



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.



**Third Sunday
of Advent
December 15, 2019**

**Those whom the
LORD has ransomed
will Return and enter
Zion singing,
crowned with
everlasting joy.**

— Isaiah 35:10a

Weekly Mass Intentions

Monday December 16th

6:30 am Nick Murphy

8:30 am Tony Volk

Tuesday December 17th

6:30 am John Karpovich

8:30 am James D. Petrucelli, Sr.

Wednesday December 18th

6:30 am William & Sophie Kacmarcik

8:30 am Elizabeth Darcy

Thursday December 19th

6:30 am Antonia Barrios

8:30 am Phyllis Neill

Friday December 20th

6:30 am John J. Sarik

8:30 am John Ralph Stinson

Saturday December 21st

8:30 am Adam Zebrowski

5:00 pm James McManus

Sunday December 22nd

7:30 am Adam & Marie E. Ragan

9:30 am Marie Cheeseman

11:30 am An end to abortion

6:00 pm Parishioners

REASON TO REJOICE

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and “the coming of the Lord.” But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as Gaudete (Latin for “rejoice”) Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing. Today’s first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God’s saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God’s presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah’s prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus’ presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: “The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them” (Matthew 11:5).

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalm — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

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

**+Francis “Jack” Young, father of
parishioner Elizabeth McKenzie**

+Susan Rogers, aunt of parishioner Terry Lazear



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.***



December Patricians - Discussion on "The true meaning of Christmas"

You are invited to attend the December Patricians session and participate in a discussion on the topic of "The True Meaning of Christmas". Please join us on **Wednesday, December 18th**, from **6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Coffee Run Room** at St Mary the Assumption Church... Where does the word Christmas come from?...What does Christmas mean?...Why do people celebrate Christmas?...How and what should we pray for during this season? Patricians is sponsored by the Legion of Mary. If you want more information, please call Coralyn De Tagle, 302-766-0911.

Light refreshments will be served.



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 Ladies' Guild Annual Christmas Bazaar

This weekend December 15th

Being held in the Gathering Space before and after weekend Masses. Come shop early for unique gifts and ornaments and so much more. In addition we will have raffle items.

All proceeds benefit our church and its environment.

Merry Christmas Everyone!
Sponsored by: The Ladies' Guild

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?



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.

Did you Know? Virtues of Abandonment and Indifference

Our confidence in God must be founded on His infinite goodness and on the merits of the Passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, with this condition on our part: that we should preserve and recognize in ourselves an entire and firm resolution to belong wholly to God, and to abandon ourselves in all things, and without any reserve, to His Providence. Observe that I do not say that we must feel this resolution to belong wholly to God, but only that we must have it and recognize it in ourselves; we must not concern ourselves with what we feel or do not feel, since the greater part of our feelings and satisfactions are only the movements of self-love. Neither must it be supposed that in all this practice of abandonment and indifference, we shall never have desires contrary to the will of God, or that nature will never shrink with repugnance from the dispositions of His good pleasure, for these will often occur. The virtues of abandonment and indifference reside in the higher region of our soul; the lower region, generally speaking, has nothing to do with them. We must remain at peace, and paying no attention whatever to what that lower nature desires, we must embrace the divine will and unite ourselves to it—whatsoever this may entail. There are very few persons who reach this height of perfect self-renunciation; nevertheless, we must all aim at it, each according to his little measure."
St. Francis de Sales

Listen to The Legion of Mary Immaculate Concepcion 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 – ascside.org, under School News. To receive your own copy, please e-mail advancementdirector@ascside.org, and you will be added to the distribution list.

Fourth Grade Class receives Honorable Mention at Delaware Day Competition

Mr. Brandon Dougherty's fourth grade class received Honorable Mention for its Delaware Day entries for the Annual Delaware Day Fourth Grade Competition, sponsored by the State of Delaware Public Archives. Delaware Day is recognized on December 7th of each year.

All Saints Elementary Christmas Program December 19, 2019

All Saints Catholic School will present its Elementary School Christmas Program on **Thursday, December 19th, from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Corpus Christi Parish**. The parish communities are invited to attend.



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.



The Knights of 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

Sage 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: \$105.76

Weekly Events

Sunday, December 15th

Second Collection: Religious Retirement

Blessing of the Straw

St. Vincent DePaul Christmas Greens Distribution (H)

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

10:30 am Family Catechesis (CF,M,H)

9:45 am Breaking Open the Word (J)

3:00 pm **Knights of Columbus Party (M)**

Monday December 16th

6:00 pm Monday Evening PREP

7:00 pm Holy Spirit Prayer Group (CP)

Tuesday December 17th

9:15 am Monthly Pro-Life meeting (J)

7:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal (C)

Wednesday December 18th

7:00 am Men's Gospel Discussion Group (J)

9:00 am Sages Committee meeting (CF)

10:00 am Ladies Guild meeting (M)

3:00 pm Safety Committee meeting (CF)

6:00 pm Legion of Mary (CF)

6:00 pm Choir of Angels Rehearsal (C)

7:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 803 (H)

7:00 pm Parish Choir Rehearsal (C)

7:30 pm Men's Faith Sharing (J)

Thursday December 19th

10:00 am Divine Will (CF)

7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 803 meeting (H)

Friday December 20th

9:15 am Legion of Mary (CF)

9:15 am Mother's prayer group (CP)

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

Saturday December 21st

8:00 pm Diocese of Wilmington Pre-Cana (M)

3:30 pm Reconciliation (CP)

Sunday December 22nd

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.

**Please submit all bulletin articles
(2) weeks in advance to office@smachurch.com.
Please send in a word document or an adobe format.**

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: govmuler@hotmail.com

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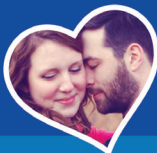


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