



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 9, 2025

5th Sunday Ordinary Time

holycross

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

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8 am

Wednesday – 8:15 am

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

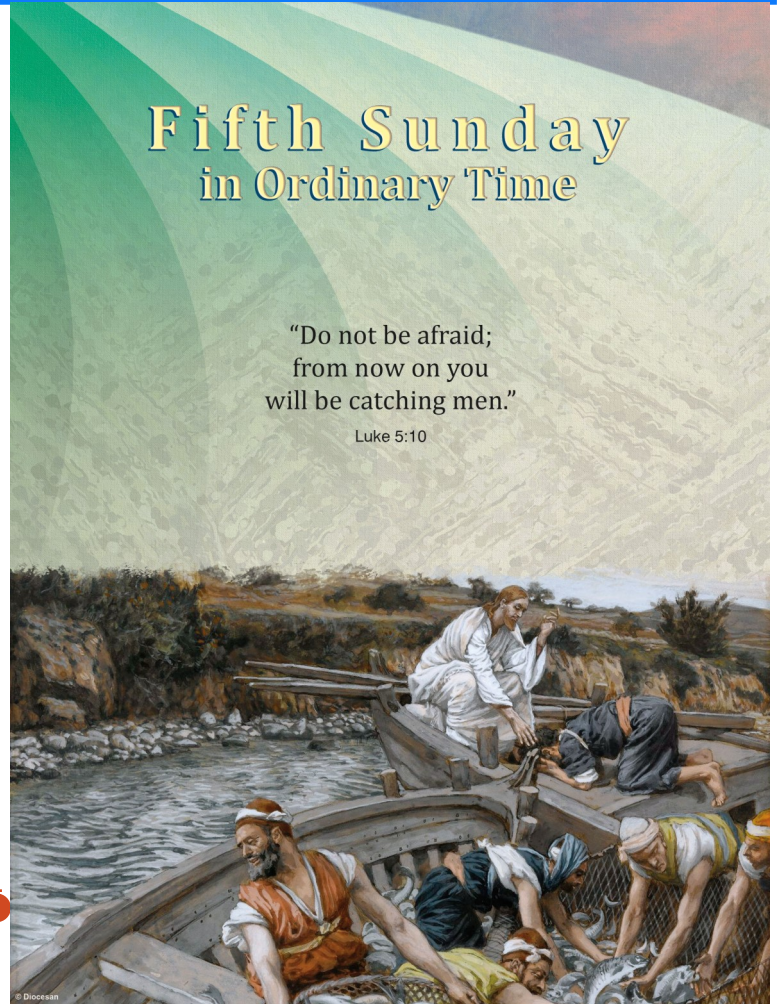
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Do not be afraid;
from now on you
will be catching men.”

Luke 5:10



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.

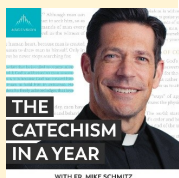
Sacrament of Holy Orders. If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the Priesthood or Diaconate, please contact one of our parish priests.

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.

Adult Education Opportunities

Catechism in a Year:

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>



Bible in a Year:

In English:

Father Mike Schmitz

[https://](https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/)

media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/

In Spanish:

Fray Sergio Serrano

[https://ascensionpress.com/](https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-espanol-registration)

[pages/biy-espanol-registration](https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-espanol-registration)



Rosary in a Year:

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/riy-signup>



WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending January 26, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$35,133	\$29,075	\$6,058
YTD	\$804,876	\$818,656	(\$13,780)
Needs	\$1,661	\$1,775	(\$114)

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending January 26, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,279
Holy Day	\$591

Holy Cross Parishioners:

Tax Statement for the 2024 have been emailed out to any parishioner we had email addresses for. If you did not receive it and want a tax statement, please call the Parish Office to leave your name, email address or physical address. You can also email Sharon Seelig at sseelig@holycrossdover.org

ICC Parishioners please all our ICC office if you wish a tax statement.

Dear Parishioner,

In recent years, I have been asked by various folks in our parish communities at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception about the Church's proscription of "servile work" on the Sabbath (Sunday). Often, these folks are concerned that they are doing servile work on the Lord's Day and are placing themselves in sin, or they are causing someone else to do servile work on Sunday and are likewise sinning. There is, at times, a level of over-analysis and scrupulosity on this matter that is troubling and a bit OCD for my taste. So, I want to use this column to talk about the meaning of avoiding servile labor on Sunday, its origins, and what the Church teaches.

Sabbath: Its Genesis in Genesis. Where does this proscription against servile labor on the Sabbath find its origin? Like a centerfielder trying to catch a strongly hit home run, it goes back... back... way back. It starts in the Book of Genesis, where we find God creating everything. On the first day, he creates night and day; on the second day, the sky and the seas; on the third day, the land and the vegetation; on the fourth day, the stars, the sun, and the moon; on the fifth day, sea creatures, fish and bird; on the sixth day, animal life and man; and on the seventh day, he rested.

Meanwhile, in Exodus. That seventh day — the day when God rested — became identified as the Sabbath. However, in Genesis, that day was never identified as the Sabbath, but by the time of the Book of Exodus, the term Sabbath was definitely in use and could be found in use by the Hebrews (the Jewish people) throughout that book. The Sabbath was observed from dusk on Friday to dusk on Saturday. This was set into concrete when God gave Moses the Commandments. As a matter of fact, the Commandment concerning the Sabbath has the lengthiest description of any of the Commandments. In Exodus 20:8-11, in the midst of relating the Ten Commandments, God gives the commandment regarding the Sabbath in these words:

"Remember the sabbath day—keep it holy. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God. You shall not do any work, either you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your work animal, or the resident alien within your gates."

What is Work? You can't do any work? What do you do on the Sabbath? Well, in Leviticus 19:30, God says, "Keep my sabbaths, and reverence my

sanctuary." So, a day of rest and a day of worship is undoubtedly commanded here. But then, we come to the question that people have asked me: "What constitutes work?" Is cooking a meal work? Is making your bed work? Is cleaning out your sock drawer work? Is looking for my McDonald's gift cards work? Is (gasp) driving to the McDonald's drive-thru work?

A 39-Step Program. The short answer is this: it's complicated. The Hebrew word for work was "melakha" — and it doesn't correspond to our concept of work today. It really dealt with elements of "creation." Over time, Jewish scholars and Rabbis defined 39 things that constitute work, one of which kind of qualifies all the rest. What are these 39 things? The "melakha" (work) deals with items in four areas: bread-making (food), clothing, animal hides, and construction. Deep breath, and here are the 39 items: planting, plowing, reaping, gathering, threshing, winnowing, sorting, grinding, sifting, kneading, cooking, shearing, laundering, combing wool, dyeing, spinning, warping, threading needles, weaving, separating threads, tying, untying, sewing, tearing, trapping, killing, flaying/skinning, curing/preservation, smoothing, scoring, measured cutting, the order of construction, writing, erasing, construction, demolition, extinguishing a fire, ignition, final completion/fine-tuning/perfecting, and transferring between domains.

Thus Spoke Shaggy. To quote Shaggy from Scooby Doo, "Zoinks!" That's quite a list. But don't some of these things have to be done on the Sabbath? And let's recall that Jewish law also commands us to heed God's call to enjoy the Sabbath (in Hebrew, *oneg Shabbat*). So, with all of the prohibition, can anything be done to "enjoy the Sabbath." The answer is yes.

Crib Notes. You see, the last item on the prohibition list ("transferring between domains") qualifies everything else. In Judaism, there are three major domains: Private, Public, and Semi-Public. On the Sabbath, many of those prohibition items can rightly be done in the private domain (the home or the extended community), not in the public or semi-public domain. What the heck does that mean? So, in traditional Judaic understanding, you can cook for your family, even for extended family and community, but not be put into labor to cook. You can build a baby's crib in the private domain (home) on the Sabbath. But you can't go out to buy a crib, spend money to do so in the public/semi-public domain, and then lug the crib back home. That is crossing domains. Thus, that constitutes work. Note: Back in the day, home-offices didn't exist,

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Rev. John Enemuor	Parochial Vicar
Rev. John Hynes	In Residence

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	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
Sharon Seelig	Records Office, ext. 116
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. I18
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

Mallory O'Mara Principal, ext. 111

MAILING ADDRESS

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

6TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (FEB 16)

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 17:5-8

Jeremiah emphasizes the need to place our trust in the Lord. This will mean that we are rooted, fruitful and courageous in the face of difficulties and dangers.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12, 16-20

St. Paul tells the people of Corinth that if the dead are not raised, then neither is Christ raised from the dead and our faith is in vain.

GOSPEL: LUKE 6:17, 20-26

Jesus teaches the crowds who are following him that everyone who is not excluded will one day rejoice, and those who are not hungry will have enough.

SAMARITAN'S FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry is in need of the following items:

Cereal, oatmeal, one pound bags of white rice, peanut butter and jelly, brownie mix, hamburger helper, Manwich, and Progresso or Campbell's chunky soups. Any donations you can make can be left in the Samaritan drop off near the Rectory or in the boxes as you enter the church. Thank you for your kind consideration .

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of May 2-4, 2025. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with grief and loss from abortion. Whether you are post-abortive or know someone who is, freedom awaits. Contact Nan Bernardo-Freeman at 302-463-7711 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com by April 18.

HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

The new independent Holy Cross High School will be opening in Dover this Fall! Applications are now being accepted for both Freshman and Sophomore classes. There will be an information session for prospective families on Wednesday, February 12th at 6:30 PM at the Clayton Fire Hall.

COLUMBIETTES

The Delaware State Columbiettes will be hosting a Basket Auction on March 2 from 1:30-4:30 pm at St. Joseph Parish Hall, 371 E. Main St. in Middletown.

Cost is \$30 which includes lunch choice of either Salmon or Chicken Cordon Bleu - 50/50 and basket raffle tickets will be on sale to purchase. Proceeds help the many charitable organizations the Columbiettes support. Please RSVP with lunch choice and check no later than Feb. 13 to Arlene Brown, 87 Paige Pl, Felton, DE 19943 - mail amb550@hotmail.com.

PURSE BINGO:

Please join us Saturday, March 22 for a fun evening of bingo. Tickets are \$40 each - tables of 8 - and may be purchased from ldarling@holycrossdover.org or in the Parish Office or contacting Linda Darling at extension 123. Basket raffles and 50/50 tickets, as well as beer and wine, will be available for purchase. Proceeds help our teens attending Catholic Heart Work Camp in Richmond, VA this June. Don't wait - tickets go fast!!!



Thanks to those who have volunteered to help with our Martha and Mary Ministry. This ministry helps with our funerals, either by being a greeter at the Mass, making desserts for funeral receptions, or helping at the reception by setting up, serving, and cleaning up. A volunteer can sign up to do any or all of the above mentioned services.

MARTHA AND MARY MINISTRY

We have just recently started this ministry back up, and we can certainly still use more volunteers, both men and women, to help us in this ministry. If interested, please contact Lori Christiansen at shera29@verizon.net or call the Parish Office to leave your name and number and we can pass it on to Lori.

NEWLY BAPTIZED
 Congratulations to our newest member who was recently baptized

- Cora Evelyn Prystajko

NEW PARISHIONERS

A warm welcome to our newly registered parishioners:

- Greg and Paula Maguire
- Juan, Patricia and Dominick Munoz
- Brian, Katie, Mackenzie and Charlette Kempista
- Dolores Steele

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families who have recently lost a loved one:

- Lisa Scott

MASS INTENTION FEBRUARY

10 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Sheila Berninger

11 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Mike Enig

12 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:am Beverly Peatf

13 THURSDAY

HC 8:0 am Joseph Squadvito
 IC 6:00 pm For the People

14 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Joan Mocoski (LI)

15 SATURDAY

HC 8:00 am Theodore Morris
 HC 5:00 pm Michael Dunlop

16 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Cono Spadafino
 ICC 8:30 am Constance Schepens
 HC 9:30 am Michael Morrissey
 ICC 11:00 am John Carrow
 HC 11:30 am For the People
 ICC 1:00 pm For the People

Feb. 9 –15 Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intention of Kenneth Frank.

Feb 2 – 8 Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intention of Holy Cross Parishioners.

- Andrienne Adelia Cobb
- Rose Mary Ralph

SAMARITANS

Our Samaritans are still looking for individuals to help take our hot line calls. If interested, please all the HC Parish Office to leave your name and phone number. We can then have someone call you to explain the process to see if you would like to help. Thank you.

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week, tune in to hear an interview with Susan Kirk Ryan and learn about the work of the Diocese of Wilmington Archive. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30. More information is available at cdo.org/CatholicForum and FaceBook.com/CatholicForum.

FEBRUARY 15/16, 2025

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

J. Bieker
M. Miller

D. Darling
L.. Darling

N. Klaus
Z. Klaus

LECTORS

M. Finch

7:30 AM

T. Dinan
J. Chandler

L .Luekett
R. O'Neill

J. Shevock
S. Shevock

LECTORS

J. Davis

9:30 AM

D. McGinnis
L. Olmstead

K. Kelly
C. Robinson

L. Boggs
G. Maddalena

LECTORS

C>.Parks
J .Coffield

11:30 AM

A. Cisneros
C. Garcia

B. Guzman

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

G. Godfrey

LECTORS

T. Woodeshick

11:00 AM

L. Schlaupitz

LECTORS

S. Tucker

If you would like to be a part of our ministry team as an altar server, lector, or extra-ordinary minister of Holy Communion, please contact the parish office. We would love to have more volunteers.

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Ret-ro-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 will be held February 14 - 16, 2025 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.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Adorers needed! We are slowly filling our hours. All hours are open for Adoration and would like to have at least two people per hour. Do you have an hour a week to spend with our Lord in he Adoration Chapel? We are so blessed at Holy Cross to have the ability to spend time with Christ in the Eucharist. We should never leave our Lord alone...Most Saints spent an hour or hours a day in Adoration. Please consider your time. An hour a week. Is this too much? For more information, call, text or email John Murphy for a time convenient for you. 302-233-1779, jkm2015@verizon.net

QUOTE: "Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on Earth." (Mother St Teresa of Calcutta)

"The only time our Lord asked the Apostles for anything was the night He went into agony. Not for activity did he plead, but for an hour of companionship." (Venerable Fulton J. Sheen)

- SUNDAY 7 am, 4 pm, 5 pm
- TUESDAY 5 pm
- WEDNESDAY 11 am, 12 pm, 2 pm
- FRIDAY 6 am
- SATURDAY 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 8 pm

FAITH BUILD WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Holy Cross will be participating in the 2025 Faith Build with Habitat for Humanity. This opportunity is coming and if anyone would like to donate to the home, please send your donation to Holy Cross and please include "Holy Cross" on the memo?

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who contributed to the Samaritan Giving Tree that was located in the Gathering Space during Advent. Your generosity allowed us to collect \$10,513.00. This money will be used throughout this year to help the needy in our school, church, and community. We are sincerely grateful for your contributions!!



- **Agradecimiento:** Nuestro agradecimiento a nuestra Junta Directiva actual que ha trabajado arduamente para servir a Dios a la iglesia y a nuestra comunidad su término como Junta Directiva ya pronto llegara a su fin y se acerca el tiempo para elegir otra Junta.
- **Nominaciones :** Se les pide que oren, vean y recomienda personas para servir en la nueva Junta Directiva 2025 – 2027. Necesitamos personas que se comprometan y que tengan la voluntad de trabajar y de servir, Sean lideres activos inscritos en la parroquia y sepan acatar los reglamentos de la iglesia. Le les pide que recomienden a personas que ustedes creen que pueden trabajar conjuntamente con el párroco y con el personal parroquial...
- **Peregrinacion con el Señor Obispo:** Se les invita a todos los jóvenes que desean tomar parte en la peregrinación y la Via Crucis que se llevara a cabo el sábado 12 de abril en Wilmington. Hay que inscribirse en line o hable con la Sra. Arline Dosman. El costo es de \$15 por persona y \$45 por familia no incluye transportación. Hay un número limitado de becas disponibles. Si usted y su familia desean participar complete el formulario en línea y envíelo a más tardar el 28 de marzo de 2025. Se espera reunir a mil jóvenes, adultos jóvenes y familias mientras caminamos por las calles de la ciudad de Wilmington con el obispo Koenig, llevando la Cruz de Peregrinación de parroquia en parroquia. Estará nuevamente el "The Scally Brothers" para animar el evento durante el día.
- La peregrinación comienza en St. Elizabeth va al Hospital St. Francis para una bendición especial de los pacientes, luego la Reconciliación en St. Anthony of Padua, seguida del **Vía Crucis en la Academia de Padua**, donde nuestros jóvenes participaran después seguimos a la Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento en San Pablo y, finalmente, la Bendición de las Palmas y la Misa a nuestro regreso a St. Elizabeth.
- **Foro Cristiano:** Foro Cristiano "Santos y Camino a la Santidad" todos los viernes, de 6-8 de la noche, en el ELC. Salón Mateo/Marcos. Quedan todos cordialmente invitados.
- **Voluntarios:** 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
- **Peregrinos de Esperanza:** "El Año del Jubileo 2025 y el tema escogido por el Santo Padre es "Peregrinos de Esperanza ¿Qué es un jubileo? "Jubileo" es el nombre que se da a un año establecido como tiempo especial para renovar una bien fundamentada relación con Dios, con el pEl Jubileo se abre para que a todos les sea dada la esperanza, la esperanza del Evangelio, la esperanza del amor, la esperanza del perdón para con el prójimo y con toda la creación. La puerta de la esperanza se ha abierto de par en par al mundo "Hay esperanza para cada uno de nosotros. Pero no olviden, hermanas y hermanos, que Dios lo perdona todo, Dios perdona siempre. No lo olviden. Y esa es una manera de entender la esperanza en el Señor". El Papa Francisco volvió a reiterar este punto fundamental de su Pontificado durante la santa misa de Nochebuena este martes 24 de diciembre de 2024, tras haber abierto la Puerta Santa en la Basílica de San Pedro e inaugurado el Jubileo Ordinario de 2025". De la homilía de Nochebuena del papa Francisco. Somos Iglesia, Somos parroquia, somos comunidad, somos familia en camino al jubileo. Como comunidad oremos y seamos peregrinos de esperanza para el prójimo.

ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

Sacramentos:

Primera Comunión: Sacramento: El sacramento de la Primera Comunión se están preparando para recibir a Jesús los martes.

Confirmación 2025: Mount 2000 7-9 de febrero. Les pedimos sus oraciones por todos los jóvenes adolescentes que estarán de retiro.

Sesión # 5 domingo 23 de febrero de 3-5:30 en el salón parroquial.
El 4 de febrero Reunión de catequista a las 7 PM en el salón.

RELIGIOUS ED AT HOLY CROSS

Next classes 2/9/25; 2/23/25

Please arrive between 2:45-2:55 to be on time and not disrupt classes. Bring textbook, snack and a pencil. Kindergarteners bring bookbag, crayons, safety scissors, glue sticks and textbook.

Grades K-7 in the Elementary Building, drop off at double doors near school office. Pick up, parents walk through those same doors, pick up child(ren) and exit doors past bathroom. Second Floor students will be sent down to siblings on the first floor for easier pick up.

Grade 8 in the Matthew/Mark room in the Parish Office Building C, second floor, students with siblings at the elementary building will be walked over to elementary building for pick up.

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith)

Class Feb. 9, 2025; next class 2/23/2025 Is your family interested in either starting or continuing their life-long faith journey together? Would you as parents like to be active participants in the faith formation of your children? Deacon Vince Pisano has the perfect Religious Education program for you and your family! This program engages the family, whether it be parents with K-8 children, or a family who wants to enter the Catholic church and receive the sacraments of initiation together hand in hand. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, and sharing our Faith Life experiences.

Deacon Bob's Adult Education – Class scheduled to be on February 11! “The Wild Goose Series” “This series is an invitation for Catholics to make a more profound, life-giving relationship with the Holy Spirit.” “The gift of the Holy Spirit is not merely something reserved for Confirmation. The Spirit desires a relationship with us that will take us on the greatest adventure imaginable: a journey to the very heart of God. The Holy Spirit desires to be present to us in a manner that brings light out of darkness, freedom out of bondage, order out of chaos and life out of death. Come Holy Spirit!” Meet in the MT/MK room of the ELC at either 9 am or 7 pm. This is a free class/ handouts will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122 for Tammy.

YOUTH MINISTRY CONFIRMATION CLASS:

Next class will be Sunday, Feb 23 from 3-5 pm - this class will take place in the Matthew Mark

Room—and Wednesday, Feb 26 from 6-7:30 pm. Parents are asked to attend this class.

Kerygma Class: Next class will take place on Wednesday, Feb 12 from 6-7:30 pm in the Matthew Mark room

Please pray for our teens and adults attending the MOUNT 2000 retreat this weekend.

ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

You might have noticed that the Gospel readings have been primarily from Luke the past few Sundays.



The Church has entered into liturgical year C where we will continue to hear from St. Luke for the rest of the year!

God wants to meet you in the Mass through the readings. He wants to speak to your heart. When you know the context and significance of the Gospel readings before getting to Mass, you are ready to listen to what Jesus is telling you.

With Luke in 50 Days, you can press play and listen to Fr. Mike Schmitz read you a section of the Gospel of Luke. Jeff Cavins and Scott Powell will be there to discuss the parables, the teachings of Jesus, and show you the connection between the Gospel and the Old Testament.

Use this link to start your journey now!
<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/luke-in-50-days-announcement>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ICC

ICC Religious Education:

No Religious Education Classes February 16th due to Presidents Day Weekend. Classes resume on February 23rd.

Sacraments:

First Communion Preparation: Session #2: Tuesday, February 11th 6:30-7:30 in Parish Hall

Confirmation Preparation: Mount 2000- Friday February 7- Sunday February 9, at Mount St. Mary's University

Session #5, Sunday, February 23rd at 3pm-5:30 in the Parish hall.

Dear Parishioners,

As we entered the month of February, I couldn't help but reflect on how quickly this school year is passing. This past week allowed us to settle back into our routines following the joy and energy of Catholic Schools Week. While it was a quieter week in comparison, it was filled with moments of faith, learning, and community that continue to enrich our school.

We began the week with a beautiful tradition- the Blessing of the Throats in honor of St. Blaise, whose feast day is celebrated on February 3rd. Our Holy Cross priests and deacons visited classrooms to pray over our students, invoking St. Blaise's intercession for protection against illnesses, particularly ailments of the throat. This moment reminded us of the power of prayer and God's healing grace in our daily lives. We are truly blessed to have clergy who are so present and engaged with our school community.

On Tuesday, we had the pleasure of enjoying the 5th Grade Beginner Band Concert. It was a joy to watch our students showcase their talents and hard work for their families and friends. Learning to play an instrument requires dedication, patience, and perseverance, and our students demonstrated all of these qualities beautifully. A heartfelt thank you to Ms. Swartzentruber, whose passion for music and commitment to our students continues to bring such enrichment to our school. We are excited to see these young musicians continue to grow as they prepare for middle school.

This week, we also welcomed a new member to our Holy Cross family- Mr. Teddy Barnes, who joins us as our Director of Academic Support. Mr. Barnes brings over 25 years of experience in education and leadership, and his role will focus on student support, accommodations, classroom interventions, and the monitoring of Renaissance testing. Over the next few weeks, he will be taking time to familiarize himself with our students, staff, and families. We are grateful for his expertise and look forward to the many ways his presence will enhance our academic support programs.

Looking ahead, next week brings several exciting milestones:

- We will begin our third round of STAR testing, allowing us to monitor student growth and progress.
- We will celebrate our 100th day of school, a joyful reminder of how far we have come together this year.
- We will embrace the spirit of love and kindness with Valentine's Day celebrations across campus.

As we continue this journey through February, let us remain focused on faith, learning, and the community that makes Holy Cross so special. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in Catholic education.

May God bless you and your families!

In Christ,
Mrs. O'Mara

and that would be a whole 'nother issue.

Important Distinction. Okay, everything I noted above is specifically in the context of Judaism, not in the context of Christianity or Catholic teaching. However, Christianity certainly takes a strong cue and many principles regarding the Sabbath from some of these origins.

Sunday Morning Comin' Down. So, for Christianity, with the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, the concept of the Sabbath remained, but its day of observance became Sunday (or Liturgically speaking, Saturday evening and Sunday). Fun fact: In our Romance languages, the connection between Sabbath and Saturday remains linguistically: Spanish (Sabado) and Italian (Sabato), both meaning "Saturday." Sunday, the day we observe as the Sabbath, is more commonly identified as "The Lord's Day" (hence in Spanish, "Domingo" and in Italian, "Domenica" — God's day).

Catholic Teaching. So, you may wonder, in Christianity, in our Catholic faith — do we have 39 prohibitions? Do we have private domain/public domain limitations? The answer is, basically, no. Our restrictions are there, but they are far more expansive in their scope and less defined in their application. What does the Church say about "work" on the Sabbath ("the Lord's day")? Well, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (#2184) states the following as an overarching principle:

"Just as God "rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done," human life has a rhythm of work and rest. The institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives."

Worship and Enjoyment. What are the specific limits of that broad statement? The Catechism says that "the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God," and that would hinder "the joy proper to the Lord's Day." So, you are called to set aside time to worship God (i.e., go to Mass) and to enjoy the day (e.g., be with friends, play/watch sports, partake in hobbies, etc.). Also, you are to enjoy "relaxation of mind and body." The Church also notes that refraining from work never includes refraining from "works of mercy."

Are there things that may precipitate a need for work on the Lord's Day? Yep! The Church teaching (CCC #2185), "Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest." So, if Baby Fauntleroy needs a diaper change, you can't say, "Eh, that can wait until Monday." If you did that, that would really stink — literally! More practically, you may need to go grocery shopping, or shop for needed items for the home. If you are a volunteer fireman ("important social service"), you can certainly work. Likewise, there are those who do work on Sunday "because of poverty and misery" (i.e., they need to work or are in desperate straits).

What about Baseball and Food? Ah, baseball and food (for example) — now, this hits close to home. But the Church, in its generous hearts, says, "Traditional activities (sport, restaurants, etc.), and social necessities (public services, etc.), require some people to work on Sundays, but everyone should still take care to set aside sufficient time for leisure." Spiritually, the Church teaches, "Sunday is a time for reflection, silence, cultivation of the mind, and meditation, which furthers the growth of the Christian interior life."

Holy Day vs. Holiday. Finally, the Church calls the faithful to bring the spirit of the Sabbath to all in society; in CCC #2188, the Church teaches, "In respecting religious liberty and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of Sundays and the Church's holy days as legal holidays. They [Christians] have to give everyone a public example of prayer, respect, and joy and defend their traditions as a precious contribution to the spiritual life of society."

I know that this is a lot to digest. But for those who struggle to heed the Commandment regarding the Sabbath as a day of rest in the context of the Church's teaching, I would commend you to —like Mary— take all of these things and ponder them in your heart. Perhaps this is a good topic to, dare I say, work on this Sunday. God bless you all!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor