



CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

631 South State Street
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687
iccmarydel.org



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

February 27, 2022

8th Sunday Ordinary Time

holy cross

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish
No choirs at the Masses at the present time; a cantor will be available for the 5 pm and the 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Saturday, 8 am
During Lent, Monday and Friday, 12:10 pm
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day, MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 8:30 am—10:00 am,
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am—9 pm

icc

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm
Closed Wednesday and Friday

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

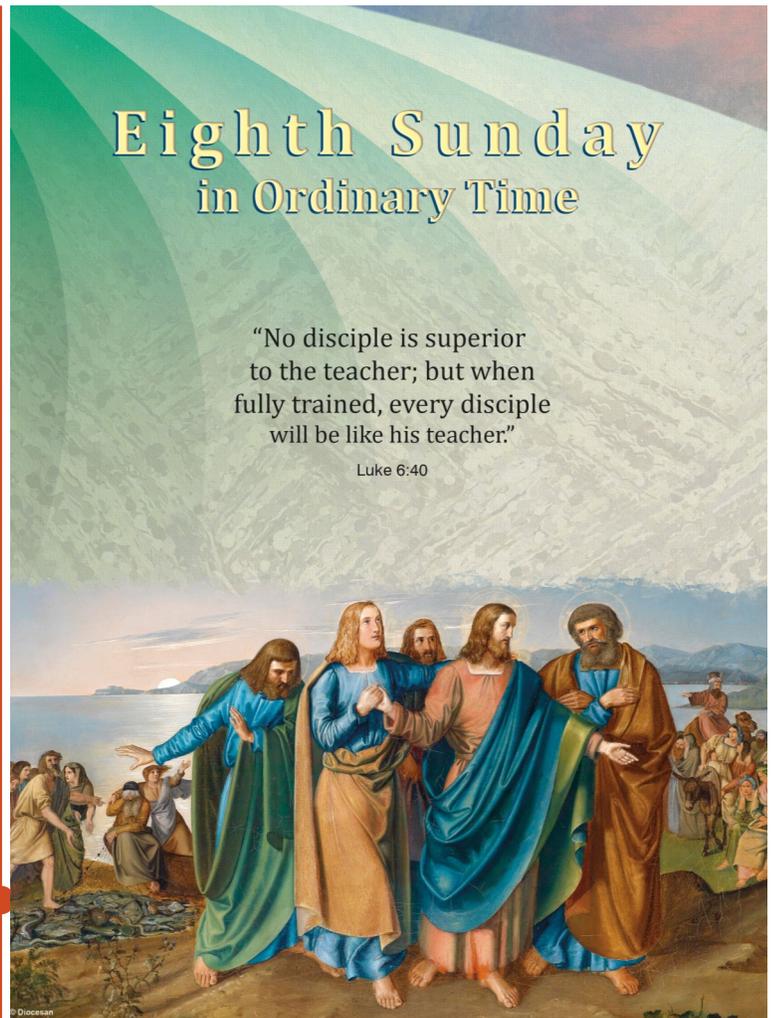
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 9:30 am
Thursday, 6:30 pm



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“No disciple is superior
to the teacher; but when
fully trained, every disciple
will be like his teacher.”

Luke 6:40

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE (HC AND ICC)

Mary, Mother of God, January 1
Assumption, August 15
All Saints' Day, November 1
Immaculate Conception, December 8
Christmas, December 25

Mass schedules for Holy Days of Obligation and other special days will be printed in the bulletin as each one draws near

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

The seven Sacraments of the Church were instituted by Christ to confer grace.

Sacrament of Baptism. Call the office to register for Parent Pre-Baptismal Instruction. For adults seeking to enter the Church and be Baptized, contact our Religious Education Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for Confession at age seven as part of First Communion preparation.

Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for First Communion at age seven. Adults seeking First Communion should contact our Religious Education Office. To request a visitation for Holy Communion to the Sick, contact our parish office.

Sacrament of Confirmation. Young people in our parish are prepared for reception of Confirmation in the ninth grade (age 14). Adults seeking Confirmation should contact our Religious Education Office.

Sacrament of Marriage. Couples planning for Marriage are to contact a parish priest or deacon one year in advance to set the wedding date and plan for pre-Cana instruction.

Sacrament of Holy Orders. If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the Priesthood or Diaconate, please contact one of our parish priests.

Anointing of the Sick. For the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, which is administered by a Priest, a person or an immediate family member must make the request. Late night requests may not be able to be answered until the next day.

LENT

Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday, March 2. Ashes will be distributed at HC and ICC: as follows:

Holy Cross: 8 am Mass, 12:10 pm Mass, and 5:30 pm service.

Immaculate Conception: 9 am Mass, 5:30 pm service.

Parishioners are reminded that receiving ashes is not required. The faithful should recognize that their own internal disposition and intention to repent is the importance of Ash Wednesday and that the ashes are an external sign of that internal reality. Individuals who cannot receive ashes can still enter into Lent with a repentant heart.

The rules for fasting and abstinence for Lent are as follows:

- Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent.
- Every person between the age of 18 and 60 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on all other Fridays of the year, unless he or she substitutes some other form of penance for abstinence..

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

February 13, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$21,765	\$26,000	(\$4,235)
YTD	\$862,532	\$858,200	\$4,332
Needs	\$1,401	\$1,480	(\$79)

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending February 13, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$3,476
2nd collection	\$240

For tax statements for ICC, please contact the ICC Parish Office.

Tax Statements

The HC Parish Office is preparing tax letters for everyone who contributed during the 2021 year. If we have your email in our records, this information will be emailed to you by the end of January. If we do not have your email or you want a hard copy sent to you, please email mdornberger@holycrossdover.org. Thank you.

Dear Parishioners,

As we say in Catholic circles, “Easter falls late this year.” Indeed it does... which means Ash Wednesday falls late, too, stepping over the line from February to March (March 2 to be exact). And that day — Ash Wednesday, March 2 — marks the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent. To that end, I am going to focus this Pastor’s Column on the subject of the Lent by way of a little history and a quick refresher on the meaning and disciplines of this holy Season, marked by the color violet.

Tweeting Lent

Most people will be familiar with social media service Twitter (which is to civility what cheesecake is to weight loss). On Twitter, at least originally, you had to sum up your message in 140 characters or less. That 140-characters-or-less message was dubbed a “Tweet.” Well, I cannot sum up Lent in 140-characters-or-less, but I can sum it up in 140-words or less. This description makes for long classified ad (which I found out would cost \$60-75 to run), but makes for a very abbreviated summation of Lent. Here are those 140 words:

The word “Lent” comes from the Old English word ‘Lencten’ meaning March (or spring). As a Church term, “Lent” is unique to English, in the romance languages the name for this season finds its origin in the Latin word Quadragesima (the forty days) which refers to the length of season. Speaking of days, Lent (unlike Christmas) is based upon the lunar calendar. The lunar calendar, you see, is used to determine the date of Easter. It was the calendar used by the people in Israel in the time of Christ. Easter is celebrated in the Catholic Church on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the first day of spring. What does this have to do with Lent? Well, when Easter moves, so does start of the season of Lent (Ash Wednesday) – which is “40 days” before Easter.

Now, while that is short and to the point, there is more to the Lent than what a Twitter-esque text, or brief summation will allow one to say. But that’s the price that is paid for brevity (I guess you have to take the bitter with the Tweet – ouch!).

Ash Wednesday – Soot up for Lent. Now that we have the background about the name and timing of Lent in place, let’s look at the first day of Lent: Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Church’s season of Lent -- a 40-day season of fasting, repentance and prayer. On Ash Wednesday, the faithful present themselves to receive ashes. At Masses and services that day, following the homily,

ashes are blessed and then applied to faithful in the form of a cross on their foreheads. These ashes are derived from burning the blessed palm branches used on Palm Sunday during the previous year. That Cross of ashes on the foreheads of the faithful serve as a reminder of their commitment to the way of Christ and the road to repentance. Those ashes in the shape of Christ’s salvific cross are like — dare I say — a “soot of armor” ... protecting us by reminding us to Whom we belong.

Mass Appeal. It should be noted that while Ash Wednesday is not a solemnity (high holy day) or a Holy Day of Obligation (mandatory Mass attendance day), nonetheless, in recent years, more people tend to go to Church on Ash Wednesday than any other day of the year, except for Christmas and Easter. Why is this? Because even a somewhat lapsed Catholic has -- in his hard-wiring -- the need to repent, and the desire to set his life right with God and His holy Church. Ash Wednesday presents that opportunity; it is like the opening ceremony of the redemption Olympics.

Cinderella and Pope Gregory. I should also mention a little history about the name and origins of Ash Wednesday: The name Ash Wednesday finds its roots in the Latin term “Dies Cinerum” (found in the Latin text of the Roman Missal used at Mass) – that term means, literally, “Day of Ashes” or “Day of Cinders.” Cinders is a synonym for ashes; thus poor Cinderella of fairy tale fame, was a girl who cleaned ashes. She was named for her cinder-cleaning activity (plus, Cinderella, as a name, sounds much nicer than Asherella). In any event, it is asserted that this practice of receiving Ashes was begun some 15 centuries ago by Pope Gregory the Great in the sixth century, perhaps making him the first Cinderella.

Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust. “Okay,” you may ask, “the last few paragraphs answer some basic questions about the origin of the name Ash Wednesday and the fact that people receive Ashes that day. But the bigger question is why do they do this?” For that answer, we have to step into the Wayback Machine and travel back to the Old Testament era. In Old Testament times, wearing ashes – which were the dirt-remains that were left behind

(continued on page 10)

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Msgr. Daniel McGlynn	Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Mano Salla	Parochial Vicar

HC CLERGY

Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	Deacon
Mr. Richard Kosior	Deacon
Mr. Robert McMullen	Deacon
Mr. Vincent Pisano	Deacon

ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell	Deacon
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HC STAFF

Parish Office	302 674 5787
Jane Green/Susan Cutrona	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
Michele Dornberger	Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., ext. 116
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. 118
Tammy Korosec	CRE Religious Ed, ext 122
Linda Darling	Youth Ministry, ext. 123
Justin Wurzel	Maintenance Director
Len Dornberger	Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135
Michael Perza	Dir. of Music Ministry, 302 698 9302

MAILING ADDRESS

Church of the Holy Cross
631 S. State St.
Dover, DE 19901

ICC STAFF

Parish Office	410 482 7687
Marilyn Dixon	Office Manager
Alicia Poppiti	DRE Religious Ed.
Susan Venezia	Bookkeeper
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry

MAILING ADDRESS

Immaculate Conception Church
P. O. Box 399
Marydel, MD 21649-0399

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Catholic Education Pre-K3 to Grade 8Is
302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org/school

Linda Pollitt	Principal, ext. 111
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MAILING ADDRESS

Holy Cross School
631 S. State St.
Dover, DE 19901

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Looking for an in-person or virtual experience getting closer to your spouse? Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!! There will be an in-person weekend in Wildwood, NJ May 13-15, 2022. Many more options for virtual events can be found on our website www.wwme-delmar.org. For additional information please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-648-2228.

IRISH NIGHT FROM K OF C

Irish Night Irish Night at the Columbian Home on 19 March, 6 to 9PM. Cost will be \$15.00. Menu consists of: corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and Sheppard pie. The bar will have Irish beer. For more information on Irish Night contact Brother Don Ryan (302)233-5251.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome the newly registered members of our Parish:

Alex and Kathy Gallaghe; Joseph and Elizabeth Micucci and Anthony Nordberg; Abigail Cervantes-Lopez and Angelina Buitron Cervantes

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families of:

Jensen Reed, Blue Evans, Donna Lemieus

May the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

READINGS FOR MARCH 6

1ST SUNDAY LENT

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 26:4-10

WE are to walk in the ways of God and listen to God's voice.

SECOND READING ROMANS 10:8-13

Paul says everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

GOSPEL: LUKE 64:1-13

Jesus, Like Moses Before him, retreats into the wilderness, where he fasts for forty days and rejects the temptations put before him.

KOF C PRAYER SERVICE

Our Knights of Columbus will host a St. Joseph Icon Prayer Service on Monday, February 27, beginning at 7 pm at Holy Cross Church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Deacon Bob will lead us in prayer.

LENTEN SERVICES

During Lent Holy Cross will offer the daily 8 am Mass. At this time we will not offer the 12:10 Mass.



No Lenten Talks this year.

Stations of the Cross will take place at HC and ICC at 7 pm on Fridays during Lent.

KOF C FISH FRY (HC)

Our Knights of Columbus will host a Fish Fry every Friday in Lent at Holy Cross. It will be held from 4 pm to 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Take out is also available.

The menu is:

4 March: Baked or fried fish, Mac & Cheese, broccoli, Cole Slaw, dessert.

11 March: Spaghetti with either clam sauce or tomato sauce, Caesar salad, bread, dessert.

18 March: Clam fritters, mixed vegetables, Cole Slaw, bread, dessert.

25 March: Fish & Chips, Cole Slaw, dessert.

1 April: Baked or fried fish, Mac & Cheese, stewed tomatoes, Cole Slaw, dessert.

8 April: To be determined based on availability.

Cost is \$10.00 per person, children under 8 free, and families \$25.00. At each dinner tickets for a Lladro figurine of "Pan de Vida" will sell for \$10.00 each or two for \$15.00. Drawing to be held on 8 April at the last Lenten dinner.

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

All winter and Christmas decorations will be removed on Monday, March 7th. If you wish to reclaim your decorations for reuse please do so before then. Your assistance in disposing of decorations at home will help reduce our clean up time and costs. As always, thank you for your understanding and cooperation in maintaining our sacred grounds.

MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY/MARCH

28 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Amelia Ronquillo

1 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Maximo Chao, Sr.

2 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:00 am Ralph Zaragoza

ICC 9:00 am For the People

HC 12:10 pm Service

ICC 5:30 pm Service

HC 5:30 pm Service

3 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Jane Vanderveen

ICC 6:30 pm For the People

4 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Louis V. Jara

HC, ICC 7 pm Stations of the Cross

5 SATURDAY

HC 8 am Carol Castiglione

HC 5 pm DM Charles Feigh Family

6 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Rafael Zaragoza

ICC 8:30 am Jerome Bevenour

HC 9:30 am Elpidio Lascano

ICC 11 am Henry Mitchler

HC 11:30 am For the People

ICC 1 pm For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 11-13, 2022 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

HOLY CROSS MAR 5/6, 2022

EMHC SERVERS

5:00 PM M. Casey L. Darling N. Kosior
J.Clendaniel F. Ernst S. Murawski
D. Darling

LECTORS

J. Davis
H. Showel

7:30 AM C. Brown A. Fischer B. Richardson
J. Chandler J. Fischer L. Richardson
J. Davis E. Wadhams

LECTORS

D. Kilby

9:30 AM T. Arndt S. Ford E. Bydlon
K. Boyer N. West K. Fernandez
P. Ford G. Maddalena

LECTORS

11:30 AM R. Ramirez R. Richards K. Espinosa
B. Guzman E. Guzman C. Geronimo

LECTORS

A. Luna

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM D. Smith

LECTORS

T. Woodeshick

11:00 AM P. Lardizzone

LECTORS

A. Meyer

1:00 PM To be determined

LECTORS

B. Gonzalez

ATTENTION ALL EXTRA-ORDINARY
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

Parishioners in need of our Homebound Ministry is growing by leaps and bounds, and we need more EM's who are willing to become part of our homebound ministry. We serve nursing homes, assisted living facilities, the hospital, and those at home.

Please consider joining this ministry. We will train you and have you shadow another EM to get you ready. Call the Parish Office so we can get you started. Please pray to discern if this ministry would be for you. We need your help!!

Call 302-674-5787,
ext. 110 or 113 to leave your name.

PURSE BINGO

Purse Bingo: Tickets are on sale - don't wait!



Join us Saturday evening, April 2 for a fun-filled evening, and a chance to win a great purse!

Cost is \$25 for 10 games, door prizes and light refreshments served. 50/50 and Chinese Auction chances for sale. Must be 18 to play. Please see Linda Darling for tickets - tables of 8 may be reserved.

ldarling@holycrossdover.org

Proceeds will go to help our high school teens attend Catholic Heart Work Camp this summer in Greensboro, NC. Thank you for your support.

VIRTUAL BASKET AUCTION FUNDRAISER

The Delaware State Columbiettes will be sponsoring a virtual Basket Auction on Sunday, February 27th at 1:00 P.M. There will be dozens of wonderful baskets to take a chance on. Tickets are \$25.00 for a single sheet (20 chances to win) or \$15.00 for a half sheet (10 chances to win)! They may be purchased by sending a check made payable to Delaware State Columbiettes with your name, email and phone number, to Arlene Brown, 87 Paige Place, Felton, DE 19943 (amb550@hotmail.com).

We will email you your ticket number and the Zoom information prior to the event if you would like to attend. If you cannot attend, we will contact you if you win! TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY February 23rd! We look forward to having you join us for a fun filled afternoon.

ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

The Adoration Chapel is open again each day from 5 am to 9 pm. If you would like to take a permanent time slot, it's not too late. We still have many openings on various days. See the openings listed below. Call Joann Pate today at 674-4496 to reserve a time for you. **We really need volunteers to take some time on Saturday and Sunday. Please consider taking one hour in the chapel to spend with Jesus.**

SUNDAY 10 am, 12 pm, 4 pm, 5 pm, 8 pm

SATURDAY 5 am, 6 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

NUESTRA FAMILIA HISPANA

El comité de Arte y Ambientación está buscando voluntarios para ayudar con la ambientación y arreglo del templo, si usted desea participar anótese después de la santa Misa. Nos reuniremos el martes, 1 de marzo a las 5:00 de la tarde., para limpiar y ambientar el templo para la Cuaresma que empieza el miércoles 2 de marzo con la imposición de cenizas. Quedan todos los que quieran ayudar bienvenidos.

Proceso del Sínodo en Sinodalidad iniciado por el Papa Francisco. Ya empezó la fase Diocesana y el obispo Koenig invita a todos en la Diócesis de Wilmington a participar en las sesiones de escucha como parte del reciente proceso del Sínodo. El Papa Francisco está pidiendo a toda la Iglesia en todo el mundo que reflexione sobre estas dos preguntas :

(1). ¿Cómo se está dando este caminar juntos hoy en nuestra Iglesia local?

(2) ¿Qué pasos nos invita a dar el Espíritu para crecer en nuestro caminar juntos?

Información adicional del sínodo. Se puede encontrar más información sobre el proceso del Sínodo en: www.cdow.org/synod

Gran Retiro de Cuaresma. Todos están invitados. Preparémonos para "La Cuaresma como Camino gradual de Conversión" gran Retiro

- Presentado por el Rev. Juan Alberto Cárdenas. Sacerdote Agustino de Colombia
- Fecha: 26 de febrero, 2022. Hora 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Donación: \$15 para los alimentos
- Parroquia La Inmaculada Concepción. Dirección 522 Main St. Maryland, Maryland 21649
- Habrá confesiones, Hora Santa, charlas, música y reflexiones y mucho más.

Estamos buscando a jóvenes que desean participar en la Vía Crucis como parte de uno de los eventos de la peregrinación con nuestro obispo Koenig el sábado, 9 de abril, 2022 2n Wilmington.

Tendremos los ensayos todos los miércoles comenzando el 23 de febrero. También

tendremos la Vía Crucis en Holy Cross el viernes santo a las 9:00 de la noche en la iglesia. Si usted desea participar por favor comuníquese con la Sra. Arline Dosman.

El comité de Arte y Ambientación está buscando voluntarios para ayudar con la ambientación y arreglo del templo, si usted desea participar anótese después de la santa Misa. Nos reuniremos el martes, 1 de marzo a las 5:00 de la tarde., para limpiar y ambientar el templo para la Cuaresma que empieza el miércoles 2 de marzo con la imposición de cenizas. Quedan todos los que quieran ayudar bienvenidos.

Si usted está interesado en participar y compartir sus talentos como lector, ministerio de música, ujier, ministros Extraordinario de la Comunión, Arte y Ambientación, dar Clases Pre-bautismales. Por favor hable con los coordinadores de los ministerios o llame a la oficina al 302-674-5787 ext. 118

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA ICC

Inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa estará abierta desde el 1 de Marzo, 2022

Todas las clases se reúnen todos los domingos de 9::40 – 10:50 de la mañana Por favor de estacionarse correctamente y camine a su hijo(a) al salón y recógelo(a) enfrente del salón. SE le agradece que leguen a tiempo. Mascarillas es requerido por todos los estudiantes y maestros. Si su hijo se siente enfermo quédese en casa hasta que se sienta bien.

Clases de preparación para la Primera Comunión

Próxima sesión el martes, 22 de febrero de 2022 de 6:30 a 7:30 de la tarde.

Maestro y estudiantes deben de usar mascarillas. Si su hijo no se siente bien que se quede en casa y cuídese.

Preparación para los candidatos a la Confirmación – próximo domingo 13 de Marzo, 2022 a las 2:30-5pm en el salón.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Next Class: February 27 3:30 to 5:30 pm

- Children are to be dropped off at the double doors next to the Elementary office.
- 7th and 8th graders are in the Holy Cross Junior High building.
- No one except students and volunteers are allowed to enter either building.
- MASKS ARE MANDATORY.
- Hall monitors will assist getting children to their classes.

Dismissal from the ramp side will be as follows:

- Grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and Sacramental Prep – 5:15pm
- Grades K-1 -5:20pm
- Grades 2- 5:25pm
- Grades 3-4 5:30pm

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122.

Interested in enrolling a student in Religious Education? Please contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

Next class March 13

Interested in enrolling a student in LAFF, please contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

Adult Eductaion (HC)

The Bible in a Year Podcast

“In The Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz guides you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes. Using an exclusive reading plan rooted in The Bible Timeline (a ground-breaking approach to understanding salvation history developed by Biblical scholar Jeff Cavins) you won’t just read the Bible ... you’ll finally understand how all the pieces fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today!” Also available in Spanish led by Father Sergio Serrano. See the links below:

In English:

Father Mike Schmitz
<https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>

In Spanish:

Fray Sergio Serrano
<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-espanol-registration>



FREE STREAMING *this Lent!*



YOUTH AT HOLY CROSS

Confirmation Classes:

Next classes are February 13 for Sunday class and February 16 for Sunday class.

Youth Group:

Next Youth Group Meeting- please mark your calendar for March 26. Junior High - 3-4:30 High School 6-7:30

Catholic Heart Work Camp Meeting:

Tuesday, March 15 at 7 pm in the ELC Matthew/Mark room upstairs.

Any 8th through 1st year college teens interested in attending Greensboro camp July 17 to 23 are asked to attend. Registration and fundraising will be discussed.

Work Camp in Dover

We have a large group of teens and adults who are traveling to Dover to help our residents. They will be working June 27 to June 30. If you have projects that they would be able to assist you with, please contact Linda Darling at ldarling@holycrossdover.org. Painting, yard work, organizing, small repairs, cleaning - whatever you have that you are not able to do on your own, they would love to help.

SRE (IC)

All classes are meeting from 9:40-10:50am every Sunday in classrooms. Please park, walk your children to hall, and pick up in front of the hall. Please be on time and pick up no later than 10:55am, our Catechist need to attend Mass at 11am. Masks are still required for students and teachers. Parents, please keep your children home if they have a fever, or they are not feeling well.

Registration for 2022-2023 school year will open up March 1st, 2022.

Sacraments:

Youth confirmation prep- Sunday, March 13 at 2:30-5pm in the hall. Please be on time.

1st Communion Prep: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:30-7:30pm in the hall. Please be on time.

Why is the darkness so scary? We create images and thoughts of monsters, ghouls and bad things waiting to jump and get us. *Karen Lombardo, Pasta On The Floor*

The parking lot is dark, save for the security lighting waiting to jump. The office is dark. It is dark outside. And cold. With a mere click of the switch, there is light. Routine dictates that all of her bags are tucked away in their usual space. She exits the office, entering the first floor hallway, dark as pitch. But a mere click of the switch illuminates the corridor down which she will quickly walk as she grows closer to her destination. Through the double doors, she walks into another darkened space. Another switch is flipped allowing the current to flow to the lights overhead. The stairs could present a challenge, if not for the trusted light switch. Finally, she reaches her destination; and it, too, is without light. One, two, three, four light switches all turned upward and the uninterrupted electric current flows through the circuits and brightens her way.

It is 6:20 or so in the morning. She is probably the first to arrive. Others will soon follow, but it is Mrs. Arndt that has opened up the shop, so to speak. She has but a few minutes to grab her box of supplies and prepare for her early morning guests. She may welcome upwards of fifteen or so early morning callers whose mom and dad seek a safe haven for their children before they set off to work for the day.

It is 6:40 ish, there is quiet stillness in the cafeteria when the doorbell rings.

"Well, good morning Declan...come on in!" Declan sits in his usual spot and quickly engages in conversation with Mrs. Arndt. He is taking his breakfast containers from his lunch box, he pours his milk over the cereal, before taking his first bite. The door bell rings again...."Good morning Jase...how are you this morning?" "Come on in, and you have a nice day, Dad!!!" The doorbell rings again, and yet again... and Mrs. Arndt heartily welcomes Abigail, Michael, Massimo, Madeline, Sadie, William, Kayla, Kylie, Magnus, and a host of other early risers, including Miss Belt. Miss Belt is on hand in the mornings to assist with walking the ELC students to their building. They all begin their school day, like Mrs. Arndt in the Before Care Room where students gather waiting for the 7:40 bell to ring signaling the onset of the instructional day. Some can be there for a full hour or so before the bell rings.

It was one day last July when I first met Mrs. Arndt. We were discussing the requirements for the Office Coordinator position when much to my curiosity, she pulled from her handbag the Parish Bulletin. She opened it up to the notice I had been running for many weeks seeking a Before Care Supervisor. She proceeded to ask me about it. My curiosity quickly turned to amazement when she asked if she could fill the BC position in addition to her duties as Office Coordinator. She went on to tell me that she would be willing to come to school early, oversee the BC students, and then come upstairs to the office. Saying my silent prayers of thanksgiving, I immediately and enthusiastically responded in the affirmative. Thank you, Jesus.

Mrs. Arndt came to Holy Cross School following her retirement from the public sector where she served her Kindergarten students as a para-professional. It is the dedicated teacher in her that approached me very soon after the school year began, asking if she could provide the BC students with "some things to do while they're waiting in the cafeteria." The conversation ensued. The end result was Mrs. Arndt's crate filled with real fun stuff; play-doh, colored pencils, coloring books, markers, crayons, scrap paper. Choosing their favorite color play-doh, every student was provided with a labeled Ziploc bag with their own materials. [HCS is grateful to Mrs. Arndt for her generous donation of all the learning materials used by the children in the BC program]

On any given morning you might find the teacher in Mrs. Arndt working with the younger ones with their letter sounds, forming letters from their favorite color play-doh, perhaps she's helping Sadie with her drawing, or she might just be engaged in lively conversation concerning just anything they find interesting---farming, trucks, hunting, favorite foods, using good manners, last night's dinner....you name it! She's an expert on just about everything! But, one thing's for sure; Mrs. Arndt isn't a big fan of technology so she keeps a watchful eye on her older friends. She runs a tight ship. "We're not having any foolishness down here, you know."

It's now getting close to 7:30 or so, and it's time for all the fun stuff to be boxed up. The youngest ones re-fill their Zip-loc, placing it in the box before strapping on their backpack and lining up at their assigned exit. Miss Belt waits to take her youngest friends over to the ELC. The older students, familiar with the daily routine exit for the upstairs.

The once quiet darkened hallways are now populated by school children eager to get the day underway. They are joined by their friends who started the school day much earlier than they.

Before Care time provides our students with a pleasant early morning experience. The atmosphere is calm, friendly, and enjoyable for the children. They start their day with a lady who genuinely loves children and cares about their learning, she cares about the way they behave, and respect one another. She ensures that each child who rises before the chickens puts their best foot forward as they make their way to the classrooms and another day of learning.

And you'll find Mrs. Arndt quickly changing hats.

"I love Before-Care so much that I told my mom I would use my own money to pay for it!" Magnus U. Gr. 5

after something was burned or offered up – had two key symbolisms. When worn on person’s face, ashes were, firstly, a sign of man’s humility and mortality and secondly, a sign of one’s repentance for his sins. Thus, when a person receives ashes on Ash Wednesday, they are administered in a visible place (the forehead) in the form of a cross; as they are administered, the Priest (or Deacon or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion) commonly says the words, “Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” This admonition upon receiving ashes serves to remind us of our mortality, our need for humility and the truth that one day we will, each of us, have to stand before God to answer for our lives. Thus, it is time to repent, or as the old song says, time to “straighten up and fly right.”

Who is Walter B. Pitkin? So, Ash Wednesday rightly and propitiously begins our 40-day season of repentance. At the end of that 40 days of penitence and repentance, the glory of Easter and Resurrection beckon. In 1932, a man named Walter B. Pitkin wrote a book that became a seminal writing in the American understanding of life; the book was called “Life Begins at 40.” The book reminds folks that the best things are worth waiting for. And so, for us, as Catholics, a season of penitence begins on Ash Wednesday, and “New Life Begins at 40 (Days)” – and that’s definitely worth waiting for!

Big Macs Beware! This 40-day season of Lent, also begins a time for fasting and sacrifice. To remind us of this, Ash Wednesday is designated as a day of both fasting and abstinence from meat. This means the faithful are generally prescribed to engage in a day of fasting (only one full meal, two much smaller meals) and abstinence (no consumption of meat). Fasting and abstinence also applies on Good Friday. Abstinence from meat (without fasting) also applies to every Friday in Lent.

The Fast and the... Fasting is put in place to get our minds away from food and earthly desires so that we may focus our mind on Christ and his salvific act, and, in turn, focus the eyes of our faithfulness toward God and his Church. Or maybe in simpler terms it is a season wherein we are called to reflect on the great sacrifice of what Christ did for us, and then ask ourselves if we are living lives that honor of that great sacrifice. This is exactly what Lent calls us to do in our spirit of fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Meat-ing Cancelled. Why do we abstain from eating meat on Fridays? Why meat, why not abstain from broccoli (that would have been my vote)? One way of reflecting on this sacrifice is to think of it in this context: The animals that we commonly get meat from are traditionally the animals that were offered in Sacrifice by the Priests in ancient Judaism in the Temple. With Christ’s sacrifice, animal sacrifices no longer were necessary. Abstaining from meat is one way, within Church discipline, that we can share in and recognize Christ’s perfect sacrifice that did away with sacrifices required under the Old Covenant. There are other historical reasons that speak to the development of Catholicism’s “meatless Fridays” – but the devotional understanding above is probably a good way to understand the significance of these days of abstinence, these Fridays of Lent. Further the Church teaches that fasting and abstinence “prepare us for the liturgical feasts and help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart” (CCC 2043) allowing us to focus on our relationship with the God who gave us life.

Of Radishes, Rutabagas and Rules. We are also commended to make sacrifices during Lent – to give up something during the 40 days of Lent that would be a sacrifice for us (thus, for me, giving up broccoli, radishes or rutabagas would not really be acceptable – as those would not be sacrifices at all). Our Lenten sacrifice further unites to Christ’s sacrifice and draws us closer to God. The rules for fasting and abstinence for Lent are found elsewhere in this bulletin.

The purple-tinged Season of Lent is a time of turning back to God and repenting of our sins. It is a time when we are to renew listening to and living the teachings of our faith and hearing and heeding God’s voice. During this season of Lent live your faith more fully by prayer, repentance and fasting. If you live your faith in this manner, Lent will be a time well-spent that brings you closer to God and his one holy Church.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor