to benefit Catholic Relief Services and the Church in Latin America. Please be generous. For information about CRS, click here. For information about the Church in Latin America, click here.

Columna del párroco padre James Lentini
28 de febrero, 2016

Estimados Feligreses,

Servicio de Penitencia .La parroquia de La Inmaculada Concepción va a tener su Servicio Penitencial, el jueves 17 de marzo a las 7:00PM. El Servicio de Penitencia tomará el lugar de la Misa programada para los jueves -. Tendremos varios sacerdotes procedentes de varias parroquias uniéndose a nosotros para este servicio. Confesiones serán escuchadas en Inglés y en Español. Si usted no ha venido a la confesión en un rato, por todos los medios venga y únase a nosotros el 17 de marzo – Si tienes problema, tenemos absolución!

¿Cómo es el twittear! ¿Sabías que se puede seguir a la Parroquia de La Inmaculada Concepción en Twitter? Sólo tienes que ir a www.twitter.com/iccmarydel ~~ y síguenos! Y no te olvides que también puedes encontrar nuestro interfaz de Twitter y nuestros eventos en el calendario parroquial en nuestra página web: www.iccmarydel.org.
Misión Control. 13-16 de marzo (domingo a miércoles) marca el tiempo anual de la Misión de Cuaresma celebrada en Santa Cruz en Dover. Les invito a todos nuestros feligreses aquí en la Inmaculada Concepción si pueden ir a que se unan a nosotros en este tiempo de reflexión y renovación espiritual. Este año, en la planificación del programa de Misión, he seguido el consejo del autor L. Frank Baum, quien en su libro, El maravilloso mago de Oz, que dijo para encontrar lo que se necesita "No voy a mirar más allá de mi propio patio. "en ese mismo espíritu, la misión de este año será un evento en casa en la compañía de: Padre Olson, Padre. Giamello y conmigo mismo cada uno tomará

una noche de la Misión (con la segunda noche, Lunes, 14 de marzo reservado para nuestro Servicio Penitencial). El tema de la misión de este año es la Misericordia de Dios; apropiado, al celebrarse el Año de la Misericordia, que el Santo Padre nos ha asignado .Y yo invito a todos los feligreses a que se unan a nosotros en este tiempo de reflexión y de renovación espiritual. El horario: Domingo, 13 de marzo la Misión empezará a las 7:30 pm. Lunes (Servicio Penitencial), el martes y el miércoles (14-16 de marzo), el servicio se inicia a las 7:00 pm.

¡Buenos Caballeros! Si usted es un hombre católico mayor de 18 años, considere unirse a los Caballeros de Colón. Nuestro Consejo local aquí en la Inmaculada Concepción siempre está buscando nuevos miembros. Los Caballeros de Colón es una organización católica fraternal con 15,100 consejos y 1.9 millones de miembros en todo los Estados Unidos, Canadá, Filipinas, México, Polonia, la República Dominicana, Puerto Rico, Panamá, las Bahamas, las Islas Vírgenes, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam, España, Lituania, Ucrania y Corea del Sur. Anualmente, los Caballeros de Colón donan más de $ 143 millones a caridades y más de 64 millones de horas de servicio voluntario a sus parroquias y comunidades. Para obtener más información acerca de los Caballeros de Colón, dale un vistazo a su página en nuestro sitio Web de la parroquia: http://www.iccmarydel.org/knights-of-columbus.html.

Imponderables. La vida tiene muchos imponderables - esas cosas de la vida que nos hacen excogitar interminablemente por tratar de entenderlos (por ejemplo, ¿quién diablos todavía utiliza la palabra "excogitar"). Pero imponderables son también fuente de humor, cuando se considera en cierto modo. Algunos de mis favoritos imponderables:

- ¿Por qué la palabra "monosilábicas" tiene tantas sílabas?
- ¿Por qué es el periodo del día con el tráfico más lento llamado la hora pico?
- ¿Si una vaca se ríe, sale la leche por la nariz?
- ¿Cuál fue la mejor cosa antes de pan de molde?
- ¿Por qué no hay una comida para gatos con sabor a ratón?
- Si el lápiz # 2 es el más popular, ¿por qué es todavía # 2?
- ¿Por qué los psíquicos tienen que pedirte por tu nombre?
- Si la policía arresta a un mimo, es lo que le dijera que él tiene el derecho a permanecer en silencio?
- Si la Cuaresma es un tiempo de 40 días, ¿por qué es de 46 días?

Está bien, voy a dejar pasar los primeros imponderables, pero voy a utilizar esta columna para responder a esta última – porque, cada año esta pregunta surge. Demos un paso en la Máquina de los Recuerdos y poner el control para el año 325 DC. En ese tiempo, la práctica cuaresmal se había desarrollado a lo largo de unos pocos siglos, y los Obispos reunidos en el Concilio de Nicea discutieron la Paschae cuadragésima (que viene del latín, "los cuarenta días antes Pascua ") cuando se realizaban actos de penitencia en preparación para la venida de la Pascua. Ahora, en el siglo cuarto, la Cuaresma no comenzaba el Miércoles de Ceniza, comenzaba en el Sexto Domingo antes al Domingo de Pascua, y terminaba, como se hace hoy, el Jueves Santo. Exactamente 40 días. Sin embargo, el Consejo de Nicea señaló que sería un error para la gente a participar en los actos penitenciales en un domingo (como todos los domingos son días del Señor recordando su gloriosa Resurrección). Por lo tanto, los domingos fue noqueado del recuento - y los 40 días se convirtieron en 34 días.

Pues bien, ¡ahora sí que había un problema! Cristo pasó 40 días en el desierto, los Judíos vagaron 40 años en el desierto, Noé y las criaturas pasaron 40 días en el arca, reyes de Israel, Saúl, David y Salomón cada uno reinó durante 40 años, hay 40 capítulos en el libro del Éxodo, durante 40 días el profeta Jonás advirtió a los Ninivitas del arrepentimiento, Moisés estaba en el Monte Sinaí durante 40 días, etc. en resumen, la conexión de las cosas con el número 40 tiene un significado! (Imagínese lo que pasaría si el famoso programa de radio con Casey Kasem fuera llamado "American Top 34" en lugar de "American Top 40" - sería un mundo vuelto loco!)

Larga historia corta, todas las partes involucradas quieren llegar a esa marca de 40 días para que el tiempo de Cuaresma. Por lo tanto, lo primero que se hizo fue añadir el Viernes Santo y Sábado Santo, a la Cuaresma. Eso llegó a 36 días. Después se notó, que, además de la preparación de la gente para el bautismo en la Pascua, a los que necesitaban ser reconciliados con la Iglesia debido al pecado grave, necesitaban un período de penitencia que debía comenzar al inicio de la Cuaresma. Sin embargo, el primer domingo de la Cuaresma en un domingo que no sería apropiado, ya que no era un día de Penitencia. Por lo tanto , comenzando ese momento de la reconciliación y la preparación el miércoles anterior al primer domingo de Cuaresma (marcando a los penitentes con cenizas, que deberían de llevar hasta el Jueves Santo) , que permitía una bienvenida de los penitentes y se consiguió el número de días de la Cuaresma de nuevo a 40. Así, desde el miércoles de Ceniza al Sábado Santo hay 46 días, menos los seis domingos, nos da 40 días de penitencia antes de la celebración de la Pascua.

Hoy, la Iglesia dice que el tiempo de Cuaresma termina oficialmente el Jueves Santo , cediendo a tres días llamado el " Triduo Sato " (Jueves Santo , Viernes Santo y Sábado Santo) - sin embargo, durante el Triduo las prácticas penitenciales cuaresmales no continúan hasta la Vigilia. O tal vez, a pesar de todo esto en términos más simples, tenemos que ir de nuevo a 325 DC, cuando el Consejo de Nicea llamaba para una práctica penitencial " Paschae cuadragésima " (“cuarenta días antes de Pascua ") . Y eso es lo que es el tiempo de Cuaresma, cuando se combina con el Triduo, efectivamente nos da: una tiempo penitencial de 40 días. Y en estos días no son un misterio imponderable... sino que son una bendición de Dios que nos acercan a Él. Usémoslo bien!

Suyo en Cristo,
P. James Lentini, Párroco