

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399

Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253

www.iccmarydel.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., 9:30-12noon Fridays, Closed Wednesdays

Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.

January 1, 2017 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Weekday Eucharist

Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Holydays of Obligation

As announced in the bulletin

Reconciliation

After the Sunday morning Masses,
Thursday evening 6:30pm

And by appointment at any reasonable time

Pastoral Care and Liturgy

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Michael Angeloni, Associate Pastor

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.
Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of
financial assistance, please call

St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702

The Sacraments

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children's first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life**.

Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend for the 264th time, people in America will be celebrating New Years on January 1, 2017. "Hold your horses!" you might say. "Would that only take you back to 1753? What about the settlers who were here before that?" Good question! And the good answer is that prior to New Years 1753, the "New Year" used to begin on a different date; it was observed on March 25 (The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord). "Hold your horses!" you might say again, "Why did they do that?" Another good question and a long story fit for this New Year's Day Pastor's Column; and so with horses held, I will pony up the story.

Look Both Ways. Back in the ancient times, you know, before traffic cameras and Instagram, the start of the New Year varied from culture to culture, though most commonly in March (i.e., the start of spring). In 153 BC, the then

Roman republic decided to align the start of a New Year to the start of the term of its Senators (political legislative leaders), which was on January 1. Relevant to that date, the Roman God Janus for who January was named had two faces, one looking back and one looking forward; a good iconic image for the start of a New Year. Thus throughout the era of Rome (and its later established empire), January 1 marked, at least in an official sense, the New Year.

Forward, March! Now for those who know their Church history, you will remember that the Church and the Roman Empire did not have the best relationship from the time of Christ through the early 4th Century. However, in the 313 A.D. Christianity became legal in the Empire, and by the start of the 5th century it was the primary religion of the Empire. In that span of time, and accelerated by the fall of Empire in 476 A.D., many of the vestiges of the old Roman Imperial faith (with its various gods and goddesses) started

being phased out. One of those vestiges being phased out — along with toga parties at Caesar’s Palace — was the “New Year” being tied to the old Roman government and its god Janus. In 587 A.D. it was officially moved from the “in” list to the “out” list, as in that year, that the Church’s Council of Tours banished January 1 as the date of the New Year. What replaced it? Well, over the next 10 centuries, two dates led the pack: December 25 (Christmas) and March 25 (Annunciation); that latter date became the most common date for the New Year throughout Europe.

An OK from the UK. In 1582, shortly after the birth of Betty White, Pope Gregory XIII with the full force of the Church promulgated his aptly named Gregorian calendar. This reform fixed many time-based problems found in the old Julian calendar. On this new calendar, the New Year observance was reset to January 1 — but this time the date had nothing to do with Roman Senate or the Roman god Janus. Nope! Now January 1 was the final day of the Christmas Octave (i.e., the eighth day of the solemn observance of the Birth of the Lord begun on Christmas).

Of Cassettes, Coke and Calendars. Most Catholic countries made this change immediately, but some of the non-Catholic nations resisted the change for a bit. Like the folks that liked BetaMax over VHS Cassettes, or who liked “New Coke” over Classic Coke, ultimately they gave in. And in 1600 A.D. an early protestant-adopter of the new calendar, the Kingdom of Scotland, daringly adopted it. Surprisingly, the King got little flack from his people on this action (you might say he got off Scot free, in this matter). A little over a century later, in 1707, England and Scotland formed a “United Kingdom” and ideas flowed freely between these two nations. One of the ideas from Scotland that caught on in England was adoption of the Gregorian calendar. And so it came to pass that in 1752 the Gregorian calendar was formally adopted and England moved the observance of New Year from March to January 1; thus 1753 marked the first year in Britain and in its American colonies that New Year’s Day was celebrated officially on January 1.

Only the Beginning, Only just the start! This brings us back to the present. And though the Church starts the liturgical year in late November/early December with the beginning of Advent, it recognizes the start of the civil year

on January 1. However, the Church sees January 1 not just as a New Year’s day observed through the world, but rather it sees it primarily as the final day of the Christmas Octave. And it designates January 1 as the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The spiritual reasoning of the Church gives a powerful basis for this: After having spent seven days (December 25-31) reckoning the beginning of the new creation and redemption wrought by Christ birth, we now take a day (January 1) to recognize the start of that new creation, which was built on Mary’s “Yes” to God and her giving birth to Jesus Christ. And so as the world welcomes the New Year, we remind ourselves of the new beginning given to mankind by Christ.

Something New Under the Son. And so, for us, as Catholics, while January 1 is New Year’s Day, there needs to be a difference in emphasis as to how we observe this day. We are to begin the New Year not just celebrating the mere changing of a number (2016 to 2017), but rather by looking back on what God has done for us, and looking ahead to the blessed Heaven that, in hope, awaits us. We have to consider not just the New Year that’s beginning, but more importantly, we have to pray in thanksgiving for the new life, the new beginning, the new hope, and the New Covenant given to us by Christ. We have to place our hearts and our minds at that manger scene; we have to contemplate ourselves kneeling beside Mary, Mother of God, adoring our Savior and abounding in gratitude.

And so, on this New Year’s Day, this Octave Day of Christmas, this Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, we should strive to be faithful like Mary, and open our hearts to Christ, and welcome our redeemer as the center of our life. This January 1, let’s celebrate the New Year, of course, but more so let us celebrate Our Lord Jesus Christ, who makes all things new again, including time. And so, in Christ, I wish you a joyful New Year, and a new beginning — a new time — to serve Him in all we do in this year and in years to come.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Dec. 31 *5:30pm For the People
Misa en Español **7pm For the People**
Sun., Jan. 1 8:30am : for the People
11:00: for the People
Thu., Jan. 5 7pm For the People
Sun., Jan. 8 8:30am : Gloria Lentini
11:00: Hinebaugh & Fueller Family

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory:	\$ 2764.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 4419.00
Supplementary	\$ 618.00

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Jan 1 Marge Messner & Alicia Poppiti

Jan 8 Frank & Joyce Cristiano

Jan 15 Robin & Paul Engstenberg

Church Cleaning Crew

January 7, 2017 Grupo #7

Celia Berduo, Lidia Fernández, Adrián Matías, Agurinda Santizo, Maricela Santizo, Patricia López

January 7, 2017 Rectoría-Oficina

Alfonso Perez, Oscas Roblero, Orelia Berdugo, Carmen Gabriel, Susana Ortiz Morales

January 14, 2017 Grupo #8

Hortencia Bamaca, Luz Morales, Rosemary Bamaca, Froilán Berduo, Sheila Berduo

Altar Servers

Jan 8

8:30am Mass – Anna Clancy & Hannah Nagyiski

11:00am Mass – Carmine Poppiti & Joanne Santizo

Spanish Misa 7pm – Emily & Yorly Escalante

If you are interested in being an altar server, please let us know.

You may talk to the Deacons or another Altar server for instructions for training.

Lectors

Jan 8

8:30am Mass – Paul McQuaide

11:00am Mass – Alicia Poppiti

Spanish Misa 7pm – Froilán Berduo, Marcos Díaz

Eucharistic Ministers

Jan 8

8:30am Mass – Deacon Tormey, Alan & Diane Smith

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

Spanish Misa 7pm – Flora Pérez, Salome Morales, Miguel López, Alberto Morales, Carlos Miguel

Post Cana is an organization for widows and widowers

Please
JOIN US

to help alleviate their loneliness and isolation. Post Cana holds monthly dances at Talleyville Memorial Hall in North Wilmington. Monthly lunches are held at Michael's Restaurant in Christiana. Please consider joining this friendly and inviting group of people. Please call

Nancy at 302-479-5109 with questions.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Jan 1 NO SRE

Mon, Jan 2 Office closed

Mon, Jan 2 6pm St Vincent dePaul

Tue, Jan 3 7pm RCIA

Wed, Jan 4 7pm ESL

Sat, Jan 7 10am 1st Reconciliation

Sat, Jan 7 6:30pm Culto

Knights of Columbus



We meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month at 6:30pm. **Come join us!** For more info, contact Grand Knight, Harry Brown 302-233-8336 or daddyofone12307@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook @

Knights of Columbus Council 12509

Save The Date

Annual Penny Party
Sat., Feb 11th, 2017



Do you have a New Year's Resolution to Clean out the Garage? PLEASE consider donating your "unwanted treasures" and yard-sale type items to our Penny Party FUNd-Raiser this year. The date is February 11th and we are accepting donations now through Feb 10th. Please drop off at the Office Garage or contact Alan Smith (302) 379-3878.

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

(New Years) Traditionally people make resolutions to improve themselves at the beginning of the year. In marriage, since you are united in love, what improves one spouse also improves the other. What marriage building practice do you want to start or continue during 2017?

Parenting Pointer –

According to tradition, 3 kings came to honor the baby Jesus and we call this feast the Epiphany (the recognition of Jesus as God by the larger world). Consider giving something gold, sweet smelling, or soothing (myrrh) to your child as a sign of God's presence within him or her.

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education

No Religious Education for today January 1st. Please have a safe and Happy new year for all the Catechists and assistants!

ADULT FORMATION:

- **Psalms II: "Praying with Jesus"** Will start up on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 6:30pm in the office meeting room. If you are interested, please contact the office. Session will run for 6 weeks.



Happy New Year! This Sunday we bring in the New Year and celebrate the Blessed Mother Mary. As you contemplate your New Year's resolutions I would challenge you to make the declaration this year to, like Mary, say yes to God. When reflecting on Mary I am always drawn back to the fact that despite the issues it may have caused her, she still said yes to God. Contemplate how you have said yes to God and in what way is God calling you to continue to say yes to Him. We all have different gifts and talents to offer so consider utilizing these in support of the Church and its mission.

January is Poverty Awareness Month!



During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. Bishops, the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development** and the Catholic Community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor!

In addition to a **Daily Reminder Calendar**, **longer daily reflections are also available**. All of these are also en Español. You can download the calendar and sign up to have the daily reflections emailed to you during Poverty Awareness Month!

Visit the Website: <http://www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/poverty-education/poverty-awareness-month.cfm>

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Theme: Mary is the Mother of Jesus, the Mother of God and our mother.

Question for Children: What do you want to tell others about Mary?

Question for Youth: What can you learn from Mary that will help you grow closer to Jesus?

Question for Adults: When the shepherds encountered Jesus, their lives changed forever. How has your relationship with Jesus changed your life?

La Solemnidad de Santa María, Madre de Dios

Tema: María es la Madre de Jesús, la Madre de Dios y nuestra madre.

Pregunta para niños: ¿Qué desearían contarle a otros sobre María?

Pregunta para jóvenes: ¿Qué pueden aprender de María que los ayudará a acercarse a Jesús?

Pregunta para adultos: Cuando los pastores encontraron a Jesús, sus vidas cambiaron para siempre. ¿De qué manera su relación con Jesús ha cambiado su vida?

Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?

1 January 2017

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Parents: we don't know much about the hidden life of Jesus as He grew up under the loving care of Joseph and Mary.

What we do know is that both Joseph and Mary trusted firmly in God's

promises. Do you have a daughter or son that God might be calling to priesthood or religious life? If so, how are you modeling trust in God for them? Watching a child discern and respond to any kind of vocation is always an act of faith. If you think your daughter or son might have a religious vocation and would like to speak about it, please call or write Father Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113, vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdown.org/vocations/

- Find out more about the priesthood: diocesanpriest.com
- Find out more about the religious life: religiouslife.com
- **Let us help you to discover God's plan for your life.**

COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 1 DE ENERO, 2016.

Estimados feligreses,

Este fin de semana por la 264^a vez, la gente en los Estados Unidos estará celebrando Año Nuevo el 1 de enero de 2017.

" Amárrese sus pantalones ", podría decir. "¿Te llevaría de regreso al año 1753? ¿Qué pasa con los colonizadores que estaban aquí antes? "¡Buena pregunta! Y la buena respuesta es que antes del Año Nuevo de 1753, el "Año Nuevo" solía comenzar en una fecha diferente; Se celebraba el 25 de marzo (La Fiesta de la Anunciación del Señor). "¡Amárrese los pantalones!" Podrías decir otra vez, "¿Por qué hicieron eso?" Otra buena pregunta y una larga historia apropiada para la Columna del Pastor de este Año Nuevo; Y así con los pantalones amarrados, pondré la historia.

Mira hacia ambos lados. En los tiempos antiguos, ya sabes, antes de las cámaras de tráfico e Instagram, el comienzo del Año Nuevo varió de cultura a cultura, aunque más comúnmente en marzo (es decir, el comienzo de la primavera). En 153 AC, la entonces república romana decidió alinear el comienzo de un Año Nuevo al comienzo del mandato de sus senadores (líderes legislativos políticos), que fue el 1 de enero. Relevante a esa fecha, el dios romano Jano por quien enero se le dio el nombre tenía dos caras, una mirando hacia atrás y una mirando hacia adelante; Una buena imagen icónica para el comienzo de un nuevo año. Así, a lo largo de la era de Roma (y su posterior imperio establecido), el 1 de enero marcó, al menos en un sentido oficial, el Año Nuevo.

Marzo hacia adelante! Ahora, para aquellos que conocen la historia de la Iglesia, recordarán que la Iglesia y el Imperio Romano no tuvieron la mejor relación desde el tiempo de Cristo hasta principios del siglo IV. Sin embargo, en el año 313 A.D el cristianismo llegó a ser legal en el imperio, y por el principio del siglo V era la religión primordial del imperio. En ese lapso de tiempo, y acelerado por la caída del Imperio en el año 476 A.D la fe de muchos de los vestigios del antiguo imperio romano (con sus diversos dioses y diosas) comenzaron a ser eliminados. Uno de esos vestigios que fueron eliminados - junto con las fiestas de toga en el Palacio de César - fue el "Año Nuevo" vinculado al antiguo gobierno romano y su dios Jano. En 587 A.D. fue trasladado oficialmente de la lista de "adentro" para la lista de "afuera", y en ese año, fue que el Concilio de Tours de la Iglesia desterró el 1 de enero como la fecha del Año Nuevo. ¿Qué lo reemplazó? Bueno, durante los próximos 10 siglos, dos fechas guiaron la cabecilla: 25 de diciembre (Navidad) y 25 de

marzo (Anunciación); Esta última fecha se convirtió en la fecha más común para el Año Nuevo en toda Europa.

Una Vista buena desde el Reino Unido. En 1582, poco después del nacimiento de Betty White, el Papa Gregorio XIII, con toda la fuerza de la Iglesia, promulgó su calendario gregoriano. Esta reforma arregló muchos problemas basados en el tiempo encontrados en el viejo calendario juliano. En este nuevo calendario, la celebración del Año Nuevo fue restablecida al 1 de enero, pero esta vez la fecha no tuvo nada que ver con el Senado romano o el dios romano Jano. ¡No! Ahora el 1 de enero era el último día de la Octava de Navidad (es decir, el octavo día de la solemne observancia del Nacimiento del Señor comenzado en Navidad).

De Cassettes, Coca-Cola y Calendarios. La mayoría de los países católicos hicieron este cambio de inmediato, pero algunas naciones no católicas resistieron un poco el cambio. Al igual que la gente que le gustaba BetaMax sobre cassettes VHS, o que le gustaba " Nueva Coca" sobre Coca Classic , en última instancia cedieron. Y en 1600 A.D. un protestante-adoptador temprano del nuevo calendario, fue el Reino de Escocia. Sorprendentemente, el rey recibió muy poca resistencia de su gente en esta acción (se podría decir que se vio libre, en este asunto). Un poco más de un siglo más tarde, en 1707, Inglaterra y Escocia formaron un "Reino Unido" y las ideas fluyeron libremente entre estas dos naciones. Una de las ideas de Escocia que se pegó en Inglaterra fue la adopción del calendario gregoriano. Y así sucedió que en 1752 el calendario gregoriano fue adoptado formalmente en Inglaterra y se movió la celebración del Año Nuevo de marzo al 1 de enero; Así 1753 marcó el primer año en Gran Bretaña y en sus colonias americanas que el Día de Año Nuevo se celebró oficialmente el 1 de enero.

Sólo el Principio, Sólo el comienzo! Esto nos trae de nuevo al presente. Y aunque la Iglesia comienza el año litúrgico a finales de noviembre / principios de diciembre con el comienzo del Adviento, reconoce el comienzo del año civil el 1 de enero. Sin embargo, la Iglesia ve el 1 de enero no sólo como un día de Año Nuevo observado a través de todo el mundo , Sino que lo ve principalmente como el último día de la Octava de Navidad. Y designa el 1 de enero como la Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios. El razonamiento espiritual de la Iglesia da una base poderosa para esto: Después de haber pasado siete días (diciembre 25-31) contando el comienzo de la nueva creación y redención hecha por el nacimiento de Cristo, ahora tomamos un día (1 de enero) para reconocer el Comienzo de esa nueva creación, que fue construida sobre el "Sí" de María a Dios y ella dando a luz a Jesucristo. Y así como el mundo da la bienvenida al Año Nuevo, nosotros recordamos el nuevo comienzo dado a la humanidad por Cristo.

Algo Nuevo bajo el Hijo. Y así, para nosotros, como católicos, mientras que el 1 de enero es el Día de Año Nuevo, es necesario que haya una diferencia en el énfasis en cuanto a cómo observamos este día. Debemos comenzar el Año Nuevo, no sólo en celebrar el mero cambio de un número (2016 a 2017), sino mirando hacia atrás y ver lo que Dios ha hecho por nosotros, y mirando hacia el cielo bendito que, en esperanza, nos espera. Tenemos que considerar no solo el Año Nuevo que está comenzando, sino lo más importante, tenemos que rezar en acción de gracias por la nueva vida, el nuevo comienzo, la nueva esperanza y la Nueva Alianza que Cristo nos ha dado. Tenemos que poner nuestros corazones y nuestras mentes en ese pesebre; Tenemos que contemplarnos arrodillados junto a María, Madre de Dios, adorando a nuestro Salvador y con abundante gratitud.

Y así, en este Día de Año Nuevo, este Día de la Octava de Navidad, esta Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios, debemos esforzarnos por ser fieles como María, abrir nuestros corazones a Cristo y dar la bienvenida a nuestro redentor como centro de nuestras vidas. Este primero de enero, celebremos el Año Nuevo, por supuesto, pero más aún celebremos a Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que hace nuevas todas las cosas, incluyendo el tiempo. Y así, en Cristo, les deseo un Año Nuevo gozoso y un nuevo comienzo - un tiempo nuevo - para servirle en todo lo que hacemos en este año y en los años venideros.

Suyo en Cristo,
Fr. James Lentini
Párroco