

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 19, 2025

2nd Sunday Ordinary Time

holy cross

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

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

Wednesday – 8:15 am

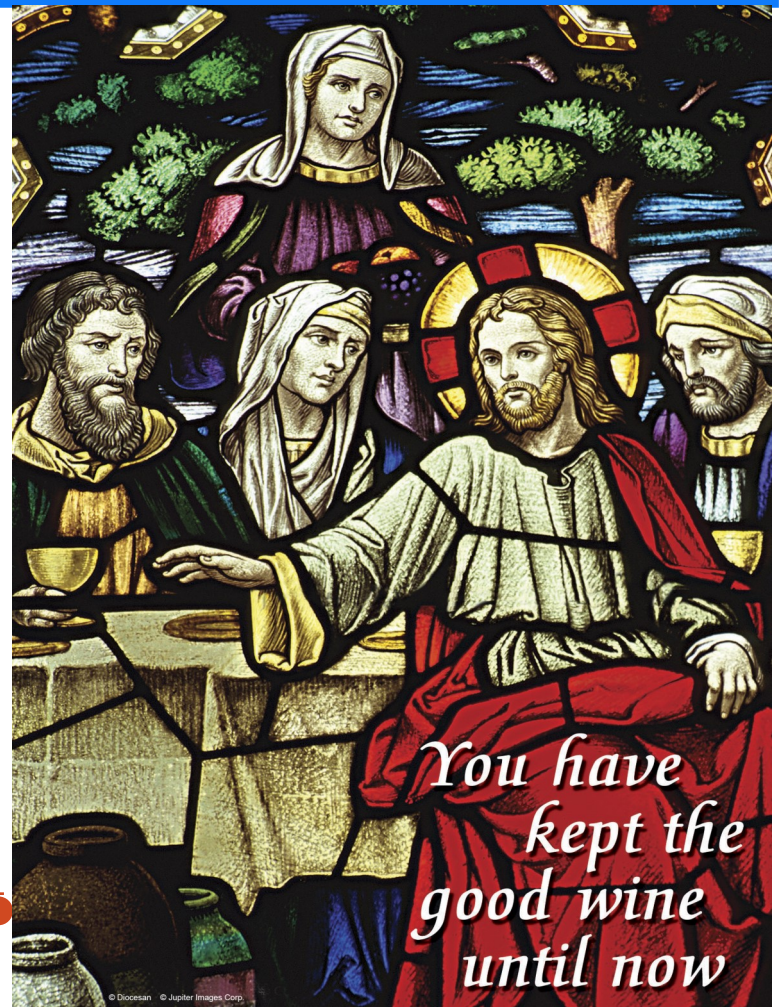
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day, MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 8:30 am – 10:00 am,
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am – 9 pm



*You have
kept the
good wine
until now*

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

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.

Mass on January 20 will be at 9 am at Holy Cross. This is the MLK holiday.

Adult Education Opportunities



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



In English:
Father Mike Schmitz
<https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>

In Spanish:
Fray Sergio Serrano
<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-espanol-registration>



WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending January 5, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$28,991	\$29,075	(\$84)
YTD	\$718,695	\$731,43`	(\$12,736)
Needs	\$1,655	\$1,775	(\$120)
Christmas	\$34,944	\$36,000	(\$1,056)

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending January 5, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$3,985
Holy Day	\$2,107

Holy Cross Parishioners:
 Tax Statement for the 2024 are being prepared and will be emailed out at the end of the month to any parishioner who requests one. You can call the Parish Office to leave your name and email address or you can email Sharon Seelig at sseelig@holycrossdover.org.

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

Dear Parishioners,

After a full week of snow and ice, bad roads, school cancellations and people singing “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year” with sarcastic overtones and an eye roll, we seem to inching back to a more normal Delmarva winter. In my last column, I noted that I wanted to take a picture of downtown Dover in the snow... and indeed on Monday evening (January 6), I hopped into my truck and made my way to the intersection of State Street and Loockerman Street and took a picture to remember our snow storm of January 2025. That picture can be seen at the end of my column. And now back to this week’s column!

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As the Season of Christmas has ended (though, in tradition it continues to February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord), and the Season of Lent doesn’t begin until March 5, we find ourselves in this in-between period. Does this in-between period have a name? You bet it does. In the Catholic Church, the period between the end of the Christmas Season and the start of the Season of Lent is called “Ordinary Time.” Likewise the period between the end of the Easter Season and the start of the Season of Advent is also called “Ordinary Time.” Now, to be clear, this jejune sounding title “Ordinary Time” has nothing to do with plainness or dullness, it has a very specific meaning. In this column, I will examine that special and specific meaning for the Time we call “Ordinary.”

Why is Ordinary Time called “Ordinary”?

Let’s take a step back into fifth grade math class: Your teacher likely at some point in math class taught you that there were three expressions of numbers, to wit, cardinal numbers, nominal numbers and ordinal numbers.

- “Cardinal numbers,” are natural numbers or numerals that allow us to count and quantify (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.)
- “Nominal numbers” are numbers that name things – Babe Ruth was identified by “3” on his uniform. The area code for Delaware is “302.” A great performance is a “10.” Likewise ZIP codes, phone numbers, car models, etc. Even that old Commodore 64 computer in your attic, provides an ex-

ample of a nominal number.

- “Ordinal numbers” are numbers that provide order and sequence. These are numbers like 1st, 2nd, 6th, 12th, 33rd, 100th, etc. Think of the song, “The Twelve Days of Christmas” – that is like ode to ordinal numbers (e.g., “on the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...”)

Built to Order. Keeping the above number-types in mind, when term Ordinary Time is used in terms of the Church year, its meaning is tied to the concept of ordinal numbers. Ordinary Time refers to “ordered” or “sequenced” time. Thus we have the “2nd week in Ordinary Time,” “the 30th week in Ordinary Time,” etc. It refers merely to fact that the weeks are counted up in order, and are in reference to no season (i.e., they do not order time to/from Easter or Christmas, but rather just count, in ordinal form, the weeks that exist outside of any Church season (i.e., Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter).

Color for Ordinary Time. The liturgical color of Ordinary Time is green. You will see the priests commonly wearing green vestments during Ordinary Time, unless a special feast is being observed. Why Green? In the early 12th century many practices in the Church became codified, and we find the first talk of “liturgical colors” by Pope Innocent III. Canons (rules) were in place by that time designating proper use of colors related to vestments. Green was used on Sundays and ferial days (weekdays of Ordinary Time without a special feast or holy day/saint day), as is still case today, because it was deemed to be “midway between black and white.” Back in those day, black was used in penitential seasons, while white was use for feast days of all saints except martyrs and other joyful days.

It’s not Easy being Green. Occasionally, you’ll see a Priest somewhere on St. Patrick’s Day wearing green at Mass – clutch the pearls my friends, that is incorrect! St. Patrick’s Day invariably occurs during Lent when the color violet is to be worn, however, if you are at a Mass specifically observing St. Patrick’s feast day (rather than the Lenten weekday), and

(Continued on page 10)

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Rev. John Enemuoh	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
 Maryland, 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
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MAILING ADDRESS

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

3RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (JAN 26)

FIRST READING: NEHEMIAH 8:2-4A, 5-6, 8-10

God's word gives us cause for rejoicing if we are ready to listen and follow its advice.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-30

We are all different, but our differences can be a source of strength and unity.

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:1-4; 4:14-212

Jesus spoke to the people around him before going further afield. He took the risk of being rejected.

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 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 and donations.

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.

There will also be an information session explaining variable tuition on Thursday, January 23 at 6:30 PM at Holy Cross in the Early Learning Center Bldg. in the Matthew/Mark room. Visit hchs.org or contact Tom Fertal, President, at tfertal@hchs.org for more information.

MONDAY MTGS ON THE BIBLE

We are viewing and discussing From Genesis to Jesus, based on a book by Scott Hahn and presented by Matthew Leonard, giving an overview of how to best understand the Bible and the relationship to which God calls us. We meet in Luke's room in the ELC Monday mornings at 9 am. All are welcome.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all married couples in the Diocese of Wilmington to the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on World Marriage Sunday, February 9, 2025, at 1:00pm at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Those celebrating significant anniversaries (5-year increments) - 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or any anniversary beyond 50, will receive a special certificate from the Bishop. Reservations are needed, no matter what the anniversary year. Reservations are required by February 4, 2025.

Bishop Koenig will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00 pm or plan to stay after Mass. Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing OMFL@cdow.org. Registration can be completed by using the following link – <https://cdowcym.wufoo.com/forms/zdx6q1g0hx3jsm/>

PURSE BINGO:

Save the Date! **March 22, 2025** for our fundraiser to assist our teens attending Catholic Heart Work Camp in June. More details to follow.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to our newly baptized members at Holy Cross

- Becket George Boggs
- Scarlet Jean Simpkins

RECENTLY DECEASED

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

- Veronica Rorobouogh
- Maxine R. Durkee

MASS INTENTION JANUARY

20 MONDAY

HC 9:00 am Fontana Family

21 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Renata Kosior

22 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:15 am Helen Kuzma

23 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Lynne Brownawell

IC 6:00 pm For the People

24 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Isabel Gponya

25 SATURDAY

HC 8:00 am Mary Coyle

HC 5:00 pm James Canalichio

26 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Lola Accetta

ICC 8:30 am Louis & Anna Adam

HC 9:30 am Irene Caban & Marciano Diaz

ICC 11:00 am Jodie Strong

HC 11:30 am For the People

ICC 1:00 pm For the People

Jan. 18 – Jan. 25 Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intentions of the HC Parishioners.

Jan. 19 – Jan. 25 Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intentions of HC Parishioners.

- Christine Ely-Spence
- Michael Welsh, JR.
- Maratha Myers
- Frani F. Melda
- Ronald Peter Salamone
- Constance Schepens

NEWLY REGISTERED

Welcome to our newly registered families:

- Michael Moore
- Hayden Dubniczki and Brian Berry
- James and Isabella Ymbong

SAMARITANS

Our Samaritans are still looking for individuals to help take our hot line calls. If interested, please call 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.

JANUARY 25/26, 2025

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

J. Bieker
M. Miller

M> Phillips
P. Sheldon

N. Klaus
Z. Klaus

LECTORS

L. Christiansen

7:30 AM

J. Chandler
R. O'Neill

M. Jacobs
M. Thompson

E. Costa
M. Costa

LECTORS

A. Wyllie

9:30 AM

C. Robinson
G. Wessel

M. Wessel
D. Kaltenbaugh

L. Boggs
W. Shuron

LECTORS

M. Sherlock
J. Pierce

11:30 AM

T. Hernandez
E. Pastoriza

M. Richard

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

J. Moore

8:30 AM

LECTORS

G. Godfrey

F. Cristiano

11:00 AM

LECTORS

K. Perez

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! Do you have an hour a week to spend with our Lord in the Adoration Chapel? We are so blessed at Holy Cross to have the ability to spend time with Christ in the Eucharist. If you look at other parishes in our Diocese, they may have an hour a week, or a day a week to Adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Here at Holy Cross, we have 16 hours a day, seven days a week. Unfortunately, we are not filling all these hours. 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: "Each time you approach the Blessed Sacrament remember that Jesus has been waiting for you for twenty centuries for this personal visit from you." (St. Josemaria Escriva, founder of Opus Dei)

- SUNDAY 7 am, 4 pm, 5pm
- MONDAY 5 pm
- TUESDAY 4 pm
- SATURDAY 5 am, 9 am, 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm 7 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?

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE AT HOLY CROSS

LADIES: Would you like to give a gift of prayer for our Priest, specifically Fr. John Enoumu? We are still in need of additional sisters to give:

- One Holy Hour One Day a Week
- One Priest One Heart of Prayer

MEN are welcome and encouraged to join this ministry as substitutes.

PICK UP A PAMPHLET IN THE GATHERING SPACE AND contact: Delizabeth Diaz-Martinez -- email: 7sistersapostolate2023@gmail.com

Foro Cristiano: Foro Cristiano “ Santos y Camino a la Santidad” todos los viernes, de 6-8 de la noche, en el ELC.Salon Mateo/Marcos. Quedan todos cordialmente invitados.

Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria: El domingo 2 de febrero celebraremos la Fiesta de la Candelaria. Los que fueron premiados con el niño de la Rosca serán los anfitriones, por favor hablar con la Sra. Fabiola Cebrero de Gómez o con cualquier miembro de la Junta Directiva para coordinar que va a traer para la celebración. La Candelaria es una fiesta popular celebrada por los católicos, que celebra la Presentación de Jesús en el Templo, la Purificación de la Virgen después del parto y la Virgen de la Candelaria, advocación mariana aparecida en Tenerife (Islas Canarias) en el siglo XV. Tiene lugar el 2 de febrero. Generalmente se pasa al primer fin de semana de febrero.- se festeja exactamente 40 días después de Navidad -es decir, el 2 de febrero- y es debido a que, en ese día, la Virgen se purificó después del nacimiento del niño Dios y llevó candelas a la Iglesia para que estas fueran bendecidas. Este era el festejo original, sin embargo, en la época del Virreinato llegó a México y Latinoamérica y el día de la Candelaria coincidió con la temporada de siembra que iniciaba el 2 de febrero y se festejaba con exquisitos tamales como platillo principal.

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 Reconciliación:

Sacramento: El sacramento de la Reconciliación será e sábado, 18 de enero en la Santa Cruz, en Dover a las 10:30 de la mañana.

Confirmación 2025: Sesión # 4 domingo 12 de diciembre de 3-5:30 en el salón parroquial.

La hoja de los padrinos entregarlos el 1 de enero .comuníquese con Alicia en la oficina parroquial llame al 410-482-8939 o por correo electrónico a dre@iccmaryl.org

Primera Comunión: Reunión de Padres de Familia Martes 21 de enero a las 7:00 pm en el salón, o el domingo, 26 de enero de 2:30PM en el salón. Es mandatorio que uno de los padres de los candidatos a la Primera Comunión asista a una de estas juntas.

RELIGIOUS ED AT HOLY CROSS

Next class: January 26, 2025

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)

Next Class : on January 26.

Matthew/Mark room in the Parish office, 2nd floor building C. 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. Registration forms can be found at: <https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

Deacon Bob's Adult Education – Class scheduled to be on January 21! “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!” Classes Tuesday at either 9:00am or 7:00pm in the Matthew/Mark room of the Parish Office, 2nd Floor, Building C. All are welcome, this is a free class. No workbooks are available for this series. If you have any questions, please contact tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122 for Tammy.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Confirmation Class: Our next class will take place on January 26 for Sunday and January 29 for Wednesday.

Kerygma Catch Up Class: Our next class takes place on Wednesday January 22 beginning at 6 pm in the Matthew Mark room of the ELC.

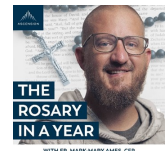
ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Rosary in a Year by Ascension Press

If you've ever struggled to build a habit of prayer, this podcast is for you. In Ascension's Rosary in a Year podcast, Fr. Mark-Mary Ames, CFR, guides listeners in a step-by-step journey that will change the way you pray – no matter where you are in your spiritual life. By starting small and adding on over time, listeners will find themselves falling more in love with this powerful Marian devotion, becoming a source of grace for the whole world.

Listen to discover....

- *How to build a daily habit of prayer*
- *How to form a relationship with Jesus and Mary*
- *The Biblical foundations of the Rosary*
- *How to meditate with sacred art (visio divina), saint writings, and scripture (lectio divina)*
- *The power of Mary's influence in your life*
- *...and more.*



Follow this link for more information:

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ICC

ICC Religious Education:

Sacraments:

First Reconciliation:

Sacrament: First Reconciliation has been postponed until March. New information to follow.

Confirmation Preparation: Mount 2000- February 7-9th

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

First Communion: Parent Meeting, Tuesday, January 21st @ 7pm in Parish hall Or Sunday, January 26th @ 2:30pm in Parish Hall

Parents for first Communion, must attend one of these meetings.

Dear Parishioners,

We began the new academic year with an unexpected extension of our Christmas break, thanks to the snowfall that blanketed our area. While the beauty of the snow brought moments of peace and warmth for many families, road conditions and safety concerns made it necessary to transition our first week of January into snow days and remote learning. We hope you were able to enjoy cozy time with loved ones, but we were eager to return to campus and reestablish our routines.

This past week marked our official return to school, and it has been a wonderful time of transition. On Tuesday, our new teachers participated in a faith formation meeting, a special opportunity for educators new to the Diocese to come together and reflect on our shared Catholic faith. We are deeply grateful to Mr. Pin, the Director of Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry, for traveling to Dover to lead this meaningful session. His guidance inspired our teachers to continue integrating faith into their classrooms and daily lives.

On Wednesday, we gathered for our weekly school Mass. We are so proud of our National Honor Society students, who have taken on the responsibility of leading us in prayer during these celebrations. Their dedication and leadership are shining examples of what it means to live out our Catholic values.

That same day, our Junior High students participated in a First Aid and CPR certification course led by Mr. Devenney, one of our school parents. We are incredibly grateful for his time and expertise. The students were engaged and eager to learn these essential life-saving skills, demonstrating a level of maturity and enthusiasm that made us all proud.

Thursday brought our first faculty meeting of the new year, a time for our teachers to come together in prayerful reflection and collaboration. These meetings allow us to celebrate accomplishments, plan for upcoming events, and ensure we remain united in our mission to provide a faith-filled and academically excellent education for all our students.

We ended the week on a joyful note with a Student Council-led TAG Day on Friday. Students had the chance to dress down in their favorite sports team gear, bringing energy and fun to our first week back.

Looking ahead, we will observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 20, as a day off to honor his legacy. Later this month, we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week, a time to reflect on the blessings of Catholic education and the ways we serve our community in faith. Interim will be approaching for our second trimester as we continue to monitor and celebrate the progress of our students.

We are so grateful for the ongoing support and prayers of our parish and school community. May we continue to walk together in faith, love, and service throughout 2025.

God bless,
Mrs. O'Mara

since St. Patrick was saint who was not a martyr, the color worn at Mass is, properly, white. It should also be noted that there are also a dozen holy days, which, if they land on a Sunday in Ordinary Time (some always land on Sunday), preempt Ordinary Time's green. On those special Sundays green vestments goes the way of dial-up internet, Crystal Pepsi, Blockbuster Video and public pay phones, and are replaced by vestments of the liturgical color of the holy day being observed. These are days like the Transfiguration, Trinity Sunday, Corpus Christi, All Souls Day, etc.

The Long Run. Ordinary Time can be either 33 or 34 weeks long (which is about same length of time I felt going by when I watched — and snoozed during — the endless movie, “Seven Years in Tibet”). It occurs in two segments: from the Monday following the Baptism of Our Lord until to Ash Wednesday; and then again from the Day after Pentecost to the day before the First Sunday of Advent. This makes it the largest period of time during of the Liturgical Year.

Counting Up to Advent. So how does Ordinary Time appear for us on the 2025 Liturgical Calendar of the Church?

- Ordinary Time began for us on Monday, January 13, 2025. That is the date of the “Monday of the 1st Week of Ordinary Time.”
- Ordinary Time will continue until March 4, 2025, the “Tuesday of the 8th Week of Ordinary Time” after which it gives way to the Season of Lent.
- Ordinary Time then continues on the day after Pentecost (which is the Feast of Mary Mother of the Church and the Monday of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time).
- Ordinary Time concludes on November 29 (the Saturday of the 34th week of Ordinary Time) as it gives way to the Season of Advent.

You may have noticed that we went from the 8th Week in Ordinary Time and picked up the 10th week. So, you may wonder, what happened to the 9th Week in Ordinary Time? That's a complicated one. Let's just say it went on vacation. Okay, it actually has to do with the fact that, this year, the Liturgical Year has to have 34 weeks in it because the coming Season Advent doesn't start before November 30 — it's complicated. Again, I would just stick with the 9th week in Ordinary Time being on a well-deserved vacation.

This is No Ordinary Time. Whenever we enter this season, it always brings to mind an FDR biography entitled, “No Ordinary Time.” Far from adopting that as protest cry against the season, I am reminded, that as Catholics, with Jesus Christ as our Savior, and Mary as our loving Mother, there is no time in our faith life that is truly ordinary. If we are living our faith our time is never ordinary, it is blessed.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor



Downtown Dover on January 6, 2025