



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 17, 2023

24th 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



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?”

Matthew 18:32-33

Parable of the Unforgiving Servant by Claude Vignon, 1629
© Dececan

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE (HC AND ICC)

Mary, Mother of God, January 1

Assumption, August 15

All Saints' Day, November 1

Immaculate Conception, December 8

Christmas, December 25

Mass schedules for Holy Days of Obligation and other special days will be printed in the bulletin as each one draws near

icc

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

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.

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION AT HOLY CROSS

We are in need of more volunteers who would be willing to be trained and become an EMHC for Mass and/or for the sick and homebound. Consider this important ministry. Please pray and discern if this ministry is right for you.

A training class will be held on Monday, October 9 at 6 pm or on Tuesday, October 10, at 9:30 am, both in the church. Prospective volunteers can come to either on of these classes. Please call the Parish Office to sign up for either class so we can order the proper supplies to have on hand.

Requirements are to be at least 21 years, old, be fully initiated in the Catholic Church, and if married, validly married withing the laws of the church.

This training will include instructions for EMHC at Mass and for the homebound/facility ministry. If you are a current minister but have not been recertified, please come to take this refresher course. We definitely need your back!! If you are considering this ministry, please come to see what it's all about. We need you!!

Please call the Parish Office at Holy Cross to sign up for the class. If you have any questions, we will be happy to answer them also.

WEEKLY OFFERING (HC)

Ending September 3, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$30,368	\$27,020	\$3,348
YTD	\$259,102	\$263,620	(\$4,518)
Needs	\$1,830	\$1,712	\$118

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending September 3, 2023

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,668
Second Collection	\$432

SHARE IN THE SPIRIT COLLECTION

Next week, parishioners throughout the diocese will be asked to help make the dream of a Catholic education a reality for many struggling Catholic families. Monies raised through this collection coupled with the diocese's tuition assistance endowment provides financial assistance to hundreds of deserving families who seek a Catholic education for their children but who cannot afford the full cost of tuition.

I ask you to generously support next week's Share in the Spirit collection. God bless you for your ongoing goodness.

“When I find myself in times of trouble, Mother Mary comes to me, speaking words of wisdom; let it be. And in my hour of darkness, she is standing right in front of me, speaking words of wisdom; let it be.” In 1970, the Beatles wowed the world with these lyrics from their penultimate number one song, “Let It Be.”

Peter, Paul and Mary. I must confess, being raised in a Catholic universe (home, school, parish), I had always just assumed that in this song, Beatles’ member Paul McCartney was singing about Mary, our Blessed Mother. I mean, it really does fit the Catholic spiritual outlook toward Mary in our prayer life. From St. Peter to Pope Francis, this is very the prayerful tone we take towards Mary.

A Case of Mistaken Identity? But, some years later the balloon of my naïveté was popped and I was left disquieted when, like tasting oregano in one’s ice-cream, I was jolted into new reality as I found out that the lyrics of “Let It Be” had nothing to do with our “Mother Mary.” As it turned out, the song was referencing songwriter Paul McCartney’s mother Mary (who had died of cancer when he was fourteen). Yes, not the Mother of God, but a songwriter’s mother was the inspiration for the “Mother Mary” in the song. And yet, all that being said, to this day, anytime I hear “Let It Be,” —however it was inspired— I think of our Blessed Mother Mary, and how much the words of that song speak about her, whether they do so intentionally or not.

Focus, Group! In a similar vein, one might hear the title of the Feast day that just passed on September 15, “Our Lady of Sorrows,” and think that we are being called to lament with Mary in some kind of ecclesial pity party. But, no, that is not the case at all. September 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, should not be seen as a day for pity, but a day for grand reflection... a day where we, the faithful, are called to focus on and ponder these sorrows of Mary in our hearts.

In God We Trust. Although “sorrow” is in the name of the feast day, it is not in any meant as penitential feast. Let’s start with the fact that the day is “feast.” In Church tradition, a feast day is a festive day that we celebrate — and what we celebrate on Our Lady of Sorrows is not Mary’s sorrow, but Mary’s faithfulness and steadfastness in spite of the sorrows she encountered. We celebrate her great trust in God, no matter the situation.

Another Day, Another Dolor. So, what are the sorrows of Mary that we ponder when we reflect on Mary’s life? Well, on Our Lady of Sorrows, we focus on what are known as “The Seven Sorrows of Mary.” These seven sorrows — also called seven dolors — are difficult moments in the life of Mary; but it should be stated that these are moments that relate not just to Mary’s life, but very much to the life of Christ. As there are seven of these sorrows, one can ponder or focus on a specific sorrow of Mary devotionally, each day of the week, if he or she chooses.

Simeon Says. The indication of the sorrows of Mary that would lay ahead in her life were first foretold when Mary presented Jesus in the Temple. On that day Simeon prophesied to her:

“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted, and you yourself a sword will pierce, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

This Prophecy from the mouth of Simeon came to pass as Mary would experience seven profoundly sorrowful moments in her life, as relates to the great love of her Son. These sorrows were:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon itself,
2. The Flight (fleeing) into Egypt,
3. The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple of Jerusalem,
4. Mary’s meeting Jesus on the way to his Crucifixion,
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus,
6. Seeing Jesus taken down from the Cross (the Deposition of Jesus) and
7. The Burial of Jesus.

Simply the Best. One great take away from pondering the Seven Sorrows of Mary, is that one can see that very special bond between Jesus and Mary, helping us to understand more fully why Mary is deemed the first and best disciple. More specifically, it was at the scene of one of these sorrow, as related in St.

(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

PRAY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Our parish will offer special prayers for local and state law enforcement officers and their families from 8:30 - 9:15am on Friday, September 29 immediately after the 8am daily Mass. This is the memorial of St Michael the Archangel, patron of police officers. All are welcome to join in these prayers.

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. Everybody come and pay honor to our Blessed Mother.

We will also be in the Gathering Space this weekend and the weekend of Sept 23/24 collecting names of those who will pledge to pray the Rosary daily on their own schedule. Any questions, please call Carol O'Donnell at 302-359-4340. If you need a rosary, we can provide you with one. When we pray, Our Lady prays with us!!

SVDP MEETING AT ICC

The next St. Vincent de Paul meeting will be on Monday, September 11, at 5 pm in the office conference room at ICC in Marydel.

RECENTLY DECEASED OF HOLY CROSS

Our condolences to the families of those who recently passed:

- Mark Wooleyhand
- Waldo Flecken

NEWLY BAPTIZED

- Harper Lee Cusick
- Judith Bernadette Mendez
- Yaritza Luz Pizana
- Marlen Nicole Alvarez Aguilar
- Jonathan Alexis Carias Vllatoro

25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (SEPT 24)

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 55:6-9

God is nearby and can be found.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:20-24, 27

Christ is in our living and dying, present to us beyond the grave and for all eternity.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16

The landowner practiced positive discrimination towards the latecomers and less able workers.

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. All who wish to purchase must place their order by October 15.

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.

RCIA

When Jesus was approached by those who wished to become disciples, he invited them to "...come and see," that is to come and be with me and my disciples for a while. Walk with us – learn who we are. Then make your decision to become a disciple.

Pope John Paul II said, "It is not enough to discover Christ – you must bring him to others!"

The words of our Holy Father should encourage us to reach out to a neighbor, friend, relative and co-worker. If they do not have a church home, invite them to consider Holy Cross.

We are already making contact and responding to those who are interested in journeying with us to discover more about the Catholic Christian experience. Even if you have asked someone before and they have passed up the opportunity, today may be the time that the Holy Spirit has chosen for them. Invite them to discover at no obligation what the Catholic Church is really all about.

Classes started in August on Sunday mornings at 9AM in the Early Learning Center. For more information, contact the Parish Office, 302 674-5787 extension 110.

RETRouvaille

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Ret-ro-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.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!!! Get away for

MASS INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER

18 MONDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Paul A. Fenton
19 TUESDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Barbara Siers
20 WEDNESDAY	
HC 8:15 am	Joan Schwartz
21 THURSDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Armando & Julia Vincelli
ICC 6:00 pm	For the People
22 FRIDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Mary Caputo
23 SATURDAY	
HC 8:00 am	Kevin Onwuemenyi
HC 5:00 pm	Debbie Rolla
24 SUNDAY	
HC 7:30 am	Hermogenes De Castro, Jr.
ICC 8:30 am	John Torregrossa
HC 9:30 am	Gumer Sindo Figuero
ICC 11:00 am	Peter Brelia
HC 11:30 am	Bob Sheppard
ICC 1:00 pm	For the People

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

*THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHAPEL FOR
SEPT 17-23 IS FOR JOHN CORRELL*

*THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHURCH FOR
SEPT 17-23 IS FOR MICHAEL PATRICK HURLEY.*

an intimate weekend – 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.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

Join Bishop Koenig for the Diocese of Wilmington Marian Pilgrimage on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Information can be found by visiting the cdow.org/MarianPilgrimage website or facebook.com/CDOWMarianPilgrimage.

Unfortunately, we do not have a bus available leaving from the parish. You must provide your own transportation.



SEPT 23/24, 2023

EMHC

SERVERS

5:00 PM F. Hettinger D. MacLeish D. Kaltenbaugh M. MacLeish L. Curley B. Richardson L. Richardson

LECTORS

F. Urick
V. Viddy

7:30 AM L. Bradford C. Brown J. Chandler J. Salamone

L. Boggs
T. Catipay
S. Shevock

LECTORS

M. Jacobs

9:30 AM S. Lascano D. McGinnis L. Olmstead V. Pepper

M. ford
J. Novack
J. Novack

LECTORS

R. Alderman
T. Baurys

11:30 AM C. Garcia B. Guzman A. Luna

TBD

LECTORS

TBD

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

K. Durham

8:30 AM

LECTORS

T. Thompson

G. Taraila

11:00 AM

LECTORS

L. Soule

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

CAR SHOW IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

5th Annual Car Show on October 14, 2023
Starting at 10 AM until 2 PM
\$10 Registration fee per car; Prizes will be awarded. There will be food available for purchase. Music provided by "The Godfather of New England Doo Wop"
For additional information, call Woody Gravenor at 302-632-2208.

KNITTING GROUP

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and fellowship, join the Prayer Shawl Ministry. We meet on Tuesday mornings from 10 am to Noon in the St. Look Room of the Early Learning Center Building. Please come join us to see what we are all about.

OKTOBERFEST AT ST. JOHN'S

30th Annual Oktoberfest at St. John the Apostle, Milford is scheduled for October 6th from 6 PM to 10 PM and October 7th from 12 PM to 10 PM. Lots of good ethnic foods, good music and good fun for all ages. For more information please call Bonnie at 302-236-5296.

SAMARITANS NEED MORE DONATIONS

Thanks to your generosity, this year we were able to provide food to 626 families, (1304 adults, 1559 children) totaling 2863 people. 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.

- Festival Hispano y Cuadrangular de Futbol Hoy celebraremos la clausura de nuestra fiesta patronal y el comienzo de nuestra Herencia Hispana con un Festival de Comida y un Cuadrangular de futbol, venga y apoye nuestro evento.
- 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. Por esta razón se les invita a todos al 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.
- Confirmación de Adultos: El día 15 de Octubre tendremos la Confirmación de adultos, si usted es mayor de 18 años y no está confirmado por favor hable con el Sr. Luna para las clases. O llame a la oficina para anotarse.
- 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.
- Educación Religiosa: Inscriba a su niño para la Educación Religiosa que ya están abiertas. Si su hijo(a) no está asistiendo a una escuela católica debe de inscribirse en Las aplicaciones están en línea estarán llenando inscripciones después de la misa.
- 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: Las inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa para el año escolar 2023-2024 ya están abiertas. Inscriba a sus hijos ahora, para que podamos planificar en consecuencia. Las tarifas son de \$60 por 1 niño, \$120 por 2 niños, \$180 por 3 niños y \$200 por más de 4 niños. Después del 1 de julio habrá una tarifa adicional de \$10 por niño.
- Habrá una reunión de padres de familia el domingo 17 de septiembre a las 12 o a las 2:30 en el salón.
- Las clases comienzan el domingo 24 de septiembre de 2023.
- 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 Pop-piti @ dre@iccmaydel.org o 410-482-8939.
- Reunión para los que van a recibir los Sacramentos de Reconciliación/Primera Comunión será el martes 19 de septiembre en el salón a las 7:00 PM o el domingo 24, 2023 a las 2:30 en el salón.
- Para la Confirmación: Martes 26 de septiembre a las 7:00 PM en el salón o el Domingo 1 de octubre a las 2:30 en la Oficina.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HC)

Please go to the following link to register for religious education classes. <https://holycrossdover.org/teaching-the-faith/christian-formation/k-8-formation> If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Korosec at either (302) 674-5787 X 122 or email tkorosec@holycrossdover.org

K-8 Classes begin tonight, September 10th and begin promptly at 3:00. Please arrive a few minutes early to pick up book, room assignment and to find room. Do not drop students off in front of door. Please park and walk them up to entrance.

LAFF (LIVING AS A FAMILY OF FAITH CATECHESIS)

One of the promises that parents make at their child's Baptism is to bring their child up in the practice of the Faith. In doing so parents play the key role in educating their children in the practice of the Faith.

LAFF, Living as a Family of Faith. How is your Faith growing; personally, and as a family? Learn more about our Faith and the Catholic Church. Come out and join us; families gathering for prayer, communion with one another, sharing our Faith Life experiences. Bring your Bible with you. You're invited to join us in becoming a Family of Faith. We meet on the second and forth Sundays of the month at 10:30 AM on the second floor of the Early Learning Center.

Please go to the CCD link above to register for the LAFF program using the religious education form. If you have any questions, please 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 each Tuesday up to Advent. Classes will be offered at 9:00am or 7:00pm 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.

YOUTH PROGRAMS AT HOLY CROSS

Confirmation Preparation Classes:

Sunday, September 24 from 3-5 pm and Wednesday, September 27 from 6-7:30 pm

CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP INFORMATION MEETING (HC)

Monday, September 25 at 7 pm in the Luke room. Please come listen to our teens who have attended work camp describe week of service. Information on our planned trip will be available and any questions will be answered.

SRE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Registration for Religious Education for the 2023-2024 school year are now open.

Classes begin on Sunday, September 24, 2023 and run thru May 3, 2024.

Please get your children registered now, so that we may plan accordingly. Fees are now \$60 for 1 child, \$120 for 2 children, \$180 for 3 children and \$200 for more than 4 children.

SRE Parent meeting is on Sunday, September 17th at 12noon or 2:30pm in the hall.

Volunteers needed! 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 retreats, please contact Alicia Poppiti @ dre@icmarydel.org or 410-482-8939.

Sacramental Preparation for 1st Reconciliation/ Communion, Confirmation and OCIA/RICA for youth are online. Please fill out and return.

Sacramental meeting for: 1st Reconciliation/ Communion is on: Tues. September 19, @7:00pm in hall or Sun., Sept. 24, 2023 @2:30pm in hall.

Confirmation: Tues. Sep. 26 @7pm Hall or Sun. Oct. 1, 2023 2 noon or 2:30pm Office & Hall

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>

There are three things I would classify as essential in the course of any work day, none of which was I absolutely strapped to in the beginning of my career. That said, I'm sure it's pretty transparent that I am referring to items having to do with technology. As resistant as I was one hundred years ago to technological advancements in the school setting, I have come to realize the difference it makes in the successful functionality of a school day. When it works.

The three items to which I refer are my phone, my calendar, and computer. For years I was strictly averse to the idea of carrying my phone with me throughout the day for fear of leaving it behind in my travels about the campus; as I have been known to do with my keys and radio. But I figured it out. I now have a handy-dandy green bag that bears the name of our school that I carry my phone in. So far, so good.

The calendar is probably the most important app on my phone. It is one of many calendars that Mrs. Arndt is responsible for creating, maintaining, and updating. Additionally, we have the family calendar, and the faculty calendar. The Catholic Schools Office Key Date calendar, and the Catholic Schools Office calendar require consideration when planning a school event. Then add to that, the Religion Committee Calendar. This calendar is chock full of information regarding scheduled events, Holy Days of Obligation, times, and locations. Each calendar month is headed by the monthly Beatitude (with optional Saint Study suggestions) as well as the virtue reflected upon throughout the month. For example in the month of September the Beatitude discussed in our classrooms is Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. The suggested Saint Study is Blessed Luigi and Maria Quattrocchi. The virtue for the month is Simplicity. In the month of September we will observe the Parish Feast Day with a procession and our first school Mass. We gathered together last week for our Back To School Prayer Service where we officially rolled out the theme as well as our song, Lead Me, Lord.

Our Religion Committee's primary focus is our Catholic identity. Even during the dreaded days of the pandemic we were always looking for creative alternatives to enable us to maintain our ability to celebrate events while operating within the established restrictions.

Our calendar is full. I share with you some of the upcoming events in an effort to illustrate the importance of our Catholic identity and adherence to our faith.

OCTOBER: Rosary Prayer Service; Joyful Mysteries in honor of Pro-Life Month—A re-enactment of each mystery presented much like the formatting of the Way of the Cross. This event will be conducted outdoors and presented by seventh grade,

Rosary Pilgrimage =Our Lady Queen of Peace---second grade will travel to New Castle to join our friends from other Catholic schools in praying the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary; Pastels Colors Tag Day for Pro-Life---All proceeds donated to the New Day Pregnancy Care Center.

NOVEMBER: All Saints Day Prayer Service---Prepared by our third grade classes; Vocations Awareness Week---We have some pretty exciting visitors coming our way in that week to speak to the students in the classroom. Our eighth grade students always have fun presentations through the week where they explain the various types of vocation; Bishop Koenig visits HCS to celebrate Mass; Holy Cross Faculty Retreat Day---An important day for faculty and staff, aptly scheduled as we enter the days of Advent.

DECEMBER: Advent Prayer Service--- We will light Candle One as we enter into Advent, and prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior. Our sweet Kindergarten voices will lead us in song as we put flame to wick; "Candle, candle, burning bright...."; Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary---Mass in the church.

Advent Reconciliation; Christmas Rosary---Prepared by fifth grade.

JANUARY: We will await the fun and exciting events of Catholic Schools Week---this year promises some different events. Stay tuned.....

FEBRUARY: Feast of St. Blaise---Blessing of Throats; We have to celebrate all the fun of Valentine's Day a little early because Ash Wednesday is on February 14th this year.; Classroom Mardi Gras activities. Break out all the purple, green and gold everyone! And, how about a slice of King Cake? ; Ash Wednesday

MARCH: Lenten Reconciliation---we will welcome our second graders this time!!; Living Stations of the Cross---On successive weeks culminating in an entire school gathering ; Living Stations of the Cross---Knights of Columbus---Many will recall the evening presentation of the Stations by our eighth grade students for the parishioners. It was well received and we are hoping to collaborate with the Knights once again this year; Living Stations of the Cross - Little Sisters of the Poor---We have been given approval by the Events Coordinator of the facility to present the Living Stations to the residents. It has been several years since we were able to visit and I am praying nothing stands in our way this year.

This takes us up through Lent. With Easter, the end of the year school-wide retreat day, May Procession, Graduation Mass, as well as weekly Mass attendance we keep our friends busy.

Just a very gentle and loving reminder of Share in the Spirit weekend coming next weekend. I ask for your prayerful support as well as any small monetary gift you might be led to share. In giving, the amount is not what's important, it is simply.... the offering of the gift.



John's Gospel, where Jesus, from the Cross, entrusts his Apostles, the foundation stones of his young Church, to his Mother Mary:

"Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Behold, your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his home." (John 19:25-27).

Pray tell. **From that day to this very day, Mary remains the Mother of Christ, our brother, which makes her our mother.** And so, for us, when we find ourselves "in times of trouble" let us ask Mary — who understands our sorrows — that which we so often ask of our Christian brothers and sisters: to pray for us. When we do that, and we seek God's aid through prayer, we can rightly say, as the song says, "In my hour of darkness, she is standing right in front me, speaking words of wisdom, let it be." And be rest assured, in our hour of darkness, Mary will be there with us. She will be there as the first and best disciple of Christ — doing what disciples of Christ do: praying for those in need, serving God and neighbor.

Mary Had a Little Lamb. As an aside, let me note something about our Catholic faith's great devotion to Mary. Some of our Protestant brethren chide Catholics as "worshipping Mary" (we don't), treating Mary as God (we don't) and focusing at times more on Mary than on Christ (we shouldn't). But in truth for us, Mother Mary, our Blessed Mother, is not an object of worship, but rather she praises God with us. Mary is identified by Church teaching as the fairest of creation, and as one who lived God's will to the full, but most importantly she is one of us: a person, a follower of Christ and a disciple. So, while Christ is fully divine and fully human, Mary is singularly human — yet, with a special role in salvation history: Bearing the Savior of the world — the Lamb of God — in her womb, and being the Mother of Jesus Christ, who is both God and man, Savior and brother.

I'll See You, and I'll Raise You. To clarify this further, when we call Mary "Mother of God," we need to be aware that that title is born of two distinct Latin phrases: *Mater Dei* and *Dei Genetrix*, both of which mean Mother of God. *Mater Dei* means Mother of God in the sense that Mary raised Jesus faithfully; she was a mother to him. *Dei Genetrix* means Mother of God in the sense that Mary carried in her womb and gave birth to Jesus, she was the mother of him. She was fully His mother in every sense of the word.

Meanwhile, Back in the 21st Century. And so today, remember that when we find ourselves in those "times of troubles" and are in our "hour of darkness" — Mary understands. She is there for us and with us, ready to pray for us, "now and at the hour of our death." And that means: always.

Get Back. So, having just observed the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, and having pondered on the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy, let us continue draw strength from our devotion to the Mother of the Church. And, if it should be the case, that our devotion to our Blessed Mother has waned, it is time to, as the Beatles might say, "Get back" to seeking Mary's prayers for us.

She Loves You. In our faith, we are blessed: We, each of us, have another Mother — Mary, Mother of God, who loves us and prays for us always. And today, and every day, never forget that when it comes to Mary, our Mother — to use Beatle language — "*she loves you, yeah, yeah, yeah... and with a love like that you know you should be glad.*"

And as a good way of ending this column, let us take heed of the first thing that Mary says in scripture about our call to be faithful to Christ. Our Mother Mary, in the Gospel of St. John 2:5, tell us: "Do whatever he tells you." Let it be!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor