

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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

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

www.immaculateconceptionmarydel.com

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

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

January 10, 2016 – Baptism of the Lord

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. John Olson, Associate Pastor
Rev. Anthony Giamello, 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 James M. Tormey, Sr., our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-697-2049.

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

This weekend we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. In the events of this holy day that marks the end of the Christmas season, Christ is "baptized" in the Jordan. That is to say, he undergoes a symbolic washing away of sin, or as it is commonly called, a baptism of repentance. Now in truth, Jesus Christ did not need this Baptism, but underwent it to show us an example of what leads to holiness: turning back to God. Which is why God expresses his approval: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing. In life, sometimes we can take common-place items, and make something more of them (or as it said today, we "re-purpose" them). This is what Jesus did: He took the action and elements of Baptism, and made it into more than just a symbolic washing. He made of it a Sacrament that is genuine efficacious and of great dignity – that is to say Baptism is not symbolic, but real. When a person is baptized, he leaves that Sacramental moment differently than he entered; not merely in terms of

spiritual awareness, but substantially changed. When the water of Baptism is poured upon a person, and the words: "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" are spoken, something happens. The natural and the supernatural world meet, and that person has an encounter with Jesus Christ: or as I like to call it, parodying a famous movie title, a "close encounter of the best kind."

Cause and Effect! So, you may ask, what exactly does happen to that person when he encounters Christ in Baptism? Well, let me start by noting that the water that is poured upon a person in Baptism is water that a priest or deacon has invoked God upon and is blessed. That water is understood to be the water that flowed from the side of Christ at his crucifixion. And as this water is of God, specifically of Christ, it does more than just wash, and it is more than just a symbolic element of repentance. It is now efficacious when used in the context of the Sacrament of

Baptism. Thus, the Sacrament of Baptism has six effects on a baptized person:

1- Wipeout! In movie franchises today, like *Spiderman* and *Star Trek* or even the eminently forgettable *Point Break*, the origin of the characters or the storyline is not merely retold, but reimagined or rebooted – and that usually makes scads of money. In Baptism our life with God is reimagined for what it can be at its best and purest; and our human nature is rebooted. In Baptism, all sins (original and extra crispy, as I like to say) are forgiven. Original sin, personal sins, and punishment due for those sins are wiped away. Thus Baptism gives a rebirth, a reboot, and nothing remains that would impede one’s entry into heaven. For all this talk of newness, however, the consequences of original sin (given to us by Adam and Eve’s disobedience) remain for all of us, especially concupiscence (an inclination to sin) which we all wrestle with throughout life, but can resist by God’s grace. (see the Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC] #1262-1264)

2- Connections. There’s an old saying in business and politics: It’s not *what* you know, it’s *who* you know. That is true also in the ecclesial realm of the faithful. A baptized person has connections – big connections! Yeah, those connections may not get you into Harvard, but they’ll get you into heaven. You see, in Baptism one is made a new creature – an adopted son of God and that baptized person shares in God’s divine life. The baptized person becomes claimed by and connected to Christ and a co-heir with him, as well as becoming a temple of the Holy Spirit. (see CCC #1265)

3- Grace-fullness. In Baptism one receives “Sanctifying grace” (a.k.a. a share in God’s Divine Life). In life, this enables one to believe in God with faith, hope and love; it enables one to be guided by the Holy Spirit; it enables one to grow in goodness and virtue. The Devil hates this, and tries to tempt us away from faith, hope and love, and move us to doubt, despair and selfishness, but keeping strong in faith, allows to maintain (to paraphrase a TV series title) *Grace Under Fire*. (see CCC #1266)

4- Catholic Church, Inc. In Baptism one becomes incorporated as a member of the body of Christ, and shares in Christ’s priestly, prophetic and kingly mission. This

membership as a part of Christ’s mystical (supernatural) body, makes one a member of the Catholic Church and calls for that baptized person to serve others and to obey and submit to the authority of the Church in faith. (see CCC #1267-1270)

5- A “Bunch” of Christian. Just as TV’s Marcia, Jan and Cindy (and their mother Carol) became Brady family members with Greg, Peter and Bobby because of their new relationship to the father (Mike Brady), so, too, in Baptism one becomes connected by Sacramental bond to all baptized Christians. We all become brothers and sisters in Christ. Thus, Baptism is important, as it connects all Christians as brothers and sisters in Christ. (CCC 1271)

6- Stain Alive, Stain Alive. Did you ever have a Sharpie Marker (a.k.a. laundry marker) in your pants or shirt pocket without the lid on it? Embarrassingly, I can say that I have. And it makes a terrible mess; it makes a stain that cannot be removed! Hence, that type of marker it is oft referred to as an “indelible marker.” In Baptism, an indelible spiritual mark is made upon one’s soul which can never be removed, not even by sin. It impresses upon the soul a character (often referred to as seal or mark), by which we are incorporated into Christ and made members of the Catholic Church. That mark on our soul is kind of like a branding mark put on cattle; it permanently marks the ownership of the creature no matter where it may wander. So, too, no matter where we wander in life, Christ still calls us his own, and we can always come back to him. (CCC 1272-1273)

Beginnings. The rock group Chicago started its career with an early hit called *Beginnings*, which acclaimed: “*It’s only the beginning, of what I want to feel forever.*” Likewise, Baptism, the first of the seven Sacraments, is only the beginning of our life with Christ and it paves the way to the other Sacraments, and further encounters with Him. Today, we celebrate the Christ’s baptism in the Jordan, which he would later recast into what is our Sacrament of Baptism, which is “the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit.” (CCC #1213).

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun., Jan. 10 8:30am: Anna Adam
11:00am: Ann & Neal Thomas
Misa en Español **7:00pm:** For the People

Sun., Jan. 17 8:30am: Thompson & Harter Family
11:00am: Mary Gehringer
Misa en Español **7:00pm:** For the People

Our Mass book for 2016 year is open. Please stop by office or call to have Masses scheduled.

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory:	\$2316.00
Supplemental	\$ 802.01
New Years:	\$2014.56

Second Collection Today: Supplemental
Your continued support of the work of your Church is much needed, and appreciated.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Jan. 10 - Robin & Paul Engstenberg
Jan. 17 - Tom & Mary McGowan
Jan. 24 - Marianne Lemon & Diane Nagyiski

Church Cleaning Crew

January 16, 2016 Grupo #11
Genaro Pérez, Elizabeth López, Edelfo Tomas, Edgar Ramos, Alfonso Chun
January 23, 2016 Grupo #8
Hortencia Bamaca, Lucia Morales, Rosemary Bamaca, Froilán Berduo, Sheila Berduo, Andy De León
January 30, 2016 Grupo #9
Natalia Domingo, Victoriano Pérez, Américo García, María García, Julio Hernández, Hayde Fuentes

Altar Servers

Jan. 17
8:30am Mass – Hannah Nagyiski
11:00am Mass – Meg & Vince Haass & Sherlin Santizo
Spanish Misa 7:00pm – Emily & Yorly Escalante & Oliver Alvarez

Lectors

Jan. 17
8:30am Mass – Catherine Beck
11:00am Mass – Jim Ward
Spanish Misa 7:00pm –

Eucharistic Ministers

Jan. 17
8:30am Mass – Deacon & Charlotte Tormey & Ann Lawson
11:00am Mass – Frank & Joyce Cristiano & Paul Lardizzone,
Spanish Misa 7:00pm –

Thank You

St. Vincent DePaul Committee of ICC would like to THANK YOU all for your generosity during the

Christmas Season. We were able to assist 24 local needy families with food and Christmas gifts over the last few weeks. It would not be possible without you!

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

The 3 wise men recognized power in the unlikely person of a baby. Indeed it is wisdom that helps us see the Godliness within the ordinary people in our lives. Our beloved may seem pretty ordinary today. Look for the Godliness within.

Parenting Pointer –

"You are my beloved child; with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22) Such words are music to a child's ears. Find an authentic way to say this to your own child today.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

SRE TODAY: Sun, Jan. 10, 9:40am, classrooms
Confirmation Prep: Sun, Jan 10, 12:30pm-3pm Hall
RICA: Sun, Jan 10, 1:30pm, Computer Center
JOVENES: Sun, Jan. 10, 3:30pm, church basement
ESL: Mon. Jan. 11 & Wed Jan. 13, 7pm, cc and Basement
Communion Prep: Tues, Jan 12, 6:30pm-7:30 in Church
Juan XXIII: Tues, Jan. 12, 7pm computer center
Confessions: Thur. Jan. 14, 6:15pm
Misa: Thur. Jan. 14, 7pm, Church



Knights of Columbus: Meet every 2nd & 4th Tues., in the hall at 6:30pm. For more information contact Grand Knight, Clyde Hinebaugh 410-482-8699 or clydehinebaugh@gmail.com

Save The Date

Penny Party- Sat., Feb 20th

Consider donating your yard-sale type items. Bring them to the office now through February 18th



The Women of Grace® Study Program leads women on an exciting journey to discover the gift of authentic femininity™, holiness of life, and woman's purpose and mission in the world today."

Informational Meeting: Saturday, January 23 9:30 am
HOLY CROSS Luke meeting room in the Parish Center (2nd floor of the Early Learning Center) For more info:
ckrebs@holycrossdover.org
(302) 674-5787 ext. 122



Post Cana is an organization for widows & widowers 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. Call Nancy at 302-479-5109 with questions.

REGISTRATIONS FOR HOLY CROSS SCHOOL AND ST. THOMAS MORE ACADEMY are online.
Contact either school with any questions.

STMA: St. Thomas More Academy is accepting sponsors for the sports programs during games.
Contact John Taylor at STMA for more information jtaylor@saintmore.org

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education

SRE TODAY, 9:40-10:50, classrooms



Congratulations to 27 of our children that received the Sacrament of Reconciliation yesterday. Please hold them in prayer as they begin preparation for First Eucharist.

SACRAMENTS:

Confirmation Session #1: TODAY Sunday, January 10th, 12:30-3pm in the parish hall. All youth registered must attend this session.

First Communion Prep: Tuesday, January 12th, 6:30-7:30, in the Church.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Baptism of the Lord

Theme: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Question for Children: What are some things you can do to please God?

Question for Youth: "With you I am well pleased." What are you doing right now that is pleasing to God? How does it feel to live that way?

Question for Adults: Name a time when you felt your actions were pleasing to God.

Pregunta de la semana

El bautizo del Señor

Tema: "Tú eres mi querido Hijo; contigo estoy satisfecho." Pregunta para los niños: ¿Qué pueden hacer para satisfacer a Dios?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: "Estoy muy complacido contigo." ¿Qué estás haciendo en estos momentos que hace que Dios esté satisfecho? ¿Qué sientes cuando vives de esa manera?

Pregunta para los adultos: Nombren una ocasión en que sintieron que sus acciones satisfacían a Dios.

Columna del párroco padre James Lentini **10 de enero, 2016**

Queridos feligreses,

Este fin de semana celebramos el Bautismo del Señor. En los eventos de esta santa fiesta que marca el fin del Tiempo de Navidad, Cristo es "bautizado" en el Jordán. Es decir, se somete a un lavado simbólico del pecado, o como comúnmente se le llama, un bautismo de arrepentimiento. Ahora en verdad, Jesucristo no necesitaba este bautismo, pero se sometió para darnos un ejemplo de lo que lleva a la santidad: volverse hacia Dios. ¿Qué es eso que Dios expresa su aprobación: "Este es mi Hijo amado, en quien tengo mis complacencia."

Are you called to be a Deacon?



The Diocese of Wilmington welcomes applicants for a new class of Permanent Deacons that will begin formation in June 2016. The five-year preparation program consists of human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral formation. Spiritual formation programs are held one Saturday a month during the initial year of discernment. Academic formation, beginning with the second year, takes place one weekend a month from September to June. Applicants must be 60 or younger when the program begins. Minimum ordination age is 35. Applicants must demonstrate a zeal for service to God's people; experience in some volunteer parish or diocesan ministry is preferred. Information nights are scheduled from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the following locations:

Tues, January 12, 2016

Church of the Holy Child, 2500 Naamans Rd.,
Wilm, DE 19810
Parish Activities Center (Education Wing)

Thursday, January 14, 2016

Holy Cross, 631 S. State St., Dover, DE 19901
Early Learning Center (2nd floor)

Thursday, January 21, 2016

St. Francis de Sales, 535 Riverside Drive, Salisbury,
MD 21801
Mercy Hall

Wives of interested married men are invited and strongly encouraged to attend. The sessions will discuss the role of the permanent deacon, qualifications for admission, and the formation process.

For further information and registration, please contact the Office for Deacons at 302-573-2390.

No Hay Nada Como lo Real. En la vida, a veces podemos tomar lugares o cosas comunes, y hacer algo más de ellos (o como se dice hoy, "re-novarlos"). Esto es lo que hizo Jesús: Él tomó la acción y elementos del bautismo, y lo convirtió en algo más que un lavado simbólico. Hizo de él un Sacramento que es genuino, eficaz y de gran dignidad - es decir, el Bautismo no es simbólico, sino real. Cuando una persona es bautizada, después de ese momento sacramental sale diferente a como entró; no sólo en términos de conciencia espiritual, pero cambiado sustancialmente. Cuando el agua del Bautismo se vierte sobre una persona, y se dicen las palabras: "Yo te bautizo en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo", algo sucede. El mundo natural y el mundo sobrenatural, se reúnen y esa persona tiene un encuentro con Jesucristo: o como me gusta llamarlo,

parodiando un famoso título de la película, "Encuentros en la Tercera fase/ close encounter of the best kind."

¡Causa y Efecto! Por lo tanto, puedes preguntar, ¿qué exactamente le sucede a esa persona cuando se encuentra con Cristo en el Bautismo? Bueno, déjame empezar señalando que el agua que se vierte sobre una persona en el Bautismo es el agua que un sacerdote o diácono ha invocado sobre el agua a Dios y ha sido bendecida. Esa agua se entiende que es el agua que brotó del costado de Cristo en su crucifixión. Y a medida que esta agua es de Dios, específicamente de Cristo, que hace algo más que lavar, y es más que un elemento simbólico de arrepentimiento. Ahora es eficaz cuando se utiliza en el contexto del Sacramento del Bautismo. Por lo tanto, el Sacramento del Bautismo tiene seis efectos sobre una persona bautizada:

¡Limpia! En la película franquicias hoy en día, como *el Hombre Araña /Spiderman* y *Star Trek* o incluso la eminentemente inolvidable *Punto Limite/Point Break*, el origen de los personajes o la historia no es que se volvieron a contar, pero re-imaginadas o un nuevo comienzo - y que por lo general hace un montón de dinero. En el Bautismo nuestra vida con Dios se vuelve a re-imaginar por lo que puede ser en lo mejor y la más pura; y nuestra naturaleza humana se reinicia. En el Bautismo, todos los pecados (original y crujientes adicionales, como me gusta decir) son perdonados. El pecado original, los pecados personales, y el castigo merecido por esos pecados son eliminados. Así pues, el Bautismo da un renacimiento, un nuevo comienzo, y no queda nada que le impida a uno la entrada al cielo, sin embargo, las consecuencias del pecado original (que por la desobediencia nos han dado Adán y Eva) siguen siendo para todos nosotros, especialmente la concupiscencia (una inclinación al pecado) que todos luchamos con eso toda la vida, pero se puede resistir por la Gracia de Dios. (véase el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica [CIC] # 1262-1264)

Conexiones. Hay un viejo dicho en los negocios y en la política: *No es lo que sabes, sino a quién conoces.* Esto es cierto también en el ámbito eclesial de los fieles. ¡El bautizado tiene conexiones - grandes conexiones! Sí, esas conexiones no pueden entrar en Harvard, pero te van a entrar en el cielo. Ves, en el bautismo uno se convierte en una nueva criatura - un hijo adoptivo de Dios y el bautizado participa de la vida divina de Dios. El bautizado se convierte reclamado por y conectado a Cristo y un coheredero con él, además de convertirse en templo del Espíritu Santo. (ver CIC # 1265)

Gracia-Plena. En el Bautismo se recibe "La gracia santificante" (también conocido como una participación en la vida divina de Dios). En la vida, esto es lo que le permite a uno creer en Dios con la fe, la esperanza y el amor; que le permite a uno ser guiado por el Espíritu Santo; que le permite a uno a crecer en el bien y en las virtudes morales. El diablo odia esto, y trata de tentarnos y alejarnos de la fe,

de la esperanza y del amor, y nos mueva a la duda, la desesperación y el egoísmo, pero manteniéndonos fuertes en la fe, permite mantenernos fuertes (parafraseando un título de la serie de TV) Tolerancia bajo fuego. (ver CIC # 1266)

Iglesia Católica, Inc. En el Bautismo nos incorporamos como miembro del cuerpo de Cristo, y compartimos la misión sacerdotal, profética y real de Cristo. Esta membresía como parte del cuerpo místico (sobrenatural) de Cristo, lo hace a uno un miembro de la Iglesia Católica, y pide que esa persona bautizada esta llamado a servir a los demás y a obedecer y someterse a la autoridad de la Iglesia en la fe. (ver CIC # 1267 a 1.270)

Un "Manojo" de Cristianos. Así como la serie de TV de Marcia, Jan y Cindy (y su madre Carol) se convirtieron en miembros de la familia Brady con Greg, Peter y Bobby por su nueva relación con el padre (Mike Brady), por lo que, también, en el bautismo uno se conecta por vínculo sacramental a todos los cristianos bautizados y todos nos convertimos en hermanos y hermanas en Cristo. Por lo tanto, el bautismo es importante, ya que une a todos los cristianos como hermanos y hermanas en Cristo. (CIC 1271)

6. Manchas Vivas, Manchas Vivas. ¿Alguna vez tuviste un Sharpie Marker (*marcador permanente*) en los pantalones o en los bolsillo de la camisa sin la tapa puesta? Vergonzosamente, puedo decir que me ha pasado. Y hace una mancha terrible; se hace una mancha que no se puede quitar! Por lo tanto, ese tipo de marcador que se conoce a menudo como un "marcador indeleble." En el Bautismo, una marca espiritual indeleble se hace en el alma, que nunca se puede quitar, ni siquiera por el pecado. Impresiona en el alma un carácter (a menudo referido como sello o marca), por el cual somos incorporados a Cristo y hechos miembros de la Iglesia Católica. Esa huella en nuestra alma es como una especie de marca, como la marca que se le pone al ganado; que marca permanentemente de quien es la propiedad la criatura, no importa donde se puede pasear. Así, también, no importa donde vagamos en la vida, Cristo todavía nos llama su propiedad, y siempre podemos volver a él. (CIC 1272-1273)

Principios. El grupo de rock de Chicago inició su carrera con un éxito llamado Principios, que aclama: "Es sólo el principio, de lo que yo quiero sentir siempre" Del mismo modo, el Bautismo, el primero de los siete Sacramentos, es sólo el comienzo de nuestra vida con Cristo y que allana el camino a los demás Sacramentos, y otros encuentros con Él. Hoy celebramos el bautismo de Cristo en el Jordán, que más tarde se resume en lo que es nuestro Sacramento del bautismo, que es "la base de toda la vida cristiana, el pórtico de la vida en el Espíritu." (Ver CIC 1213).

Suyo en Cristo, Fr. James Lentini, Párroco