

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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

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

www.iccmarydel.org

Summer Office Hours: Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., **Closed** Wednesday & Friday
Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.

July 14, 2019 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Weekday Eucharist

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

Holydays of Obligation

As announced in the bulletin

Reconciliation

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

And by appointment at any reasonable time

Pastoral Care and Liturgy

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Timothy J. Brady, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mano Salla, Parochial Vicar

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

Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

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

St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702

The Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dear Parishioners,

This week's column is going to address a touchy subject, but one that I have a responsibility, as Pastor, to put forth to you. In recent weeks and months, there has been increase of folks coming on our property (both at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception) scamming people for money. One such case is a "family" which has stood outside after Sunday mass holding up signs declaring their needs. Another is one of the dozens and dozens who come on our property saying, "My car has run out of gas, and I need money." Another is the multiple folks who land themselves here declaring, "I need money for a bus ticket to... Smyrna, Milford, etc."

A Clever Scheme. I'm going to speak bluntly, these folks are grifters, scam artists. Some of them are immensely clever and come up with grand schemes. I had one guy who lied, LIED, about his daughter being on life support at Kent

General and at 10:30pm at night asked me to go over to the hospital with him. Once we got there, a brief check at the info desk indicated that the daughter wasn't there -- there was no ill daughter. The man then faked confusion and then turned to me and said, "And now I have to go all the way home to [I forget where], and my car is on empty. Can you give me \$20-30 for gas?" As this column is oft read in a Church, I won't tell you what I said to him. It was a scam -- he was scamming for "gas money" -- i.e., likely, drug money. I was equally annoyed with myself for having fell for at least part of his lies.

A Not So Clever Scheme. Others are not so clever. Earlier this year, a man stopped me in the Holy Cross parking lot and told me his car ran out of gas and he needed \$20 for gas. I sent him off the property and told him he may not solicit on private property. A week later, on a Tuesday afternoon, the same man stopped me as I was coming out the rectory at Marydel with the same request. I reminded

him that we had this conversation before. Then later that week, the same man -- the same man -- met me with the same request for a third time outside of Staples on Route 13. He was asking people for "gas money." When he came up to me, he started his spiel until he recognized me and then said, "Never mind."

An Automotive Miracle. One guy two weeks ago told me his car ran out of gas, and that he had to push it into its parking spot (it was parked askew, so as to -- if I were a fool -- believe he pushed it into a spot). He said he needed \$20 for gas. I told him soliciting on this property is not allowed, and that he had five minutes to leave the property or the police would be called. A few minutes later, I saw a miracle: the gas-less car pulled off the property and took off down State Street.

Help Wanted. It has been my experience, and the experience of many who deal with people in need, that people who are truly in need do not panhandle, solicit, or show up at a Church with a sign; rather they seek public assistance, or (from a Church perspective) they might contact the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Holy Cross Samaritan, the Holy Cross Food Pantry or Catholic Charities. Folks that panhandle want cash, not assistance -- and they want cash for some things that Public Assistance, St. Vincent de Paul, the Samaritans, the Food Pantry, and Catholic Charities would never assist them in getting.

A fellow, years ago, who used to work at the Emmanuel Dining Room (a Catholic social outreach program) in Wilmington, once cautioned me as a young priest, to not give money to folks who show up at the Church door. Why? He said that when you give them that cash, you don't know what bad habit you are funding.

In some way, I have been lucky having two parishes, as I have often and frequently got to see these folks at both Holy Cross and at Immaculate Conception Parish -- I see them making the circuit. I sometimes see them at other Churches, likewise, making their pitch.

If you want to help someone in need, the way you help them is to guide them to where they can get help. The people who show up with a story, on Parish property, with their hand out are scamming. They are grifters looking for a quick buck to feed their habit (or make a living grifting). This is not okay.

A Cautionary Note. Please do not, do not, do not, do not give these folks money; it not only potentially feeds their habit/addiction, it also spreads the word that our parishes (HC/ICC) are easy marks. It doesn't serve them well, it doesn't serve you well, and it doesn't serve our parish community well. Additionally, opening your purse or wallet in front of one of these folks puts you in additional dangers of being robbed (and yes, that has happened). Don't do it. There are many ways to help the poor... there are many organizations public and private... in the Church and in the community that help. This how people in need can get the help they need, and the assistance they need. Don't encourage soliciting on Parish property by encouraging those who solicit. Don't fall for these tactics -- and they are tactics.

The Good Samaritan. I am sure when confronted with a situation like this, we all think back to the story of the Good Samaritan, who helped the poor injured man on the side of the road when no one else would. In confronting these situations, we want to be the Good Samaritan, but in trying to do so we may well wind up as the injured person on the side of the road. Prudence needs to be the virtue of the day.

You can think I'm being mean, or cold-hearted, and that's your business. But, part of my work here is to tend to the care of my parish flock. I don't want to see my flock get fleeced. And so, after holding my tongue on this matter for perhaps too long for how these comments might be received, I write this column for the good of both Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, July 14

8:30am Thompson & Harter Family
11:00am Terry Spencer
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Thursday, July 18

7pm Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Sunday, July 21

8:30am Chuck Beck
11:00am For the People
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: \$ 2,885.00
Supplementary: \$ 455.00

Second Collection Today: Supplementary

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

Join our Parish Family...Registration Forms are Available at the front vestibule or the Parish Office

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Altar Servers

July 21

8:30am Mass –Mike Dixon, Averi Locke

11am Mass –Sherlin Santizo, Isaac Meyer

Spanish Misa 1pm – Itzel Roblero, Maria Lopez Matias

Lectors

July 21

8:30am Mass – Deacon James Tormey

11am Mass – Sherry Tucker

Spanish Misa 1pm – Sheila Berduo, Olegario Cuin

Eucharistic Ministers

July 21

8:30am Mass – Charlotte Tormey, Mark Plucenik

11am Mass – Joan Stewart, Jim Ward

Spanish Misa 1pm – Lucia Tomas, Hilario Macario,
Flora Pérez, Román Cuin, Salome Morales

Collection Counters

July 14 Elisa & Tom Costello

July 21 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel

July 28 Ann Lawson & Julia Moore

Church Cleaning Crew

Julio 19, 2019 Grupo #3

Natalia Domingo, Victoriano Pérez, Américo García,
María García, Julio Hernández, **Hayde Fuentes**

Julio 26, 2018 Grupo # 4

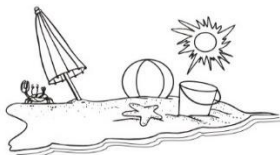
Marinda Escalante, Elías González, Alfonso, Perez,
Oscar Roblero, Edgar Velásquez, Rubelina Ortiz

Knights of Columbus



**Next meeting Tues, July 23,
7pm Meeting in the Knights Hall**
All members are encouraged to attend. Membership is open to men
18 years of age or older who are
practicing Catholics. For more info,

contact Grand Knight, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or
kelley29@comcast.net. Follow us on Facebook @
Knights of Columbus Council 12509



**Before you head
to the beach or
bay, check out the
Vacation Mass
Guide**

<http://www.cdown.org/vmg/>

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, July 14 2:30pm VBS MOVIE DAY

Sun, July 14 3:30pm Jovenes

Tues, Jul 16 1pm Exercise class in hall

Thu, July 18 1pm Exercise class in hall

Fri, July 19 6pm Formacion in Hall

Fri, July 12 7pm Band Practice

Sat, Jul 13 6:30pm Culto



New Lifetouch Church
Directory is coming! Sign
up for your Free 8 x10 and
Directory.

**Sign up for Photo
times TODAY after
Masses.**

Picture timeslots are scheduled for:

8/16 - 1:30 pm to 9 pm

8/17 - 9 am to 4 pm

8/18 - 12 pm to 7 pm

8/26 - 1:30 pm to 9 pm

8/27 - 1:30 pm to 9 pm



Get ready to ROAR at the
VBS Movie Matinee
**TODAY at 2:30pm in
the hall**

Come join us for a free
movie "Nickelodeon's The
Wild Thornberrys Movie"

to help kick off VBS. Registrations for VBS will be
available during the movie. Snacks and drinks will
be provided.

**This is a free event and
all are welcome to attend**

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Parenting Pointer –

Talk about an age appropriate favor that your
child can do for someone on your block (give a
flower, make cookies, mow the lawn...)

Marriage Moment –

It's probably hot. How do you and your beloved
cool off - an iced drink, a swim, a place with air-
conditioning? Think of a way to help someone
who doesn't have AC cool off on a hot day?

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

SRE will start again on September 22, 2019.

Please stop in the office and register your children and reserve their spot now. Do not wait for September! Do it today.

REGISTRATIONS: Registrations for 2018-2019 are now available at the office, and online. Please get your registrations for school of Religious Education this weekend. We would like to have all registered for next year now to plan for materials, classrooms and teachers. Please return registrations to Alicia or office. Fees are as follows: \$40 per child, not to exceed \$150 per family. This is to defray all costs of books, materials, and supplies.

LAS MATRICULAS: para nuestro programa de formación cristiana de niños en domingo están todavía disponibles en el despacho parroquial, en la entrada principal del templo, y en el internet. Favor de someterlas en lo más pronto posible, con la cobra de \$40 por cada niño, y no más de \$150 cada familia.



NEEDED: TEACHERS! APPLY HERE FOR NEXT YEAR! Share your gifts and get the rewards in heaven.

We will need teachers for religious education on Sunday mornings from September to May.

If you see this, and are wondering "is this me?", inquire.



Vacation Bible School

August 5-9th

If you are interested in helping out this year you may contact Kathleen or Meg Haass at Meg Haass at rlhkbh@verizon.net.

Helpers and team leaders are still needed. Registrations are available now, online and at the parish office. Come join the fun!!!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: "Go and do the same!"

Question for Children: Jesus tells us to love today. Name a time when you showed your love for your family or friends during the past week or two.

Question for Youth: The Samaritan reached out to a stranger and helped him. Who are the strangers who you could reach out and help in the coming week or month? How will you respond?

Question for Adults: Jesus tells us today to love God, our neighbor and our self. How will you love God this week? How will you love your neighbor this week? How will you love yourself this week?

15º domingo en tiempo ordinario

Tema: "Ve y haz eso mismo".

Pregunta para los niños: Jesús nos dice hoy que amemos. Nombren una ocasión de la semana pasada o antepasada en la que mostraron su amor por sus familiares o amigos.

Pregunta para los jóvenes: El samaritano extendió su mano para ayudar a una persona extraña. ¿Quiénes serán las personas extrañas a quienes podrían extender su mano para aydar durante la semana o el mes que viene? ¿Cómo responderán?

Pregunta para los adultos: Jesús nos dice hoy que amemos a Dios, a nuestro prójimo y a nosotros mismos. ¿Cómo amarán a Dios esta semana? ¿Cómo amarán a su prójimo esta semana? ¿Cómo se amarán a sí mismos esta semana?

**Are you
being called
to the
priesthood
or religious
life?**



July 14, 2019 "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Faithfulness to one's vocation is essential to holiness. Is yours to be a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call Fr. Norm Carroll 302-573-3113 vocations@cdow.org.

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

COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 14 DE JULIO, 2019.

Queridos feligreses,

La columna de esta semana tocará un tema delicado, pero uno que tengo la responsabilidad, como párroco, de presentarles. En las últimas semanas y meses, ha habido un aumento en el número de personas que vienen a nuestra propiedad (tanto en Holy Cross como en La Inmaculada Concepción) pidiendo o estafando dinero a personas. Uno de esos casos es una "familia" que se quedó afuera después de la misa del domingo sosteniendo carteles que declaran sus necesidades. Otra es una de las docenas y docenas que vienen a nuestra propiedad diciendo: "Mi auto se ha quedado sin gasolina y necesito dinero". Otra es la cantidad de personas que se vienen aquí y dicen: "Necesito dinero para un boleto de autobús para.... Smyrna, Milford, etc."

Un Esquema Sagaz. Voy a hablar sin rodeos, estas personas son timadores, estafadores. Algunos de ellos son inmensamente sagaces y tienen pintan grandes esquemas. Tuve un muchacho que mintió, mintió, acerca de que su hija estaba grave en Kent General y, a las 10:30 pm de la noche, me pidió que fuera al hospital con él. Una vez que llegamos allí, un breve chequeo en el mostrador de información indicó que la hija no estaba allí, no había ninguna hija enferma. Luego el hombre fingió confusión y luego se volvió hacia mí y me dijo: "Y ahora tengo que ir hasta mi casa [ni me acuerdo dónde], y mi auto está vacío. ¿Me puede dar \$ 20-30 para la gasolina?" Como esta columna se lee a menudo en una iglesia, no les diré lo que le dije. Era una estafa, estaba estafando por "dinero de gasolina", es decir, probablemente, dinero de drogas. También me molesté conmigo mismo por haber caído por al menos parte de sus mentiras

Un Esquema NO Tan Inteligente. Otros no son tan sagaces. A principios de este año, un hombre me detuvo en el estacionamiento de la Santa Cruz y me dijo que su auto se quedó sin gasolina y que necesitaba \$ 20 para la gasolina. Lo despedí de la propiedad y le dije que no podía solicitar en propiedad privada. Una semana más tarde, un martes por la tarde, el mismo hombre me detuvo cuando salía de la rectoría de ICC en Marydel con la misma petición. Le recordé que habíamos tenido esta conversación antes. Más tarde, esa misma semana, el mismo hombre, de nuevo se tropieza conmigo con la misma solicitud por tercera vez afuera de Staples en la

ruta 13. Le estaba pidiendo a la gente "dinero de gasolina". Cuando se acercó a mí, comenzó su discurso hasta que me reconoció y luego dijo: " No lo siento". Un Milagro Automovilístico. Hace dos semanas, un hombre me dijo que su auto se quedó sin gasolina y que tuvo que empujarlo en un estacionamiento (estaba estacionado torcido, como si yo fuera un tonto, creer que lo empujó en algún lugar). Dijo que necesitaba \$ 20 para gasolina. Le dije que no estaba permitido solicitar en esta propiedad, y que tenía cinco minutos para abandonar la propiedad o llamaría a la policía. Unos minutos más tarde, vi un milagro: el auto sin gasolina arrancó de la propiedad y salió por State Street.

Se Busca Ayuda. Ha sido mi experiencia, y la experiencia de muchos que tratan con personas necesitadas, que las personas que realmente lo necesitan no piden, ni solicitan, ni se presentan en una Iglesia con un letrado; más bien buscan asistencia pública, o (desde una perspectiva de la Iglesia) se ponen en contacto con la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl, Los Samaritanos de Santa Cruz, la Despensa de Alimentos de la Santa Cruz o las Caridades Católicas. Las personas que no quieren dinero en efectivo quieren efectivo, no asistencia, y quieren efectivo por algunas cosas que la Asistencia Pública, San Vicente de Paul, los Samaritanos, la Despensa de Alimentos y Caridades Católicas nunca les ayudarían a conseguir.

Hace unos años, un compañero que solía trabajar en el Emmanuel Dining Room (un programa de ayuda social católico) en Wilmington, me advirtió como sacerdote joven que no debía dar dinero a las personas que se presentan en la puerta de la Iglesia. ¿Por qué? Dijo que cuando les das dinero, no sabes qué mal hábito estás financiando.

De alguna manera, he tenido suerte al tener dos parroquias, ya que a menudo he visto a estas personas tanto en la Santa Cruz como en la Parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción; las veo haciendo el circuito. A veces los veo en otras Iglesias, también, haciendo su discurso.

Si quieres ayudar a alguien que lo necesita, la forma en que puedes ayudarlo es guiarlo hacia dónde puede obtener ayuda. Las personas que se presentan con una historia, en la propiedad de la parroquia, con su mano extendida están estafando. Son rateros que buscan un dinero rápido para alimentar su hábito (o ganarse la vida). Esto no está bien.

Una Nota de Precaución. Por favor no, no, no, no le dé dinero a estas personas; no solo potencialmente estas alimentando su hábito / adicción, sino que también

hace correr la voz de que nuestras parroquias (HC / ICC) son puntos fáciles. No les sirve bien a ellos, ni le sirve bien a usted, y no le sirve bien a nuestra comunidad parroquial. Además, abrir tu cartera o billetera frente a una de estas personas te pone en peligro de que te roben (y sí, eso ha sucedido). No lo hagas. Hay muchas maneras de ayudar a los pobres... hay muchas organizaciones públicas y privadas... en la Iglesia y en la comunidad que ayudan. Así es como las personas necesitadas pueden obtener la ayuda que necesitan y la asistencia que necesitan. No aliente a solicitar en la propiedad parroquial invitando a aquellos que solicitan. No caigas en estas tácticas, y si son tácticas.

El Buen Samaritano. Estoy seguro de que cuando nos enfrentamos a una situación como esta, todos recordamos la historia del Buen Samaritano, que ayudó al pobre herido en el lado de la carretera cuando nadie más lo haría. Al enfrentar estas situaciones, queremos ser el buen samaritano, pero al tratar de hacerlo, bien podemos terminar como la persona herida en el lado de la carretera. La prudencia debe ser la virtud del día.

Puedes pensar que estoy siendo mezquino o insensible, y eso es asunto tuyo. Pero, parte de mi trabajo aquí es atender el cuidado de mi rebaño parroquial. No quiero ver a mi rebaño desvanecerse. Y así, después de contener mi lengua por quizás durante demasiado tiempo por cómo van a recibir estos comentarios, escribo esta columna por el bienestar de ambas parroquia la Santa Cruz y la Inmaculada Concepción.

Tuyo en Cristo
P. James Lentini
Párroco