



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

July 9, 2023

14th 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



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

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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.



Holy Cross Summer Office Hours for Parish Office and School Office:

Monday thru Thursday : 9 am to 1 pm
Friday: Closed

Immaculate Conception Summer Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9 am to 3 pm
Wednesday and Friday: Closed



ANNUAL APPEAL

Don't forget to contribute to the Catholic Annual Appeal if you have not already done so. We have not met our goal of \$220,000 for Holy Cross. To date \$200,166.47 pledged for Holy Cross.

Immaculate Conception's goal is \$25,000 and to date they have \$21,095.47 pledged.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending June 25, 2023

| OFFERTORY TYPE | RECEIVED | BUDGETED/ NEEDED | DIFFERENCE |
|----------------|-------------|------------------|------------|
| Regular | \$16,439 | \$26,500 | (\$10,071) |
| YTD | \$1,376,629 | \$1,417,000 | (\$40,371) |
| Needs | \$1,531 | \$1,604 | (\$73) |

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending June 25, 2023

| OFFERTORY TYPE | RECEIVED |
|-------------------|----------|
| Regular | \$4,096 |
| Second Collection | \$403 |

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,

There's no accounting for taste, but there can an accounting for faith — a count, or a quantification of some aspects of our faith.

- There is one God.
- There are two testaments – old and new.
- There are three Divine persons, in one God.
- There are four Gospel writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John).
- There are five books in the Pentateuch (the Books of Moses) in the Old Testament, namely, Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Leviticus and Numbers.
- There were six days of Creation – God rested on the seventh day.
- There are seven sacraments instituted by Christ to confer grace.

Seventh: Heaven. That last number, I noted, seven, has a special understanding within the tradition of Scripture, and indeed within our Catholic faith. Seven is deemed the “perfect number.” Thus, we see that number frequently in our faith: there are seven Sacraments, seven Corporal Works of Mercy, seven Spiritual Works of Mercy, seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, seven Joys of the Virgin Mary, seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary, and many other. Our faith is a veritable cornucopia of septuplicate observances! Seven is an important number in our faith.

Behind the Eight Ball. But — using Sesame Street type talk — today's column is not brought to you by the number seven. Today's column is brought to you by the number eight. This column is about the number eight. Eight — in Spanish ocho, in Dutch acht, in Igbo asato, in Zulu eziyisishiyagalombili, in Welsh wyth, in Italian otto... and in Roman numerals: VIII. This column is all about eight.

Eight: Perfect-Plus. It is asserted within Catholic tradition that the number eight (i.e., eight of something), can be deemed analogous to perfection plus one. Eight is kind of analogous to being “all that and a bag of chips,” as the saying goes – the eighth item or observance is the aforementioned “bag of chips” that tops off “all that.” That being said, the number eight is certainly not as commonly found in scripture and faith, as seven.

Seven: More Common. Even in pop culture that is true; seven is the more common found number. For instance, in movies titles, seven is a huge number. There were the movies: “Seven Samurai,” “The Magnificent Seven,” “Seven,” “Seven Years in Tibet” (which felt like 30 years in a movie theatre), “Seven Pounds,” “The Seven-Year Itch,” “Seven Days in May,” “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” and the double delight of “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.” And was there a “Police Academy VII”? My goodness, I hope not.

Super 8. But, what about the number eight? Okay, well, in song, there was “Eight Days a Week” a very Octave-ish song by the Beatles. In movies? There are three films that come to mind are “Eight-Legged Freaks,” the bizarre “Eight Heads in a Duffle Bag,” and my personal favorite “The Adventure of Buckaroo Banzai Across the Eighth Dimension.” So, in short eight ain't no seven in the pop culture realm.

On Octave Duty. However, in the wonderful realm of the Catholic Church we have a great tradition of using the number eight. In addition to the eight Beatitudes, there are periods known as Octaves. When speaking of a holy period of eight days – the Church calls that period “an octave” (from the Latin octava, meaning eight). Now, currently, the Church observes two designated “octaves” or eight-day periods; both revolve around key moments in salvation history.

Eight Ways to Sunday. The first Octave of the Church year is the Octave of Christmas; it is an eight-day celebration of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, stretching from December 25 to January 1. The second Octave is the Octave of Easter; this eight day celebration of the Resurrection of Christ begins on Easter Sunday and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday (a.k.a., the Second Sunday of Easter or “Low Sunday”). During these Octave Days, most especially during the Easter Octave, every day is supposed to be a celebration reflecting back to the first, and most pivotal day, of the Octave (i.e., Christmas Day and Easter Sunday, respectively). In an Octave day is like a Sunday. Interestingly, back in Church history:

- **The Octave of Easter** was always deemed an “octave of the first order” (meaning no other feast but Easter may be observed during the Octave),
- **The Octave of Christmas** was an “octave of the third order” (meaning other holy days can be observed during the Octave).

That tradition has abided over the centuries, thus still today, no other holy days occur during the Easter Octave, while during the Christmas Octave we observe St. Stephen, St. John, the Holy Innocents, St. Thomas Becket, St. Sylvester, and Mary, Mother of God.

And the rest... Now, in the history of the Church, there have been many other Octaves – all of which have faded. There were major octaves: the Octaves of Pentecost, Epiphany, Corpus Christi, Ascension and Sacred Heart; they existed in ranks of first, sec-

(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

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

MAILING ADDRESS

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

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newly registered members:

- Ann Geise
- Charles, Ruby and Anica Bree Tasicco



CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, July 15th, local author and speaker, Marty Mitchell, will discuss his new book, "The Capillaries of Christ: Understanding the Part You Play in His Body." 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. You can see videos of select interviews at YouTube.com/DiocesefWilm. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at [@CatholicForum](http://facebook.com/CatholicForum).

THANKS

Sodality wishes to thank all who purchased baked goods, made donations, or purchased the raffle tickets on Father's Day. The proceeds were as follows:

Raffle: \$70.00 (wone by Mrs. Gloria Hernandez)

Donations: \$286.50

Bake Goods: \$459.00

That makes a total of \$815.50. Thank you so much for supporting the Sodality. Money collected will be used for items for the church.

15TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (JULY 16)

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 55:10-11

The word of the Lord is like rain falling on the earth, enabling it to bear fruit.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:18-23

Humanity, like creation, is waiting for God to set it free.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:1-23

People are like the places where seeds fall—their faith will determine whether there is a harvest of God's riches.

GOLF LEAGUE FUND RAISER

The Holy Cross Golf League is grateful to friends of the church for their support for the Catholic Heart Work Camp. Our Fund Raising Committee including Phil Spampinato, Dan Houghtaling, Wes Grau and Greg Coury have so far raised \$5600 for CHWC. We look Forward to additional fund raising through our Golf Tournament on August 30 at Jonathan's Landing Golf Course. For information about the tournament, contact Phil at 302-382-2979, Wes at 302-270-8111, or Greg at 302-883-4000.

RETROUVAILLE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Ret-ro-vy). Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Upcoming programs will be held August 18 - 20 and again October 6 - 8, 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.

PRO LIFE NEWS

Great news!! The NEW "Her Care Clinic" pregnancy care center will be opening late summer! Located in Seafood, it provides another opportunity to serve women faced with crisis pregnancies and to save even more babies through the use of Ultrasound, counseling and material support. Counseling for Post Abortive Syndrome will be provided too. This is great news as we must step up efforts and be there for women if we want them to choose life!

ANNUAL APPEAL

To date, 2023 Shining the Light of Christ – Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal has raised \$4,865,541.15, 21% of our 62,000 registered households throughout the diocese have participated in the appeal to date.

Once a year, we commit ourselves to the ongoing work of our Church by supporting the life-giving Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal. As we contemplate the theme – Shining the Light of Christ, we are called to reflect on God's incredible generosity and respond with generous giving of our own. With your

MASS INTENTIONS JULY

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 10 MONDAY | |
| HC 8:00 am | Donald Poliquin |
| 11 TUESDAY | |
| HC 8:00 am | Thomas E. Dodd |
| 12 WEDNESDAY | |
| HC 8:15 am | Richard Willemin |
| 13 THURSDAY | |
| HC 8:00 am | Ma Meyeng |
| ICC 6:00 pm | For the People |
| 14 FRIDAY | |
| HC 8:00 am | Robert & John McGlynn |
| 15 SATURDAY | |
| HC 8 am | Alice Harris (LI) |
| HC 5:00 pm | Joseph And Elizabeth D'Aguillo |
| 16 SUNDAY | |
| HC 7:30 am | Teresa Vu |
| ICC 8:30 am | Thomas F. Conlon |
| HC 9:30 am | Mary Stiller |
| ICC 11:00 am | Dave Schepens |
| HC 11:30 am | Margarita Ortiz |
| ICC 1:00 pm | For the People |

(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

participation in the appeal, we are Shining the Light of Christ every day in the compassionate outreach of Catholic Charities, to the least among us; in the joy of new priestly vocations; to the many diocesan ministries and programs that heal, teach and care for others. If you have already made a gift to the 2023 appeal, thank you!

Please consider your participation as we strive to collect our Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal goal. Of our 3,811 households at Holy Cross parish, 123 have participated in the campaign to date. Our parish participation rate is 21%. Of our 275 households at Immaculate Conception, 52 have participated in the campaign to date. Our parish participation rate is 19%.

Every gift is valued and appreciated. Please consider participating, so we can increase our parish participation and meet our goal.

JULY 15/16, 2023

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

P. Gerard C. Helwig
F. Hetinger D. MacLeish

A. Torbert
B. Torbert
C. Torbert

LECTORS

L. Christiansen
F. Urick

7:30 AM

S. Gede P. Jackson
R. O'Neill J. Salamone

L. Bogs
B. Gyamfi
E. Gyamfi

LECTORS

R. Pritchett

9:30 AM

C. Jones K Kelly
S. Lascano D. McGinnis

M. Ford
E. Ksenich
F. Madukwe

LECTORS

C. Petka
M Sherlock

11:30 AM

C. Garcia B. Guzman
A. Luna

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

A. Smith

LECTORS

D. Smith

11:00 AM

B. Van Vessen

LECTORS

S. Tucker

1:00 PM

TBD

Homebound Ministry at Holy Cross
Needs Your Help

Holy Cross is in need of more Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring the Eucharist to the shut ins and those in the nursing homes and hospital. We service so many assisted living places, rehabilitation places, nursing homes, the hospital, and the homebound and do not have enough ministers to lighten the load of those already doing this special ministry. Call the Parish Office if you would be interested in helping in this ministry. The next training will be in the Fall.

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 the Parish Office at 674-5787 to reserve a time for you.

SUNDAY 7 am, 4 pm, 5pm, 8 pm

MONDAY 5 pm

TUESDAY 5 am, 6 am, 5 pm

WEDNESDAY 7 am

FRIDAY 6 am

SATURDAY 5 am, 9 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm

We are looking for a new coordinator for the schedule for the Adoration Chapel. JoAnn and Dwight Pate have been holding this position since the chapel opened, but it is now time to pass on this duty to another volunteer. If you are one of our chapel regulars and would like to consider keeping the schedule for the church, please contact the Parish Office. JoAnn will be willing to show you how easy it is to keep the schedule current. Thanks for your consideration.

MEN OF THE HOLY CROSS (NEW AND MORE CONVENIENT MEETINGS)

It is now easier than ever for you to join the Men of The Holy Cross! You are welcome to come in person or participate from the comfort of your home, sitting in your favorite chair with a cup of coffee. Thanks to our newest innovation (a state of the art "Meeting Owl" which makes you feel like you are there in person), all you need is your smartphone, tablet or computer. Just type in the following link and it will automatically guide you through the Zoom Meeting set up and join our hybrid meeting. <https://zoom.us/j/30861480> Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM You need the ID #83606382292 and pass code 631, for prayer, gospel reflections. Email Steve Balogh with any questions: stephenb_01@yahoo.com.

- Trabajo Comunitario en Nuestra Parroquia. Cada año nuestra comunidad hispana tiene un día de trabajo comunitario en nuestra parroquia. El sábado, 19 de agosto, tendremos un día de Limpieza general en los predios de nuestra parroquia, Se podarán los árboles y arbustos, se pondrá Mulch alrededor de toda a propiedad. Se limpiará dentro y fuera del templo. Necesitamos voluntarios que se anotén y traigan sus herramientas de trabajo. Si quiere ayudar anótese con el presidente de nuestra Junta Directiva el Sr, José Cruz Pérez y su esposa Mireya Rodríguez.
- El domingo, 20 de agosto, después de la misa habrá un entrenamiento para monaguillos los que ya son y están sirviendo y los nuevos que desean servir como monaguillos. Si usted desea que su hijo o hija y si ellos desean servir como monaguillo beberán asistir al entrenamiento con el padre Ferris. Recuerda que es un privilegio y un compromiso que con llevar servir en cualquier ministerio de la iglesia. Por favor anotarse con la Sra. Arline Dosman.
- Conquistando las Naciones Para Cristo les invita a su retiro de Sanación Interior del 28-30 de Julio del 2023. Para hombres y mujeres mayores de 18 años. Inscríbase pronto. Lugar del Retiro parroquia de los Santos Ángeles, Newark, Delaware. Donación: \$125 por persona. Para más información hable con Epitacio Méndez, Martha Espinosa, José Cruz Pérez.
- AÑO DE AVIVAMIENTO PARROQUIAL 11 DE JUNIO 2023- 17 DE JULIO 2024. La segunda fase fomentará la devoción eucarística a nivel parroquial, fortaleciendo nuestra vida litúrgica a través de la celebración fiel de la misa, la adoración eucarística, las misiones, los recursos, la predicación y los movimientos orgánicos del Espíritu Santo. El hoy domingo 11 de junio con la Santa Misa y la Procesión con Jesús Sacramentado alrededor de los predios de nuestra parroquia. Se les pide a todos los ministros que por favor participen.
- La Virgen Peregrina esta visitado casas. Si desea que la imagen de la virgen visite su hogar por una semana por favor de anotarse con la Sra. Martha Espinosa.
- Educación Religiosa: Inscriba a su niño para la Educación Religiosa que ya están abiertas. Si su hijo(a) no está asistiendo a una escuela católica debe de inscribirse en Las aplicaciones están en línea y el 21 de mayo estarán llenando inscripciones después de la misa.

ICC

- Educación Religiosa: Las inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa para el año escolar 2023-2024 ya están abiertas. Inscriba a sus hijos ahora, para que podamos planificar en consecuencia. Las tarifas son de \$50 por 1 niño, \$100 por 2 niños, \$150 por 3 niños y \$180 por más de 4 niños. Después del 1 de julio habrá una tarifa adicional de \$10 por niño. Las clases comienzan el domingo 24 de septiembre de 2023.
- Se necesitan voluntarios. Si usted o alguien que conoce está interesado en ser voluntario, ser un líder de pares para la Educación Religiosa o la Preparación para la Confirmación, comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti @ dre@iccmaydel.org o 410-482-8939.
- Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones: ¡La EBV “Estelar” es para niños de 4 a 16 años! Por favor inscriba a sus hijos para asistir. 31 de julio al 4 de agosto, de 6 a 8:30 p. m. en el Salón Parroquial. Todavía se necesitan voluntarios. Póngase en contacto con Alicia Poppiti si está interesado en ayudar.
- La Inmaculada Concepción Invita a los niños a la EBV Estelar: ¡Brilla la Luz de Jesús! ¡Un evento de verano para niños llamado Stellar VBS donde los niños descubren cómo pueden hacer brillar el amor y la esperanza de Jesús en la vida cotidiana! Los niños participan en memorables actividades de aprendizaje de la Biblia, cantan canciones pegadizas, juegan juegos de trabajo en equipo, preparan y devoran deliciosos dulces. Cada día concluye con un Cierre Cósmico que involucra a todos en vivir lo aprendido. Se alienta a los familiares y amigos a unirse diariamente a este momento especial a las 8:15 p. m. para el Cierre Cósmico. Stellar y funcionará de 6:00 p. m. a 8:30 p. m. todos los días. Para obtener más información, llame a Alicia Poppiti al 410-482-8939. Los niños deben estar inscritos para asistir.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Have a child or children in grades K-8 who need faith formation? Please go to the following link to register for religious education classes. <https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation> If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at either (302) 674-5787 X 122 or email tkorosec@holycrossdover.org

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis) LAFF, Living as a Family of Faith. How is your Faith growing; personally, and as a family? I was once told, "show me a Bible that has not been opened and I'll show you a family falling apart; show me a Bible falling apart, and I'll show you a family living in Faith." Put down the electronics and pick up the Bible and pray together as a family and learn to communicate with God and each other. Learn more about our Faith and the Catholic Church. Understand what "The Source and Summit" of our Catholic Faith is all about. Families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, sharing our Faith Life experiences. Bring your communications equipment with you: Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. BIBLE!

Interested in enrolling your family in the LAFF program for the 2023-24 school year? Please go to the following link to register for the LAFF program using the religious education form. <https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

Reminder - please return your Confirmation Preparation registration if your child will be preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation next spring.

Thank you to all the youth, adults, volunteers who helped with Catholic Heart Work Camp this year. We had a super week at Holy Cross with our groups from Michigan and Wisconsin.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Registration for Religious Education for the 2023-2024 school year are now open.

Please get your children registered now, so that we may plan accordingly. Fees are \$50 for 1 child, \$100 for 2 children, \$150 for 3 children and \$180 for more than 4 children. After July 1st there will be an additional \$10 fee per child.

Volunteers needed! If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, being a peer leader for Religious Education or Confirmation Preparation team member, please contact Alicia Poppiti

@ dre@icmarydel.org or 410-482-8939.

Classes begin on Sunday, September 24th, 2023.

Vacation Bible School: "Stellar" VBS will be here before

you know it!

Please register your children to

attend. **July 31-August 4th, 6-8:30pm** in the

Parish Hall. **Volunteers still need-**

ed. Contact Alicia Poppiti if interested in assisting.



Immaculate Conception Invites Children to Stellar VBS: Shine Jesus' Light!

At Stellar, kids discover how they can shine Jesus' love and hope in everyday life! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' light, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Cosmic Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this **special time at 8:15pm for Cosmic Closing**. Stellar is for **kids from 4 to 16** and will run from **6pm to 8:30pm each day**. For more information, call Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939. Children must be registered to attend.

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL
AFTER-CARE PROGRAM...
IS SEEKING QUALIFIED PERSONNEL:**

- To assist with school-age children during the after school hours: 2:30-5:30 pm.
 - Activities include....
 - ♦ Homework assistance
 - ♦ Indoor and supervised outdoor play
 - ♦ Indoor play:
 - ♦ Arts and crafts
 - ♦ Board games
 - ♦ Magna-Tile Building
 - ♦ Coloring pages
 - ♦ Approved use of electronic devices
- Interested parties **MUST** have previous experience working with children.
- A cleared background check is an additional requirement for this position.

This is an ideal opportunity for someone who LOVES KIDS, and has a few afternoon hours to share.

Please contact Mrs. Linda Pollitt @302-674-5787, ext. 137 if interested, and would like to learn more about this wonderful employment opportunity.

ond and third order. The last of these other major Octaves to be suppressed (i.e., kiboshed) was the Octave of Pentecost in late 1969.

Regarding the Octave of Pentecost. The suppressing of the Pentecost Octave period was one that was of some controversy. It had antiquity to its presence on the Church Calendar, and it was tied to one of the great feasts of the Church year. But in the late 60s and early 70s, many of the Church's practices and traditions fell under the steam-roller of modernization — especially as it related to the Church's calendar. That being said, all changes had to be approved by the Holy Father (Pope Paul VI), and he was bombarded during the late 60s and early 70s with all kinds of proposal that were coming out of the various congregations and dicasteries of the Roman Curia. He had many, many to review and approve (or reject).

Making a Pope Cry. Thus, as the story goes, on Monday, May 18, 1970 — the day after Pentecost Sunday — Pope Paul VI rises early and makes his way to the sacristy of his private chapel to prepare to offer Holy Mass. The sacristan has set out the papal vestments. Pope Paul looked at them, and seemed puzzled. He turned to the Sacristan and asked: "Why are the green vestments laid out? Don't you remember, this is the Octave of Pentecost — the vestments should be red." The sacristan replies that, "Holy Father, it is not the Octave of Pentecost, it is Ordinary Time. The Octave of Pentecost was recently abolished. Pope Paul asked, "Abolished? Who did that?" asks Pope St. Paul. "Your Holiness, you did." And Pope Paul VI wept.

But, Wait, There's More! In addition, the major Octaves mentioned thus far, back-in-the-day there were several other Octaves of lower rank — like an Octave of St. Lawrence, an Octave of the Nativity of John the Baptist, an Octave of All Saints, and others. One of those other octaves that used to exist was the Octave of the Assumption, which originally, informally, was observed in May. Let me expand on that one below:

Regarding the Octave of the Assumption. In the Church today, we still have a vestige of that Octave built upon the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15). As mentioned, there had been a very informal Octave of the Assumption during May in the days that led up to the feast of the "Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen" on May 31. But in 1944, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to be celebrated on August 22, which was the eight day (octave day) of the Assumption (August 15) — which would seem to have trumped the old May octave.

A Crowning Achievement. To solidify this understanding, Pope Paul VI, in 1969, moved the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the Saturday after the Sacred Heart, and simultaneously moved the memorial feast day of the Queenship of Mary (formerly called the feast day of "Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen") to August 22... maintaining that eight-day arc. That arc now reflected and connected, however, Mary's Assumption and her Queenship. This eight day period that from the Assumption (August 15) to the Memorial of the Queenship of Mary can spiritually be — though not formally be — understood as an Octave. It is an eight day period of time, with a specific focus. In this case we understand that Mary was assumed into Heaven, and was crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth. During these eight days it would be good, right and proper, to consider and ponder these glorious mysteries.

A Kinda-Sorta Octave. In this category of informal "Octaves" there was (is) also the eight-day period between the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene (July 22) and St. Martha (July 29) — which forged a sort of informal "Mary-Martha" octave built on the tradition that used to connect these two saints. Today, that feast of St. Martha has been rechristened as Ss. Mary, Martha and Lazarus (Mary of Bethany, Martha and their brother Lazarus)... kind of sheering that long-time connection between the identity of St. Mary Magdalene as being the same as that of Mary of Bethany. However, in a grand historical sense — a sense that was in place for over 1,500 years — the traditional conflation of Mary Magdalene and Mary of Bethany can certainly allow one, devotionally, to see a connection between these two saints. It can also allow one to see this as special eight day period of devotion honoring some of Christ's most faithful followers.

So, this very long tradition of Octaves has an interesting history in our Church — once very common in our worship, it is now limited, officially, to Christmas and Easter. But, ideas of special period of days for prayer continues to find a spiritual need amongst our faithful, and to that end we are blest with many examples of Novena (nine days of prayers) that are still very commonly engaged in by our faithful. At Holy Cross this fall our parish will observe the Holy Cross Novena from September 6-14, and at Immaculate Conception there will be an Immaculate Conception Novena from November 30-December 8. In her care for the faithful, the Church always blessed us with many opportunities for prayer.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini, Pastor