



ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

7200 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin, DE 19707

Telephone: (302) 239-7100 Fax: (302) 239-8219

Web Site: www.smachurch.com

Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

(Office closed for lunch from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM)

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday through Friday: 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM

Saturday: 8:30 AM & 5:00 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM

PASTOR: REV. CHARLES C. DILLINGHAM

Associate Pastor: Vy. Rev. Glenn M. Evers

Weekend Assistant: Rev. James B. Smith

Deacons: John Giacci, Larry Brecht

Joseph W. Jackson, Larry R. Morris

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Janet Aluise, Receptionist	ext. 10
Daniel M. DiGiacobbe, Business Manager	ext. 11
Annette Fad, Parish Secretary	ext. 33
Sandy Fiscella, PREP Coordinator	ext. 18
Flora Giacci, Receptionist	ext. 10
Deacon John Giacci, Director of Liturgy	ext. 32
Pablo Gonzalez, Facility Manager	ext. 41
Matthew Jewell, Director of Music	ext. 16
Cindy Krebs, Director of Religious Ed.	ext. 17
Elizabeth Perry, Communications Coordinator	
Karen Rombach, Director of Preschool	ext. 34
Denise Troise, Bookkeeper	ext. 14

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

PREP: Grades 1 through 8

Confirmation: Grade 9

Mrs. Cindy Krebs, DRE (302) 239-7100, ext. 17.

ST. MARY'S PRESCHOOL

Ages 2 through Pre-K.

Mrs. Karen Rombach, Director (302) 239-7100, ext. 34.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We are a sponsoring parish. For further information, contact Mary Elizabeth Muir, Ed.D., Principal (302) 995-2231, www.ascsde.org.



RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 PM or by appointment.

BAPTISM

During a Mass or Sunday afternoon at 1:00 PM.

Baptisms are scheduled the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Baptism classes are every other month. Please call Parish Secretary for details (302) 239-7100 ext. 33.

MARRIAGE

Contact Parish Secretary before a wedding date is finalized. The diocese requires one year of preparation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In an emergency, contact the Parish Office.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Each weekend, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick bring Communion to those unable to attend Mass on a regular basis. Contact the Parish Secretary to arrange for this ministry.

ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY

For information, contact Parish Office (302) 239-7100.



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2019
They shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."
— Matthew 1:23

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday December 23rd

6:30 am Francis Morris
 8:30 am Keith Reed

Tuesday December 24th

6:30 am Alexander Gray
 8:30 am Helen Kaminski
 4:00 pm Priest Intentions (Church) & (Hall)
 6:00 pm Priest Intentions
 8:00 pm Priest Intentions

Wednesday December 25th

12:00 am Priest Intentions
 7:30 am Parishioners
 9:30 am Priest Intentions
 11:30 am Priest Intentions

Thursday December 26th

6:30 am John Parsons Bodman
 8:30 am Bruce & Lisa Kirk

Friday December 27th

6:30 am Isaac Kweku Annan
 8:30 am Francis J. Morris

Saturday December 28th

8:30 am Frank Morris
 5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday December 29th

7:30 am Foster Whitacre
 9:30 am Emil Gerard
 11:30 am Helen Kaminski
 6:00 pm Jeffrey Melasecca

TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel. Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to "tempt the LORD" in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord's enduring protection of God's chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew's reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You will be given this sign: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:18-24).

In your charity, please pray for all who have gone before us and all the deceased of St. Mary of the Assumption.

+Miriam Brown, mother of parishioner Katherine Siberski



Christmas Novena Cards
Christmas Novena Cards are available outside the Chapel door entrance.

The Rosary is said Monday-Saturday in the Chapel, before the 8:30 am Mass.

Advent & Christmas 2019

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday – 5:00 PM
Sunday – 7:30, 9:30,
11:30 AM, 6:00 PM



*“A Child shall be born for us, and He will be called
 God, the Almighty; and every tribe on earth shall be
 blest in Him.”*
[Is. 9:5; Ps. 72 (71):17]

- Dec. 22nd** **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
 9:30 Mass -- Blessing of the Statues
 of the Blessed Mother and St.
 Joseph with the Child Jesus by
 Bishop Malooly
Dec. 24th **Daily Mass 6:30 AM and 8:30 AM**
Dec. 24th **Christmas Eve**
 Masses:
 4:00 PM Church Hall
 4:00 PM Church
 6:00 PM Church
 8:00 PM Church
Dec. 25th **Christmas Day**
 Masses:
 Midnight Church
 7:30 AM Church
 9:30 AM Church
 11:30 AM Church
Dec. 29th **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
 Sunday Mass Schedule
Dec. 31st **Daily Mass 6:30 AM and 8:30 AM**
Dec. 31st **Vigil Mass for Mary, Holy Mother of God 5:00 PM**
Jan. 1st **Mary, Holy Mother of God is a Holy Day of Obligation**
 Mass at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM
Jan. 5th **Epiphany of the Lord**
 Sunday Mass Schedule
Jan. 12th **Baptism of the Lord Sunday Mass Schedule**

Cornerstone Alumni Retreat 2020 “Be Not Afraid”



January 31-February 1, 2020

Calling all Cornerstone Alumni!

You have asked for it, and the time has come!

The Alumni Retreat goal is to provide Cornerstone Alumni a forum to reconnect socially, spiritually and encourage alumni to put their “Faith into Action”! We want you to re-energize and re-focus your inner beliefs, feelings and strengthen your relationship with God.

What a great opportunity!

Men strengthen your Faith in a relaxed, trusting and pressure free environment focused on Fellowship at the Alumni retreat.

The Alumni retreat is structured like your first Cornerstone, but different activities have been designed to stimulate and help you reconnect with God.

Register NOW on-line; it is easy!! Go to:

<https://www.smachurch.com/cornerstone>

Click on the box:

Or contact:

Bill McCabe - Candidate Coordinator

Phone 302-545-0956 or email @ William.O.McCabe@comcast.net

Pat Sweeney – Director

Phone 302-540-3326 or email @ pfs_iii@comcast.net



Anytime—All Year Through

Have you discovered Amazon Smile? If you already have an amazon account (and lets be honest...who doesn't?) AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Why not make St. Mary of the Assumption your charitable Organization?



Our St. Vincent DePaul Society members wish to extend their heartfelt gratitude to all parishioners who purchased Christmas greens from us. The net proceeds from this fundraiser enable us to assist families in financial crisis. May God bless all of you, your families and those persons we were able to help. Have a very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Please note the following:

We have several Lazarus dishware from past funeral luncheons in our parish kitchen area. Please stop by during regular business hours or after Mass.

The 2020 Christmas Calendars are available at the entrance of the chapel and in the gathering space.

Trustee Election will be on Sunday, January 6, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

Lost and Found items please contact the parish office at 302-239-7100.

If you are moving or have any changes to your parish registration please notify the parish office 302-239-7100.

Did you Know?

Part 1- Ways to Boost the Belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in The Holy Eucharist

The news was depressing, to say the least: A Pew Research Center poll generated headlines announcing that only 30% of American Catholics believe what the Church believes about the Eucharist — that it is the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, and not merely a symbol.

Who's to blame for that? We all have our guesses, I'm sure — but I also know that, in a crisis, assigning blame isn't the top priority. Stopping the crisis is. The truth is, if we want to correct the misunderstandings about the Eucharist, the only place we can start is with ourselves and the people we can personally reach.

If each of us told five people about the Eucharist, and they each told five, and so on — well, that would start to register a big difference.

Tom Hoopes

The Gregorian Institute

Submitted by the **Legion of Mary**

Listen to The Legion of Mary Immaculate Conception Praesidium weekly broadcast of their Internet radio programs every Friday at 3 p.m., in cooperation with Oremus Communications (OC). Simply visit www.oremuscomms.com and click on "Listen Live". The Divine Mercy Chaplet is the main focus of the broadcast but every week various topics and prayers are included in the hour broadcast. Also if you missed any broadcast, you can still access them in the archives file using www.oremuscomms.com/archives-lom.



How has Jesus touched you and made you whole?

In gratitude, ask Him how He would like you to respond. Could Jesus be calling you to follow him as a priest, sister, brother or deacon? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr.

Norm Carroll vocations@cdow.org 302-573-3113 or email www.vocations@cdow.org For an increase in gratitude among God's people for the mercy shown them through the holy vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life in their midst, and that more men and women will faithfully respond to His call, we pray to the Lord.

Women of Scripture-- Exploring Their Gifts and Finding Your Own

featuring

[Sr. Marie Michele Donnelly, RSM](#)

Saturday, January 25, 2020

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

One-Day Women's Retreat

Cost: \$30.00 payment can be made to St. Mary of the Assumption or visit our website:

www.smachurch.com to register online.

Sr. Marie Michele Donnelly, RSM, MA, is a Sister of Mercy who provides preached retreats for parishes, school faculties, ministry groups, ecumenical groups and religious communities. She is a frequent presenter for parent and parish groups. Sister is a keynote speaker for large groups across the United States. Her ministry life as a Sister of Mercy has also included education at every level – primary, secondary and higher education – as well as ten years in community administration for the Sisters of Mercy in Philadelphia. Sister holds a MA in Theology from Villanova University.



Read all about All Saints in their bi-weekly newsletter!

Our newsletter's mission is to provide timely information and connect our families and our supporters to All Saints Catholic School. Our regular newsletter is full of valuable information that is easy to access and provides links to other useful information. Find our newsletter on the home page of our website – ascscde.org, under School News. To receive your own copy, please e-mail advancementdirector@ascscde.org, and you will be added to the distribution list.



Super 50/50 Tickets For anyone needing more tickets or having misplaced theirs, extra tickets are available at the church entrances. They are in envelopes containing (10) tickets at \$10.00 each. Please take whole envelopes and return as many tickets as you like. **What a great Christmas gift.**

The annual drawing for 50 winners will be at the **Chili Cook-Off on January 18, 2020.**



**St. Mary's Preschool
Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year
January 1, 2020—February 14, 2020**

**Please call for more information at
302-239-7100 ext. 34. Or visit our website:
www.stmaryspreschoolhockessin.com**

**Open House
Sunday, January 26, 2020 from
10:00 am to 12 Noon.**

Events around the Diocese of Wilmington

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their Marriages through Retrouvaille. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and rediscover intimacy. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program in your area is the weekend of **February 21-23 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.** Another weekend will be held in April. For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are confidential.



Cathedral All Saints and Gate of Heaven Cemeteries are again offering families the convenience of purchasing Christmas grave/crypt decorations for family members who are laid to rest in our diocesan cemeteries. The decorations are made by a local artisan and placed by cemetery personnel. For more information go to cathcemde.com and click on "Special Notices" at the top of the page. The information you need to order on-line is in the first paragraph. If you need to order by mail or in person, please contact the respective cemetery office. For Cathedral and All Saints Cemeteries please call (302) 656 – 3323. After the prompt press 1 for Cathedral and 2 for All Saints. For Gate of Heaven call the Cathedral Cemetery office.

Listen to Catholic Forum every Saturday morning at 11:00 on Relevant Radio 640. **Next Saturday, December 28th,** tune in to hear an interview with Devin Schadt, developer of the new LEAD program for Catholic fathers. After it airs, listen online anytime at www.cdow.org/CatholicForum, or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, or iHeartRadio podcasts. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Catholicforum.



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Columbus Coffee Run
Council Want to thank All Our
Parishioners for Their support
through the year. We wish you And your families a
Blessed Christmas & New Year**



**The Sages 50+ Group Luncheon
Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Parish Hall
12:30 PM**



**St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Ministry Contact
List for phone numbers please call our parish office**

Adult Faith Formation, **Joan Fortugno**
 Athletic Association, **Mike Pietlock**
 All Saints Catholic School Liaison, **Dennis Fish**
 Bulletin, **Annette Fad**
 Church Camp, **Cindy Krebs**
 Communications, **Elizabeth Perry**
 Cornerstone, **Jason Anderson & Ray Manza**
 Divine Will Prayer Group, **Linda Riofsko**
 Emmanuel Dining Rooms S.E., **Bunny Stike**
 Emmanuel Dining Rooms Long East, **Mary Ellen Long**
 Sojourners, House of Joseph, **Suzanne Barba**
 Finance Council, **Bill Foley**
 GIFT, **Eileen Gaus**
 Holy Spirit Prayer Group, **Rich Deegan**
 Knights of Columbus, **Mike Bailey**
 Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, **Judy Safranski**
 Knights of Columbus Ride Program, **Steve Haller**
 Ladies' Guild, **Janet Kook & Rosemarie Morris**
 Lazarus Ministry, **Rita Willis**
 Legion of Mary, **Jane Aniceto**
 Mary Mother of Hope, **Kate Morris**
 Meals on Wheels, **Kathy di Girolamo**
 Men's Group, **Jim Ambrose & Bill Hutchins**
 Mother's Prayer Group, **Sandra Cleary**
 Pastoral Council, **Bill Raiford**
 Prayer Line, **Parish Office**
 Pro-Life Committee, **Ann Courtney**
 RCIA, **Deacon John Giacci**
 Refresh Group, **Ray Manza & Mike Bailey**
 St. Patrick's Cemetery, **Dan DiGiacobbe**
 Safety Committee, **Bernie McKay**
 Sages (50+ Group), **Nick Mastrocinque**
 Scouts (Boy & Cub), **Greg Weaver**
 St. Vincent de Paul Society, **Mercedes Diaz**
 Visitors for Christ, **Mary Lloyd**
 WilCYA, **Elise Maloney**
 Women's Faith Sharing, **Mary Tigani**
 Youth Athletic Dance Coordinator **Heather Green**



Do you consider yourself a naturally caring, compassionate and giving person? If so, come and share your gifts with people in need by joining the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish. Last year we made over 200 visits and served almost 500 persons. "Do you consider yourself...", contact **Mercedes Diaz**, Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference President, 302 -239-7100 ext. 15. Thank you for your generosity!

Poor Box Collection will be published in the next bulletin.

Need a Ride???

Fellow Parishioners!!! Do you occasionally need a ride to Church for Mass or perhaps elsewhere? As one of the service organizations of our parish, The Knights of Columbus may be able to help. Contact **Steve Haller**, Community Director for the council. You may contact him at: 302-690-6164 or email: govmler@hotmail.com

Weekly Events

Monday December 23rd

7:00 pm Holy Spirit Prayer Group (CP)

Tuesday December 24th

Parish Office Closed

6:30 am Mass

8:30 am Mass

4:00 pm Mass (Church)

4:00 pm Mass (Hall)

6:00 pm Mass

8:00 pm Mass

Wednesday December 25th

Parish Office Closed

12:00 am Midnight Mass

7:30 am Mass

9:30 am Mass

11:30 am Mass

Thursday December 26th

Parish Office Closed

10:00 am Divine Will (CF)

Friday December 27th

9:15 am Legion of Mary (CF)

2:00 pm Legion of Mary Internet Radio (J)

Saturday December 28th

9:15 am Legion of Mary Curia meeting (CF)

3:30 pm Reconciliation (CP)

Sunday December 29th

9:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (CF)

9:45 am Breaking Open the Word (J)

(CF) = Coffee Run, (J) = St. Johns,
 (M) = St. Mary, (CP) = Chapel, (C) = Church,
 (GS) = Gathering Space (H) = Hall

Please note: Parish calendar schedule is subject to change during the week, please check with your Ministry if you have any questions, or concerns of scheduled events.

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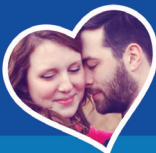


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