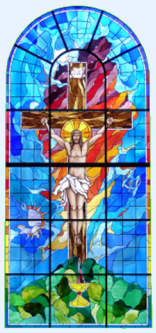


Church of the Holy Cross

631 South State Street
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687
iccmarydel.org

Immaculate Conception

June 21, 2026 — **12th 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

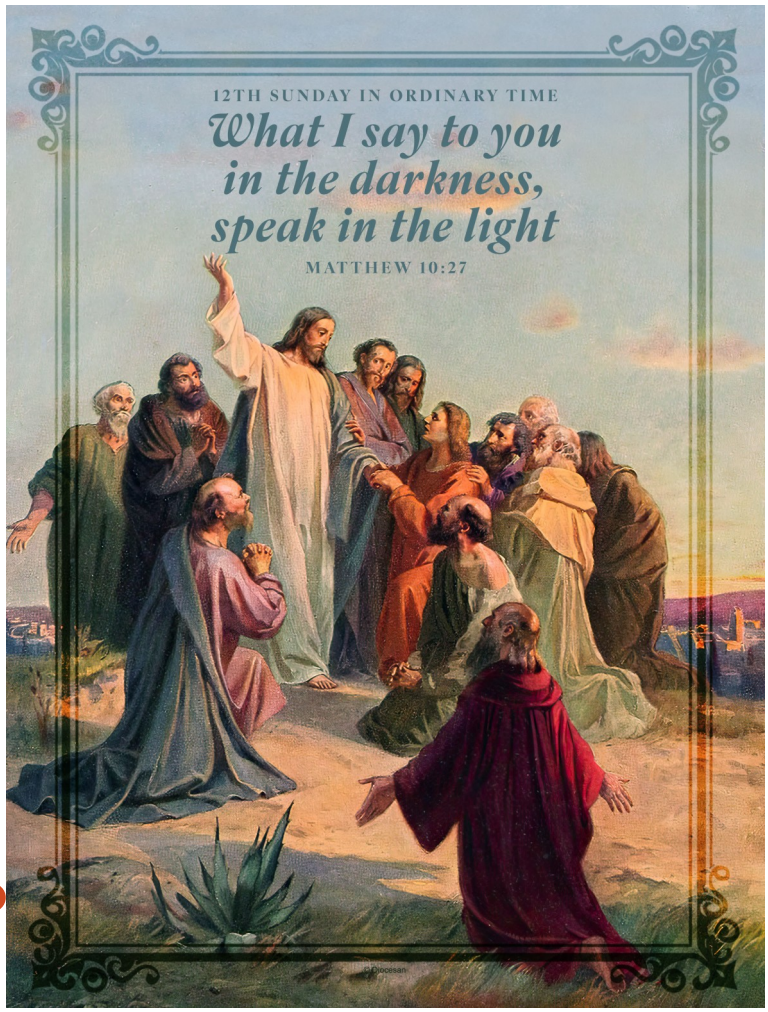
Adoration Chapel Hours
Daily, 5 am—9 pm

icc

Parish Office Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-1 pm
Closed Wednesday and Friday

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

Daily Mass Schedule
Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish



Holy Day Schedule (HC and ICC)
Mary, Mother of God, January 1
Assumption, August 15
All Saints' Day, November 1
Immaculate Conception, December 8

Mass schedules for Holy Days of Obligation and other special days will be printed in the bulletin as each one draws near

sacraments

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.

happenings

Summer Hours

Both Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception are on their Summer Hours through Labor Day.

Holy Cross will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 1 pm. Office is closed on Friday.

Immaculate Conception will be open Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 am to 1 pm. Office is closed on Wednesday and Friday.

July 4th Mass

On Saturday, July 4, Holy Cross will celebrate Mass at 9 am in the church. Celebrating our country's 250th year is a special celebration. We will have our choir sing in our Mass that morning. We invite everyone to attend in thanksgiving for this spedial day for our nation, and ask for a spedial blessing from God for all the good our country has done. The USA is a wonderful place to live and praise God. It will be a Mass filling the air with patriotic hymns.

stewardship

Weekly Offering (HC)

Ending June 7, 2026

Offertory Type	Received	Budgeted/ Needed	Difference
Regular	$25,848	$24,988	$860
YTD	$1,288,422	$1,280,048	$8,374
Needs	$1,687	$1,738	($51)

Weekly Offering (ICC)

Ending June 7, 2026

Offertory Type	Received
Regular	No figures
Second	At time of printing

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.

pastor's column

Dear Parishioner,

Beginnings. I arrived here 19 years ago, in June of 2007, having spent four years as a parochial vicar at St. Ann Parish in Wilmington (2003-07). I was sent down to Holy Cross as a resident; I would live there, but had three assignments, none of which had anything to do with Holy Cross. Bishop Saltarelli directed me to serve as the Chaplain at (and teach at) St. Thomas More Academy, to continue advanced studies at St. Mary's in Baltimore, and to serve as an assistant priest at Good Shepherd Church (Perryville, Md.), St. Theresa Church (Port Deposit, Md.), and St. Agnes Church (Rising Sun, Md.).

At the Academy. In the summer of 2008, Bishop Saltarelli modified that assignment to include teaching more classes at St. Thomas More Academy (while continuing as Chaplain) and continuing my studies. This left me as a "floating priest" on weekends, filling in where needed, when I had no commitments at the High School. I was later — and unexpectedly — made Principal at St. Thomas More Academy and served there until 2013. Those years as Principal were wonderful! To this day, St. Thomas More Academy holds a very special place in my heart and in my memories.

Assignment at Holy Cross. Then came 2013: The Priest Personnel Committee, led by Fr. Jack Mink, informed me that beginning at the end of June, I would become Pastor of Holy Cross Parish, the largest parish in the Diocese. This was very significant to me as Holy Cross was my home parish — I had been a parishioner there; I had taught in the school there; and Fr. Hanley, of happy memory, Pastor of Holy Cross from 1989-2002, along with many of the priests who served there, had nurtured my vocation to the Priesthood. Holy Cross was home for me.

…and Immaculate Conception. I then received a second phone call from the Priest Personnel Committee, informing me of a slight change to the assignment. Effective at the end of June, I would be expecting twins, so to speak: I would become pastor of Holy Cross Parish (Dover, Del.) and Immaculate Conception Parish (Marydel, Md.). These two parishes, I was informed, were to be "twinned," that both Parishes had Hispanic communities, and that I would have to get used to saying Mass in Spanish regularly. When I first started at Immaculate Conception, I didn't start out loving it, but I soon fell in love with it. It holds a special place in my heart.

Days Gone Down. I believe, on June 22, 2013, I became the Pastor of both parishes. And with that, much like on a roller coaster ride, the safety bar was pushed, the Bishop pushed the button, and the ride began. And, oh, what a wild, wonderful ride it has been. It was kind of like a real-life version of Dr. Seuss's "Oh, the Places You'll Go." And now, as I come to my 4,750th and final day as Pastor of Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception (and my 6,937th day, living at Holy Cross Rectory), I look back, yes, at the changes and accomplishments that period, but more so, I remember the people.

Past Pastors. When I became pastor at Holy Cross, four former pastors of the Parish were still living: Msgr. Daniel McGlynn (+2024), Fr. Jack Kavanaugh (+2023), Fr. Thomas Hanley (+2022), and Fr. Thomas Peterman (+2021). Thus, as I leave Holy Cross, I am, as they would say in Latin, sui generis, that alone of my kind: the only living Pastor from Holy Cross. That reminds me both of my age and my own mortality, but also of the giants on whose shoulders I stood during my pastorate. Immaculate Conception fares better in this category, with four past pastors still living.

Past Parochial Vicars. I also have memories of many past parochial vicars who served with me during my time as Pastor of Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception: Fr. Joseph McQuaide (now Chancellor of the Diocese, Judicial Vicar of the Diocese, Pastor of St. Patrick Parish, and Rector of the Cathedral, both in Wilmington, Del.); Fr. John Olsen (Pastor of St. Paul Parish in Wilmington, Del.); Fr. Jones Kukatla (Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Chestertown, Md.); Fr. Anthony Giamello (Pastor of St. John the Apostle Parish, Milford, Del. — now on military deployment — and future Pastor of here beginning October 2024); Fr. John Solomon (Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary, Wilmington, Del.); Fr. Michael Angeloni (Parochial Vicar at Ss. Peter and Paul, Easton, Md.); Fr. Idongiset Etim (now back in Nigeria); Fr. Manohar Sala (now back in India); Fr. Tim Brady (Administrator of St. John the Apostle, Milford, Del., effective June 24); Fr. Brennan Ferris (Parochial Vicar of St. Michael the Archangel, Georgetown, Del.); Fr. Wilson Paulose (Parochial Vicar of St. Christopher Parish, Chester, Md.); Frs. John Enemuo and Rommel Padilla (both current Parochial Vicars here at Holy Cross/Immaculate Conception).

A Special Note. And I would be remiss if I omitted Fr. John Hynes, who came here a few years back, as the retired Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena, in Wilmington, Del., to live with us at the Holy Cross Rectory. He has become a vital part of our ministerial life here at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception Parishes. He is truly a Priest's Priest.

My Dear Deacons. I can't forget my dear, dear Deacons who do so much to keep the wheels of parish ministerial life churning along. Deacons Rich Kosior (the youngin' of our flock of Deacons) and John Harvey both became Deacons during my time here, and continue in their service. They joined Deacons Phil Belt, Bob McMullen, and Vince Pisano, the stalwart crew of Deacons who were here on my arrival and continue to serve today — all of them as young as ever in their fervor to serve the Lord. I also remember those Deacons who served during my pastor but have passed away: Sherman Mitchell (+2025), Scott Peterson (+2023), and Jim Tormey (+2020).

The Faithful. My parishioners at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception are some of the most faithful,

(continued on page 10)

HC & ICC Clergy

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F.	Pastor
Rev. John Enemuo	Parochial Vicar
Rev. Rommel Padilla	Parochial Vicar
Rev. John Hynes	In Residence

HC Clergy

Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	Deacon
Mr. Richard Kosior	Deacon
Mr. Robert McMullen	Deacon
Mr. Vincent Pisano	Deacon

HC Staff

Parish Office	302 674 5787
Lilie Ramos	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
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

Mallory O'Mara	Principal, ext. 111

Mailing Address

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

June 28—13th Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a
Second Reading: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11
Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

Samaritan's Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is in need of the following: Canned Kidney, Black and Pinto Beans, peanut butter, jelly, hamburger helper, one pound bags of rice, Manwich, Cereal, Jell-O, Chicken Broth. These and small packs of meat or burger can be left in the pantry drop off door behind the rectory.

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church is hosting a pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes with Barcelona - **September 13-22, 2026.**
Join Fr. Volodymyr Klanichka and travel to two of the world's most revered pilgrimage sites. Experience the culture and beauty of Portugal, France, and Spain along the way! Double occupancy cost is $4,699 including airfare from Philadelphia and at least one meal each day.
For more information contact Fr. Volodymyr at Vovaklan@gmail.com or visit: https://groups.gocollette.com/en-US/link/1392151

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held the weekend of July 31 - August 2, 2026 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. An additional program will be the weekend of October 2 - 4. For more information, call 215-766-3944 or visit www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Annual Appeal Update

The Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal continues to experience strong support throughout our Diocese. We are grateful to all who have already made a gift or pledge to this year's Appeal.

If you have pledged, please remember that fulfilling your commitment helps provide essential funding for ministries that serve those in need, support Catholic education, assist our parishes, form future priests and deacons, and strengthen the mission of the Church throughout Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore.

If you have not yet participated, there is still time. Every gift, regardless of size, makes a difference. New and returning donors also help our parish qualify for special rebate opportunities that directly benefit local parish ministries and programs. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal.

Newly Baptized

Congratulations to our newly baptized members:

- Madison Garcia-Quiroz; Noelle Cecilia Manriquez; Sophia Grace Sadusky; Presley Jaymes Kodack; Rowyn Annalee Smallwood; Lila Brienne Stratton; Maia Ariella Stratton

Recently Deceased

Our prayers and condolences to the families who have recently lost a loved one:

- Felipa G. Petrosky
- Mike Stachecki
- John Johnson
- Beau Benson

Welcome New Parishioners

We extend a warm welcome to our newly registered members:

- Matthew Tanzy; Greg and Afoan Long, Owen, Clara and Graham Long; Andrew Terrance Heilmann

Prayers for Dads

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of my dad. Please bless him with good health, strength, and peace. Grant him wisdom in his decisions and courage for each day. Surround him with Your love, and let him feel cherished and appreciated.

Mass Intention
June

22 Monday
HC 8:00 am Fr. Giamello (LI)

23 Tuesday
HC 8:00 am Lynn Farley

24 Wednesday
HC 8:15 am Jackie Koniencki

26 Thursday
HC 8:00 am Looney Family
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

26 Friday
HC 8:00 am Dennis Dickerson

27 Saturday
HC 8:00 am Sonya Heilmann
HC 5:00 pm Ruth Johnson

28 Sunday
HC 7:30 am Patria Ayala
ICC 8:30 am Bernard & Eileen Thompson
HC 9:30 am William Molinski, III
ICC 11:00 am Barbara Scheung
HC 11:30 am For the People
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intention of parishioners of Holy Cross.

Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intention of Madeline Chandra.

Did You Know?

Without priests, there are No Sacraments! There is an international group of Catholics who pray daily for priests, and we have a chapter here at Holy Cross, dedicated for our own priests, based on 7 women making a Holy Hour before our Eucharistic High Priest, Jesus, for one priest, every day, very week, for a whole year….hence called **the 7 Sisters Apostolate.** We would love to have you join this effort! **Contact 7sistersapostolate2023@gmail.com** to learn more!

faith in action

faith in action

June 27/28, 2026

	EMHC		Servers
5:00 PM	M. MacLeish M. Miller	G. Richards B. Richards	J. Novack J. Novack
			Lectors
			S. Winfrey L. Christiansen
7:30 AM	W. Thomas M. Jacobs	L. Luckett R. O'Neill	L. Thomas G. Thomas
			Lectors
			J. Davis
9:30 AM	F. Hanlin K. Kelly	S. Lascano L. Olmstead	L. Boggs P. Cusatis
			Lectors
			S. Ford L. Lewandowski
11:30 AM	M. Richard E. Pastoriza	E. Mendez	H. Ayala J. Emiliano
			Lectors
			F. Mendoza M. Neyra

Immaculate Conception

8:30 AM	B. Lawson		
			Lectors
			B. Thompson
11:00 AM	M. Soule		
			Lectors
			L. Schlaupitz

If you are interested in becoming a Lector, Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion, or an Altar Server, please all the Parish Office at Holy Cross. Leave your name and contact information.

As always, we can use more volunteers to become ministers to the sick and homebound. This ministry is growing daily and they so appreciate receiving Our Lord especially since they can't come to Mass. Sign up at the office if you are interested in learning more about this ministry.

this & that

Adoration Chapel

"Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." The Eucharist is a priceless treasure: by not only celebrating it but also by praying before it outside of Mass we are enabled to make contact with the wellspring of grace. St. John Paul II, April 17, 2003

Open hours:
Sunday: 7-8am, 4-5pm, 5-6pm, 6-7pm, 7-8pm 8-9pm
Wednesday: 8-9pm **Thursday:** 8-9pm
Friday: 5-6pm
Saturday: 5-6am, 12-1pm, 1-2pm, 7-8pm 8-9pm

Please leave all candles lit, these candles will last 7 days. If candles are extinguished, they become difficult to light and break holders.

All Eucharistic ministers should use sanitizer (on rear table of the chapel) before holding the Host. Please contact John Murphy to sign up at jkm2015@verizon.net or call 302-233-1779

Rachel's Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of November 6-8, 2026. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with grief and loss from abortion or miscarriage. Whether you are post-abortive or know someone who is, freedom awaits. Contact Nan Bernardo-Freeman at 302-463-7711 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com by October

Saint Mark's High School Class of 1976 50th Class Reunion

Save the date: Sept. 25, 6-10 p.m.: Saint Mark's High School Class of 1976 50th Class Reunion, Christiana Hilton. Saint Mark's is also hosting a Welcome Home Celebration and tour of SMH for Class of 1976 Alumni on Thursday, Sept. 24 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The reunion committee would like to connect with alumni. Contact Patty Curtin White at: patriciacurn@comcast.net or PCurtin@christianacare.org Or Terri Larson Seeman Glennsman@comcast.net (302)893-3479.

Counters Needed

If you have some spare time on Monday mornings, and would like to help the Parish Office count the donations that came during the weekend Masses, please call the Parish Office at 302-674-5787, ext. 110 to leave your name and contact information. We are hoping to establish several counting teams to help with this task each week.

- **Nota de agradecimiento:** Quiero primero agradecer a Dios y a toda la comunidad Hispana, por la oportunidad de servir por dieciocho años como directora del Ministerio Hispano. Otro capitulo del libro de mi vida termina, al jubilarme. Termina mi cargo, pero me voy con la satisfacción de ver que la comunidad ha florecido, ha crecido, el tiempo del Señor es perfecto y sé que El guiará a la nueva administración para trabajar por el bien común del pueblo de Dios. Seguiré sirviendo en lo que el Señor desea de mí. Les pido que oren por mi para que me conceda buena salud, perseverancia y alegría. Gracias nuevamente por su apoyo y cariño durante todos estos años. Al padre Lentini gracias y éxito en su nueva parroquia a Diane, Ken y Linda disfruten de su jubilación y que el Señor los bendiga. Continuemos orando por nuestro nuevo párroco Rev. Giamello y por todos los que sirven esta nación.i
- **Gracias:** Nuestro más sinceros agradecimiento a todos los que ayudaron para la celebración de la solemnidad de Corpus Christi, especialmente a la Junta Directiva, AL grupo de Arte y Ambientación, a los servidores del Altar y a todos en general.
- **Retiro de Sanación Interior:** Conquistando las Naciones para Cristo tiene su retiro para hombres y mujeres mayores de 18 años. Aquí en Holy Cross del 26 de junio al 28 de junio. Donatico $125. Inscripciones es el viernes 26 de 6-8 pm. Por favor lleve artículos personales y cobijas. Para más información llame al 302-415-5036 302-422-5887 o 443-298-9040
- **La Virgen Peregrina:** La Virgen Peregrina está visitando casas, si usted desea que la imagen de la virgen peregrina visite su casa por una semana, hable con nuestra hermana Marta Espinosa.
- **Jesús te Invita** a que pases una hora con El: Capilla de Adoración Eucarística: «Ven y pase una hora con Jesús en el Santísimo Sacramento. Para anotarse llame a la oficina parroquial.
- **Educación Religiosa y La Escuela Bíblica de Verano VBS:** Escuela Bíblica de Verano el Programa de Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones 2026 de Holy Cross"¡Aventura en el Desierto a Través de los Sacramentos!" Este programa está diseñado para ayudar a los niños a descubrir la vida y las enseñanzas de Cristo y acercarse más a Él a través de los Sacramentos. ¡Los niños se divertirán aprendiendo un sacramento diferente cada día!. El programa se llevará a cabo del 6 al 10 de julio, de 8:45 a. m. a 12:30 p. m. (nuevo horario).Los niños de Pre-K4 a 4.º grado estarán en el Centro de Aprendizaje Temprano, y los "Santos en Entrenamiento" de 5.º y 6.º grado estarán en las salas Mateo/Marcos y Lucas de la Oficina Parroquial (2.º piso del edificio del ELC).Ya pronto van a estar abiertas las inscripciones.es muy importante que su hijo(a) asista a las clases de Educación Religiosa. La Oficina de Educación Religiosa se encuentra en el segundo piso del ELC. El horario habitual de oficina es de lunes a jueves, de 8:30 a. m. a 3:30 p. m.Cupo es limitado. Las clases de educación religiosa se imparten en la Escuela Primaria Holy Cross Para más información comuníquese con: Sra. Tammy Korosec Coordinadora de Educación Religiosa email -tkorosec@holycrossdover.org o llame al 302.674.5787 ext 122
- **APOSTOLADO DE LAS SIETE HERMANAS EN LA SANTA CRUZ** ¿Sabías que...? ¡Sin sacerdotes, No hay Sacramentos! Existe un grupo internacional de católicos que rezan diariamente por un sacerdote, y aquí en Holy Cross tenemos un grupo dedicado a nuestro propio sacerdote. Este grupo se basa en que siete mujeres hacen una Hora Santa ante nuestro Sumo Sacerdote Eucarístico, Jesús, por un sacerdote, todos los días, todas las semanas, durante todo un año… de ahí el nombre de Apostolado de las Siete Hermanitas. Nos encantaría que te unieras a esta iniciativa. Al fortalecer al sacerdote, fortaleces a toda la Iglesia Contacto: Delizabeth Díaz-Martínez correo electrónico 7sistersapostolate2023@gmail.com
- **Voluntarios:** Se necesitan catequistas para el año escolar 2026-2027º si usted está interesado en participar y compartir sus talentos como lector, ministerio de música, ujier, ministros Extraordinario de la Comunión, Arte y Ambientación, dar Clases Pre-Bautismales. Por favor hable con los coordinadores de los ministerios o llame a la oficina al 302-674-5787 ext. 118.

PARROQUIA DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCION- MARYDEL

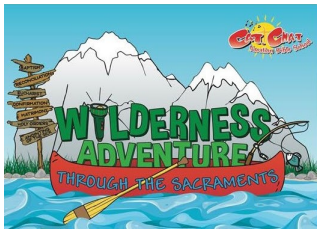
- **Inscripciones para la Escuela Dominical:** Ya se están recibiendo inscripciones para el próximo año. Por favor, inscriban a sus hijos ahora para asegurar su lugar en una clase aquí en la Inmaculada Concepción. Se necesitan catequistas para el año escolar 2026-2027. Si desean colaborar con la Educación Religiosa o con la Escuela Bíblica de Verano, por favor comuníquense con Alicia Poppiti al 410-482-8939 o a dre@iccmarydel.org. Ofrecemos clases desde septiembre hasta mayo. Se proporcionará capacitación y formación. Por favor, disciernan si esta es su manera de contribuir con la comunidad de la Iglesia.
- **La Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones:** Ya está en preparación. Se llevará a cabo del 3 al 7 de agosto. Pronto se anunciará la fecha de una reunión de planificación. Avísenles a Meg o a la Sra. Alicia si están interesados en colaborar este año. Nuestro tema será "Rainforest Falls" (Cascadas de la Selva Tropical). Si desean colaborar con la Educación Religiosa o con la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones, por favor comuníquense con Alicia Poppiti al 410-482-8939 o a dre@iccmarydel.org.

faith formation

Religious Ed at Holy Cross

Registration for the 2026-27 Religious Education School Year is now open. Click on the QR Code to go to the website:

Registration open for the 2026-27 Vacation Bible School!



Click the QR Code for Registration information:

If you have any questions please contact Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122.

Adult Religious Education Classes

2026-27 Class – Beginning on September 8th

If you have any questions or would like to order the workbook set, please contact Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122.

Do you have a love for Jesus and a desire to share that with the next generation? Do you feel called to evangelization?

We are looking for a few good team members for our Holy Cross Religious Education program, Confirmation and Youth Ministry and the Holy Cross Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) team. No experience is needed, just a willing heart to be a witness to your faith to others! If interested, please email Tammy Korosec, Coordinator of Religious Education at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org with your contact information and area of interest. You may also call (302) 674-5787 X 122 with any questions.

Youth Ministry

Registration for Confirmation Preparation 2027: May be found on the church website under Confirmation 2027.

++

Religious Education at ICC

Vacation Bible School is in the works. "Rainforest Falls": August 3-August 7. A planning meeting was had and a training date will be set up. Let us know if you are interested in helping out. Let Meg or Ms. Alicia know if you are interested in helping out this year.

SRE: Registrations are being taken now for next year. Please get your children registered now to save their place in a class here at Immaculate Conception.

Catechists, assistants, and aids are needed for the 2026-2027 school year. Kindergarten, Grade 5 and assistants for several grades. We have classes from September -May. Training and formation provided. Please decern whether this is your way of giving back to the Church community. Any questions, please feel free to contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 or dre@iccmarydel.org

Immaculate Conception: Religious Education- In need of persons with a desire to broaden your faith while teaching others the Catholic faith. Call Alicia Poppiti 410-482-8939 to inquire. Kindergarten and 5th grade Catechist needed.

Adult Education Opportunities

Catechism in a Year:
https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear

Bible in a Year: In English: Father Mik Schmitz https://media.ascensionpress.com all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/

In Spanish:
Fray Sergio Serrano https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-espanol-registration

Dear Parishioners,

As we settle into the summer months, Holy Cross School has entered a new season. This past week marked the first full week without students and teachers on campus as everyone began their well deserved summer break. While the quieter hallways are certainly a sign that summer has arrived, I must admit that our campus feels very different without the joyful presence of our students and faculty. We already miss the smiling faces, the excitement of learning, and the laughter that fills our buildings throughout the school year.

Although we have transitioned to our summer schedule, it has still been a very busy and productive week. Earlier this week, our Diocese of Wilmington hosted an advancement seminar at Padua Academy. Our Director of Admissions and I had the opportunity to attend and learn more about how we can continue to share the incredible story of Holy Cross with prospective families and the wider community. It was a valuable day filled with ideas, collaboration, and professional growth. We are grateful to our diocesan leadership for providing opportunities that help strengthen our schools and support our mission.

Summer is always an important time of preparation and renewal. While students are enjoying a well earned break, our team is already hard at work planning for another successful school year. We are especially excited to welcome several new staff members to the Holy Cross family. Over the coming weeks, we will continue our hiring process and look forward to introducing our newest faculty and staff members to the community in August. At this time, we are still seeking dedicated educators to join our First Grade and Second Grade teams. Please keep us in your prayers as we work to find the right individuals to continue our tradition of academic excellence and faith formation.

There is also a great deal of activity taking place throughout our buildings this summer. Classrooms have been emptied and are being prepared for a thorough deep cleaning. We have already begun several classroom moves and building improvements that will help us better serve our growing student population.

One exciting change for the coming school year is the addition of a third Pre K Four classroom. Our Early Childhood Center will now include two Pre K Three classrooms and three Pre K Four classrooms. In our elementary building, we are adding a second First Grade classroom and a second Third Grade classroom, ensuring that every grade level has either two or three sections. We are also completing renovations to our library, creating a dedicated teacher workroom, and refreshing our campus with new paint and improvements throughout the school. We are especially excited for the renovation of our cafeteria which we are able to do because of our generous donors and community that helped contribute to our annual Walk a Thon back in May.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our teachers and staff for their flexibility and support as we make these transitions. Their commitment to our students and school community continues to inspire me each day.
As summer continues, we look forward to sharing updates on these projects, introducing new staff members, and preparing for another wonderful year at Holy Cross. Until then, I hope all of our families are enjoying time together, making memories, and finding opportunities for rest, relaxation, and sunshine.

May God bless you and your families throughout the summer season.

Mrs. O'Mara

devoted Catholics I could ever hope to meet. Prayerful, dedicated, immensely pro-life, and deeply devoted. You have certainly proven a great witness of faith for me. Our morning Mass crowd at Holy Cross, every day, is probably the largest weekday Mass crowd anywhere in our Diocese — your devotion is inspiring and appreciated. A special shout-out to my Hispanic communities at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception — you guys are all that and a bag of chips. Your love of God, devotion to Mary, and Catholic identity — and your energy level — all gave me a boost. And a special thanks for tolerating my bad Brooklyn-covered Spanish! Los voy a extrañar mucho a todos.

The Crew. Pivotal in my time here at Holy Cross is our office staff. I'll start with those leaving:

- **Diane Belt,** Office Manager and Assistant to the Pastor, has been a key member of the team here at Holy Cross. In a different era, she would have been called a Girl Friday; she has been my right-hand man (woman) since I arrived here. She retires this year after nearly 30+ years of commendable service in that role to three pastors: Fr. Thomas Hanley, Msgr. Daniel McGlynn, and yours truly.
- **Ken Trojan,** Business Manager and Parish Manager/Business Manager since the early 1990s, has been part of the Holy Cross landscape and overseen the financial operations of the parish for over 35 years. He is a dedicated manager and part of the office's institutional memory. He is retiring this year after many years of service.
- **Arline Dosman,** Director of Hispanic Ministry since 2013, helped me come to know and understand the Hispanic Community both at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception Parish. She tolerated my bad Spanish and helped me in my work in Hispanic Ministry. She has been at the heart of the Hispanic Ministry at Holy Cross since the early 1990s. Arline retires this year after 13 years as Director of Hispanic Ministry. Mis mejores deseos y que Dios te bendiga, buena amiga, al comenzar tu etapa de jubilación.
- **Linda Darling,** Director of Youth Ministry since 2014, has overseen our Confirmation prep program at Holy Cross (one of the largest in the Diocese) and our participation in and sponsorship of Catholic Heart Work Camp. Linda was also my kind, caring, and competent business manager at St. Thomas More Academy during my time as Principal there. She retires this year after many years of service and 12 years as Director of Youth Ministry.
- And also… I would be remiss if I failed to note **Linda Pollitt,** the Principal of Holy Cross School from 2015 to 2024. Years ago, before becoming a Priest, I worked on the faculty of Holy Cross School — Linda started there in the late 1980s, and I in the early 1990s. She was a math teacher here. She is the math teacher against whom all math teachers should be measured. A practicing and devoted Catholic, she was the Principal who began the much-needed rebuilding of our school's enrollment. She and I share a love of tea, education, and the faith!

Remembering at Marydel… On the Marydel side, not a visit to Immaculate Conception goes by when I don't remember the wonderful parish secretary Marge (actually Margot - but no one dared call her that) Messner. For 35 years, she was the face of Marydel, having served, I believe, 10 pastors and/or administrators. Marge, I hit it off on day one; she helped this city boy get used to the ways of the Catholic Church in rural Maryland. She passed away in 2020.

Of our current staff: At Immaculate Conception. I would be lost without the ladies of the IC office: Marylin Dixon (Office Manager) keeps the operations moving, and keeps me informed of everything I need to know); Susan Venezia (Bookkeeper) is a good friend, a funny lady, and one heck of a bookkeeper — and for years was keeper of the special pen I signed checks with; and Alicia Poppiti (Director of Religious Ed.) - she runs religious for kids, adult, RCIA, and can be found in the office days, nights and weekends steeped in much paper and much good work.

Of our current staff: At Holy Cross. Mallory O'Mara (Principal of Holy Cross School) is wonderful, energetic, and creative, and continues to oversee enrollment growth. As a fellow New Yorker, I will miss our regular conversations and discussions about all topics far and wide. Justin Wurzel (Director of Maintenance). Justin and his assistant, Earl Wilson, have been two key players on the game board of Holy Cross — keeping things running, fixing the broken, replacing the unfixable, and being two of the hardest workers one could ever hope for. Tammy Korosec (Director of Religious Ed) loves her faith, loves sharing faith, and runs our religious education program from the heart. Len Dorenberger (Director of the Cemetery) oversees Holy Cross Cemetery with dedication and care. Michelle Dorenberger (School Front Desk Secretary and, next year, Office Administrator) is a dedicated employee, team player, and fellow fan of TV and pop culture. I will miss our amusing TV-based texts!

I can hear Diane Belt saying: The column is too long, wrap it up!

Let me also thank the many ladies of our front desk staff over the years, our school's wonderful secretaries, our gymnasium folks, our wonderful, wonderful, wonderful teachers, school aides, and staff, our past teacher, my crew from my St. Thomas More Academy days, and anyone else I may have forgotten. I wish I had 100 more pages to thank you all. You are all part and parcel of the story of my time here at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception. I will miss you and pray for you often. Please keep me in your prayers. I will leave with a pop culture reference, as is my wont: Recalling the title of the final episode of the TV series M*A*S*H, I say to you: "Goodbye, Farewell, Amen."

Yours in Christ,

Fr. James Lentini, Pastor