



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

September 11, 2022

24th Sunday Ordinary Time

holycross

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SCHOOLS OFFICE HOURS

School Year, Monday-Friday, 8 am-3:30 pm
Summer, Monday-Thursday, 9 am-1 pm

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil, 5 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

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

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

Daily, 5 am—9 pm

icc

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9 am-5 pm
Closed Wednesday and Friday

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

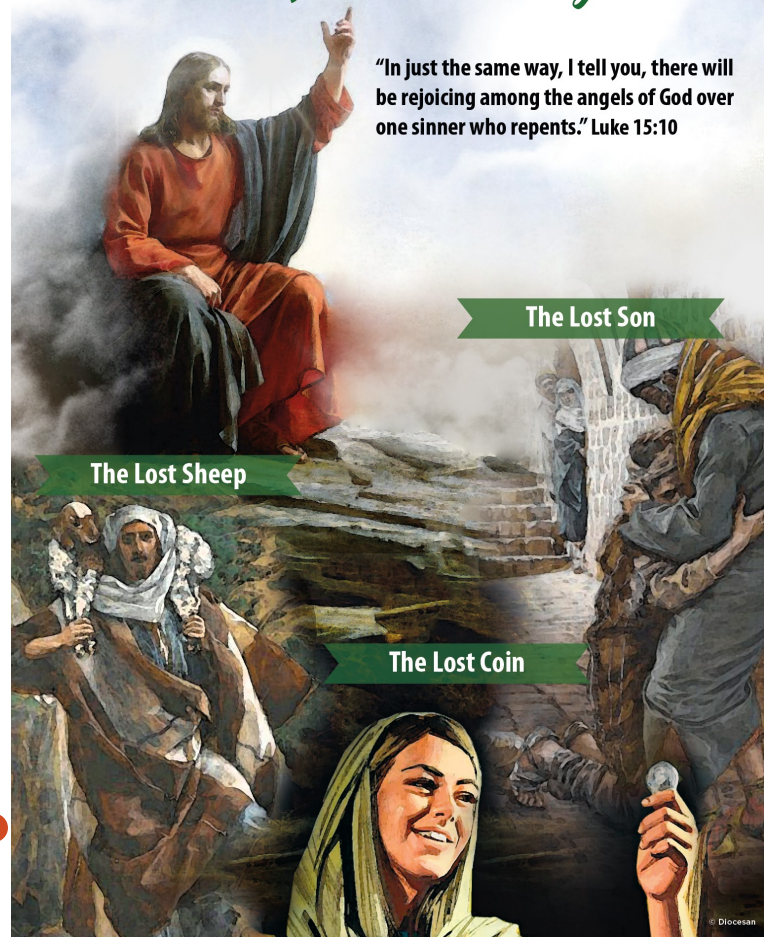
DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday, 9:30 am
Thursday, 6:30 pm

24th Sunday in *Ordinary Time*



"In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:10

The Lost Son

The Lost Sheep

The Lost Coin

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.

LITTLE BOOKS

Immaculate Conception is taking orders for the Little Reflection books for the various liturgical seasons, Advent, Lent & Easter. The total cost is \$5.00 for the set.

Orders and payment can be taken at HC or ICC Parish offices.

The order will be placed on October 11, so all who wish to purchase must place their **order by October 9.**

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR (ONLINE)

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>

DIOCESAN "BLUE MASS"

Attention active and retired law enforcement, fire, EMT, and military personnel and their families. Bishop Koenig invites you to the 2022 Diocese of Wilmington "Blue Mass," on Friday, October 7 at 11:00 a.m. at Saint Elizabeth Church, 809 South Broom Street, Wilmington, Delaware. The "Blue Mass" honors the local, county, state, and federal law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, and military personnel who live and work in Delaware and on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Those currently serving, the retired, and their families are invited to attend. More information is available at www.cdown.org/BlueMass. Thank you for your service.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

August 28, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$25,603	\$26,750	(\$1,147)
YTD	\$221,977	\$239,500	(\$17,523)
Needs	\$2,135	\$1,604	\$531

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending August 28, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$3,405
Second Collection	\$376

SWITCH TO EGIVING (HC)

Are you ready to "Fall into eGiving?"

After the joyful summer months, the Fall season is a great time to streamline your stewardship. eGiving is a way to simplify your giving and provide steady, consistent support that helps us be ready with programs, services, and ministries for our church families and for those in our community.

It's easy to get started. **Here are the ways to sign up:**

- Visit faith.direct/DE251
- Call Faith Direct Cust. Service at 866-507-8757

Go to www.holycrossdover.org website and click on the Online Giving button.

Thank you and may God bless your generosity.

Dear Parishioners,

Couched between this Sunday and next, on September 14 is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. A great feast in our Church, and for the folks of Holy Cross Parish — it is the Patronal Feast day of the Parish. This weekend and next, I am going write the Pastor's Column on the subject of the Cross, the Holy Cross of Christ. While, I'd like to lay claim that all the thoughts below are mine alone, they are not. I was inspired by a the words of a Dominican Priest's reflections from several years ago; I take some of his thoughts and my thoughts and hit the puree button on the blender of word processing, and voila. With that, some thoughts on the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and its place and effect in our life.

—

"A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away." -- The opening line of Star War, which sets a tone of what lay ahead in the story.

"Space, the final frontier." -- The opening line from Star Trek, which manifests the setting and substance of the plots of the episodes.

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and earth," -- The opening words of the Holy Bible, in the Book of Genesis, which sets the basis for everything that follows.

Walk the Line. Some opening lines speak volumes. The opening line of the first reading read on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross is very striking: *"With their patience worn out by the journey, the people complained against God and Moses."* What an interesting way to start a reading about God's Chosen People who had just been freed from the slavery to the Egyptians and their false gods. After years of slavery, the Jewish people were freed, and were making their way to the Promised Land. How amazing. And yet, the first line paints a very bad picture of God's people: "their patience [was] worn out."

Of Patiences and Promises. On pondering this, one may wonder: have times really changed all that much? I wonder, how different is it really today? Have we, as a society, as a people, even as Christians, have we lost our patience with God. Are we so impatient for the Promised Land, that we'd rather just glom onto the things of this world, because waiting for next life, waiting for the things of God, doesn't fit our schedules? There's an app for lots of things these days, but alas, there is not an app for patience.

Can You Believe It? In the first reading, the Jewish people were wandering, lost, in the wilderness and

were losing faith. In our life and in our 21st century world we have our very own version of that wilderness: it is at times bewildering and wild, confusing and confounding — and we can find ourselves at a loss. And consequently, many, many people today, like the Jews wandering the desert, have lost patience with God — they lament, whine or rage: "This is all too much, I can't take it." As if on a customer service call to Comcast, folks shake their fist to the heavens and say, "I want to speak to a manager!" And, in their lament or sense of loss, they set their sights more and more on this world, its stuff and its false promises... and they lose sight of God. In the state of Washington, here in the United States, the largest Christian nation on earth, we find that the largest single "religious" group is non-believers. In Europe non-believers are well on the rise, too. Why is this? These folks have grown impatient with God; not trusting in the things of heaven, not trusting in the promises of Christ, they instead settle for the things of this world. God is not on their view screen, their speed dial, or on their agenda. He's not on their radar, not one bleeping blip!

Desert Resort. Thus I would put to you that our world today has become, or decayed into, a vast wilderness. A spiritually empty canvas; like a well-shaken Etch-a-Sketch, it is all blank. We know from history, that Christianity, in the shadow of the Holy Cross of Christ, has provided many answers for mankind — but this was done over centuries, not over Wi-Fi. Faith-filled reflection and patience — not hastily posted Tweets — yielded a great and well-considered understanding of this world, and, importantly, our place in it, under God. But out there, today, right now, for many, the world — our world, the world entrusted to us by God — might well be likened as a desert landscape, barren, bland, in which and under which ancient ruins lie. The monuments of moral certitude, entrusted to us by a long-ago age of faith, have crumbled. Oceans, seas, rivers, reservoirs and even creeks filled with the waters of an understanding that valued human nature and human life, has evaporated, leaving a lifeless seabed. And the libraries of ultimate truths, are in ruin.

Faith's Erosion. These things, these truths built over centuries and millennia, to provide mankind with a meaning in life and place in God's creation, have been eroded by the sands of skept-

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

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

MAILING ADDRESS

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

ST. MICHAEL'S FEAST DAY

On St. Michael's feast day, September 29, you are invited to join a special prayer time (rosary, litaney) in church after the 8am Mass, asking for his intercession for Delaware Law Enforcement Officers, our state police and their families. Please join us!

25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (SEPT 18)

FIRST READING: AMOS 8:4-7

The prophet speaks in blunt terms. Religious observance without concern for justice towards those who are poor is nothing but empty show.

SECOND READING: 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8

Prayer is essential, not only in individual terms but as the obligation of the whole community. It is important for the common good that we take our responsibility to pray seriously, even when we cannot see the results.

GOSPEL: LUKE 16:1-13

The parable of the dishonest steward appears baffling at first sight. But the key is in the final comment: whoever is faithful in little is faithful in much; and whoever is dishonest in little will be dishonest in much.

PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

October is the month of the Rosary. As in the past we will collect names of those that rosary during October. You can pray whenever, wherever, and with whomever for the intentions of world peace and the conversion of sinners as our Lady of Fatima requested. Our Lady has won many battles and can do it again with our help.



Please sign the pledge forms and place them in Our Lady's Basket located in the Gathering Place. Sign up will take place on September 17 /18 and September 24/25. Start praying the first day of October through October 31. Our Lady of Fatima says if people do what she tells us, many souls will be saved. Last year 15,080 rosaries were prayed by our Holy Cross families during October.

YOUNG AT HEART

We will resume our meetings on September 12, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. in the ELC Matthew/Mark room. Dr. Joe O'Donnell will be the speaker. The topic "Oliver Wendell Homes". Bring your own lunch. We will supply water, individual bags of chips and dessert. There is no charge.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

21 years ago on Sept. 11, 2001, terrorists attacked the USA. It was a frightening time. How do you and your beloved deal with fear? Fear of loss of income, health, death...? How do you comfort each other? What is frightening you today? Talk about it.

PARENTING POINTERS

Sept. 11, is Grandparents Day. Join with your children in telling your (or their) grandparents how much they mean to you. Grandparents are the carriers of history. Ask them what they've learned and how the world has changed. Listen. If they are no longer living, talk with them in prayer.

RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. Upcoming weekend programs will be held October 14 - 16 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. To register, visit- www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

MASS INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER

12 MONDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Alfredo Chao
13 TUESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	DM Durk Family
14 WEDNESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Ann McLaughlin
15 THURSDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Laurence Peer
ICC 6:00 pm	For the People
16 FRIDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Carmen Campanicki
17 SATURDAY	
HC 8 am	Carmen Campanicki
HC 5 pm	Salvatore Trancucci
18 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	Leonard Schnappauf
ICC 8:30 am	B. Bedwell
HC 9:30 am	Vern Bresnahan
ICC 11 am	Robert Brozek
HC 11:30 am	Mayla Felio
ICC 1 pm	For the People

(LI—LIVING INTENTION
DM—DECEASED MEMBERS)

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Looking for an in-person or virtual experience getting closer to your spouse? Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!! Many options for virtual events can be found on our website www.wwme-delmar.org. For additional information please call Tony and Linda Masino at 302-648-2228.

SVDP MEETING AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

St. Vincent de Paul meeting the 2nd Mon. of the month at 5 pm, in the office meeting room.

Next meeting is Monday, September 12, 2022, at 5 pm.

HOLY CROSS SEPT 17/18, 2022

	EMHC		SERVERS
5:00 PM	J. Bieker	J. Salamone P. Sheldon	N. Kosior J. Novack J. Novack
			LECTORS L. Christiansen D. Kilby
7:30 AM	C. Brown J. Chandler	R. O'Neill M. Thompson	A. Costa E. Costa M. Costa
			LECTORS J. Davis
9:30 AM	K. Kelly S. Lascano	D. McGinnis L. Olmstead	J. Beugre C. Beugre J. Seeney
			LECTORS S. Ford C. Petka
11:30 AM	TBD		K. Espinosa C. Geronimo
			LECTORS A. Luna
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION			
8:30 AM	M. Dixon		
			LECTORS T. Woodshick
11:00 AM	F. Cristiano		
			LECTORS P. Meyer
1 PM	To be determined		
			LECTORS TBD

Are YOU interested in becoming an altar server, Lector, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at Holy Cross? We also need EMHC's to visit the sick and homebound in their homes, nursing homes, and the hospital. God could be calling YOU.

Training sessions for each of these Ministries will take place this FALL. Please call the Parish Office and leave your name and phone number so we can reach you once we have the dates for these training sessions.

Watch the bulletin for exact dates of these training sessions. We'd love to have YOU step forward to serve in one of these ministries!!! Please pray and discern if YOU are being called to serve.

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 where you can spend quality time with Our Lord. Call Joann Pate today at 674-4496 to reserve a time for you.

SUNDAY	6 am, 10 am, 5 pm, 8 pm
TUESDAY	6 am, 3 pm
WEDNESDAY	11 am
THURSDAY	12 pm
SATURDAY	12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Are you looking for a way to involve your children in the celebration of the Mass? The Children's Choir warmly welcomes school age children (6-13) to sing at



the 5:00 Mass on the first Saturday of each month. We meet for practice at 4:00 on those Saturdays in the choir room to the right of the entrance to the worship space. It's that simple! Please have your children join us on October 1.

ICC CATECHISM CLASS

Catechism class at Immaculate Conception will start on Monday, September 26, 7-9 pm. Registration needed. Contact Alicia Poppiti at 410-482-8939 or dre@iccmmarydel.org. \$25 per person. This is the video/discussion/ workbook thru Bishop Barron. Class runs to December.

RECENTLY DECEASED (HC)

Our condolences to the families of:

- Patricia Murphy
- Alfred William Templeton, Jr.

FOOTPRINTS

The Footprints Ministry, the Diocesan Miscarriage Ministry, offers resources for families on their journey after the loss of their unborn child, whether it was very recently or many years ago. We aid mothers, fathers, couples, and families with support, education, and compassion by providing books, guidance, and resources on the website www.cdow.org.

- ¡Venga y pase una hora con Jesús, Sacramento! Continuando con las celebraciones de nuestras fiestas patronales, todas las noches hasta el miércoles 14 de septiembre de 2022, habrá Novena de la Santa Cruz (nueve días) de oración. Esto tomará la forma de una Hora Santa, centrada en la exposición del Santísimo Sacramento, todas las noches a las 7:00 p. m. Cada noche, la Hora Santa será presidida por uno de nuestros Sacerdotes o Diáconos, Cada Hora Santa consistirá en Exposición del Santísimo Sacramento, escritura, homilía, recitación de las Letanías de la Santa Cruz, tiempo de silencio en oración, Bendición, recitación de las Divinas Alabanzas y reposición del Santísimo Sacramento. Asegúrese de unirse a nosotros si aun no lo a hecho algunas noches o todas las noches de esta novena de oraciones.



Todos están invitados a participar de este evento que es la culminación de nuestras fiestas patronales y

- celebrando Nuestra Herencia Hispana.. Se necesitan voluntarios y donantes.
- Es muy importante inscribir a sus hijos a tiempo para la Educación Religiosa. Las Inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa y Preparación para la Confirmación (HC - 2023) Las aplicaciones para inscribirse para la Preparación para la Confirmación 2023 se pueden encontrar en el sitio web de la parroquia en holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christianformation/k-8-formation.
- Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud, no dude en comunicarse con Tammy Korosec en tkorosec@holycrossdover.org o llame al (302) 674-5787 X 122
- Si usted está interesado en participar y compartir sus talentos como lector, ministerio de música, ujier, ministros Extraordinario de la Comunión, Arte y Ambientación, dar Clases Pre - bautismales. Por favor hable con los coordinadores de los ministerios o llame a la oficina al 302-674-5787 ext. 118
- La virgen peregrina está visitando casas, si usted desea tener la virgen en su casa por una semana por favor hable con la Sra. Marta Espinosa.

ICC- EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

- El comienzo del año de Educación Religiosa para sus hijos esta encima de nosotros. Por favor entregue las aplicaciones de inscripción. Si no tiene una aplicación vaya a la oficina de la parroquia e inscriba a su niño.
- SE NECESITAN CATEQUISTAS PARA , QUINTO GRADO.
- Reunión de padres de familia el 18 de septiembre, a las 12 mediodía en el Salón.
- La inscripción para el año escolar 2022-2023 está abierta, las inscripciones están disponibles para todas las familias y aún se aceptan. Debe inscribir a sus hijos cada año. Vuelva a Alicia Poppiti ahora, para que podamos estar seguros de tener suficientes maestros, libros y espacio en las aulas.
- Las Clases de Educación Religiosa son los domingos por la mañana, comenzando 25 de septiembre hasta el 7 de mayo, de 9:40 a 10:50 a.m. Póngase en contacto con Alicia Poppiti @ 410-482-8939 o dre@iccmaryl.org para obtener más información.
- Las inscripciones ya están disponibles.
- Nuevos Inscribiéndose: https://www.iccmaryl.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/new_sre_registration_form_2021.pdf .org para obtener más información.
- Las inscripciones ya están disponibles.
- Nuevos Inscribiéndose: https://www.iccmaryl.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/new_sre_registration_form_2021.pdf
- Retornando Inscribiéndose: https://www.iccmaryl.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/sre_registration_form_2021.pdf
- Forma A en Ingles: https://www.iccmaryl.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/form_a_new.pdf
- Forma A en Español https://www.iccmaryl.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/form_a-spanish1_.pdf

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Classes begin 9/11/2022 at 3:00pm

Interested in enrolling a student in Religious Education? Registration forms available at <https://holycrossover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

If you have any questions contact Tammy Korosec Early L either 302-674-5787 x122 or tkorosec@holycrossover.org

LAFF (Living as a Family of Faith Catechesis)

Classes begin 9/11/2022 at 10:30 am in the Matthew/Mark Room in the Early Learning Center.

Interested in enrolling a student in LAFF?

Registration forms available at

<https://holycrossover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation>

If you have any questions please contact Tammy Korosec at numbers above.

ADULT FORMATION (HC)

What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Church. Discover the Amazing Riches of the Catholic Faith

Presented by Marcellino D'Ambrosio and Andrew and Sarah Swafford and filmed on location in Rome. This explores the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church—who we are, what we believe, how we live, and God's amazing plan for our lives. Whether you've been Catholic your entire life or are coming to discover the Church for the first time, this study will help you grasp the extraordinary riches of the Catholic Faith as never before.

Sessions start September 20th and end November 22nd ; Tuesdays at either 9:00am or 7:00pm in the Matthew/Mark room in the ELC.

Fee: \$30 includes study guide, book, map, and 1 year digital access

Facilitated by Deacon Bob McMullen

If are interested in registering please contact Tammy Korosec at either tkorosec@holycrossover.org or call (302) 674-5787 X 122 by September 12th.

CONFIRMATION AT HOLY CROSS

Parent Meeting:

Parents of teens preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation are asked to come to the parent meeting on Sunday, September 11 at 2 pm in the Parish Hall or on Wednesday, September 14 at 6 pm in the Luke Room of the ELC building. Please note - these are the first day of classes for preparation also.

Confirmation Classes:

Begin Sunday, September 11 at 3:30 pm or Wednesday, September 14 at 6 pm in the Matthew/Mark room upstairs in the ELC building.

YOUTH GROUP (HC)

Please join us for golf and ice cream at Tre Sorelle in Camden Saturday, Sept. 24 at 3 pm.

CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP INFO MEETING (HC)

Come find out more about CHWC Monday evening, September 26 at 7 pm in the Matthew/Mark room. We plan on attending camp this year in Drexel Hill, PA on June 25-30. Come listen to teens who have attended camp in past years - ask questions and learn more about an amazing week of service that awaits you.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Beginning of the year is upon us! Please get your registrations in. Parent meeting for Religious Education is on September 18th.

Classes start on Sunday, September 25th at 9:40am. Program runs through May 7th.

Religious Education registration for the 2022- 2023 school year are available to all families registered in the parish, and are stilling being accepted. Please get them back or come register as soon as you can, so we can have enough teachers, books and materials for your children.

Please stop in the office and get your children registered today. Please return to Alicia Poppiti at the ICC Religious Education office. You can also download and print from our website

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact Alicia Poppiti. If you have any difficulty with affording RE, please call Alicia Poppiti, and the office can assist you.

****Teacher still needed for 5th grade**** Your Assistance is requested for our School Year Religious Education: Wanted, to share faith and knowledge, as we are in need of Catechists, Assistants, substitutes and helpers for next year for Religious Education on Sunday mornings, from September 25th until May 7th, 9:40-10:50am. Contact Alicia Poppiti @410-482-8939 or dre@iccmaryl.org for more information. We offer wonderful and faith filled formation days for you as well.

First Reconciliation/Communion for Immaculate Conception: Parent meetings are on the following days, and at least one parent needs to attend this meeting.

Parent gathering in Parish Hall:

Dates: Tuesday, September 20, 7 pm or Sunday, September 25, Noon or 2:45 pm

Youth Confirmation for Immaculate Conception: the Parent Information Session is on Tuesday, September 27th, 2022 at 7pm in the parish hall or Sunday, October 2nd at 12noon in the Parish office or 2:30pm in the hall. This is a very important time that will cover several significant points and dates, and you will be able to have any questions you might have addressed.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/column/53287/catholic-education-i-jesus-the-teacher>

There is a wonderful article found by clicking the above link written back in 2015 by Sr. Joan L. Roccasalvo, C.S.J entitled *The Way of Beauty: Catholic Education I: Jesus the Teacher*. I have read her descriptive words of Jesus, the Teacher, “a bearded Christ who wears a brownish-purple imperial tunic and a dark blue cloak, His head is encircled by a halo. His oval face, emphasized by the circular contour of a well-trimmed and full head of hair, radiates quiet strength. The light of God’s glory illumines his face and is depicted by a warm copper glow. His penetrating eyes are in direct contact with the viewer. He is looking at you and me....” This image of Jesus the Teacher is located in St. Catherine’s Monastery at the base of Mount Sinai located on the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula. Not someplace I am likely to visit so I like to close my eyes and try to envision this image. Sr. Joan continues on to describe Jesus as the greatest model for educators while she poses a thought provoking question; “What are some of the qualities of this perfect teacher?” She offers a few for our consideration.

1. **Authenticity:** Teaching with honesty and integrity
2. **Compassion:** Showing compassion even to the least in the crowd.
3. Attention to the individual: Meeting special needs, being able to identify and being attuned to individual differences.
4. **Respect:** Respecting the student even when they need correction.
5. **Quality:** As Jesus, giving your best even during the trying times.
6. **Inspiration and Vision:** “Jesus inspired others and gave them a vision for life. He set out to form disciples who would establish the kingdom of his Father.” A good teacher will seize every opportunity to inspire a student to feed and grow off of their own success. An effective teacher will find the good in a student and encourage him to capitalize on that gift; that particular strength.

As the administrator of HCS, I see every one of these qualities displayed daily by every single educator in this school. Every person who works here is an *educator*. Every single person who works here displays every single one of those qualities Sister identifies as those possessed by a perfect teacher.

Last week I was given a whimsical article entitled *The Joy of Teaching*. It was shared with me. In the reading it gave reason for a *hmmmm, I wonder if....* And so, I share with you for the sake of grins and giggles.

The Joy of Teaching

Then Jesus took his disciples up to the mountain and gathering them around him, taught them saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

*Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

Then Simon Peter said, “Are we supposed to know this?”

And Andrew said, “Do we have to write this down?”

And James said, “Do we have to show our work?”

And Phillip said, “May I go to the bathroom?”

And Bartholomew said, “Do we have to turn this in?”

And John said, “The other disciples didn’t have to learn this.”

And Matthew said, “I don’t have any paper.”

And Thomas said, “Will we have a test on this?”

And Judas said, “What does this have to do with real life?”

Then one of the Pharisees who was present asked to see Jesus’ lesson plan and inquired of Jesus, “Where are the student learning objectives, and how will you assess their knowledge and comprehension?” “How will you guide them in their application of the new material?”

And Jesus wept....

ticism and relativism and buried in the landfill of materialism. And so, with certitude, human nature, and truth lying in ruin, well, then, everything is up for grabs, isn't it. And that wilderness, that the wild and feral fauna of falsity is encroaching on the truth. And faith, well, faith just becomes dismissed. Faith is what is built up, the wild is what is built down or undeveloped.

Deconstructing the World. So, what we see in many quarters today a worldview that refuses to acknowledge any realities, and any truths beyond the physical scientifically measurable world or beyond our own personal feelings. What a terrible destruction, and deconstruction of the understanding of the world, and, more pointedly, of God. But we can understand why — it's easy to just look at things we can see, feel, touch, hold, and measure. They are there for the taking. Likewise, just making reality a measure of our own feelings. These things requires no pause or patience, and most damaging, it provide no space for vision about the possibilities, more specifically, the possibilities extended us by God.

Effects of Impatience. And so, in this wilderness, in this desert, that we call the modern world, we the people —even the faithful— often wander, and stray, and we get ourselves twisted around, disoriented, and lost in this desert. Losing patience, we just start accepting the desert as all that there is. And so, we stop affecting world and we start letting the world affect us. We stop evangelizing the world to know Christ, and we allow the world to evangelize us to dismiss Christ. We begin to trade off faith for doubt and may even start to wonder about the very point of life, the very meaning of life, and the very value of life. And you know what? The Devil is doing back flips.

The Tech Effect. Worse still, in this desert, there are mirages, things that seem just ahead, things that will quench our desires: These mirages for us are technological gadgets and conveniences that distract us but offer no real relief, no real answers. They waste our time, numb our minds, and make every connection we have horizontal and never vertical or aspiring.

- Have Facebook or Instagram made life better or more meaningful?
- Have smartphone made us smarter, or just more distracted and more self-centered?
- Is having 3,000 channels to choose from on our TVs given us any fulfillment or has it just given us more waste land to wander through.

Hollow Happiness. In this wilderness of our world, we hear whispered voice of the Devil in our ear, couched in materialism and relativism, promising to make everything better for us if only we listen to what he's offering and if only we surrender to him. He says to us, pretty much what he said to Christ when he tempted him in the desert, and what he said to the Jewish people traveling to the Promised Land. The Devil say "be impatient with God, don't wait for him, come to me. I'll give you everything, right now. Don't sacrifice. Don't go without. Take what you can in this world and enjoy it now." But that's a load of hokum! Because that voice of that serpent, promises only a hollow happiness, and nothing more than distractions from God. But you know what, look around, watch the news, many people today fall for this hook, line and sinker... they are looking for something, temptation is something, and so they bite, and are hooked on ways of the world, the flesh and Devil.

(continued, next week)

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor