Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399

Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253

**www.iccmarydel.org**

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday 9:30-12noon, Closed Wednesdays

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

## May 12, 2019 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Eucharist of the Lord’s Day**

**Sunday**: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

 1:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

**Weekday Eucharist**

Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

**Holydays of Obligation**

As announced in the bulletin

**Reconciliation**

After the Sunday morning Masses,

Thursday evening 6:30pm

And by appointment at any reasonable time

**Pastoral Care and Liturgy**

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor

Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Timothy J. Brady, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mano Salla, Parochial Vicar

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.

Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

**Christian Formation**

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

**Hispanic Ministry**

Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of financial assistance, please call

**St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702**

 **The Sacraments**

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children’s first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life.**

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, on Saturday (May 11), many young people from Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception Parishes will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Malooly. With that in mind, I thought it would be appropriate to use this Pastor’s Column to focus on the Church’s teachings regarding this wonderful Sacrament.

**That Rascally Rabbit.** The late Country singer Eddie Rabbit — who, by the way, was Brooklyn born – had a hit song some 30 years ago called “Step by Step” – it was a syrupy country-pop number that informed the listener that if you really wanted to properly woo a lady you love, there are three steps that must be undertaken. First step: take her out and treat her like a lady; second step: tell her she's the one you're dreaming of; and the third step: take her in your arms and never let her go. As I dig out from under the schmaltz, I am reminded that full initiation into the Catholic Church likewise has three steps (i.e., three Sacraments of Initiation): Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

**What is Confirmation?** Confirmation is the Sacrament that is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. Our Catechism states that “*by the sacrament of Confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed*.”

**A $64,000 Question.** Now in its ancient form, and even today in the Eastern Rite of the Church, Confirmation is received immediately after Baptism. However, through ecclesial developments in the West and the desire to clearly express the communion of the young Christian with the Bishop, the Sacrament of Confirmation, in time, was separated from Baptism. This allowed for Sacramental preparation and for the Bishop, as the ordinary minister of the Sacrament, to be able to confirm the large number of Catholics desiring the Sacrament (i.e., he is able to go from parish to parish confirming those receiving the Sacrament). So, how old must a baptized Catholic be before he is able to receive Confirmation? That is the $64,000 question – and the answer is evasive: It may vary by Diocese in this country from age seven to seventeen, at the discretion of the Bishop.

**Oils Well that Ends Well.** Okay, so now that we have the time frame and context in place, what is Confirmation? Confirmation is the Sacrament that is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that “by the sacrament of Confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.” Let’s get more concrete about the meaning of the Sacrament; and let’s do that by looking at the Ritual of Confirmation which helps us to understand the Sacrament more clearly.

**Sealing the Deal.** In the pivotal moment of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Bishop anoints the crown of the head of the one to be confirmed with Sacred Chrism (a consecrated holy oil). As he anoints the candidate, he says, “*Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”* Okay, let’s flashback to Baptism: an infant who was baptized was likewise anointed on the head with the same Sacred Chrism. Think of the application of this holy oil in terms of paint: When you have to paint a wall, you first put on a primer coat, then you put on the second coat to seal it in. In Baptism, a child receives the Holy Spirit and the Chrism is applied for the first time; in Confirmation, a second-coat (if you will allow the analogy) of Chrism is applied – sealing and completing the baptismal graces. In some manner it may be observed that Confirmation is a form of completing the Sacrament of Baptism. And like Baptism, Confirmation is received only once, as it imprints an indelible spiritual mark on the soul, marking that person as eternally belonging to Christ.

**What’s the matter?** What is necessary for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation? Catholic teaching tells us that Sacraments require specific “form and matter” to be present in order that they be in fact confected. In order for the Sacrament of Confirmation to be properly confected, the “matter” that must be present is a baptized un-confirmed person and Sacred Chrism; the “form” of the Sacrament is the proper minister saying the words *Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit* as the Sacred Chrism is applied.

**That’s the Spirit!** What are the effects of this Sacrament of Confirmation? Upon being Confirmed, the Holy Spirit goes “all Santa” on a person; he drops off a whole bunch of presents (gifts)! Known as the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, these are traditionally identified as:

Wisdom - allows one to comprehend, more fully, the truths of faith

Understanding - allows one to appreciate creation in relation to God

Counsel –allows one to make right judgment (i.e., when you judge, do it well and rightly).

Fortitude – gives moral courage to do God’s will, even in the face of adversity

Knowledge – gives awareness and comprehension of God

Piety – gives awareness of the need to worship and love God, with reverence

Fear of the Lord – allows us to be aware that God is always aware of all that we do.

**Grand Opening!** Now, like all presents, we have to open them and use them to get their benefits. If you treat these gifts of the Holy Spirit like a 10-year old treats the gifts of a pair of socks at Christmas (e.g., toss them aside and look for something else in the gift pile), then you may fail to get the benefit of what God has given you. If you do put these sacred gifts to use, they will bear fruit (that is, they will show forth in your life). The Church dubs these benefits as the “Fruits of the Holy Spirit,” and they are: Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Benignity, Goodness, Long-suffering (patient suffering), Mildness, Faith, Modesty, Continence (self-control), and Chastity.

And with that brief overview of Confirmation, I would ask you to pray for our young people who have received this Sacrament this weekend; may they be strengthened in their faith and helped to always bear good witness to the name Christian.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Sunday, May 12**

8:30am  Ed & Delores McGowan

11:00am  Chuck Beck

Misa en Español   1pmFor the People

**Thursday, May 16**

7pm Misa For the People

**Sunday, May 19**

8:30am  James & Elizabeth Griffith

11:00am  John Goffredo

Misa en Español   1pmFor the People

**COLLECTION TOTALS:**

***Offertory: $ 3656.00***

***Supplementary: $ 550.00***

***Second Collection Today:******St. Vincent DePaul***

***Your continued support of the work of your Church***

***is much needed and appreciated***

***Join our Parish Family…Registration Forms are Available at the front vestibule or the Parish Office.***

**STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT**

**Altar Servers**

**May 19**

**8:30am Mass** –Averi Locke, Mike Dixon

**11am Mass** –Joanne Santizo, Vince Haass

**Spanish Misa 1pm** – Nelvin & Keyli Macario Tomas

**Lectors**

**May 19**

**8:30am Mass** – Catherine Beck

**11am Mass** – Sherry Tucker

**Spanish Misa 1pm –** Emma Miguel, Darío Ortega

**Eucharistic Ministers**

**May 19**

**8:30am Mass** – Marilyn Dixon, Julia Moore

**11am Mass** – Alicia Poppiti, Jim Ward

**Spanish Misa 1pm** – Verónica Bravo,, Epifanio Morales, Alberto Morales, Adrián Miranda, Dolores Cuin

 **Collection Counters**

**May 12** Frank & Joyce Cristiano

**May 19** Paul & Robin Engstenberg

**May 26** Tom & Mary McGowan

**Church Cleaning Crew**

**Mayo 17, 2019 Grupo #9**

Reynaldo Pérez, Maribel Ortiz, Juventino López,

**Isenia Escalante**, Clemente Escalante

**Mayo 24, 2019 Grupo #10**

Marcos Domingo, Orelia Berdugo,Carmen Gabriel,

**Susana Ortiz Morales,** Alberto Morales.

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**2019 Annual Catholic Appeal**

**If you have not yet participated, please fill out an envelope and let us know if you can or not.**

**Our Goal of $24,000.00 has been met. Thank you for your generosity.**

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**Graduates from High School!**

**Please let Ms. Alicia in the office know if you are a graduating Senior from High School this year, and from where you are gradating. Call office at 410-482-8939 or email me at** **dre@iccmarydel.org** **and Congratulations!**

**SCHEDULED EVENTS**

**Sun, May 12 2pm –** Reunion para Organizar

**Mon, May 13 6:30pm –** Catholicism Series-hall

**Tues, May 14** 1pm Exercise class in hall

**Tues, May 14 7pm –** Juan XXIII

**Thur, May 9** 1pm Exercise class in hall

**Thur, May 16 8pm – Anniversary Fr. Etim & Carlos**

**Fri, May 17 6pm – Formacion in Hall**

**Fri, May 17 7pm** Band Practice

**Sat, May 18, 6:30pm – Culto**

**Delaware Right to Life is pleased to invite you to our first Victorian Tea for Life on Sat, June 22** from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Holy Angels Parish Hall. Ladies! Bring your mum, your auntie, your daughter, or a friend for a delightful outing to benefit Delaware Right to Life. Experience an authentic British Tea with tea sandwiches, scones, and dainties, as well as heaps of lovely teas. Gift baskets will be raffled off and we will tour the Memorial Garden of the Unborn. Tickets are $25 per person and are available through our website, [www.derighttolife.org](http://www.derighttolife.org), or by mailing a check to DRTL Education Fund, P.O. Box 1222, Wilmington, DE 19899. Seating is limited, so please purchase tickets in advance!

**Knights of Columbus**

**Next meeting Tues, May 14,**

**7pm Meeting in the Knights Hall**

**All members are encouraged to attend.** Membership is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics.  For more info, contact Grand Knight, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or **kelley29@comcast.net****.** **Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509**

**Marriage & Family Life Corner**

**Parenting Pointer –**

Mother's Day. Although sometimes spouses honor their wives on this day, let your children take their proper role. If they don't have the money or an idea for a gift, fathers can suggest a guaranteed pleaser - "Top 10 reasons I love my mother..."

**Marriage Moment –**

If you're too busy to have a weekly date with your spouse, you may be too busy. Tonight choose several hours next weekend that you can devote just to each other.  This week the wife plans what to do, next week it's the husband's turn.



**FROM THE DRE’S DESK**

**SRE will start again on September 22, 2019.**

**Thank you to all our Catechists in Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation this year, and as the year continues and starts anew:**  Emma, Haylin, Yorly, Sarah, Donna, Meg, Brenda, Vincent, Cindy, Nancy, Kathleen, Rosa, Haydi, Oliver,  Diane, Alan, Mali, Hugo, Rosa, Carmine, Margaret, Neidi, Yanira, Oscar, Marco, Roman, Dolores, Froilan,  Rosmery and many other helping hands that make our Religious Education work **God Bless you all.**

**And many thanks to Steve, Christine, Reynaldo, Barry, Marylin, and the team that fill us with coffee and doughnuts on Sundays. THANK YOU!!**

**Registrations are now due. Please get in to the office.**

**Please get registrations in as soon as possible for next year SRE, so we can plan for classroom space and teachers.**

**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.**

**Sacramental Prep:**

**Yesterday, 15 of our Parish children received Confirmation. Please pray for: Alan, Alexander, Ayda, Bairon,**

**Emily, Eyli, Henemillas, Jalexia, Jasmin, Jasmine, Maura, Nerli, Sherlin, Thania, and Tonalli**



**Vacation Bible School**

**August 5-9th**

**Yes, the planning is underway! If you are interested in helping out this year,**

**please inquire with Alicia Poppiti or Meg Haass.  Registration is available now, online and at the parish office.**

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Theme:** Jesus knows us and calls us.

**Question for Children:**Jesus promises to guard us like a shepherd does the sheep. How do you experience his loving care in your life?

**Question for Youth:** Jesus said “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” How does Jesus speak to you? What new path is he asking of you?

**Question for Adults:** What is your experience of being a follower of Christ, of being cared for and guarded with him as shepherd?

## 4º domingo de Resurrección

**Tema:** Jesús nos conoce y nos llama.

**Pregunta para los niños:**Jesús promete protegernos al igual que un pastor protege a sus ovejas. ¿Cómo experimentan su amor en sus vidas?

**Pregunta para los jóvenes:**Jesús dijo: “Mis ovejas oyen mi voz, las conozco y ellas me siguen”. ¿Cómo te habla Jesús? ¿Qué nuevo camino te está pidiendo que sigas?

**Pregunta para los adultos:** ¿Cuál es su experiencia de ser seguidores de Cristo, de ser cuidados y protegidos por él como pastor?

**Saint Paul Catholic Church in Wilmington, Delaware is celebrating its 150th Anniversary.**  The first celebration is a Mass commemorating the actual ground breaking of our church on May 24, 1869. We are inviting all former and current parishioners, alumni, teachers, staff, priests, deacons, and anyone with a connection to our parish history.  The Mass will be celebrated by Most Reverend Bishop Francis Malooly on Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 10:30am, at Saint Paul Church, 4th and Jackson Street, Wilmington, Delaware. A fellowship gathering with light refreshments will follow immediately after Mass.

**La Iglesia Católica San Pablo en Wilmington, Delaware, celebra este año su 150mo Aniversario.** La primera celebración será una Misa conmemorando el esfuerzo de más de 200 feligreses y vecinos, unidos para inaugurar y dar comienzo a la construcción de nuestra Iglesia el 24 de mayo de 1869. Estamos invitando a todos los pasados y presentes feligreses, ex-alumnos, maestros, empleados, sacerdotes, diáconos y a todas aquellas personas con alguna conexión a nuestra historia parroquial a compartir con nosotros en este evento. La Misa será celebrada por el Reverendísimo Obispo Francis Malooly el domingo, 19 de mayo de 2019 a las 10:30am, en la Iglesia Católica San Pablo, en las Calles 4 y Jackson, Wilmington, Delaware. Inmediatamente después de la Misa habrá una pequeña recepción de compañerismo con refrigerios ligeros.

**Columna del párroco padre James Lentini 12 de mayo, 2019.**

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Queridos feligreses,

Este fin de semana, el sábado (11 de mayo), muchos jóvenes de las parroquias de Holy Cross y de La Inmaculada Concepción recibirán el Sacramento de la Confirmación del Obispo Malooly. Con eso en mente, pensé que sería apropiado usar esta Columna del Pastor para enfocarnos en las enseñanzas de la Iglesia con respecto a este maravilloso Sacramento.

**Ese Conejito Travieso.** El difunto cantante de música regional, Eddie Rabbit, quien, por cierto, nació en Brooklyn, hace unos 30 años, tuvo una canción muy exitosa, llamada "Paso por Paso", fue un número de country-pop que informó al oyente que, si realmente quería correctamente cortejar a una dama que amabas, hay tres pasos que *deberías* de seguir. Primer paso: sacarla y tratarla como a una dama; segundo paso: dile que ella es la que con la estás soñando; y el tercer paso: tómala del brazos y nunca la dejes ir. A medida que desenterré de debajo del tumulto, recordé que la iniciación completa en la Iglesia católica también tiene tres pasos (es decir, tres Sacramentos de Iniciación): el Bautismo, la Confirmación y la Eucaristía.

**¿Qué es la Confirmación?** La confirmación es el Sacramento que es necesario para completar la gracia bautismal. Nuestro Catecismo afirma que “P*or el Sacramento de la Confirmación, los bautizados están más íntimamente ligados a la Iglesia y se enriquecen con una fuerza especial del Espíritu Santo. Por eso, como verdaderos testigos de Cristo, están más estrictamente obligados a difundir y defender la fe con palabras y obras”.*

Una pregunta de $ 64,000. Ahora en su forma antigua, e incluso hoy en el Rito Oriental de la Iglesia, la Confirmación se recibe inmediatamente después del Bautismo. Sin embargo, a través de los desarrollos eclesiales en el Occidente y el deseo de expresar claramente la comunión del joven cristiano con el Obispo, el Sacramento de la Confirmación, con el tiempo, se separó del Bautismo. Esto permitió que la preparación sacramental y el Obispo, como ministro ordinario del Sacramento, pudieran confirmar la gran cantidad de católicos que desean el Sacramento (es decir, puede ir de parroquia a parroquia confirmando a los que reciben el Sacramento). Entonces, ¿qué edad debe tener un católico bautizado antes de poder recibir la Confirmación? Esa es la pregunta de $ 64,000, y la respuesta es evasiva: puede variar según la Diócesis en este país desde los siete años hasta los diecisiete, a discreción del Obispo.

**Óleos Buenos que Acaban Buenos.** Bueno, ahora que tenemos el marco de tiempo y el contexto establecidos, ¿Qué es la Confirmación? La Confirmación es el Sacramento que es necesario para completar la gracia bautismal. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica declara que *“Por el Sacramento de la Confirmación, los bautizados están más íntimamente ligados a la Iglesia y están enriquecidos con una fuerza especial del Espíritu Santo. Por lo tanto, como verdaderos testigos de Cristo, están más estrictamente obligados a difundir y defender la fe con palabras y obras”.* Seamos más concretos sobre el significado del Sacramento; y hagámoslo mirando el Ritual de la Confirmación que nos ayuda a entender el Sacramento con mayor claridad.

**Sellando el Trato**. En el momento crucial del Sacramento de la Confirmación, el Obispo unge la frente de la persona que se confirmará con el Santo Crisma (un aceite bendecido y consagrado). Mientras unge al candidato, dice: " "Recibe por esta señal el don del Espíritu Santo". Bien, volvamos al bautismo: un niño que fue bautizado también fue ungido en la cabeza con el mismo Crisma sagrado. Piense en la aplicación de este aceite sagrado en términos de pintura: cuando tienes que pintar una pared, primero se pone una capa de imprimación, luego se coloca la segunda capa para sellarla. En el bautismo, un niño recibe el Espíritu Santo y el Crisma se aplica por primera vez; En la Confirmación, se aplica una segunda capa (si permite la analogía) del Crisma: sellar y completar las gracias bautismales. De alguna manera se puede observar que la Confirmación es una forma de completar el Sacramento del Bautismo. Y como el Bautismo, la Confirmación se recibe solo una vez, ya que imprime una marca espiritual indeleble en el alma, marcando a esa persona como eternamente perteneciente a Cristo.

**¿Cuál es la Materia?** ¿Qué es necesario para la recepción del Sacramento de la Confirmación? La enseñanza católica nos dice que los Sacramentos requieren de "forma y materia" específica para estar presentes para que, de hecho, estén confeccionados. Para que el Sacramento de la Confirmación pueda ser adecuadamente confeccionado, la "materia" que debe estar presente es una persona no confirmada bautizada y un Crisma consagrado; La "forma" del Sacramento es el ministro apropiado que dice las palabras ""Recibe por esta señal el don del Espíritu Santo". A medida que se aplica el Crisma consagrado.

**¡Ese es el Espíritu!** ¿Cuáles son los efectos de este Sacramento de la Confirmación? Una vez confirmado, el Espíritu Santo va a "Todo Papá Noel" a una persona; ¡Él deja caer un montón de regalos! Conocidos como los dones del Espíritu Santo, estos se identifican tradicionalmente como:

• **Sabiduría:** le permite a uno comprender mejor las verdades de la fe.

• **Comprensión:** permite apreciar la creación en relación con Dios.

• **Consejo:** le permite a uno hacer un juicio correcto (es decir, cuando juzgue, hágalo bien y con razón).

• **Fortaleza:** da el valor moral para hacer la voluntad de Dios, incluso frente a la adversidad

• **Conocimiento -** da conciencia y comprensión de Dios.

• **Piedad** - da conciencia de la necesidad de adorar y amar a Dios, con reverencia

• **Temor de Dios:** nos permite estar conscientes de que Dios siempre está consciente de todo lo que hacemos.

**¡Gran Inauguración!** Ahora, como todos los regalos, tenemos que abrirlos y usarlos para obtener sus beneficios. Si trata estos dones del Espíritu Santo como un niño de 10 años trata el regalo de un par de calcetines en Navidad (por ejemplo, de tírelos a un lado y buscar otra cosa en la pila de regalos), entonces es posible que no obtengas los beneficios de lo que Dios te ha dado. Si utilizas estos dones sagrados, darán fruto (es decir, se mostrarán en tu vida). La Iglesia llama a estos beneficios los "Frutos del Espíritu Santo", y son: Caridad, Gozo, Paz, Paciencia, Benignidad, Bondad, Longanimidad, (sufrimiento del paciente), Mansedumbre, Fe, Modestia, Continencia (autocontrol). , y la Castidad.

Y con ese breve resumen de la Confirmación, les pido que oren por nuestros jóvenes que han recibido este Sacramento este fin de semana; para que sean fortalecidos en su fe y ayudados a dar siempre un buen testimonio del nombre de cristiano.

Tuyo en Cristo

P. James Lentini

Párroco