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 7, 2019 – Fourteenth 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,

On this weekend, on the heels of Thursday's fireworks and flag-waving celebrations that marked America's celebration of its Independence Day, the words "freedom" and "independence" are likely to heard in conversations, on the news, and from the mouths of many Americans. After all, Independence Day is a celebration of our nation's freedom and independence — and it provides a good starting point for this weekend's column.

A Sting of Freedom. On the subject of freedom and independence, The Young Rascals, a folky-rock group of the late 60s sang, "*Shout it from the mountain on out to the sea / no two ways about it, people got to be free. / If you ask my opinion, my opinion will be / it's a natural situation for man to be free*." Indeed, people strive for freedom! In 1985, singer named Sting stung us with the lyrics, "*If you love somebody, set them free*" from the song of the same name. God, loves us, and he did, in fact set us free: He created us with free will, he freely offered man covenants to remain in his good grace, he freed his Chosen people from slavery to the Egyptians, he freed us freed us from sin and gave us the freedom of the children God, by his salvific death on a Cross. We are endowed by God with freedom!

88,753 Days of Independence. This past week our nation celebrated Independence Day -- the 243rd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence (88,753 days ago). That Declaration formed the philosophical underpinning of the birth of our nation. The drafters of that document made sure to put the contextualization of this Declaration in the framework of man's place in God's creation. One of the most famous quotes from the Declaration of Independence is:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

The point being made: Our happiness, our liberty and our very lives are a direct grant from our Creator (i.e., God). The nature of the world, and each of us, is forged by the creative power of God, who not only creates, but also cares; who not only transcends, but also abides; and who not only commends to us free will, but also trusts us to use that free will righteously. The Christian mind and heart embrace this concept wholeheartedly.

Wronging our Rights. However, in our country and in our culture, over several decades, those rights endowed by our Creator, by God, by Christ, have at times been misused or misunderstood. The right to life, liberty and happiness has morphed into the right to decadence, gratuitous license and self-seeking pleasure. Using what the Creator blessed us with has moved from focusing on God and neighbor, to focusing on the self.

***Spes* Cadets.** *Gaudium et Spes*, meaning Joy and Hope, was a Second Vatican Council document that foresaw and warned of this potential misuse of the freedoms that God gave us. Section 17 of that document stated:

"Only in freedom can man direct himself toward goodness… Often however they foster it perversely as a license for doing whatever pleases them, even if it is evil… God has willed that man remain under the control of his own decisions so that he can seek his Creator…"

License Revocation? What the heck does that quote mean? It means that our freedoms, endowed to us by God, are properly used to bring us closer to the knowledge of God. If what we are doing, by free will, leads us further away from God, then we are misusing our free will. In pragmatic terms: Just because you can do something (freedom), doesn't mean you should do it (prudence). In our world today, the concept of "do whatever you want" has seemingly become a mantra, recited under false guise of freedom. From abortion to assisted suicide to the redefinition of marriage, we are told that all of these developments are mere exercises of "liberty." However, to quote Milton, "*License* [is what] *they mean when they cry liberty*."

Right Turn. So, how do we seek to use free will rightly? Well, continuing from *Gaudium et Spes #17*, the Church teaches that:

"Since man's freedom has been damaged by sin, only by the aid of God's grace can he bring such a relationship with God into full flower. Before the judgment seat of God each man must render an account of his own life, whether he has done good or evil."

In other words, we have to pray fervently to discern God's will, to seek his grace through prayer and the Sacraments, and above all, to remember that in everything we do with the freedom with which we have entrusted, we are answerable to God.

Redemption Center. Jesus Christ, our Lord, died on the Cross showing us that showing great love and following God's call to do good for others carry a cost; freedom isn't free. And Christ redeemed us all on that Cross, so that we could again have that hope of eternal life, eternal liberty and eternal happiness in Heaven. Christ freed us from slavery to sin, and "*if a Son frees you, then you will truly be free*" (John 8:36). And we are truly free. Free to serve God, out of love. However, let me add, that while our nation is independent – and glad to be – we are not. As human beings, the truth is we are dependent: Dependent on God (who grants us our freedom) and on one another. Or, as our Founders stated it in the Declaration of Independence, we should possess "*a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence*" and we should "*mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred Honor*."

Of Spiders and Freedom. On this Independence Day weekend, I remind you that our Lord has created us to be free, and at the same to be holy. As we should have all learned from the *Spider*-Man movies, "*with great power comes great responsibility."* We have freedom, both in our own lives, and in our nation, and our challenge is taking that gift of freedom – of liberty – and to use it well, as Christ would have us use it. To each of you and your families, I say may God bless America, this year and for ages to come! His truth is marching on!

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, July 7
8:30am Louis Adam
11:00am John Carrow
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Thursday, July 11
7pm Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Sunday, July 14
8:30am Thompson & Harter Family
11:00am Terry Spencer
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: $ 3921.00
Supplementary: $ 449.00

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 14
8:30am Mass –Mike Dixon, Anna Clancy
11am Mass –Vince Haas, William Meyer
Spanish Misa 1pm – Darly Ortega, Chelsea Ortiz Gabriel

Lectors

July 14
8:30am Mass – Gerry Godfrey
11am Mass – Jim Ward
Spanish Misa 1pm – Oyuki Galán, José Luis Ramírez

Eucharistic Ministers

July 14
8:30am Mass – Julia Moore, Marilyn Dixon
11am Mass – Bob Vanvessan, Paul Lardizzone
Spanish Misa 1pm – Ovidio Roblero, Natalina Capistran, Salome Morales, Reyna Morales, Dolores Cuin

Collection Counters

July 7 Tom & Mary McGowan
July 14 Elisa & Tom Costello
July 21 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel

Church Cleaning Crew

Julio 12, 2019 Grupo #2
Hortencia Bamaca, Luz Morales, Lilian Díaz Bamaca Rosemery Bamaca, Froilán Berduo, Sheila Berduo

Julio 19, 2019 Grupo #3
Natalia Domingo, Victoriano Pérez, Américo García, María García, Julio Hernández, **Hayde Fuentes**

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.cdow.org/vmg/

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, July 7 3:30pm Jovenes
Tues, Jul 9 1pm Exercise class in hall
Tues, Jul 9 7pm – Juan XXIII
Thu, July 11 1pm Exercise class in hall
Fri, July 12 7pm Band Practice
Sat, Jul 13 6pm Pre-Cana

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

Sunday July 14th 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 –
What do your children want to be when they grow up? Laboring as a peacemaker is a worthy vocation. Talk to your children about how they can be peacemakers with their peers.

Marriage Moment –
As a married couple you are sent to bring good news to the people around you. Who can you lift up today?

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.

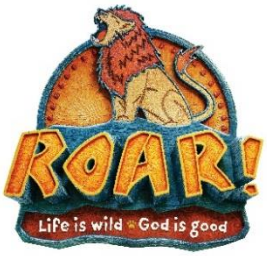
REGISTRATIONS: Registrations for 2018-2019 are now available at the office, and online. Please get your registrations for school of Religious Education this weekend. We would like to have all registered for next year now to plan for materials, classrooms and teachers. Please return registrations to Alicia 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

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: We are called to evangelize.
Question for Children: How do you let others know about your faith?
Question for Youth: Jesus sent the disciples out into the world, but told them that it wouldn't be an easy job. How have you shared your faith with others this past week? What were the risks for you?
Question for Adults: To what part of the harvest are you being sent? What are you being called to do for the Reign of God?

14º domingo en tiempo ordinario

Tema: Somos llamados a evangelizar.
Pregunta para los niños: ¿Cómo les dejan saber a los demás sobre su fe?
Pregunta para los jóvenes: Jesús envió a los discípulos al mundo, pero les dijo que no sería un trabajo fácil. ¿Cómo compartieron su fe con otros la semana pasada? ¿Cuáles fueron sus riesgos?
Pregunta para los adultos: ¿A qué parte de la cosecha son enviados? ¿Qué se les ha pedido que hagan por el Reino de Dios?

Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 7, 2019 "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few." Are you called to be a laborer for Christ as a priest, deacon, brother or sister?
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 7 DE JULIO, 2019.

Queridos feligreses,

En este fin de semana, justo después de los fuegos artificiales del jueves y las celebraciones de la bandera ondeando que marcaron la celebración del Día de la Independencia en Estados Unidos, es probable que se escuchen las palabras “libertad” e “independencia” en las conversaciones, las noticias y la boca de muchos americanos. Después de todo, el Día de la Independencia es una celebración de la libertad e independencia de nuestra nación, y proporciona un buen punto de partida para la columna de este fin de semana.

Un Acicate de Libertad. Sobre el tema de la libertad y la independencia, The Young Rascals, un grupo de rock folclórico de finales de los 60, cantó: “Grita desde la montaña hasta el mar / no hay dos maneras al respecto, la gente tiene que ser libre. / Si me pides mi opinión, mi opinión será / es una situación natural,que el hombre sea libre ". De hecho, ¡la gente lucha por la libertad! En 1985, el cantante llamado Sting nos picó con la letra "Si amas a alguien, déjalo en libertad" de la canción del mismo nombre. Dios nos ama, y lo hizo, de hecho nos liberó: nos creó con libre albedrío, ofreció libremente al hombre alianzas para permanecer en su buena gracia, liberó a su pueblo elegido de la esclavitud de los egipcios, nos liberó a nosotros del pecado y nos dio la libertad de los hijos de Dios, por su muerte salvífica en una cruz.

¡Estamos dotados por Dios de libertad!

88,753 Jornadas de Independencia. La semana pasada, nuestra nación celebró el Día de la Independencia, el 243 aniversario de la firma de la Declaración de Independencia (hace 88,753 días). Esa Declaración formó la base filosófica del nacimiento de nuestra nación. Los redactores de ese documento se aseguraron de poner la contextualización de esta Declaración en el marco del lugar del hombre en la creación de Dios. Una de las citas más famosas de la Declaración de Independencia es:

"Consideramos que estas verdades son evidentes, que todos los hombres son creados iguales, que están dotados por su Creador de ciertos derechos inalienables, que entre estos están la Vida, la Libertad y la búsqueda de la Felicidad". Lo que se señala: nuestra felicidad, nuestra libertad y nuestras propias vidas son una concesión directa de nuestro Creador (es decir, Dios). La naturaleza del mundo, y cada uno de nosotros, está forjada por el poder creativo de Dios, que no solo crea, sino que también se preocupa; quien no solo trasciende, sino que también mora; y quien no solo nos recomienda el libre albedrío, sino que también confía en nosotros para usar ese libre albedrío con rectitud. La mente y el corazón cristianos abrazan este concepto de todo corazón.

Ignominia a Nuestros Derechos. Sin embargo, en nuestro país y en nuestra cultura, a lo largo de varias décadas, esos derechos otorgados por nuestro Creador, por Dios, por Cristo, a veces han sido mal utilizados o mal entendidos. El derecho a la vida, la libertad y la felicidad se han transformado en el derecho a la decadencia, a la licencia gratuita y al placer egoísta. El uso de aquello con lo que el Creador nos bendijo ha pasado de centrarse en Dios y el prójimo, a centrarse en el Yo.

Spes Cadets. Gaudium et Spes, que significa alegría y esperanza en el mundo actual, fue un documento del Concilio Vaticano II que previó y advirtió sobre este posible uso indebido de las libertades que Dios nos dio. La sección 17 de ese documento indicaba:

" La orientación del hombre hacia el bien sólo se logra con el uso de la libertad, la cual posee un valor que nuestros contemporáneos ensalzan con entusiasmo. Y con toda razón. Con frecuencia, sin embargo, la fomentan de forma depravada, como si fuera pura licencia para hacer cualquier cosa, con tal que deleite, aunque sea mala. La verdadera libertad es signo eminente de la imagen divina en el hombre. Dios ha querido dejar al hombre en manos de su propia decisión para que así busque espontáneamente a su Creador ... "

Revocación de la Licencia? ¿Qué diablos significa esa cita? Significa que nuestras libertades, que Dios nos ha dado, se usen adecuadamente para acercarnos más al conocimiento de Dios. Si lo que estamos haciendo, por libre albedrío, nos aleja más de Dios, entonces estamos haciendo mal uso de nuestro libre albedrío. En términos pragmáticos: solo porque puedas hacer algo (libertad), no significa que debas hacerlo (prudencia). En nuestro mundo actual, el concepto de "haz lo que quieras" se ha convertido aparentemente en un mantra, recitado bajo falso pretexto de libertad. Desde el aborto hasta el suicidio asistido y la redefinición del matrimonio, se nos dice que todos estos desarrollos son meros ejercicios de "libertad". Sin embargo, para citar a Milton, "licencia [es lo que] quieren decir cuando claman libertad".

Gire a la Derecha. Entonces, ¿cómo buscamos usar el libre albedrío correctamente? Bueno, continuando desde Gaudium et Spes # 17, la Iglesia enseña que*:*

“La libertad humana, herida por el pecado, para dar la máxima eficacia a esta ordenación a Dios, ha de apoyarse necesariamente en la gracia de Dios. Cada cual tendrá que dar cuenta de su vida ante el tribunal de Dios según la conducta buena o mala que haya observado".

En otras palabras, debemos orar fervientemente para discernir la voluntad de Dios, buscar su gracia a través de la oración y los Sacramentos, y sobre todo, recordar que en todo lo que hacemos con la libertad que hemos confiado, somos responsables ante Dios.

Centro de Redención. Jesucristo, nuestro Señor, murió en la Cruz mostrándonos que demostrar un gran amor y seguir el llamado de Dios para hacer el bien a otros conlleva un

costo; la libertad no es libre Y Cristo nos redimió a todos en esa Cruz, para que podamos tener nuevamente esa esperanza de vida eterna, libertad eterna y felicidad eterna en el Cielo. Cristo nos liberó de la esclavitud al pecado, y *"Si el Hijo los hace libres, ustedes serán realmente libre" (Juan 8:36).* Y somos verdaderamente libres. Libres para servir a Dios, por amor. Sin embargo, permítanme agregar que, si bien nuestra nación es independiente, y alegre de serlo, no lo somos. Como seres humanos, la verdad es que dependemos: dependemos de Dios (quien nos otorga nuestra libertad) y unos de otros. O, como lo declararon nuestros Fundadores en la Declaración de Independencia, deberíamos poseer *"una confianza firme en la protección de la Divina Providencia"* y debemos *"comprometernos mutuamente entre nosotros nuestras vidas, nuestras fortunas y nuestro honor sagrado*".

De Arañas y Libertad. En este fin de semana del Día de la Independencia, les recuerdo que nuestro Señor nos ha creado para ser libres y, al mismo tiempo, para ser santos. Como deberíamos haber aprendido de las películas del Hombre Araña/Spider-Man, *"con gran poder con lleva una gran responsabilidad"*. Tenemos libertad, tanto en nuestras propias vidas como en nuestra nación, y nuestro desafío es tomar ese don de libertad, y usarlo bien, como Cristo quiere que lo usemos. A cada uno de ustedes y a sus familias, digo que Dios bendiga a América, este año y las generaciones venideras. ¡Su verdad está marchando!

Tuyo en Cristo

P. James Lentini

Párroco