



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

March 14, 2021

4th Sunday of Lent

holycross

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish
No choirs at the Masses at the present time; a cantor will be available for the 5 pm and the 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Saturday, 8 am
During Lent, Monday and Friday, 12:10 pm
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day, MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 8:30 am—10:00 am,
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am-Midnight (temporarily closed)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

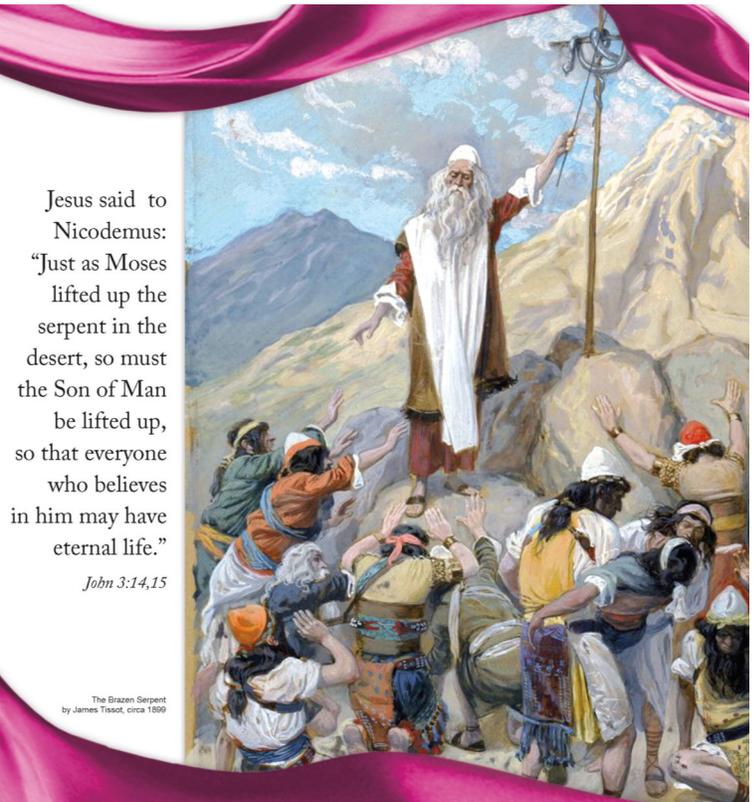
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

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

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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



Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

John 3:14,15

The Brazen Serpent by James Tissot, circa 1899



4TH SUNDAY OF
LENT

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE (HC AND ICC)

Mary, Mother of God, January 1
Assumption, August 15
All Saints' Day, November 1
Immaculate Conception, December 8
Christmas, December 25

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

icc

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

The seven Sacraments of the Church were instituted by Christ to confer grace.

Sacrament of Baptism. Call the office to register for Parent Pre-Baptismal Instruction. For adults seeking to enter the Church and be Baptized, contact our Religious Education Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for Confession at age seven as part of First Communion preparation.

Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Children in our religious education program and school are prepared for First Communion at age seven. Adults seeking First Communion should contact our Religious Education Office. To request a visitation for Holy Communion to the Sick, contact our parish office.

Sacrament of Confirmation. Young people in our parish are prepared for reception of Confirmation in the ninth grade (age 14). Adults seeking Confirmation should contact our Religious Education Office.

Sacrament of Marriage. Couples planning for Marriage are to contact a parish priest or deacon one year in advance to set the wedding date and plan for pre-Cana instruction.

Sacrament of Holy Orders. If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the Priesthood or Diaconate, please contact one of our parish priests.

Anointing of the Sick. For the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, which is administered by a Priest, a person or an immediate family member must make the request. Late night requests may not be able to be answered until the next day.

THIS WEEK (HC OR ICC)

Check out our websites

holycrossover.org
iccmarylodel.org

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

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

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, parishes must continue to adhere to all health and safety regulations without exception. Policies including wearing face masks, maintaining proper six-foot social distancing and proper hand hygiene remain nonnegotiable and are fundamentally rooted in protecting all people in our parishes and maintaining the health and safety of our community. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Masses on holy days remains suspended at this time.

We are limiting access to the parish offices, so you can buzz when you stop by, or call and leave messages and we will get back to you; or, you can email us. Stay safe and stay healthy.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

February 28, 2021

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$31,106	\$27,800	\$3,216
YTD	\$855,131	\$974,600	(\$119,469)
Needs	\$1,351	\$1,550	(\$199)

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending February 28, 2021

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$3,973
2nd	\$311

Tax letters are ready at ICC. Please call the Parish Office at ICC and they will be mailed to you.

Tax Statement for Holy Cross

The HC Parish Office is preparing tax letters for everyone who contributed during the 2020 year. If we have your email in our records, this information was emailed to you at the end of January. If we do not have your email or you want a hard copy sent to you, please email mdornberger@holycrossover.org. Thank you.

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

Dear Parishioners,

In last week's column, I made observations about the use and significance of the number 40 in the sacred scriptures, specifically in the Old Testament. In this column, I deal with the same topic, but as it concerns the New Testament, Sacred Tradition and Church practices. To recapitulate a bit of the last column, the number 40 in scripture usually connotes a period of trial, or testing, or tribulation. But, that might be a little bit of a short shrift in terms of an explanation. There is more to the matter of the number 40 — and it deals with outcomes. I want to touch on these for a moment.

Look out for Number One. For many years, radio listeners in the United States got to listen, each weekend, to a show called "American Top 40." It was hosted by radio personality Casey Kasem (and later by other hosts). Kasem would count down the 40 biggest songs in the nation, starting at #40 and heading to number one. He'd pepper his broadcast with stories about the recording artists, music trivia, and song origins. It was interesting stuff, but the bottom line was that the listeners wanted to get to the end of the show, to hear, if you would, how it ended: that is, who would end up on top, at #1. And each week we'd find out what that new number one song was — and songs from Elvis to Elton John, from the Jackson 5 to Maroon 5, from Smashmouth to The Knack, to countless others — would be atop the charts. But the point of the show was to get to the end of that Top 40 list.

A Beautiful Finish. Similarly, while 40 in scripture usually connotes that period of trial, or testing, or tribulation — the key point was how a person experiencing the 40-day/week/year event wound up at the end of that 40-day/week/month period. Overwhelmingly, they were better: Noah found dry land after 40 days, the Jewish people found the Promised Land at the end of 40 years; Moses presented the people with God's Commandments after 40 days on the mountain. At the end of the 40-numerated time period, things were, generally, better or more fully known — the relationship or fidelity to God was usually improved at the end of that period.

Home and Dry. Ancient Jewish philosopher Philo Judaeus (25 BC - 45 AD) made this point in a writing he did on the topic of Genesis. He wrote, regarding the great flood in the time of Noah, "...the deluge took place for forty days... [at the end of which] a hope of renewal took place at intervals of forty days." Thus the trial (the flood, for example) and the good outcome

(new home on dry land, for example) are all wrapped up in the context of "forty."

With that being said, let's turn to the New Testament now, and see how some of the many references to the number 40 play out — and let also see how those 40-days play out outside of scripture in the Church's traditions and practices:

- **Mary to Mary.** Mary carried Jesus in her womb from the Annunciation until Christmas is about 40 weeks; more specifically from between the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25; recalling when the Angel of the Lord came to Mary and Jesus was conceived in her womb by the power to the Holy Spirit), and the Solemnity of the Mary, Mother of God (January 1; when Mary and Joseph had Jesus circumcised) is 40 weeks. This 40 week period marked (1) the fulfillment of the prophets (a Messiah being sent; a virgin with child) and (2) fulfillment of the law (from Genesis: "This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your descendants after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised... [at] eight days old.").
- **The Fasting the Furious.** 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 — which no doubt left the Devil furious as he departed. It is Christ's 40 days in the desert that we most closely relate to the 40-day Season of Lent.
- **May I Have a Word with You?** In the Gospel, Christ spoke exactly 40 words in rebuke of the Devil. Okay, this one is kind of a cheat — as it only works in English: "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." "You shall not tempt the Lord your God." and "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."
- **Going Up?** 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. Because of this there is a 40 period between Easter and the Ascension of the Lord (on Ascension Thursday — and yes, I know that by transferring the observance of that day to Sunday, we breach the 40 day ideal — but that's a topic for a whole 'nother column). Thus, we have a 40-day period before Easter (Lent) and a 40

(Continued on page 10)

HC & ICC CLERGY

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

HC CLERGY

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

ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell	Deacon
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HC STAFF

Parish Office	302 674 5787
Jane Green/Susan Cutrona	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
Michele Dornberger	Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., ext. 116
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. I18
Tammy Korosec	CRE Religious Ed, ext 122
Linda Darling	Youth Ministry, ext. 123
Justin Wurzel	Maintenance Director
Len Dornberger	Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135
Michael Perza	Dir. of Music Ministry, 302 698 9302

MAILING ADDRESS

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

ICC STAFF

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

MAILING ADDRESS

Immaculate Conception Church
P. O. Box 399
Marydel, MD 21649-0399

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Catholic Education Pre-K3 to Grade 8
302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org/school

Linda Pollitt	Principal, ext. 111
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MAILING ADDRESS

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

LEAVING ITEMS IN CHURCH

Please **do not** leave cards, religious items, clothing, or other such items in the lobby area of the Gathering Space. We cannot accept any of these items at this time.

RECENT DEATHS (HC)

Our condolences to the family of:

- Ronald Scorziello
- May the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to our newly baptized members:

- Carter Stryker
- Arlo Schmidt
- Juliette Covirasle

RETRouvaille

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Ret-ro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises.

The next program begins the weekend of April 16-18, 2021 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

READINGS FOR MARCH 21 5TH SUNDAY LENT

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:31-34

Jeremiah reminds us of the Lord's "new covenant" with his people.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 5:7-9

Christ submits humbly to suffering and, having been made perfect, becomes the source of our salvation.

GOSPEL: JOHN 12:20-33

Jesus pray to God his Father that his "hour" will be for the glory of God.



K OF C FISH FRY

Every Friday in Lent from 4 pm to 7 pm the Knight will offer Lenten Dinners at the Columbian Hall. Proceeds will go to Holy Cross and Immaculate conception Churches at the discretion of Fr. Lentini.

All meals are take out and can be picked up at the Columbian Home, 219 Vepco Blvd, Camden.

Menu is subject to change.

Mar 19—2 crab cakes on HB bun, mac & cheese, cole slaw \$10

Mar 26—Shrimp or cod, mac & cheese or tater tots, cole slaw \$10

ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

Even though we are not opening the Adoration Chapel at this time, anyone who was on the normal adoration schedule is encouraged to come into the church to pray during your assigned hour. The church is unlocked from 7 am to 7 pm and Our Lord is waiting for you to come spend time with Him. Our Lord is present in the tabernacle all day long and would love for you to spend time praying. It's a great way to get back into the routine of praying during your scheduled hour.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION ON-LINE OPPORTUNITIES

Morning Offering

<https://www.morningoffering.com/>

A Catholic daily devotional email delivering daily wisdom and inspiration to help you grow in faith

Popes in a Year

<http://flocknote.com/popes>

We know the current pope traces his authority all the way back to the first pope (St. Peter). But do you know much about all the popes in between? Join us (and thousands of your closest friends!) on a journey from St. Peter all the way to Pope Francis. Each weekday morning, we'll send you a short, engaging 2-minute something about one pope. By the end of the year, you'll know something about every single one!

Daily Reflections

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/daily-reflections.html>

Start each day with an inspiring quote sent directly to your inbox. These simple yet powerful messages will help you to live each day with passion and purpose.

Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

If you've struggled to read the Bible, this podcast is for you. Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast,

MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH

15 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Charles M. Stump

HC 12:10 pm Mary Weber

16 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Karen Bergmann

17 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:00 am Sarah Fillat

18 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Kevin Williams

ICC 6 pm For the People

19 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Jack Kelly

HC 12:10 pm Kevin R. Murphy

20 SATURDAY

HC 8 am Bernadette Miriello

HC 5 pm M/M David J. Balcerak (LI)

21 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am DM Mulloy Family

ICC 8:30 am Arthur & Charlotte Potts

HC 9:30 am Nelson Baez

HC 11:30 am For the People

ICC 11 am Robert (Buck) Brookman

ICC 1 pm For the People

*(LI = LIVING INTENTION
DM = DECEASED MEMBERS)*

hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz and featuring Jeff Cavins, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes starting January 1st, 2021. Each 20-25 minute episode includes: two to three scripture readings, a reflection from Fr. Mike Schmitz, and guided prayer to help you hear God's voice in his Word.

Unlike any other Bible podcast, Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast for Catholics follows a reading plan inspired by the Great Adventure Bible Timeline® learning system, a groundbreaking approach to understanding Salvation History developed by renowned Catholic Bible teacher Jeff Cavins. Tune in and live your daily life through the lens of God's word!

LENTEN IDEAS

Need a little help as you journey through Lent? Visit the Diocese of Wilmington's Lent web page at cdow.org/Lent for a calendar of Lenten activities, videos, resources, and more.

MASS MINISTERS

PLEASE COME
FORWARD TO HELP
DISTRIBUTE
HOLY COMMUNION AT THE MASS
YOU ATTEND. THE PRIEST WILL INDICATE HOW MANY EXTRA-ORDINARY
MINISTERS ARE NEEDED.

Lector Schedule for March 2021

At Holy Cross:

5 pm Mass

Mar 13 Lori Christiansen
Mar 20 Donna Kilby
Mar 27 Hazel Showell

7:30 am Mass

Mar 14 John Davis
Mar 21 Rose Pritchett
Mar 28 Rose Pritchett

9:30 am Mass

Mar 14 Tamra Baurys
Mar 21 Judy Coffield
Mar 28 Mary Louise Sossich

At Immaculate Conception

8:30 am Mass

Mar 14 Bill Thompson
Mar 21 Gerry Godfrey
Mar 28 Diane Smith

11 am Mass

Mar 14 Donna King
Mar 21 Laura Schlopitz
Mar 28 Donna King

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

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

DIRECTORIES (HC)

The Parish Directories are in the Parish Office. If you would like to stop by the office to pick up your copy, please call ahead of time and we will get your copy and have it for you to pick up. Please do not just show up without calling first.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Hopefully each of you already have times when you take the lead. Honor each other today. Try making decisions together today.

PARENTING POINTERS

Each of your children can be special in their differences. Tell each of your children what makes them special to you.

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

Weather permitting, all Winter & Christmas decorations will be removed on Saturday, March 13. If you wish to reclaim your decorations for reuse please do so by then. Your assistance in disposing of decorations at home will help reduce our clean up time and costs. As always, thank you for your understanding and cooperation in maintaining our sacred grounds.

DOVER INTERFAITH MISSION FOR HOUSING

Anyone interested in providing a dinner for the DIMH Men's shelter can call 302-736-3600. The shelter is located across from the Salvation Army building.

The shelter will have to move to a new location at the end of the year. They are also asking for anyone interested in donating money to help build/redo a new building to house the shelter. They would like to have a permanent location in the future. If interested in donating, you can send your donation to DIMH Shelter, 684 Forrest Street, Dover, DE 19904.

LENT

- During Lent Holy Cross will offer the daily 8 am Mass, Monday thru Saturday. They will also offer a 12:10 pm Mass on Mondays and Fridays only.
- Confessions at Holy Cross will be at 5:30 pm on Fridays during Lent in addition to the normal Saturday morning time of 8:30—10 am.
- Stations of the Cross will take place at HC and ICC at 7 pm on Fridays during Lent.

- **Prácticas Cuaresmales y todo el tiempo en la vida del cristiano. La Oración, el Ayuno y la Limosna.**
- **Limosna-** La limosna, debe ser dada con generosidad y alegría porque estas contribuyendo al sostenimiento de tu iglesia que uno de los mandamientos de la santa Madre Iglesia. La mayoría de las iglesias dependen de la generosidad de sus fieles que dejan cada domingo. Durante la Cuaresma sea más generoso, da una ofrenda sacrificial, tu parroquia necesita de tus tesoros, talentos y tiempo para llevar la fe a las periferias de nuestra sociedad, a las personas que no conocen a Cristo; y sobre todo, para alimentar con la Palabra de Dios a los que tienen hambre de la Palabra. Iglesia recomienda en particular la práctica, durante la Cuaresma, de las obras de misericordias corporales y espirituales: Las siete obras de misericordia corporales: Dar de comer al hambriento, dar de beber al sediento, vestir al desnudo, dar posada al inmigrante, visitar los enfermos, visitar a los presos, sepultar a los muertos. Los siete obras de misericordia espirituales: Dar consejo al que lo necesita, enseñar al que no sabe, corregir al que se equivoca, Consolar al triste, Perdonar las ofensas, Soportar con paciencia los defectos de nuestros prójimos, Rezar a Dios por los vivos y por los muertos.
- **Plato de Arroz:** Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma Tus sacrificios Cuaresmal cambian vidas. Por favor de devolver ala parroquia tu cajita con tu ofrenda sacrificial de Cuaresma.
- Si hay algún adulto que no ha recibido su sacramento de la Confirmación y desea información sobre las clases por favor anótese con la Sra. Arline Dosman. adosman@holycrossdover.org Recuerde que para ser un padrino tiene que tener todos los Sacramentos de Iniciación Cristiana.
- Felicitamos a la nueva Junta Directiva de la parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción que fue instalada el domingo pasa-

do servirán un periodo de dos años 2121-2023, también en ora buena a la directiva de Jovenes.

ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

¡Traiga sus mochilas Azul con libros a clase!

La Sesión 4 se estará estregando ahora. Por favor venga al salón después de la Misa para recoger el suyo. Si alguna familia no está asistiendo presencialmente a misa, por favor de avisarles que recojan los libros de sus hijos,

Grupo 2- grados 1, 2, en el salón, 4,5 en los salones del Basement (sótano) y RICA en el salón de computadoras- presencial 14 de marzo.

Grupo 1- grados 3,6, en el salón, 7,8 en el sótano (basement), y RICA estará en el salón de computadoras - presencial el 21 de marzo.

Si tiene alguna pregunta o prefiere que sus hijos continúen haciendo Educación Religiosa en casa, hágaselo saber a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti, Directora de Educación Religiosa al 410-482-8939 o envíele un correo electrónico a dre@iccmmarydel.org

¡Cuaresma! Los libros con material de la Cuaresma para los niños, todavía se siguen entregando.

2021 clases de Preparación para la Primera Comunión.

La próxima sesión: martes, 23 de marzo, a las 6:30 en el salón.

Preparación para la Confirmación 2020-2021-ICC

El Sacramento de la Confirmación para los adolescentes, tendrá lugar el 10 de abril a las 11:30 de la mañana en Dover. El ensayo será el viernes 9 de abril a las 7:30pm en Santa Cruz, Dover. Por favor sea puntual.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Regular Class

April 11 3:30-5:30 pm

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

LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH)

April 11, 10:30-12:30 in the Matthew/Mark Room

Next session May 9

CONFIRMATION CLASSES (HC)

Our final class for Confirmation Preparation will take place on Sunday, March 21 and Wednesday, March 24.

Sunday classes at 2 pm and 4 pm will meet in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday class at 6 pm will meet in the Junior High classroom as normal.

YOUTH GROUP (HC)

We will meet on Saturday, March 27, to make candy and cookies for the Samaritan Easter Baskets.

Time slots for one hour service - 1 pm - 2 pm and 3 pm

You must sign up for a time slot - please email ldarling@holycrossdover.org with you time preference, parent cell phone and parent email. Numbers are limited - Please wear a mask - gloves and sanitizer will be provided. You MUST be pre-registered - no walkins.

KEY CHAINS (HC)

For our teens beginning to drive this year, or those from last year who were not able to receive a key chain, please let Mrs. Darling know you would like one. ldarling@holycrossdover.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SRE (ICC)

Bring your Blue Book Bags with books to class! Unit 4 is being handed out now. Please come to the hall after Masses and collect yours. If you know families that are not physically coming to Church, let them know to pick up books. Many still have not gotten Unit 3.

Group 2- grades 1, 2, in the hall, 4, 5 in the basement and RCIA in the computer center- on site today **March 14.**

Group 1- grades 3, 6, in the hall, 7, 8 in the basement, and RCIA in the computer center -on site **March 21.**

Alicia Poppiti, Director of Religious Education at

410-482-8939 or dre@iccmarylodel.org

LENT: Lenten booklets for the children are still being given out.

2021 FIRST COMMUNION PREP-ICC

Next session: Tuesday, March 23, at 6:30pm in the Hall.

CONFIRMATION 2020-2021-ICC

The Sacrament of Confirmation for the Youth, will take place at Holy Cross in Dover on **Saturday, April 10th at 11:30am.**

Rehearsal is the evening before, Friday, April 9th at 7:30pm at Holy Cross, please be prompt.

Rice Bowls: Fourth Sunday of Lent For farmers near and far, that they reap abundant harvests to feed their families, their communities and the world. We pray to the Lord ...

For our community, that we may recognize the effects that our actions have on the environment, and those who cultivate the land for nourishment and livelihoods. We pray to the Lord ...

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

TRYING NEW FOODS IN TIMOR-LESTE:

has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Asia, and many children suffer from stunting, which makes a big impact on a child's growth and future. Home gardens and fishponds are helping families provide better nutrition for their children. What do you eat to stay healthy? What can you do to ensure children have enough food to thrive? Visit crrsicebowl.org to learn more.

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED

The Shoe fundraiser at ICC raised \$1,169.60 for Immaculate Conception. Wow, that's a lot of shoes. We appreciate your help in donating all of those shoes!!

LENT
PRAYER FASTING ALMS GIVING



It has always been said that hope springs eternal. It is true. Sadly though, it's not pleasant when we learn that our hopes have been dashed.

We never really expected there to be a 2020 Christmas parade in Dover. So when we received the official word of its cancellation, we weren't too broken-hearted. But, because hope springs eternal we held on to the prospect that things might change slightly for St. Patrick's Day. Holy Cross always participates in the St. Patrick's Day parade; where we've been awarded for our performance. The official word came down of the parade's cancellation. There was some disappointment, but then Mrs. Swartzentruber and the award winning Holy Cross Marching Band reached down for their proverbial boot straps, pulled themselves up and continued to prepare for the parade!! Oh yes, there will be a St. Patrick's Day parade in Dover. It might not march down Lookerman Street for the entertainment of all the city's citizens, but there will indeed be a parade.

I was in the Music Room one day last week where it was a treat for me to listen to the wide array of music in the band's portfolio. It was the woodwinds, brass, and percussion sections that were in class that day. Most of the band members have been playing their instrument since fifth grade and have become quite accomplished at their skill. I have always been a huge fan of our Drum Line. I watched as they carefully handled their respective instrument; the snares, those clumsy looking quads, the weighty bass, the shiny brass cymbals, expertly extricate themselves from the rest of the band as they prepared to practice their festive parade piece, Irish Jaunting Car. Taking the lead at the front, stick heights the same all way across, Kylie, our Drum Captain signaled the beginning of cadence. Honestly, it just gives me goosebumps; I just love it so much. And, I think it's because they are so young to be so darned good! The rest of the band knew the exact time to join in and if I had my eyes closed I would have thought I was standing along the parade route. I have always been intrigued by the trombone players, how do they know where to stop in pushing out that hand slide? And those trumpet players able to produce all that beautiful music with just three buttons? The clarinet is another mystery with so many more buttons... which ones to push?? Another thing I stand in amazement of, the training and use of their lung capacity and learning when and how to breathe in performance, especially those trombones! Obviously, I'm no musician and that's why I have so much respect and admiration for those who are.

Don't you worry though; we will be striking up our band real soon. It won't be the same, but their devoted fans will line the parade route and be sure to enjoy the sight and sounds of the Holy Cross Marching Band!

One of the many assets in the curriculum of our school lies in the Arts, both Music Performance and Visual. Several weeks ago we learned of our Gold

and Silver Key honorees through their participation in this year's National Scholastic Art competition. The NSA program is cross-curricular in that it incorporates ELA standards for writing as well in that each of the artists is required to write an artist statement focusing on their creation. Mrs. Benini skillfully guides her SA students through to submission in the areas of Fashion and Design, Editorial Cartoon, Sculpture, Digital Art, and Jewelry just to mention a few. Hours, and hours are spent in crafting the design, adding just the right detail, using the best materials, selecting just the right color, adjusting the shading. Sometimes the clock ticks to the final hour and the pressure is on. They worked before school, after school, recess, any few minutes of free time they had to lend to the work of the project. Sometimes there's frustration, and sometimes the artist just wants to cash it all in and walk away. Another one of the valuable lessons learned is perseverance. This year all of our students' submissions were awarded recognition. Holy Cross artists were recipients of ten awards. There were four Gold Keys, four Silver Keys, and two Honorable Mentions. HCS submitted ten works of art, and every single submission was awarded recognition.

*When you eat the fruit of the labor of your hands,
You will be happy and it will go well for you.*

Psalm 128

The Holy Cross Chapter of the National Junior Art Honor Society was established several years ago. Every year we induct new members. Our induction ceremony for this year took place on a recent Tuesday evening in the Parish Hall with a lovely candlelit ceremony. Holy Cross is proud of and sends sincere congratulations to Annachiara G., Vasco G., Sophia P., Ava V., Samantha W., and Giusy Z. who are recognized for their induction into the NJAHS in the 2021 SY. Their works, along with other NJAHS member works are on proud display in the junior high building.

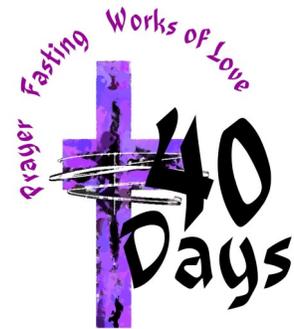
This is Lent. This past week all Diocesan administrators participated in a retreat day facilitated by Reverend Brian Lewis. The theme for the day surrounded the biblical significance of the number seven. Father Lewis was masterful in his presentation which began with a discussion of Dante Alighieri and his Divine Comedy. A poem, The Divine Comedy, is one of the most important works of medieval literature. An imaginary journey through Hell, Purgatory and Paradise, the work explores ideas of the afterlife in medieval Christian belief. Interweaving the seven Deadly Sins, the seven Corporal Works of Mercy, the seven Lively Virtues, the seven Models of Mary, and the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Father's message left us all with much to reflect upon. Pride, we learned is the first of the seven deadly sins.

I remain guilty as charged; I am Crusader Proud.

-day period after Easter (until Ascension).

- **Life Begins at 40.** In Acts of the Apostles 7:23-24, we are informed that “When [Moses] was 40 years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel. And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking the Egyptian.” So, Moses began his period of being a leader and defender of his people at age 40.
- **Testing Time.** In Hebrews 3:7-11, it recounts God lamenting the unfaithfulness of his Chosen People who doubted and turned against him in the desert on the way to the Promised Land: “Today, when you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for 40 years.” Remember when Jesus was in the desert and the Devil tempted Him, and He told the Devil do not put God, “to the test.”, He was referencing that event in salvation history.
- **40 Days of Christmas.** We are all familiar with the 12 days of Christmas, but in Catholic tradition, the Christmas Season lasts for 40 days, beginning at Christmas and continuing until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2.
- **Divine and Human.** From the Transfiguration of the Lord (August 6) to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14) — from his first appearance in his Divinity to his last (pre-Easter) appearance in his humanity is 40 days (inclusive).
- **Advent-ure to the Epiphany.** The Season of Advent is ideally four weeks (which is ideally 28 days). From Christmas day, the number of days before Christ was made known to the world was 12 (i.e. Epiphany, the 12th day of Christmas). So, from the start of the preparation of the coming of the Savior, to the day his being manifested to the world is... you guessed it... 40 days. But this only works out during years in which we have an ideal Advent that is a full four weeks.
- **Plus 2.** Interestingly, in the Book of Revelation, when the Beast (the Devil) engages people in times of trial or tribulation, his time frame is connected not to the number 40, but rather the number 42. Because a sense of holiness and God-at-work is connected to 40, the Devil uses a different number. We see this, for example, in Revelation 13:5, “And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.”

There are many other Biblical references to the number 40. However, many of 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 needs to accomplish what God requires of us or a sense of a time of testing and preparation. 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 in the Lenten season, let us use them well.



Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor

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SAMARITANS CAN USE YOUR HELP

Thank you to all who have been contributing food and/or money to the Samaritans. We continue to provide meals for needy families each week. Your generosity makes this possible.

We are now collecting food items to do our Easter baskets. We need hams or small meats for the baskets along with other canned items for the basket.

We always can use canned potatoes, vegetables, applesauce, fruits, soups, cereals, peanut butter, jelly, soups, juices, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, and other canned meats.

Thank you again for your continued support to those needy around us!!