

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.

February 4, 2018 – Fifth 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. 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,
This week, I've turned my Pastor's Column over to Ms. Rachael Casey, principal of St. Thomas More. Yours in Christ, Fr. L.

Fides Quaerens Intellectum. This is the motto of Saint Thomas More Academy. Translated from Latin, it reads, "Faith Seeking Understanding." I'd like to start my reflection in the Pastor's Column this week by focusing on this motto, which really serves as a vision statement for our school's staff and students, and pondering how this motto might transcend the realm of our high school. I wonder if our whole parish community might find value in this motto as a guidepost for spiritual and personal growth, too.

One of our basic functions as a high school is to properly prepare students' minds. We must set high academic standards and through quality programming and staffing,

we must assist students in reaching their full academic and intellectual potential. I would invite scrutiny of our program in these areas as I know our students outperform local and national testing benchmarks and consistently exceed the graduation and college acceptance and attendance statistics. But I challenge the notion that the "Understanding" mentioned in our motto is a reference to "book learning" solely.

At STMA, it is our goal to seek new knowledge, but also to seek better understanding of one another and our world as we grow in knowledge. We are blessed that our small classes allow a personal learning experience for our students. Teachers know each student by name, and, more importantly, know about each student. Faculty provide academic leadership, but they also serve as mentors. We believe that creating meaningful bonds with our students is a method of teaching in and of itself! Students can gain a deeper sense of understanding of

academic content when they have a partner and a model for building study skills and habits, can see examples of professional work, and can seek additional attention beyond the 85-minute class periods. How inspiring that students can learn to play the flute with Mrs. Cannon, the principal flutist in the Dover Symphony Orchestra! Or that students involved in the Student Ambassador program can learn about leadership from Dr. Coffield, who previously worked as the former Director of K-12 Services for Christina School District and the Vice President of the Founding Board for the Early College High School at Delaware State University! We seek to foster an environment in which students are always open to learning, in whatever form it may come. That means that our teachers play an integral role in extracurricular activities, and often participate in service-learning opportunities right beside our student leaders. Our staff find teachable moments whether on the tennis court or during student spiritual retreats, because “Understanding” means so much more than achieving an A on an exam.

I wonder, how could this definition of “Understanding” apply to the rest of our students’ lives, or to yours? Do we seek mentors, or find opportunities to serve as mentors? Do we seek to know and connect with those around us because they may have some insight to teach? How can we work to demonstrate interest and care for those who we influence?

STMA strives to provide more than the basic function of academic understanding and achievement for our students. In our mission statement, we express the goal to graduate “well-rounded citizens” who “share their God-given gifts” with the world. That is the “Faith” foundation of our motto. We must believe that God has a plan for each of us, and that we are inherently and uniquely gifted with talents and skills that are intended

to be used to achieve His plan. Our students have the opportunity to “seek understanding” at this level as well. All students who wish to play a sport have the opportunity to join a team at our school, even if they have never played before! Students can propose new clubs to the Student Government Association to pursue shared interests. Students are encouraged to share testimonials of faith in our retreat programs. We rely on students to lead the Liturgical Choir and serve as Sacristans and Lectors during school Masses. To put it simply, students are encouraged to find their strengths and grow in their faith in what can only be called a welcome and encouraging environment.

This point is further demonstrated in comments from administrators and teachers. When I asked STMA staff “What do you wish people knew about STMA?” I got the repeated response that our environment is the most important quality of our education. As one teacher put it, “this school instills Catholic values in those who will be our future leaders.” Another recounted a recent conversation with a visiting alumnae who called STMA “her second home.” Still another said that “students here feel acknowledged,” and that “the STMA culture is the culture of family.”

How can we put faith in God’s plan for our lives? What tasks and skills are we being called to complete or grow in so as to better serve our Lord? Who can we count on as partners in our search for deeper understanding of our faith?

Thankfully, we have the best partner we can ask for: “Those who love me I also love, and those who seek me find me” (Proverbs 8:17). Seek and ye shall find! I pray that our motto may become one you hold close as well: Fides Quaerens Intellectum.

Yours in Christ, Rachael A. Casey, Principal

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, Feb. 4

8:30: For the People

11:00: For the People

Misa en Español **1pm** For the People

Thu Feb 8 7pm For the People

Sunday, Feb. 11

8:30: James Messner

11:00: For the People

Misa en Español **1pm** For the People

ASH Wednesday, February 14, 2018

9:00am: For the People

5:30pm For the People

Misa en Español **7:00pm** For the People

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory: \$ 3043.85

St. Thomas More Academy: \$ 642.30

Second Collection Today: Supplementary

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

2018 Mass book is now open.

To schedule a Mass, please contact the office

**TAX LETTERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN
THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Please note → Servers, Lectors, and Ministers are needed for Ash Wednesday Masses 9am, 5:30pm & 7pm

Collection Counters

Feb 4 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel

Feb 11 Ann Lawson & Assistant

Feb 18 Frank & Joyce Cristiano

Church Cleaning Crew

Febrero 9, 2018 Grupo #10

Maurilio Gabriel, Carlos Miguel, Aurora Rivera, Bernarda Miguel, Reymundo Miguel, Teresa Tomas

Febrero 16, 2018 Grupo #11

Anselmo Escalante, Adelaida Velásquez, Judith Ortiz, Cesario Escalante, Ada Escalante, Haylin Bartolón

Altar Servers

February 11

8:30am Mass – Averil Locke & Mike Dixon

11:00am Mass – Savannah Strauus & Vincent Haass

Spanish Misa 1pm – Reynaldo Alvarez & Itzel Roblero

Lectors

February 11

8:30am Mass – Lani Small

11:00am Mass – Sherry Tucker

Spanish Misa 1pm – Olegario Cuin, Nancy Perez

Eucharistic Ministers

February 11

8:30am Mass – Deacon Tormey, Chris & Joyce Ford

11:00am Mass – Deacon Mitchell, Laura Schlaupitz, Bob VanVessan

Spanish Misa 1pm – Adelaida Velásquez, Epifanio Morales, Guadalupe Morales, Adrián Miranda, C. Miguel

Catholic Advocacy Network

Stay informed on issues important to Catholics. It takes just 3-5 minutes to join. Join the Catholic Advocacy Network today by visiting <http://www.cdow.org/>



SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Feb 4 - 9am – Knights BREAKFAST

Sun, Feb 4 - 9:40am SRE Classes

Sun, Feb 4 - 2pm Estudios Biblicos

Sun, Feb 4 – 2pm RICA

Mon, Feb 5 & Wed Feb 7 7pm ESL

Tue, Feb 6 6:30pm 1st Communion Prep

Tue, Feb 6 7pm Juan XXIII

Fri, Feb 9 9-3pm Penny Party Setup in Hall

Sat, Feb 10 6pm Penny Party

Sun, Feb 11 2:30pm Confirmation Prep

Join us at The Penny Party

Sat., Feb 10th, 2018

Please consider donating Baked Goods to our Penny Party FUNd-Raiser this year. We are accepting donations all day Friday or Saturday starting at 5PM.

Then Join us for an evening of Family Fun Saturday.



There are many Lent activities



scheduled here at Immaculate Conception. Please check the calendar and bulletin and don't miss out.

+ Ash Wednesday Mass: February 14th, 9am, 5:30pm, 7pm in Spanish

+ SACRED: Salesianum Adult Catholic Religious Education Day- register online, or check with Alicia Poppiti

+ Adult Lenten Retreat: Sunday, February 25th from 12:30-4pm in the hall. Lunch is provided, registration is a must. Theme: Opening to God's Love: An Ever-Deepening Conversion of Heart. Retreat leader is Anita Wood of Gloria Dei

+ Lenten Penance Service: Monday, March 12, 7pm at Holy Cross in Dover.

+ Pilgrimage: Saturday, March 24th

Knights of Columbus

Next meeting - Tues, February 13th
in the Knights Hall
Rosary @ 6:30pm
Meeting @ 7pm

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



FROM THE DRE'S DESK

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



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

Confirmation Prep: Sunday, February 11, 2:30-
4:30pm, hall



Jesus spent time preaching, teaching and healing. He focused on the needs of others, and instructed his followers to prioritize the caring of others in their own life. Have you made this a priority in your life? Along with Christ emphasizing the need to care for others, He illustrates the need to set time aside for the Lord. Take a moment everyday to pray and reflect on what God is asking of you. This can aid in revealing His plan for you. With His direction you will be shown how your gifts can be used to care for others, spread His message, and build His Church.

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

Some people like to be pampered when they are sick. Others like to be left alone. What comforts your beloved when they don't feel well?

Parenting Pointer –

Feb. 2 was Ground Hog Day. Legend has it that these cute furry critters can predict the weather. Talk with your kids about what kind of weather they like best.



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 – North will meet on February 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption in Hockessin, Delaware. For more information, contact Father Chris Coffey at FrCoffey@sjbde.org or call 302-999-0211.

CAS – South will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Saint John the Apostle Church, 506 Seabury Drive, Milford, DE on February 26, 2018. Contact Father John Solomon at fatherjohnsolomon@gmail.com or 302-674-5787.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: Let us preach the good news to all!

Question for Children: What can you do to help your friends and classmates know more about Jesus?

Question for Youth: Jesus knew that his mission was for everyone, not just one village or group of people. How can you reach out to others (outside of friends and family) and offer them hope and Good News?

Question for Adults: If you were going to pray for healing for any reason, what would it be? What needs to be healed in our world and society?

5to domingo del tiempo ordinario

Tema: ¡Prediquemos la Buena Nueva a todos!

Pregunta para los niños: ¿Qué puedes hacer para ayudar a tus amigos y compañeros a conocer más acerca de Jesús?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: Jesús sabía que su misión era para todos, no sólo para un pueblo o grupo de personas. ¿Cómo puedes tenderles tu mano a otros (que no sean tus amigos y familia) y ofrecerles esperanza y la Buena Nueva?

Pregunta para los adultos: Si tuviera que orar por la sanación por cualquier motivo, ¿cuál sería? ¿Qué necesita ser sanado en nuestro mundo y en nuestra sociedad?

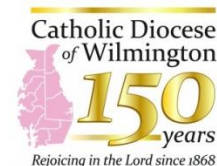


Retrouvaille...a lifeline for Marriages

Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you to learn the tools of healthy communication build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. The next program begins on the weekend of February 16 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 our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Help kick off a year to remember! Diocesan 150th anniversary to begin March 3rd.

You are cordially invited to join Bishop Malooly at the Diocese of Wilmington's Sesquicentennial Kick-off Mass on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, Sixth and West Streets in Wilmington. Gather and pray with Catholics from across Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Wilmington by Blessed Pope Pius IX on March 3, 1868.



Columna del párroco padre James Lentini 4 de Febrero, 2018.

Esta semana, le entregué mi Columna del Pastor a la Srta. Rachael Casey, directora de STMA. Tuyo en Cristo, p. Lentini

Fides Quaerens Intellectum. Este es el lema de La Academia de Saint Thomas More. Traducido del latín, dice: "Fe buscando Entendimiento". Me gustaría comenzar mi reflexión en la Columna del Pastor esta semana centrándome en este lema, que realmente sirve como un testimonio de la visión para todos los que laboran y los estudiantes de nuestra escuela, y reflexionando sobre cómo este lema podría trascender el ámbito de nuestra escuela secundaria. Me pregunto que si también toda nuestra comunidad parroquial puede encontrar valor en este lema como una guía para el crecimiento espiritual y personal.

Una de nuestras funciones básicas como escuela secundaria es preparar adecuadamente las mentes de los estudiantes. Debemos establecer altos estándares académicos a través de una programación y un personal de calidad, para ayudar a los estudiantes alcanzar su máximo potencial académico e intelectual. Invitaría al escrutinio de nuestro programa en estas áreas, ya que sé que nuestros estudiantes superan los puntos de referencia de exámenes locales y nacionales y exceden consistentemente las estadísticas de graduación y aceptación y asistencia universitaria. Pero cuestiono la noción de que el "Entendimiento" mencionado en nuestro lema es solo una referencia al "aprendizaje de libros"

En STMA, nuestra meta es buscar nuevos conocimientos, pero también buscar una mejor comprensión mutua y de nuestro mundo a medida que crecemos en el conocimiento. Somos afortunados de tener pequeñas clases permitan una experiencia de aprendizaje personal para nuestros estudiantes. Los maestros conocen a cada alumno por su nombre y, lo que es más importante, saben de cada alumno. Los profesores proporcionan liderazgo académico, pero también sirven como mentores. ¡Creemos que creando vínculos significativos con nuestros estudiantes es un método de enseñanza en sí! Los estudiantes pueden obtener un sentido más profundo de comprensión del contenido académico cuando tienen un compañero y un modelo para desarrollar habilidades y hábitos de estudio, pueden ver ejemplos de trabajo profesional y pueden buscar ayuda adicional más allá de los períodos de clase de 85 minutos. ¡Qué inspirador es que los estudiantes puedan aprender a tocar la flauta con la Sra. Cannon, la principal flautista de la Orquesta Sinfónica de Dover! O que los estudiantes involucrados en el programa de Embajador Estudiantil puedan aprender sobre el liderazgo de Dr. Coffield, quien anteriormente trabajó como el anterior Director de Servicios K-12 para el Distrito Escolar Christina y el Vicepresidente de la Junta Fundadora de ¡Early College High School en la universidad de Delaware State! Buscamos fomentar un entorno en el que los estudiantes siempre estén abiertos al aprendizaje, en cualquier forma que venga. Eso significa que nuestros maestros desempeñan un papel integral en las actividades extracurriculares y, a menudo participan en programas de servicio y oportunidades de aprendizaje junto a nuestros líderes estudiantiles. Nuestro personal encuentra

momentos de enseñanza ya sea en la cancha de tenis o durante los retiros espirituales de los estudiantes, porque "Entendimiento" significa mucho más que alcanzar una A en un examen.

Me pregunto, ¿cómo podría esta definición de "Entendimiento" aplica al resto de la vida de nuestros estudiantes, o al tuyo? ¿Buscamos mentores o buscamos oportunidades para servir como mentores? ¿Buscamos conocer y conectarnos con quienes nos rodean porque pueden tener alguna idea para enseñar? ¿Cómo podemos demostrar interés y cuidado por aquellos a quienes influenciamos?

STMA se esfuerza por proporcionar más que la función básica de un entendimiento académico y logros para nuestros estudiantes. En nuestra declaración de misión, expresamos la meta de graduar "ciudadanos bien equilibrados" que "compartan con el mundo, sus dones dados por Dios". Esa es fundación de "Fe" de nuestro lema. Debemos creer que Dios tiene un plan para cada uno de nosotros, y que estamos dotados inherentemente y de forma única con talentos y habilidades que están destinados a ser utilizados para lograr su plan. Nuestros estudiantes también tienen la oportunidad de "buscar entendimiento" en este nivel. Todos los estudiantes que deseen jugar un deporte tienen la oportunidad de unirse a un equipo en nuestra escuela, ¡incluso si nunca han jugado antes! Los estudiantes pueden proponer nuevos clubes a la Asociación de Gobierno Estudiantil para buscar intereses compartidos. Se alentamos a los estudiantes a compartir testimonios de fe en nuestros programas de retiro. Esperamos y confiamos en los estudiantes para dirigir el Coro Litúrgico y servir como Sacristanes y Lectores durante las Misas escolares. En pocas palabras, se anima a los estudiantes a encontrar y fortalecer sus talentos y crecer en su fe en lo que solo se puede llamar un ambiente acogedor y alentador.

Este punto se demuestra aún más en los comentarios de administradores y maestros. Cuando les pregunto al personal de STMA "¿Qué desean que la gente supiera acerca de STMA?" repetidamente obtuve la misma respuesta de que nuestro ambiente escolar es la cualidad más importante de nuestra educación. Como dijo un maestro, "esta escuela infunde valores católicos en aquellos que serán nuestros futuros líderes". Otro relato una reciente conversación con una ex alumna que llamó a STMA "su segundo hogar". Otro dijo que "los estudiantes aquí se sienten reconocidos, "Y que" la cultura STMA es la cultura de familia.

¿Cómo podemos poner fe en el plan de Dios para nuestras vidas? ¿A qué tareas y habilidades estamos llamados a completar o crecer para servir mejor a nuestro Señor? ¿Con quién podemos contar como compañeros en nuestra búsqueda de un entendimiento más profundo de nuestra fe?

Afortunadamente, tenemos el mejor compañero que podemos pedir: " Amo a los que me aman , y los que me buscan me encuentran" (Proverbios 8:17). ¡Busca y encontrarás! Oro para que nuestro lema se convierta también en uno que tengas muy cerca de ti: Fides Quaerens Intellectum.

Tuyo en Cristo,

Rachael A. Casey, Directora