

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

October 15, 2023

28th 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

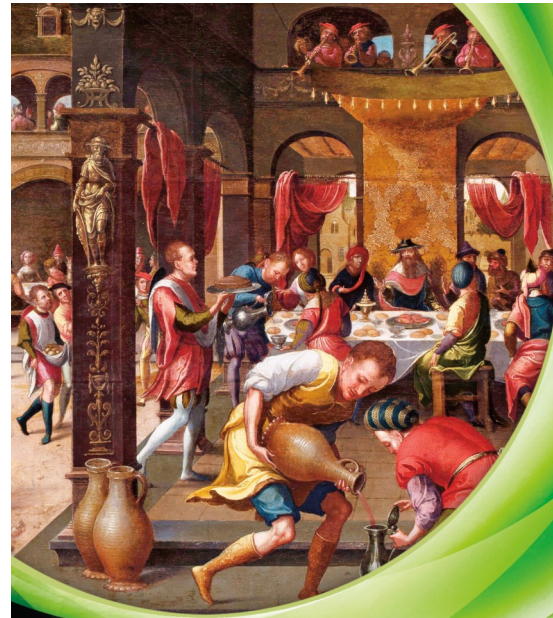
Federal Holidays, 9 am only (Presidents Day, MLK Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day)

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 8:30 am – 10:00 am,
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am – 9 pm



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

Matthew 22:14

Parable of the Great Banquet by Brunswick Monogrammist, Circa 1525
© Decesan

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

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.

ROSARY RALLY OCTOBER 14, 2023

We will pray, sing, and consecrate our lives to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. All are invited and welcome to come and pray to honor our blessed virgin Mary by renewing our Consecration to her and lifting our voices in song.



When: October 14, 2023
Where: Outside at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel statue in front of Holy Cross Church
Time: After the 8 am Mass

Mary gave us the antidote to evil:
 "Daily Rosary"

So far we have 4,964 rosaries being prayed daily from those you have pledged their prayers already. Sign up sheets for others to pledge to pray the rosary will be available at the Rosary Rally.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending October 1, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$23,059	\$26,964	(\$3,905)
YTD	\$354,739	\$371,644	(\$16,905)
Needs	\$1,870	\$1,712	\$158

Share in the Spirit collection as of 9/25: \$5,551.00

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending October 1, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,539
Second Collection	\$481

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,

When I was a very young boy, the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge opened up, connecting Brooklyn and Staten Island. It was an amazing bridge — the longest suspension bridge in the world, as a matter of fact. But something else was different about it: It had a toll. No other bridges connecting two boroughs of New York City ever had a toll to that point in time. This one did: 25 cents. The word around said that the toll was temporary, enacted to help pay off the high cost of the bridge's construction.

How Big an Increase? The only thing temporary about that toll was it being 25 cents. That toll today, via Toll-by-Mail, is over \$22. It crept up on the user over time, slyly and slowly, but that 8700% increase (I'm not making that up) happened right under our noses.

Security Issues. When I was in elementary school, in sixth or seventh grade (I forget which), I received my Social Security Card (I had it laminated and still have it today). It was issued by the now-defunct Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Upon its being issued to me and my classmates, we were advised that this card was not to be used for identification purposes; it was only to be used in conjunction with the Social Security program and should be kept in a secure place.

Everyone Wants to Know. Well, the "not to be used for identification" idea gradually went out the window. My first experience of this change was in college, when, for privacy's sake, our grades were posted up after finals, not listing our grades by our names. No! Instead, they listed our grades by our social security numbers (again, I'm not making this up). After that, banks, credit card companies, medical services, and just about everyone began asking for your Social Security number. Everyone wants to know it (especially hackers). Like the bridge toll I spoke of, this change crept up on us over time, slyly and slowly, but it happened right under our noses.

Respect Life Month. In this Respect Life Month, I must reflect that in my lifetime, the change in the respect for human life similarly crept up on us over time, slyly and slowly, but it happened right under our noses. It started with the universal availability of birth control, then the legalization of abortion, then the rise In Vitro Fertilization, then the rise of euthanasia for the terminally ill, followed quickly by the rise of euthanasia in general, then the rise in the acceptance of suicide, and the list goes on and on. Sixty-five years ago, every item I just mentioned was a criminal act, while today, a portion of the populace sees these things as right and proper.

What's Next? I can remember in the 1990s, even abortion advocates counseled that abortions should be "safe, legal, and rare," but that is no more. Today, abortion advocates see abortion as something to be celebrated. What the heck has happened here? And more pointedly: what's next?

Meanwhile, Across the Pond. To see how far the moral compass has degraded, I'll give you a preview of what's coming next by conveying to you a story from across the pond in England. I always say that often, what starts over there comes here. So think of this not just as a terrible tale but as a cautionary one, as well.

The Story of Patricia. This is a story about a woman named Patricia. Patricia is a 24-year-old woman. It happens that Patricia suffers from Anorexia. For those unfamiliar with this illness, Anorexia is an eating disorder caused by a serious mental health condition. People who suffer with Anorexia have a distorted body image — that is, they feel that they are overweight when, in fact, in many cases, they are emaciated. To use a phrase that should be used more often today: Their feelings are wrong. Just because you imagine something to be so doesn't make it so.

Summary Judgment. In any event, 24-year-old Patricia has been allowed to choose to die by a judge. This is the case, even though it was observed that Patricia is out of it (probably from hunger) and that she is "lacking the capacity to take decisions" concerning her medical treatment.

Of Food and Water. Patricia has a Body Mass Index of about eight (this is not a misprint) from basically starving herself to reduce her imaginary weight problem. Last year, Patricia had signed an "advance directive" last year refusing life-saving care. Many people sign such documents — an example of this would be a dying cancer patient signing a "DNR" or "Do Not Resuscitate" order. In other words, they do not want extraordinary measures to be taken to keep them alive. But, as you would imagine, "extraordinary measures" normally would not include food and hydration.

Decisions, Decisions. The matter was taken to a judge, who ruled that even though Patricia was too sick to make decisions about her care, she should be allowed to make the decision to discontinue treatment. To quote him, "Patricia, at present, lacks capacity to take decisions as to her medical treatment." Now, I will add commentary here: I never thought of food and water as treatment — I thought of it as part of life.

Meet the Parents. Patricia's parents weighed in, seeking a reversal of this life-ending ruling. The judge budged not; he ruled that Patricia could be sent home, given only palliative (pain medication)

(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

ROSARY RALLY - OCTOBER 14

The 105th Anniversary of Fatima and the Miracle of the Sun. Our Lady requested that the Rosary be prayed daily for world peace and the conversion of sinners. Unite with us to pray at our **Rosary Rally on October 14, immediately after the 8 am mass, starting at 9 am, at the front of the church by Our Lady of Mt Carmel statue.**

Bring your rosary, family, friends, and portable chairs or blankets to sit upon.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to our newly baptized members:

- Faye Madeline Smallwood

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, October 21st, tune-in to hear an interview with Sr. Mary Josefa of the Eucharist, a Sister of the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles. Sister will discuss the new book, "Brides of Christ" and the life of their foundress, Sister Wilhelmina, who made headlines around the world - years after her death at age 95. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum, or by searching "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts. You can see videos of select interviews at YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm.

29TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (OCT 22)

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 45:1, 4-6

We are all instruments of God, but not always willingly, so that we do not know the true meaning of our lives.

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-5

Sometimes we only appreciate the power of God's word in the lives of others who receive it. This is why converts will always give hope to the Church.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:15-21

Don't be afraid of tough questions. Every question has an answer from God.

CAN YOU HELP AT THE ICC 11 AM MASS?

Would anyone be interested in leading the 4 songs at the 11 AM Mass at Immaculate Conception on weeks the organist and cantor are out of town? It can be a cappella or bring a guitar, play on the keyboard. We would appreciate any help you can give. Call the ICC Parish Office if interested in helping us out.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Wednesday, September 27, was the start of 40 Days for Life in Wilmington, Dover, and Seaford. ALL 3 locations desperately need faithful prayer warriors to come to the sidewalk and help us turn Delaware from an abortion destination state into a SANCTUARY for the unborn. Pray, fast, sidewalk counsel, or just be a peaceful presence in front of one of the three abortion facilities in Delaware. Just BEING there often turns clients away or causes them to call and cancel their appointments. It is a worthy cause usually accomplished by a handful of people who are devoted to their calling on abortion days. Times/days/open slots are listed at the 40 Days for Life website at www.40daysforlife.com. Call Donna at 862-266-1099 to sign up. We need gap fillers too!

RETROUVAILLE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Upcoming programs will be held October 6 - 8, 2023 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!!! No group sharing required. The next weekend is November 3-5, 2023 at the Brighton Suites in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. For information or to register visit our website <http://www.wvme.org> or call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-648-2228.

MASS INTENTIONS OCTOBER

16 MONDAY	
HC 8:00 am	John and JJ Mahar
17 TUESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Lee Thompson
18 WEDNESDAY	
HC 8:15 am	Maria D. Rocha
19 THURSDAY	
HC 8:00 am	
ICC 6:00 pm	For the People
20 FRIDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Frank Coyle
21 SATURDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Jim Herdman
HC 5:00 pm	DM Gillin Family
22 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	Louis H. Jara
ICC 8:30 am	Jerome & Geraldine Bevenour
HC 9:30 am	Dorothy Lararas
ICC 11:00 am	Joseph & Mary Gehringer
HC 11:30 am	Bill and Normita Phillips
ICC 1:00 pm	For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

*THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHAPEL FOR
OCT 15-21 IS FOR (LI) KITTY LITRENTA.*

*THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHURCH FOR
OCT 15-21 IS FOR GUIDO RANIERI.*

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL CRAFT FAIR

We are looking for vendors to participate in our upcoming Fall Craft Fair on November 18, 2023. If interested please email HSA@holycrossdover.org.



**Holy Cross School
FALL CRAFT FAIR**
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18
10:00am-2:00pm
Holy Cross Gymnasium
631 S State Street, Dover, DE 19901

- *craft vendors
- *food trucks
- *kid activities
- *silent auction
- *bake sale

please bring cash, not all vendors accept credit cards
Sponsored by Holy Cross School HSA
Interested in being a vendor or volunteer?
Email: HSA@holycrossdover.org



OCT 21/22, 2023

EMHC SERVERS

5:00 PM	C. Helwig	M. Sirolli	B. Richardson
	M. Mac-Leish	N. Sirolli	L. Richardson

LECTORS

D. Kilby
H. Walker

7:30 AM	M. Jacobs	R. O'Neill	B. Gyamfi
	L. Luckett	J. Salamone	E. Gyamfi

LECTORS

K. Meire

9:30 AM	C. Jones	D. McGinnis	J. Novack
	S. Lascano	L. Olmstead	J. Novack J. Seeney

LECTORS

J. Coffiend
C. Petka

11:30 AM	C. Garcia	M. Richrd	TBD
	A. Luna		

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

J. Moore

8:30 AM

LECTORS

J. Tormey, Jr.

G. Taraila

11:00 AM

LECTORS

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	4 pm, 5pm, 8 pm
MONDAY	5 pm
TUESDAY	5 am, 8 pm
WEDNESDAY	7 am
FRIDAY	6 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.

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.

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

LADIES: Would you like to give a gift of prayer to our Priests? We are still in need of additional sisters to give:

- ◇ One Holy Hour
- ◇ One Day A Week
- ◇ One Priest
- ◇ One Heart of Prayer

MEN are welcome and encouraged to serve as substitutes. Pick up a pamphlet in the gathering space for mor information and contact information if you have questions.

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

Pre-need planning. During our lifetime we spend a lot of time planning and preparing for future events, such as weddings, vacations, college for the kids, retirement, etc. It's easy to put off planning for the day when the Lord will call you home. Planning for the inevitable and securing space in our cemetery is a wonderful gift for the whole family. When that day does come, with all its emotional trauma, sparing your spouse and children those difficult decisions is a blessing. Contact Len Dornberger at the parish office for a no obligation discussion.

- 15 de octubre Confirmación de Adultos: El día 15 de Octubre tendremos la Confirmación de adultos, solo por ese día la Santa Misa dominical será a la 1:00 de la tarde y estará presidida por el Señor obispo William Koenig. NO HABRA MISA A LAS 11:30 AM.
- 29 de Octubre Celebración del Señor de los Milagros - Nuestros hermanos Peruanos celebran sus fiestas patronales en honor al Señor de los Milagros, se les invita a todos a participar de este evento con un platillo para compartir después de la Misa en el Salón de eventos donde habrá un pequeño programa y una convivencia fraternal.
- 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 centrara en torno a la EUCARISTIA y la PRESENCIA REAL en la Eucaristía Venga y fórmese para poder defender su Fe Católica, 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 de nuestra FE, de la Liturgia Sagrada y sobre todo de la vida cristiana.
- AÑO DE AVIVAMIENTO PARROQUIAL: ¿Qué es El Avivamiento Nacional Eucarístico? El Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional es un movimiento para restaurar la comprensión y la devoción a este gran misterio en los Estados Unidos, en la diócesis de Wilmington en las parroquias de la Santa Cruz y la Inmaculada Concepción en nuestras parroquias y escuelas, en nuestros hogares y en nuestros corazones y vidas, Jesús es el Pan de vida. El avivamiento es una iniciativa trascendental, de tres años de duración, que dará frutos en los años venideros. Durante el anterior Año de Avivamiento Diocesano, el clero y los líderes diocesanos construyeron los cimientos para que este movimiento prosperara a nivel parroquial. La segunda fase fomentará la devoción eucarística a nivel parroquial, fortaleciendo nuestra vida litúrgica a través de la celebración fiel de la misa, la adoración eucarística, las misiones, los recursos, la predicación y los movimientos orgánicos del Espíritu Santo. Nuestro mundo está sufriendo. Todos necesitamos sanación y ser reavivados, pero muchos de nosotros estamos separados de la fuente misma de nuestra fortaleza. Jesucristo nos invita a volver a la fuente y cumbre de nuestra fe: Su Presencia Real en la Eucaristía.
- La Virgen Peregrina esta visitado casas. Si desea que la imagen de la virgen visite su hogar por una semana por favor de anotarse con la Sra. Martha Espinosa.
- 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 servidores de la Junta Directiva.

ICC

- **Educación Religiosa: Formación de Adultos.** Lunes 6:30 – 8:30 Primera Sesión Lunes, 23 de octubre en el salón. Hay 7 sesiones sobre la “ Eucaristía- Alimento Sagrado, Sacrificio ,Presencia Real. Costo \$25. Hay que inscribirse con la Sra. Alicia.
- **Se necesitan voluntarios.** Si usted o alguien que conoce está interesado en ser voluntario, ser un líder de pares para la Educación Religiosa o la Preparación para la Confirmación, comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti @ dre@iccmaydel.org o 410-482-8939.
- **Preparación Sacramental para la Primera Reconciliación** comienza el martes, 24 de octubre a las 6:30 – 7:30 pm en el salón.
- **Para la preparación Sacramental de la Confirmación** comienza el domingo 22, de octubre de 3:00 – 5:30 en el salón.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Next Class: October 22, 2023

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

LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH CATECHESIS)

Next LAFF class is October 22 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 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 will begin on September 19th and will continue up to Advent.

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 or call (302) 674-5787.

HOLY IS HIS NAME—CLASS FOR ADULTS

The class on Scott Hahn’s Holy Is His Name will continue in St. Luke’s room on Mondays in the ELC at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome. For more information you can text or call Carol Bugglin at 302-423-6654. Hope to see you there!

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

Confirmation Classes:
Sunday, Oct 22 -3 pm/Wednesday, Oct 25 - 6 pm

Other news!

Paint Party

October 21 at 2 pm at the Columbian Home
219 Vepco Blvd. Camden
Cost is \$30 which includes everything you need for this fall picture.



Please call Lynne Bonfiglio at 302-242-2883 or Linda Darling at 302-233-2246 to reserve your spot. Spots are limited.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Classes have started and run from September 24th, 2023 thru May 3rd, 2024.

Volunteers needed for Confirmation Prep Team!

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, being a peer leader (Teen) for Religious Education or Confirmation Preparation team member, and an adult that is bi-lingual to assist with Confirmation once and month and on retreat. We begin on October 22 at 3pm. If you are interested in assisting with all 6 sessions or one or just retreats, please contact Alicia Poppiti @ dre@iccmmarydel.org or 410-482-8939.

Sacramental Preparation Classes begin:

- **Confirmation session #1: Sunday, October 22nd @ 3pm-5:30pm in hall.**
- **First Reconciliation session #2: Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30pm- 7:30pm in Hall**

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

First Session October 23rd with a total of 7 sessions.

*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@iccmmarydel.org or 410-482-8939

ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

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>

They are there. Are they invisible to those who walk by? Invisible to those who drive by at a speed that exceeds the limit? To drivers who turn onto Scull Terrace? Look! They are right there! Are they invisible to you? I hope not. Because they are there. Maybe it's because they are small in size? Or maybe because they are placed in a bit of a swale on the grassy side in front of the hedgerow on State Street?

Invisible. Unseen, overlooked, unnoticed, or just plain ignored. Like the lives of countless aborted children---

Every October eighth grade members of our National Junior Honor Society place no less than one hundred white crosses in and around the swale on the grassy side in the front of the hedgerow on State Street. These white crosses will remain in plain view of all who pass by in memory of those whose lives have been cut short prior to birth.

I first saw a collection of white crosses placed outside of a Catholic Church I once attended. I was in awe as I walked the pathway to the church entrance. As I rounded a bend there were more crosses. The crosses were placed over the entire property of the church. It seemed like hundreds. The entire landscape of the church was a sea of white crosses. But, I did not know why. It was an imposing, almost (dare I say?) majestic sight.



Little did I know that this impressively large collection of simple white crosses stood in memory of those without a voice, those without a choice.

The collection of simple white crosses is known as a Cemetery of the Innocents. When I learned of the meaning of this memorial, I wanted our school to be one of the communities to pay homage in a similar manner.

Mrs. Riecks and Mrs. Wojtkiewicz were Honor Society moderators at the time. I approached them with the proposal that our NJHS members build and paint the crosses that would be "planted" each October in memory of lives lost to abortion. It was a tall order. Time being one of the biggest considerations. In the end, Mr. Bill Wojtkiewicz created all the crosses we still use today.

And so it has been in the past couple of weeks, I've listened to a loud rumbling sound round the corner of the office---every day at the same time. It is the large empty wagon that thirty minutes previous had been loaded with white crosses. Pulling the wagon is an eighth grade NJHS student accompanied by his peers, hammers in hand while Mrs. Peek followed closely behind. It is during their recess time that the students work in the construction of the Holy Cross School memorial honoring those babies who were never given a chance.



They are there. Are they invisible to all who pass by?

Following are intersessions that I have borrowed from the USCCB website. Will you pray with me?

May God grant us courage to embrace
his precious gift of life,
even in the most difficult of circumstances;
We pray to the Lord

For the times we are afraid to welcome life,
May the Lord fill our hearts with
confidence in His loving care and provide for every need;
We pray to the Lord

For expectant mothers
whose hearts are troubled:
May they receive helpful, loving support
for themselves and their baby;
We pray to the Lord

For all public servants,
May God grant them the humility, wisdom,
and courage to defend all human life
We pray to the Lord

May we always look to the example given us by our Blessed Mother in her time of trial before the birth of our Savior.

Hail Mary full of grace
Blessed art thou among women.
Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

care at home. Again, to add comment, wouldn't food and water, in this case, be palliative? That is, wouldn't it mitigate the pains of hunger and dehydration?

Fragile. Her parents and other relatives noted that Patricia is in such a fragile mental condition that she changes her mind day to day, moment to moment. One relative noted that it seemed as if "No one told the judge that [Patricia] is changing her mind every five minutes... You can't just go off the last thing she said; what about the fact that, in her own words, she has been 'screaming for help' for weeks?" According to others, Patricia herself was telling her family the exact opposite – that she wanted to be fed and wanted to be medicated. In other words, she wants to be able to get food. In her moment of lucidity, she knew what she needed. The additional problem of the judge's ruling is that, going forward, it makes it difficult now for Patricia to seek any help again.

Number Six. According to what I have read in the matter of 24-year-old Patricia, in the United Kingdom, she is the sixth eating disorder patient in the past few years who has been allowed to indulge in her fantasy of being overweight and starving herself to death. Unlike the others, as I write this, she is still alive.

A Doctor's Proscription. A woman named Dr. Agnes Ayton is a member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and is a co-author of the U.K.'s national guidelines for treating eating disorders like Anorexia. Dr. Ayton notes that the guidelines state that a malnourished anorexia patient "does not have capacity" to sign an advance directive to refuse treatment. She says, "A patient who has a longstanding eating disorder does not have capacity to sign [an advance directive] when they are ill and malnourished... they should only sign [one] when they are no longer malnourished at which point the patient is very unlikely to want to sign."

Do No Harm. A long story and a painful story. It is one of hunger — the physical hunger of the Anorexia patient and the spiritual hunger of the faithful seeking a world in which life is valued. Not disposable. While this story is long, it is also instructive on how far down we have slid as a world when it comes to protecting human life. The primordial, traditional call of a medical practitioner is "First, do no harm."

Of Preying and Praying. But imagine, we went from aborting the child in the womb (who is unseen) to now setting up the death of a 24-year-old woman (who is right before our eyes) with a mental health condition — who mistakenly believes she is overweight and won't eat. The point I make is that the purveyors of death prey on the weakest among us — seen and unseen — to visit death like a grim reaper. We need to pray for those who prey on the weakest among us, and we need to make them see their actions for what they are: murderous. Let me not mince words here. A person who allows, and indeed greases the skids for, a young person in the prime of life to starve herself to death because she is mentally ill is causing the taking of human life.

Conception to Natural Death. As Catholics, we believe life is from conception to natural death — a person who is starved to death should not count as a natural death. During this Respect Life Month, let us focus not only on abortion (the scourge of our lifetime) and euthanasia (aka assisted suicide), but let us also be aware of and wary of the trend to deprive people of health. To allow them to be sick... to allow them to die... and then to pretend it was an act of care and compassion. How twisted is that?

Back to the Beginning. To go back to my original point, if when the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge was built, the government established a toll of \$22, there would have been an outrage, protests, and a pressuring of public officials never to allow tolls again. If, when the Social Security Card was established, folks were made to see that everything they do would be tracked by this number that was said should not be used to track anything, there would have been a national kerfuffle... yes, I say it again because I like the word ... a kerfuffle about violations of privacy. Those two changes crept up on us over time, slyly and slowly, but happened right under our noses. And they are hard to reverse.

A Line in the Sand. Respect Life Month is a time for us to battle much more than a toll or a tracking number; it is a time to commit ourselves to the restoration of respect for human life — the greatest of all life on this planet. The most precious life of all. We must start by drawing lines in the sand and saying "no further." Perhaps if that had been done a few years ago, Patricia would not be dying in her bed by starvation. My brothers and sisters in Christ: Respect life.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor