



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 18, 2022

25th 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-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

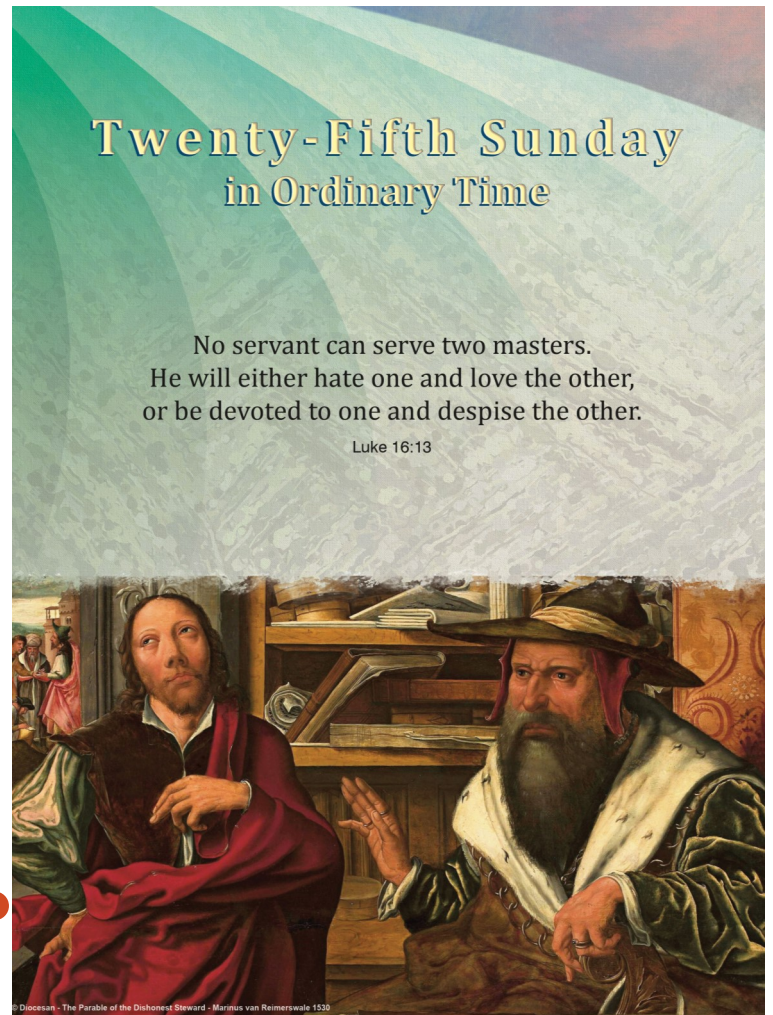
Sunday, 8:30, 11 am
Sunday, 1 pm, Spanish

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, 6 pm, Spanish

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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



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)

September 4, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED	BUDGETED/ NEEDED	DIFFERENCE
Regular	\$27,111	\$27,125	(\$14)
YTD	\$249,088	\$266,625	(\$17,537)
Needs	\$1,766	\$1,604	\$162

WEEKLY OFFERING (IC)

Ending September 4, 2022

OFFERTORY TYPE	RECEIVED
Regular	\$4,070
Second Collection	\$568

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:

Please Note: Our church and Gathering Space will have its roof replaced beginning Monday, September 19. During the weeks of September 19, September 26, and possible October 3, we will NOT hold the daily 8 am Mass in the church. Instead, the 8 am Mass will be offered at Immaculate Conception in Marydel. The church will be closed during those weeks while the roof is being replaced. Please note that Saturday evening and Sunday Masses WILL be held here in our church during this time.

Now on to the Pastor's Column:

Couched between last Sunday and this Sunday, on September 14 was 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 I am going to continue my Pastor's Column on the subject of the Holy Cross of Christ in our lives. As noted last week, 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 some my thoughts — which align well — and then I hit the puree button on the blender of word processing, and voila. With that, part two of this column about some thoughts on the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and its place and effect in our life.

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I Can't Hear You. If we see our life as a wilderness, and we lose our patience with God, then like the people of Israel (whose *"patience worn out by the journey... complained against God"* as we hear the first reading on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross), we will also wind up speaking against God and complaining: "Why is life so hard?" "Why do we suffer and grieve?" "Why does my grandmother have to get sick and die?" "Why are we in this wilderness of life filled with tragedies, with hurricanes, with cancer, and with heart-break?" And for many, especially those who lack faith or whose faith is weak, those questions SEEM to be met by silence and darkness. It appears to these people that God is silent and doing nothing.

Theology and Answers. The problem is that many today look for meaning in life, and a basis for existence, but they look without faith — they use science, and technology, and psychology, and anthropology to find answers that belong to theology — and so, they

come up empty. And it appears to them, that God is silent, and doing nothing. But they are wrong. They are wrong. In truth, God is doing everything — every fullness that can fill up our emptiness — every good thing, God is doing. For He, the One who created all that is from nothing continues to bring life and goodness and blessing even from the depths of the wilderness, in which we find ourselves. In our suffering and in the trials of our human condition, God is silent, it seems, but that is because he shares in our unutterable agony. He shares in our struggle, and in our troubles, in order to lift us up from them. As Jesus says: *"When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself"* (Jn 12:32).

The Absolute Truth. Today's Gospel read on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, we are told that *"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost..."* And that's the truth, the absolute truth. Here in the wilderness of the modern world, we need NOT be lost, we need NOT feel lost, and we need NEVER wander alone. For into the wilderness of this world, in the wilderness of our very lives, God, who loves you and me, has sent his Son. Just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the desert, so in the wilderness of our sinful human condition, Jesus Christ has been lifted up on the Cross. And all who look upon him — indeed, all who look to him — will not be lost. It is a truth that those who are lost in the wilderness only need to look up and see the stars God has given to guide them out of the desert.

Look Up at the Cross. So, too, those who are lost in modernity, those who lost in the wilderness of the world, those who are imprisoned by the mind trap of doubt — they need only to look up and see Him, and be guided aright. You know, if you spend your life looking down, you will never rise to new heights, because you'll never even know they're there. That is to say, if you only look at the earth, you'll miss seeing Heaven. If you look only at this land, you'll miss seeing the Promised Land. Ask Lot's wife. Thus, the Cross of Christ is exalted, it demands that you look up. Raise your eyes and raise your hopes.

The Sign of the Cross. And so, for us, the Cross of Christ must never, never become merely a decoration around our necks or on our walls. Never. For us, it is a powerful sign before which the Devil cowers and runs. It is the repellent

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

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!

26TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (SEPT 25)

FIRST READING: AMOS 6:1, 4-7

The prophet denounces the complacency of wealthy people who live a life of luxury and pleasure while ignoring the dangers into which the society around them is falling

SECOND READING: 1 TIMOTHY 6:11-16

The writer encourages the young leader of the community to take Jesus as his example and so live up to the demands and responsibilities of his position.

GOSPEL: LUKE 16:19-31

Jesus tells the story of the fate of the rich man and the beggar Lazarus.



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.

Through this collection, our Bishop is reaching out to believing and worshipping Catholics like you to assist him in ensuring the Catholic commitment to total education of our children does not fade away because people cannot afford it. Church has the mission to educate and this mission directly affects the quality of life we experience as Catholics, all of us have a stake in Catholic education.

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

To learn more about the Share in the Spirit collection and its importance, go to the diocesan website at <https://www.cdown.org/share-in-the-spirit>.

SAMARITANS

We are asking for food donations to provide balanced meals to families needing assistance: (small packs of ground beef, small tray pack/whole chicken, small beef/pork roasts, Peanut Butter/Jelly, canned Corn, Spaghetti/Sauce) We have a freezer and drop box inside the left door in the building behind the Rectory (unlocked 6AM-6PM)
Thank you for your donations.

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, call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life is an International pro-life movement dedicated to saving lives through prayer, education, fasting, and presence at abortion centers. This opportunity allows us to put into action our Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy, which are the core of Catholicism. We encourage praying the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy at the center. We are the last hope for the pre-born children. Just standing with a sign may change the heart of a woman/man seeking abortion; it has happened.

Join us Wednesday Sept 28th. Meet at the sidewalk of Planned Parenthood Dover from 10:30 – 12:00 for a Kick-off vigil. Signs will be provided. Then we meet weekly on Thursday from 8:30-4:30 through November 6th. We are asking for at least two people to cover 1-2 hour shifts. To sign up for shifts and for more information, call/text Donna Latteri 862-266-1099.

You may also go to our website, www.40DaysForLife.com/Dover to sign up for other hours. We ask for at least two people during every shift: 8:30-10:30/10:30-12:30/12:30-2:30/2:30-4:30 We would like to cover Monday through Friday for 6 weeks. Like us on Facebook: 40 Days for Life Dover.

MASS INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER

19 MONDAY
HC 8:00 am Dorigo Family (DM)

20 TUESDAY
HC 8:00 am Dolores Carr

21 WEDNESDAY
HC 8:00 am John Correll

22 THURSDAY
HC 8:00 am Michael Tocchetti
ICC 6:00 pm For the People

23 FRIDAY
HC 8:00 am Barbara Marietta

24 SATURDAY
HC 8 am Helen Lietz
HC 5 pm Robert Sisson

25 SUNDAY
HC 7:30 am Gumersindo Figueroa
ICC 8:30 am Anna May Squire
HC 9:30 am Howard Rowland
ICC 11 am Peter Brelia
HC 11:30 am Hugo Becerra
ICC 1 pm For the People

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

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.

HOLY CROSS SEPT 24/25, 2022

	EMHC	SERVERS	
5:00 PM	M. Caccese J. Clendaniel	F. Hettinger	A. Torbert B. Torbert C. Torbert LECTORS D. Dixon V. Vesta
7:30 AM	T. Dinan A. Fischer	J. Fischer S. Gede	E. Bydlon S. Shervock E. Wadhams LECTORS D. Kilby
9:30 AM	G. Richards C. Robinson	G. Wessel M. Wessel	F. Madukwe J. Seeney R. Willemin LECTORS M. Sherlock C. Parks
11:30 AM	TBD		K. Espinosa C. Geronimo LECTORS A. Luna
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION			
8:30 AM	D. Smith		LECTORS J. Tormey, Jr.
11:00 AM	G. Taraila		LECTORS L. Soule
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:

Joseph McLaughlin, William Niebryzdowski, Marie Lucille Starke, Ronald Herchas, Sr., Virgilio Banaag, Ronald Bachand, Sr., Eugene Knapp, Jr.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.cdown.org.

- ¡El Foro Cristiano comienza el viernes, 23 de septiembre de 6:00 – 8:00 de la tarde en el salón Mateo/Marcos. Todos los viernes hasta el 2 de junio tendremos la formación es para toda la familia. Este año el curso será sobre Signos, símbolos, sacramentos y sacramentales.
- Hoy gran v Kermes y Torneo de Futbol, habrá venta de comida, aguas frescas y mucho mas. Inmediatamente después de la Santa Misa. Los esperamos.
- 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 holycrossover.org/teaching-the-faith/christianformation/k-8-formation. Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud, no dude en comunicarse con Tammy Korosec en tkorosec@holycrossover.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.
- 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@iccmmarydel.org para obtener más información.
- REUNION DE PADRES DE FAMILIA: Fecha: martes, 20 de septiembre de 2022. Hora: 7:00pm: Salón o el domingo 25 de septiembre, 2022 a las 12 mediodía en el salón de la oficina o a las 2:45 en el Salón.
- Confirmación de Adolescentes
- Reunión de Padres de Familia es muy informativos será el martes, 27 de septiembre, 2022 a las 00 pm en el salón o el domingo, 2 de octubre a las 12 mediodía en el salón de la oficina o a las 2:30pm en el salón. Se les contestara todas sus preguntas.

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.

- Las inscripciones ya están disponibles.
- Nuevos Inscribiéndose: https://www.iccmmarydel.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/new_sre_registration_form_2021.pdf
- Retornando Inscribiendise: https://www.iccmmarydel.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/sre_registration_form_2021.pdf
- Forma A en Ingles: https://www.iccmmarydel.org/uploads/6/9/0/4/69049539/form_a_-_new.pdf
- Forma A en Español https://www.iccmmarydel.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)
Next class Oct 9 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 as son as possible.

CONFIRMATION AT HOLY CROSS

Confirmation Classes:

Sunday, September 25 at 3:30 pm
Wednesday, September 28 at 6 pm

Catholic Heart Work Camp Info Meeting:

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. Any teen in 7th through 12th grade welcome to join us next summer.

YOUTH GROUP (HC)

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

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@iccmarydel.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.

There's much to be said for subtlety. A subtle difference in style, personality, or design is often appreciated. A subtle message interwoven in the spoken or printed word can also be pleasing. There is one particular instance of subtlety that I have developed a disdain for, however.

Over time, I have noticed a subtle difference in the products I purchase from retailers. I refer not to price, because there's nothing subtle about the increase in the cost of living. No, I point to the subtle difference in the product, itself. For instance, I am willing to bet the size of the Triscuit is now smaller than before. Today, it's slightly larger than bite size! The cat treats I purchase for my furry friends is definitely smaller in size; meaning of course I have to increase the number served. (so far, no complaints there...) And, while the number of raisins and the measure of cinnamon in my muffin appears to remain adequate, the muffin itself has diminished in size!

I recall fondly my mother and I sitting together, just shooting the breeze over a cup of a certain warm beverage. That same warm beverage remain available on the grocery shelves. On an occasional basis I will prepare a cup for myself and just enjoy..... I don't have any idea what my mother paid for the product. But when I first started buying it for myself, I paid all of \$1.94. Same size, same quality as in years past. As the years have gone by us all, I have noticed an increase in price, but I didn't mind. Today, I really minded paying \$5.00 for this same product. Same size, no observable enhancements made to the quality. \$ 5.00. That represents a 158% increase in cost. The element of choice has all but vanished. If the consumer really wants it, the blind eye is turned; in the basket it goes.

This should be a true source of concern for us all. Families are hard pressed to raise children in these days and times. It's no matter of consequence the size and price of Triscuits or cat treats. Parents are having to figure out how to provide their children with an upbringing that will ensure that their feet are firmly entrenched on the pathway leading to a righteous, just and respectable adulthood. Extended family members often play a tangible role in this assurance. In many cases, actual, true sacrifices have to be made

Over the summer, HCS welcomed just under sixty new students to our school. While we celebrate each new student and promise all of them a quality educational experience, as an administrator I also know that the number could have been much greater. I know how many families had to concede to the fact that they just could not afford to pay the tuition. It was painful for some. They knew the alternative is not going to provide their families with the educational, moral, or social experience they want for their children. I know of a few families who went back and forth in their attempts to figure out how to make it work for them financially. From my perspective, it is more than sad when a family is forced to say no to a Catholic education because they have to first feed, clothe, and provide a home for the child.

Next weekend is **Share In The Spirit** weekend. I provide you with the following information from the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington website.

What is the Share in the Spirit campaign?

Share in the Spirit is an annual collection for tuition assistance to Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wilmington. This special collection is conducted at all Masses during the fourth weekend of September. In addition, invitations to participate in this fundraising effort are mailed and offered online.

This year, the collection will take place on September 24th and 25th, 2022. The funds raised from this collection are also combined with funds from the diocese's Vision for the Future of Education Trust to assist elementary and secondary school students whose families struggle to afford the total cost of tuition.

Every single family who receives tuition assistance pays for a portion of their child's tuition. Your participation in this campaign helps to support hard-working families to make the dream of a Catholic education a reality.

I can tell you that no more than **ten** HCS students have benefitted from funds collected last year. I can also tell you that many who applied did not receive assistance because the resources are limited. I can tell you that there are those who are sitting in public sector classrooms because their parents are unable to have them in a Catholic school. I can also tell you that HC parish provides assistance as they can. But, in this instance as well, limited resources play a role in the amount of assistance provided.

Once again, I want to acknowledge the many donors who have made generous monetary gifts to our school. Once again, I want to acknowledge the fact that curriculum enhancements would have been a little more difficult to manage if not for the generosity of our families and parishioners.

But sometimes, a lot given by a few is not necessarily as helpful as a little given by many. Will you consider making some small donation next weekend?

The quality of the product produced by a Catholic school has not diminished by size, content, or integrity. There is a measurable and observable difference in the product of a Catholic education and the product produced by the alternative offering.

There is nothing subtle in the difference between the two.

against evil. It is, mankind's only hope. That exalted cross, that Holy Cross is the one thing that stands still as the world revolves and changes around it.

The Effect of the Cross. I was reading an article that made the point that it is no coincidence that an anchor is shaped like a cross. For the cross anchors us to the Truth, the cross anchors us to the One who saves us, the cross anchors us to hope and to glory.

- The cross, that crucifix, keep us anchored safely even as the wild storms of this world rage and the waves of anti-Christianity assail us.
- The cross, that cross, binds us, particularly in our sufferings, to Jesus Christ who suffered and died and rose again.
- The Holy Cross, that Holy Cross, is therefore, raised up in the wilderness of lives to point us to the Risen Lord, to Jesus Christ, to Him who is, who was and who is to come.

The Hope of the Cross. As Pope Francis said: "In the Cross our hope is reborn": hope in salvation, hope in the eternal life; hope in the new heavens and the new earth; hope in the love and joy can is ours, even as we bear our own crosses with patience.

The Love of the Cross. So, in the Gospel that is read on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, St. John says, "God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved." And thus, had Christ merely suffered and died on the Cross, then the world would be condemned to simply suffer and die, too. It would just, to quote singer B.J. Thomas of yesteryear, "another somebody done somebody wrong song." But what happened on that cross was not and is not a somebody done somebody wrong song — it is a love song. God sent his Son to save us and by means of the Cross; and he saved us from eternal death and loss, and moreover, from that exalted cross, he points us onward to that Promised Land, -- we need only the eyes of faith to see, and courage of heart to follow it.

The Illumination of the Cross. Whether you are from Marydel or Dover, you have all seen, at Holy Cross Church, that enormous stained-glass window of the cross. Each night that cross is illuminated in the darkness of night and shines the image of salvation upon all of Dover. That Cross has been described as the statement on State Street. That's is correct, it is a statement.

- That cross, that Holy Cross, is a statement that pushes back the wilderness of the world, and builds the city of God.
- That Holy Cross is a statement that says life has meaning, death has been conquered, and that we are never alone in the wilderness of this world.

The Embrace of the Cross. In the first reading read on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, God's chosen people were losing patience with God on the way to the Promised Land. Though I'd like to, I cannot guarantee that any one of us will not have a day or a moment or a time where don't lose patience with God. We'd like to think that can't be us. But in truth, it could be: we're an impatient bunch. And so, I leave with this: in the trials and the wilds of this life and of our modern world, if we find that we come to a day when we simply feel that we cannot suffer it all anymore, where we are losing patience, we mustn't give up. Rather, in those moments — those tough moments — we must have the grace to do as so many generations of the faithful have done before us: reach out our hand and hold on to a crucifix; hold on tight. Cling to that Holy Cross of Christ. Because when that cross is exalted, we will rise with it also. All that being said, let's strive not to lose patience, with the one who never loses patience with us.

The Holy Cross of Christ. And so, from the hill of Calvary, to the hills of Rome, to Dover and to Marydel — that Cross, that Holy Cross is exalted for all to see. And for this, today, on this great Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we celebrate both with joy — and with patience.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. James Lentini
Pastor