



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 26, 2025

30th 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

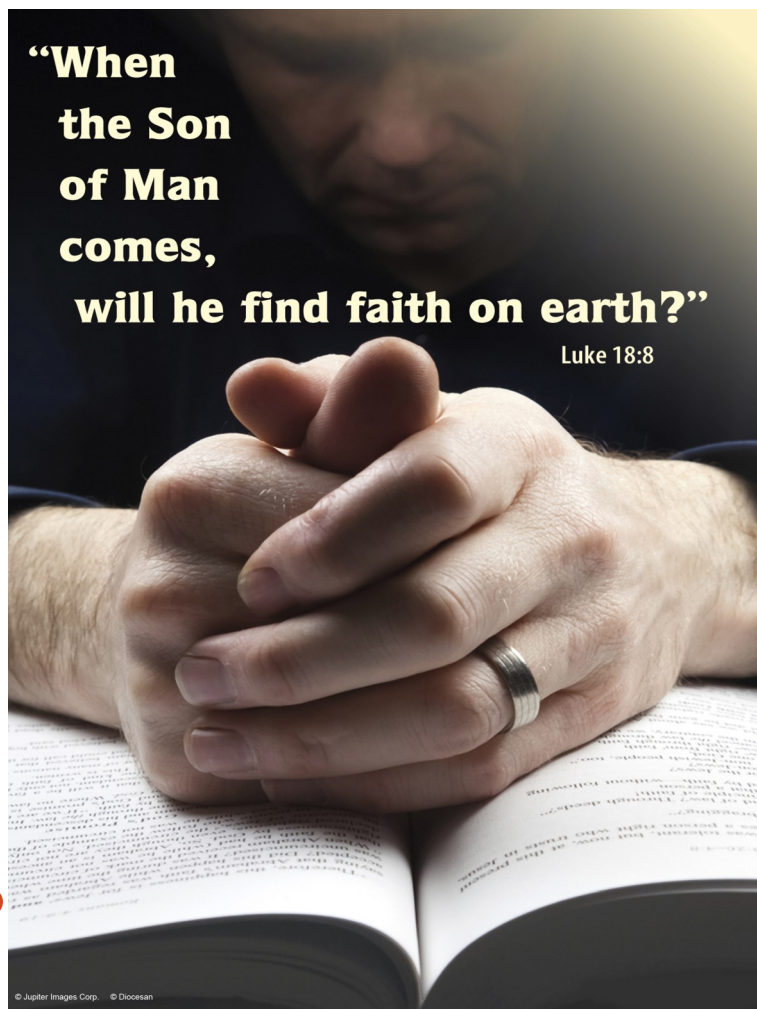
Saturday, 8:30 am – 10:00 am,
Fridays in Lent, 5:30 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am – 9 pm

**“When
the Son
of Man
comes,
will he find faith on earth?”**

Luke 18:8



© Jupiter Images Corp. © Diocesan

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

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.

October is Respect Life Month



“All **LIFE** has inestimable value, even the **weakest** and most **vulnerable**, the **sick**, the **old**, the **unborn** and the **poor** are masterpieces of God’s creation.”

Pope Francis

Respect Life

Please see our Right to Life Table in the Gathering Space and help yourself to the pamphlets that are available.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC) Ending October 12, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$20,797	\$27, 125	(\$6,328)
YTD	\$375,320	\$393,248	(\$17,928)
Needs	\$1,217	\$1,738	(\$521)

WEEKLY OFFERING (ICC) Ending October 12, 2025

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$3,951
Second	\$583

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,

People for two millennia, from the first century through this 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time in 2025, have struggled to find reasonable and understandable ways to explain the Holy Trinity — one God in three Divine persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). St. Patrick used the shamrock; others use the idea of water, ice, and vapor to make analogies. And some were good, but like all analogies, they all fall short.

But, I digress, because this column is not about the Trinity. Rather, it is about the Church — the Catholic Church — which is well observed during November with two key components of our Church remembered on All Saints Day (November 1) and All Souls Day (November). But, I'm getting ahead of myself. Let's take a few steps back and start with some context to put a trinitarian overlay upon the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church.

Diocese in Three States. I'll start this contextualization close to home, using the analogy of our Diocese, the Diocese of Wilmington. The Diocese of Wilmington used to be a trinity of states. Until 1974, our Diocese covered all of Delaware, part of Maryland, and the peninsula of Virginia. Then, on May 28, 1974, the eastern peninsula of Virginia (containing the counties of Accomack and Northampton) was transferred to the Diocese of Richmond. Our trinity of states is now a mere duality.

The Church in Three States. What if I told you the Church, our Church — the Catholic Church — is a trinity? No, I am not caffeine deprived, I'm serious. Our Church is a trinity that is set up as a great analogy for the Blessed Trinity. How so? Well, the Catholic Church exists in three "states" — and I am not talking about states like Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. The Catholic Church exists in Heaven, on Earth, and in Purgatory (the home of saints, sinners, and poor souls, respectively). Wherever God's people are, there is the Church. The one place it doesn't exist is Hell. For in Hell, we find the absence of God (or better put, people absenting themselves from God). It is there, where the perpendicular pronoun ("I") is the only one used, for it is a painful isolation from God and the Church.

The Trinity and The Church: 3 in 1: So, how is the Church like the Trinity? Well, the Trinity is the God of the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit — three persons, one God. Each distinct, each God, all God, all the time. The Church in Heaven (saints), the Church on Earth (us), and the Church in Purgatory (poor souls awaiting heaven) are each distinct (i.e., one is not the other), and yet each is the Church, and all are the Church. I must confess that I love, love, love this analogy. God's Holy Church, the Catholic Church, created by Christ, is a reflection of the ethereal image of its Creator. FYI - I know the caffeine is kicking in now, because I just used the word "ethereal" and got a nice buzz from doing so!

The Communion of Saints. More important than the fact that the Church exists in Heaven, on Earth, and in Purgatory is the integral nature of them all. We call this integral nature "The Communion of Saints." You have probably heard this term, especially around All Saints Day. When we hear the phrase "the Church is a communion of saints," it means to convey to us that the Church is a communion (a common union) among holy people (*sancti*). These people in the "Communion of Saints" all share in some stage of eternal life -- they are in the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church.

Grateful Dead. Now you might rightly ask this: How are people in Heaven and Purgatory still in the Church? Aren't they dead? Do they put envelopes in the basket at Mass? Well, no, they are not dead, (and, it is a sad truth that they do not put envelopes in the collection). You see, for Catholics, death is not the end of life, but merely a transition. Eternal life begins at conception. Thus, the Communion of Saints embraces more than just the Church on earth; it also includes those faithful souls in Purgatory (poor souls) and Heaven (Saints). All are as alive as you or me. They also give their grateful praise to God. Thus, as I noted earlier, the Catholic Church is present in three "states" — the Church on earth (commonly called the Church militant), the Church in Purgatory (commonly called the Church suffering), and the Church in Heaven (commonly called the Church Triumphant).

In regard to this understanding of the Church, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 962) teach us that: *"We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church; and we believe that in this communion, the merciful love of God and his saints is always [attentive] to our prayers"*

What do Earth, Heaven, and Purgatory have in Common? The Church in Heaven, on Earth, and in Purgatory have many things in common: Each is called to praise God, each has Christ as its head, each prays for the Pope and the Church on Earth, in each, all the souls there belong to God, and each has Mary as their Queen. Regarding Mary as related to the Church in Heaven, on Earth, and in Purgatory, she is the Queen of All Saints (heaven), the Queen of the Universe (earth), and Queen of All Souls (purgatory). In each of the three states of the Church, Mary occupies a unique role.

How are Earth, Heaven, and Purgatory distinct? The Church in Heaven, on Earth and in Purgatory are also

HC & ICC CLERGY

Vy. Rev. James S. Lentini , V. F. Pastor
 Rev. John Enemuo Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Wilson Paulose Parochial Vicar
 Rev. John Hynes In Residence

HC CLERGY

Mr. Philip Belt Deacon
 Mr. John Harvey Deacon
 Mr. Richard Kosior Deacon
 Mr. Robert McMullen Deacon
 Mr. Vincent Pisano Deacon

ICC CLERGY

Mr. Sherman Mitchell Deacon

HC STAFF

Parish Office 302 674 5787
 Jane Green Receptionist, ext. 110
 Diane Belt Assistant to the Pastor, ext. 113
 Kenneth Trojan Business Manager, ext. 119
 Sharon Seelig Records Office, 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

Mallory O'Mara Principal, ext. 111

MAILING ADDRESS

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

NOV 2—ALL SOUL'S DAY

FIRST READING: WISDOM 3:1-9
 SECOND READING: ROMANS 6:3-9
 GOSPEL: LUKE 18:9-14

I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord. Whoever believes I me, even though he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Our condolences to the families who recently lost a loved one:

- Beryl Douglas Hamilton
- Rosalia fountain
- Willis E. Wilson
- Barbara Piccioni
- Kimberly Ann Angeloff

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to our newly baptized members:

- Luca Vaughn Hupperich
- Amelia Elisabeth D'Antonio
- Franco Robert D'Antonio

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newly registered members

- Thomas, Maika and Mia Hartley
- Michael and Mike Reynolds
- Tyrone, Laura, Alannah and Anthony Rorie
- Zachary, Julia, Aaron and Bryson Siebert
- Steven, Danielle, Cooper and Madelyn Lester
- Jennifer Rookard and Keith Bleeker
- Sean, Mary Elizabeth, shea, finley, Cul-len, and Maeve Cannon

SAMARITAN'S FOOD PANTRY

The pantry is in need of the following items: Cereal, oatmeal, one pound bags of rice, canned goods, peanut butter, jelly, soups/ chunky soup, Brownie mix, and hamburger helper/Manwich. The above and meat or burger can be left in the pantry dropoff door (freezer) behind the rectory.

LITTLE REFLECTION BOOKS, ADVENT, LENT AND EASTER SEASONS.

3 books for the one price of \$10. Please give money, name and phone number to Holy Cross Parish Office, or to Marilyn Dixon at Immaculate Conception. All orders need to be in by October 27.

SILVER ROSE

The Knights of Columbus Council 4182 will be hosting the Silver Rose procession at Immaculate Conception on Thursday, October 30th at 6:00 pm as part of the Silver Rose pilgrimage from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All parishioners are invited

CATHOLIC FORUM

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. This week's guest is Marion Amberg, author of the new faith-travel book, "Incredible Catholic America: Smallest, Tallest, Oldest, Oddest." The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DioceaseofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

- **Join Saint Mark's High School for Open House on Sunday, October 26** from 12:30pm until 3:30pm. This is a great opportunity to learn about our Catholic identity, faith formation, academic programs, unmatched learning environments, visual and performing arts programs, clubs, extracurricular activities, athletics, and more. Faculty, staff, club moderators, coaches, and parent ambassadors will be available to answer your questions and share their experiences in the Spartan community. Most importantly, our amazing students will provide tours and discuss what it means to be a Spartan with all of our prospective families! Register today at www.stmarkshs.net/admissions/campus-visits or call 302-757-8721.

VENERATION OF THE RELICS OF ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

MASS INTENTION OCTOBER

27 MONDAY

HC 8:00 am DM Bell and Korosec Fam.

28 TUESDAY

HC 8:00 am Margaret "Peg" Ward

29 WEDNESDAY

HC 8:15 am James & June Clacher

30 THURSDAY

HC 8:00 am Hanlin Family
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

31 FRIDAY

HC 8:00 am Raymond Cola

1 SATURDAY

HC 8:00 pm Michelle Brooks
HC 5:00 pm Fred Bulinski

2 SUNDAY

HC 7:30 am Darrin Conte
ICC 8:30 am Robert D. George
HC 9:30 am Julia and Armando Vincelli
ICC 11:00 am Magdalena Petri
HC 1:00 pm Earl Francis
ICC 1:00 pm For the People

Oct 26 – Nov 1 Sanctuary Candle in Church is for the intention of the people of Holy Cross.

Oct 26 - Nov 1 Sanctuary Candle in the Adoration Chapel is for the intention of the people of Holy Cross.

All are invited to a Bus trip sponsored by the Community of Mary, Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCDS)

Thursday, November 20, 2025; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Leaving from St. Jude The Apostle Church, Lewes, DE

Veneration of St. Therese's relics
Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration
Opening Mass for the Veneration of the Relics with Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop Emeritus of the Washington Diocese

Lunch (Bring Your Own) and Gift Shop
Conference with a Carmelite Friar of the Washington Monastery

Cost \$50. Please make checks payable to John Kudlick and mail to:

36223 Tee Box Boulevard, Frankford, DE 19945

Questions? jkudlick@verizon.net or call 302-415-9731

NOVEMBER 1/2, 2025

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM

M. Lewandowski
M MacLeish

M Miller
G. Murphy

J. Cutrona
V. Everett

LECTORS

D. Belt
L. Christiansen

7:30 AM

L. Lockett
R. O'Neill

R. P.ritchett
T. Svienty

J. Shevock
S. Shevock

LECTORS

A. Wyllie

9:30 AM

F. Hanlin
K. Kelly

J. Lausten
M. Lausten

H. Louissaint
G. Maddelena

LECTORS

C. Parks
C. Petka

11:30 AM

A. Cisernos
B. Garcia

B. Guzman

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 AM

D. Smith

LECTORS

G. Godfrey

11:00 AM

M. Soule

LECTORS

L. Soule



HELP WANTED—WE NEED YOU

We are looking for more volunteers to help us bring Holy Communion to the sick and homebound of our parish. Call the Holy Cross Parish Office if interested in this ministry.

We can always use more volunteers to help at Mass as an Altar Server, Extra-Ordinary Minister of Communion, or a Lector. If interested please contact the Parish Office at 3020-674-5787.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Eucharistic adoration is the respect and worship we give to Jesus, who is truly present to us under the appearance of bread and wine. The Eucharist is a priceless treasure; by not only celebrating it but also by praying before it outside of Mass we are enabled to make contact with the very wellspring of grace. As St. Alphonsus Liguori noted, "of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." [CCC 1418]

You don't need a time if you cannot make a commitment. Please feel free to come in and sit with our Lord, when you can.

Contact John Murphy 302-233-1779 or jkm2015@verizon.net for any of the times available listed below:
Sunday 7-8am, 5-6pm, 8-9pm
Friday 6-7am
Saturday 12-1pm, 1-2pm, 8-9pm

FAITH DIRECT NOW PARISH SOFT

The conversion from Faith Direct to Parish Soft (Ministry Brands) is complete.

There are several ways to access your account. Visit www.holycrossdover.org/giving or <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-251> and use your prior Faith Direct email address (or phone number) and password in which you registered. You may be prompted to change your password, please follow those prompts and log in to Parish Soft to make changes or view upcoming contributions.

Questions regarding your contributions should be directed to ParishSoft Donor Support at 866-930-4774, option 6, or by emailing donorsupport@parishsoft.com as the Holy Cross Parish office does not have the authority to modify your account such as frequency of contributions or donation designations.

Those interested in signing up for ParishSoft electronic giving can visit our website at:

holycrossdover.org and click on the Online Giving tab at the top of the page.

Pamphlets about ParishSoft are in the Gathering Space and in the Parish Office.

NOVEMBER 1—ALL SAINTS DAY

We will offer only the 8 am Mass on November 1. Since it falls on Saturday, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

- **Prepárenos para el Adviento:** Qué es el Adviento? La palabra “Adviento” viene del latín *adventus*, que quiere decir “venida” y se asocia con las cuatro semanas de preparación para la Navidad. El adviento siempre incluye cuatro domingos y empieza desde el domingo más cercano a la fiesta de San Andrés Apóstol (30 de noviembre) y continúa hasta el 24 de diciembre. Es un tiempo de preparación para celebrar la Encarnación del Hijo de Dios en Navidad. Así como cada año la Navidad parece empezar con más anticipación en lo comercial, los fieles deben tratar de preparar el corazón para acercarse más al Señor.
- ¿Cómo se vive el Adviento? El Adviento es una pequeña Cuaresma: comienza recordando que Cristo vendrá como Juez al final de los tiempos; es un tiempo para pensar en la santidad con la que debemos prepararnos para recibir al Señor. Por eso, aunque no es estrictamente un tiempo de penitencia, los fieles deben volver a poner la mirada en Jesús mediante la oración, la limosna y el sacrificio. Ponga una corona de adviento en su hogar reza
- **¿Qué son las Posadas?** es la Novena de Navidad
- Las posadas navideñas son una tradición popular hispana que se celebra durante los nueve días previos a la Navidad, del 16 al 24 de diciembre. Representan la búsqueda de María y José de un lugar para el nacimiento de Jesús, recreando el pasaje bíblico de su peregrinación a Belén. A menudo los pequeños se disfrazan de María y José algunos pastorcitos o ángeles van cada noche, visitan una familia que ha pedido posada en su casa cantando villancicos para pedir alojamiento y, una vez que se les concede, entran y se reza el santo Rosario, se canta y celebran con comida, música y piñatas. Ayuda a preparar el corazón para la Natividad del Señor. En la última parte del Adviento, esperamos con alegría su Primera Venida, en Belén. Una buena forma de hacerlo es meditar el Santo Rosario las antífonas de Adviento que se usan en la Misa, porque cada una evoca un título mesiánico de Cristo del Antiguo Testamento.
- **Nuestro Retiro de Adviento:** Ya están disponibles los boletos para adquirirlo hable con cualquier miembro de la Junta Directiva o a la oficina parroquial. Sábado 22 de noviembre, de 8 am a 4pm en el salón de Eventos. El Tema es “Las tres miradas llenas de Esperanza” El Padre Javier Zavala desde Honduras. Se pide una donación de \$25.00. esto incluye el Almuerzo.
- **Foro Cristiano :** El Foro Cristiano o todos los viernes, 12 de septiembre de 6:00pm a 8:00pm en el ELC segundo piso. El tema de este año es Symbolon “LA FE DE LA IGLESIA”. Esta basado en el Credo, y lo que creemos como Católicos. Quedan todos invitados a conocer y a profundizar más en su Fe católica.
- **La Virgen Peregrina:** La Virgen Peregrina está visitando los hogares, si usted desea que la imagen de la virgen peregrina visite su casa por una semana, hable con nuestra hermana Marta Espinosa.
- **APOSTOLADO DE LAS SIETE HERMANAS EN LA SANTA CRUZ**
- Al fortalecer al sacerdote, fortaleces a toda la Iglesia... (P. Gerald Fitzgerald, SP) Únase al Apostolado de las Siete Hermanas en Holy Cross para ofrecer: Una hora santa, Por un sacerdote; Cada semana, Un corazón de oración. Contacto: Delizabeth Díaz-Martínez correo electrónico 7sistersapostolate2023@gmail.com

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA DEL ICC:

- **Primera Reconciliación :** Sesión #3 El martes 28 de octubre de 6:30pm – 7:30pm Si su hijo no ha asistido a las clases o los padres no asistieron a la reunión de padres de familia. Por favor comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 o email to dre@iccmaryl.org para cualquier pregunta.
- **Confirmación:** La Segunda sesión es el domingo ** 9 de noviembre, 3-5:30pm en el salón. “ Atención esto es un cambio de la fecha original de la sesión”. Por favor comuníquese con Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 o email to dre@iccmaryl.org para cualquier pregunta.
- **La Rosa de Plata** nos visita el jueves 30 de Octubre, estará en nuestra parroquia después de la santa Misa a las 6:00pm, venga y comparta con los Caballeros de Colon y juntos rezaremos el Santo Rosario. Quedan todos invitados.

RELIGIOUS EDUC AT HOLY CROSS

Next Class:

November 4 (Grades Kindergarten – 4th grade) or November 5 (Grades 5-8 and Sacramental Prep)

All Classes in the Elementary Building from 6:00pm-7:30pm (please arrive between 5:45pm and 5:50pm so classes may begin on time.

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

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

Deacon Bob’s Adult Ed Class Week 8 of 10 (part 1) "Foundations of Faith: A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church"

is every Tuesday at either 9:00am or 7:00pm in the Matthew/Mark room of the Parish Office, 2nd Floor, Building C

"Foundations of Faith: A Journey Through the Catechism of the Catholic Church is the ultimate way for your parish or small group to encounter the wisdom of the Catechism and deepen your understanding of the Catholic Faith.

This is a free class; however, the workbook set associated with this program will be ordered upon request for a cost of \$40 (workbook and catechism chart)

If you have any questions or would like to order the workbook set, please contact Tammy Korosec at tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302)674-5787 X 122.

LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH CATECHESIS)

November classes are 11/2 and 11/16

We gather after 9:30am Mass in the Matthew/Mark room. Class will begin at 11:00am and will last until approximately 1:00pm.

Contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossdover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122 for further information.

+++++

YOUTH MINISTRY

Confirmation Classes:

Our next class takes place: Sunday, Oct. 26 5-6:30 pm in the Parish Hall or Wednesday, Oct. 29 from 6-7:30 pm in the Matthew Mark Room. Parents are invited to attend this class.

Youth Group:

High School youth group will meet Sunday, Oct. 26, from 6:45-8 pm in the Luke room of the ELC building. All are high school teens are welcome.

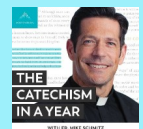
Retreat Meeting: For peers and adults to finalize retreat talks and schedule— Sunday, Nov. 2 7 pm in the Matthew Mark room. All expected to be there if you are assisting with Confirmation Retreat.

MOUNT 2000:

February 6-8, 2026 at Mt. St. Mary's University. Open to all high school teens. Please save your spot by contacting Mrs. Darling—ldarling@holycrossdover.org

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS:

- <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/luke-in-50-days-announcement>
- <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/riy-signup>
- <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>



+++++

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ICC

First Reconciliation Prep session #3 is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, please contact Alicia Poppiti if your child did not attend or you missed the parents meeting.

Confirmation Prep session #2 is scheduled for Sunday, **November 9****, 3-5:30pm in the Parish Hall. ****This is a change in original session date**

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 or email: dre@iccmmarydel.org with any questions..

Dear Parishioners,

It was another full and faith filled week here at Holy Cross!

On Monday, our kindergarten students enjoyed an immersive fall learning experience at Ramsey Farm. All three classes had a wonderful time exploring the pumpkin patch and enjoying the beautiful fall weather. A heartfelt thank you to our teachers and chaperones who helped make this day so special for our youngest Crusaders!

That evening, we held our National Junior Honor Society Induction for the 2025–2026 school year. This special ceremony, led by Mrs. Peak and Ms. Riecks, celebrated our students who exemplify academic excellence, leadership, and service. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to all of our newly inducted members!

On Tuesday, our students had the day off while our faculty and staff participated in a Diocesan retreat at St. Francis de Sales alongside other schools from the southern part of our diocese. It was a meaningful morning of reflection, faith, and fellowship with fellow Catholic educators. Later in the day, Holy Cross hosted all diocesan enrichment teachers which included art, music, technology, library, gym, world language, nurses, and counselors for an afternoon of professional collaboration. Meanwhile, our Pre-K through 8th grade content teachers remained at St. Francis to continue sharing ideas and best practices with colleagues from across the diocese. It was truly a day of spiritual growth, learning, and gratitude.

On Wednesday and Thursday, our eighth grade students welcomed representatives from several diocesan high schools who shared what makes their schools so special. These visits always help our students reflect on the next steps in their faith and academic journeys.

On Friday, we ended the week with our HSA Trunk or Treat! This event is a highlight every fall and brings our school community together for an evening of fun, laughter, and creativity. We loved seeing everyone's costumes and all of the imaginative trunk designs. A huge thank you to our Home and School Association for their incredible effort, time, and dedication to making events like this possible for our families.

Looking ahead, next week will be just as busy as we close out the month of October. We will have additional field trips, our National Junior Art Honor Society induction, a fire drill, and then a half-day followed by a day off for parent teacher conferences. These conferences are a wonderful opportunity for parents and teachers to partner together in supporting each child's success. If you have not yet signed up for a conference and would like to, please contact your child's teacher directly.

We are now more than halfway through the trimester, making this the perfect time to review your child's grades in PowerSchool and discuss their progress. We deeply value the partnership between home and school and look forward to these conversations that help every Crusader continue to grow in both faith and knowledge.

Prayerfully,

Mrs. O'Mara

distinct: the Church in Heaven has no need of prayers from those on Earth or in Purgatory; the Church in Heaven and Purgatory has no fear of eternal damnation; the Church on earth is affected by the sin of its members, and needs the prayers of the Church in Heaven and Purgatory; and The Church of Heaven bears no tinge of doubt of God, and thus its praise and prayers are more perfect.

Interaction: Love Will Keep us Together. In the most basic way, this “Communion of Saints” is, to employ a woefully overused term, “interactive.” Thus, we on earth pray to and with the saints in Heaven; we ask for their prayers (we never pray for the saints in Heaven, as they have achieved the crown of victory and bask in the glory of God’s presence). The saints in Heaven, in turn, pray for us (intercede for us) before God, in the hope of our being there in Heaven one day. We pray for the poor souls in purgatory, that their time in purgatory may be swift and their journey to heaven eased by our prayers. The Saints in Heaven do likewise. So, we pray to the Saint in the Church Triumphant, and for the souls in the Church Suffering. The Saints pray for us and for the poor souls.

Meanwhile, in Purgatory. So, what about the Church Suffering? What do they do? Can they pray for us? Or can they only receive the benefit of our prayers? This is a theological question the Church has never pronounced definitively upon. St. Thomas Aquinas said the answer was “no” — he said those poor souls were not in a position to pray for us. St. Alphonsus Liguori wrote, “The souls in purgatory, being beloved by God and confirmed in grace, have absolutely no impediment to prevent them from praying for us... [but] the Church does not invoke them or implore their intercession.” But it can be said, definitively: We pray for the poor souls in purgatory, so that when they get to Heaven (which they will), they can pray for us.

Meanwhile, Back on Earth. Sounds like a bad line from a 1950s “Mystery in Space” comic book, but a good segue nonetheless, to start examining Earth, Heaven, and Purgatory (that is, the Church Militant, the Church Triumphant, and the Church Suffering. First up, we will look at our neighborhood... aka, the Earth, that is, the Church on Earth.

What is the Church Militant? The Church Militant is also called the “pilgrim Church.” This is the Church that is the people of God on earth. It is the Catholic Church here on earth. The reason it is called the Church Militant is because we here on earth, Christ’s faithful, are still fighting the battle of daily life to win the victorious crown given to the saints in Heaven. Or as it might be expressed in song: Onward Christian soldiers! Those Christian soldiers sang about us! We are still wrangling daily with temptation, the imperfections of a fallen world, the ramifications of original sin, and the allure of the world, the flesh, and the Devil, trying to distract us from God. In this Church, we strive to be holy people; we strive to come to know, love, and serve God; and we, the faithful baptized, can receive Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior, under the veil of a Sacrament, while hoping one day to be received by Him in Heaven.

Bazillions, Really! Okay, that short paragraph describing the Church on Earth is a fudge on what should be a much bigger explanation. The bigger explanation, however, would be the explanation of the Catholic Church in immense detail, and would take — now I don’t want to exaggerate — but, like, ten bazillion words. So, I’ll stick with the short and sweet description above. And to get off where we got on: The Church on Earth is part of a trinity-like grouping of God’s faithful — on Earth, in Heaven, and in Purgatory — each distinct and yet each connected! An analogous image for our pondering of the mystery of the Trinity.

Coming Attractions. Next Saturday (November 1) is the Solemnity of All Saints (i.e., All Saints Day); as it lands on a Saturday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year, and can only be celebrated in the early half of the day (as beginning later in the afternoon, at the evening Mass, the Mass for Sunday is celebrated as an anticipated — or “vigil” — mass. Then on Sunday, November 2, the Church will observe All Souls Day, on which we pray for our beloved dead, especially focusing on the poor souls in Purgatory. So, next weekend on November 1-2, the Church Militant will focus prayerfully on the Church Triumphant and the Church Suffering — to use horse racing terminology, that is a Trifecta worth betting everything on. God bless!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor