



# 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 6, 2022

1st Sunday 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  
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—9 pm

icc

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

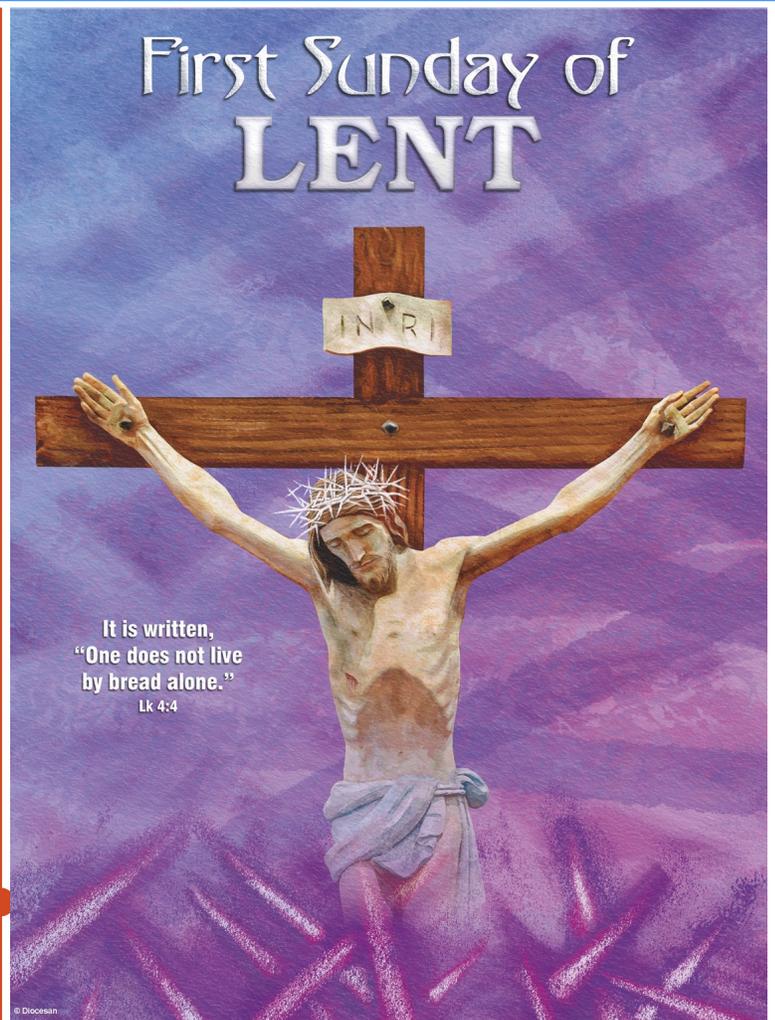
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am  
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

### 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.

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Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 13. Please remember to turn your clocks FORWARD one hour.



## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

February 20, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$26,699	\$26,000`	\$699
YTD	\$889,231	\$884,200	\$5,031
Needs	\$1,716	\$1,480	\$236

## WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending February 20, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$4,576
2nd collection	\$558

For tax statements for ICC, please contact the ICC Parish Office.

### Tax Statements

The HC Parish Office is preparing tax letters for everyone who contributed during the 2021 year. If we have your email in our records, this information will be emailed to you by the end of January. If we do not have your email or you want a hard copy sent to you, please email [mdornberger@holycrossdover.org](mailto:mdornberger@holycrossdover.org). Thank you.

Dear Parishioners,

There was a TV series from the early 1970s called the Flip Wilson Show. I am sure some of you may remember it. Flip Wilson was a young black comedian of that era who was immensely popular. One of the most memorable characters that this comedian had in his repertoire was a character called "Geraldine."

**Dress to Impress.** Now Geraldine was a sassy young black woman who was always tempted by shopping. And in one famous skit, she returns home with this extremely expensive new dress she wants to use to impress her boyfriend "Killer." But one her friend's challenges and says Geraldine how could you have spent all your money on one dress.

**The Devil and the Dress Shop.** Geraldine replied, "It wasn't me. I didn't spend my money. It was the Devil... the Devil made me buy that dress." And Geraldine goes on to blame the Devil for tempting her by bringing her to the store window. Then she said that the Devil forced her to look in the store window, and then the Devil took her in the store by the hand, and then the Devil made her try the dress on. And then, finally, the Devil made her buy that dress.

**Taking the Bait.** I think there is a little bit of Geraldine in all of us. And when I read this Sunday's Gospel, I realize that I don't always take responsibility for my own sins. I blame temptation, circumstance, situation, etc. But what we know is that when all is said and done, our sin is our own. No one makes us cave into temptation but us, ourselves. Yes, the Devil can dangle the bait, but we have to bite.

**Bad Sport.** I say this because there a tendency today to say that people simply can't resist temptation. That somehow our free will isn't enough. There was a news story about 10-15 year ago about two dads that got into a huge fist fight at a kid's sporting events over a bad call by a referee; punches were thrown, and people wound up in the hospital. One of the people defending the altercation said that the dad who began the fight "just couldn't help it."

**The Temptations Greatest Hits.** That brings us to key point of concern expressed in the Gospel you will hear at Mass this Sunday: Temptation. Yes, in the Gospel, the Devil tempts Jesus, not one, not twice but thrice (okay, three times, no one really uses the word "thrice"). And in the actions of our Lord, we see that when it comes to falling prey to temptation, we, in fact, can help it. Moreover, this Gospel about the Temptations of Christ in the de-

sert, also shows us the shallowness, the abject shallowness, of what the Devil tries to tempt us with.

**A Devil of a Plan.** So, here's the scene: Christ is in the desert praying and fasting. We know from scripture that praying and fasting are two ways to get closer to God. The Devil hates, hates, hates praying and fasting. So, what does he do? He decides that now that God has taken on human flesh in the person of Christ, he can persuade him away from his righteousness.

**Hunger Games.** Thus, the first thing the Devil does to tempt Christ is what the Devil always does first: He tempts by an appeal to the human condition. The Devil loves to tempt man by temptations of the flesh, by temptations of lust, by temptations of hunger and thirst, etc. The Devil hits us where we are weakest – when one is hungry the Devil will tempt that person with food. Just think about folks trying to diet to stay healthy – the Devil tells them "Come on! You're hungry – go ahead and eat – it's good for you!"

**The First Temptation.** And so, Christ is in the desert with no food, he is fasting – a method we use to get closer to God – and the Devil is telling Jesus don't fast, eat. Going without food, and fasting, is a reminder to us that there is more to life than food – that even in hunger God is there with us. But the Devil wants Christ to cave in. And he tempts him and flatters him: C'mon you can turn that rock in to bread and eat – you don't need to pray and fast; you need to satisfy your needs. It's all about you and your needs. And Christ replies: Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that falls from the mouth of God. That is to say: The love of God precedes all other human needs.

**The Second Temptation.** The second thing the Devil does is what the Devil always does with us; he tries to appeal to our great weakness of character – he appeals to the possibility of vanity. He basically tells Jesus to throw himself down off the temple and see if God will save him. The Devil realizes that Jesus is God and tries to say to him, show me your power, show me the wonders you can do. Christ refuses because he realizes that if God used his powers to simply show off, to try to impress the

*(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. 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/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. 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 8Is  
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

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Looking for an in-person or virtual experience getting closer to your spouse? Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!! There will be an in-person weekend in Wildwood, NJ May 13-15, 2022. Many more options for virtual events can be found on our website [www.wwme-delmar.org](http://www.wwme-delmar.org). For additional information please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-648-2228.

## IRISH NIGHT FROM K OF C

Irish Night Irish Night at the Columbian Home on 19 March, 6 to 9PM. Cost will be \$15.00. Menu consists of: corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and Sheppard pie. The bar will have Irish beer. For more information on Irish Night contact Brother Don Ryan (302)233-5251.

## NEWLY BAPTIZED

We welcome the newest baptized member of our Parish:  
*Elizabeth Adele Wojtkiewicz*

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families of:  
*Eileen Burnett, Dolores Lemieux, Ronald Massaro, Lorraine Butcavage, Julia Errera, and Gilda Hendrickson*  
May the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

## READINGS FOR MARCH 13 2ND SUNDAY LENT

### FIRST READING: ACTS 5:12-16

Luke gives us a picture of the early community of disciples in Jerusalem and how people were attracted to come to them for blessing and healing.

### SECOND READING REVELATION 1:9-13, 17-19

John recounts the vision that led to his writing this book. The risen Jesus speaks to him and commissions him to set down all that he sees regarding the present and the future.

### GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

The risen Jesus makes himself present to his disciples on two occasions. He commissions them to continue his work. Then Thomas makes the supreme profession of faith.

## LENTEN SERVICES

During Lent Holy Cross will offer the daily 8 am Mass. . At this time we will not offer the 12:10 Mass.



No Lenten Talks this year.

Stations of the Cross will take place at HC and ICC at 7 pm on Fridays during Lent.

## K OF C FISH FRY (HC)

Our Knights of Columbus will host a Fish Fry every Friday in Lent at Holy Cross. It will be held from 4 pm to 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Take out is also available.

The menu is:

**11 March:** Spaghetti with either clam sauce or tomato sauce, Caesar salad, bread, dessert.

**18 March:** Clam fritters, mixed vegetables, Cole Slaw, bread, dessert.

**25 March:** Fish & Chips, Cole Slaw, dessert.

**1 April:** Baked or fried fish, Mac & Cheese, stewed tomatoes, Cole Slaw, dessert.

**8 April:** To be determined based on availability.

Cost is \$10.00 per person, children under 8 free, and families \$25.00. At each dinner tickets for a Lladro figurine of "Pan de Vida" will sell for \$10.00 each or two for \$15.00. Drawing to be held on 8 April at the last Lenten dinner.

## HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

All winter and Christmas decorations will be removed on Monday, March 7th. If you wish to reclaim your decorations for reuse please do so before 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.

## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Lent is not just about giving up favorite foods for 6 weeks. Consider not only what goes into your mouth but what comes out of it. Try expressing a daily word of comfort or appreciation to your beloved this week.

## MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY/MARCH

<b>7 MONDAY</b> HC 8:00 am	Mary Dodd (LI)
<b>8 TUESDAY</b> HC 8:00 am	James B. Lynch
<b>9 WEDNESDAY</b> HC 8:00 am	Cassandra Looney
<b>10 THURSDAY</b> HC 8:00 am ICC 6:30 pm	John and Alice McGlynn For the People
<b>11 FRIDAY</b> HC 8:00 am HC,ICC 7 pm	Mark Konrad Stations of the Cross
<b>12 SATURDAY</b> HC 8 am HC 5 pm	John Scrafford Edward Cregan
<b>13 SUNDAY</b> HC 7:30 am ICC 8:30 am HC 9:30 am ICC 11 am HC 11:30 am ICC 1 pm	Hans Crews Catherine Beck Maria A. Maddalena Victorri Cristiano For the People For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION  
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

## PARENTING POINTERS

Perhaps you bring your child(ren) to Church to pray. Perhaps your family prays before meals or at bedtime. Good. But try taking a hike this week in the woods/hills. Watch for God's presence in nature. Stop and pray.

## RETRouvaille: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-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 February 11-13, 2022 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

**HOLY CROSS MAR 12/13, 2022**

**EMHC                      SERVERS**

**5:00 PM**    C. Helwig    M. MacLeish    A. Costs  
               F. Hettinger    J. Salamon    E. Costa  
               D. MacLeish                      M. Costa

**LECTORS**

R. Alderman  
D. Kilby

**7:30 AM**    R. Fritzsche    P. Sheldon    E. Bydlon  
               D. Novack    M. Thompson    S. Shevock  
               R. O'Neill                      C.. Wilk

**LECTORS**

C. Cuffee

**9:30 AM**    K. Kelly    L. Olmstead    A. Carter  
               D. McGinis    R. Wiley    E. Seelig  
               J. McIlvain                      R. Willemin

**LECTORS**

J. Coffield  
C. Petka

**11:30 AM**    R. Ramirez    R. Richards    K. Espinosa  
               B. Guzman    E. Guzman    C. Geronimo

**LECTORS**

A. Luna

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

**8:30 AM**    E. Costello

**LECTORS**

K. Cairns

**11:00 AM**    J. Carrow

**LECTORS**

D. King

**1:00 PM**    To be determined

**LECTORS**

**ATTENTION ALL EXTRA-ORDINARY  
MINISTERS OF COMMUNION**

Parishioners in need of our Homebound Ministry is growing by leaps and bounds, and we need more EM's who are willing to become part of our homebound ministry. We serve nursing homes, assisted living facilities, the hospital, and those at home.

Please consider joining this ministry. We will train you and have you shadow another EM to get you ready. Call the Parish Office so we can get you started. Please pray to discern if this ministry would be for you. We need your help!!

Call 302-674-5787,  
ext. 110 or 113 to leave your name.

**PURSE BINGO**

**Purse Bingo: Tickets are on sale - don't wait!**



Join us Saturday evening, April 2 for a fun-filled evening, and a chance to win a great purse!

Cost is \$25 for 10 games, door prizes and light refreshments served. 50/50 and Chinese Auction chances for sale. Must be 18 to play. Please see Linda Darling for tickets - tables of 8 may be reserved.

ldarling@holycrossdover.org

Proceeds will go to help our high school teens attend Catholic Heart Work Camp this summer in Greensboro, NC. Thank you for your support.

**HOLY CROSS GOLF LEAGUE 2022**

A sign up meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 6 at 5 PM at Jonathan's Landing Golf Course club house. Nine-hole golf will be played on WEDNESDAYS, starting April 20 through August 31. Two person teams: individuals will be assigned a partner. For more information, call Phil Spampinato, 302-382-2979 or Wes Grau at 302-270-8111.

Registration: \$40 per person covers costs, league prizes, an end of season tournament and a donation to Holy Cross Youth Group. Payment by cash or check is due at sign-up.

**ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)**

The Adoration Chapel is open again each day from 5 am to 9 pm. If you would like to take a permanent time slot, it's not too late. We still have many openings on various days. See the openings listed below. Call Joann Pate today at 674-4496 to reserve a time for you. **We really need volunteers to take some time on Saturday and Sunday. Please consider taking one hour in the chapel to spend with Jesus.**

**SUNDAY**            10 am, 12 pm, 4 pm, 5 pm, 8 pm

**SATURDAY**        5 am, 6 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

**Lent is a wonderful time to spend more time with Jesus in the Adoration Chapel. Stop by for an hour each day....sign up to take one of the open hours.....grow closer to Our Lord during this Lenten time.....you'll be glad you did!!**

## NUESTRA FAMILIA HISPANA

El comité de Arte y Ambientación está buscando voluntarios para ayudar con la ambientación y arreglo del templo, si usted desea participar anótese después de la santa Misa. Nos reuniremos el martes, 1 de marzo a las 5:00 de la tarde., para limpiar y ambientar el templo para la Cuaresma que empieza el miércoles 2 de marzo con la imposición de cenizas. Quedan todos los que quieran ayudar bienvenidos.

Proceso del Sínodo en Sinodalidad iniciado por el Papa Francisco. Ya empezó la fase Diocesana y el obispo Koenig invita a todos en la Diócesis de Wilmington a participar en las sesiones de escucha como parte del reciente proceso del Sínodo. El Papa Francisco está pidiendo a toda la Iglesia en todo el mundo que reflexione sobre estas dos preguntas :

(1). ¿Cómo se está dando este caminar juntos hoy en nuestra Iglesia local?

(2) ¿Qué pasos nos invita a dar el Espíritu para crecer en nuestro caminar juntos?

Información adicional del sínodo. Se puede encontrar más información sobre el proceso del Sínodo en: [www.cdow.org/synod](http://www.cdow.org/synod)  
Gran Retiro de Cuaresma. Todos están invitados. Preparémonos para "La Cuaresma como Camino gradual de Conversión" gran Retiro

Presentado por el Rev. Juan Alberto Cárdenas. Sacerdote Agustino de Colombia  
Fecha: 26 de febrero, 2022. Hora 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Donación: \$15 para los alimentos  
Parroquia La Inmaculada Concepción. Dirección 522 Main St. Marydel, Maryland 21649

Habrará confesiones, Hora Santa, charlas, música y reflexiones y mucho más.

Estamos buscando a jóvenes que desean participar en la Via Crucis como parte de uno de los eventos de la peregrinación con nuestro obispo Koenig el sábado, 9 de abril, 2022 2n Wilmington.

Tendremos los ensayos todos los miércoles comenzando el 23 de febrero. También tendremos la Vía Crucis en Holy Cross el

viernes santo a las 9:00 de la noche en la iglesia. Si usted desea participar por favor comuníquese con la Sra. Arline Dosman.

El comité de Arte y Ambientación está buscando voluntarios para ayudar con la ambientación y arreglo del templo, si usted desea participar anótese después de la santa Misa. Nos reuniremos el martes, 1 de marzo a las 5:00 de la tarde., para limpiar y ambientar el templo para la Cuaresma que empieza el miércoles 2 de marzo con la imposición de cenizas. Quedan todos los que quieran ayudar bienvenidos.

Si usted está interesado en participar y compartir sus talentos como lector, ministerio de música, ujier, ministros Extraordinario de la Comunión, Arte y Ambientación, dar Clases Pre-bautismales. Por favor hable con los coordinadores de los ministerios o llame a la oficina al 302-674-5787 ext. 118

## EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA ICC

Inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa estará abierta desde el 1 de Marzo, 2022  
Todas las clases se reúnen todos los domingos de 9::40 – 10:50 de la mañana Por favor de estacionarse correctamente y camine a su hijo(a) al salón y recógelo(a) enfrente del salón. SE le agradece que leguen a tiempo. Mascarillas es requerido por todos los estudiantes y maestros. Si su hijo se siente enfermo quédese en casa hasta que se sienta bien.

### Clases de preparación para la Primera Comunión

Próxima sesión el martes, 8 de Marzo de 2022 de 6:30 a 7:30 de la tarde.

Maestro y estudiantes deben de usar mascarillas. Si su hijo no se siente bien que se quede en casa y cuídese.

**Preparación para los candidatos a la Confirmación** – próximo domingo 13 de Marzo, 2022 a las 2:30-5pm en el salón.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Next Class: March 12 3:30 to 5:30 pm

- Children are to be dropped off at the double doors next to the Elementary office.
- 7th and 8th graders are in the Holy Cross Junior High building.
- No one except students and volunteers are allowed to enter either building.
- MASKS ARE MANDATORY.
- Hall monitors will assist getting children to their classes.

Dismissal from the ramp side will be as follows:

- Grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and Sacramental Prep – 5:15pm
- Grades K-1 -5:20pm
- Grades 2- 5:25pm
- Grades 3-4 5:30pm

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

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Interested in enrolling a student in Religious Education? Please contact Tammy Korosec at either [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

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### LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

Next class March 13

Interested in enrolling a student in LAFF, please contact Tammy Korosec at either [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

### Adult Eductaion (HC)

#### The Bible in a Year Podcast

“In The Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz guides you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes. Using an exclusive reading plan rooted in The Bible Timeline (a ground-breaking approach to understanding salvation history developed by Biblical scholar Jeff Cavins) you won’t just read the Bible ... you’ll finally understand how all the pieces fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today!” Also available in Spanish led by Father Sergio Serrano. See the links below:

#### 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-registracion>



## FREE STREAMING *this Lent!*



## YOUTH AT HOLY CROSS

### Confirmation Classes:

Next classes are March 13 for Sunday class and March 16 for Wednesday class.

### Youth Group:

Next Youth Group Meeting- please mark your calendar for March 26. Junior High - 3-4:30 High School 6-7:30

### Catholic Heart Work Camp Meeting:

Tuesday, March 15 at 7 pm in the ELC Matthew/Mark room upstairs. Any 8th through 1st year college teens interested in attending Greensboro camp July 17 to 23 are asked to attend. Registration and fundraising will be discussed.

### Work Camp in Dover

We have a large group of teens and adults who are traveling to Dover to help our residents. They will be working June 27 to June 30. If you have projects that they would be able to assist you with, please contact Linda Darling at [ldarling@holycrossdover.org](mailto:ldarling@holycrossdover.org). Painting, yard work, organizing, small repairs, cleaning - whatever you have that you are not able to do on your own, they would love to help.

## SRE (IC)

All classes are meeting from 9:40-10:50am every Sunday in classrooms. Please park, walk your children to hall, and pick up in front of the hall. Please be on time and pick up no later than 10:55am, our Catechist need to attend Mass at 11am. Masks are still required for students and teachers. Parents, please keep your children home if they have a fever, or they are not feeling well.

**Registration for 2022-2023 school year will open up March 1st, 2022.** Registrations have been handed to all families. Please return to Alicia Poppiti by May 1st so that we can be sure to have enough teachers and space in classrooms.

### Sacraments:

**Youth confirmation prep-** Sunday, March 13 at 2:30-5pm in the hall.

**1st Communion Prep:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:30-7:30pm in the hall. Please be on time.

*"In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen."* It is the formal introduction to prayer. When done reverently and appropriately, this invocation can be a beautiful and peaceful way of centering oneself prior to entering into prayer. To center one's focus on the intent of the prayer, to bring one's heart AND mind into the moment, shutting out all that surrounds us both physically and mentally. More than likely, it's the reason we close our eyes as we initiate or enter into prayerful experience. To be truthful, I sit through most of Mass with my eyes closed.

*"In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."* The three persons of the Holy Trinity. One of the great mysteries of our faith. I enjoy reading The Pastor's Message, a posting written by Fr. Michael who is the Pastor of St. Peters Church in Toronto Canada. I particularly enjoy the manner in which he makes the abstract concrete. To roughly paraphrase his explanation of the Holy Trinity, Father Michael explains that God loves us so much, that he needs a little bit of help in dispersing his love and passion for humanity. That's an easy message for children to understand.

This discussion is a little off the beaten path of my initial intent for this week's column, but as I digress, I do so with good purpose as we are now in the first days of Lent. For reasons of my own, it is my preferred forty-day expanse of the 365-day calendar year; of the Liturgical Year. This year, more than ever, as the country navigates its way through the murky waters toward defining the end time of the global pandemic, and not knowing what lies ahead, it is prayer that will sustain us then as it always has in the past.

Prayer. Traditionally, prayer can be classified, if you will, into four categories. They are: Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. We teach the acronym ACTS as a method for remembering the four types of prayer.

*"We adore You; O Christ and we praise You."* We will pray these words during Lent as we contemplate Christ's walk along the Via Dolorosa to His crucifixion. *"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets."* Let the knowledge that God loves and adores us more than we can possibly know be the impetus for us to adore and glorify Him in our Lenten prayers.

We learn in the Book of Romans that we all fall short of the glory of God when we sin. We are all sinners. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we have the golden opportunity to confess what we have done wrong and fallen short of God's grace. Our students have this golden opportunity twice during the school year when we participate in the Sacrament during Advent and Lent. It is important the they learn that entering the confessional with a contrite and penitent heart that our God is ever loving and forgiving and that once absolved from sin can go forth happily with a clean heart and (hopefully) renewed spirit.

It is of equal importance that we pause to give thanks. With each day and blessings ever new, we should feel bound to thank our God for his goodness and mercy. *"Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!"* [Psalm 9:1] I remember a couple of years ago there was a campaign of sorts that was behind the display of a different type of signage. These signs didn't promote any politician or political ideal. The stick-in-the-ground type of sign could be found alongside the roads, and in front yards. Each one bore a very simple message. Thank you, Jesus. I loved those signs. I loved them because each time I saw one, just the mere reading of the words was a prayer. I don't know what happened to them. But on the rare occasion that I see a straggler left behind, I know in my heart that am sending up a prayer of thanksgiving, and it makes me happy. Our children need to know that thanksgiving doesn't just mean turkey, and doesn't only happen in November.

I'm not sure about anyone else, but as for me, every time I fall to my knees or find myself driving along and begin to pray, I feel I should begin my prayers with *"it's me again Lord..."* I feel a little ashamed that many of my prayers are prayers of supplication. St. Paul tells us in Philippians 4:6 to *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."* I have never verified it, but I find great comfort in the claim that there are 365 occurrences of God's assurance to us to *"be not afraid"* written throughout all of scripture. It might appear in a different variation, but that's one comforting assurance for each day of the year.

Leaving Mass this morning, I came upon an acquaintance. Walking to our cars, we made polite chit-chat regarding family members, etc. Seeming a trifle sad, she remarked that all she could do was pray. I agreed. It's all we really have. Prayer, and the faith that our prayers are heard by a loving God.

Pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.

Devil, he would be falling prey to – and yielding his human nature to – that evil serpent. Jesus tells the Devil: Don't put the Lord your God to the test – because God has not a darn thing to prove to you.

**The Third Temptation.** The third and final thing the Devil does is what the Devil always does when an appeal to our vanity fails. He appeals to our earthly desires – our greed. For the Devil ruling over people and wielding earthly power is a great desire. He tempts people with it all the time. The Devil promises earthly kingdoms to Christ. Why? Because that's all he can do – he can only offer fading glory. And we know that earthly kingdoms are all fading glory because as we were reminded on Ash Wednesday, we are dust and to dust we shall return. All the kingdoms and all the gold and all the things of the world we can't take with us. And what the Devil offers is a hollow offer. Christ declines. He reminds the Devil that there is only one God to worship... a reminder of Lucifer's own failure to serve God, his fall from grace. Thus, the devil is thwarted again.

**The Final Answer.** Three temptations of the Devil to Christ... and Christ's response: No, no and no! To quote that famous line from "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" – that was his final answer. The Devil appealed to vanity, greed, and human weakness – and Christ using his own free will, resists. And we too when faced with these types of temptations we are called to resist, too. Why? Well, firstly, because it is the right thing and the only thing to do. But also, because you must always remember that the Devil really can't offer you anything. He has no power, other than to try to tempt you away, and distract you from God. He is like a flim-flam man; he is a snake oil salesman promising you everything and selling a bad bill of goods. Don't you buy it. Slam the door on him. Remember, the Devil – who was an angel of God in the beginning and had eternal life with God – fell from grace. And misery loving company – he wants to take you down with him.

**A Better Offer.** The Devil can only offer one thing: temptation of passing things. But on Ash Wednesday we heard that we are dust and to dust we shall return – and so when our brief life on this world is over, what good is that earthly power, or earthly goods, or earthly things, to us? Those things pass! And one thing the Devil cannot tempt us with is the greatest desire of all – paradise, heaven – eternal life with God.

**The Devil Didn't Make You Do It.** So, remember when temptations comes your way, pray, fast and turn to God. You have been given the free will to resist temptation. And if (when) you do fall prey to temptation don't say "the Devil made me do it." Cause he didn't – it's is our sin, not his. When it comes to sin, you can disdain the Devil, and hate him for his temptation – but you have to claim your sin as your own. That is the first step to reconciliation. So, when falling prey to temptation, seek forgiveness and receive God grace that you can go out renewed and be better able to serve God, and resist temptation in the future.

My dear Parishioners, during this Season of Lent at Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception Parishes, let us all strive to be more like Jesus in the desert and less like Geraldine in the dress shop. A blessed Lent to all of you.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. James Lentini  
Pastor

The  
Season  
of  
Lent

