



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 CHURCH

March 22, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Lent

holy cross

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2 pm

SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:15, 11:00 am, 6 pm
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish
First Saturday, 5 pm, Children's Choir
Fourth Saturday, 5 pm, Gospel Choir
Alternate Sundays, 6 pm, Youth Choir

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, 6:30, 8 am
Wednesday, 8:15 am, Saturday, 8 am
During Lent, Monday-Friday, 12:10 pm also
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day,
MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,
Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4 pm, First Friday, 8:30 am
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am-Midnight

icc

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, 7 pm, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Sunday, after 8:30 am Mass
Thursday, 6:30 pm



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

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

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

Sacrament of Baptism. Call the parish 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.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

ending March 8

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$24,991	\$28,000	(\$3,009)
YTD	\$1,030,923	\$1,023,400	\$7,523
Needs	\$1,175	\$1,586	(\$411)

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC)

Ending March 8

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$3,302
Second	\$640

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs, and activities of Holy Cross and ICC are made possible.

“Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold.”

We have emailed contribution letters for 2019 to your email(s) on we have on file. If you do not receive one and would like it mailed to you, please contact Michele Dornberger at mdornberger@holycrossdover.org or call the Parish Office at 674 5787 ext 116.

Dear Parishioners,

In these challenging days, our Church is coping with both the ongoing spread of the coronavirus and the spread of the anxiety associated with it. We are also challenged by the suspension of public Masses as well as a great restriction on the sacramental life and parish life that is part of Catholic way of life here at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception.

We are also facing a bit of isolation in our every day lives. The human contact that marks our Christian interaction in every day life is under strain and restriction. We know that we may not be gathering as a community for a while — and none of us like that scenario. But like it or not, we must face it.

To help you, the faithful of Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception Parishes, let me first tell you that your Priests -- myself, Fr. Etim, Fr. Mano and Msgr. Dan -- are all praying for you, and we'd ask you do likewise for us. In terms of assistance in keeping one's faith strong and spiritual life sound, in these trying days, I have prepared for you many Spiritual Resources. These resources will be available here on the Holy Cross website and the Immaculate Conception website. They are crafted for every day of the week, are four-fold in nature:

- One contains the Daily Mass Reading
- One provided Devotional Prayer opportunities
- One provides spiritual texts from the "Office of Readings"
- One provides insight/reflection into the Live of the Saints.

I hope that you are able to take advantage of these resources, and that in some small way that give you solace, and remind you that you and I, and all the rest, who are part of this parish community, while sepa-

rated physically, can still grow together in faith. I look forward to the day when we once again gather together to praise the Lord, and receive the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist. Be vigilant, be pray-ers, and as Christ commends us: Be not afraid!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. James S. Lentini
Pastor

The Diocesan Offices will be sending the priests information periodically during this Coronavirus Pandemic. We will do our best to pass this information on to you, our parishioners, via the website, emails, and through the bulletin that will be online.

Parish Offices are now open Monday through Fridays, 9 am to 2 pm. You can always leave a message on our Voicemail and someone will return your all as soon as possible.

Email is another great way to communicate with us. You can emails:

Secretary@holycrossdover.org

Pastor@holycrossdover.org

These emails will be checked daily and messages will be passed on to the appropriate person.

Confessions will be appointment only at this time, if absolutely necessary. You can call the Parish Office to leave your contact information or email to one of the address above.



HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F. Pastor
 Rev. Idongesit Etim Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Mano Salla Parochial Vicar

HC CLERGY

Msgr. Daniel McGlynn Pastor Emeritus
 Mr. Philip Belt Deacon
 Mr. John Harvey Deacon
 Mr. Robert McMullen Deacon
 Mr. Scott Peterson Deacon
 Mr. Vincent Pisano Deacon

ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell Deacon
 Mr. James Tormey Deacon

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
 Maryland, MD 21649-0399

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

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

Linda Pollitt Principal, ext. 111

MAILING ADDRESS

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

ST. THOMAS MORE ACADEMY

Catholic Education Grades 9 to 12
 302 697 8100
 saintmore.org

Rachael Casey Principal

MAILING ADDRESS

St. Thomas More Academy
 133 Thomas More Dr.
 Magnolia, DE 19962

PRO LIFE CORNER

- Help save lives of the unborn in Dover. Join Holy Cross and other local church groups in prayer each Friday morning from 9 AM – noon at Planned Parenthood of Dover.
- **The second trimester – Week 14:** Baby's sex becoming apparent - Fourteen weeks into your pregnancy, or 12 weeks after conception, your baby's neck has become more defined and the lower limbs are well-developed. Red blood cells are forming in your baby's spleen. Your baby's sex will become apparent this week or in the coming weeks. By now your baby might be almost 3 1/2 inches (87 millimeters) long from crown to rump and weigh about 1 1/2 ounces (45 grams).
- **About 40 Days for Life:** The 40 Days for Life Campaign is in progress, continuing through April 5th. Join us at Planned Parenthood to pray for an end to abortion whenever you are available. More information online at www.40daysforlife.com/dover or www.40daysdover.com.

"If a womb had a window, the world would sit up and take notice." ~Allene Vanoirschot

READINGS FOR MARCH 29 5TH SUNDAY LENT

The Good New we live by is a message of life. The Spirit of life, which hovered over creation at its very beginning, has been given to us. That Spirit calls us together now to sing the praises of the God from whom all life comes.

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 37:12-14

Only the Lord can raise the dead to life.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:8-11

The Spirit of God—the Spirit of life—has made a home in us.

GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1-45

Jesus tells us that whoever believes in him will never die.

MASS INTENTIONS

While there are no public Masses at this time, our priests will be saying private Masses each day. During their private Masses, the intentions of the day will be remembered. On the weekend, the priests will be saying several private Masses to cover all of the intentions that occur on the weekend. Your loved ones will still be remembered in prayer.

LAYMEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND

At this time, this Men 's Retreat is still scheduled: A weekend retreat is an opportunity to remove yourself from the everyday cares of the world and find contentment that only a retreat can bring you. Think about it. The Archbishop Fitzmaurice Group weekend retreat is April 24-26, 2020 at St. Joseph's-in-the-Hills, Malvern, PA. For more information, please visit our website at www.malvernretreat.com or call Don Crews 674-0944, Deacon Bob McMullen 697-9714 or Harvey Speed 697-3773

CHWC IN DOVER (HC)

Catholic Heart Work Camp in Dover: We will be welcoming 225 youth and adults to our area the last week in June. They will be working Monday through Thursday June 22 to June 25. If you, or someone you know, could use a hand with yard work, painting, light repair work, lifting, moving items, or cleaning, please call the Youth Ministry Office at 302-674-5787 X123 or email ldarling@holycrossover.org.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

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

PARENTING POINTERS

It's all about balance and equality. Is your family satisfied with the balance of chores that each person contributes to the household?



MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH

23 MONDAY	
HC 6:30 am	Dec. Mem. Radetich Family
HC 8:00 am	Raymond Cola
12:10 pm	
24 TUESDAY	
HC 6:30 am	Joanne Walker
HC 8:00 am	Arthur Kilingbeil
HC 12:10 pm	Irene Looney
25 WEDNESDAY	
HC 6:30 am	Carl Hoberman
HC 8:15 am	Joseph Caputo
HC 12:10 pm	Mark Tigani
26 THURSDAY	
HC 6:30 am	Marian Hitch (LI)
HC 8:00 am	Matthew Giannone
HC 12:10 pm	Ruth Ann Monds (LI)
ICC 7 pm	For the People
27 FRIDAY	
HC 6:30 am	Thomas R. MacLeish
HC 8:00 am	Evan Seelig (LI)
HC 12:10 pm	Dec Mem. Jones Family
28 SATURDAY	
HC 8 am	Gerald Pepper
HC 5 pm	Robert A. Bronk
29 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	Myra Worley
ICC 8:30 am	Doug Rapsavage
HC 9:15 am	Stephen Smisson
HC 11 am	Aldalgisa Di Sandro
ICC 11 am	Martin Hogan
HC 1 pm	For the People
ICC 1 pm	For the People
HC 6 pm	George V. Sawyer

(LI = LIVING INTENTION)

TABERNACLE & SANCTUARY LAMP DEDICATIONS (MAR 22- MAR 28)

HC Adoration Chapel Margaret Roman
 HC Church Sharon Hull (LI).

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION HOURS AVAILABLE (HC)

Contact JoAnn Pate 302-674-4496 for one of the hours listed below. Lent would be the PERFECT time to start visiting the Adoration Chapel. Stop by to spend some time with our Lord. Visitors are always welcome.

SUNDAY	11 am, 4 pm, 11 pm
MONDAY	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	5 am, 11 am, 5 pm, 11 pm
THURSDAY	7 am, Noon, 11 pm
FRIDAY	6 am, 10 pm
SATURDAY	5 am, Noon, 4 pm, 8 pm, 9 pm, 10 pm, 11 pm

FROM THE DIOCESE

FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS...

Some daily Mass information for you to use during this time where we cannot attend Mass in the church:

- Bishop Robert Barron is posting his daily Mass online at <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>
- Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York is live streaming their daily Mass at <https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live>
- EWTN lives streams their daily Mass each weekday at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. at <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live>
- USCCB has some items that might be of interest at <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm> and <https://catholiccurrent.org/covid19/>

MSGR. CHARLIE BROWN HAS SHARED THIS SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER:"

"My Jesus, I believe that you're present in the Holy Sacrament. I love You above all else, and I desire You in my soul. As long as I can't receive You sacramentally, at least enter spiritually into my soul."
 (brief pause to unite oneself with Jesus)
 "Since you've come, I embrace you and unite my entire self with You; don't let me ever separate myself from You."

YOUNG AT HEART (HC)

Young at Heart Seniors scheduled for April 20th has been cancelled. We will send out information at a later date if the next meeting in May will be held.

Please continue to check out the Holy Cross Website for more updates in reference to changes taking place due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum every Saturday morning at 11:00 on Relevant Radio 640. Next Saturday, March 28th, Fr. Edward Looney will discuss his book, "A Lenten Journey with Mother Mary." After it airs, listen online anytime at www.cdow.org/CatholicForum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Catholicforum.

CHECK
THE
PARISH
WEBSITE

HOLYCROSSDOVER.ORG

DAILY
FOR
UPDATES
THAT
ON
THE
CORONAVIRUS
PANDEMIC

SAMARITAN FOOD NEEDS (HC)

The Samaritan Food Pantry is collecting items to help with our Easter Baskets that will be given away to needy families this Easter.

The items that are being requested are:

- HAMS 6, 8, 10, or 12 pounds
- Whole Chickens
- Pineapple Rings, Sweet Potatoes/ Yams
- Canned Fruit
- Peas, Corn Green Beans, Mac and Cheese
- Rice, 1-2 pound bags
- Desert (Brownies)



Please leave perishable items in the freezer by the Samaritan pick up door and non perishable items can be left in the bins in the lobby of the

Gathering Space. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

Jonathan's Landing is suspending all events including leagues until May 11th at the earliest. As a result, the earliest date we could start the league would be Wednesday May 13th and that could change.

Please send questions to:

Phil Spampinato PhilSpampinato01@gmail.com

Dominic Venezia drv3rd@aol.com

- El párroco de Las parroquias de Holy Cross, Dover, Delaware y La Inmaculada Concepción, Marydel, Maryland, Reverendo padre James Lentini, siguiendo las directrices emitido el 15 de marzo, de 2020, por el decreto del Señor obispo Francisco Malooly obispo de la Diócesis de Wilmington y después de consultar con funcionarios del gobierno, profesionales médicos, sacerdotes, emitió un comunicado sobre la propagación del coronavirus COVID-19. Ha declarado y entra en efecto de inmediato y hasta nuevo aviso lo siguiente:
- Están suspendidas todas las misas públicas en la Diócesis de Wilmington hasta nuevo aviso. Este esfuerzo está diseñado para ayudar a proteger al público y prevenir la propagación del virus COVID-19.
- Todos los eventos parroquiales incluyendo, clases de educación religiosa, culto, reuniones de los distintos ministerios están totalmente suspendidos o pospuesto hasta futuro aviso.
- Bautizos, bodas y funerales se celebrarán con familiares inmediatos que no excedan más de diez personas.
- Confesiones solo en casos de urgencia llame a la oficina parroquial para hacer una cita con un sacerdote para confesarse.
- Todas las escuelas católicas diocesanas y parroquiales y los programas de educación religiosa, en Delaware y la costa este de Maryland, se cerrarán o cancelarán durante dos semanas a partir del lunes 16 de marzo de 2020. A partir de ahora, las escuelas están programadas para reabrir el lunes 30 de marzo, 2020. Todos los

eventos deportivos de CYM (incluyendo la peregrinación con el Sr. Obispo el sábado 4 de abril) han sido cancelados hasta nuevo aviso.

- Se les pide que no tome esta situación ligera, use buenas prácticas de higiene de lavarse las manos frecuentemente, evitar el contacto cercano con personas enfermas, evitar tocarse los ojos, la nariz y la boca, quedarse en casa si está enfermo, cubrirse la nariz y la boca con un pañuelo desechable al toser o estornudar y luego botarlo a la basura, limpiar y desinfectar los objetos y las superficies que se tocan frecuentemente, usando un producto común de limpieza de uso doméstico en rociador o toallita.
- Estamos conscientes de que esto es un periodo difícil que estamos viviendo en todo el mundo por el coronavirus COVID-19 y la alteración de nuestra vida sacramental el párroco ha sugerido ir en línea para alimentarnos espiritualmente escuchando la Santa Misa, reflexiones y lecturas del día. Puede entrar a la página cibernética de Holy Cross Dover o ir a
- <https://www.iccmarydel.org> o visite USCCB, para reflexiones y las lecturas diarias de la Sagrada Escritura en español. Lectio Divina y otras devociones que nos ayudaran. Ore en familia, llame a sus familiares, especialmente los mayores de edad. Les pido que oren por los fieles de nuestras parroquias y por todos los afectados por la suspensión de la Santa Misa.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

REGULAR CCD CLASSES

- **All classes are cancelled at this time. Please continue to check the website or the latest bulletins that are online.**

LOVE-SERVE-CONNECT GOLF TOURNAMENT (HC)

This tournament has been cancelled per Jonathan's Golf Course.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/SRE (ICC)

- Classes for Religious Ed are have been cancelled at this time. Please continue to check the website or latest bulletins that are online.

SRE REGISTRATIONS (ICC)

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2020-2021 school year are available at the desk of Mrs. Alicia in the hall during SRE. We would like to have all registered for next year to plan for materials, classrooms and teachers. Please return registrations to Ms. Alicia or office.

Fees are as follows: \$40 per child, not to exceed \$150 per family. This is to defray all costs of books, materials, and supplies.

LAS MATRICULAS: para nuestro programa de formación cristiana de niños en domingo están todavía disponibles en el despacho parroquial, en la entrada principal del templo, y en el internet. Favor de someterlas en lo más pronto posible, con la cobra de \$40 por cada niño, y no más de \$150 cada familia.

VIDEO/STUDY BOOK SERIES (ICC)

ICC is offering a video/study book series once again, for 10 Sessions that extend to approximately a 12 week time frame. "Symbolon": The Catholic Faith Explained-Knowing the Faith. If you are interested, please contact Alicia Poppiti to register. The cost is \$25 for Part 1 and registration is necessary in order to have your participant guide. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me. 410-482-8939.

PRAYER TO ST. ROCCO

O Great St. Rocco, deliver us, we beseech thee, from the scourges of God; through thy intercession, preserve our bodies from contagious diseases, and our souls from the contagion of sin. Obtain for us salubrious air; but, above all, purity of heart. Assist us to make good use of health, to bear suffering with patience; and, after thy example, to live in the practice of penance and charity, that we may one day enjoy the happiness which thou has merited by thy virtues. St. Rocco, pray for us (say three times).



WHO IS ST. ROCCO?

St. Rocco was a nobleman who distributed all of his worldly goods to the poor, And traveled humbly throughout 14th century Italy as a pilgrim, devoting himself to victims of the plague, curing them with prayer and the sign of the cross.

During his travels, he too contracted the plague which was evident by an open sore on his leg. After many sufferings and much patience, St. Rocco was eventually cured.

I love to read. Like many, I can lose myself in the printed word in a matter of...say maybe...10 seconds. I love the warmth and the scent of bookstores. I can lose myself in a bookstore in a matter of moments. I love libraries. In the days of my youth, whole days would be spent reading, wandering, researching, and loving the environment of a library. I would love to have a library in my home, but I don't. I have kept books that I have read. I have books I have yet to read. Reading time is precious time, because there is so little of it. I need to find the time where, with a hot cup of tea at my fingertips I can lose myself only to emerge a couple of hours later without the guilty feeling that my time could have been more wisely put to use. My favorite genre is Historical Fiction. I have probably learned more world history in my pleasure reading than in some of my history classes. Theodore Roosevelt, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, Vladimir Lenin, St. Maximilian Kolbe and Theodore's cousin, Franklin, just to name but a few are historical favorites of mine. I have also read several books set during the great American war periods and felt deep sympathy for the plight of those persecuted, victimized and oppressed, for those who sacrificed, and for those who lost.

Ironically enough, I no longer possess my three favorite books. I used to share a good book with friends, but sadly enough all three of my favorites were never returned to me. My most favorite book is *The Silver Chalice* written by Thomas B. Costain. *The Silver Chalice* recounts the story of Basil, a young silversmith, who is commissioned by the apostle Luke to fashion a holder for the cup Jesus used at the Last Supper. This rich story includes 1st century biblical and historical figures: Luke, Joseph of Arimathea and the apostle Peter. Oodles of history, and a smidge of mystery in this great novel. So, what about the other two favorites? Hmmmm.....

With reading being my favorite pastime, it's no wonder that I get so excited about Literacy Week. We've been having a bunch of fun this week celebrating literacy. Mrs. Bolton and Mrs. Guido combined their enthusiastic spirit and love for reading to put together a fun-filled week. Let me tell you all about it!

Monday: LITERACY IS COOL IN MY SCHOOL! Students wore their gym uniform or some other HCS spirit wear to demonstrate just how cool literacy and HCS really are.

Tuesday: READING WILL KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF!- So, we wore our silliest socks!

Wednesday: (after Mass) READING WILL TAKE YOU PLACES!- We wore college shirt/colors over our

uniforms.

Thursday- HATS OFF TO READING!- I wish you could have seen some of the hats...so cute! Everything from Dr. Seuss to Santa Claus, there was Christina is her hard hat, along with Arianna and Harper in their spring straw chapeaux.

Friday: WE ARE WELL-READ! What color do you think everyone wore?

Tuesday evening marked our evening dedicated to Literacy. With Kindness as the prevailing theme, books were read and crafts were designed by Mrs. Borden, Mrs. Speed, Mrs. Knox, Miss Hauss, Mrs. Kolakowski, Mrs. Benini, Mrs. Guido, and Mrs. Peek. Mrs. Bolton was the lead event planner for this enjoyable evening with literature. Many thanks to those teachers for their input, assistance, and dedication to our school and students

I had fun on Wednesday when the third grade was visited by their friends in sixth grade for a bookmark exchange and a cool writing activity crafting creative captions for funny animal pictures. On Thursday I had a blast! I read the book *Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson where kindness, courtesy, respect, and friendship are the prevailing themes throughout this entertaining story. The story begins....

"It was the perfect summer. That is, until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighborhood enemy number one..."

So there I was reading the story, with not a creature stirring; not even a mouse when all of a sudden there was the intrusion of loud music, and sixth graders popping up from the floor dancing all about with books in their hands. For all the world, it was a flash mob right here at HCS! And it was a singing flash mob!! Read! Read! Read! sung to the tune of the Black Eyed Peas hit *I Gotta Feeling*.

And then the story continued and we learned the outcome of the story of *Enemy Pie*. So much fun and enjoyment is to be had as we grow and learn here at HCS.

Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett and *The Robe*, authored by Lloyd C. Douglas.
[my other two favorite books....]

HAPPY READING!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Our Ravens have been reflecting these last few weeks, even as they prepare for the next stage of their lives with hope and excitement. I am so proud of their resilience and faith! I have appreciated all of the fond memories shared and desire to lift each other and their experiences at STMA up in laughter and gratitude. I thought you might also find inspiration and some smiles in reading some comments from our class of freshmen:

"I like the people and the small community and the teachers [at Saint Thomas More Academy]. I had a lot of experiences I wouldn't have had at another school, like being on the basketball team."

"I love the [cafeteria] food and the clubs I am in. I felt I was a part of a safe environment and a school I had lots of laughter at. There is really nothing I haven't liked! I have memories I will remember forever here."

"Some of my favorite experiences [at STMA] are the picnic before the school year started, the freshman [spiritual] retreat, the field hockey season, art class, all the group games we play in class, and Zumba."

"I've had an amazing time at STMA. All the students and faculty are really nice and helpful. I had a lot of fun playing field hockey for the first time and the coach was really helpful. I got to meet a bunch of new friends here at STMA and not all of them are in the same grade as me."

"[Some of the things I appreciate about STMA most include] a family-like support, that those who care let you know it, that strong bonds have been formed in a short amount of time, and being in a place I'm excited to go to, look forward to, and don't want to leave when the day is over."

And one more, from an alumnus who even quotes from our Alma Mater:

"'God preserve your hallowed halls.' So many great memories. I still remember my first day In September 1998 vividly. I could write for hours about my time at the school. To all alumni..'soar

as Ravens soar.'"

Soar we will! Keep up to date with our social media pages and right here in the bulletin for news on how we seize opportunities to celebrate all the best things we love about our school and as we cherish our spring semester with the friends and faculty we've come to call family!

Yours in Christ,

Rachael A. Casey
Principal

