



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

June 13, 2021

11th 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
No choirs at the Masses at the present time; a cantor will be available for the 5 pm and the 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Saturday, 8 am
During Lent, Monday and Friday, 12:10 pm
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-Midnight (temporarily closed)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm
Friday 9 am-noon, closed Wednesday

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish
Saturday, 9 am, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, after 9:00 am Mass
Thursday, 6:30 pm

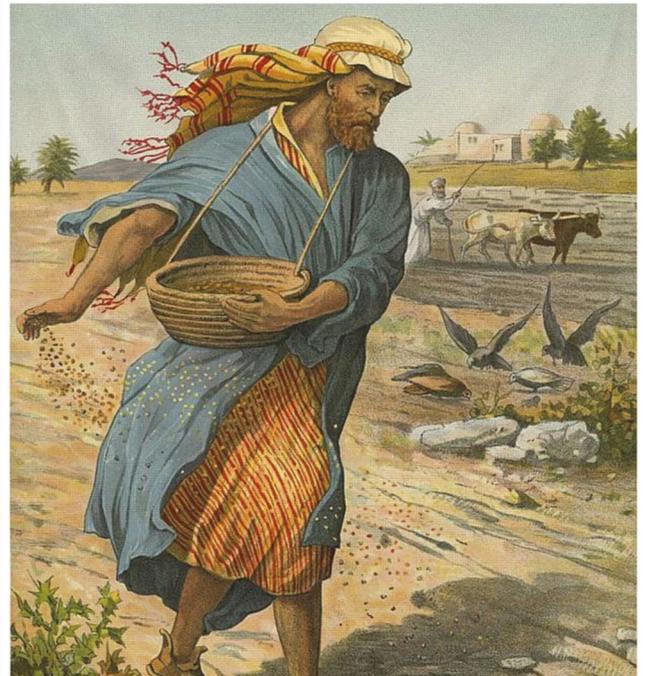
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11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

This is how it is with the kingdom of God;
it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land...
and the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how.

Matthew 13:23-27



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.

THIS WEEK (HC OR ICC)

Check out our websites

holycrossover.org
iccmarylodel.org

Holy Cross Church will be open from 7 am to 7 pm Monday through Saturday, and 7 am to 7 pm on Sunday.

Immaculate Conception will be open daily 9 am to 7 pm.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, parishes must continue to adhere to all health and safety regulations. All pews are now open but we ask you to socially distance yourselves. Use of the hand sanitizer is still requested.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Masses on holy days remains suspended at this time.

Face masks do not have to be worn if you are fully vaccinated. If not, it is recommended that you still wear your face-mask over your nose and mouth. Thank you for your cooperation.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

May 30, 2021

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$26,009	\$27,800	(\$1,791)
YTD	\$1,187,935	\$,334,600	(\$146,665)
Needs	\$1,715	\$1,550	(\$165)

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending May 30, 2021

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$2,882
2nd	\$195

Please continue to mail in your contributions during this time. Many are still not attending Mass but we still need your support. You can also Sign up for Faith Direct or call the office to leave your name and phone number if you wish to make your contribution by a credit card.

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to announce to you that our Parish School's wonderful 8th Grade Class has graduated. We are so very proud of them. This was a unique, and perhaps trying year, at school, but they attended, in-person, all year. And now, they step away from the Crusader kingdom of Holy Cross, out into the world of high school. Let keep them in our prayers as they move on from our school, and let us all wish them the very best. These are our eight grade graduates for the year 2021:

- Oprah Adenaike
- Leah Arndt
- Colin Burke
- Emily Carter
- Jacob Chaney
- Marc Clemente
- Michael Ditchkus
- Tyler Donahoe
- Nicole Duca
- Kendall Gardner
- Vasco Granitto
- Zachary Gray
- Sylvia Ibrahim
- Andrea Kelojou
- Larene Kirby
- Nicholas Kosior
- Emma Kozel
- Javen Kwok
- Allison Lutz
- Marisa Maddalena
- Kathryn Mancuso
- Matthew Minshall
- Madison Neal
- Leo Pate
- Amelia Payus
- Luke Payus
- Kayleigh Perza
- Cassidy Powell
- Kayla Ruof
- Brooke Stumpf
- Kyle Urban
- Ava Vu
- Evangeline Wicks
- Kylie Yiengst
- Mark Younan
- Giusy Zappulo
- Adam Zink

Last weekend the Church celebrated the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ – a major feast day in the Church centered on the Eucharist (just as our lives should be centered on the Eucharist). In addition, to that great high feast day, there are several saint days coming up later in June that are worthy of your spiritual attention. I want to spend this column writing about some of them.

June 22 – St. Thomas More. The famous phrase is oft uttered, “Well, it’s nothing to lose your head over.” Well, for St. Thomas More, indeed his faith was worth losing his head over. More was the Chancellor (Treasurer) of England under King Henry VIII. He refused to recognize Henry’s divorce and remarriage (as did the Pope), as well as Henry’s assertion that The Church of England did not have the Pope as its head, but the King. The story finds St. Thomas More declaring that he is “the king’s servant, but God’s first.” In his unyielding faith, St. Thomas More along with St. John Fisher, a Priest, equally firm in his stand against Henry, were put to death. St. Thomas More was beheaded, and St. John Fisher hung from London Bridge. Henry went on to separate the Church of England from the Catholic Church and to marry more frequently than Zsa Zsa Gabor on a Vegas vacation.

June 24 – St. John the Baptist. If you were putting together a book of lists for great saints, John the Baptist would surely be near the top of that list. Jesus said that there is no man born of woman greater than John the Baptist. So, pretty much, after our Blessed Mother Mary, St. John the Baptist is the grand panjandrum of saints. Interestingly, most saints are honored on the church calendar on their day of death. Only two are honored on their day of birth: Mary (September 8) and St. John the Baptist (June 24). Living in the time of Christ in the early years of the 1st century A.D., John was the son of Ss. Zechariah and Elizabeth. He was the last of the Prophets, and his special mission was to announce the coming of the Messiah to the world.

Some St. John the Baptist Trivia: The timing of this feast day is of significance. On March 25 (The Annunciation), when the Angel of the Lord came to Mary and made known that she would be the Mother of our Savior, the Angel dropped another bit of news (the angel was a bit of a yenta, I guess). She told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was also pregnant – and that she was, in fact in her sixth month (conceiving John, thus, on October 25)! Now this was “good dish” as gossiper might say – because the word around Judah was that Elizabeth couldn’t have children. Mary visited Elizabeth on May 31 (Feast of the Visitation) and they shared the good news. So, what’s the significance of this date, June 24, in all of this? Well, Mary was conceived on December 8th, and born on September 8th – exactly nine months, the ideal length of a pregnancy. Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of Mary on March 25th and born on December 25th – exactly nine months; again, the ideal time frame. John was conceived on October 25th and born on June 24th – one day less than that ideal time frame of nine

HC & ICC CLERGY

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

HC CLERGY

Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	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/Susan Cutrona	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. I18
Tammy Korosec	CRE Religious Ed, ext 122
Linda Darling	Youth Ministry, ext. 123
Justin Wurzel	Maintenance Director
Len Dornberger	Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135
Michael Perza	Dir. of Music Ministry, 302 698 9302

MAILING ADDRESS

Church of the Holy Cross
631 S. State St.
Dover, DE 19901

ICC STAFF

Parish Office	410 482 7687
Marilyn Dixon	Office Manager
Alicia Poppiti	DRE Religious Ed.
Susan Venezia	Bookkeeper
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry

MAILING ADDRESS

Immaculate Conception Church
P. O. Box 399
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

ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

We are making plans to reopen the Adoration Chapel in July. In order to do this, we have to ensure we have enough volunteers to fill the schedule of adorers so the Blessed Sacrament is not left alone.

If you were on the Adoration schedule prior to COVID and the closing of the chapel, we certainly pray you are willing to come back and spend that precious time with Our Lord again in the chapel. Please contact Joann Pate at 674-4496 or call the Parish Office at 674-5787 to let us know you are ready and willing to come back to serve a specific time in the chapel.

Someone will also be in the Gathering Space the weekend of June 19/20 to take sign ups for those returning and for anyone new who would like to spend time in the chapel. We need many new volunteers to step forward so we can keep the chapel open each day. Thank you for considering this great opportunity to spend time with Jesus!!!

FATHER'S DAY DEVOTION

The Knight's of Columbus are hosting a Father's Day Devotion for the Parish on June 17 at 7:30 pm at Holy Cross Church. All are invited to attend.



CHRISTMAS ON THE DANUBE

Join Fr. Ronald Giannone from the Ministry of Caring on a trip to the Danube from December 9 through 17, 2021. For more information, contact Debbe Philips at 302-652-5523 or dphilips@ministryofcaring.org.

READINGS FOR JUNE 20 12TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: JOB 38:1, 8-11

No matter what storms may rage, God has set bounds to them.

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-17

Because Christ has died for us, the life of one is to be lived for the life of all.

GOSPEL: MARK 4:35-41

It doesn't matter what we are threatened with, as long as we remember that Christ is with us to put an end to our fear.

JOYFUL NEWS!

Bishop Malooly, has lifted the dispensation, thereby reinstating the Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligation for Catholics in the Diocese of Wilmington, effective June 26, 2021. The dispensation that went into effect on March 13, 2020, was put in place to help limit the spread of coronavirus, and allow the Diocese of Wilmington to conform to guidelines and regulations adopted by the States of Delaware and Maryland.

Our bishop decided to lift the dispensation because the average number of new cases of COVID-19 continues to decline due to the observance of safety protocols and the increased availability of the vaccine. The obligation does not apply to those who are ill, have been exposed to the virus, or have any serious underlying health conditions.

We welcome and encourage the Faithful to return to full in-person participation of the Sunday Eucharist, the source and summit of our Catholic faith. Let us continue to be united in prayer for one another and for an end to the global pandemic. More information is available at www.cdow.org/coronavirus.

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. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of August 13 - 15, 2021 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.

VOCATIONS

Jesus Saint Junipero Serra, the Franciscan priest who founded nine of California's missions, was a model of perseverance and strong faith. Despite a chronic foot infection, Serra walked more miles in his career than the expeditions of Lewis and Clark and Marco Polo combined, all to spread the Good News.

It was perhaps providential that the founders of Serra International, the organization of lay Catho-

MASS INTENTIONS

JUNE

14 MONDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Odalie Beaugelin
15 TUESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Charles & Christine Hoopengardner
16 WEDNESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Delima Family
17 THURSDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Msgr. Ralph Martin
ICC 6 pm	For the People
18 FRIDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Florence Wisniewski
19 SATURDAY	
HC 8 am	Keith Jousset
HC 5 pm	Samuel & Julia Minnick, Sr.
20 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	Joe McGarrity
ICC 8:30 am	Karen Cairns
HC 9:30 am	James Holder, Jr.
ICC 11 am	Laura Schlaupitz
HC 11:30 am	Father's Day Novena
ICC 1 pm	For the People

(LI = LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

lics who promote vocations, chose Fr. Junipero Serra as their patron in 1935. Now, even more than then, the work of promoting vocations requires perseverance and strong faith.

Please continue to pray for an increase in vocations to priesthood, sisterhood, and brotherhood, and for all vocations to the consecrated life

RECENTLY DECEASED

Condolences to the families of our recently deceased members::

- Robert "Bob" Casey

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

NEWLY REGISTERED

Welcome to our newly registered parishioners:

- John Davis
- Timothy, Lauren, Penelope and Nora Yee
- Michael, Megan, Angelica, Lucas and Colin VanValkenbug

MASS MINISTERS

A SCHEDULE FOR EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS WILL NOT BE PUT OUT AT THIS TIME. PLEASE STEP FORWARD TO ASSIST AT THE MASS YOU ATTEND.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO LET OTHERS HAVE A CHANCE TO COME FORWARD SO THEY, TOO, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST AT MASS. WE HAVE MANY WHO WANT TO ASSIST BUT NEVER GET THE CHANCE TO STEP FORWARD.

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Lector Schedule for June 2021

At Holy Cross:

5 pm Mass

June 12 K. Bassett
June 19 J. Coffield
June 26 F. Urick

7:30 am Mass

June 13 C. Cuffee
June 20 R. Pritchett
June 27 J. Davis

9:30 am Mass

June 13 S. Crossen
June 20 S. Ford
June 27 C. Parks

At Immaculate Conception

8:30 am Mass

June 13 T. Thompson
June 20 K. Cairns
June 27 B. Thompson

11 am Mass

June 13 D. King
June 20 L. Schlaupitz
June 27 A. Meyer

If you wish to be considered to lector at Holy Cross, email Diane at belt@holycrossdover.org so we can add you to the names of those who have already volunteered to lector.

At ICC, please get in touch with Marilyn Dixon at mdixon@iccmarylidel.org Thank you.

DIRECTORIES (HC)

The Parish Directories are in the Parish Office. If you have not picked up your copy yet, please stop by the office to get your copy. It is best to please call ahead of time and we will get your copy and have it ready for you to pick up.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Praying together can be a very important part of your marriage. A first step may be praying for each other even if not in one another's presence.

PARENTING POINTERS

Are your children old enough to help around the house? Anyone over 2 years old can do something like putting a toy away. If you already have a system that works – good. Relax. But maybe it's time to revise responsibilities and help your kids grow up.

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

Pre-need planning. Still trying to decide on what to do with this year's income tax refunds or your COVID stimulus funds? During our lifetime we spend a lot of time planning and preparing for future events, such as weddings, vacations, college for the kids, retirement, etc. It's easy to put off planning for the day when the Lord will call you home. Planning for the inevitable and securing space in our cemetery is a wonderful gift for the whole family. When that day does come, with all its emotional trauma, sparing your spouse and children those difficult decisions is a blessing. Contact Len Dornberger at the parish office for a no obligation discussion.

FAITH DIRECT

This time last year the world was turned upside down due to COVID-19, but our parish ministries continued because so many people needed our help. Recurring gifts helped sustain our parish in unprecedented times, and continue to be a vital source of support for ministries that are a lifeline to those in need in our community.

Life is returning to normal, but so many continue to depend on Church of the Holy Cross. The more people use eGiving, the stronger foundation we will have for ministries that bring hope in times of uncertainty.

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.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

- La virgen Peregrina ya esta visitando casas, si usted desea tener la imagen de la virgen Peregrina en su casa por una semana y rezar con ella el Santo Rosario. Hay que anotarse con la Sra. Marta Espinosa.
- La próxima clase Pre-Bautismal será el miércoles 16 de junio a las 7 de la noche. Para conectarse a la reunión use Meeting ID: 816 5150 4487 contraseña Passcode: Bautismo. La duración es de 1 hora y 30 minutos. Por favor conectarse a tiempo.
- Recomendaciones a los padres de familia para ayudar a su pequeño a tranquilizarse y a involucrarse en la misa. Primero la comunicación y la enseñanza: prepare y hablele a su hijo del lugar sagrado y de Jesús antes de ir a la santa misa y como cada niño se debe comportar y las expectativas que usted tiene como padres del comportamiento de su hijo. Cuando llegue para la misa ocupe los asientos más cercanos al altar los pequeños se sienten más involucrados con la celebración si pueden apreciar lo que realmente está sucediendo. Si se inquieta o llora sáquele al Nártex hasta que se tranquilice; darles una labor en las Misas puede crear en los pequeños una "sentido de responsabilidad y logro", simples como "poner el dinero en la canasta de la colecta". Ayudar al sostenimiento de su iglesia, Explíquele que las veladoras que están en el Nártex no son para jugar son ofrecimientos por una intención de una persona y se deja un donativo por cada vela que se enciende. Nunca deje ir al baño o salir solo a sus hijos, es por su protección.

ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

**** Están abiertas las inscripciones para el próximo año, 2021-2022. Por favor devuelva las aplicaciones antes del 1 de julio, 2021. Tenemos que ordenar libros de antemano para poder empezar el programa de Educación Religiosa y tomar decisiones de ubicación para el año escolar. ** Una mesa se pondrá para inscripciones en frente del salón después de las misas.**

Se están recopilando evaluaciones para las 4 unidades. Por favor, llévelos a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti para obtener su crédito para este año, directora de Educación Religiosa al 410-482-8939 o dre@iccmaryl.org

¡TE NECESITAMOS! NECESITAMOS CATEQUISTAS PARA EL PROXIMO AÑO. Si está pensando esto pue ser su llamado. Comuníquese con la Sra. Alicia Poppiti, Directora de Educación Religiosa al 410-482-8939 o dre@iccmaryl.org

La Escuela Bíblica de Verano empieza el 2 de agosto hasta el 6 de agosto 2021 de 6 -8:30pm

Inscribese antes del 18 de julio. Grados: Pre-K -Sexto grado

¡Se necesitan voluntarios! -Caballeros al Norte del Castillo, guía para el Castillo, Persona para las actividades, persona para las manualidades, persona para la Ciencia, Líder para el canto.

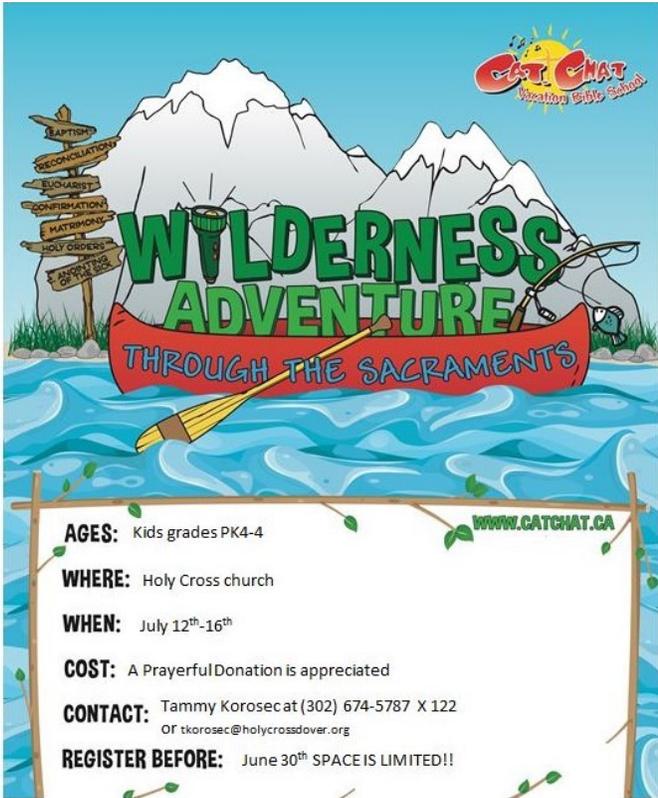
La próxima reunión será el domingo, 6 de junio a las 9:30 en el salón después de la Santa Misa. Si esta interesado llame a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti al 410-482-8939

REGISTRATION FOR 2021/22 REL ED (HC)

2021-2022 Religious Education Class registration forms now available on line at <https://holycrossover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>.

Registration for Religious Education is due July 16, 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! (HC)

Adult and Teen volunteers needed for the "Wilderness Adventure through the Sacraments" Vacation Bible School program. Anyone 18 or older must have a criminal background check completed. If interested please email Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122.

REGISTRATION FOR CONFIRMATION PREPARATION (HC)

Forms to register for Confirmation 2022 Preparation for all high school students not confirmed may be found on the parish website under Teaching the Faith, Sacramental Preparation, Confirmation. to help at the parish and is a huge asset to us.

Please register for Confirmation by July 15, so we can make plans and order the correct amount of materials. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS (HC AND ICC)

The Religious Education and Youth Ministry Offices would like to congratulate the teens who have graduated from our local high schools. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide you and keep you safe in your future endeavors.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SRE (ICC)

***Registration for next year, 2021-2022 has begun. Registrations are due by July 1, 2021. We must order books in advance to receive for start of RE. A table will be set up after Masses in front of the hall for registration, online and at office.

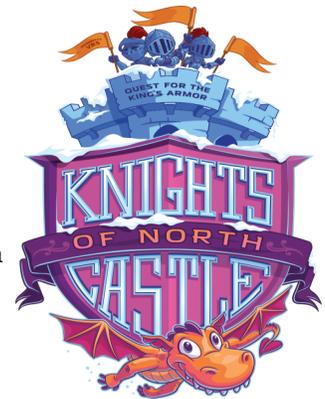
Assesments are being collected: All student assessments that are in their unit packs, for all 4 units, are due to Mrs. Alicia Poppiti when unit is finished. Please hand in for credit for this year. Alicia Poppiti, Director of Religious Education at 410-482-8939 or dre@iccmarylodel.org

WE NEED YOU (ICC)

Catechists needed for next year! Please inquire with Mrs. Poppiti as soon as possible. If you are wondering, then this may be your calling.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Helpers needed! Knights of the North Castle are in need of: Castle Guides, Activities person, crafts person, science person, song leader.



Next Meeting is Sunday, June 6th at 9:30am in hall following Mass.

If interested, please contact Mrs. Poppiti 410-482-8939

Vacation Bible school will run August 2 - August 6, 2021 6-8:30 pm at ICC Hall in Marydel. Ages: PreK 4—6th Register before July 18th.

I, like everyone else arrive to school with an agenda. Some days there are fewer appointments than others. On most days there is time for a quick lunch sitting in front of the computer screen. I am not unlike anyone else. Our teachers quickly consume their lunch in the cafeteria as their students consume theirs. I certainly have no complaints. I could not ask for a better faculty and staff. I could not ask for better students. I could not ask for better parents. No captain commands a ship alone. I remember in an earlier life; I had a supervisor who was very good at delegating responsibility. I say that facetiously, because, in point of fact she did nothing. I was not working in a school setting at the time. I tried my best to be accommodating and work all the odd hours she requested. I had no set schedule. I even worked the overnight shift. On one particular occasion she asked me to work an overnight because her regional supervisors were coming in for an inspection. I agreed. I was there when they arrived. My supervisor received the highest rating given and she took all the credit for herself. I didn't say anything. But my thought was this: You're only as good as your help. As an administrator I have always tried to give credit where it is due, recognizing the contributions made to the overall effort, because I have been blessed with the best.

Our days don't end with the last bell. At 2:00 or so every afternoon the second wave arrives. The silver Tundra pickup rolls in like clockwork, soon to be followed by the black Mustang convertible. These are the vehicles which signal and give me peace of mind for the rest of the school day which will finally end at 6 pm. Mr. Henry, his lovely wife Miss Eleanor and Miss Linda have arrived to get things in order for After-Care. I have the utmost in confidence in these three able bodied and dedicated folks. Miss Eleanor and Miss Linda bring many years of child-care experience to their positions and I value their expertise. The After-Care program was no exception when it came to the impact of the wicked virus. We lost many valuable employees as a result of fear for their personal well-being while trying to stay safe and secure keeping the virus at bay.

There was a brilliantly lit silver lining inside this cloud that hovers (ed?) over the globe. Thanks be to God; we were able to take full advantage of the unfortunate circumstances leading to nationwide colleges and universities having to go virtual for the school year. God always provides for HC needs.

Miss Adele is no stranger to Holy Cross. Miss Adele graduated from Holy Cross six years ago. Now a sophomore at West Chester University, her freshman year was spent in front of a computer screen in Dover instead of enjoying her first year of college life in West Chester PA. I never had the pleasure of teaching Miss Adele and never really came to know her until last year. Miss Adele brings a charm and enthusiasm to all she endeavors. The A/C students love her. She has been an iron-strong link in the proverbial chain that has symbolized our program in the 2020-2021 SY. As important as her contributions to A/C have been to me, I would have been at a complete and total loss without her in the mornings. Bringing her smile and cheerful mood to school every day at 6:30 in the morning to open Before-Care has been a tremendous help to me. She's up to rise and shine every morning and then every afternoon her little black car sits in the middle of the parking lot as she tends to the children's every need. Whew!!! And I think I'm busy! We wish her well in her pursuit of a degree in Communication Science and Speech Disorders.

Miss Taylor came our way through her sweet grandmother, Miss Eleanor. Taylor is a Del-Tech student who will be attending the U/D as a Junior in the fall. We were so grateful that her schedule allowed her to lend us her afternoon hours. I have always admired Taylor for her quick efficiency and mature approach to her duties. She is a very respectful young woman and displays a very professional manner in her interactions with parents and school administration. She loves the children and they love her in return. She will be sorely missed in the fall of 2021 as she opens a new chapter in pursuit of her Early Childhood Education degree.

Our sweet Lord brought **Miss Kelsey** to Holy Cross through Miss Taylor. Both students are studying in the same degree field, Miss Taylor approached me one afternoon and asked if I would be interested in meeting with Miss Kelsey in an attempt to beef up our staff in the A/C. It was a delight to meet with Miss Kelsey. I wish she had come along long before she did. I see Miss Kelsey on most afternoons assisting with homework. She is typically surrounded by four or five young ones who she guides through the intricacies embedded in their math or reading home assignments. I know the parents surely do appreciate Miss Kelsey!

Miss Maya, like Miss Adele is a HCS graduate. Entering her senior year at the U/D, Miss Maya was involved in student teaching this year but she made herself available to us every time she possibly could. Another invaluable piece in the puzzle, Miss Maya is another who possesses all the fine qualities of one who will go on to find great success in the field of education. Already in high demand by others in the field, we are super grateful for any time she is able to share with us. I have already begun dropping a few not-so-subtle hints in hopes of snaring her in the 2022-2023 SY. She hasn't said no.....just yet.

So; do you see what I mean?? I'm blessed with the best!

months. That is the Church using calendar time to express that John, while a great saint, was to be little less in the rankings than Mary (and certainly less than God in the flesh, Jesus).

St. Josemaria Escriva – June 26. In terms of saints, St. Josemaria Escriva, like Markey Mark back in the 1990s, is a new kid on the block. Josemaria Escriva is a 20th century saint, born in 1902 in Spain. Feeling a great calling from God, he went into the seminary and studied for the priesthood. He was ordained in 1925, shortly after the death of his father. In 1928, during a spiritual retreat, Josemaria got an insight, a revelation, of what God was asking of him: to found a group, an order, to promote the universal call to holiness of the people of God. Specifically, it led him to found Opus Dei (literally, work of God), not just an order, but rather a way of sanctification in daily work and in the fulfillment of the Christian's ordinary duties. He did so, and the Opus Dei movement caught fire. He was beatified in 1992 and canonized 2002, by Pope John Paul II. At the canonization, Pope John Paul II honored this saint with these words: "St. Josemaria was chosen by the Lord to proclaim the universal call to holiness and to indicate that everyday life, its customary activities, are a path towards holiness. It could be said that he was the saint of the ordinary." Opus Dei continues its good works, but often gets a bad rap from the media and others who don't understand the movement; they see a secret society when they should see a religious movement.

Ss. Peter and Paul – June 29. Remember Bob Hope? Remember Bing Crosby? (Okay, those under 40 are probably saying "No, I don't"). Well, back in the day they were superstar figures in Hollywood, the former a comedian, the latter a crooner. Well, together they made a series of movies commonly called "The Road Pictures." In these movies, Bob and Bing had travels all over the globe. Ss. Peter and Paul likewise hit the road – and they were key figures not in old Hollywood, but in the early Church. They traveled not to Morocco, Singapore, Rio or Zanzibar – like Hope and Crosby – but rather from Jerusalem to Rome. In the early Church, Ss. Peter and Paul were key figures, leaders, and exemplars – a status they continue to hold today. Thus, this is the highest ranked saint day of the year – it is kind of like the Super Bowl of saint days (without the cool commercials). Ss. Peter and Paul are honored by a day that has the rank of "solemnity" – the highest rank for any holy day. Why do these two saints – one who denied Christ, and other who persecuted Christians – rank so high? Because both ultimately repented and followed the call of Christ, devoting their lives to Christ and doing profound good works in the early Church. Specifically, Peter, the leader of the Apostles became the first Pope, and St. Paul, became the Apostle to Gentiles, evangelizing like crazy and traveling the Mediterranean area like a Carnival Cruise Ship captain! Why are they honored together? Because both had significant roles in the early Church, both wound up imprisoned in Rome around the same time, and both were put to death in Rome. Not surprisingly, both are buried in Rome: St. Peter under the main altar in St. Peter's Basilica and St. Paul in the church of St. Paul-Outside-the-Walls. They are both intimately connected with the Church in Rome and were the two most pivotal figures of the early Church.

The First Martyrs of Rome – June 30. In 64 A.D., much of Rome was destroyed by a fire; many blamed the emperor Nero, for the fire likely started from work being done to enlarge the Emperor's already large palace. But like any bad politician Nero decided to shift the blame -- he did this by accusing the Christians. With Nero's command and assent, Christians were put under an intense time of persecution and put to death, Ss. Peter and Paul among them. According to the historian Tacitus, many Christians were put to death. He wrote: *"Covered with the skins of beasts, they were torn by dogs and perished, or were nailed to crosses, or were doomed to the flames and burnt, to serve as a nightly illumination, when daylight had expired. Nero offered his gardens for the spectacle, and was exhibiting a show in the circus, while he mingled with the people in the dress of a charioteer or stood aloft on a car. Hence, even for criminals who deserved extreme and exemplary punishment, there arose a feeling of compassion; for it was not... for the public good, but to glut one man's cruelty, that they were being destroyed."*

This feast day was formerly called the feast of the Holy Relics, as it was a collective feast to honor all of those martyrs. It had the title, "Feast of the Holy Relic" because on that day in Rome, the relics -- the remains -- of those early saints, contained in reliquaries, were (and still are, to this day) brought out for the faithful to venerate and remember.

Refreshments! So, in these upcoming hot days of June: refresh your body with cool beverage in the shade, and refresh your soul, reflecting on the great lives of the saints who give us all the beautiful example of living lives dedicated to Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior, the Alpha, the Omega — the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor