



CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

631 South State Street
Dover, Delaware

302 674 5787
holycrossdover.org

522 Main Street
Marydel, Maryland

410 482 7687
iccmmarydel.org



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

May 14, 2023

6th Sunday of Easter

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.

CREATING A CULTURE OF VOCATION

What kinds of people become priests, deacons, or religious?

What kind of people enter into sacramental marriage?

They are people who love others. They are people with the courage to touch lives, hearts and souls in a high-tech, un-churched world.

Are you that kind of person?



Listen to God's call. What is God calling you to be?

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC) Ending April 30, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$29,829	\$27,500	\$2,329
YTD	\$1,171,824	\$1,207,400	(\$35,576)
Needs	\$1,853	\$1,604	\$249

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC) Ending April 30,, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,001
Second Collection	\$464

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,

Two weeks ago, our young people at Immaculate Conception made their first Communion, last week at Holy Cross several young people catching up on their Sacraments made their first Communion, and this weekend some 70 of our young people, primarily those around seven years of age, had their first Communion. When including those who made their first Communion as part of the Easter Vigil and those who have caught up with their Sacraments in recent months, well over 120 of our faithful have come to know our Lord in the Eucharist this year.

The Eucharist which is so profoundly central to our lives in the Catholic I want to spend a few columns focusing on the source and summit of our faith: The Sacrament of the Eucharist.

The Eucharist. Often called the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Eucharist is the Sacrament around which all the other Sacrament circle, much like planets encircle a sun. Without a sun, planets -- their alignment and their placement -- become less certain, less clear; so too, it is in the Eucharist that our six other sacraments find their full meaning, and conversely, without the context of the Eucharist, the sacraments would lose that fullness of meaning.

Confection Reflection. So, what is the Eucharist? The Eucharist (which is commonly translated from the Greek as "thanksgiving") is the Sacrament confectioned when a priest takes bread and wine, invokes the Holy Spirit, and consecrates those elements using the words of Christ from the Last Supper; then, what was bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Let's be clear: this change I speak of is not symbolic, it is real; it is actual. Whatever it is that makes Christ, Christ, it is there in the Eucharist. And it is God – Jesus Christ – nourishing us with His Divine Life, when we receive the Eucharist in the form of Holy Communion.

A Revolting Development. "Holy smokes, Batman! That's quite a belief," you might say! Indeed, but it is a seminal belief of Catholics, and was a seminal belief of all Christians until some went rogue during the Protestant Revolt in the 16th century. During that revolt, some breakaway strands of Christianity dismissed the Eucharist or altered its understanding (often relegating it as being merely symbolic). But, it must not be that way for us – thus, for us, the understanding this powerful Sacrament is pivotal to understanding the Catholic faith.

It Speaks Volumes. So, how do we understand this Sacrament – the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ ministered to the faithful? Well, this could be the subject of many articles, but I am going to limit this article so it

fills a few pages perhaps, but not so that it fills 20 Britannica Encyclopedia volumes.

King of the Nile, King of Denial. Step 1: Let's step into the way back machine and head back to the 13th century B.C. This is the era when the Jewish people were living in Egypt – and they weren't on some kibbutz, they were enslaved by the Egyptians. God, a steadfast abolitionist, tried to change of the heart of the Pharaoh – who denied the Jews their freedom – by inflicting a series of ten plagues on Egypt. These plagues were visited on Egypt so that God's chosen people – the Jewish people – would be set free; they would also serve to show the Pharaoh that the so-called Egyptian gods were false and the God of the Jewish people was the big man in charge.

Angel of the Mourning. The tenth of the ten plagues, the most severe, would have unleashed the Angel of Death to take the lives every first born male in Egypt. To protect the Jews from this plague, God commanded them to slaughter a lamb, as a sacrifice, to consume the body (of the sacrifice) and mark the doorpost of their house with its blood. If they did these things, then the Angel of Death would "pass over" the Jewish homes and their first born males would be spared. They would be saved, by the Sacrifice of the lamb and through its blood. This would free them from slavery to the Egyptians because the Egyptians would realize that God's chosen people needed to be set free. The sacrifice would be "propitiatory" – that is it would spare them from the "wrath of God." And so it was: the Jews via the body and blood of the Sacrifice of the lamb, doing as God instructed, were spared death and set free to make their way to the Promised Land.

Sam Who? "Okay, stop!" you may be thinking. "What in Sam Hill does that have to do with the Eucharist? I don't see any lambs or blood at Mass – I see the priest using bread and wine." Legitimate question; stay with me and I'll clear it up.

Meanwhile 13th Centuries Later... Step 2: Let's get into the way-back machine again and this time we'll set the dial for 33AD. On the night before Christ was crucified he gathered with His Apostles in the Upper Room on the occasion of what we call "The Last Supper," which occurred during the Jewish Passover. Instead of celebrating what would have looked like a Passover feast, Christ did something different. He took bread, broke it and gave it to His disciples, telling them that "this

(continued on page 10)

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

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

MAILING ADDRESS

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

ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (HC)

The Catechism In a Year

www.ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear

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>

ASCENSION (MAY 21)

FIRST READING: ACTS 1:1-11

Luke, the writer of the Acts of the Apostles, depicts Jesus' ascension into heaven.
SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1:17-23
 Paul tells us that, as a result of the Easter mystery, Christ is now the supreme power in the universe.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 28:16-20

Matthew gives his account of the final appearance of Jesus to the eleven apostles in Galilee. Jesus gives them instruction about their mission and a promise of his continued presence among them.



HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

Attention Gold Star Families. We would like to acknowledge and honor the sacrifice of your loved one at the Memorial Day Mass on May 29th. Place of interment need not be Holy Cross Cemetery. Please contact Len Dornberger at 302-674-5787 ext. 135 to provide needed information.

Cemetery News - Memorial Day Weekend

Cemetery Committee members will be in the Gathering Space following all weekend Masses. American flags for our Veterans' graves will be available for \$5. American flags are placed on our Veterans' graves for both Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Nearly 300 flags are placed on each of these holidays. This is the once-a-year opportunity to donate towards the purchase of flags, which, like everything else, continues to increase in price. Your support is greatly appreciated.

In addition to obtaining information about our cemetery, you can find out about ordering monument flower vases, veterans' flag holders, placing an order for an engraved brick paver, and signing up for an appointment call-back from our cemetery administrator.

The annual Memorial Day Mass will be held in the church on Monday, May 29th at 9:00 a.m. As in the past, military veterans are invited to participate in the Mass. Two are needed for the presentation of the wreath, two are needed to present the gifts, one qualified lector is needed as are two qualified Eucharistic ministers. If interested, contact Len Dornberger at 674-5787 x135 and provide your name, daytime phone number and branch of service.

MASS INTENTIONS MAY

15 MONDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Mothers Day Novena
16 TUESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Mothers Day Novena
17 WEDNESDAY	
HC 8:15 am	Mothers Day Novena
18 THURSDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Mothers Day Novena
ICC 6:00 pm	For the People
19 FRIDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Mothers Day Novena
20 SATURDAY	
HC 8 am	Mothers Day Novena
HC 5:00 pm	Veronica A. And Joseph P. Loughran
21 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	DM Costa Family
ICC 8:30 am	James & Elizabeth Griffith
HC 9:30 am	Kaltenbaugh Family (LI)
ICC 11:00 am	Keith DeFrancesco
HC 11:30 am	Mothers Day Novena
ICC 1:00 pm	For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

A post-holiday cemetery clean-up will be conducted on Saturday, June 11th. Everything except artificial and live flowers will be removed. Please remove items you wish to keep before then.

PARENTING POINTERS

(Mother's Day) If you are a mother, give yourself a break today. If you are a father, help make this happen. If you know a mother who is struggling to raise her child alone, brainstorm a way to be supportive.



HOLY CROSS MAY 20/21, 2023

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

P. Gerard M. MacLeish
D. MacLeish M. Miller

S. Murawski
B. Richardson
L. Richardson

LECTORS

L. Christiansen
V. Viddy

7:30 AM

A. Fischer S. Gede
B. J. Fischer M. Jacobs

S. Shevock
E. Wadhams

LECTORS

C. Cuffee

9:30 AM

P. Ford C. Jones
F. Hanlin K. Kelly

J. Beugre
C. Beugre
K. Fernandez

LECTORS

S. Ford
C. Parks

11:30 AM

C. Garcia A. Luna
B. Guzman

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

A. Smith

LECTORS

T. Thompson

11:00 AM

M. Soule

LECTORS

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!!!

**CALLING ALL CARS!!!
CALLING ALL CARS!!!
CAR WASH**

- **Where: Holy Cross Parking Lot**
- **When: May 20, 2023**
- **Time: 10 AM-2 PM**
- **Cost: Donations Accepted**

***Help the National Junior Honor Society of Holy Cross in their efforts to support the Odyssey of the Mind team as they participate in the World Competition at East Lansing, Michigan!

ADORATION CHAPEL (HC)

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	7 am, 4 pm, 5pm
MONDAY	11 am, 5 pm
TUESDAY	5 am, 6 am, 5 pm, 8 pm
WEDNESDAY	7 am
SATURDAY	5 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

MEN OF THE HOLY CROSS (NEW AND MORE CONVENIENT MEETINGS)

It is now easier than ever for you to join the Men of The Holy Cross! You are welcome to come in person or participate from the comfort of your home, sitting in your favorite chair with a cup of coffee. Thanks to our newest innovation (a state of the art "Meeting Owl" which makes you feel like you are there in person), all you need is your smartphone, tablet or computer. Just type in the following link and it will automatically guide you through the Zoom Meeting set up and join our hybrid meeting. <https://zoom.us/j/30861480> Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM You need the ID #83606382292 and pass code 631, for prayer, gospel reflections. Email Steve Balogh with any questions: stephenb_01@yahoo.com.

- **Mayo Mes de María.** Mes de alegría, Nuncio de Paz, Flores para María, Si desea traerle flores a María puede hacerlo. María es nuestra Madre, la madre de todo el mundo y porque se preocupa por todos nosotros, intercediendo incluso en los asuntos más pequeños. Por eso se merece todo un mes en su honor.
- La Virgen peregrina va a empezar a visitar casas a partir del 7 de mayo. Si desea que la imagen de la virgen visite su hogar por una semana por favor de anotarse con la Sra. Martha Espinosa.
- Feliz día de las Madres a todas nuestras madres, honremos a nuestras madres, las que están vivas y las que están muertas una plegaria al cielo por ellas.
- Felicitaciones a nuestros niños que en el día de ayer sábado 13 de mayo hicieron su Primera Comunión, sepan que estarán en nuestras oraciones para que conozcan más a Jesús lo amen y le sirvan siempre.
- Se les invita a todos a la novena de Corpus Christi comenzando el viernes antes de la Solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad 2 de junio a las 7:00pm en la iglesia. Hasta el día sábado antes de la Solemnidad de Corpus Christi 10 de junio y culminaremos el día domingo 11 de junio con la Santa Misa y la Procesión con Jesús Sacramentado alrededor de los predios de nuestra parroquia. Se les pide a todos los ministros que por favor participen.
- 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
- Las inscripciones están abiertas para La Escuela Bíblica de Verano. Es un programa de 1 semana del 10-14 julio de 9:00 AM – 12 PM. Puede inscribirá su hijo(a) entre los 4-12 años de edad antes del 16 de junio. Los cupos son limitados.
- Inscriba a su niño para la Educación Religiosa que ya están abiertas. Las aplicaciones están en línea y el 21 de mayo estarán llenando inscripciones después de la misa.

ICC

- **Educación Religiosa:** Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para las clases de Educación Religiosa 2023-2024. Es de suma importancia que inscriba a su hijo ahora, y de esa manera garantizar materiales, catequistas y salón a tiempo. Las donaciones para los materiales es de \$50.00 por niño y \$175.00 por familia
- Si está interesado o conoce a alguien que quiera ser voluntario para ayudar con las clases de Educación Religiosa contacte a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti . Clases comienzan el 24 de septiembre, 2023.
- **Escuela Bíblico de Verano. “ Stellar” VBS** Inscriba a su niño ya desde 31 de julio – 4 de agosto. Es para niños de 4-16 empieza a 6:00pm-8:30pm. Tienen que inscribirse para participar.
- Gracias a todos los que participaron en la limpieza general de los predios de la parroquia.

Congratulations to all 84 First Communicants who received on May 6th or May 13th. We pray that His sacred Body and Blood strengthen you on your journey through life.

Special thanks to the Dover Columbiettes for hosting our reception, Mrs. Kathleen Clougherty for preparing our cakes and Ms. Tiffany Jenkins for providing the photography.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Have a child or children in grades K-8 who need faith formation? Please go to the following link to register for religious education classes.

<https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at either (302) 674-5787 X 122 or email tkorosec@holycrossdover.org

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

LAFF, Living as a Family of Faith. How is your Faith growing; personally, and as a family? I was once told, "show me a Bible that has not been opened and I'll show you a family falling apart; show me a Bible falling apart, and I'll show you a family living in Faith." Put down the electronics and pick up the Bible and pray together as a family and learn to communicate with God and each other. Learn more about our Faith and the Catholic Church. Understand what "The Source and Summit" of our Catholic Faith is all about. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, sharing our Faith Life experiences. Bring your communications equipment with you: Basic Information Before Leaving Earth. BIBLE!

Interested in enrolling your family in the LAFF program for the 2023-24 school year? Please go to the following link to register for the LAFF program using the religious education form. <https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

July 10th-14th 2023, for kids ages

PK4-6

9:00AM-12:00PM

Grades PK4-4

The overall goal of this program is to awaken the hearts and minds of kids to the beauty of God's creation and the dignity of the human person. Kids will learn to discover, respect, protect, serve and celebrate life.

Grades 5th and 6th

This 1st year program is called



SAINTS IN TRAINING Students will be training in 8 different virtues. This is an engaging Catholic program which will help anchor our 5th and 6th graders in their faith to help form our next generation of Saints!

To Register for either program please go to: <https://holycrossdover.org/about-us/headlines/6436-vacation-bible-school-2023>

Registration is due no later than June 16th – Registration is limited! If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

Registration for Confirmation 2024:

Forms for registering for Confirmation Preparation Classes may be found on the Holy Cross website under Teaching the Faith - Sacramental Preparation - Confirmation. Please return forms to the Religious Education Office no later than June 30, 2023.

CATHOLIC HEART CAMP IN 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.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

Immaculate Conception Invites Children to Stellar VBS: Shine Jesus' Light!



A summer kids' event called Stellar VBS will be hosted at Immaculate Conception from Monday, **July 31st to Friday, August 4th**. At Stellar, kids discover how they can shine Jesus' love and hope in everyday life! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' light, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Cosmic Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 8:15pm for Cosmic Closing. Stellar is for kids from 4 to 16 and will run from 6pm to 8:30pm each day. For more information, call Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939. Children must be registered to attend.

For the first time, I am dipping into the archives. I believe the following entry is still worth the reminder. In education, we have found that repetition plays a significant role in the learning process. Perhaps another read through of my pleas for safety will make a difference. God bless.

I was in my office the other morning when I heard Mrs. Swartzentruber come inside after her morning traffic duty. Flustered, she commented ; “somebody’s gonna get hit out there one day, I can’t believe parents are so careless on this parking lot! These are our kids we are talking about!”

Every enrichment teacher is assigned a spot for morning duty. You will find Mrs. S. just beyond the stop sign directing everyone to turn left to go around either to the designated drop-off area on the exit drive, or to an available parking space for parents who care to walk their children to the door.

Next, you will find Mrs. Williams. She is waiting at the crosswalk for those either walking to the ELC or those entering the Junior High Building, or those walking to the ramp door to bid their goodbyes.

Mrs. Benini and Ms. Belt are shepherding the littles who are going to the ELC. These littles begin their day extra early because they have to be at a designated bus stop before the sun arises on most school days.

Mr. Seams also starts his day a little extra early because he has to post the flagger signs out on State Street. This is a requirement by the state and municipal powers serving as an indicator to motorists that there is a human being ahead slowing traffic flow for safety reasons. Both he and Mr. Klaus are assisting our families re-enter State Street traffic. They are invaluable.

Come rain, cold, wind, or the occasional not so kind remarks by parents, these four teachers will be found at their posts, all bundled up; protected against the elements.

I have often said that the physical layout of our school campus is a blessing and a curse. The size and manner in which we are able to populate each with students is a blessing. But, when it comes to the morning drop-off it is a bit of a curse. There is a twenty-minute window for arrival, and the closer we seem to get to that 800 am bell, the crazier and riskier the scenario becomes on what appears to be the southern branch of the Dover Speedway. Neither the signs, the cones, [please don’t try to drive between them] or the human beings seem to make much of a difference. Students are heading in three different directions. Thankfully, the youngest are walked to the sidewalk by their parents, in a relatively safe manner. But then mom or dad are off to the races because they have to get to work.

Many of our elementary children are walked to the ramp, while others are dropped off. This is where it can get a little dicey. PLEASE DON’T TRY TO MAKE A RIGHT TURN AT THE PARISH HALL, and *don’t drive through the lot to park against the parish hall.* Mrs. Williams is directing traffic to go straight! Go to the designated drop-off on the exit drive, OR park the car and let the children walk to their respective buildings.

Drive like your kids live here.

You’ve seen the signs posted on lawns in neighborhoods all throughout the county. It is just another sign of the times in which we live. The need for speed, the willful carelessness behind the wheel and a willingness to sacrifice the safety of the poor pedestrian are all hallmarks of the American driver. But the last place where impulsive driving habits should be exercised are on a school parking lot.

Now, our dismissal procedures seem to be far more controlled. We have all of the enrichment teachers, Mrs. Arndt Mrs. Bifferato, Mrs. Speed all playing some role in seeing to the well-being of the children at dismissal. Mrs. Arndt, Mrs. Bifferato and Mrs. Speed are located at the final point assisting the students in getting all of their belongings into the family vehicle. Would you believe it when I tell you that there are some parent drivers who don’t even bring their vehicle to a complete stop???? Picture it... the child’s leg is still outside of the car door, and the driver is halfway down to State Street. Unbelievable!

Have I struck a nerve? Am I talking to you? Are you guilty of any parking lot safety infractions?

Everyone is an important person. Everyone has important places to be. Everyone has important people to see. Believe me when I say that those people and places will be there if you take an extra few minutes to be cautious on the parking lot and drive at a reasonably slower speed.

- Please pay attention.
- Please put away your phone.
- Please slow down.
- Please watch out for the children walking on the parking lot to get to their respective building.

Don’t let Mrs. Swartzentruber’s words become a reality.

Drive like your kids go to school here!!

is my Body” and then took a chalice filled with wine and told His disciples, “this is the cup of my Blood.” He then shared this with them and gave them the admonition to continue to do this often, and do it “in memory of me.”

Into the Breach! Christ has His “Last Supper,” and the next day he makes the ultimate sacrifice for us, His people for whom he has a Passion (a great love); on the cross, he freely sacrifices His Body and sheds His Blood for us. That Sacrifice is the perfect Sacrifice: Christ is Priest (the offerer of the Sacrifice), and the victim (the Sacrifice itself). God, in the person of Christ, offered himself for us that we might live. Thus, that breach in the relationship between God and man that started in the Garden of Eden by the disobedience of Adam and Eve, would be once – and for all – healed. That death would no longer be the final word and the gates of heaven – closed by man’s disobedience -- would be opened again.

That was Then, This is Now. The terrible 1986 movie, “That was Then, This is Now” tried to connect and view a young man’s current life through the prism of his past. It did so terribly, and earned about \$20 at the box office. I must confess, I slept through the last half-hour of the film – even a Dr. Pepper couldn’t keep my eyes open. But, seeing connections are important – especially in our understanding of our faith. In that regard, let’s look at the connection between what happened in Egypt with the Jews at Passover and Christ’s sacrifice which we re-present at Mass. The Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, which happened in connection to the time of Passover, parallels, fulfills and – as they would say today – puts context to what God did for Jews in ancient Egypt. To wit:

- In the original Passover the Jews were freed from Slavery to the Egyptians; in the new and improved Passover, mankind is freed from slavery to sin (just as Adam condemned man’s relationship with God by his abject disobedience, Jesus Christ – sometimes called the New Adam – restored that relation to God and His Kingdom by His abject obedience, even unto death.
- In the original Passover a Lamb was slaughtered as the Sacrifice; in the new Passover, Christ is the Lamb who was slaughtered.
- In the original Passover the slaughtered Lamb was consumed by the family that was gathered around the altar table on which it was slaughtered. In the new Passover, Christ gave His Apostles the foretaste of how this Paschal (lamb-type) meal would be shared – under the form of bread and wine.
- In the original Passover, the shed blood of the Lamb allowed the faithful people to be spared death; in the new Passover, the shed Blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God, allows His faithful people to be spared death to sin.

A Re-Presentation not a Representation. And so, with Christ looking ahead to the cross on Good Friday, on Holy Thursday he commands His Apostles to share His Body and Blood and to do this often, and in memory of Him. To this end Church calls for the celebration of the Mass in every corner of the globe. In this way, just as the Jews shared in the Lamb of sacrifice, so too, we share in Christ own being – His Body, His Blood, His soul and His Divinity. Not symbolically, but in actuality. Just as the Jewish people celebrate the Seder meal and the fruits of the Passover, and that freedom given them by God is re-presented, so too, do Catholics celebrate the Mass. At Mass the fruits of Christ’s cross – our freedom from sin and death – are re-presented.

Mass-ive Presence! Thus, at Mass, the Priest (or Bishop) celebrates the Sacrament of the Eucharist – and in the course of that celebration Christ is present in several ways: in the proclamation of Scripture, in the person of the Priest, and in the prayerful voice of the assembly. Moreover, Christ is abidingly present in only one profound and specific way: He is truly and really present to us in the Eucharistic species (i.e., His Body and Blood, visible to our senses as bread and wine). Just as Christ was present to His Apostles and followers in His time on earth, he continues to be with us, present to us, wholly and fully in the Eucharist. This is why at the end of Matthew’s Gospel, he promises to be with us “*until the end of the age*” -- for indeed He is: the Eucharist is Christ’s abiding presence in the world to us and amongst us.

Next Week: I will continue to focus on The Eucharist, especially as regards terminology, the matter of form and matter, the question of our senses and more.

Yours in Christ,
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Pastor