

# 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 26, 2023

5th Sunday of Lent

holy cross

### 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

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8 am  
Wednesday – 8:15 am  
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 – 9 pm

icc

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm  
Closed Wednesday and Friday

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

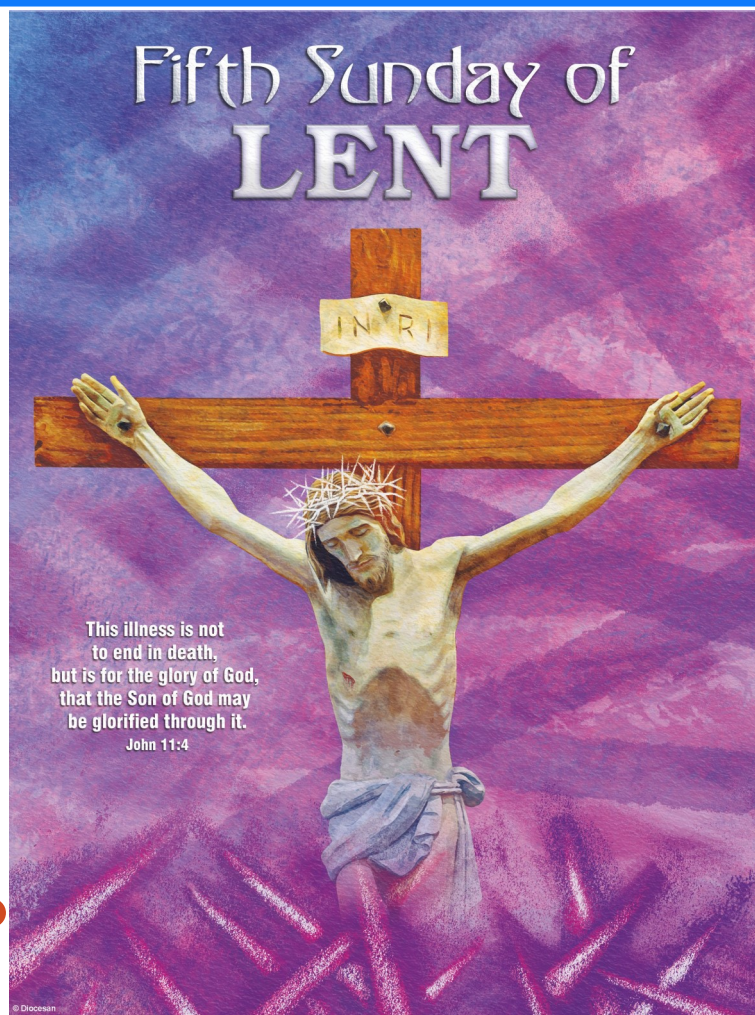
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am  
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 9:30 am  
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 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.

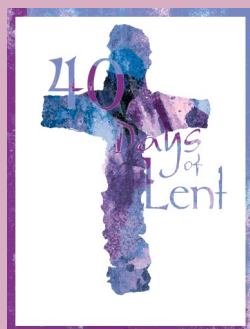
**Sacrament of Holy Orders.** If you believe you have, or someone you know has, a vocation to the Priesthood or Diaconate, please contact one of our parish priests.

**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.

## LENT

The rules for fasting and abstinence for Lent are as follows:

- Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent.
- Every person between the age of 18 and 60 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on all other Fridays of the year, unless he or she substitutes some other form of penance for abstinence.



## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending March 12, 2023

\$26,106	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$26,106	\$27,225	(\$1,119)
YTD	\$986,697	\$1,015,450	(\$28,753)
Needs	\$881	\$1,604	(\$723)

## WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending March 12, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,442
Second Collection	\$527

Thank you to all advertisers in our bulletin.  
We appreciate your support!  
If you know of someone who would like to advertise in the bulletin, please contact Diocesan Publications at 800-233-8200.

Dear Parishioners,

There is an island off the coast of Scotland – well off the coast of Scotland – beyond the Outer Hebrides; it is called Flannan Island (or collectively, with neighboring islands, Flannan Isles). As tradition tells us, this was an uninhabited island that a Bishop, St. Flannan, went to in the seventh century in anticipation perhaps of establishing a Christian community. It was there that he built a church. The remains of that Church are still there today on that island.

**A Lightbulb Goes On!** The island itself, later given the name Flannan Island, never did develop a Christian community, or any population to speak of. Fast forward to 1899, and it was decided that due to the rocky coastal area and the increase of ships in the area, a lighthouse should be erected. And so, it was, in late 1899, the Flannan Island lighthouse beacon blazed for the first time.

**Missing.** In 1900, with the light house operational, it became manned by three men: James Ducat, Thomas Marshall, and Donald McArthur (with another employee spending time on shore). On December 15, 1900, a passing ship noticed the lighthouse was not functioning, and it reported the circumstance. A relief vessel was soon sent and arrived the day after Christmas to check on things. As the crew of the relief vessel, *The Hesperus*, approached the island, they noted the flag was not flying as it normally would, nor did any of the staff of the lighthouse come out to greet them.

**Weather or not.** When they landed and went to the light house, they found no one. They examined the lighthouse and found none of the lighthouse keepers. They found their beds unmade and their clocks unwound. One report said that an uneaten meal was sitting out on the table in the kitchen area. Some reports asserted that log entries indicated high winds and storms around the island; but the area weather reports indicated the opposite. As one report of the incident stated: *“Everything was in order. The lamp was ready to be lit and it was evident that the work of the forenoon of the 15th had been completed. This indicated the men had disappeared on the afternoon of Saturday, December 15.”*

**What Happened?** So, what happened to the men at the Flannan Isle lighthouse remains a mystery. The most common theory is that a large wave or waves may have engulfed the island, and the men, outside – securing the property or helping an endangered co-worker – were washed away. Damage to some of the iron railings, as well as turf damage on a cliff 200

feet high, could indicate that scenario. Other theories, some fanciful, arose also: that the island was attacked by a sea monster; that the men abandoned the island set off to start new lives elsewhere; that one of the men killed the other two and then fled; or that a ghostly presence on the island led them to their deaths.

**Of Genesis and Mysteries.** In any event, no one knows what happened at the Flannan Island lighthouse. The truth remains shrouded in mystery. We don’t know how, when, why, or who caused this circumstance. And for this reason, the mystery of the Flannan Island lighthouse continues to be pondered, reconsidered, and speculated about today – it remains one of the great mysteries in Scottish maritime history. The rock group Genesis even wrote a song about it called *“The Mystery of Flannan Isle Lighthouse”*, while the 2018 film *“The Vanishing”* is loosely based on this story.

**A Mystery Not to be Solved.** The question that this story leaves us is: What happened. And the answer is: We don’t know, it is a mystery. We may never know how those men were lost. But, as we approach the final period of Lent, we as a Christian people ponder and consider the Paschal Mystery – and consider how we could have been lost, but by Christ’s great Passion, were saved. The Paschal Mystery is how Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection saved us from sin and death for new life as sons and daughters of God. And there is the sense, by the use of the word “mystery” – that like the Flannan Island lighthouse mystery – there is something for us to solve here. In fact, however, the Pascal Mystery, is not that type of a mystery at all – no – it is a mystery to be pondered, not solved. And in truth, the use of the word “mystery” is a bit of a mislead, at least in terms of the way we use that word, today.

**Mystery and Sacrament.** You see, the word “mystery” in its more ancient use comes from the Greek word *“mysterion”* which is also the word that the Greeks used for our word “sacrament.” The idea of a *“mysterion”* (or *“sacramentum”* in Latin) by the third century had taken on the meaning of something that is to be kept sacred. Thus, the Paschal Mystery which is bound up in Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection, are part of the most sacred days of our



## HC & ICC CLERGY

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

## HC CLERGY

Mr. Philip Belt	Deacon
Mr. John Harvey	Deacon
Mr. Richard Kosior	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	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. 118
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

## FISH FRYS

Fish Frys are taking place each Friday during Lent in the Parish Hall hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Dinners will be served in the Parish Hall from 4 pm to 7 pm. On Friday, March 31, the menu will be fried cod, baked flounder, mac & cheese, stewed tomatoes, green beans and dessert. Cost is \$15 a plate. \*\*\*\*ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE DINNER ON MARCH 31 WILL GO TOWARDS HOLY COSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND\*\*\*\*

## RECONCILIATION TIME DURING LENT

During the Fridays in Lent, reconciliation will be available from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at Holy Cross.

Holy Cross will host a Reconciliation Service on Thursday, March 30, at 7 pm, in the church. Visiting priests will be available to hear confessions.



## RECONCILIATION MONDAY IS COMING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception will each offer the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 7 pm.

On Friday, March 31, the students of Holy Cross School will present the Living Stations of the Cross at 7 pm at Holy Cross Church.

## PALM SUNDAY (APR 2)

### FIRST READING: ISAIAH 50:4-7

Trust in God enables us to be eloquent in our witness.

### SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:16-11

Humility allows God our Father to achieve his plan for us.

### GOSPEL: MATTHEW 26:14—27:66

The faithfulness and trust of Jesus are not in vain.

## Deacon Formation Information Nights



New class of  
**Permanent Deacons**  
starting in June 2023

For more information, visit: [cdow.org/deacons](http://cdow.org/deacons)

You must follow the link above to make your reservation to attend one of the Information Nights!

### PROLIFE EVENT

Please come and join us for our Good Friday Life Chain on Good Friday, April 7, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. until Noon, in front of Planned Parenthood of Delaware, located at 805 S. Governors Avenue, Dover. This Life Chain Event is meant to be introspective, prayerful, and peaceful. I am sure you have noticed that since the overturn of 'Roe v. Wade', by the Supreme Court of the United States, pro-death abortion forces are even more vile and despicable than ever. If ever we need you to attend our peaceful Life Chain event, it is now! Your prayers and support are requested. For more information, please contact Francis Urick, 302.233.4684.

### HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

The Cemetery website has been revamped with new features and updated information. Go to: [holycrossdover.org/about-us/cemetery](http://holycrossdover.org/about-us/cemetery)

### THE CRUSADER WALKATHON IS BACK!

It will take place on the Holy Cross School Campus on Friday April 28, 2023. Students will walk a predetermined course and raise money through pledges. We are raising funds for a new communication, "walkie-talkie", system for the school. Walkie-talkies have twice the battery life of a cell phone and do not rely on a cellular network making them reliable for daily communications between faculty and staff and efficient during emergencies.



If you would like to help the campaign, please visit our online pledge page, <https://independent.pledgebrite.org/fund/holycrossdover23>, checks are also accepted at all school and parish offices. Please indicate that it is for the walkathon so that we are sure to give you an extra special thanks. Thank you for your continued support of our school! Crusader Proud!

Thank you for your help and generosity. Food can be left in the Samaritan area as you enter the church property. The door is open from 7 am to 6 pm.

### MASS INTENTIONS MARCH

27 MONDAY  
HC 8:00 am DM Durk and Kerry Family

28 TUESDAY  
HC 8:00 am Richard Saladino

29 WEDNESDAY  
HC 8:15 am DM Antonio Coronitti

30 THURSDAY  
HC 8:00 am George Bugglin  
ICC 7:00 pm For the People

31 FRIDAY  
HC 8:00 am LI Joe & Marguerite Casey

1 SATURDAY  
HC 8 am Katharine Uecker  
HC 5:00 pm Brenda Walls King

2 SUNDAY  
HC 7:30 am Irene Starrs  
ICC 8:30 am Lemp Family  
HC 9:30 am Joseph McLaughlin  
ICC 11:00 am Keith DeFrancesco  
HC 11:30 am Clara Valdes  
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION  
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

### SAMARITAN NEEDS

The Samaritans are now accepting Hams and all the accompanying

foods to give to needy families for a wonderful Easter Meal. We can use: 6, 8 or 10 pound hams, Sweet Potatoes or Yams, Cranberries, canned Pineapple, sliced or chunk, Rice, canned



gravy or pouch gravy mix, Powdered Potato boxes, canned vegetables (Corn and Green Beans, etc.) and Mac and Cheese. And, if possible a carton of Eggs for the children.

Thank you for your help and generosity. Food can be left in the Samaritan area as you enter the church property. The door is open from 7 am to 6 pm.

faith in action

HOLY CROSS APRIL 1/2, 2023

	EMHC		SERVERS
5:00 PM	J. Bieker	M. Casey	A. Torbert
	C. Bugglin	F. Ernst	B. Torbert C. Torbert
<b>LECTORS</b>			
J. Davis D. Dixon			
7:30 AM	C. Brown	J. Clendaniel	A. Costa
	J. Chandler	T. Dinan	E. Costa M Costa
<b>LECTORS</b>			
C. Cuffee			
9:30 AM	T. Arndt	S. Cordie	J. Beugre
	K. Boyer	D. Martinez	C. Beugre M. Milligan
<b>LECTORS</b>			
R. Alderman T. Baurys			
11:30 AM	C. Garcia	A. Luna	
	B. Guzman		
<b>LECTORS</b>			
TBD			

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

	K. Durham		
8:30 AM	<b>LECTORS</b>		
	M. Dixon		
	F. Cristiano		
11:00 AM	<b>LECTORS</b>		
	L. Soule		
1:00 PM	TBD		

Homebound Ministry at Holy Cross Needs Your Help

Holy Cross is in need of more Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to bring the Eucharist to the shut ins and those in the nursing homes and hospital. We service so many assisted living places, rehabilitation places, nursing homes, the hospital, and the homebound and do not have enough ministers to lighten the load of those already doing this special ministry.

We will offer one class to train you as an EMHC. We will have you also shadow with someone to make you feel comfortable doing this ministry. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to learn more about this ministry. We need YOUR help!!!

ADORATION CHAPEL (HO)

Can you spare an hour to spend with Jesus? Our Adoration Chapel is open from 5 am to 9 pm Monday through Sunday We have openings where you can spend quality time with Our Lord. Call Joann Pate today at 674-4496 to reserve a time for you.

SUNDAY	4 pm, 5pm
MONDAY	5 am, 3 pm, 5 pm
TUESDAY	5 am, 5 pm, 8 pm
WEDNESDAY	11 am
THURSDAY	5 am
SATURDAY	8 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

ADULT EDUCATION

The Bible in a Year

In English: Father Mike Schmitz

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>

In Spanish: Fray Sergio Serrano

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

FROM THE DIALOG

Get the latest Catholic news sent free to your inbox. Sign up today for The Dialog newsletter, The Angelus. You'll receive our newsletter, The Angelus, with the latest diocesan news, spiritual columns and feature stories of interest to people in our schools and parishes. You'll also get breaking news alerts from TheDialog.org and information from our Dialog partners. To sign up, visit thedialog.org and click the "Get Our Newsletter" link at the top of every page. Type in your email address and you're done.

GOLF LEAGUE MEETING

A sign up meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 12 at 5 PM at Jonathan's Landing Golf Course Clubhouse. Nine-hole golf starts WEDNESDAY, April 19 through August 23. Two man teams: individuals will be assigned a partner. A \$50 registration fee includes weekly scorecards, software scorekeeping, end-of-season tournament prizes and a donation to the Holy Cross Youth Group. Maximum number of players is 44. For more information, call Phil Spampinato, 302-382-2979 or Wes Grau 302-270-8111.

- Se les Invita a caminar con Jesús la vía dolorosa dramatizada en vivo y escuche la narración de su Pasión según san Juan en el Servicio de la Oscuridad el Viernes Santo a las 9:00 pm en la parroquia de Holy Cross. Venga y viva ese momento crucial que gana la Salvación para toda la humanidad.
- Todos los miércoles estamos ensayando para las Estaciones de la Cruz, en la parroquia gemela de la Inmaculada Concepción en Marydel, comenzando el ensayo a las 7:00 pm. Todos los integrantes tienen que inscribirse ya sea conmigo su o o con la Sra. Alicia Poppiti. No se olvide de pedir su hoja de inscripción. Los que van a tomar el bus para la peregrinación el día 1 de abril tiene un costo de \$10.
- **Peregrinación 2023 con el Obispo Koenig:** El obispo Koenig invita a jóvenes, adultos jóvenes y familias de todas las parroquias y escuelas a unirse a él para la duodécima peregrinación el sábado 1 de abril de 2023. Peregrinos de por toda la diócesis llevarán la cruz peregrina diocesana por las calles de Wilmington con el Obispo como representación de la entrada de Jesús a Jerusalén y su camino el Viernes Santo hacia el Calvario. El día comienza en la parroquia de St. Elizabeth con la oración de apertura y un concierto de The Scally Brothers a las 10:00 am. Habrá confesiones y la Via crucis que los jóvenes de nuestras parroquias presentaran. Concluimos con la Misa de las 4pm en St. Elizabeth. El costo del día es de \$15 por persona o \$45 como máximo por familia (traiga su propio almuerzo). También hay una tarifa de \$ 10 por un autobús. Para registrarse en la parroquia de La Inmaculada Concepción, comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti al 410-482-8939 para obtener más información. Puede registrar a su familia por separado o por su cuenta también.
- Foro Cristiano todos los viernes de 6:00 – 8:00 pm en ELC. Venga escuche, participe y aprenda de nuestra Fe y como vivirla Con el Padre Brennan Ferris y el seminarista Jon Lenus
- **Arte y Ambientación**
- Buscamos a aquellos que voluntariamente deseen ayudar, cooperar y tengan la capacidad de trabajar alegremente en colaboración con otros es imprescindible, que quieran compartir los talentos que Dios les ha dado con sus hermanos y hermanas. Siempre teniendo presente en nuestras mentes y en nuestros corazones que todo lo que hacemos es solamente para la Gloria y honra de Dios. Metas y Propósitos: El Comité de Arte y Ambientación trabaja para crear una ambiente especial de bienvenida en la iglesia para el culto durante todo el año litúrgico. Decoramos apropiadamente con decoro y amor la iglesia durante todo el año para proporcionar un lugar apropiado, hospitalario, conmovedor y estimulante listo para encontrarnos con Cristo en la Eucaristía y con nuestros hermanos. Responsabilidades: Quienes participan en Arte y Ambientación trabajan bajo la dirección del párroco a través de la Oficina parroquial con la directora del Ministerio Hispano y el coordinador de liturgia y culto. Este es un ministerio estacional, lo que significa que nos reunimos según sea necesario para preparar a la iglesia con anticipación a cada tiempo litúrgico (Adviento, Navidad, Tiempo Ordinario, Cuaresma, Semana Santa, Pascua, Pentecostés) y para eventos litúrgicos especiales Primera Comunión y Confirmación. También estamos llamados a bajar y quitar después de cada tiempo litúrgico y prepararnos para la siguiente, limpiar y organizar el lugar de trabajo y donde se guardan las cosas. **TODOS ESTAN INVITADOS A COLABORAR, LA IGLESIA ES DE TODOS.**

## ICC- EDUCACIÓN

- Clases de Primera Comunión en ICC: Es el martes 18 de abril de 6:30 – 7:30 en el salón
- Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para las clases de Educación Religiosa 2023-2024. Es de suma importancia que inscriba a su hijo a tiempo, y de esa manera garantizar materiales, catequistas y salón a tiempo.



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Class 3/26/2023—3:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Next Class 4/16/2023

Interested in enrolling a student in Religious Education? Registration forms available at [holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation](http://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation)

If you have any questions contact Tammy Korosec either 302-674-5787 x122 or [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org)

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**LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)**  
Next class April 2, 2023 at 10:30 am in the Mathew/Mark Room in the Early Learning Center.

Interested in enrolling a student in LAFF? Contact Tammy Korosec.

### ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (HC)



The Catechism In a Year  
[www.ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear](http://www.ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear)



In English:  
Father Mike Schmitz  
<https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/>



In Spanish:  
Fray Sergio Serrano  
<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/bi-espagnol-registration>

### YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

#### Confirmation Class:

Next class is 3/26/23 at 3:30 pm or 3/29/23 at 6:00 pm.

### CATHOLIC HEART CAMP COMING TO DOVER

Catholic Heart Camp will be coming to Holy Cross from June 19 to June 22. Anyone who needs assistance with painting, yard work, light repairs, etc., please call Linda Darling at 302-674-5787, ext. 123, or email her at [ldarling@holycrossdover.org](mailto:ldarling@holycrossdover.org).

### SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**Rice Bowl:** 5th WEEK OF LENT THE POWER OF SACRIFICE Lent can feel like a long time. Sometimes we'd like to skip right to Easter! But through prayer and sacrifices, we share in Christ's suffering and prepare for the joy of his resurrection. This Lent, we've learned how people in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya made sacrifices so their families and communities can thrive. How have your Lenten sacrifices helped your family and community and communities around the world? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

**First Communion classes Immaculate Conception:** 6th Session is Tuesday, April 18th, 6:30-7:30pm in the ICC hall.

Registrations for Religious Education for the 2023-2024 school year are now open. Please get your children registered now, so that we may plan accordingly.

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: (HC AND ICC)

All registrations must be submitted today, March 26th.





“Officers and soldiers, George Washington said, may expect considerable assistance in recommencing their civil occupations from the sums due to them from the public, which must and will most inevitably be paid.” It has been a little over two hundred years since Americans fought in the Revolutionary War in an effort to pave the way for independence from the British crown. Throughout this country’s history countless numbers of men and women have bravely and unselfishly served the United States and it’s citizens against enemy encroachments, have served on foreign soil to guard against civil uprisings, and have served as vessels in providing medical care for fellow human beings in countries where disease and famine reign supreme over their governments inability to provide for their basic needs.

HCS is in somewhat of a unique situation by virtue of our geographic location and proximity to Dover Air Force Base. Many of our family members are actively serving in the US Air Force in various and sundry capacities. We are grateful for the sacrifices they make, we empathize with the families in understanding the impact on the family dynamic when mom or dad is called away. We miss the families who have had to pack up their belongings and move on to another base after we have established a warm relationship between home and school. The children miss their friends. But it’s all part and parcel of a life in the military, and unless you have lived the life, it’s hard to understand.

It is important that we as a nationwide community come to the aid of those veterans who experience life’s difficulties in the day to day. It is a lesson we should teach our children.

The Patriot’s Pen essay contest is held annually and sponsored by the local chapters of Veterans of Foreign War. Mrs. Toya Peek challenges her students and provides instructional guidance for them as they write essays addressing the theme for the year. No more than 400 words, the essay must be the contestant’s original work and a product of the contestant’s own thinking. The approach to the Patriot’s Pen theme should be positive and clearly focused. The theme for the 2022-2023 school year was “My Pledge to Our Veterans.”

We are very proud of seventh grade student Samuel Shevock for the national recognition received for the essay written in response to the theme. Recognized for the excellence and sincerity of his writing, Samuel placed 24th in the nation. Mr. Larry Josefowski from the local chapter, Camden VFW Post 3238, retired VFW members Mr. William Hall and Ms. Leona Hill were on hand to present Samuel with a certificate of achievement and monetary award.

Samuel’s essay follows:

*My Pledge to Our Veterans*

*There are countless ways to honor the bravery and selflessness of our veterans. From Memorial Day parades to prayer services, we can show our thanks in many different ways. One important, but less obvious, way to honor our veterans is reduce the number of stresses in their lives. I pledge to always support our veterans by supporting causes that help veterans’ financial well-being. I can support veterans’ financial well-being by advocating for free behavioral health services, supporting scholarship programs for veterans, and donating money to organizations that help homeless veterans.*

*One important way I can support veterans’ financial well-being is by advocating for free behavioral health services. Veterans have higher rates of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI) compared to non-veterans. Health systems designed to serve veterans do not always have behavioral health resources available. Many veterans may not get the help they need because they cannot afford behavioral health services including individual therapy, group therapy, and service animals.*

*A second way I can support veterans’ financial well-being is by supporting scholarship programs that make it more likely for veterans to attend college or trade school. Many veterans joined the military straight out of high school. If a veteran has to leave the military due to injury or illness, they may not have the skills they need to help them find a new career. Supporting programs designed to help veterans pay for college and trade school is an important way to make sure veterans can reinvent a new life outside of the military.*

*Finally, I can support veterans’ financial well-being by donating money to organizations that help homeless veterans. Military veterans make up 11% of the homeless population in the U.S. According to the VA, 37,252 veterans experienced homelessness in January 2020. This is not right for the brave men and women who served our country courageously.*

*In conclusion, veterans have sacrificed so much on our behalf. As thanks, I pledge to, and we all should do our best to make sure that veterans do not have any unnecessary financial burdens to worry about. Supporting veterans’ financial well-being also has benefits for their family members. When our veterans are financially stable, they have more resources to devote to living healthy, successful lives after their time in the military.*

*Samuel Shevock, Patriot Pen Essay, September 29, 2022*

If we, as educators can make a difference by calling to the attention of our students the plight and needs of the veteran, perhaps their generation will be the one to enact advancements in medical care, education, housing needs and general well-being. It is our duty. They performed theirs.

church year: **Holy Week.** A week when we pause, with great intention, to ponder the events of these Holy Days in the life of our Savior.

**The Week Called Holy.** In the pondering of the event of Holy Week, especially of the Passion of Christ, we know the who, what, where, when of this situation. It is expressed in the Scriptures, it has been elaborated on in books, movies, music, and television. We are also called to see our role in the events that transpire, to see and repent from our role in Christ's suffering. In other words, it requires us not just to look at this as a story made up of external events, but to recognize our role in the story, and our vested interest, our salvific hope, in its outcome. The Paschal Mystery is one that takes us from death to new life, but only within the context of the Passion of Christ, the one, only and singular savior and redeemer of mankind.

With that in mind, keeping the Paschal Mystery in our hearts and mind, pondering, praying, and repenting, let us look at that sacred time we call Holy Week, that we might never take Christ's Passion – his love for us borne out in his suffering for us – for granted.

**Monday of Holy Week.** Following Palm Sunday, Jesus goes to his Father's house, the Great Temple of Jerusalem. There he sees charlatan moneychangers (to whom people gave coins and gold in exchange for animals to be sacrificed in the Temple), swindling folks. In righteous indignation, he upended their tables, whipped them, and kicked them out (Matthew 21:12-13). He cleansed the Temple. Needless to say, Jesus' actions in the temple did not go over well with the powers that be.

**Prayer for Monday of Holy Week:** *Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, though in our weakness we fail, we may be revived through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Tuesday of Holy Week.** The incident in the Temple, as mentioned, did not sit well with everyone, and so to trip him up, his detractors asked him this question: "Is it lawful for us to pay tribute to Caesar or not?" (Luke 20:22). Christ answers famously that one should render "to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Luke 20:25). Their attempt to pit Jesus against either the faithful or the Roman government failed. The authorities were taken aback by his answer "and leaving him they went away" (Matthew 22:22). Jesus on this same day is challenged by the Sadducees about resurrection; his clear response silenced them. At this point, "When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together." (Matthew 22:34).

**Prayer for Tuesday of Holy Week:** *Almighty ever-living God, grant us so to celebrate the mysteries of the Lord's Passion that we may merit to receive your pardon. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Spy Wednesday.** On Wednesday, the plotting against Jesus went into motion: The Chief Priests knew they needed to arrest Jesus when there would be few of his supporters around; to do this they needed a spy from Jesus' inner-circle. They focused on Christ's Apostle, Judas, who seemed the most pliable. John 13:2 tells us that the Devil "induced Judas... to hand [Jesus] over." The Chief Priests "paid [Judas] thirty pieces of silver" (Matthew 26:15), and that was an offer he could not refuse. He agreed to help them, knowing he was imperiling Jesus. From these events, this day is commonly referred to as "Spy Wednesday." Judas then waited for "an opportunity to hand him over." (Matthew 26:16).

**Prayer for Wednesday of Holy Week:** *O God, who willed your Son to submit for our sake to the yoke of the Cross, so that you might drive from us the power of the enemy, grant us, your servants, to attain the grace of the resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

I will continue in next week's bulletin starting with Holy Thursday.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. James S. Lentini  
Pastor