

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

522 Main Street • P.O. Box 399 • Marydel, Maryland 21649-0399

Phone: 410-482-7687 • Fax: 410-482-7253

www.iccmarydel.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday 9:30-12noon, Closed Wednesdays

Because of the limited size of our staff, hours are subject to change. It's best to call first.

September 16, 2018 – Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eucharist of the Lord's Day

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Weekday Eucharist
Thursday 7:00 p.m. (in Spanish)

Holydays of Obligation
As announced in the bulletin

Reconciliation

After the Sunday morning Masses,
Thursday evening 6:30pm
And by appointment at any reasonable time

Pastoral Care and Liturgy

Very Rev. James S. Lentini, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Timothy J. Brady, Parochial Vicar

Deacon James M. Tormey, Sr.
Deacon Sherman Mitchell, III

Christian Formation

Mrs. Alicia Poppiti, D.R.E.

Hispanic Ministry

Mrs. Arline Dosman

If you or someone you know is in need of financial assistance, please call

St Vincent DePaul (302) 670-6702

The Sacraments

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in which adults and children of catechetical age join the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Sherman Mitchell III, our R.C.I.A. Coordinator, for details at 302-492-0753.

Parents wishing to present their children for **Infant Baptism** must participate in an orientation session. Please call the parish office at 410-482-8939 for details.

Please contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 about the preparation of young people for **Confirmation**, or about children's first reception of the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** and the **Eucharist**.

Couples planning **Matrimony** meet with the Pastor or one of the Deacons at least one year in advance of the wedding date they are considering. Please call the parish office to arrange for this meeting.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: The **Anointing of the Sick** is appropriate for anyone faced with hospitalization or a serious challenge to health. When a hospital admission is planned, please arrange to receive the Anointing here beforehand, if at all possible. Our lay ministers to the sick bring **Holy Communion** to those unable to come to Mass for any length of time. Please call the parish office to arrange for these services.

Your Pastor, Deacons and parish staff members are always happy to speak in confidence with anyone who senses a call to **ordained ministry** or **religious life**

Dear Parishioners,

Friday, September 14 was the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. While it is, of course, the patronal feast day and a solemnity ("high holy day") for Holy Cross Parish, it is also a high-ranking and important feast day throughout the entire universal Church for every member of the faithful. (Note: This feast will also be observed at Sunday Masses as Holy Cross, too.) Since the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is a major holy day of the Church year, I make a point, each year, to give a reminder about background and basis for what this special day celebrates and observes.

Cross Reference. So, what exactly does the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross commemorate? Some might think – based on the name of this holy day – that this is the day we commemorate Christ's death on the cross for our sins. Or perhaps, we celebrate the conquest of the death and sin through the cross of our Lord. Well, in truth, while

those are beautiful ways to reflect on the Cross, neither of those considerations are the basis for this feast day.

No So Mighty Aphrodite. The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, in fact, has more to do with St. Helena and the Emperor Heraclius, than anything else. So, let us step into the Wayback Machine and set the dial for the year 326 A.D. In that year, St. Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Lands to visit the key sites connected to the life, death and resurrection of Christ. One of her first stops was to an abandoned temple dedicated to the Greek goddess Aphrodite. It was said that this temple was built over the sepulcher (tomb) in which Christ's body was reposed following his death on the Cross.

At Cross Purposes. Emperor Constantine decreed that this temple should be torn down, and that a Church dedicated as the Church of the Holy Sepulcher should be built. And so,

it was. While starting work on the new Church, some excavation was done, and three crosses were found buried under the site of the tomb. Evidence indicated that these were the crosses from Calvary from Good Friday; they had likely been buried to protect them from the Roman authorities in the time after the Crucifixion. One of the crosses that was found healed a diseased woman who touched it; this miraculous cure served as evidence that this was the Cross on which hung the Savior of the world. Upon completion of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, a portion of that most holy Cross was placed inside it – and it was raised up (exalted) for all to see. That Church was dedicated and people were invited to venerate the Cross on September 14, 326 A.D. **It is this event that we celebrate on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.**

Return to Sender. In 614 A.D., Persia invaded Jerusalem. Persian Emperor Khosrau II decided that as the ultimate jab at the power of the Christian-based Byzantine Empire, he would have his men seize the true Cross and take it to Persia. And that's he did. This caused much grief and agitation, along with wailing and gnashing of teeth by the Christians and the leaders of the Byzantine Empire of the day. Upon the death of Khosrau in 628 A.D. it was announced by his successor, that the Cross would be returned to Jerusalem. And so, it was! In 629 A.D., the Byzantine Emperor, Heraclius, received the Cross in Constantinople (which was like the Washington, D.C. of the Byzantine world, but without the 6% sales tax), and then returned it to Jerusalem.

Carry On! It is said that upon the Cross arriving in Jerusalem, Heraclius took it upon his back and carried it the rest of the way to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. When the Emperor went to carry the Cross into the Church, a mystical force held him back. The Patriarch (Archbishop) of Jerusalem counseled the emperor to divest himself of his regal garments and dress instead in peasant-like, penitential garb. The Emperor did this, and then was easily able to

carry the Cross into the sanctuary of the Church and lay it to rest there. I mention this story of Emperor Heraclius, because it is held that this feast day celebrates not just St. Helena's finding of the Cross and building and dedicating the Church of the Holy Sepulcher as its place of repose, but rather, it also celebrates the restoration of Cross in that Church by Heraclius.

The Instrument of Salvation. Whatever the case of the basis for this feast, it can be said with some certitude that the driving force behind the actions of St. Helena in the fourth century and Emperor Heraclius in the eighth century, was the salvific value of that Holy Cross because on it once hung our Savior Jesus Christ. It is the Son of God who made that Cross not just an instrument of execution, but rather sign of salvation for a mankind that was hoary with sin and sought, desperately, a Messiah.

Meanwhile 1,692 Years Later. Holy Cross Parish is blessed to have a relic (a small remnant) of that True Cross found by St. Helena. And at the end of Masses at Holy Cross this weekend – as is a custom in the Catholic Church – the Priest will give his final blessing with that relic of the True Cross. And we are then connected historically, not just to the events at Calvary in 33 A.D., but also to the powerful actions of St. Helena. Just as the people on September 14, 326 A.D., gathered to venerate that Cross, so too, 1,692 years later, we are likewise awed with this holy relic and give thanks and praise to God for the good that was wrought on that Cross by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

And so, whether at Holy Cross in Dover, or at Immaculate Conception in Marydel, or at any parish in the Catholic Church, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is a holy day worth reflecting on and remembering. Dominus vobiscum!

Yours in Christ, Fr. James Lentini, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, September 16

8:30 William F. & Ann R. Sullivan

11:00 For the People

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

Thursday, September 20– 7pm Misa

Sunday, September 23

8:30 Erma Neudecker

11:00 For the people

Misa en Español 1pm For the People

COLLECTION TOTALS:

Offertory: \$ 2992.50

Supplementary: \$ 698.00

Second Collection Today: School of Religious Education support

*Your continued support of the work of your Church
is much needed and appreciated.*

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Collection Counters

Sep 16	Tom & Mary McGowan
Sep 23	Julia Moore & Assistant
Sep 30	Elisa & Tom Costello

Church Cleaning Crew

Septiembre 21, 2018 Grupo #6

Santos Juárez, Arturo Ramírez, Eva Bravo, Herminda Bravo, Paulina Morales, Silvia Ramírez

Septiembre 28, 2018 Grupo # 7

Ovidio Roblero, **Natalina Capistran**, Fausto Ortiz, Everilda Pérez, Amanda Salas, Ashley Salas

Altar Servers

September 23

8:30am Mass – Anna Clancy & Mike Dixon

11am Mass – Sherlin Santizo & Savannah Strauss

Spanish Misa 1pm – Emily & Yorly Escalante

Lectors

September 23

8:30am Mass – Barbara Thompson

11am Mass – Sherry Tucker

Spanish Misa 1pm – Oyuki Galán, Pavel Rivera

Eucharistic Ministers

September 23

8:30am Mass – Marilyn Dixon, Gerry Godfrey

11am Mass – Judy Carrow, Laura Schlaupitz

Spanish Misa 1pm – Alberto Morales, Carlos Miguel, Flora Pérez, Miguel López, Antonio Pérez

Marriage & Family Life Corner

Marriage Moment –

Research studies show that men who kiss their wives before leaving in the morning live 5 years longer than those who don't.

Although I haven't done the research, I suppose this works in the reverse too (wives kissing their husbands before leaving).

Parenting Pointer –

School is in full swing for most families. Even if your child is too young for school remember this maxim: It's not what the teacher says, but what the student hears, that matters. This applies to parents and children too.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Tues, Sep 18 7pm – Catechist In-Service Meeting

Fri, Sep 21 7pm – Band Practice

Fri, Sep 21 7pm – RCIA in office

Sat, Sep 22 SRE Classroom Set-up

Sun, Sep 23 9:40am – SRE Classes in Classroom

Sun, Sep 23 Noon – Parent Mtg – 1st Reconciliation/Communion



Knights of Columbus

Next meeting

Tues, September 25th

7pm Meeting

in the Knights Hall

All members are encouraged to attend. Membership is open to men

18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. For more info, contact Grand Knight, Bruce Kelley (302) 502-6040 or kelley29@comcast.net.

Follow us on Facebook @ Knights of Columbus Council 12509



Life issues such as abortion and euthanasia, assistance for Catholic school families, aid to the poor and vulnerable are just a few issues that concern us. It is up to us to stay informed about these issues. One way is to join the Catholic Advocacy Network. It takes just 3 minutes to just 5 minutes to join Catholics in the Diocese of Wilmington as members.

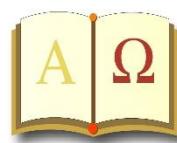
Join the Catholic Advocacy Network today.

Delaware:

www.cdow.org/join-the-delaware-catholic-advocacy-network/

Maryland:

www.mdcathcon.org/657



Catechist In-Service:

Tuesday, September 18th at 7pm in the office meeting room. If you are a Catechist, aide, assistant or interested,

please be sure that you attend this important gathering before we kick off the school year! Thank you.

FROM THE DRE'S DESK

Registration for Religious Education starting next Sunday is needed today.



There will be someone to take your children's registration today in the basement of church, before and after all Masses.

Do not wait for class to start! Do it today. We have limited space now. We begin Classes on Sunday, September 23, 2018 at 9:40am.

REGISTRATIONS!! Registrations for 2018-2019 are needed in office of religious education now. Please get your registrations for school of Religious Education this weekend. Fees are as follows: \$35 per child, not to exceed \$150 per family. This is to defray all costs of books, materials, and supplies.

LAS MATRICULAS: para nuestro programa de formación cristiana de niños en domingo están todavía disponibles en el despacho parroquial, en la entrada principal del templo, y en el internet. Favor de someterlas en lo más pronto posible, con la cobra de \$35 por cada niño, y no más de \$150 cada familia.



Hear the call? Share your talents, time & gifts with our parish. Not sure where? Call Alicia Poppiti, we can find a place for you here!! Training on site; knowledge of the Catholic faith, and a willingness to share your faith and your faith journey with the children and people of our Parish. Salary: the satisfaction of doing the right thing in this life! Benefits: a hundred-fold happiness in the next. Presently, catechists for our Gods children are needed- **PreK, Kindergarten are needed, as well as 7th grade.** Helpers and substitutes are always appreciated. Thank you.



PARENTS: in-Service for First Reconciliation and First Communion will take place on Sunday, September 23rd at 12 noon in the parish hall.

If you have a child in 2nd grade or in their 2nd year of RE and they have not received First Communion, your presence is needed at this gathering.



We are grateful for the 80 people of our Parish that turned out for our Ministry Day Fair and Certification. Of those 80, there were almost 200 certificates of certification received in various ministries. Thank you for all that attended, your service is greatly appreciated. Our Parish is blessed to have such a wonderful community.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The General Directory for Catechesis reminds us that faith is both a gift from God and an ongoing call to a process of continuing conversion. Sacred Scripture holds a pre-eminent position in catechesis that needs to include opportunities for reflection where the disciple can be shaped by the Word of God.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: We are called to carry our crosses.

Question for Children: What do think it means for you to follow in Jesus footsteps?

Question for Youth: Who do you say that Jesus is? Who is Jesus in your life?

Question for Adults: What is the cross that you carry today? How do you follow Jesus in the workplace and at home?

24to domingo del tiempo ordinario

Tema: Hemos sido llamados para cargar nuestras cruces.

Pregunta para los niños: ¿Qué significa para ti seguir los pasos de Jesús?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: ¿Quién crees que es Jesús? ¿Quién es Jesús en tu vida?

Pregunta para los adultos: ¿Cuál es la cruz que carga hoy? ¿Cómo sigue a Jesús en su lugar de trabajo y en su hogar?

Are you being called to the priesthood or religious life?



Find out more about the priesthood at
www.diocesanpriest.com

Find out more about the religious life: religiouslife.com

Let us help you to discover God's plan for your life.

E-mail: vocations@cdow.org or

Call us: (302) 573-3113 today!

COLUMNÁ DEL PÁRROCO PADRE JAMES LENTINI 16 DE SEPTIEMBRE, 2018.

Queridos feligreses,

El viernes 14 de septiembre fue la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz. Si bien es, por supuesto, el día de la fiesta patronal y una solemnidad ("día santo") para la Parroquia de Holy Cross, también es una gran e importante fiesta en toda la Iglesia universal para cada miembro de los fieles. (Nota: en Holy Cross esta fiesta también se observará en las Misa dominicales también como la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz,,) Ya que la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz es un gran día sagrado del año de la Iglesia, hago un punto, cada año, para recordar el trasfondo y la base de lo que este día especial celebra y observa.

Referencia. Entonces, ¿Qué es lo que conmemora exactamente la Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz? Algunos podrían pensar, basado en el nombre de este día santo, que este es el día en que conmemoramos la muerte de Cristo en la cruz por nuestros pecados. O tal vez, celebramos Cristo nuestro Señor venció la muerte y el pecado a través de la cruz Bueno, en verdad, aunque esas son formas hermosas de reflexionar sobre la Cruz, ninguna de esas consideraciones es la base de esta fiesta.

Afrodita, No Tan Poderosa. La Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz, de hecho, tiene más que ver con Santa Elena y el Emperador Heraclio que cualquier otra cosa. Entonces, entremos en el baúl de los recuerdos y coloquemos el dial para el año 326. En ese año, Santa Elena, la madre del emperador romano Constantino, fue en peregrinación a la Tierra Santa para visitar los sitios clave conectados con el vida, muerte y resurrección de Cristo. Una de sus primeras paradas fue en un templo abandonado dedicado a la diosa griega Afrodita conocida (Venus). Se dijo que este templo fue construido sobre el sepulcro (tumba) en el cual el cuerpo de Cristo reposó después de su muerte en la Cruz.

Propósitos En Cruz. El emperador Constantino decretó que se derribara este templo y que se construyera una iglesia dedicada la Iglesia del Santo Sepulcro. Y así fue. Al comenzar el trabajo de la construcción de la nueva Iglesia, se realizó una excavación y se encontraron tres cruces enterradas bajo el sitio de la tumba. La evidencia indicó que estas eran las cruces del Calvario del Viernes Santo; probablemente habían sido enterrados para protegerlos de las autoridades romanas en el tiempo posterior a la crucifixión. Una de las cruces que se encontró sanó a una mujer enferma que la tocó; esta cura milagrosa sirvió como evidencia de que esta era la Cruz en la que colgaba el Salvador del mundo. Al terminar la

construcción de la Iglesia del Santo Sepulcro, una parte de esa Santísima Cruz fue colocada dentro de ella, y fue levantada (exaltada) para que todos la vieran. Esa Iglesia fue dedicada y la gente fue invitada a venerar la Cruz el 14 de septiembre de 326 A.D. Es este evento que celebramos en la Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz.

Devolver Al Remitente. En 614 DC, Persia invadió Jerusalén. El emperador Cosroes II emperador de Persia decidió que, como último golpe al poder del Imperio bizantino de base cristiana, haría que sus hombres tomaran la verdadera Cruz y se la llevaran a Persia. Y eso es lo que hizo. Esto causó mucha tristeza y agitación, junto con el llanto y el crujir de dientes por parte de los cristianos y los líderes del Imperio bizantino de la época. Tras la muerte de Cosroes en 628 d. C., su sucesor anunció que la cruzería devuelta a Jerusalén. ¡Y así fue! En 629 DC., el emperador bizantino, Heraclio, recibió la cruz en Constantinopla (que era como el Washington, D.C. del mundo bizantino, pero sin el impuesto de ventas del 6%), y luego la devolvió a Jerusalén.

¡Ándale! Se dice que cuando la Cruz llegó a Jerusalén, Heraclio la tomó sobre sus hombros y la llevó el resto del camino hasta la iglesia del Santo Sepulcro. Cuando el Emperador fue a llevar la Cruz dentro de la Iglesia, una fuerza mística lo detuvo. Entonces el Arzobispo de Jerusalén, Zácarías, le dijo: *"Es que todo ese lujo de vestidos que llevas, están en desacuerdo con el aspecto humilde y doloroso de Cristo, cuando iba cargando la cruz por estas calles"*. Entonces el emperador se despojó de su manto de lujo y de su corona de oro, y descalzo, empezó a recorrer así las calles y pudo seguir en la piadosa procesión, y luego fue capaz de llevar fácilmente la Cruz al santuario de la Iglesia y recostarla allí. Menciono esta historia del emperador Heraclio, porque se sostiene que este día de fiesta no solo celebra a santa Elena y el hallazgo de Santa Cruz y la construcción y dedicación de la Iglesia del Santo Sepulcro como su lugar de reposo, sino que también celebra la restauración de la cruz en esa iglesia por Heraclio.

El Instrumento de Salvación. Cualquiera que sea el caso de la base de esta fiesta, se puede decir con cierta certeza que la fuerza impulsora detrás de las acciones de Santa Elena en el siglo IV y el emperador Heraclio en el siglo VIII fue el valor salvífico de esa Santa Cruz porque en ella una vez colgó a nuestro Salvador Jesucristo. Es el Hijo de Dios quien hizo de esa Cruz no solo un instrumento de ejecución, sino más bien un signo de salvación para una humanidad que estaba obsesionada con el pecado y buscaba, desesperadamente, un Mesías.

Mientras tanto, 1,692 años después, la parroquia de Holy Cross tiene la bendición de tener una reliquia (un pequeño remanente de madero) de esa Vera Cruz encontrada por Santa Elena. Y al final de las Misa en

Holy Cross este fin de semana, como es costumbre en la Iglesia Católica, el sacerdote dará su bendición final con esa reliquia de la Verdadera Cruz. Y entonces estamos conectados históricamente, no solo con los eventos en el Calvario en el año 33 DC, sino también con las acciones poderosas de Santa Elena. Así como las personas el 14 de septiembre de 326 DC, se reunieron para venerar esa cruz, así también, 1,692 años después, también estamos maravillados con esta reliquia sagrada y agradecemos y alabamos a Dios por el bien que fue forjado en esa cruz por nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo. Y así, ya sea en Holy Cross en Dover, o en La Inmaculada Concepción en Marydel, o en cualquier parroquia en la Iglesia Católica, la Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz es un día sagrado que vale la pena reflexionar y recordar.

Dominus vobiscum!

Tuyo en Cristo,
P. James Lentini
Párroco