



# 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

November 12, 2023

32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

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

### 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



## 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

*Matthew 25:13*

Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins by William John Wainwright, 1899  
© Doosan

### 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*

icc

## 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.

## MASS BOOK 2024 AT HOLY CROSS

**Our Mass Book is no open to receive names for intentions.**

**Due to the reduced number of Masses we are currently offering, we must restrict the number of requests. Please see below:**

1. You can request *ONLY 3 Masses per family* and payment of \$10 per Mass is required at the time of the request.
2. Requests **MUST** written out providing your name, phone number, email, maximum three requests listing date and time of request (with alternative dates) and with person's name (remember intention can be for one person or members of same family only for the intentions). We will do our best to honor your request. *Please note the Mass times: 8 am Masses Monday through Saturday (8:15 on Wednesdays), 5 pm Saturday Mass, Sunday 7:30 am, 9:30 am and 11:30 am Spanish Masses.*
3. Requests will be taken Monday through Fridays, 8:30 am to 2 pm only.
4. Requests for the Church tabernacle candle or Adoration Chapel candle can also be made. \$10 per request. Limit one request per person.

Please call the office with any questions.

302-674-5787, ext 111 or 113

Thank you for understanding that we must adhere to 3 requests **ONLY** per family.

## WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending October 29, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$27,066	\$26,964	\$102
YTD	\$452,147	\$479,500	(\$27,353)
Needs	\$1,856	\$1,712	\$144

## WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending October 29, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$3,519
Second Collection	\$499

**Thank you to all our 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.**

**An Announcement for Parishes in the Silver Lake Deanery**

Dear Parishioners of Holy Cross and Immaculate Conception Parishes:

The Silver Lake Deanery is Church's administrative territory covering the areas overseen by St. Dennis (Galena), St. Polycarp (Smyrna), Holy Cross (Dover), Immaculate Conception (Marydel), and St. John the Apostle (Milford/Harrington). As part of the Diocesan Planning process, the various Deaneries of the Diocese of Wilmington, are seeking ways in which Parishes within a Deanery can more effectively work together to provide services to the faithful (and, conversely, identifying those areas where that is not practical).

**Brief Survey.** To that end, as Dean of the Silver Lake Deanery, I have compiled a survey to get parishioner assessment regarding areas/topics that have been reviewed by our Deanery Committee or by the Diocesan Pastoral Planning process. The survey is fairly simple, and should take only a few minutes to complete.

**Deadline.** I would like to compile the results of this survey to present to our Bishop and the steering committee of this Pastoral Planning process by early December. Thus, I would set the deadline for submissions to this survey as Tuesday, **November 28, 2023.**

**Use the Link to Complete the Survey.** The survey itself is housed at the Immaculate Conception website, which provides a simple link for all to use: [www.iccmarydel.org/survey](http://www.iccmarydel.org/survey) -- the survey will be officially open from this weekend thru Tuesday, November 28.

On behalf of my brother priests in the Silver Lake Deanery, I thank you for your faithfulness and your participation. I remain,

Yours in Christ,

Vy. Rev. James Lentini, VF

Dean - Silver Lake Deanery

—

Dear Parishioners,

With Thanksgiving lurking a few weeks away, I want to write about giving thanks. So often, in a world we are consumed with the 24-hour news cycle giving of angst and agita, coronavirus giving us concern, and the battle of everyday life feeling occasionally insurmountable, we need to hit pause, we need to chill out, and we need to take a deep breath and see things with the eyes of faith and not the eyes of fear. In short, while realizing the troubles of life, we have to focus on the blessings of life and be thankful to God for those blessings, past, present

and future.

**This Answers the Question "Y".** And it needs to be sincere gratitude. Which reminds me of terrible joke I've been saving up for a homily, but I'll use it here instead: A man goes to get a loan. And he presents himself well. The loan officer, Mr. Jackson, is impressed by how professional he is, and says, "Wow! You have an amazing work history and you present yourself fantastically but you seem to be missing five years of your life on the job history part of your application, why is that?" The man, "Oh, yes, that was the five year period where I didn't work because I went to Yale" says the man. The loan officer says, "I went to Yale, too." He pointed to his diploma on the wall. The man says, "Yes, I noticed." The officer says, "Yes, I think we can help a Yale man." A half hour later, the loan officer hands the man a bank check for \$25,000 — his loan. The man took the check got up and began to leave. He showed his gratitude by saying "And thanks for the money. I appreciate it. And I appreciated my time in Yale wasn't held against me!" And as he made his way out the door he smirked and said, "Thank you for everything... time to get back to my job, Mr. Yackson."

**Unlimited Thanks.** Okay, that's an awful yoke, I mean joke. But the guy in that story wasn't really truly thankful, he was happy that he pulled one over on someone else... and got what he wanted. But thanks cannot be limited to being given only when we get what we what we want. So, how should we understand true gratitude and thankfulness? Good question.

**Good God!** Bishop Fulton Sheen used to say there that are two kinds of people in our world: Those who wake up and say, "Good morning, God!" and those who say, "Good God, morning." The distinction between these two folks is that one sees God and wants to give thanks for the new day to one who gave him the new day. The other guy – and isn't this like us some of the time – says "ugh, not another day for me to get through." That second person isn't thankful, he is thank-impaired as the politically-correct language folks might want to phrase it. And yet, regardless of our outlook, here comes Thanksgiving! Here comes that day when as a nation, we need to give thanks to God, with a full heart. But, sometimes when life is tough, thanks don't come easy.

**Missal Command.** When I have those moments where thanks are not easy to come by and gratitude comes at a premium, I think about the words of Christ we hear in The Roman Missal (or

*(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
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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

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families of those who recently passed:

- Christopher A. Balcerak
- Joan Santelli
- Patricia Nemith

May their soul and souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

## HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

If you have been to the cemetery recently, I'm sure you had to notice all the beautiful American flags. Once again, members of the Cemetery Committee have replaced all the tattered and torn flags with new flags in honor of the veterans interred in our cemetery. While Memorial Day honors those who have died while in the service to our country, and rightfully so, we feel it is important to also honor all those who have served regardless of when they left this world. I thank the committee members for their assistance with the flags and for their devotion to our cemetery. I also thank all the parishioners who made donations towards the purchase of the flags after the Masses on Memorial Day weekend which financially makes it possible to replace the flags for both Memorial and Veterans Day. Unfortunately, the only way we know who our veterans were is by finding either a veteran's flag holder or a military plaque. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, contact me, Len Dornberger, at 302-674-5787 x135.

## KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is having a membership drive. Men of both ICC and Holy Cross are welcome and invited to join the K of C. Contact people are: Francesco "Chris" Cristiano for ICC at 302-653-9004 and Dr. Wayne Thomas for Holy Cross at 302-697-1152

## 33RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (NOV 19)

FIRST READING: PROVERBS 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

The praises given to the woman here echo the praises given elsewhere in the scriptures to God.

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-6

Standing ready for God may refer to our death and judgement but also to openness to the ways in which God comes to us everyday.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30

The parable of the talents shows god as the generous giver of graces, but one who asks that we take seriously the gifts we have and use them with confidence.

## SOUP AND SILENT AUCTION

Immaculate Conception Society of St. Vincent de Paul Soup and Silent Auction, this Sunday Nov. 19, 2023

9:30 AM to 12:15 PM

Soups \$5.00 per container

Tamales 2 for \$5.00

\$1.00 Donuts and Coffee for Early Birds



## VOCATIONS

The Church is in great need of vocations to the priesthood and religious life in all its forms. And you can do something about it! Share a piece of pie with others:

**PRAY** for vocations for the Church and encourage others to do so.

**INVITE** young people you know to pray with you and join you in participating in faith formation and Church activities of all types.

**ENCOURAGE** young people you know to consider a vocation to priesthood or religious life, especially if you think they have the qualities to make a holy priest or religious

## HOLY CROSS SCHOOL CRAFT FAIR

## DELAWARE CHORAL SOCIETY

The Delaware Choral Society will present “A Very Merry Pops Concert” at 6pm on Saturday, December 2nd at Wyoming United Methodist Church (216 Wyoming Mill Road, Dover). Advance tickets are \$18 and available from any DCS member, online at [www.DelawareChoralSociety.org](http://www.DelawareChoralSociety.org), or on our Facebook page. Tickets at the door will be \$20. Discount rates are available in advance for students and groups of 10 or more. Email [info@delawarechoralsociety.org](mailto:info@delawarechoralsociety.org) for more infor-

## MASS INTENTIONS NOVEMBER

**13 MONDAY**  
HC 8:00 am DM Stansberry Family

**14 TUESDAY**  
HC 8:00 am Mary Jane Deni

**15 WEDNESDAY**  
HC 8:15 am Janet Dyba

**16 THURSDAY**  
HC 8:00 am Bill Tedeman  
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

**17 FRIDAY**  
HC 8:00 am Joseph Caputo, Sr.

**18 SATURDAY**  
HC 8:00 am Adam J. Daniel  
HC 5:00 pm Margie Galli

**19 SUNDAY**  
HC 7:30 am Claire Zaragoza  
ICC 8:30 am Delores Rossetti  
HC 9:30 am Joseph Hlafka  
ICC 11:00 am Joseph and Mary Gehringer  
HC 11:30 am Fatima Mary  
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

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

*THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHAPEL FOR  
11/12-11/18 IS FOR (LI) FLORENCE DEIGHTON.*

*THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHURCH FOR  
11/12-11/18 IS FOR RICHARD MOKOSI.*

mation.

## WINE AND WREATH WORKSHOP

Decorate your home for the holidays with a fresh wreath. Talented instructors will demonstrate and guide you in creating a wreath from greenery and other natural decorations at a Wreath and Wine Workshop on Saturday, November 18 from 1-4 PM at St. Joseph Parish Hall, 371 E Main St, Middletown, DE. The \$47 class price includes all needed materials including a wreath frame, foliage, decorative accents, and wire plus a glass of wine. Additional beverages and snacks will be sold. Bring garden gloves, wire clippers if you have them, small decorative picks if you desire, and a wired ribbon that coordinates with your decor for the finishing bow. Pre-made bows will be available for sale. Proceeds from the event benefit the restoration of St. Francis Xavier Shrine in Warwick, MD. To reserve a spot, email [OldBohemiaHS@gmail.com](mailto:OldBohemiaHS@gmail.com) or call 302.545.2126.



NOV 18/19, 2023			
EMHC		SERVERS	
5:00 PM	P. Gerard	F. Hettinger	B. Richardson
	C. Helwig	D. MacLeish	L. Richardson
<b>LECTORS</b>			
L. Christiansen V. Viddy			
7:30 AM	S. Gede	L. Lockett	B. Gyamfi
	P. Jackson	M. Thompson	E. Gyamfi
<b>LECTORS</b>			
J. Davis			
9:30 AM	D. Martinez	F. Hanlin	K. Fernandez
	P. Ford	C. Jones	M. Ford
<b>LECTORS</b>			
T. Baurys J. Coffield			
11:30 AM	C. Garcia	A. Luna	TBD
	B. Guzman		
<b>LECTORS</b>			
TBD			
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION			
8:30 AM	S. Bell		
	<b>LECTORS</b>		
D. Smith			
11:00 AM	J. Carrow		
	<b>LECTORS</b>		
S. Tucker			
1:00 PM	TBD		

If you or someone from your family is going to be in one of our local rehabilitation facilities or nursing homes, our Extra-Ordinary ministers of Holy Communion serve all of these facilities. If you are going to be in one of these facilities, even for a short time, please be sure to register yourself as a Catholic so that you will be on their list for our ministers to bring you the Eucharist on the weekend. All the facilities are very cooperative and will gladly add the name to the list for our ministers each week.

If you are in the hospital make sure you are on their Catholic list so we can have our ministers bring you communion daily. You must inform the hospital to put you on the Catholic list otherwise we do not know you are there.

### 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. Call John Murphy at 302-233-1779 or email him at jkm2015@verizon.net to schedule.

SUNDAY	7 am, 4 pm, 5pm
MONDAY	5 pm
TUESDAY	5 am,
WEDNESDAY	7 am
FRIDAY	8 am
SATURDAY	5 am, 9 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm

### SAMARITANS NEED MORE DONATIONS

When shopping please consider donating a few of the following foods: Peanut Butter and Jelly, Canned Ravioli / Chili / Beef Stew, Canned Vegetables / Soups / Chunky Soups, Spaghetti / Sauce, Mac and Cheese/ Tuna/small packs of Hamburger, & Tuna/Hamburger Helper, Ramen Noodles, Dried Beans / Rice , and Massa for the Hispanics.

Items for Thanksgiving are welcome at this time!! We can definitely use turkeys. Canned vegetables, cranberries, instant potatoes, pumpkin pie mix, anything related to Thanksgiving dinner.

Please drop the food in the Pantry Food Drop Box in the building behind the Rectory. We have a new green sign near the drop box door.

### U.S. VETERAN FLAG HOLDERS

The Cemetery Office now has generic "U.S. Veteran" flag holders for \$30 each. Kit includes the emblem, stake and flag. Contact Len Dornberger at 302-674-5787 x135 to place your order. American flags are also available at the parish office for a \$5 donation.



### CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, November 18th, learn about the new book, "Maryland's Eastern Shore Historic Churches," by photographer, Paul Yoder. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640.

- Todos los viernes de 6-8 Foro Cristiano con el padre Brennan Ferris: Todos los viernes, de 6:00PM hasta las 8:00PM. El tema es: "El Misterio Eucarístico" donde todo el año las clases se centrarán en la EU-CARISTIA y la PRESENCIA REAL en la Eucaristía, esto será un curso de formación que termina el día 2 de junio 2024. El tema de este año es sobre "El Misterio Eucarístico" que sin duda es el centro y culmen de nuestra FE católica, de la Liturgia Sagrada y sobre todo de la vida cristiana.
- Domingo, 12 de noviembre puede anotarse para colaborar con las actividades que se aproxima la celebración en honor a nuestra Señora de Guadalupe los días 11 y 12 de diciembre. Se les invita a las personas que quieran donar algo o cantarle a la virgen, voluntarios para arreglar, para la limpieza y adornar, por favor de anotarse con alguno de los miembros de la Junta directiva para más información.
- Celebración en honor a La Virgen de Guadalupe. Comienza el día lunes, 11 de diciembre a las 10:00 de la noche hasta las 12:30 de la mañana, el día martes, 12 de diciembre a las 7:00 pm la Santa Misa y la fiesta
- Retiro de Adviento: Nuestro Retiro de Adviento es el sábado, 25 de noviembre de 8:00 AM a 3:00 PM donación es de \$15 y será en la parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción, 522 Main St. Marydel, MD 21649 en el salón parroquial. Vivamos y Preparémonos para el Adviento- Comienza el 3 de diciembre de 2023. El Adviento comienza siempre en domingo e incluye otros tres domingos previos a la Navidad. Tradicionalmente, este primer domingo de Adviento es siempre el más próximo a la fiesta de San Andrés Apóstol, el 30 de noviembre, ya sea antes o después. Este año, la fiesta de San Andrés cae jueves, por lo que el primer domingo de Adviento precede a la fiesta del apóstol. El año litúrgico cristiano nuevo es el ciclo B y nos acompañara todo el año el evangelista san Marcos.
- POSADAS: Ya está abierta las inscripciones para las Posadas 2023. Recuerde que se les recomienda que varias familias se unan para tomar una Posada, o unirse a la Posada del Fr. Ferris, que comienza el 16 al 24 de diciembre.
- Comparta sus dones y Carismas: Todo lo que tenemos es un regalo de Dios, y como cristianos tenemos la obligación de compartir esos dones que tenemos para la honra y gloria del Señor y para con el prójimo. Si usted desea servir en algún ministerio por favor hable con la Sra. Arline Dosman al 302-674-5787 ext. 118 o con uno de los miembros del ministerio en que le gustaría servir o algún miembro de servidores de la Junta Directiva.

## ICC

- ¡Se necesitan voluntarios para ayudar con el equipo de preparación para la Confirmación! Si usted o conoces a alguien interesado en ser voluntario o un adolescente que desea ser líder para Educación Religiosa o pertenecer al equipo para la preparación para la Confirmación o un adulto que sea bilingüe para ayudar con la Confirmación una vez al mes y en los retiros. Por favor comuníquese con la Sra. Alicia Poppiti @ dre@iccmarydel.org o 410-482-8939.
- Formación de Adultos. Lunes 6:30 – 8:30PM Primera Sesión Lunes, en el salón ,Hay 7 sesiones sobre la "Eucaristía- Alimento Sagrado, Sacrificio, Presencia Real. Costo \$25. Hay que inscribirse con la Sra. Alicia.
- Preparación Sacramental para la Primera Reconciliación Sesión # 4 el martes, 21 de noviembre a las 6:30 – 7:30 pm en el salón.
- Para la preparación Sacramental de la Confirmación Sesión # 2 el domingo 19, de noviembre
- de 3:00 – 5:30 en el salón.de 3:00 – 5:30 en el salón.
- Reunión de Catequistas: el Martes, 28 de noviembre, 7-8:30 en el salón.
- Actividad de Adviento para la Familia Educación Religiosa: Domingo, 3 de diciembre de 2:30 a 4:30pm en el salón. Las Familias rotarán las estaciones de Adviento y aprenderán sobre el Adviento en nuestra Fe Católica. Únase a nosotros para este evento y prepárese para el Adviento.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Next Class: November 19th 3:00pm-5:00pm

Please be mindful when dropping and picking up students. Keep our parking lot safe by parking your car and walking your student up to the building. When picking up your student, park your car and walk to the cones by the exit ramp.

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

## LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH CATECHESIS)

Next LAFF class is November 19 at 10:30 am.. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, sharing our Faith Life experiences.

**Is your family interested in joining the Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis with Deacon Vince? Contact Tammy Korosec at either [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787 X 122**

## ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY (HC)

In recognition of the Eucharist Revival that is continuing Deacon Bob will be presenting a weekly study program that focuses on the Eucharist. He will be presenting from different programs so you can receive a deeper understanding of the Real Presence. The class will begin with Bishop Barron's The Eucharist: Sacred Meal, Sacrifice, Real Presence. He will also bring information from Dr. Scott Hahn and others. Classes began on September 19th and will continue up to Advent. You can still join us!!

Classes will be offered at 9:00am or 7:00pm every Tuesday in the Matthew Mark room in the Holy Parish Office. This is a free class. No workbooks will be distributed, however other resources may be used.

If interested in registering for the class please email Tammy Korosec at [tkorosec@holycrossdover.org](mailto:tkorosec@holycrossdover.org) or call (302) 674-5787.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

### Confirmation Class:

Next class is Sunday, November 26 and Wednesday, November 29

### MOUNT 2000:

For high school teens February 2-4, 2024. Cost is \$100 - eucharistic retreat put on by the seminari-

ans at Mt. St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD. Please let Mrs. Darling know your desire to attend so that she may forward you registration information.

### CHWC Knoxville June 23-29

We have a waiting list - please let Mrs. Darling know so you may be added

### Cookie Baking

December 2, 9 am to noon - all junior high and high school teens are welcome to come help bake cookies for the Samaritan food baskets for Christmas.

## SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

### Religious Education at Immaculate Conception: Sacramental Preparation Classes:

#### First Reconciliation session #3

Tuesday, November 21st at 6:30pm- 7:30pm in Hall

#### Confirmation session #2

Sunday, November 19th @ 3pm-5:30pm in hall.

### Adult Formation at Immaculate Conception: Monday evenings 6:30-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

**You can still join us!**

\*Bishop Robert Barron's "Eucharist- Sacred Meal, Sacrifice, Real Presence"

Sessions will include, DVD viewing, discussion, reading, reflection, workbook.

- Cost is \$25 per person.
- Registration is needed in order to receive the materials for each person.
- Register by contacting Alicia Poppiti at [dre@iccmarylodel.org](mailto:dre@iccmarylodel.org) or 410-482-8939.

### Catechist Inservice

Tuesday, November 28th, 7-8:30pm in Parish Hall.

### Religious Education Family Saint Activity:

Sunday, December 3rd from 2:30-4:30pm in Hall. Families will rotate to Advent Stations and learn about the Advent in Our Catholic Faith. Join us for this Advent event.



Occasionally my husband and I will drive down to the beach area of the state. Regardless of the season, the traffic is always something to be reckoned with. Regardless of the season everyone is always in a hurry making for hazardous driving conditions. I am always more comfortable on the back roads, and I travel back roads whenever feasible to eliminate the harum-scarum.

It is immaterial where the highways or the roads less traveled might take you, the sprawl of the new construction of housing developments is everywhere. Some may see this in a positive light. I, on the other hand have grave concerns for the wildlife that inhabit the forest areas. It's the forested areas that fall victim to that which is otherwise known as growth and progress in the housing market.

It is one of the semi-back roads that I travel every Sunday morning on my way to Mass. It's not a highway, but is a road frequently traveled where many wooded areas can be found. Over the years new homes have surfaced while leaving some of the smaller wooded areas untouched. Last week during my drive, I noticed with some disdain an area that had recently been intruded upon by massive earth movers and chain saws leaving tree stumps of various sizes, some taller than others in their wake. Clearly, the whole scenario promised a return of the invaders possessing the single intention of clearing the land. But there was one tiny sprig of a tree left standing close to the edge of the road. It was a pitiable looking sight making Charlie Brown's Christmas tree look like a plush evergreen. One lone regarding soldier on the field left standing.

We are in the time of year where new family meetings are cropping up on my calendar. I listen to many stories when I ask the simple question; "what brings you to Holy Cross?" Some of the families are new to the area and are seeking a continuation of their previous Catholic school education. Others have inquired because of the good word shared by colleagues. Others are fleeing the alternative school setting offered in the immediate or surrounding geographic areas. Most offer their primary reason is for the safer environment provided by a smaller school setting. Many parents speak of their own Catholic school education and the desire to provide that same positive learning experience for their children.

Despite the factors influencing the effectiveness of schools in other areas, Holy Cross has remained a strong educational choice for thousands for going on seventy years. Standing alone, Holy Cross pulls from areas as far south as Lewes, and Lincoln. Mr. Sam, our bus driver for the south bus stops every morning to board a pretty fair number of students in Milford as he makes his daily trek north. A couple more are sprinkled along the way before his morning arrival. Our students also travel by bus or car from the outer reaches of Clayton, traveling south there are many families who call Smyrna home and have sought out Holy Cross as the school choice for their children.

I think about those heavily wooded areas, forest lands that used to be. Trees standing tall, they were a constant on the landscape, a safe-haven, a home to the fauna indigenous to the area. I think about the manner in which the quality of their beauty has been sacrificed and I compare that to the school systems that once were. It can be said that in the history of education the non-private sector offered an educational experience that adequately prepared the student for making decisions regarding options for their future. Many years ago, those who chose a Catholic school based their decision on their faith and were desirous of the religious instruction provided in the curriculum. I attended a public school for twelve years. I attended a Catholic college when the choice was mine to make. My friend in the neighborhood attended a local Catholic school for twelve years. I remember we would do our homework together every night. Yes, I had homework every night. I remember her consumable workbooks, so different from my hardcover textbooks. I remember her uniform.

Notwithstanding the daily Religion classes, I don't believe my twelve years of public school education was any less adequate than her twelve years of Catholic education. We were both able and ready to transition into college successfully, and we did. We both graduated and entered our respective professional career fields. Over time, the educational landscape in America has changed. Both educational entities, public and private were once acceptable and trusted options for families.

Like the diminishing global landscape no longer able to provide a sheltered home and food source for wildlife, the alternative to Catholic education is failing it's students. But I feel confident in the future. When all others falter and fail, Catholic education will remain the plush evergreen in the fallow field of education.

as some altar servers call it, “the big red book at Mass”). In the Missal, in the celebration of the Eucharist (which itself means ‘thanksgiving’), during the Eucharistic Prayer, we hear about Jesus Christ giving thanks at the most difficult moments imaginable.

In the First Eucharistic Prayer (The Roman Canon) we hear these words: *“On the day before he was to suffer he took bread in his holy and venerable hands, and with eyes raised to heaven to you, O God, his almighty Father, giving you thanks he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples...”*

In the Second Eucharistic Prayer we hear: *“At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples...”*

In the Third Eucharistic Prayer we hear: *“For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and giving you thanks he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples...”*

In the Fourth Eucharist Prayer, written in poetic tones by St. Bede, we hear: *“For when the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, Father most holy, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end... he gave thanks, and gave the chalice to his disciples...”*

**Thankful Cheers.** Imagine, knowing you are about to be put to death – an ignominious death, at that – and the first thing you think to do is give thanks to God. Nonetheless, that is what we are called to do. We are to give thanks for God’s light in what oft seems a world of darkness. That might be tough to do at times, but that is our faith! As Carla Tortelli on the TV show “Cheers” once said about our Catholic faith, “It’s not a religion for wusses.” It challenges us. We are to be a people of thankfulness, hope, and joy.

**Howdy Pilgrim.** Think about the Pilgrims at the first Thanksgiving in 1621: There were no Catholics present there. Who was there? Pilgrims were there; they made a tough journey from Europe, to a new, unknown land. Along with the pilgrim were some American Indians, natives to the land. Those two groups, from different worlds, so to speak, gathered for three days and thanked God for an abundant harvest. Mind you this came after an horrendous first year, in which many Pilgrims died. And yet as Christians, they remembered their losses, they bore their crosses, but then paused to give thanks to God for their lives, for their family, for the food before them, and for their fellow men who they found in the Indian tribes of New England. We, too, are challenged to have that same faith: Yes, it is easy to give thanks when things are going our way. But, we need to be able to be thankful, to see God’s blessings, even when things are going sideways.

**Of Grace and Wounds.** Remember that Gospel story about the ten lepers? They came to Christ who healed them all. Then scripture tells us:

*And one of [the ten lepers], realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, “Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?” Then he said to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.”*

**Only one came back to say thank you.** Why? Good question! I recently read a reflection by a priest who answered that question of “why;” he wrote this: “They weren’t able to give thanks because they hadn’t learned that grace comes through the wounds. Primarily through the wounds of Christ but even through our own wounds. Gratitude doesn’t arise magically if it isn’t already present when times are tough. That’s why St. Paul urges us to ‘give thanks in all circumstances.’” Well said, and so true.

**Words from Lincoln’s Log.** In this regard, in October 1863, in the midst of a terrible Civil War (which would claim 620,000 lives), Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that there be a Day of Thanksgiving to God each November. Lincoln issued that proclamation noting the tough circumstance our nation was in, but then went on to enumerate the many good things, the many blessings, that were also seen in the past year amidst the turmoil. Of these good things and their relation to God he wrote that they

*“...should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States... to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwells in the Heavens.”*

So even in the midst of a difficult time, Abraham Lincoln commended us to give thanks to God — not lamenting what we are lacking, but rather showing gratitude for and recognizing our blessings.

As the end of the page is catching up to my word... this pastor’s column on Thankfulness will be continued in the next bulletin.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. James Lentini, Pastor