



# 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

January 10, 2021

Baptism of our Lord

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-Friday, 12:10 pm also  
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

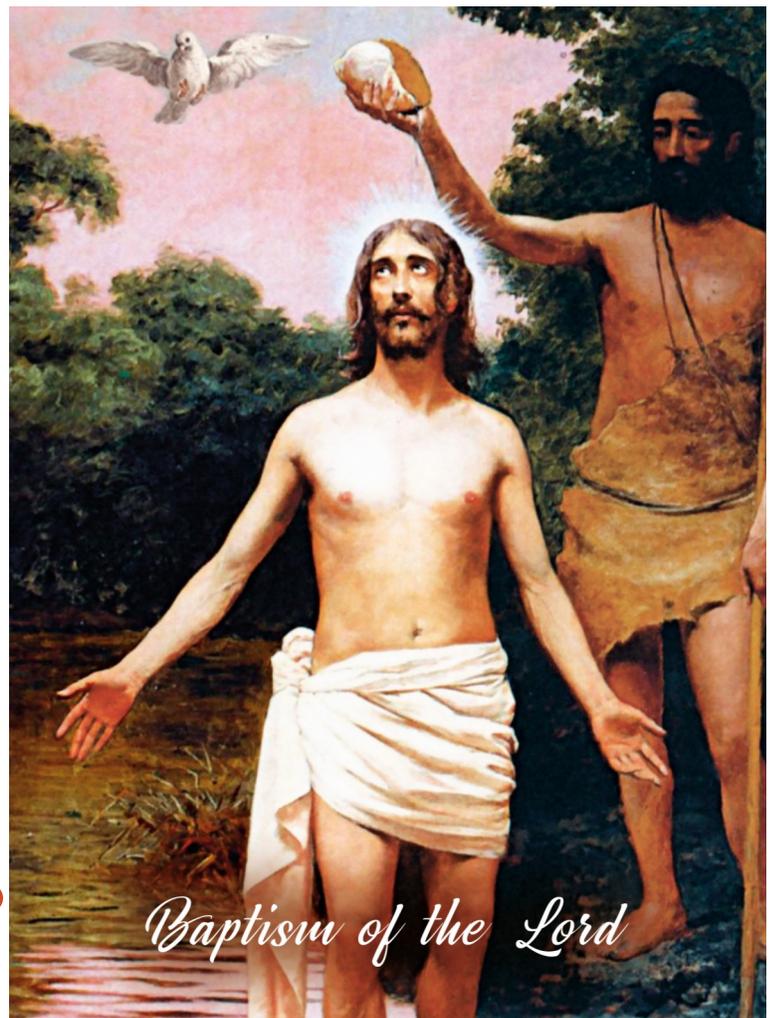
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am  
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

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

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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



*Baptism of the Lord*

### 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*

icc

## 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)

[iccmaryl.org](http://iccmaryl.org)

Holy Cross Church is unlocked and available for private prayer. The doors 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.

Daily Mass at HC at 8 am Monday through Saturday. Weekend Masses at Holy Cross are Saturday evening 5 pm, Sunday at 7:30 and 9:30 am, 11:30 am Spanish.

Weekend Masses at ICC are Sunday at 8:30 and 11 am, and 1 pm Spanish. Also a 6 pm Mass Thursday and 9 am Mass on Saturday morning, both in Spanish

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)

December 27, 2020

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$31,551	\$28,800	\$2,751
YTD	\$635,364	\$724,400	(\$89,036)
Needs	\$1,234	\$1,550	(\$316)
Christmas	\$32,143	\$48,000	(\$15,857)

## WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending December 27, 2020

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$4,733
Second	\$146
Christmas	\$4,170

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs, and activities of Holy Cross and ICC are made possible.

“Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold.”

**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,

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD

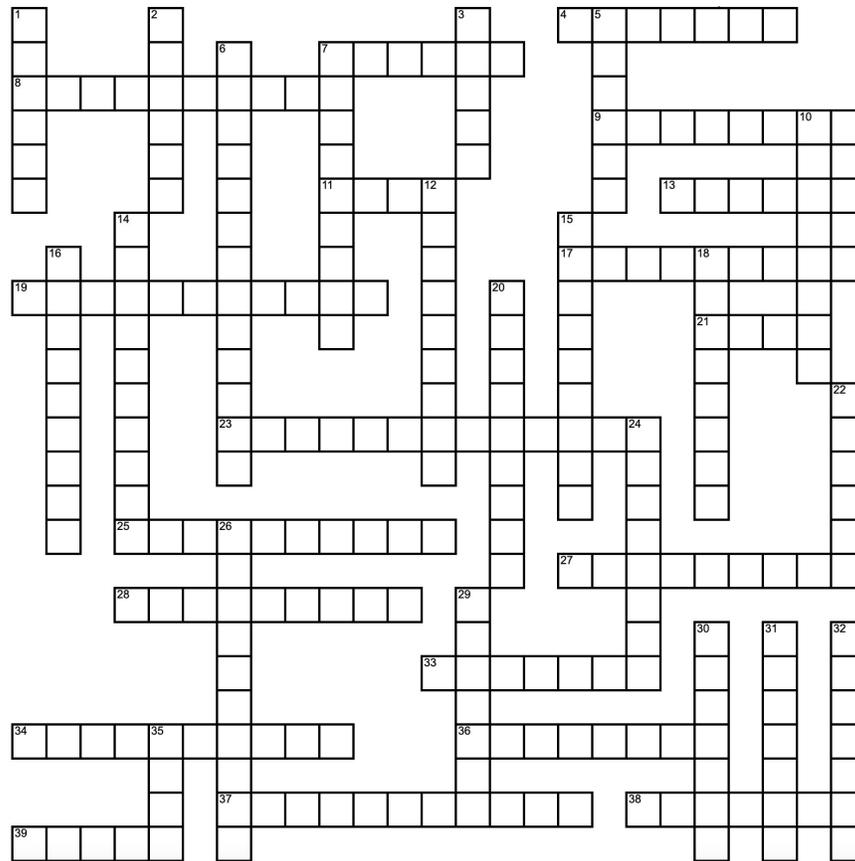
This week I am providing a crossword puzzle for the Baptism of the Lord.

Enjoy.

Answers will be provided in next week's Pastor's Column.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. James Lentini



### ACROSS

4 According to St. Mark's Gospel, St. John the Baptist fed on \_\_\_\_ and wild honey.

7 River in which the Baptism of the Lord took place.

8 The Baptism given by John the Baptism was a Baptism of \_\_\_\_\_.

9 In St. Mark's Gospel, where (what town) did Jesus come from before He came to St. John the Baptist for baptism?

11 According to St. Mark's Gospel, as the people were being baptized, they acknowledge their \_\_\_\_\_.

13 Where did St. John the Baptist first appear, preaching about repentance.

17 In St. John's Gospel, when St. John the Baptist first sees Jesus he identifies him as the \_\_\_\_\_. (3 words)

19 How God the Father felt about Jesus after His Baptism... He was \_\_\_\_\_. (2

words)

21 The Spirit descended on Jesus like a \_\_\_\_\_

23 In St. Matthew's Gospel Jesus was baptized by St. John the Baptist, "to fulfill all \_\_\_\_\_"

25 In St. Matthew's Gospel, following the Baptism of Jesus, we are told about the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.

27 According to St. Luke's Gospel, the Baptism of the Lord happened in the \_\_\_\_\_ year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar.

28 In Luke's Gospel, after the Baptism of the Lord, we are told of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (which goes all the way back to Adam).

33 Word that God the Father uses to describe Christ: My \_\_\_\_\_ son.

34 In St. Luke's Gospel, St. John the Baptist told the people who were coming for baptism to produce \_\_\_\_\_ as evidence of

## 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  
holycrossover.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. They will all be thrown out.

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Give your relationship the gift of quality time during the pandemic! Join us from the comfort of your home via Zoom for eight sessions presented on Sunday and Wednesday evenings from January 20 to February 14. Make Valentine's Day 2021 extra special as you learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!! For more information visit our website at [www.wvmedelmar.org](http://www.wvmedelmar.org) or to register for the weekend, please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-220-9833.

## 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 JANUARY 17 2ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 3:3-10, 19

Samuel hears the call of God and responds: "Your servant is listening."

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 6:13-15, 17-20

Use your body for the glory of God, for it is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL: JOHN 1:35-42

Jesus invites two budding disciples to come and spend time with him.

## 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.

## VOCATIONS

How will you work out your life response to God?

The National Coalition for Church Vocations has distributed a pamphlet containing general information on some of the many ways to continue God's work. The following are some excerpts from that pamphlet.

"Community" describes the life religious brothers and sisters choose.

Community enables the individual to reach out to others with the strength and courage that comes from knowing, "I don't have to do it alone. Others stand with me in this. My abilities are complemented by their gifts, confidence, wisdom and vision." In community, sisters and brothers live out their vowed commitments, knowing that, though each member is unique, the binding force in life is each one's personal and communal relationship with Jesus.

Today, the three vows (celibacy, poverty and obedience) which most religious make in a public way, may seem to be out of step with an age of sexual revolution. They are considered inconsistent with the popular demand for more and better "things," and with the ultimatums for the individual's "personal rights."

Celibacy is a gift and a promise to love very deeply and to express that love for others without using those physical expressions proper to marriage. The lives of many men and women religious are rich and loving within the context of celibate love as are the lives of happily married couples.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### JANUARY

<b>11 MONDAY</b>	
HC 8:00 am	Evelyn Bunac
<b>12 TUESDAY</b>	
HC 8:00 am	Michael Rush
<b>13 WEDNESDAY</b>	
HC 8:00 am	Teacher and Staff of HCS (LI)
<b>14 THURSDAY</b>	
HC 8:00 am	Gino Galli
ICC 6 pm	For the People
<b>15 FRIDAY</b>	
HC 8:00 am	Sr. Shirley Ann Boucher
<b>16 SATURDAY</b>	
HC 8 am	Maria Maddelena
HC 5 pm	Josephine Nardone
<b>17 SUNDAY</b>	
HC 7:30 am	Virginia Crews
ICC 8:30 am	Salvador Schepens
HC 9:30 am	Bruce Johnston
HC 11:30 am	For the People
ICC 11 am	Peter H. Brelia, Sr.
ICC 1 pm	For the People

(LI = LIVING INTENTION  
DM = DECEASED MEMBERS)

In a world waging war on poverty, men and women religious choose to live as Jesus did — simply. Because they share expenses and try to keep their personal and communal needs simple, they can get along very well on very little.

Then, there's obedience. The obedience of sisters and brothers is to the God they love, and the ways to this love are not obscure. God's voice is heard in the many voices of community.

Everyone has a vocation; pray for yours.

*Serra for priestly and religious vocations*

## 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 January 2021

#### At Holy Cross:

##### 5 pm Mass (HC)

Jan 9 Lori Christiansen  
Jan 16 Hazel Showell  
Jan 23 Judi Coffield  
Jan 30 Fran Urick

##### 7:30 am Mass (HC)

Jan 10 John Davis  
Jan 17 Donna Kilby  
Jan 24 Rose Pritchett  
Jan 31 Christina Cuffe

##### 9:30 am Mass (HC)

Jan 10 Tamra Baurys  
Jan 17 Suzanne Ford  
Jan 24 Chris Petka  
Jan 31 Mary Sherlock

#### At Immaculate Conception:

##### 8:30 am Mass (ICC)

Jan 10 Gerry Godfrey  
Jan 17 Diane Smith  
Jan 24 Theresa Thompson  
Jan 31 Karen Cairns

##### 11:00 am Mass (ICC)

Jan 10 Laura Schlopitz  
Jan 17 Donna King  
Jan 24 Laura Schlopitz  
Jan 31 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@iccmarylodel.org](mailto:mdixon@iccmarylodel.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

“You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat” (Isaiah 55:1) In these uncertain times, perhaps you are the one with no money. May your faith community feed you. If you are among those who have enough food, may your faith lead you to feed another. Talk with your beloved about how.

## PARENTING POINTERS

Pose this question to your child - My favorite Christmas gift was \_\_\_\_\_. Consider that some people in the world didn't get a Christmas gift. Be grateful. Are they old enough to write a thank-you note?

## RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND

Couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 12 - 14, 2021 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information or to register please visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL AFTER-CARE PROGRAM HELP NEEDED

The After-Care Program at Holy Cross School provides a safe, nurturing environment, as well as organized activities for students in grades Pre-K thru 8. Activities include homework completion, indoor and outdoor play, arts and crafts, and games.



**Interested parties must have experience working with young children. Background check will be required.**

The hours for this position are from 2:30-5:30 pm each school day.

**\*\*Our After-Care space is fully aligned with all**

- Clases de Educación Religiosa se reanuda el 17 de enero de 3:30-5:30 de la tarde. Por favor de llegar a tiempo y dejar a sus hijos en la entrada de la puerta doble de la escuela elemental. No se admiten dentro del edificio ninguna otra persona más que el estudiante y los voluntarios. Clases de preparación para la Confirmación será también el 17 de enero y el miércoles 20 de enero. Para los adolescentes que no asistieron al retiro en diciembre el próximo retiro seta el 6 de febrero, marque su calendario,
  - **ICC** . Por favor de traer su mochila azul a clases. Grupo 2- grados 1,2 en el salón grados 4 y 5 en el basement clases de RICA en el salón de computadoras, presencial nuevamente el 3 de enero. Grupo 1- grados 3,6 en el salón, 7,8 en el basement y RICA en el salón de computadoras presencial el 10 de enero. Si desea que su hijo continúe las clases de Educación Religiosa en casa Notificar a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti, Directora de Educación Religiosa al 410-482-8939 o envíale un email a dre@iccmaydel.org Unidad 3 está listo para recoger después del Año Nuevo. Gracias a todos los catequistas que han preparado y adaptado sus lesiones durante este tiempo de transición. Retiro de Formación de Fe está planeado para el sábado 9 de enero, 2021 de 9-12 mediodía en el salón de la parroquia de la Inmaculada concepción. El sacramento de la Primera Reconciliación está planeado para el sábado 23 de enero a las 10:30 de la mañana en Santa Cruz, Dover. Nuestra próxima sesión será el Domingo 17 de enero. 2:30 -5 pm en el salón de la parroquia. Esto es para octavo grado y HS que están inscrito para la preparación para la Confirmación. Solamente para los jóvenes, no para los padres ni para los padrinos.
  - Horarios de Misas
- Holy Cross:** Misas diarias en ingles a las 8 am de lunes a sábado. Misas dominicales –sábado vigilia a las 5:00PM, Domingo en ingles 7:30 y

mandates and restrictions associated with Coronavirus protocol. \*\*

Please call 302-674-5787, ext. 111 if interested in obtaining additional information.

## FISH AND CHIPS DINNER FROM K OF C

The Knights are sponsoring a Fish and Chips takeout only dinner on January 16, 2021 at the Columbian Home, 219 Vepco Blvd. Camden from 12-4 pm.

The dinner will be 3 pieces of Cod, steak fries, and cole slaw all for the low, low, price of \$10!!

Come out and join us for a delicious dinner on January 16.

9:30 am en español 11:30 am. Para visita al Santísimo en la iglesia las puertas del templo se abrirán de 7:00 am a 7:00pm.

**La Inmaculada Concepción:** Misas dominicales, en ingles 8:30 y 11:00 am en español 1:00 pm. Habrá misa en español los jueves a las 6:00 de la tarde y los sábados a las 9:00 del mañana seguido por confesiones. Para visita al Santísimo y oraciones privadas en el templo se abrirá de 9:00 de la mañana hasta las 7:00 de la noche.

- Estamos limitando el acceso a las oficinas en ambas parroquias, por favor si tiene algo muy importante llame y haga una cita. Es por su seguridad y la seguridad de los que laboramos en nuestras parroquias.
- **La Santa Misa durante el COVID -19** Las reglas de la pandemia siguen en vigor y todos tenemos la responsabilidad de protegernos y proteger a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Cristo.
- Usar mascarillas cuando entra al templo durante todo el tiempo que permanezca adentro la mascarilla debe cubrir la nariz y la boca.
- Desinfectante de manos está disponible al entrar a la iglesia.
- Distanciamiento social, los asientos están marcados para que guarde su distancia.
- Al recibir la Sagrada Comunión, recuerde mantenerse socialmente distanciado. Le recomendamos a recibir la Sagrada Comunión en su mano, pero si desea recibirla en la lengua, se le pide que esté al final de la línea de Comunión. No se distribuirá la Preciosa Sangre de Cristo en este momento.
- Al salir de la iglesia, no se reúna en el Nártex ni en el estacionamiento. Lavarnos las manos con frecuencia.
- Si está enfermo quédese en casa. Protegemos nuestra salud y la salud del hermano especialmente los más vulnerables.

this & that

comunidad hispana

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Regular Class **January 17 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.

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### LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH)

January 17th (The January 10th classed was cancelled.) 10:30-12:30 in the Matthew/Mark Room

Next Sessions February 14th

### CONFIRMATION CLASSES (HC)

Our next class takes place on Sunday, January 17 and Wednesday, January 20.

Please turn in any work completed over break for missed classes.

### RETREAT: HC CONFIRMATION

Saturday, February 6 for those teens who were unable to attend retreat in December.

Please drop off by 8:45 am at the ramp into the school gathering space.

### JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

We have a lot of service activities ready to do as soon as we are able to meet again.

Please stay tuned - we are anxious to see you again.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SRE (ICC)

Classes started up again: **Bring your Blue Book Bags 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 January 10th.**

**Group 2- grades 1, 2, in the hall, 4, 5 in the basement classes and RCIA to be in the computer center- on site January 17th**

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 Education at 410-482-8939 or send me an email to dre@iccmmarydel.org

**Unit 3 begins on January 17th and are ready for pick up!**

**Thank you!** to all the Catechists that have prepared and adapted their lessons during this transition.

### 2020/21 FIRST RECONCILIATION (ICC)

Sacrament of First Reconciliation is planned for Saturday January 23rd at 10:30am at Holy Cross in Dover.

### CONFIRMATION 2020-2021 (ICC)

Our next Prep session is Sunday, January 17th, 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.

This is not a quiz. I am not a fan of pop quizzes, I never was, and I never gave them. As the reader of this essay you have not had the time to prepare for the questions I am about to put before you, but I am confident that the greater majority of our readers will do very well in being able to correctly respond to the questions, even though there was no time to study.

1. What is 3 times 4?
2. What is 8 plus 5?
3. What are the days of the week, months of the year?
4. What is 5 times 9?
5. Write the entire Pledge of Allegiance?
6. What are the words prayed in the Hail Mary?

Congratulations! I bet you scored a 100%. These questions are based on information learned early in life, and the knowledge therein has served you well. These questions are based on information that was learned by repetition, and drill. Teachers are well versed in putting the multiplication tables in song. The theme song from the old Adams Family TV series is a great one for learning the days of the week. Pre-K teachers tell me that anything can be learned when sung to the tune of *Frere Jacques*.

It's called rote learning. Rote memory has been found to be extremely effective in teaching basic math concepts. Studies have shown that rote memory is perhaps the most effective way for primary students to learn counting, addition, subtraction, and multiplication tables. Rote memory is also effective for learning basic vocabulary and spelling. But that's all it is, and there's nothing wrong with it. Students learn information by rote memorization in preparation for successful application to higher level learning. Conceptual learning, on the other hand refers to learning with an understanding of the concept, in grasping the "why and the wherefore" behind the answer to a mathematical procedure, or the ability to extrapolate information given a passage in reading.

As a Math teacher, I see the value in rote learning. As an administrator, I see the pitfalls. I remember one day this year when I was in the ELC and had stepped into Mrs. Wegemer's classroom. The children were preparing to transition to recess and she stopped them in their very tracks. "Boys and girls, look who's here. Let's show Mrs. Pollitt what we have learned and recite our mission statement!" And so it was, I stood and listened to these four year old children recite our school mission statement with all the pride in the world. I was so proud of them. We made such a big deal over their accomplishment, because it is an accomplishment! The pitfalls come later when the words of the mission statement when recited daily after prayers becomes...rote...bordering on meaningless. Are we listening to the words? We recite the Pledge of Allegiance every day. Are we listening to the words? We pray the Morning Offering every day. Are we listening to the words?

I have many rosaries; they come in all sizes, and various designs. But my favorite is composed of wooden beads. It is a homemade variety, and each wooden bead is of a different color. The maker of this rosary used magic markers to color the beads. These colorful beads are threaded on plastic twine, with a small silver cross for the Apostles Creed. I keep it in my car. I love this simple rosary best of all because I have assigned a special intention for each color bead. This allows me to concentrate my thoughts on that one particular intention as I pray the words of the rosary which admittedly can become so rote as our minds wander onto other things, as we move our fingertips from one bead to the next. Are we listening to the words?

My feelings are mixed, I see the benefits; I see the pitfalls.

As we begin the new-year, in 2021, there is one thing that I will ask that we teach the children to do with great automaticity, without thinking, with repetition throughout each day. These few simple things have become as important to us as learning our multiplication tables! The ramifications of these few simple things are as important to our well-being as is learning our multiplication tables. Oh wow! What could THAT possibly be, you ask?

1. Wear a mask in public settings. It's not hard. Just do it.
2. Keep that six foot distance. This IS hard because the vigilance in doing so is severely lacking. The school environment should not be the only place where we distance.
3. WASH YOUR HANDS. Not just a quick rinse, but a warm and sudsy massage of your hands.
4. Use hand sanitizer, if soap and water is unavailable.
5. Sanitize surfaces. Miraculously these products are once again being found on the shelves, albeit in small quantities.
6. Cover your coughs and sneezes. Don't do either in your mask! And then, sanitize your hands!
7. Monitor your children's health consistently. Runny nose? Sore throat? Fever? Congestion? Make arrangements for a screening.

Don't think about these things... just do it, all the time. I see zero pitfalls in following these guidelines habitually. In so doing we exemplify both rote and conceptual learning. We do it automatically AND we understand the why and wherefore of it.

their repentance.

36 The Baptism of the Lord most commonly occurs on the Sunday after \_\_\_\_\_.

37 According to St. Luke's Gospel, after St. John the Baptist preached about baptism and the coming of the Lord, "...the people were filled with \_\_\_\_\_."

38 In Luke's Gospel, St. John the Baptist says: "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his \_\_\_\_\_"

39 In the scriptures about the Baptism of the Lord, this came from Heaven.

**Down**

1 In St. John's Gospel, we are told that reason that St. John the Baptist came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to \_\_\_\_\_.

2 By a quirk in the Church calendar, on occasion the Baptism of the Lord can land on \_\_\_\_\_ instead of Sunday.

3 According to St. Mark's Gospel, St. John the Baptist was clothed in the hair of what animal.

5 Following the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist, the Heavens \_\_\_\_\_.

6 According to St. Luke's Gospel "even \_\_\_\_\_ came to be baptized" (2 words)

7 According to St. Mark's Gospel, all of the inhabitants of what city came to be baptized by St. John the Baptist?

10 In St. Mark's Gospel, as Jesus came out from the water of Baptism he saw the Heavens \_\_\_\_\_. (2 words)

12 St. John the Baptist said in St. Luke's Gospel that people should prepare for the coming of Lord so that "all flesh shall see the \_\_\_ of God."

14 In St. Mark's Gospel, St. John the Baptist says: "I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the \_\_\_\_\_." (2 words)

15 St. John the Baptist's mother.

16 Father of St. John the Baptist.

18 The day after the Baptism of the Lord, the Church enters \_\_\_\_\_ Time.

20 The Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the \_\_\_\_\_ Season.

22 St. John the Baptist's preaching about the Lord, was prophesied by the Prophet \_\_\_\_\_.

24 In St. John's Gospel, St. John the Baptist, after seeing the Holy Spirit rest on Him, identifies Jesus as the \_\_\_\_\_. (3 words)

26 The Baptism of the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ the Sacrament of Baptism

29 According St. Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus came to St. John the Baptist for Baptism, John tried to \_\_\_\_\_ him.

30 In St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus was doing this after His Baptism.

31 In St. Luke's Gospel, people who heard St. John the Baptist preach wondered if he was the \_\_\_\_\_.

32 In St. Matthew's Gospel St. John the Baptist request what from Jesus?

35 John the Baptist said that Christ would Baptize with the Holy Spirit and \_\_\_\_\_.