

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

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 17, 2019 – Second 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,

Beep. Ring. Buzz. Bleep. Bing. Ding. Hmmm. Not as memorable as snap, crackle, pop, but far more relevant to everyday life these days than Rice Krispies. What those various sound effects refer to are the every day intrusion into our life of electronics and electronic devices. We hear them everywhere, and they kill the idea of true peaceful silence. We can't seem to get away from a text message ding, to a vibrating or ringing phone, to the calendar beeping on your iPad or Android tablet, to a smoke alarm beeping egregiously longing for a new battery, to our vehicles which beep, buzz and bleep for everything from seatbelt reminder to tire pressure notice, to appliances that beep and message you, day and night.

Say What?! Likewise, we have devices that hum, or even talk to us. One of the creepiest experiences I had was on a former cell phone I had, which, one night as I was preparing to go to bed announced to me: "Hello, I notice that you tend to go to bed around 10pm, would you like me to set an alarm to remind you of that each

night?" As Robin might have said to Batman in their 1960s TV series: Holy Invasion of Privacy Batman! It is like a dystopian technological horror movie, and we have cast ourselves in this film by giving up our peace of mind, and peace and quiet, in return for convenience. Not to appear as a clerical version of a Luddite, but I don't know how much better these devices, gadgets, services, and surveillance gizmos have made our lives.

People vs. Things. But, this is part of our love-hate relationship with technology. I use technology: my iPhone, iPad, my desktop and laptop computers, streaming video (i.e., Netflix), GPS and so on. But, I must confess, I have become more resistant to all of it in recent years. For instance, unless I'm on hospital call, my phone is silenced – not set to vibrate, but silent. I don't use Facebook or Twitter. I refuse to use EZPass, because I enjoy kibitzing with toll takers as I pass through their booths, and I help keep them employed, too. It provides me with a human connection, which is also why I don't have an online bank, but a brick and mortar one.

Two Problems. So, what am I getting at, with this stream of consciousness blather about technology? I would say that, as your Pastor, I am seeing two trends from the electronic orchestra that our life has become. First, there is a lack of silence and a continuum of distraction, brought to us by our electronic devices. Secondly, there is less and less human contact as we replace human interaction to electronic interaction (e.g., dealing with an ATM instead of a teller, EZPass instead of a toll taker, email instead of personal writing, a Facebook post instead of a phone call or a visit, etc.). These two ramifications of electronic devices and services are depriving us (if we allow them) of silent, undivided time with God, as well as uninterrupted time with people. It replaces human contact with digital convenience.

Silent Night? I was reading a biography of singer I enjoy, and one of her laments was that she can no longer enjoy silence – she notes that even at night there is the humming of this device or that device, a dinging this and a beeping that. When I read that, I could not hope but to concur with her lament. Where can we go for true silence and separation from the worldly, now that we have been conditioned to never leave our phone at home, or to walk around without a freakin’ earpiece in our ear keeping us always connected, or to be in perpetual walking-with-earbuds mode. What the heck have we done to ourselves?

Some-ding in the Way he Moves. In last week’s Gospel, Jesus went into the desert, and there the Devil made moves to tempt Him. Really what the Devil did, is the only thing that the Devil can do – like a cellphone “ding,” he can only distract us and get us to look away from God, prayer or contemplation. Jesus then puts the smack-down on the Devil and reconnects to his spiritually strengthening time in the desert. The Devil can take many forms, and distraction is a big one. So many people tell me that they are distracted by this or that, and have a hard time concentrating at Mass or listening for God in prayer. But, if you’re waiting for your next ding on the cellphone, then you are inherently unable to give your full attention to prayer. I think it might be wise for all of us, each of us, to be sure to set silent time aside to pray and to

connect with our Lord. So, turn off the phone, and experience some time in the desert with Jesus. Quiet time.

The Human Touch. Singer Rick Springfield in 1984 sang, “We all need the human touch.” Indeed, we do. So, in addition to quiet time, let’s at least spend some time with other human beings (rather than machines).

- * Rather than doing a drive-thru, walk into the fast food joint and engage with the person at the counter.
- * Rather than only using the ATM, go into your bank, say good morning to the teller, and conduct your business there.
- * Rather than posting on a friend’s Facebook page or texting him, call or visit that friend.

I’m not advising to never use ATMs, a Drive Thru, Facebook or text messaging, but put it in proper perspective. Don’t let it isolate you from encountering real flesh-and-blood human beings.

iPhone Anonymous. Last year, I went away during the summer and for about 4-5 days, I didn’t use my phone, my iPad or my computer. It was like going through a detox. After a day without dings, beeps, texts, emails, etc., I felt like a new man: my mind was less cluttered, I was more focused, and I was more spiritually contemplative. And best of all, when all was said and done, it turns out that I really didn’t miss the technology all that much. It was an amazing desert experience for me!

As Jesus went into the desert, I commend you follow him there for a while. Unplug. Disconnect. Tune out. You don’t have to go Amish, or Luddite; just moderate your time in cyber-reality. Amidst a world of noise, seek a desert of silence, just for a while. Jesus reminds us, in word and deed, that we are called to love God and neighbor, let’s strive to find time to encounter both during this Season of Lent.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, March 17

8:30 William F. & Ann R. Sullivan
11:00 Ruth Duryea
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Thursday, March 21

7pm Misa For the People

Sunday, March 24

8:30 Ed & Delores McGowan
11:00 Don Winslow
Misa en Español 1pm For the People

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: \$ 3453.00

Supplementary: \$ 555.00

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 24

8:30am Mass – Averi Locke, Mike Dixon
11am Mass – William Meyer, Vincent Haass
Spanish Misa 1pm – Justin Godinez, Sofia Ramirez

Lectors

March 24

8:30am Mass – Marilyn Dixon
11am Mass – Donna King
Spanish Misa 1pm – Fausto Ortiz, Geyde Méndez

Eucharistic Ministers

March 24

8:30am Mass – Brenda Lawson, Greg Taraila
11am Mass – Frank & Joyce Cristiano
Spanish Misa 1pm – Alberto Morales, Carlos Miguel,
Flora Pérez, Miguel López, Antonio Pérez

Collection Counters

Mar 17 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel
Mar 24 Ann Lawson & Julia Moore
Mar 31 Frank & Joyce Cristiano

Church Cleaning Crew

Marzo 22, 2019 Grupo #15
Juan Díaz Reynoso, Marlene García, Leonel Juárez,
Bernardo De Paz, Brendy Macario
Marzo 29, 2019 Grupo #2
Hortencia Bamaca, Luz Morales, Lilian Díaz Bamaca
Rosemary Bamaca, Froilán Berduo, Sheyla Berduo



St. Vincent DePaul is providing Easter Food Baskets for those in need again this year.

If you are in need please call 302-670-6702



Tax letters are available in the office now.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun, Mar 17 9:40am SRE Classes in Classroom
Sun, Mar 17 2:30pm – RICA in CC
Mon, Mar 18 6:30pm – “Catholicism” in Hall
Tues, Mar 19 7pm VBS Planning Mtg in Hall
Wed, Mar 20 7pm Reunion de Directiva
Wed, Mar 20 & Fri Mar 22 – Rehearsal Pilgrimage in Hall
Fri, Mar 22 7pm – Band Practice
Fri, Mar 22 7pm – Stations of the Cross
Sat, Mar 23 8:30am Catechetical Day STMA



Exercise class to start soon! If you are interested in joining us twice a week in the hall, call the office and ask for Marilyn.

Knights of Columbus



Next meeting Tues, March 26
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. Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Parenting Pointer –

People need pots, pans, and other kitchen utensils to cook meals to feed themselves. Do you have any duplicate kitchen supplies that you can pass on to a needy family?

Marriage Moment –

Unfaithfulness starts by demoting your spouse by making work, internet, hobbies, etc. a higher priority. What distracts your attention from your beloved?

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.



NEEDED: TEACHERS! APPLY HERE FOR NEXT YEAR! Share your gifts and get the rewards in heaven.

We will need teachers for religious education on Sunday mornings from September to May.

Please take the time during

Lent this year in prayer and discernment on serving the young people and families of our Parish.

If you see this, and are wondering "is this me?", inquire.

First Vacation Bible School Meeting – March 19 7pm

We are planning for VBS! If you are interested in being a part of the planning and on the team! We will have the meeting on Tuesday, March 19th @ 7pm in the Hall.



Third week of Lent:

Encounter Annet

In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit csrcricebowl.org for more

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Second Sunday of Lent

Theme: Lent calls us to transform our lives.

Question for Children: Jesus invites you to be close to him, to see him with clear eyes. What is Jesus like as a friend?

Question for Youth: What do you most want God to help you with?

Question for Adults: Sometimes we can see Christ with clear eyes, as the disciples did on that mountain. Share about such a time in your own life.

2º domingo de Cuaresma

Tema: La Cuaresma nos llama a transformar nuestras vidas.

Pregunta para los niños: Jesús los invita a acercarse a él, para verlo con claridad. ¿Cómo es Jesús como amigo?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: ¿En qué te gustaría que Dios te ayudara más?

Pregunta para los adultos: A veces podemos ver a Cristo con claridad, al igual que los discípulos en esa montaña. Cuenten sobre ese momento en sus propias vidas.



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 attend and to ride bus. Deadline for registration is April 1st.**

COLUMNA DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 17 DE MARZO, 2019.

Queridos feligreses,

Suena. Resuena. Timbre, Zumbido. Ring. Timbre. Hmmm No es tan memorable como el surtido, la cocada, el paleta, pero mucho más relevante para la vida cotidiana en estos días que el Rice Krispies. A lo que se refieren esos diversos efectos de sonido es la intrusión diaria en nuestra vida de electrónicos y artefactos electrónicos. Los escuchamos en todas partes, y matan la idea del verdadero silencio pacífico. Parece que no podemos alejarnos de un mensaje de texto, de un teléfono que vibra o suena, del calendario que emite un pitido en la tableta iPad o Android, de un pitido de alarma que anhela una batería nueva, de nuestros vehículos que suenan. pitan y hacen ruido para todo, desde el recordatorio del cinturón de seguridad el aviso de presión de los neumáticos, hasta los aparatos que emiten pitidos y mensajes, día y noche.

¿Que qué?! Del mismo modo, tenemos artefactos que zumban, o incluso nos hablan. Una de las experiencias más espeluznantes que tuve fue con un teléfono celular que tuve anteriormente, y una noche, mientras me preparaba para ir a la cama, me anunció: "Hola, me doy cuenta de que tiendes a irte a la cama alrededor de las 10 de la noche. ¿Te gustaría que te pusiera una alarma para recordarte eso cada noche?" Como Robín hubiera dicho a Batman en su serie de televisión de la década de 1960: ¡Bendita invasión de privacidad, Batman! Es como una película de terror una distopía tecnológica, y nos hemos metido en esta película renunciando a nuestra paz y tranquilidad, a cambio de conveniencia. No aparece como una versión administrativa de un Ludita, pero no sé cuánto han mejorado estos dispositivos, servicios y artefactos de vigilancia que han hecho nuestras vidas.

Gente & Cosas. Pero, esto es parte de nuestra relación de amor-odio con la tecnología. Uso tecnología: mi iPhone, iPad, mi computadora de escritorio y mi laptop, transmisión de video (es decir, Netflix), GPS, etc. Pero, debo confesar, me he vuelto más resistente a todo esto en los últimos años. Por ejemplo, a menos que esté en una llamada al hospital, mi teléfono está silenciado, no configurado para vibrar, sino silencioso. No uso Facebook ni Twitter. Me niego a usar EZPass, porque disfruto el intercalarse con personas que toman el peaje cuando paso por sus puestos, y también les ayudo a mantenerlos empleados. Me proporciona una conexión humana, que es también la razón por la que no tengo un banco en línea, sino uno de ladrillo y mortero

Dos Problemas. Entonces, ¿a qué me refiero, con esta corriente de conciencia que habla sobre la tecnología? Diría que, como su Párroco, veo dos tendencias de la orquesta electrónica en las que se ha convertido nuestras

vidas. Primero, hay una falta de silencio y una continúa distracción, que nos traen nuestros dispositivos electrónicos. En segundo lugar, hay menos y menos contacto humano al reemplazar la interacción humana por la interacción electrónica (por ejemplo, tratar con un cajero automático en lugar de un cajero, EZPass en lugar de un cobrador de peaje, correo electrónico en lugar de escribir personalmente una carta, una publicación en Facebook en lugar de una llamada telefónica). o una visita, etc.). Estas dos ramificaciones de los artefactos y servicios electrónicos nos están privando (si se lo permitimos) de un tiempo silencioso e indivisible con Dios, así como un tiempo ininterrumpido con las personas. Reemplaza el contacto humano con la conveniencia digital.

¿Noche Silenciosa? Estaba leyendo una biografía de una cantante que me gusta, y uno de sus lamentos fue que ya no puede disfrutar del silencio; ella dice que incluso en la noche se oye el zumbido de este dispositivo o aquel otro dispositivo, un timbre de esto y un pitido de aquello. Cuando leí eso, no podía dejar de coincidir con su lamento. ¿Dónde podemos buscar el verdadero silencio y la separación de lo mundano, ahora que hemos sido condicionados para no dejar nunca nuestro teléfono en casa, o para andar sin un auricular en nuestro oído manteniéndonos siempre conectados, o para estar siempre caminando? -con el modo de auriculares. ¿Qué diablos hemos hecho de nosotros?

Algo Suena en el Modo en que se Mueve. En el Evangelio de la semana pasada, Jesús fue al desierto y allí el diablo hizo movimientos para tentarlo. Realmente lo que hizo el diablo, es lo único que puede hacer el diablo, como un "Celular", que es distraernos y alejarnos de Dios, la oración o la contemplación. Luego, Jesús le da una palmada al Diablo y se vuelve a conectar con su tiempo de fortalecimiento espiritual en el desierto. El diablo puede tomar muchas formas, y la distracción es grande. Mucha gente me dice que están distraídos por esto o aquello, y les resulta difícil concentrarse en la misa o escuchar a Dios en oración. Pero, si estás esperando tu próxima llamada con el teléfono celular, entonces eres inherentemente incapaz de prestar toda tu atención a la oración. Creo que podría ser prudente para todos nosotros, cada uno de nosotros, asegurarnos de reservar un tiempo de silencio para orar y conectarnos con nuestro Señor. Entonces, apaga el teléfono y vive un momento en el desierto con Jesús. Tiempo de Silencio.

El Toque Humano. El cantante Rick Springfield en 1984 cantó: "Todos necesitamos el toque humano". De hecho, lo hacemos. Entonces, además del tiempo de tranquilidad, al menos pasemos un tiempo con otros seres humanos (en lugar de con máquinas).

* En lugar de hacer un viaje en auto, camine hacia la tienda y hable con la persona en el mostrador.

* En lugar de solo usar el cajero automático, vaya a su banco, dígame buenos días al cajero y haga su negocio allí.

* En lugar de publicar en la página de Facebook de un amigo o enviarle un mensaje de texto, llame o visite a ese amigo.

No estoy aconsejando nunca usar cajeros automáticos, Facebook o mensajes de texto, sino ponerlo en perspectiva adecuada. No permita que lo aisle de encontrarse con seres humanos reales de carne y hueso.

iPhone Anónimo. El año pasado, me fui durante el verano y durante aproximadamente 4-5 días, no usé mi teléfono, mi tableta ni mi computadora. Era como pasar por una desintoxicación. Después de un día sin zumbidos, pitidos, mensajes de texto, correos electrónicos, etc., me sentí como un hombre nuevo: mi mente estaba más ligera, estaba más concentrado y más espiritualmente contemplativo. Y lo mejor de todo, cuando todo lo dicho y hecho, resulta que realmente no extrañaba tanto la tecnología. ¡Fue una experiencia increíble en el desierto para mí!

Como Jesús entro en el desierto, te invito que lo sigas allí por un tiempo. Desenchufar. Desconectar. Desactivar. No tienes que ir radical, o Ludita; Solo modera tu tiempo en la realidad cibernética. En medio de un mundo de ruidos, busca un desierto de silencio, solo por un rato. Jesús nos recuerda, con palabras y hechos, que estamos llamados a amar a Dios y al prójimo, esforcémonos por encontrar tiempo para encontrarnos con ambos durante este Tiempo de Cuaresma.

Tuyo en Cristo
P. James Lentini
Párroco