

# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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

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

[www.iccmarydel.org](http://www.iccmarydel.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday 9:30-12noon, Closed Wednesdays

*Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.*

## March 10, 2019 – First Sunday of Lent

### Eucharist of the Lord's Day

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

#### Weekday Eucharist

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

#### Holydays of Obligation

As announced in the bulletin

#### Reconciliation

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

And by appointment at any reasonable time

#### Pastoral Care and Liturgy

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

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

#### Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

#### Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

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

**St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702**

### The Sacraments

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dear Parishioners,

**Numbers:** They quantify (e.g., 12 in a dozen) and identify (e.g., he's 6th from the left) for us. They are part of our language and often carry meanings beyond their quantification and identification value. Thus, we know 13 is "bad luck," 666 is the mark of the beast, three is a crowd and seven is counted the perfect number. On TV we recall some numbers, too: "77 Sunset Strip," "90210," "60 Minutes," "30 Rock," and "227." Paul Simon enumerated the "50 Ways to Leave Your Lover," while rock band Chicago announced the time as being "25-or-6 to 4." And we all know what the IRS' 1040 is during tax season, we gamble on a 50/50 raffle, we grab a Slurpee at the 7-11, we love the adventures of .007, and we know Ivory Soap is 99.44/100% pure.

However, as we enter the season of Lent, we have another number in mind, a spiritual one: 40. That number, 40, is so very much associated with Lent, that in Latin, the official language of Catholicism, the season is called "Quadragesima," which means "40th"

as in 40th day until Easter. From this Latin word, many romance languages derive their name for Lent: in Spanish Lent is called "Cuaresma" and in Italian "Quaresima."

**What's up with 40?** So, why 40? Why not 50 days or 60 days or perhaps 33 days? Well, the number 40 has a special place in salvation history – and that number occurs repeatedly through the Scriptures. If I had to specify what the commonality of all of the Biblical references to the number 40 is, I'd have to say that it speaks to an amount necessary to accomplish a part of God's plan. In some cases, it also carries the sense of being a period of testing.

#### Forty-fied Biblical History

So, where in the Bible are those many 40s of which I spoke? Let's step into the Wayback Machine and set the dial to the time of Noah, and from there we will work forward in time. On this basis we will examine those funky 40s of the Bible.

- In Genesis, God spares Noah and his family during

the cleansing of the earth by the great flood caused by a rainstorm of 40 days and 40 nights. After those 40 days, life began anew for the faithful on the ark.

- In Exodus, Moses led the Jewish people out of Egypt, with the destination being the Promised Land. Fast forward, 40 years later they finally got there. This was a 40-year period that served to both test the faith of Moses and his people and re-establish the chosen people in the land given them by God. Perhaps it took 40 years to get from Egypt to Israel was because as a man, Moses refused to stop and ask directions.
- Also, in Exodus 34:28, we learn that Moses spent 40 days with God on Mt. Sinai. It was at the end of this 40-day period that we, by way of Moses, received the Ten Commandments.
- In Deuteronomy, forty is noted as the acceptable amount of punishment by whipping (40 lashes).
- In Judges, we are told that a judge named Abdon had 40 sons (12:14). Now, this would certainly beat out the number of kids in the cast of the "Brady Bunch" and "Eight is Enough" by a large stretch. As I mentioned, one of the aspects of the number 40 in scripture is that it can portend a testing of a person. I have to imagine that having 40 kids would be quite a test.
- Then in Judge 13:1, the Israelites "did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, who therefore delivered them into the power of the Philistines for forty years." Much like the 40 lashes mentioned in Deuteronomy, it was deemed that 40 was the proper number for years of punishment due. And this really was a punishment, because the Philistines were, well, Philistines. It would be like being sent to live under the rule of Californians for 40 years – I know, I know... it gave me a shudder up my spine, too.
- King Saul, King David and King Solomon each ruled Israel for 40 years.
- In the Book of the Prophet Jonah, God gave the people of Nineveh 40 days to repent from their sins. This Biblical story speaks very clearly to our

idea of the 40 days of Lent being used as a time to turn back to God.

- In the First Book of Kings, an angel tells Elijah that he must eat and drink to have strength for the journey he was on. He did so, and was able to continue his trek for 40 days. Holy Gatorade, Batman! That's a show of hearing and heeding God's message that can prepare one for endurance.

### **Meanwhile in the New Testament**

Mary carried Jesus in her womb from the Annunciation until Christmas – 40 weeks.

- Jesus fasted for 40 days and nights in the desert, in preparation for his public ministry. During that time, he was tempted by the Devil, but nonetheless fended off those temptations (FYI: in the Scripture, Christ spoke exactly 40 words in rebuke of the Devil!) It is Christ's 40 days in the desert that we most closely relate to the season of Lent. The Church teaches us in the Catechism of the Catholic Church #540 this is, in fact, basis of the Season of Lent: "By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert"
- We read in the Acts of the Apostles, that after his resurrection from the dead, Jesus remained on earth for 40 more days before Ascending to Heaven.

There are many, many other Biblical references to the number 40. However, the ones that I listed are well known, and express that sense that the number carries a sense of 40 representing an amount of time needed to accomplish what God requires of us or a sense of a time of testing. And so, for us this Lent, the Church in its holy wisdom gives us 40 days to accomplish what God requires of us (turning back to him wholeheartedly, strengthening one's faith, resisting evil) and, indeed, it can be understood as a time of testing of faith and devotion. There are 40 days this Lenten season, use them well.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

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### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

#### **Sunday, March 10**

8:30 Chuck Beck

11:00 Vittorio Cristiano

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

#### **Thursday, March 14**

7pm Misa For the People

#### **Sunday, March 17**

8:30 William F. & Ann R. Sullivan

11:00 Ruth Duryea

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

### **COLLECTION TOTALS:**

**Offertory: \$ 4595.50**

**Catholic Relief Services and Latin America: \$ 552.50**

**Ash Wednesday: \$1023.00**

**Second Collection Today: Supplementary**

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

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

## STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

### Altar Servers

March 17

8:30am Mass – Anna Clancy, Mike Dixon

11am Mass – Isaac Meyer, Joanna Santizo

Spanish Misa 1pm – Emily Escalante, Itzel Roblero

### Lectors

March 17

8:30am Mass – Deacon Jim Tormey

11am Mass – Sherry Tucker

Spanish Misa 1pm – Dani Ramírez, Lucia Tomas

### Eucharistic Ministers

March 17

8:30am Mass – Charlotte Tormey, Mark Plucenik

11am Mass – Paul Lardizzone, Joan Stewart

Spanish Misa 1pm – Dolores Cuin, Adrián Miranda, Adelaida Velásquez, Genaro Pérez, E. Morales

### Collection Counters

Mar 10 Elisa & Tom Costello

Mar 17 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel

Mar 24 Ann Lawson & Julia Moore

### Church Cleaning Crew

Marzo 15, 2019 Grupo #14

Genaro Pérez, Elizabeth López, Edelfo Tomas, Alfonso Chun

Marzo 22, 2019 Grupo #15

Juan Díaz Reynoso, Marlene García, Leonel Juárez, Bernardo De Paz, Brendy Macario



**Tax letters are available in the office now.**



**First Sunday of Lent: Encounter Norma**

In Guatemala, we encounter Norma, who as a young mother supports her family and shares her skills with her community. Reflect on the importance of family in your life. How can you contribute to support families in your community? Visit [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org) for more information.

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Mar 10 9:40am SRE Classes in Classroom

Sun, Mar 10 11am Confirmation Prep

Sun, Mar 10 2:30pm – RICA in CC

Mon, Mar 11 6:30pm – “Catholicism” in Hall

Tues, Mar 12 6:30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Prep

Tue, Mar 12 7pm – Juan XXIII

Wed, Mar 13 & Fri Mar 15 – Rehearsal Pilgrimage in Hall

Fri, Mar 15 7pm – Band Practice

Fri, Mar 15 7pm – Stations of the Cross

Sat, Mar 16 6:30pm – Culto

## **Knights of Columbus**

Next meeting Tues, March 12

7pm Meeting in the Knights Hall

All members are encouraged to attend. Membership is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. For more info, contact Grand Knight, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or [kelly29@comcast.net](mailto:kelly29@comcast.net). Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus



Council 12509

## **Marriage & Family Life Corner**

### **Parenting Pointer –**

Everybody needs a little fun in their lives. Sports equipment and games can help us do this. Is there some amusement that your family no longer uses? Let your children help you pick out things to pass on to kids who don't have a basketball, skates, a puzzle, etc.

### **Marriage Moment –**

It's Lent - a time to take stock of our lives both spiritually and physically. Many people abstain from something during this time to join with Jesus' suffering on the cross. What you choose to do (or not do) is unique to you, but consider one Lenten action that you both do. You can be a support to each other.



## FROM THE DRE'S DESK

**School of Religious Education**  
**9:40am-10:50am**



**Registrations for the 2019-2020 school year are ready. Please register your children now to secure a spot for your children.**

**We are taking registrations until**

**April 1, 2019.**



### Sacramental Prep:

**Confirmation Prep: Today, Sunday, Mar 10 11am in Hall.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Communion Prep: Next session is Tuesday, March 12, at 6:30pm in the hall.**



**There are Lent activities scheduled here at Immaculate Conception. Please check the calendar and bulletin and don't miss out.**

- † **Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 7pm in Church**
- † **Lenten Penance Service: Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 7pm at Holy Cross in Dover.**
- † **Pilgrimage: Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, all day**



### **You are invited to the "Unplanned" movie red carpet event on March 28**

On Thursday, March 28, 2019, the St. Thomas the Apostle Columbiettes and the Knights of Columbus Council #12374 are hosting a red carpet premiere of the new film, "**Unplanned: The True Story of Abby Johnson**" at Penn Cinema at the Riverfront in Wilmington, Delaware. The evening will begin at 5:45 with a cocktail social; the screening will begin at 7:00 p.m. The film, opening in theaters nationwide on March 29, is the dramatic account of a former Planned Parenthood high achiever, Abby Johnson, their youngest clinic director in the nation, until she walked out after assisting in an abortion. Tickets are \$15.00 each and can be purchased at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). Seating is limited and tickets are first come first serve. Email for info - [12374Columbiettes@gmail.com](mailto:12374Columbiettes@gmail.com).

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

**First Sunday of Lent**

**Theme:** Lent is time to open our hearts more fully to Jesus.

**Question for Children:** When you feel tempted to do wrong, how do you remain strong in your faith?

**Question for Youth:** What is one thing you will do during Lent to become more open to God in your life?

**Question for Adults:** As you come to understand the temptation of Jesus in the desert, which one of the devil's offerings is hardest for you to resist?

**1<sup>o</sup> domingo de Cuaresma**

**Tema:** La Cuaresma es un tiempo para abrir más nuestros corazones a Jesús.

**Pregunta para los niños:** Cuando están tentados a hacer algo malo, ¿cómo se mantienen firmes en su fe?

**Pregunta para los jóvenes:** ¿Qué harás durante la Cuaresma para acercarte más a Dios?

**Pregunta para los adultos:** Cuando lleguen a entender la tentación de Jesús en el desierto, ¿cuál de las ofrendas del diablo les sería más difícil resistir?



**Pilgrimage:** Bishop Malooly invites youth, young adults, and families from all parishes and schools to join him as we come together for the tenth annual Pilgrimage on **Saturday, April**

**13, 2019. Pilgrims from across the diocese will carry the diocesan pilgrimage cross through the streets of Wilmington with the Bishop as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and His journey on Good Friday to Calvary.** The day begins at St. Elizabeth parish with opening prayer and a concert featuring Ben Walther at 10:30 am. We conclude with the 5pm Mass at St. Elizabeth. Don't miss this great opportunity to wrap up your Lenten journey with hundreds of your peers. **Cost for the day is \$15 per person or \$45 max per family (bring your own lunch).** To register, please contact **Alicia Poppiti, a bus will provide transportation for an additional \$10 per person, and you must be registered to ride bus. Deadline for registration is April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Deadline for t-Shirt orders is TODAY, March 10<sup>th</sup>, no late orders excepted.**

## **COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 10 DE MARZO, 2019.**

Queridos feligreses,

**Números:** cuantifican (*por ejemplo, 12 en una docena*) e identifican (*por ejemplo, él es el sexto de la izquierda*) para nosotros. Son parte de nuestro lenguaje y, a menudo, tienen significados que van más allá de su valor de cuantificación e identificación. Por lo tanto, sabemos que 13 es "mala suerte", 666 es la marca de la bestia, tres es una multitud y siete es el número perfecto. En la televisión también recordamos algunos números: "77 Sunset Strip", "90210", "60 Minutos", "30 Rock" y "227." Paul Simon enumeró las "50 maneras de dejar a tu amante", mientras que la banda de rock Chicago anunció el tiempo como "25 o 6 a 4." Y todos conocemos la forma 1040 del IRS durante la temporada de impuestos, apostamos en una rifa 50/50, tomamos un Coca en el 7/11, Me encantan las aventuras de .007, y sabemos que el jabón Ivory es 99.44 / 100% puro.

Sin embargo, cuando entramos en el tiempo de la Cuaresma, tenemos otro número en mente, uno espiritual: 40. Ese número, 40, está tan asociado con la Cuaresma, que en latín, el idioma oficial del catolicismo, el tiempo se llama "Cuadragésima", que significa "40 °" como en 40 días hasta la Pascua. De esta palabra latina, muchos idiomas románticos derivan su nombre es donde proviene en español Cuaresma en italiano "Quaresima".

**¿Qué Pasa Con 40?** Entonces, ¿por qué 40? ¿Por qué no 50 días o 60 días o quizás 33 días? Bueno, el número 40 tiene un lugar especial en la historia de la salvación, y ese número aparece repetidamente a través de las Escrituras. Si tuviera que especificar cuáles son las características comunes de todas las referencias bíblicas al número 40, tendría que decir que habla de la cantidad necesaria para cumplir una parte del plan de Dios. En algunos casos, también conlleva la sensación de ser un período de prueba.

### **Cuarenta en Historia Bíblica**

Entonces, ¿en qué parte de la Biblia están esos tantos 40 de los que hablé? Entremos en la Máquina del baúl de los recuerdos y configuremos el dial a tiempo de Noé, y desde allí trabajaremos hacia adelante en tiempo. Sobre esta base examinaremos los 40 de la Biblia.

- En Génesis, Dios perdona a Noé y su familia durante la limpieza de la tierra por la gran

inundación causada por una tormenta de 40 días y 40 noches. Después de esos 40 días, la vida comenzó de nuevo para los fieles en el arca.

- En Éxodo, Moisés sacó al pueblo judío de Egipto, con el destino siendo la Tierra Prometida. Avance rápido, 40 años después, finalmente llegaron allí. Este fue un período de 40 años que sirvió para poner a prueba la fe de Moisés y su pueblo y restablecer al pueblo elegido en la tierra que Dios les dio. Tal vez tardó 40 años en llegar de Egipto a Israel, por un hombre, Moisés, que se negó a detenerse y preguntar por direcciones.

- Además, en Éxodo 34,28, aprendemos que Moisés pasó 40 días con Dios en el monte Sinaí. Fue al final de este período de 40 días que nosotros, a través de Moisés, recibimos los Diez Mandamientos.

- En Deuteronomio,25;3, cuarenta se anota como la cantidad aceptable de castigo por latigazos (40 azotes).

- En Jueces, se nos dice que un juez llamado Abdón tuvo 40 hijos (12,14). Ahora, esto ciertamente superaría la cantidad de niños en el elenco de "Brady Bunch" y "Ocho es suficiente" por un montón. Como mencioné, uno de los aspectos del número 40 en las Escrituras es que puede predecir la prueba de una persona. Tengo que imaginar que tener 40 hijos sería toda una prueba

- Luego, en el Juez 13: 1, los israelitas "volvieron a hacer lo que era malo a los ojos del SEÑOR, quien los entregó al poder de los filisteos por cuarenta años". Al igual que los 40 azotes mencionados en Deuteronomio, se consideró que 40 era el número apropiado para años de castigo merecidos. Y esto realmente fue un castigo, porque los filisteos eran, bueno, por decir, filisteos. Sería como ser enviado a vivir bajo el gobierno de los californianos durante 40 años; lo sé, lo sé ... también me dio un escalofrío en la espina dorsal.

- El Rey Saúl, el rey David y el rey Salomón gobernaron a Israel durante 40 años.

- En el Libro del profeta Jonás, Dios le dio a la gente de Nínive 40 días para que se arrepintieran de sus pecados. Esta historia bíblica habla muy claramente de nuestra idea de que los 40 días de la Cuaresma se usan como un tiempo para volver a Dios.

- En el Primer Libro de los Reyes, un ángel le dice a Elías que debe comer y beber para tener fuerzas para el viaje en que se encontraba. Comió por 40 días, y pudo continuar su caminata durante 40 días. Bendito Gatorade, Batman! Esa es una muestra de escuchar y prestar atención al mensaje

de Dios que puede prepararle a uno para la resistencia.

### **Mientras tanto en el Nuevo Testamento**

María llevó a Jesús en su vientre desde la Anunciación hasta la Navidad - 40 semanas.

- Jesús ayunó por 40 días y noches en el desierto, en preparación para su ministerio público. Durante ese tiempo, fue tentado por el diablo, pero, sin embargo, se defendió de esas tentaciones (FYI: ¡en la Escritura, Cristo habló exactamente 40 palabras para reprender a Satanás!). Es en los 40 días de Cristo en el desierto que nos relacionamos más estrechamente. El tiempo de la Cuaresma. La Iglesia nos enseña en el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica # 540 que esta es, de hecho, la base de la Temporada de Cuaresma: "Para los solemnes cuarenta días de Cuaresma, la Iglesia se une todos los años, durante los 40 días de la Cuaresma al misterio de Jesús en el desierto".

- Leemos en los Hechos de los Apóstoles, que después de su resurrección de entre los muertos, Jesús permaneció en la tierra por 40 días más antes de Ascender al Cielo.

Hay muchas, muchas otras referencias bíblicas al número 40. Sin embargo, las que enumeré son bien conocidas y expresan que el número conlleva un sentido de 40 que representa una cantidad de tiempo necesario para cumplir lo que Dios requiere de nosotros o un sentido de un tiempo de prueba. Y así, para nosotros esta Cuaresma, la Iglesia en su santa sabiduría nos da 40 días para cumplir lo que Dios requiere de nosotros (volviéndonos a Él de todo corazón, fortaleciendo nuestra fe, resistiendo el mal) y, de hecho, puede entenderse como un momento de prueba de la fe y la devoción. Hay 40 días en este tiempo de la Cuaresma, aprovéchalos.

Tuyo en Cristo  
P. James Lentini  
Párroco