



# 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

May 22, 2022

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

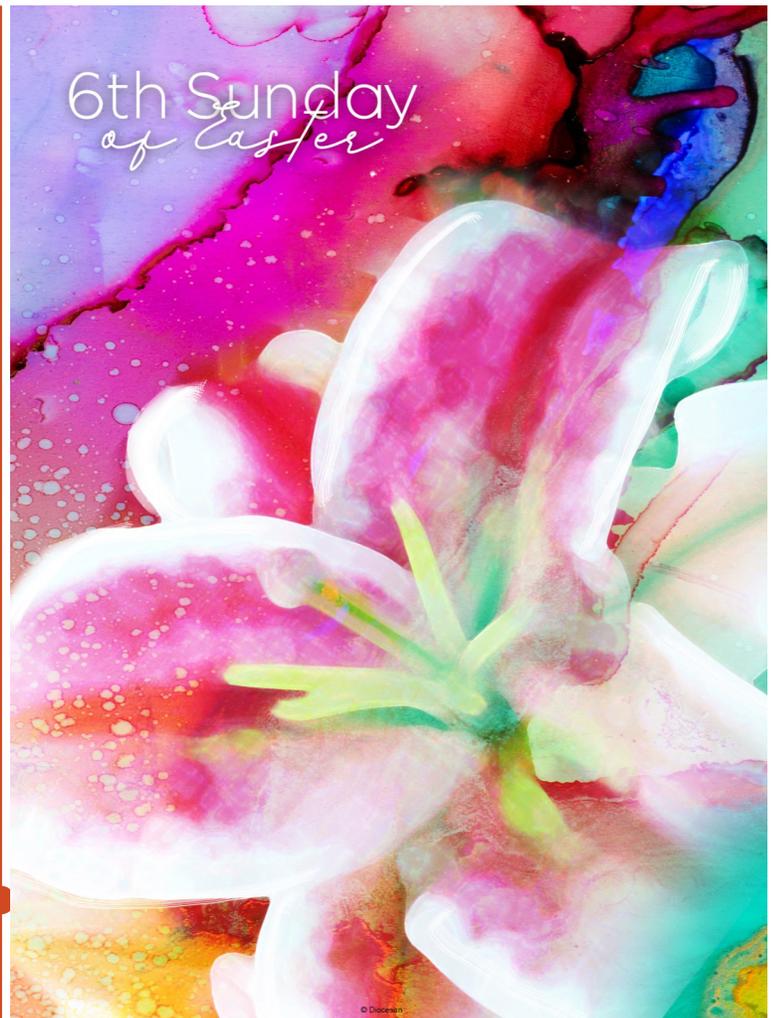
Monday-Saturday, 8 am  
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day,  
MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,  
Labor Day, Columbus Day)

### 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.



An Online Synod Listening Session is now available for everyone in the Diocese of Wilmington who has access to technology to participate in the 2021-2023 Synod convoked by Pope Francis. Please encourage those who have not participated in an in-person Listening Session to watch the video and then fill out the Online Synod Consultation Form found here: [www.cdow.org/synod](http://www.cdow.org/synod).

## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

May 8, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$20,743	\$25,600	(\$4,857)
YTD	\$1,185,218	\$1,170,440	\$14,818
Needs	\$1,533	\$1,480	\$53

## WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending May 8, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Offertory	\$3,521
2nd collection	\$606

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,

Something of note occurred last week at All Saints Cemetery up in New Castle county. On Thursday, May 12, 2022, Bishop Koenig celebrated the Rite of Committal (burial) for 59 deceased persons at the same time. What occasioned such a large committal? Well, it seems that one of the funeral homes in Wilmington had in its care, 59 unclaimed, abandoned urns with remains of deceased men and women. The funeral home decided that the folks — their remains — needed proper burial, and so, contacted the Diocese of Wilmington with the hope of making an arrangement to tend to this situation. The Bishop — recognizing that one of the corporal works of mercy is to bury the dead — with aid of the generosity of Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home established a mausoleum for the burial of these urns.

**15,000 Reasons for Burial.** Nationwide, according to an analysis by the funeral industry, it is estimated that 15,000 sets of remains were left behind and abandoned in 2018 alone (most recent data available). So, this is a problem, and what the funeral home and the Diocese did was one way of tending to the problem. But the unclaimed urns are actually more of a symptom of the problem, than the actual problem. The actual problem is one that regards how we show (or don't show) respect for the remains of a human person.

**Meanwhile, Back in 1963.** With that story, and the related statistics in mind, I want to address a topic at regarding death and burial, in our parishes — but in the Church, in general. Over the past 20-30 years, cremation has become a much more common practice within the Catholic Church. In 1963, the Catholic Church first allowed cremation of a body to be buried in a Catholic funeral rite. In the intervening years, Catholic funeral rites have even been amended to accommodate the possible situation wherein cremated remains are present, instead of the body of the deceased at a funeral. Though it should be noted that Church's and its funeral ritual's preferences (not mandate) are that the body of the deceased be cremated only after the Funeral Mass/service (i.e., the body, if being cremated, should be cremated only for the burial).

**Civil Rites.** To address this matter of cremated remains, some principles have been laid down by the Church to respect the sacredness of the body (i.e., the remains of that person). To this end, one

of the principles that Church commends is that in Catholic funeral rites, the cremated remains of a person are to be treated in a like manner and with equal dignity, to that of a body. Thus the general overarching treatment of cremated remains and bodily remains is quite similar — and if you have been at a funeral mass, vigil service or burial, you certainly may have noted this.

**Of Remains and Respect.** That being said, within our culture very disturbing practices are rearing their head with regard to cremated remain, and those practices are non-reconcilable with our faith. Ideas of scattering ashes over a river or on a road, etc., or keeping the cremated remains of a loved one on mantle, or in a dresser, or even in a locket, etc., have crept in to our culture. This is in contrast to the Church's principle of treating the deceased with dignity and giving them a place of final repose. Treating those remains in the same manner that you would treat a body (e.g., no one would take the body of a loved one and keep it in their home or scatter it over a road or field). Thus, we do not do that with cremated remains. Those remains are the remains of a human being.

**The Case for Closure.** There are many problems, pragmatic and in a Church-sense, with people who think it is a nice or sentimental idea to bring the remains of their loved one and keep them at home. Aside from being disrespectful to the deceased, that practice also denies those left behind from a sense of closure and finality. Like Lot's wife who turned into a pillar of salt because she couldn't turn away from what she once knew, we too can be frozen in place if we can't allow our beloved departed to rest in peace and allow ourselves to move on with our lives.

**A Remaining Problem.** Another, unintended, effect of this practice that is beginning to be felt, is the discovering of cremated remains at the home of the deceased person who kept those remains. A few years ago, a priest friend of mine from "the north side of

*(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	Receptionist, ext. 110
Diane Belt	Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
Kenneth Trojan	Business Manager, ext. 119
Michele Dornberger	Records/Asst. Bus. Mgr., ext. 116
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry, ext. 118
Tammy Korosec	CRE Religious Ed, ext 122
Linda Darling	Youth Ministry, ext. 123
Justin Wurzel	Maintenance Director
Len Dornberger	Cemetery Administrator, ext. 135
Michael Perza	Dir. of Music Ministry, 302 698 9302

## MAILING ADDRESS

*Church of the Holy Cross*  
631 S. State St.  
Dover, DE 19901

## ICC STAFF

Parish Office	410 482 7687
Marilyn Dixon	Office Manager
Alicia Poppiti	DRE Religious Ed.
Susan Venezia	Bookkeeper
Arline Dosman	Dir. of Hispanic Ministry

## MAILING ADDRESS

*Immaculate Conception Church*  
P. O. Box 399  
Marydel, MD 21649-0399

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

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

Linda Pollitt	Principal, ext. 111
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## MAILING ADDRESS

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

## DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY RECOGNITION

Holy Cross would like to recognize the following teens and adults who were recognized by the Diocese of Wilmington for their ministry to our young people -

**Laura Hauss** was recognized with the Volunteer of the Year Award. ....

Laura has been a dedicated volunteer for the Holy Cross Religious Education Program for 17 years. She has taught many grade levels, but her heart is in the 4th grade. She spends many hours developing her own faith by reading and researching. She is very dedicated to teaching the traditional prayers to her students and shares her love for the rosary with them. She also encourages our students to go to reconciliation and Mass on a regular basis. Laura is valuable asset to our program and our children are better for having her as a teacher. She is very appreciated.

**Stacey Gede** was recognized with the St. John Bosco Award for Catechesis. Stacey is a very dedicated volunteer to the Holy Cross Religious Education Program. She has taught many levels from 5th grade-8th grade. At times she taught two classes on separate days. Whenever there is an opportunity for her to share her faith with the other grades she has done so by volunteering to assist at the second grade retreats, to assisting at vacation Bible school, by becoming a trained For the Sake of Christ Children instructor, to going on work camp with the confirmation class. She never says no. Stacey is a huge asset to our program. She is appreciated.

**Mary Darling** was recognized with the St. John Bosco Award for Youth Ministry.

Mary has been helping with Confirmation Preparation for the past five years. Mary has a beautiful way to guide and assist teens with patience and love. Prior to Confirmation preparation, Mary taught middle school catechesis for several years. Mary led our Youth Choir for many years. Our lives continue to be enriched by this beautiful woman.

**Mark Arranguet** was recognized with the St. Timothy Youth Award.

Mark has been an active member of our Peer Ministry Program for the past three years, assisting with Confirmation classes

and retreats. Mark accomplishes everything quietly and graciously. He is a wonderful small group leader with our younger teens.

Mark shares his faith in little ways every day – a beautiful example of living his faith selflessly.

**Ella Wadhams** was recognized with the St. Timothy Youth Award.

Ella has been a peer leader for the past two years – a beautiful example of discipleship in action. She helps to lead small group discussion at Confirmation classes, and assists with retreats. She volunteers to do whatever is needed with a smile. She is an altar server, and helps the younger servers when needed. She is a shining example of living her faith – at church, in school, on the sports field, in her family.

## AMERICAN FLAGS

The Cemetery Committee members will be in the Gathering Space following all weekend Masses. American flags for our Veterans' graves will be available for \$5; donations are welcomed. In addition to obtaining information about our cemetery, you can find out about ordering monument flower vases, flag holders, placing an order for an engraved brick paver, and signing up for an appointment call-back from our cemetery administrator.

## MEMORIAL DAY MASS

The annual Memorial Day Mass will be held in the church on Monday, May 30th 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.

## CEMETERY CLEAN UP

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.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our prayers shawl ministry continues to meet each Tuesday morning from 10 am to 12 Noon in the St. Luke Room on the second floor of the Early Learning Center Building. Newcomers are welcome. If you know someone who could use a prayer shawl or if you would like one yourself, please call the parish office and we can pass along the message to the group.

## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Natural or national disasters can bring out the best in humanity as we rally to help those in need. A marriage crisis can also prompt a couple to sacrifice for each other or honestly deal with a recurring problem. Don't wait for a disaster, however, to test your love. Prevention is better.

## PARENTING POINTERS

Talk to your child about lifting up their spirit to God – in prayer, by doing a favor for someone... Maybe fly a kite or watch some birds together to connect with Jesus' Ascension.

## MASS INTENTIONS MAY

### 23 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am Louis V. Jara

### 24 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Wilberto Macalalad

### 25 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:00 am Gilda Hendrickson

### 26 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Rev. Thomas E. Hanley  
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

### 27 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Howard Rowlands

### 28 SATURDAY

HC 8 am Angelo & Grazia Ricci  
HC 5 pm Rafael Zaragoza

### 29 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Joseph Girgis  
ICC 8:30 am Veronica Kriss  
HC 9:30 am Beverly Bresnehan  
ICC 11 am Rosemary Vasquez  
HC 11:30 am Kitty Litrenta  
ICC 1 pm For the People

*(LI—LIVING INTENTION  
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)*

## 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. For more info:

[www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

## 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.wvme-delmar.org](http://www.wvme-delmar.org). For additional information please call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-648-2228.

HOLY CROSS MAY 28/29, 2022

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM D. Darling L. Darling P. Gerard C. Helwig F. Hettinger S. Murawski A. Zink E. Zink

LECTORS

L. Christiansen V Viddy

7:30 AM C. Brown J. Chandler J. Davis R. Fritzche A. Wyllie B. Richardson L. Richardson

LECTORS

C. Cuffee

9:30 AM K. Kelly P. Ford S. Ford G. Richards C. Robinson A. Carter E. Seelig J Seeney

LECTORS

C. Petka M.Sherlock

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

LECTORS

A. Luna

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM B. Casey

LECTORS

K. Cairns

11:00 AM P. Lardizzone

LECTORS

L. Schlaupitz

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.

JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

It's a question every Catholic man needs to ask - and answer. God calls you to lead with faith in all you do. The Knights of Columbus is here to help. We offer the Catholic faith formation, financial protection, and family resources that can help you grow as a father, husband, and leader. With the Knights, you can become the man you want to be - and your family needs. Learn more at KofC.org and find out how you can make a difference and enjoy the benefits of becoming a Knight. Lead, they'll follow.

RECENT DEATHS

Our sympathy and condolences to the family of

- Clara Dill

who recently died.

May the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace, Amen.

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.

SUNDAY 6 am, 10 am, 5 pm, 8 pm

TUESDAY 3 pm

WEDNESDAY 8 am

THURSDAY 12 pm

SATURDAY 5 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

FIRST READING: ACTS 1:1-11

Following a formal dedication of the book to his patron, Theophilus, Luke tells the story of Jesus' ascension.

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1:17-23

This concentrates on what faced Jesus after his ascension—to sit at the right hand of God.

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:46-53

After Jesus' ascension, the disciples are overjoyed, even though he has departed. They spend their time praising God in the Temple.

## NUESTRA FAMILIA HISPANA

- Confirmación para Adultos: Si usted es mayor de 18 años de edad y no se ha recibido su sacramento de la Confirmación las clases de preparación empezaran pronto. Habrá Confirmaciones de Adultos Hispano el domingo 10 de Julio. Para más información hable con el Sr. Antonio Luna o llame a la oficina de la parroquia al 302-674-5787 ext. 118.
- Todos son bienvenidos a la Santa Misa incluso los niños pequeños, pero le pedimos un favor, si usted es una familia con niños pequeños y su hijo se inquieta o llora por favor sáquelo por un momento hasta que se calme. Antes de venir a misa prepare a su niño y conversa sobre la misa y la iglesia que es un lugar sagrado y dale una responsabilidad en la misa de depositar la colecta en la canasta o enséñales los cantos. Sea considerado con las otras personas que están orando y ayude a que su niño disfrute también de la Misa, y aprenda a amar a Dios desde una temprana edad.
- 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
- La virgen peregrina está visitando casas el próximo domingo, si usted desea tener la virgen en su casa por una semana por favor hable con la Sra. Marta Espinosa.
- Educación Religiosa: ¡Ya están abiertas las inscripciones para el año 2022-2023! Los formularios de registro están disponibles en línea <https://holycrossover.org> haga clic donde dice Religious Education y baja una aplicación, también los puede solicitar en la oficina de Educación Religiosa. Reconocemos a los padres como los primeros maestros en la formación de la fe de su niño. Nuestra esperanza es trabajar y guiar a los padres según sea necesario a través de nuestro Programa de Educación Religiosa, pero necesitamos su ayuda en inscribir a su niño con tiempo para poder proporcionar el material y la formación adecuada a su hijo. Haga esto una prioridad de inscribirlos a tiempo.
- Quinceañeras: Para solicitar una misa de Acción de Gracias por los quince años, debe llenar los siguientes requisitos: 1. La familia debe de ser miembros inscritos en la parroquia de Holy Cross para celebrar los quince años o pedir el permiso del párroco

para prepararse en otra parroquia. 2. Los padres de la quinceañera deben ir a la oficina parroquial con un año de anticipación para reservar la fecha. 3. Haber recibido todos los Sacramentos de Iniciación Cristiana.

(Bautismo, Comunión y Confirmación) Estar dispuestos a participar en el proceso de preparación según lo requiere el párroco y la parroquia. 4. Asistir a todas las clases de Formación. 5. Coordinar directamente con el Ministerio de Música si desea música.

- Si usted no está inscrito en la parroquia por favor hágalo es importante Tiene que estar inscrito para solicitar una carta
- de recomendación de parte de la parroquia, para asuntos legales o de solicitud de documentos de inmigración tiene que ser un miembro activo de la comunidad parroquial, para poder escribirle la carta.
- Felicitaciones a todos los niños que recibieron su Primera Comunión y continuaremos orando por ellos en su jornada de Fe.

## ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

- La Inscripción para el año escolar 2022-2023 todavía se está aceptando aplicaciones, las inscripciones están disponibles a todas las familias. Si se inscribe tarde tendrá que pagar un costo adicional. Tiene que inscribir a su hijo cada año y devolver las aplicaciones a Alicia Poppiti a tiempo para que podamos estar seguros de tener suficientes maestros y espacio en los salones.
- Necesitamos Catequistas, asistentes, substitutes, y ayudantes para el próximo año para la Educación Religiosa los domingos en la mañana desde septiembre 18 hasta Mayo, 9:40- 10:50. Contacte a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti@ 410-482-8939 0 dre@iccmaryl.org para más información.
- Gracias a todos los Catequista y jóvenes voluntarios que dieron su tiempo y talento en enseñar la fe a nuestros niños. Que Dios los bendiga.
- La Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones en La Inmaculada Concepción es del 1 al 5 de agosto, de 6 a 8:30 p. m. en el Salón. Los niños deben estar inscritos para asistir. Necesitamos voluntarios para VBS si está interesado en ayudar contacte a la Sra. Alicia Poppiti@ 410-482-8939 0 dre@iccmaryl.org para más información.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Interested in enrolling a student in Religious Education?

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

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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LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

Interested in enrolling a student in LAFF?

Registration forms available at <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](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787 X 122

#### Adult Education (HC)

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>



### SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School July 11-15th, 2022  
9 am – 12 pm



#### Ages PK4-Grade 4

Registrations forms available on Holy Cross Website. **Capacity is limited.** Registration Forms due 6/30/2022.

Volunteers needed 5th grade – 99! Volunteer Registration forms available on <https://holycrossdover.org/about-us/headlines/6436-vacation-bible-school-2022>

Volunteer forms due 6/10/2022.

You may also contact Tammy Korosec at [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or (302) 674-5787 X 122 for forms.

### YOUTH AT HOLY CROSS

#### Registration for Confirmation Preparation (HC - 2023)

Forms to register for Confirmation Preparation 2023 may be found on the parish website under Teaching the Faith, Sacramental Preparation.

#### Work Camp in Dover (HC)

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 AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Registration for 2022-2023 school year is open, registrations are available to all families, and are stilling being accepted. You must register your children each year. Please return to Alicia Poppiti now, so that we can be sure to have enough teachers, books, and space in classrooms.

We are in need of Catechists, Assistants, substitutes and helpers for next year for Religious Education on Sunday mornings, from September 18th until May 7th, 9:40-10:50am. Contact Alicia Poppiti @410-482-8939 or [dre@iccmarylodel.org](mailto:dre@iccmarylodel.org) for more information.

**1st Communion:** Congratulations to all the First Communicants, who received Jesus yesterday at Immaculate Conception.

**Vacation Bible School** at Immaculate Conception is from August 1-5, from 6-8:30pm in the Hall. Children must be registered to attend. Registrations are now available.



Volunteers needed for VBS, and next year for Religious Education classes. Contact Alicia Poppiti for more information 410-482-8939.

*They have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb*

Father Mano began the Mass by sharing with the congregation that he felt sure he was in Heaven surrounded by beautiful angels of God. As lovely as that sounds, Father was facing the forty-six precious faces of the boys and girls who had completed their preparation for receiving their First Holy Communion. A "sea of white" was how Father described the children as they sat silently, expectantly, the picture of Holy Innocence in their pews. They had practiced climbing the three altar steps, they had practiced receiving the Host, the proper response, and then descending the three altar steps. Those steps are a little bit tricky, believe it or not, especially for those with the floor length dresses and heels. Naturally, the practice session included wearing the shoes for the big day, and then of course, discretely lifting the dress for the trips up and down the steps. All practice aside, they were ready.

*For as oft as you eat the bread and drink the cup you proclaim the death of the Lord.*

There is something very special about the first time ever. Fortunately, if you have a phone, you have a camera. If you have a phone, you also have a video camera. Forget about the clumsy, cumbersome carrying case, the tripod, the flashbulbs [does anyone even know what they are??] and focusing in the best lighting. It's the here and now that we want to memorialize! There's no time to fumble around with a camera or hoist the old video camera up on the shoulder. By the time it's all in place---you've missed the moment. Make it all instantaneous by simply slipping the phone out of that back pocket and with a couple of gentle taps on the old screen; you can have a veritable scrapbook in seconds!! It's the first times that are remembered most, and thanks to good old technology; baby's first steps, the first tee-ball game, the first little league homerun, the first dance, the first date, the first day of school, the first car, my stars, the list is endless! The best part is that it can all be stockpiled neatly and compactly in your phone!

Sadly, somehow, the second, third and fourth of anything often pales in comparison to the first. If you would permit my ascending the steps of my soapbox; may I ask that you not permit the second, third, fourth, tenth, or the one thousandth time your child receives the precious Body and Blood of Christ pale in comparison to the glorious and joyous reception of the first. Most importantly, will you emphasize the power of the Eucharist with your children. And, please don't let the First Holy Communion be one of only occasional visits to the Holy Altar. Let it be the same celebration, the joy and the happiness of the beautiful dress and the new suit....each time.

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

It is on behalf of the faculty and staff of Holy Cross School that we congratulate the First Holy Communicants. May God bless them in great abundance as they go forth secure in the knowledge that each time they receive the Holy Eucharist they strengthen their relationship with our loving Savior.

Hanna B.  
Elliot C.  
Kelsey D.  
Logan E.  
Daniel H.  
David H.  
Natalie J.  
Amelia L.  
Henry L.  
Aubrey N.  
Joslin N.  
Kathleen O.  
Isaac P.  
Rocco P.  
Pailyn P.  
Rylie P.  
Elle R.  
Hannah S.  
Olivia S.  
Ella S.  
Joel S.  
Logan T.  
Michael W.  
Madison W.  
Noah W.  
Gaia Z.

the canal” told me a story of a person who passed away; she had no relatives in the area. When her belongings were gone through, an urn of remains (with no identifying marks) was found. So, what gets done with those remains? The relatives don’t want it. There is no identification of who it is. And there is no place to bury the remains, and, pragmatically, no one to assume the costs of such a burial. It is a situation caused by a person not being allowed to be laid to rest. What winds up happening very likely, to go back to the story I began with, is the remains wind up on the shelf in a funeral home in storage.

**Meanwhile in 2016.** The Church’s teaching on this matter has not changed, and in 2016, during the Pontificate of our current Pope Francis, the teaching was reaffirmed in a document called *Ad Resurgendum cum Cristo*, which states:

*“The ashes of the faithful must be laid to rest in a sacred place, that is, in a cemetery or, in certain cases, in a church or an area, which has been set aside for this purpose, and so dedicated by the competent ecclesial authority” (Ad Resurgendum cum Christo 5).*

**A Corporal Work of Mercy.** With all of this in mind, let me bring the local picture in on this matter. At our Parishes (Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception), we do not partake in any services for the cremated remains of a person for which there is no intention of burial or entombment. That is not part of our Catholic belief or our Catholic understanding of respectfully dealing with the deceased, and thus it cannot be part of our funeral practices. If a person told us they were keeping a deceased body in their house and not laying the body to rest, we likewise could not provide Funeral Rites for the person. The Funeral Mass itself is formally called, as you might note seeing in various obituaries, “A Mass of Christian Burial” — answering that call to the Corporal Work of Mercy that we bury the dead. And our funeral rites are all premised on the deceased being laid to rest, in a permanent resting place, and in our Catholic tradition, in blessed ground or entombment.

**The Catholic Stuff.** This requirement of burial is not the Church being uncaring or being mean. This is the Church respecting the human person in life and in death. It is the Church calling us to provide for our deceased, a permanent place of rest — a place where their body and their memory can be properly honored (and visited for remembrance). The Catholic funeral rites are inclusive: from the wake to the Mass/service to the burial/entombment — the remains of the deceased are treated with sacredness. It is not the Priest or Deacon coming in to do “the Catholic stuff” and then the family doing whatever it feels like with that deceased loved one’s remains. No, the family is part of that call to do “the Catholic stuff” — to follow the faith of the departed in recognition of the faith of the Church.

**A Soul Once Dwelt There.** I know this is not the most pleasant column to read, but recent developments in our culture, and practices in our world regarding the dead, moved me to print this column on this topic. In short, the dead should be treated well: respectfully, and with care. Remains of a person should not be left on a shelf or a mantelpiece like a trophy or family keepsake. It is proper to want to remember someone by use of a picture or keepsake, but not with their bodily remains. So, at the time one’s death and one’s funeral rites, whether it is a body or cremated remains, we have to acknowledge that there a soul once dwelt. And indeed, that needs to be recognized and acted upon with our mind on Christ, and the teachings of his Holy Church.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. James Lentini  
Pastor