



# 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 7, 2021

5th 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-Midnight (temporarily closed)

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm  
Friday 9 am-noon, closed Wednesday

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish  
Saturday, 9 am, Spanish

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, after 9:00 am Mass  
Thursday, 6:30 pm

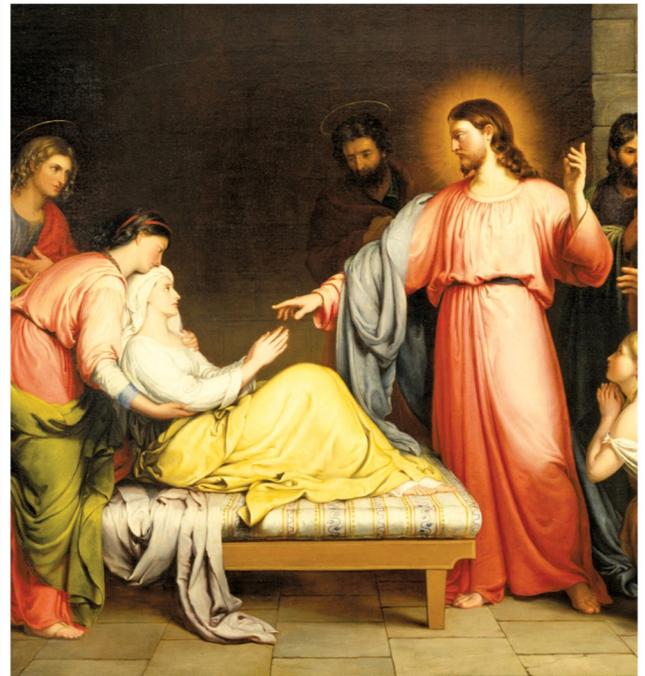
icc



## 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever.  
They immediately told him about her.  
He approached, grasped her hand,  
and helped her up.

PLB 1:30-31



## 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 parish 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.

## THIS WEEK (HC OR ICC)

Check out our websites

[holycrossover.org](http://holycrossover.org)  
[iccmarylodel.org](http://iccmarylodel.org)

Holy Cross Church will be open from 7 am to 7 pm Monday through Saturday, and 7 am to 7 pm on Sunday.

Immaculate Conception will be open daily 9 am to 7 pm.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, parishes must continue to adhere to all health and safety regulations without exception. Policies including wearing face masks, maintaining proper six-foot social distancing and proper hand hygiene remain nonnegotiable and are fundamentally rooted in protecting all people in our parishes and maintaining the health and safety of our community. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Masses on holy days remains suspended at this time.

We are limiting access to the parish offices, so you can buzz when you stop by, or call and leave messages and we will get back to you; or, you can email us. Stay safe and stay healthy.

## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

January 17, 2021

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$23,847	\$27,800	(\$3,953)
YTD	\$733,761	\$835,600	(\$101,839)
Needs	\$1,397	\$1,550	(\$163)

## WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending January 17, 2021

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$4,023
2nd	\$130

**Tax letters are ready at ICC. Please call the Parish Office at ICC and they will be mailed to you.**

### Tax Statement for Holy Cross

The HC Parish Office is preparing tax letters for everyone who contributed during the 2020 year. If we have your email in our records, this information was emailed to you at the end of January. If we do not have your email or you want a hard copy sent to you, please email [mdornberger@holycrossover.org](mailto:mdornberger@holycrossover.org). Thank you.

Please continue to mail in your contributions during this time. Many are still not attending Mass but we still need your support. You can also Sign up for Faith Direct or call the office to leave your name and phone number if you wish to make your contribution by a credit card.

Dear Parishioners,

As we inch our way toward Lent, and wind our way through the early weeks of Ordinary Time, we have just celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2 (known as Candlemas — the topic of last week's Pastor's Column) at which time we blessed the candle used to bless throats on St. Blase day (February 3). In line with these two candle-related days on the Catholic Calendar, I thought I'd spend this column refreshing our understanding regarding the use of candles within the practice of our faith.

**Light Music.** Let's start our candle-lit study of candles within the Catholic faith by stepping to the wayback machine — ladies grab those poodle skirts, men put on that leather, and grab those penny loafer — and set the dial for 1958. Turning on the radio, in 1958, one would have been regaled by music group the Crests with the hit "16 Candles" in which they crooned, "sixteen candles make a lovely light." They counted up those lights on a cake, in that song, as a way of celebrating a birthday. Elton John crooned lamentingly about the passing of Marilyn Monroe in his 1973 song, later a big hit, "Candle in the Wind," singing that her "candle burned out long before [her] legend ever did."

**Waxing Philosophical.** As it is in pop songs, so it can be in life, and in faith, that candles can take on many roles and meanings for us — being lit both for worship and in our need. In this column I want to take some time to wax philosophical on the topic of candles — and provide some "light" reading on this subject!

**Minding your Beeswax.** On the 1970s TV series "Happy Days," set in the 1950s, you may have heard the character Fonzie tell one the other characters who questioned him, "Ayyy, mind your beeswax." This 1950s phrase of rebuke, meant "mind your business;" it was born of the fact that in the Victorian era, personal letters were sealed with beeswax for privacy. But in a very different way, the Catholic Church also commends us to "mind our beeswax." You see, in the

Catholic devotional and spiritual tradition, candles have a special place and a special meaning: they bring light into the world to dispel darkness, and they symbolize the light of Christ. Thus, we treat them with great regard in terms of proper usage. So, the Church dictates, as it has for centuries upon centuries, that candles being used for liturgical purposes should be composed primarily (51% at least) of beeswax.

What the heck is that all about, you may wonder? Well, it has to do with purity. Since Christ is to be treated reverentially, and since liturgy is a way in which we worship Christ, the Church rightly prescribes what is and is not permitted in liturgical rites. So, too, regarding candles, the Church defines what makes for a proper candle in liturgy (lest we see some God forsaken aroma therapy candle of the potpourri variety in a Church service). And so, the Church tells its ministers to mind their beeswax — to be sure they are using what is good, right, honorable and proper! A Church using a candle with less than 51% beeswax, may earn — dare I say — a Bee-minus!

**Blaze, Paschal.** The big enchilada of all candles in the Catholic faith is the Paschal Candle. This is the very tall candle — usually three to five feet high — that you commonly see in the sanctuary of a Church during the Easter season (and at other times placed near the baptismal font of the Church). Every Parish in the Catholic Church annually (at the Easter Vigil) prepares and blesses this candle, which is then processed, like the Biblical pillar of fire, into the darkened Church providing the light of Christ amidst the darkness. It is used during Baptisms and Funerals, and it is lit throughout the Easter season.

**At Sixes and Sevens.** According to Church liturgical law, for a Mass to be licitly (properly) celebrated there should be a minimum two candles at the altar. These candles are required to be made of 51% beeswax. By tradition and still noted in Church liturgical documents, there are commonly six candles by an altar — with a seventh add-

*(Continued on page 10)*

## HC & ICC CLERGY

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

## HC CLERGY

Msgr. Daniel McGlynn	Pastor Emeritus
Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	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 8  
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

## LEAVING ITEMS IN CHURCH

Please **do not** leave cards, religious items, clothing, or other such items in the lobby area of the Gathering Space. We cannot accept any of these items at this time.

## 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 and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 12 - 14, 2021 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

## READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 14 6TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

### FIRST READING: LEVITICUS 13:1-2, 44-46

The book of Leviticus shows us the 3 practical implications of the Law of Moses. At a time when people had no defence against virulent diseases, rules are laid down which exclude those with skin diseases from wider society, for the protection of the whole people.

### SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31—11:1

Paul is talking to early Christians about how to behave when dining with pagans. L Paul balances the freedom of the Spirit, which no longer requires strict adherence to the Law of Moses, and the need to avoid shocking the conscience of others.

### GOSPEL: MARK 1:40-45

Jesus heals a man with a virulent skin disease and puts himself at risk of being rendered ritually unclean in the process. L There is nothing any of us could ever do that Jesus would not be willing to heal, at whatever cost to himself.

## K OF C FISH FRY

Every Friday in Lent from 4 pm to 7 pm the Knight will offer Lenten Dinners at the Columbian Hall. Proceeds will go to Holy Cross and Immaculate conception Churches at the discretion of Fr. Lentini.

All meals are take out and can be picked up at the Columbian Home, 219 Vepco Blvd, Camden.

Menu is subject to change.

**Feb. 19**—Manhattan Clam Chowder, \$10 first Quart, \$5 additional Quarts

**Feb 26**—Tuna Subs, chips cole slaw \$10

**Mar 5**—3 pcs cod, french fries cole slaw \$10

**Mar 12**—6 large shrimp, tator tots, cole slaw \$10

**Mar 19**—2 crab cakes on HB bun, mac & cheese, cole slaw \$10

**Mar 26**—Shrimp or cod, mac & cheese or tater tots, cole slaw \$10

## ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

Even though we are not opening the Adoration Chapel at this time, anyone who was on the normal adoration schedule is encouraged to come into the church to pray during your assigned hour. The church is unlocked from 7 am to 7 pm and Our Lord is waiting for you to come spend time with Him. Our Lord is present in the tabernacle all day long and would love for you to spend time praying. It's a great way to get back into the routine of praying during your scheduled hour.

## POST ABORTION SUPPORT

If you or someone you know has struggled with feelings of guilt, pain, sorrow, or regret after an abortion, please know that you are not alone. Join us for our monthly support group! We will have a time of optional sharing, prayer, and a book or bible study. No registration needed...just show up!

2nd Tuesday of the Month

630PM to 8PM

New Day Pregnancy Care Center

811 South Governors Ave Dover, DE

## VOCATIONS

Jesus A vocation must be nurtured for a lifetime, not just until ordination or the taking of vows. You can help nurture the vocations of priests, sisters and brothers by praying, listening, and expressing appreciation. A life

## MASS INTENTIONS

### FEBRUARY

#### 8 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Antonio Corowiti

#### 9 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Mayla Feliu

#### 10 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:00 am Michael Rush

#### 11 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Claire M. Smith

ICC 6 pm For People

#### 12 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Joan Cordero

#### 13 SATURDAY

HC 8 am Damien Llegos & Wilta Llegos

HC 5 pm Gregory Shoulis & Debra Shouldis Petrovich

#### 14 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Joseph Casey, Jr.

ICC 8:30 am Salvador Schepens

HC 9:30 am Ann & Augustus Furjanic

HC 11:30 am James Holder Jr.

ICC 11 am John Carrow

ICC 1 pm For the People

(LI = LIVING INTENTION

DM = DECEASED MEMBERS)

of service needs support from those served.

*Serra for priestly and religious vocations*

## DELAWARE STATE CHINESE AUCTION

The Delaware State Columbiettes will be sponsoring a virtual Chinese Auction on Sunday, February 28th at 2:00 P.M. There will be dozens of baskets with a minimum value of \$35.00. Tickets can be purchased by sending a check to Debbie Petka, 30 Freedom Drive, Dover, DE 19904 (Dpetka1@verizon.net). Please include your name, email and phone number when sending your check so we can contact you with the Zooming information and let you know if you win! Tickets will be priced at \$25.00 for a single sheet (20 chances to win) or \$15.00 for a half sheet (10 chances to win)! Please RSVP by February 15th! We look forward to having you join us.

## MASS MINISTERS

PLEASE COME  
FORWARD TO HELP  
DISTRIBUTE

HOLY COMMUNION AT THE MASS  
YOU ATTEND. THE PRIEST WILL INDICATE  
HOW MANY EXTRA-ORDINARY  
MINISTERS ARE NEEDED.

### Lector Schedule for February 2021

#### At Holy Cross:

##### 5 pm Mass

Feb 6 Donna Kilby  
Feb 13 Dennis Dixon  
Feb 20 Lori Christiansen  
Feb 27 Judi Coffield

##### 7:30 am Mass

Feb 7 Edie Outten  
Feb 14 John Davis  
Feb 21 Donna Kilby  
Feb 28 Rose Pritchett

##### 9:30 am Mass

Feb 7 Mary Louise Sossich  
Feb 14 Colin Parks  
Feb 21 Suzanne Ford  
Feb 28 Chris Petka

#### At Immaculate Conception

##### 8:30 am Mass

Feb 7 Bill Thompson  
Feb 14 Gerry Godfrey  
Feb 21 Diane Smith  
Feb 28 Theresa Thompson

##### 11 am Mass

Feb 7 Laura Schlopitz  
Feb 14 Donna King  
Feb 21 Laura Schlopitz  
Feb 28 Donna King

If you wish to be considered to lector at Holy Cross, email Diane at [dbelt@holycrossdover.org](mailto:dbelt@holycrossdover.org) so we can add you to the names of those who have already volunteered to lector.

At ICC, please get in touch with Marilyn Dixon at [mdixon@iccmmarydel.org](mailto:mdixon@iccmmarydel.org) Thank you.

## DIRECTORIES (HC)

The Parish Directories are in the Parish Office. If you would like to stop by the office to pick up your copy, please call ahead of time and we will get your copy and have it for you to pick up. Please do not just show up without calling first.

## RETURNING TO MASS

- Attendees must **wear a face covering (mask)**( when inside the Church ; **masks are to be worn over the nose and mouth and must be kept on during the entire Mass.**
- Pews have been marked off to accommodate social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer is available as you enter the church.
- When receiving Holy Communion, please remember to stay socially distanced.** We encourage you to receive Holy Communion in your hand, but **if you wish to receive on the tongue, you are asked to be at the end of the Communion line.** There will be no Cup distributed at this time.
- As you leave the church, please **do not gather in the Gathering Space** or parking lot.

## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

If you're too busy to have a weekly date with your spouse, you may be too busy. Tonight, choose several hours next weekend that you can devote just to each other. This time the wife plans what to do, next time it's the husband's turn.

## PARENTING POINTERS

February is Black History month. So how are we to understand the scripture, "Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all (1 Cor 9: 19)? Who wants to be a slave? Isn't parenting a form of being a slave to the needs of your child?

## CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum every Saturday afternoon at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. Next Saturday, February 13th, Gary Zimak, speaker and author of "Give Up Worry for Lent," will be the guest. Listen to Catholic Forum online anytime at [www.cdow.org/CatholicForum](http://www.cdow.org/CatholicForum), or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Catholicforum](http://www.facebook.com/Catholicforum).

- El martes pasado celebramos la presentación del Señor, comúnmente conocida como “La fiesta de la Candelaria” y tradicionalmente se levanta el Nacimiento con una buena tamalada. Dios primero el próximo año celebraremos esta fiesta como comunidad.
- Continuamos con nuestras prácticas de Posturas y Gestos durante la Santa Misa con la ayuda de la Conferencia de los Obispos de Estados Unidos,
- **Las Posturas y Gestos Corporales durante La Eucaristía.**

Cada postura corporal que asumimos en la Misa enfatiza y refuerza el significado de la acción en la que estamos participando en ese momento de nuestro culto.

**Gestos – La señal de la Cruz.** Los gestos también comprometen nuestro cuerpo en la oración. Uno de los gestos más comunes es la Señal de la Cruz con la que iniciamos la santa Misa y con la que en forma de bendición se concluye. Por Su muerte en la cruz Cristo nos redimió, hacemos la señal de la cruz en nuestra frente, en nuestros labios y en nuestros corazones al inicio del Evangelio. Al hacer la señal de la Cruz, hagámosla con reverencia, sin ningún apuro, que empiece desde la frente hasta nuestro pecho, de hombro a hombro, sintiendo conscientemente cómo involucra todo nuestro ser, nuestros pensamientos, nuestras actitudes, y nuestras almas, de modo que nos consagra y nos santifica. Es nuestra identidad como católicos.

**Golpear nuestro pecho**-la acción de golpear nuestro pecho en el momento de formular las palabras "por mi culpa" puede fortalecer nuestra conscientización de que nuestro pecado es nuestra culpa.

**Hacer una venia.** En el Credo, estamos invitados a hacer una venia en el momento de formular las palabras que conmemoran la Encarnación: *"fue concebido por obra y gracia del Espíritu Santo, nació de Santa María Virgen y se hizo hombre"*. Este gesto signi-

fica nuestro profundo respeto y gratitud a Cristo quien, por medio de Dios, no dudó en venir entre nosotros como un ser humano y compartir nuestra condición humana para salvarnos del pecado y restablecer nuestra amistad con Dios. Esta gratitud se expresa aún con una mayor solemnidad durante la Fiesta de la Anunciación del Señor y en la Navidad, en que hacemos una venia cuando escuchamos estas palabras. Continuamos la próxima semana.

## ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

¡Traigan sus mochilas Azul con libros a clase!

**Grupo 1-** grados 3, 6, en el pasillo, 7, 8 en el sótano, y RICA estará en el salón de computadoras, el 7 de febrero.

**Grupo 2-** grados 1, 2, en el salón, 4, 5 en los salones de clases en sótano (basement)

**RICA** en el salón de computadoras- el 14 de febrero.

Si prefiere que sus hijos continúen haciendo Educación Religiosa en casa, hágase saber a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti, Directora de Educación Religiosa al 410-482-8939 o envíele un correo electrónico a [dre@iccmaryl.org](mailto:dre@iccmaryl.org)

¡**CUARESMA**- Los folletos de la Cuaresma para los niños se entregarán a partir del 7 de febrero!

Preparación para la Primera Comunión 2021-ICC

Próxima sesión: martes, 9 de febrero a las 6: 30 pm en el Salón.

**Preparación para la Confirmación 2020-2021-ICC**

Nuestra próxima sesión de preparación es el domingo 14 de febrero, 2: 30-5pm en el Salón Parroquial.

Esto es para los jóvenes de octavo grado y de secundaria que están inscritos para empezar la preparación de Confirmación. Esto es solo para los candidatos, no para padres ni padrinos.

**RETIRO:** El retiro de Confirmación se llevará a cabo el sábado 13 de marzo de 12 mediodía hasta las 5 de la tarde en el Salón de la Inmaculada Concepción.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

**Regular Class February 7 3:30-5:30**

- Children are to be dropped off at the double doors next to the Elementary office. No one except students and volunteers are allowed to enter the building. Hall monitors will assist getting children to their classes.; Dismissal from the ramp side will be as follows: Upstairs Grades 6-8 and sacramental prep 5:15; Down stairs (a teacher or assistant will escort to the ramp):

Gr. K-1 5:20 Gr. 2-3 5:25

Gr. 4-5 5:30

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.

## LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH)

February 14 10:30-12:30 in the Matthew/Mark Room; Next Sessions March 14th

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES (HC)

Confirmation class will take place on Sunday, February 7 at 2 and 4 pm and Wednesday, February 10 at 6 pm . Makeup class for Wednesday class cancelled will take place on February 3 at 6pm.

## PARENT MEETING FOR CANDIDATES:

Sunday, February 28 OR Monday, March 1, at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. Please have one parent attend - candidates welcome to join the meeting. Final instructions for Confirmation will be shared.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SRE (ICC)

**Bring your Blue Book Bags with books to class!**

Group 1- grades 3, 6, in the hall, 7, 8 in the basement, and RCIA to be in the computer center -on site **February 7th.**

Group 2- grades 1, 2, in the hall, 4, 5 in the basement classes and RCIA to be in the computer center- on site **February 14th.**

If you would prefer to have your children continue to do Religious Education at home please let me know, Alicia Poppiti, Director of Religious Education at 410-482-8939 or send me an email to dre@iccmmarydel.org

## LENT

Lenten booklets for the children will be given out starting February 7th.

## 2021 FIRST COMMUNION PREP-ICC

Next session: Tuesday, February 9th at 6:30pm in the Hall.

## CONFIRMATION PREP 2020-2021-ICC

Our next Prep session is Sunday, February 14th, 2:30-5pm in the Parish Hall.

This is for 8th grade and HS youth that are registered to begin Confirmation Prep.

This is for the youth only, no parents or Sponsors at this session.

## RETREAT

Confirmation Retreat will take place on Saturday, March 13th from 12-5pm in the hall at Immaculate Conception.

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## NEW PARISHIONERS (HC)

We welcome the following new parishioners who recently registered with the parish:

- Neal, Jeanne and Phillip Petty

## NEWLY BAPTIZED (HC)

Congratulations to the newly baptized members of Holy Cross:

- Fernando Gael Cortes-Betancourt
- Beringer David Jones

## RECENT DEATHS (HC)

Our condolences to the families of:

- Patricia Glass
- Moses Harvey, Jr.
- John T. Beiser
- Gerald Coleman
- John Hanlin

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

## LENT

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17. In next week's bulletin we will list the times that ashes will be distributed in the Church. Unfortunately due to COVID we will not be allowed to take ashes to the sick and home bound.

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.

More information will be in next week's bulletin.

As I sit down to compose my weekly word, it is snowing. It is a beautiful snowfall and I cannot keep my eyes from wandering to the window. Winter is my favorite season. I reveled in the few cold days of last week, and I absolutely adore snow.

A couple of weeks ago I was in Mrs. Wicks' kindergarten classroom and she had a display of books to share with her little ones. The common theme was snow. I looked through them, and looked back at her wistfully told her that they were History books. It further occurred to me that unless our youngest Crusaders have traveled far and wide, they have never enjoyed the fun of making snowmen and snowballs, and snow angels, or simply watching the snowfall. Why do we even call them *snow* packets?? It's time to think of a new name.

There was an Open House scheduled for this snowy day, and we were expecting guests. It was by invitation only. Last I had heard there were two or three on the guest list who are HCS alumni. That just makes me feel so good all over.

I have told the story of buying my first brand new; off the showroom floor car. It was a popular model for the time, and it was my intent to buy one for myself. I fully anticipated the sales pitch. But as I wandered the floor, no one came to my aid. No one with questions, no one with suggestions; no one. There was, however, a gentleman seated at a nearby table that I eventually approached and explained my interests. Later, as we were wrapping up the purchase I remarked that I was pleasantly surprised and grateful for the lack of a high pressure sales tactic. He smiled and remarked, "The car sells itself." True enough!

So, fast forward a little over forty years later and here I find myself in the ELC, stopping in to see my friends in the Three Year Old Room. It was early morning, structured play time and the little ones were completely engrossed. Some were at work in the kitchen, while some found more interest in the building blocks, trains and cars. There were dollhouses, and baby strollers, and shopping carts. There were puzzles, books, and ...what are those....something I had never seen before. There were three friends at a table, and while Miss Pennewill offered a demonstration, I watched Jacob adeptly assemble a train car on wheels! The day previous, Miss Pennewill said that they constructed the biggest tower she had ever seen! Meanwhile, I was hard pressed to figure out the method to keep two perpendicular

tiles together. I comforted myself by simply admitting that I just wasn't good at it. Sheepishly, I just walked away... Soon, as I was sharing breakfast from the kitchen with Leona before I went over to try my hand at those magnetized puzzles. I watched Jack. Using a paddle with a long magnetized string attached, he maneuvered the magnet over each puzzle piece. He picked the piece up and so very carefully, and skillfully placed it in its proper place on the puzzle. What a fun way to enhance those fine motor skills. Concentrating on Jack, I heard a faint sound, a quiet tinkling of bells; barely audible. I turned around and there was Miss Pennewill walking around the room with a small set of chimes. In a hushed voice she began singing the clean-up song. As she walked about I watched these precious three years olds go about putting things back to order. No fuss, no muss. A place for everything; and everything in its place. With a little assistance from Miss Molly helping at the cubbies with the routine water break, helping to tie some shoes, everyone was busily preparing for the morning meeting. I stood and watched the careful orchestration of it all. With everyone gathered on their spot, they looked to Eloise who was in charge this morning. She formally greeted each of her classmates with a gentle tap of the small pointer. "Good morning to Faith, good morning to Kylie, good morning to Spencer....it was so sweet to watch each respond to hearing their name called.

I quietly made my exit while Eloise continued to lead the morning meeting. I reminded myself that the next day would be Pirate Day in the Pre-K4 rooms. I would be sure to return for that!

There are many things I miss as we have worked so hard to operate within the pandemic guidelines set before us in this school year. Not being able to welcome prospective families into our school is one of the things at the top of the list. With some special permissions, with sanitizing protocols in place, and a complete disinfection of the entire first floor following the event, we planned to hold an Open House. The idea was spawned by Mrs. Zink. We were all so excited. And then it snowed.

But there will be another day; I only wish our guests could see what I see. To see the wonderful things that occur every day in our Early Learning Center.

No need for questions, suggestions, or high pressure salespersons. The program simply sells itself.

ed, if the Bishop of the Diocese is present.

**Seeking Sanctuary.** All Churches have a tabernacle, a Sacred Space in which the Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist is reserved. To indicate that our Lord is present a Sanctuary Lamp is kept lit. This is the lit candle or lamp that remains lit in the Church when all the other candles and lights have been put out. It is a visible sign of the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Church. Unlike candles at the altar or the Paschal candle, the “sanctuary lamp” may be an oil-based lamp, or a candle. Most sanctuary lamps are in fact candles, usually ones that burn for seven days.

**Traveling Light.** At a Mass or sacred ritual, candles are often used in procession into the Church. Usually in a procession, candles are found near the front of the line, commonly immediately behind the cross. Processional candles may be oil-based or wax. They are used to light the way for the entrance of the ministers into the Church, led by a processional Crucifix. These candles are usually mounted on metal or wooden posts or take the form of large candlestick holders.

**Votives: My Friend Flicker!** Uncle Luigi passes away and your mother tells you to go to the Church and light a candle for him. The candle that you light in the Church for Uncle Luigi is commonly called a “votive light.” A votive candle gets its name because the nature of it ties to a voluntary offering (a voted or chosen offering) of the person lighting it. So, the person then lights the candle, prays for the soul of Uncle Luigi and then makes an offering to the Church (usually some change or a dollar). There are also longer-burning votive candle, commonly called vigil lights (or candles), which burn in front of a holy image (keeping vigil with that image or object).

**Advent: A Special Time Four Candles.** Starting on the first Sunday of Advent (and throughout that season), most parishes display an Advent Wreath, which has four candles (three violet and one rose-colored). At the start of each of the four Sundays of Advent, one of the candles is lit; this makes the wreath burn brighter and brighter as Advent draws closer to Christmas and the birth of the light of the world, Jesus Christ. The three violet candles represent the first, second and fourth Sunday in Advent, while the rose-colored one represents the third Sunday in Advent (“Gaudete Sunday,” or “joyful Sunday”), when the half-way point to the Christmas is passed. Yep, there is a light of the end of the tunnel of sin and darkness.

**Candlemas: Year Wax.** The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2 is traditionally called “Candlemas;” It occurs 40-days after Christmas. It used to mark the end of the Christmas season back-in-the-day. This is the day when people by tradition bring their candles to Church and have them blessed. These candles were blessed for the year and used by the faithful to bring God’s light into their home. A few candles, bound usually in a red bow, are also blessed on this day, and used the next day (February 3, St. Blase day) to bless throats.

And with the bottom of the page closing in, I know it is time to snuff out this column on candles and leave you with a final thought: We usually associate the word “wicked” with evil or bad things. However, when it comes to candles used in our faith, I would assert that these “wick-ed” little items can serve to draw us beautifully closer to holiness and the light of Christ.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. James Lentini  
Pastor

