

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 9:30-12 noon, Closed Wednesdays

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

March 20, 2016 – Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion

Eucharist of the Lord’s Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
7:00 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. John Olson, Associate Pastor
Rev. Anthony Giamello, Associate Pastor

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 James M. Tormey, Sr., our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-697-2049.

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**.

Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

OF BASEBALL AND SALVATION. What is wonderful about being a fan of baseball is that I find so many correlations between baseball and our Catholic faith. This pre-season time in baseball is no exception. Pre-season Baseball (aka Spring Training) is, dare I say, in full swing. Every year, baseball teams gather for Spring Training – it is a time when teams begin preparing for the coming season. And Spring Training always overlaps with the Season of Lent. In that context, the Phillies played the Orioles the other day, and you know what they gave up for Lent – eight runs; they lost 8-7 to the O's.

In any event, baseball's Spring Training activities occurs in Florida. During this period, the players get back to the basics; they begin the rigors and discipline of getting ready for the new season – throwing, catching, fielding, batting, etc. Players work hard to improve themselves and identify what areas they need to work on to play their best in the season ahead.

Likewise, for us in Lent (the pre-season for Easter): the faithful are the players; we get back to basics of prayer, almsgiving and fasting – these Lenten disciplines that help us to draw closer to God, and get ready for the Easter Season (and the year ahead). We examine our consciences, we repent, we draw closer to God to better ourselves (and our standings) before the Lord.

There are of course some differences: In Spring Training one can see the hope of victory ahead (for instance, as I write this, the Phillies have a record of 10 wins and 4 losses), but we know all too well that that victory can fade quickly. However, in Lent, when we see the victory of Jesus Christ over death ahead on the horizon at Easter – and we know full well that that victory, won once, and won for all time, will never fade. Death doesn't get the last word, Christ does! Thus the violet tones of Lenten repentance and sacrifice, will give way to shining bright hope of Easter, and our efforts during that period of preparation will make our Easter joy that much more joyful, as Christ pitches a perfect game defeating the Devil and death!

HOLY WEEK. But before we can get to Easter, we have to make a profound journey in the Holy Week ahead. It is a week that will see Christ welcomed joyfully into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, yet condemned to death and crucified five days later. It is the, as the movie title of yore tells us, "The Greatest Story Ever Told." We, as Catholics, are called to engage with and make that Holy Week journey with Christ – and we do this most especially through partaking in the liturgies of Holy Week, the keys days of which are Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday (known as the Triduum). To guide you on this journey, I leave you with three reflections about these three days, to contemplate as we finish our Lenten season:

PALM SUNDAY. On this day, we recall Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem before his crucifixion. As Jesus rode into the city on the "foal of an ass" (small donkey), the people of Jerusalem exult, throwing cloaks and palm branches on the road and praising him. Remembering this, at Palm Sunday Mass, we have a blessing of palms which the faithful hold as they process into church. The blessed palms are later kept in the home as a witness to faith in Jesus Christ, whom we welcome into our homes.

HOLY THURSDAY: On Holy Thursday, we celebrate the institution, by Christ, of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper. On the night before Jesus Christ was crucified, he changed bread and wine into his own Body and Blood, and he commanded the Apostles and their successors (Bishops and their priests) to re-present this sacrifice. Thus, at every Mass, by way of transubstantiation, the bread and wine offered by the priest becomes Christ's Body and Blood again. Later on that same evening, before his arrest, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, accompanied by a few of his Apostles. And so, after Mass, the Eucharist is carried out of the Church to an "altar of repose." By tradition, people go that place of repose, and spend time adoring and praying with the Lord in the Sacrament he gave us. Meanwhile, in the Church, with Eucharist gone, there is an emptiness. The tabernacle door is left open, showing it is empty. The altar is

stripped, candles are removed, and holy water is removed from the font. The Church, with Christ absent, is left unadorned, setting the stage for Good Friday – and it remains this way until the Easter vigil Mass.

GOOD FRIDAY: Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. On Good Friday, at 3 p.m. – the hour of Christ's death on the Cross -- the church gathers for "The Good Friday of the Lord's Passion." As our Lord is not present in the tabernacle, the faithful are commanded to genuflect to the image of the crucified Christ, before they sit. This service, which is not a Mass, includes a reading of the Passion, and veneration of the Cross (e.g., kissing or touching the wood of the Cross). The service concludes with distribution of Holy Communion (consecrated on Holy Thursday, and is taken to the Church from the Altar of Repose, where it was placed the night before).

HOLY SATURDAY. Holy Saturday is a day of waiting. It is on this day that the Church fathers noted that Christ descended to the dead, to the so-called Limbo of the fathers – where those who died after the fall of man (by the sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden) awaited the gates of Heaven to be re-opened. Today, the anticipation of peace between God and man, and the gates of heaven being opened again to us, comes into view. Or as put into words, Psalm 24 wrote in hope: "*O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!*" But anticipation is not yet reality, and so on this day, in prayer and reflection, we wait at the Lord's tomb, we consider the events of the past few days and await His glorious Easter resurrection. Mary is also a Holy Saturday symbol. According to Catholic tradition, Mary represents the Church, faithfully waiting in hope for her son's victory over death. This day, we wait with Mary – in expectant hope of the joy and victory to come.

But more on this great moment of joy and victory, in our Easter bulletin!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun., Mar. 20 8:30am: Edward & Deloris McGowan
11:00am: Vittorio Cristiano
Misa en Español 7:00pm: For the People

Thu., Mar. 24 7:00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

Sat. Mar. 26 8:00pm: Vigil Mass

Sun., Mar. 27 8:30am: Easter
10:00am: Easter
Misa en Español 12:00pm: Easter

*Our Mass book for 2016 year is open.
Please stop by office or call to have Masses scheduled.*

TAX letters are in the office ready for you to pick up.
Please stop in to get yours today. Thank you.

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Regular Offertory: \$2428.00
Supplementary Offertory: \$ 922.10

Second Collection Today: Easter Flowers

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



Knights of Columbus: Meet every 2nd & 4th Tues., in the hall at 6:30pm. For more information contact Grand Knight, Clyde Hinebaugh 410-482-8699 or clydehinebaugh@gmail.com

STEWARSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Mar 20 Marianne Lemon & Diane Nagyiski
Mar 27 Marilyn Dixon & Maurilio Gabriel
Apr 3 Margie Short & Laura Voshell

Church Cleaning Crew

March 26, 2016 Grupo #19

Olegario Cuin, Enma Rojas, **Egidio Macario**, Brendi Macario, Idalinda Pérez, Bersy Pérez

April 2, 2016 Grupo #20

Santos Juárez, Arturo Ramírez, Eva Bravo, Herminda Bravo, Paulina Morales, Silvia Ramírez

April 7, 2016 Grupo #1 Rectoría-Oficina

Ovidio Roblero, **Natalina Capistran**, Fausto Ortiz, Everilda Pérez, Amanda Salas, Ashley Salas

April 16, 2016 Grupo #2

Rafael Morales, **Marcos González**, Osvaldo Miranda Eleazar Santizo, Reyna Morales

Altar Servers

Thurs, Mar. 24 – 7pm-Meg & Vincent Haass

Sat, Mar 26 – 8pm Easter Vigil-needed

Easter Sunday, Mar 27

8:30am Mass – Hannah Nagyiski

10:00am Mass –Meg & Vince Haass & Sherlin Santizo

Spanish Misa 12 Noon – Itzel Roblero, Oliver &

Reynaldo Alvarez

Lectors

Thurs, Mar. 24 – 7pm-Terri Woodeshick

Sat, Mar 26 – 8pm Easter Vigil – Diane Smith

Easter Sunday, Mar 27

8:30am Mass – Lani Small

10:00am Mass –Alicia Poppiti

Spanish Misa 12 Noon – Olegario Cuin, Ruvelio Velásquez

Eucharistic Ministers

Thurs, Mar. 24 – 7pm-Marilyn Dixon, Alicia Poppiti

Sat, Mar 26 – 8pm Easter Vigil-needed

Easter Sunday, Mar 27

8:30am Mass –Marilyn Dixon, Diane Smith

10:00am Mass –needed

Spanish Misa 12 Noon –Adelaida Velásquez, Epifanio Morales, Deloris Cuin

The St Vincent DePaul Committee prepares and distributes



Blessing Bags that meet the basic needs of people experiencing homelessness.
Everyone here in the ICC Community is invited to join in this outreach.

All it takes is keeping a Blessing Bag in your car in case you find someone in need while about your regular day. It takes very little to change the life of just one person. See Marilyn Dixon or Alan Smith to participate.

Thank you!

SCHEDULED EVENTS

SRE TODAY: Sun, Mar 20, 9:40am, classrooms

RICA: Sun Mar 20, 1:30pm

JOVENES: Sun, Mar 20, 3:30pm, church basement

ESL: Mon. Mar 21 & Wed Mar 23, 7pm, cc and Basement

Walking Stations: Fri., Mar 25, 1pm

Veneration of the Cross: Fri., Mar 25, 3pm in Church

Stations of the Cross: Fri., Mar 25, 7pm in Church

Blessing of the Food: Sat, Mar 26, Noon in Church

Vigil Mass: Sat, Mar 26, 8pm, Church



Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

Marriage can be like Holy Week. One day it's Palm Sunday and everyone is singing your praises. But the one closest to you can betray you. All seems lost. It's not easy but faith reminds us of the forgiveness and sacrificial love, resurrection is possible. Can you believe it?

Parenting Pointer –

Tell your children the story of how the people praised Jesus by waving palms. Of course just a few days later we remember Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday. To learn how to make a palm cross with your child go to



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmtq7m7Ion8>

This Sunday, Palm Sunday, we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and participate in the reading of the Passion of Christ. Bring It Home this week by walking with Jesus on His journey by attending your parish's Holy Week Services as a family. Read the daily Gospel each night together



before dinner or before bedtime.

HUNGERING TO BUILD COMMUNITY

We follow Jesus this week on our Lenten journey as he enters Jerusalem, a community he knew well. CRS Rice Bowl asks us to prayerfully enter into our own communities, to find those who are hungry and thirsty, those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we encounter in our daily lives? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

School of Religious Education

SRE TODAY, 9:40-10:50, classrooms

Note: There will be NO SRE Classes Easter Sunday



Yesterday, 30 of our youth and adults walked on Pilgrimage with Bishop Malooly, carrying the Cross, praying, singing, attending Eucharistic adoration, observing Stations of the Cross and attending Palm Saturday Mass with hundreds of youth around the Diocese of Wilmington. We are blessed to have had this opportunity and even more blessed that our young people want to attend this annual event. God Bless them, and thank you for holding them in prayer.

Message from the Diocese Vocations Office

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Jesus tells His disciples "I am among you as the one who serves." And in every age, He calls some from among His disciples to serve as religious sisters and brothers, as deacons, and as priests. Have you ever considered that He might be calling you? If so, please contact Father Norman Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113, vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!

WEB SITE: Don't forget to check out our new Web Site today!! See our tweets and scripture of the day!!!

www.iccmarydel.org

Columna del párroco padre James Lentini 20 de marzo, 2016

Estimado feligreses,

DE BÉISBOL Y SALVACIÓN. Lo que es maravilloso de ser un fanático del béisbol es que encuentro tantas correlaciones entre el béisbol y nuestra fe católica. Este tiempo de pre-temporada en el béisbol no es una excepción. Pre-temporada de béisbol (también conocido como los entrenamientos de primavera) está, me atrevo a decir, en pleno apogeo. Cada año, los equipos de béisbol se reúnen para entrenamiento de primavera - es un momento en que comienzan a preparar los equipos para la próxima temporada. Y los entrenamientos de primavera siempre coinciden con el tiempo de Cuaresma. En ese contexto, el otro día los Filis de Filadelfia, jugaron contra los Orioles de Baltimore, y

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Theme: Jesus shows us how much He truly loves us.

Question for Children: In your own words, what does the suffering and death of Christ mean to you?

Question for Youth: How can you spend time with each member of your family this week in a way that will communicate your love for them?

Question for Adults: What sacrifices have you made this week to show your love for others? What sacrifices have others made for you?

Pregunta de la semana

Domingo de la Pasión/Domingo de Ramos

Tema: Jesús nos muestra cuánto nos ama de verdad.

Pregunta para los niños: En sus propias palabras, ¿qué significan el sufrimiento y la muerte de Cristo para ustedes?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: ¿Cómo puedes pasar tiempo con cada miembro de tu familia esta semana para hacerles saber cuanto los amas?

Pregunta para los adultos: ¿Qué sacrificios ha hecho esta semana para mostrar su amor por los demás? ¿Qué sacrificios han hecho otros para usted?

Join the Catholic Advocacy Network today

"Politics is one of the highest forms of charity because it seeks the common good." ~ Pope Francis

There are many issues facing us on a national and state wide level. Social concerns such as health care and immigration, life issues such as abortion and euthanasia, assistance for Catholic school families, poverty and so much more. The actions of our government have an enormous impact on the lives of you and your family.

sabes lo que dieron para la Cuaresma - ocho carreras; perdieron 8-7 ante los Orioles.

En cualquier caso, las actividades de entrenamiento de primavera de béisbol se realizan en Florida. Durante este período, los jugadores vuelven a lo básico; comienzan a los rigores y a la disciplina de prepararse para la nueva temporada - lanzar, atrapar, fildeo, bateo, etc. Los jugadores trabajan duro para mejorar e identificar las áreas que necesitan trabajar para jugar lo mejor posible en la temporada venidera.

Del mismo modo, para nosotros en la Cuaresma (la pretemporada de Pascua): los fieles son los jugadores; volvamos a lo básico de la oración, la limosna y el ayuno de Cuaresma - estas disciplinas que nos ayudan a acercarnos más a Dios, y a prepararnos para la temporada de Pascua (y el año que viene). Examinamos nuestra conciencia, nos arrepentimos, nos acercamos más a Dios para mejorar nosotros mismos y nuestra relación con el Señor.

Por supuesto, hay algunas diferencias: en el entrenamiento de primavera se puede ver la esperanza de la victoria por delante (por ejemplo, mientras escribía esta columna, observé que los Filis tienen un récord de 10 victorias y 4 derrotas), pero sabemos muy bien que la victoria puede desaparecer rápidamente. Sin embargo, en la Cuaresma, cuando vemos la victoria de Jesucristo sobre la muerte por delante en el horizonte en la Pascua - y sabemos muy bien que esa victoria, ganada una vez, y ganada para todos tiempos, nunca se desvanecerá. La muerte no tiene la última palabra, Cristo lo tiene! Por lo tanto los colores violetas de la Cuaresma son de arrepentimiento y de sacrificio, darán paso a la luz resplandeciente de la esperanza de la Pascua, y nuestros esfuerzos durante ese periodo de preparación harán que nuestra gozo Pascual sea mucho más gozosa, como Cristo lanza un juego perfecto derrotando al diablo y a la muerte!

SEMANA SANTA. Pero antes de que podamos llegar a Pascua, tenemos que hacer una jornada profunda en la Semana Santa que está por delante. Es una semana en que veremos a Cristo el Domingo de Ramos en su entrada triunfal y una alegre bienvenida en Jerusalén, sin embargo, condenado a muerte y crucificado cinco días más tarde. Es el, como el título de la película nos dice: "La historia más grande jamás contada." Nosotros, como católicos, llamados a comprometernos y hacer recorrer ese camino dela semana santa con Cristo - y hacerlo especialmente a través de la participación en las liturgias de la Semana Santa, los días claves de los cuales son el jueves Santo, Viernes Santo y Sábado Santo (conocido como el Triduo). Para guiarle en este camino, les dejo con tres reflexiones acerca de estos tres días, para contemplar, al terminar nuestro tiempo de Cuaresma:

DOMINGO DE RAMOS. En este día, recordamos la entrada de Jesús en Jerusalén antes de su crucifixión. Como Jesús entró en la ciudad en I " un burrito", el pueblo de Jerusalén se exalta, lo recibieron como a un rey con palmas y ramos gritándole "hosanna" que significa "Viva". Recordando esto en la Misa del Domingo de Ramos , tenemos la bendición de los ramos que los fieles agarran al entrar en procesión a la iglesia. Las palmas bendecidas son guardadas en la casa, como un testimonio de la fe en Jesucristo, a quien damos la bienvenida a nuestros hogares.

JUEVES SANTO: El Jueves Santo, celebramos la institución, por Cristo, de la Santa Eucaristía en la Ultima Cena. En la noche antes de que Jesucristo fue crucificado, cambió el pan y el vino en su propio Cuerpo y Sangre, y mandó a los Apóstoles y sus sucesores (los obispos y sus sacerdotes) a re-presentar este sacrificio. Por lo tanto, en cada misa, por medio de la transubstanciación, el pan y el vino ofrecido por el sacerdote se convierte en Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo nuevamente. Más tarde esa misma noche, antes de su arresto, Jesús oró en el huerto del Getsemaní, acompañado por algunos de sus Apóstoles. Y así, después de la misa, la eucaristía se lleva fuera de la Iglesia a un "altar de reposo." Por tradición, la gente va ese lugar de reposo, y pasar tiempo adorando y orando con el Señor en el Sacramento que nos dio. Mientras

tanto, en la Iglesia, con la Eucaristía trasladada, hay un vacío. El tabernáculo se deja abierta, mostrando que está vacío. El altar es despojado, las velas se retiran, y agua bendita se vacía de la fuente. La Iglesia, con Cristo ausente, se deja sin adornos, preparando el escenario para el Viernes Santo - y permanece así hasta la Vigilia de Pascua.

VIERNES SANTO: Viernes Santo es un día de ayuno y abstinencia. El Viernes Santo, a las 3 pm - la hora de la muerte de Cristo en la Cruz. "El Viernes Santo de la Pasión del Señor " Los fieles se les invita a hacer la genuflexión frente a la imagen del crucifijo antes de sentarse ya que nuestro Señor no está presente en el tabernáculo. Este servicio, que no es una misa, incluye una lectura de la pasión, y la veneración de la Cruz (por ejemplo, besar o tocar la madera de la Cruz). El servicio concluye con la distribución de la Santa Comunión (consagrado el Jueves Santo, y es llevado a la Iglesia del Altar de Reposo, donde se dejó anoche).

SÁBADO SANTO. El Sábado Santo es un día de espera. Es en este día que los padres de la Iglesia señalaron que Cristo descendió a los muertos, a la denominada limbo de los padres - en los que murieron después de la caída del hombre (por el pecado de Adán y Eva del Jardín del Edén) esperaban las puertas del cielo para ser reabiertas. Hoy, la anticipación de la paz entre Dios y el hombre, y la reapertura de las puertas del cielo para nosotros, está a la vista. O para poner en las palabras del Salmo 24: escribió en la esperanza: " ¡Puertas, levanten sus dinteles, levántense, puertas eternas, para que entre el Rey de la gloria!" Pero la anticipación todavía no es la realidad, y por eso en este día, en oración y reflexión, esperamos frente a la tumba del Señor, consideramos los acontecimientos de los últimos días en espera de la gloriosa Pascua de Resurrección. María es también un símbolo del Sábado Santo. Según la tradición católica, María representa la Iglesia, fielmente esperando con esperanza la victoria de su Hijo sobre la muerte. Este día, esperamos con María - en la esperanza expectante del gozo y la victoria por venir.

Pero más en este gran momento de gozo y de victoria, en nuestro próximo boletín de Pascua!

Suyo en Cristo,

P. James Lentini

Párroco