



CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

631 South State Street
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687
iccmmarydel.org



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

January 22, 2023

3rd 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



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."
At once they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:19-20

© Diocesan
Calling Of Saint Peter And Saint Andrew, 17th century by Michel Corneille the Younger

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

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 9:30 am
Thursday, 6:30 pm

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.

TAX STATEMENTS

The **HC Parish Office** is preparing tax letters for everyone who contributed during the 2022 year. If we have your email in our records, this information will be emailed to you by the end of January. If we do not have your email or you want a hard copy sent to you, please email mdornberger@holycrossdover.org. Thank you.

For ICC please contact the ICC parish office to pick one up or have it mailed to you.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending January 8, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$23,183	\$27,760	(\$4,577)
YTD	\$732,447	\$768,820	(\$36,373)
Needs	\$1,917	\$1,604	\$313
Christmas	\$26,165	\$39,000	(\$12,835)

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending January 8, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$5,102
Second Collection	\$773

Thank you to all advertisers in our bulletin.

We appreciate your support!

If you know of someone who would like to advertise in the bulletin, please contact

Diocesan Publications at 800-233-8200.

Dear Parishioners,

With the March for Life having just happened a few days ago, as Catholics our minds get focused on the issue of abortion in our state, our nation and our world. And while in 2022, there was some progress made on the issue, the underlying issue of the sanctity of life still takes a beating in our world today.

We're the Voices. As Catholics, for us, the life issue is so very much about those who aren't here anymore, those who are unseen but important. Whether it be by the hand of those performing abortions or those vying to create new statutory ways for people to die, like "assisted suicide," -- the absence of the least among us, caused by and under the color of law, sits badly with us. And it must sit badly with us. In our Catholic faith, in our Christianity, we are the voices for those who can no longer speak.

"Options." A few years ago, an assisted suicide bill in the Delaware legislature -- bearing the Orwellian title of "End of Life Options Act" -- set out to establish and legalize assisted suicide in our state. Thankfully, it failed. That bill, and those like it, sought to end a person's illness by administration of lethal drugs to end the person's life. In other words, we can cure the sickness by killing the patient. And this should sit very badly with us.

Natural Death. I don't speak this in a vacuum or from some moral theologian's ivory tower. My own mother, just a few years back, faced the potential of what could have been a long term difficulty following a stroke. But our faith is compassionate in this area: It allows for a natural death. That is to say if a person is suffering badly, and there is little hope of recovery, we, as Catholics can let nature take its course (i.e., leave things in the hands of God) without taking what used to be called "heroic measures" to extend life just for the sake of extending life. Thus, for my mom, at age 88, following her stroke she could have been put through a series of operations on her brain which may have extended her life a few weeks or months. My mom certainly wanted no extreme measures. So, we left things in God's hands and mom passed naturally a few weeks later.

"Your Faith Has Saved You." Now, while one need not take "heroic measures" to extend a life, nor is it ever acceptable to do the opposite and purposefully accelerate an ill person's death, with that specific intention. The sick should be cared for, the sick should be comforted, the sick should be given palliative care to ease their suffering. The sick should not be killed. When the Lepers came to Christ, they came to him because society abandoned them -- and left them to die. Christ brought them healing and told them "your faith has save you." There has to be that strong place for faith when faced with terrible suffering, or serious illness.

Over There. Again, I am not speaking this in a vacuum, or within some hypothetical construct to critique theoretical situations. The voiceless victims already are known to us by what is happening here, there and around the world. I often read international newspapers and news, especially on the issues of life, because as I like to say, what starts over there will make its way here. And euthanasia is on the march these days.

Coming to Terms. Before I continue, let me clarify some terminology. It is asserted that the terms euthanasia, assisted suicide and assisted dying are not the same thing. So, I want to note some observations about those distinctions. It can be said that the term "euthanasia," these days hides under the less harsh sounding "assisted dying" or some other euphemisms. That being said, there are semantic and some structural differences between Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide (Assisted Dying) -- but I'll give you the quick and dirty distinction: Assisted Dying is Euthanasia with a clever wink. And that semantic distinction is that Euthanasia is enacted by someone other than the person that will be dying (i.e., a doctor, to stop a person suffering decides to give that person a lethal drug). Assisted suicide is when one helps another person kill themselves (i.e., providing them with the means to do so; usually a lethal medication). Assisted dying is assisted suicide but usually under the guise that it is only for a terminally ill patient already dying (though that is demonstrably not the case in nations that allow "assisted dying").

By Any Other Name... The problem here is that this becomes a sort of a legal farce: Whether it is called "euthanasia," "assisted suicide," or "assisted dying," someone's life is being ended other than by natural death. The point I want to make here is that regardless of what you call the action taken, an intentional death occurs, and a door is open to broaden and broaden and broaden the reasons for ending another person's life.

Brussels Sprouts a Bad Law. In that regard, I would caution us to learn the lesson of Belgium. In 2003, the Belgian legislature in Brussels legalized assisted suicide. It was legalized for a narrow category of cases: for grave, terminal illness with extreme suffering. And initially, in its first few years, there were few uses of the law. But that has changed: The European Institute of Bioethics summarizing a report by the Belgian Committee on Euthanasia indicated that the number of reported assisted suicides increased from 954 in 2010 to 2,699 in 2021; an increase of 183% in 11 years. In the re-

(continued on page 10)

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Msgr. Daniel McGlynn	Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Brennan Ferris	Parochial Vicar

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
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
holycrossdover.org/school

Linda Pollitt	Principal, ext. 111
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MAILING ADDRESS

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

RECENTLY DECEASED (HC)

Condolences to the families of those who have recently died:

- Keith DeFrancisco
- Thomas Dix

THANK YOU

You can drop off donations to the Samaritan Pantry any day between 7 am and 6 pm. The white door by the carriage house is unlocked at those times. You can put canned good on the table in that room or meats in the freezer.

4TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (JAN 29)

FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 2:3; 3:12-13

The day of judgement will leave a humble remnant to enjoy the earth in peace.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31

In choosing “nobodies”, God makes a nonsense of our human scale of values.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:1-12

Jesus teaches that only a life of integrity can bring true and lasting happiness.

IS GOD CALLING YOU THIS NEW YEAR TO A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM?

If you have a desire to develop a more intimate relationship with God through a deeper form of prayer, God may be calling you to the spirituality of Carmel: the spirituality of Saints Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and Therese of Lisieux. You can explore this call with the Community of Mary of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. We meet the second Saturday of every month at 9:15 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Seaford, DE for Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours and Lectio Divina, or sacred reading, of the Sunday Scripture. For further information, and to join us for prayer, please call Dawn Waehler, OCDS, 302-249-6904 or Diane Householder, OCDS, 302-855-1190.

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, January 28th, tune-in to learn about Catholic Schools Week when Dr. Lou De Angelo, Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Wilmington is the guest. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum, or by searching “Catholic Forum” on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!!! Get away for an intimate weekend – no group sharing required. The next weekend is March 10-12, 2023 at the Brighton Suites in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. For information or to register visit our website <http://www.wvme.org> or call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-648-2228.

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 begins the weekend of February 10 - 12, 2023 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.

SAVE THE DATE

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th wedding anniversary, or any anniversary beyond 50th, to the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass being held on World Marriage Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 1 pm at Saint Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, Delaware. The Mass coincides with National Marriage Week, February 7 through 12.

The Bishop will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 noon 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. There is no cost to you, however reservations are required. Please make your reservations by January 30th.

This year, you can register by clicking on <https://cdow.coursestorm.com/category/family-life-events> or by calling the office at 302-295-0657.

For more information, please contact the Office for Marriage and Family Life 302-295-0657 or OMFL@cdow.org

MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY

23 MONDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Maria A. Maddalena
24 TUESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Bill and Mary Childress
25 WEDNESDAY	
HC 8:15 am	Guido Ranieri
26 THURSDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Family of Antonio Coroniti
ICC 7:00 pm	For the People
27 FRIDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Janet Marinucci
28 SATURDAY	
HC 8 am	Mario E. Beltran
HC 5:00 pm	Mary Coyle
29 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	June Clacher
ICC 8:30 am	Jerome Bevenour
HC 9:30 am	DM Osenkoya and Apesin Family
ICC 11:00 am	Peter Brelia
HC 11:30 am	DM Coury Family
ICC 1:00 pm	For the People

*(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)*

SWITCH TO eGIVING (HC)

The new year is filled with hope and promise as we seek to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2023, Church of the Holy Cross is reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2023 that reflect the steadfast promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us.

We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/DE251. Or go to the Holy Cross website (holycrossdover.org) and click on the Online Giving button.

HOLY CROSS JANUARY 28/29

	EMHC		SERVERS
5:00 PM	D. Kaltensbaugh D. MacLeish	M. Macleish M. Miller	S. Murawski B. Richardson L. Richardson
LECTORS			
J. Davis F. Urick			
7:30 AM	C. Brown J. Clendaniel	M. Thompson A. Wyllie	E. Bydlon T. Catipay E. Wadhams
LECTORS			
K. Meier			
9:30 AM	L. Olmstead V. Pepper	G. Richrds M. Sossich	E. Ksenich J. Novack J. Novack
LECTORS			
C. Petka M. Sherlock			
11:30 AM	T. Hernandez	E. Patoriza M. Richard	
LECTORS			
TBD			

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM	J. Moore		
LECTORS			
T. Woodeshick			
9:30 AM	M. Soule		
LECTORS			
D. King			
1:00 PM	TBD		

Thank you to all who help with our various ministries at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception. We are truly grateful for your service to your parishes.

We are always in need of more Lectors, Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers.

Please call your parish offices if you would be interested in joining in with those who already serve.

REUPHOLSTERING THE PEWS

The Contractor has informed us that the material for the pews is scheduled to arrive the end of January.

Therefore, beginning on Monday, February 6, the church will be closed for the week to allow for this work to start. The church will remain closed from February 6 through Saturday morning, February 11. If they do not complete the job in one week, then the church will reclose again on Monday, February 13, until the job is completed. We will have a better idea once they begin the work.

PRIEST STUDY WEEK

The priests are away on a Priest Study Week the week of Feb. 6 through Feb. 10. There will be Mass on Monday, Feb. 6, at Immaculate Conception at 8 am. The rest of the week, there will be no 8 am Mass or service. On Saturday, February 11, Mass will be held at 8 am at ICC followed by confessions from 8:30 to 10 am.

ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

Can you spare an hour to spend with Jesus? Our Adoration Chapel is open from 5 am to 9 pm Monday through Sunday. We have openings where you can spend quality time with Our Lord. Call Joann Pate today at 674-4496 to reserve a time for you.

SUNDAY	6 am, 4 pm, 5pm, 6 pm
MONDAY	5 am, 5 pm
TUESDAY	6 am, 5 pm, 8 pm
SATURDAY	12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

ADULT EDUCATION

The Bible in a Year
With Fr. Mike Schmitz



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>



- A partir del domingo 15 de enero al viernes 27 de enero se harán las nominaciones para elegir la nueva Directiva de Holy Cross 2023-2025. Se repartirán unas hojas para que seleccione a las personas que usted piensa que puede desempeñar los cargos eficazmente bajo la guía del Espíritu Santo. La oración es una parte esencial de todo lo que hacemos en nuestras vidas, siempre teniendo a Cristo como el centro. Reconocer que todo lo que hacemos es únicamente para el Señor y su Santa Iglesia. Trabajar bajo la dirección del Párroco, y ser corresponsables en la misión de la iglesia con otros miembros del clero, con y todo el personal que labora en la parroquia. Objetivo primordial es aumentar la vida espiritual de la parroquia mediante la oración, planificación, implementación y evaluación de la vida espiritual de nuestra comunidad parroquial. Fomentar la importancia de la liturgia y el compromiso de asistir a la celebración de la Misa todos los domingos y días Santos. Salir a la periferia de la iglesia para invitar a los que no se sienten parte de la iglesia. Promocionar todas las actividades sociales y programas relacionados con la oración y el crecimiento espiritual. Comunión, Participación y Misión es nuestro objetivo.
- Lineamientos Generales para las Nominaciones
 1. Todos los candidatos son nominados por los fieles de la comunidad Hispana de la parroquia en general.
 2. El párroco puede elegir a un miembro de la junta directiva o a todos los miembros si así lo cree pertinente.
 3. Buscar candidatos que: Estén inscritos en la parroquia. Tener todos los Sacramentos de Iniciación Cristiana. Lleve, al mismo tiempo, una vida de oración congruente con la fe y con la misión que va a asumir; y seguir las normas de la Iglesia
 - Comprometidos con su Fe Católica y su parroquia
 - Deseo de trabajar para el Señor y su santa Iglesia.
 - Tener un sentido de liderazgo y puedan trabajar con otros.
 - Tener una visión general de toda la parroquia y sus necesidades.
- Estamos organizando una reunión de planeamiento el para el domingo, 5 de marzo en el salón parroquial de eventos. Esta reunión es de suma importancia para planear todas las actividades del próximo año litúrgico que será desde Julio 2023 a Junio 2024. Si usted está interesado en contribuir con ideas, trabajo por el bien común de nuestra comunidad y nuestra parroquia venga a esta reunión, que durara aproximadamente 2 horas. Es una reunión de trabajo y les pedimos encarecidamente de no traer niños, porque es una jornada larga y los niños se inquietan y hay que atenderlos y se hace más larga la reunión. Todos están invitados, todos somos iglesia.
- Si usted desea compartir su talento o quiera participar en alguno de los ministerios por favor comuníquese con la Sra. Arline Dosman o llame a la oficina parroquia al 302-674-5787 ext. 118

ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

- El Retiro de Mount es del 3 al 5 de Febrero, se les dará un paquete con información en la próxima clase.
- Retiro para aquellos que NO van al Retiro de Mount 2000, es el sábado 28 de enero, de 8 am – 8 pm en Santa Cruz, Dover.

CONFIRMACION DE JOVENES:

Quinta Sesión es el Domingo, 1e de febrero, a las 2:30-5pm en el Salón Parroquial.

Clases de Primera Comunión en ICC:

Primera Sesión es el martes 24 de enero de 6:30 – 7:30 en el salón

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Next Class 1/22/2023 3 to 5 pm
Interested in enrolling a student in Religious Education? Registration forms available at
holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation
If you have any questions contact Tammy Korosec either 302-674-5787 x122 or
tkorosec@holycrossdover.org

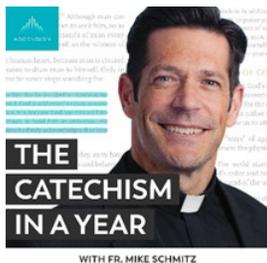
LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)
Next class February 12, 2023 at 10:30 am in the Matthew/Mark Room in the Early Learning Center. Interested in enrolling a student in LAFF? Contact Tammy Korosec.

ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (HC)

"The Eucharist in Scripture" with Scott Hahn
"In The Eucharist in Scripture, discover God's plan as it is expressed through the Bible and the Mass. This six-lesson study, presented by Dr. Scott Hahn, will unlock the meaning of covenant, sacrifice, and sacrament as understood in the Bible, from Genesis through Revelation.

Built around three of Dr. Hahn's foundational talks: "The Lamb's Supper," "The Fourth Cup," and "Consuming the Word," The Eucharist in Scripture examines the biblical foundations of the Eucharist and explores the Church's liturgy as the original context for the books of the Bible."

Classes began January 10th at either 9AM or 7 PM in the Matthew/Mark Room in the Parish Office. This will be a free class. No workbooks will be provided. If you are interested contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122



www.ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminaye ar

CONFIRMATION AT HOLY CROSS

Confirmation Classes

Next classes - Sunday, January 22 and January 25

Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, January 28 at Holy Cross. We will begin at 8 am in the Parish Hall. This retreat is for all those who were unable to attend the overnight retreat in November.

Jesus Night

Open to any teen 6th grade through 12th grade. Friday evening, February 3 from 7-9 pm at Holy Cross. Enjoy a night of fellowship, fun, witness and worship with Damascus Camp. Cost is \$10 per person, and teens must be accompanied by a parent. You must register on line https://www.cdowcym.org/forms/jesus-night-registration/

CHWC - Drexel Hill - June 25 to June 30, 2023

June 25 to June 30, 2023 in Drexel Hill, PA. We have a few spots open - please consider joining us for a week of service, faith, and fellowship. See Mrs. Darling for more details..

Purse Bingo:

Please join us Saturday evening, March 25 for a fun-filled evening, and a chance to win a great purse! Cost is \$30 for 10 games, door prizes and light refreshments served. 50/50 and basket auction tickets available for sale. Must be 18 to play. Please see Linda Darling for tickets - tables of 8 may be reserved. Proceeds go to help our high school teens attend Catholic Heart Work Camp this summer in Drexel Hill, PA. Thank you for your support.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Youth Confirmation for Immaculate Conception: Retreat for those NOT attending Mount, is Saturday, January 28th at Holy Cross from 8am-8pm.

Mount 2000 Retreat is February 3-5th. Information packets will be given at class.

Fifth Session is Sunday, February 12, at 2:30-5pm in the Parish hall.

First Communion classes Immaculate Conception:

First Session is Tuesday, January 24th, 6:30-7:30pm in the ICC hall.

I remember clearly the days before email. It seemed to me that we already had an effective mode of communication. There were the nightly phone calls, notes back and forth between home and school, flyers announcing upcoming events. It all worked. It was all we knew. So why tamper with it? And then, one day, despite all my reservations there appeared a white monstrosity on the tabletop on the other side of my classroom. Holy cow! We all knew change was on the horizon and that Mr. Jara had been working very hard to bring Holy Cross into modern times. But, it all seemed so complicated to me. I wasn't ready. Miles and miles of multi-colored wires were being run above the ceiling into each classroom. Drilling, hammering, hours and hours of labor preceded my being able to look down at the bottom right-hand corner of the computer screen to see if there was a tiny upside-down envelope signaling the receipt of a new communication, known as e-mail. I admit, it wasn't long at all before I just tickled pink to see that little notification. I would find myself slyly sneaking a little peek as I walked around the classroom during instruction.

It goes without saying that all communication between home and school is important, be it electronic or otherwise. This past week I have enjoyed receiving some very encouraging electronic messages from parents that I would like to share by way of communicating important information.

One of the first of the week came from a parent who wanted to express her gratitude for the awesome lesson on Epiphany the After-Care children experienced. Mrs. Horres, one of the after-care associates takes a deep interest in the children. She seized the initiative to create a learning experience for the children by sharing some of her tapestries depicting the Wise Men and their trek to Bethlehem in search of the newborn babe born in a stable. Mrs. Horres presented information to the children, only to learn that they all were very familiar with the story and were spot-on in their responses. She explained that the Feast of the Three Kings was an important family celebration held each year in her home and she wanted to share with them. No celebration is complete without cookies and cupcakes! Miss Eleanor overheard one of the children remark that it was the best After-Care anywhere! We agree. I am grateful to our parent who was moved to email her admiration and appreciation for Mrs. Horres. There are some new prospects on the horizon in the area of after-school extra-curricular activities. I am very excited about the upcoming HC Running Club coached by Mr. Nick Boggs. With his permission I am sharing a little bit of an email I received with a tentative outline for the club.

This inaugural season of the HCRC will focus on a 'survey of running' format. Students from grades 2nd up to 8th grade will experience the three most common running terrains; the track, the trail, and the road.

Students will experience each of these terrains respectively in a month-to-month progression from Saturday, March 4th to Saturday, June 3rd.

Students will spend March training for a 1 Mile track club race. (location TBD).

April will be dedicated to training for a 2 Mile trail race/cross-country (Brecknock Park).

May will be spent training for a local community 5k road race (TBD)

Mr. Boggs is still in the final planning stage of making the HCRC a reality. His concern over the lack of a spring sport for our boys spurred his interest in the club formation. I believe it's a great way for our athletes to keep themselves in shape and take on a new and different endeavor. There is formal information being sent our families by way of the Communicator very soon.

It was about two years ago when I initially spoke with Mrs. Boggs about an after-school activity for our students who would be interested in cake decorating. She, being an expert in the craft, I was sure she would be excited at the prospect of sharing her talent with others. I was right. Mrs. Boggs was super excited and we began discussing details during our first meeting! The extension of the pandemic kept us from seeing our vision become reality. This year, as a coach for our fall soccer season, the club opportunity was placed on hold.

I received an email from Mrs. Boggs last week. She is fully onboard for starting up a club for those who are interested in the beautiful art of cake decorating. I share from Mrs. Boggs email: *"I would like to start this during this spring - Perhaps Feb 3 - 24 unless you think this is too soon. I can set up a registration form using Google and this can be advertised/linked in the Crusader notes."*

Course overview:

What: Cake/cupcake decorating 101 - buttercream

When: Fridays, February 3-24, 3:-4:30pm

Who: Open to students in grades 4th-8th (cap of 16 students)

Where: Holy Cross School - Elementary building (room number?)

Cost: \$25 per student

Due to the nature of this club endeavor, there is the cap set for enrollment. Mrs. Boggs is willing to run the class again in the following four weeks during the month of March. Looking to the future Mrs. Boggs is excited about the prospect of an advanced class as well.

And then, at the very end of the week I received an email from another enthusiastic parent. The email followed a period of planning time on the part of this particular dad who messaged both Mr. Seams and me with a carefully laid out plan and the strong suggestion of the formation of a HC Pickleball Team. He informed us of his passion for the sport, and the fact that it's one of the fastest growing sporting activities in the nation. We are indeed excited and look forward to an eager turnout. Again, look for more information in the Communicator.

I say, keep those emails coming folks, it sure beats those handwritten (perish the thought!) notes back and forth from home!

port 81% of the deaths cited psychological suffering as the reason for euthanasia, and 17 of whom were helped to end their lives because they suffered depression. Since the law was enacted 20 years ago, nearly 30,000 Belgians have been put to death by their doctors.

The Slippery Slope. Initially most of the Belgian patients who were assisted to their death had cancer or other grave illness, then the slippery-slope effect kicked in. In recent years people have also been “euthanized” because they had autism, anorexia, borderline personality disorder, chronic-fatigue syndrome, partial paralysis, blindness/deafness, and manic depression.

Oh! Canada. But enough about Belgium! Much closer to us is a nation with the most Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide deaths in the world: Canada. About eight years ago, the Canadian Supreme Court ruled that seriously ill people with an “irremediable medical condition” had a right to assisted suicide. This led to the passage of the “Medical Assistance in Dying” law — commonly called MAID. And in Canada, like Belgium, the slippery slope proved pretty ding-dong slippery in just a few years time. Here are some examples:

- Last April, two Canadian women sought to be euthanized because they could not find housing that was acceptable for their intolerance to smoke, air fresheners and cleansers. One of the women noted that applying for MAID was “surprisingly much easier” than trying to find housing. One of the two is now dead, the other is awaiting approval.
- Amir Farsoud suffered from depression and back pain but the reason he wanted to die, according to Canadian news outlets, was that his rooming house was on the market and he saw little hope of finding an affordable alternative. He said, “I don’t want to die but I don’t want to be homeless more than I don’t want to die.” In November, he had one of two sign offs needed to be euthanized; while awaiting the second signature, a generous donation allowed him to secure housing, and he cancelled his euthanasia request.
- One veteran reported that a Veteran Affairs caseworker offered to him assisted suicide as an alternative to treatment for PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), while another was offered assisted suicide as an alternative in lieu of needing to get a wheelchair ramp.
- In July 2019, Alan Nichols of British Columbia applied to be euthanized. His application for euthanasia listed only one health condition as the reason for his request to die: hearing loss. He received the requisite approvals, and he was put to death at a local hospital by lethal injection.
- Roger Foley of London, Ontario, age 42, recorded two hospital staffers suggesting euthanasia to him as a remedy for the inadequate housing he was being offered for when he’d leave the hospital. He said, that he is “being pressured into assisted dying by the hospital and Government while they prevent my access to care options I need to live.”

No MAID Service, Please. Now some might say, the Medical Assistance in Dying law (MAID), as well as the earlier ruling of the Canadian Supreme Court, doesn’t allow these egregious actions. But, that terrible law and that terrible court ruling absolutely have open the door to these egregious actions. A 2023 expansion of the MAID law (which would permit euthanasia in for the mentally ill) has been shelved for the time being as this scandal is being investigated.

Over Here. And as I have been reminded, it is not just “over there” but right here. In the United States, ten states (California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Vermont and Washington) along with Washington, D.C. allow assisted suicide/dying.

Everywhere. Let us pray for Belgium, for Canada, for our country, and for our world that the Catholic teaching that human life begins at conception and continues to natural death take hold in the hearts of people, in the halls of justice, and in the houses of legislatures.

Or better, let us boil down the message of life to a simple phrase: Let’s not kill one another. Be it an unexpected pregnancy, be it an old man in a wheelchair, be it a dementia patient in a nursing home, be it a down syndrome child in the womb. Let’s not kill one another. Let’s stop tossing away the lives of the unborn, the uncared for, and the unwell. Or perhaps as Christ put it: *Love one another as I have loved you.*

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor