

301

CHURCH NAME: Saint Polycarp

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BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF July 30th, 2017

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Judy, 302-653-8279

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 30th, 2017

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear People of God,

I hope and pray that all is well with you and your loved ones as we enjoy the blessings of Summer!

It is hard to believe that back to school preparations are well underway. Students of all ages, including our Seminarian, are beginning to think about the transition that September brings to their lives. They know that change brings growth, and always entails sacrificing their own desires for the goal of new life.

This year our parish (and St. Dennis parish too!) will be immersed into the Paschal Mystery more fully. We like all students, face the changing of schedules and routines. In a very real way, we must die to our personal wishes so that God's plan can unfold and the glory of new life can abound.

Certainly, there is nothing more sacred in our lives of faith than the weekend Mass schedule. We build our calendar around our favorite preference for Eucharist. Yet, with my appointment as Pastor of two parishes comes change for both communities.

As we begin to think about this necessary change, I offer the information that you need to consider in your discernment. On an average weekend at 3 Masses here, there are anywhere between 525 and 575 folks. Our Church holds 300 people comfortably (although for our May procession, there were 470 present). These statistics have been relatively consistent all year. Only the allocation at each Mass varies slightly from week to week. Based on these numbers, the question of the need for 3 Weekend Masses must be evaluated.

To help the Holy Spirit guide us in our transition, I need your input, as I stated at all Masses last weekend. There will be a special Town Hall Meeting on Friday 4 August 17 at 6:30 pm to discuss the situation here more fully. Please come and help discern how we can meet the challenge of one Priest serving two Parishes.

As the paradigm of ministry transitions to a new model, God will be present! The people of St. Polycarp have responded wonderfully to our growth and empowerment, not just in the last 2 years, but throughout this rich history.

May God give us the grace to be open to the process of entering more fully into the Paschal Mystery!

Fraternally,



Rev. James D. Hreha
Pastor

**Town Hall Meeting ~ Friday, August 4 at
6:30 pm in the Hall/Church**

Ministry Leaders Organizational Meeting

This, Wednesday, August 2nd, at 7 pm or Thursday, August 10th, at 7 pm in the Hall. E-mails were sent to our ministry leaders (chairperson, presidents...) with information regarding this meeting. RSVP to assistdre@saintpolycarp.org

LITURGY



Bread & Wine for the Eucharist are given for all those seeking employment.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in prayer for our extraordinary ministers who visit the homebound.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann Chapel burns in prayer for the local, county, and state police who protect us.

Let Us Pray ...

For Our Sick ~

Week I	Lorraine Macasevich, Jennifer Pohren, Dawn Acton, Joseph Lepera
Week II	Mariann Pierson, Rick Novak, Betty Campbell, Toni Beyer, Dawn Acton
Week III	Henry Passarotti, Sophia Wilson, Bertha Hudson, Deirdre Moor, Joseph Wagner
Week IV	Samantha Lane, Paul Spirovich, Mary Ellen DeBenedictis, Joe Dugan, Jimmy Callahan, Mary Fullerton
Week V	Michelle Collier, Brenda Staub Lust, Donald & Geraldine Hreha
Week VI	Marie Nardone

Mass Intentions 
FOR THE WEEK

Mon. July 31	Saint Ignatius of Loyola
8:30 Susan Durant	- Tom & Jeanne McElrone
Tues. August 1	Saint Alphonsus Liguori
8:30 John F. McMullen	- Warren & Rose Burns
9 am – 9 pm Adoration	
10:30 am DHCI Mass	Deceased Pokoiski
Family Members	- John & Sue Pokoiski
Wed. August 2	Saints Eusebius of Vercelli & Peter Jullan Eymard
8:30 Daniel Hogan III	- Judy Lamborn
Thurs. August 3	
8:30 Joseph Michalek	- Saporito Family
Fri. August 4	Saint John Vianney
8:30 Purgatorial Society	
9:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart Devotions	
3:00 pm Divine Mercy	
Sat. August 5	The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major
8:30 Ginger DiLoreto	- Tom & Jeanne McElrone
3:30 pm Confession	
5 pm Raymond Kenney	- Joan Werres
Sun. August 6	The Transfiguration of the Lord
8:00 Parishioners	
10:00 Mark Cartwright	- BVM Sodality

The **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a Holy Day of Obligation, is on Tuesday, August 15th. On this day we celebrate the fact that Mary (the Mother of Jesus) was taken up body and soul to Heaven. Pope Pius XII declared this essential teaching a dogma of the Church in *Munificentissimus Deus*.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality would like to invite all Parishioner's to join us in praying the Rosary before the Masses.

Mass Schedule for the Assumption

Monday, August 14th 5 pm Mass
Tuesday, August 15th 8:30 am, Noon, and 7:00 pm

The Office will be closed on Tuesday, August 15th In honor of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be Adoration as usual.

Anyone Have Plans for Friday, August 4th?

Following the First Friday Mass (at 8:30 am), there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Devotions to the Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is full of love and overflows with love for all of us! How often do we take the time to ponder and reflect on this love as well as say thank you for this great love? Maybe this day would be a good day to say THANK YOU for Jesus' Love.

Flame Of Love Rosary

Please join us in the chapel on Thursday nights at 7 pm. We would like to share this lovely devotion to Our Lady, called the Flame Of Love Rosary. There will be copies to follow the rosary. Come with an open heart!

Novena to the Miraculous Medal

Beginning Saturday, September 2nd, we will pray the Novena to the Miraculous Medal following the 8:30 am Mass on the First Saturday of the Month. All are invited to pray this novena with us!

Help is needed at the Delaware Home for the **Chronically Ill** on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 12 pm. Mass is held at DHCI monthly and Communion Services on the other Tuesdays of the month. Extra helping hands are needed. Contact Jack and Bridget O'Connell (302 - 653 - 0593) if you are interested. Please & Thank you!

Liturgy Committee Update

The Liturgy Committee held their monthly meeting on June 13th. The topics that were discussed are as follows:

Formation –

Jack O'Connell did a beautiful picture presentation on the stained glass windows in our church. These pictures along with an explanation of the symbols will be placed on our website in the near future.

Evangelization/Ecumenism –

Kathy MacDonald passed out a letter that was presented in her home parish as part of their parish mission back in 1989. Father Jim asked the committee to think about the original St. Polycarp parish at UME Centennial Church for the 50th Anniversary of our parish.

Other areas of discussion were -

Vocation Chalice, Mission Statements (All Committees under Liturgy need one), Liturgical Planning Calendar (Assumption), Proposed Special Blessings, Lay Ministry Ablution, and Perpetual Novena to our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

Liturgy Committee Mission Statement

The purpose of the Parish Liturgy Committee is to promote quality worship in the parish under the guidance of the pastor (Diocese of Wilmington – Guidelines for Parish Liturgy Committees). Since liturgy is essential for the expression and celebration of our faith, we need to embrace, nurture and educate the assembly where it is needed. This formation will bring the parish to a fuller understanding of the mysteries of God and to the growth of a more active participation of the people.

SOCIAL CONCERNS



The Food Pantry is asking for cereal bars, cookies, crackers, beef stew, and apple sauce. Don't forget to bring in your coupons (no need to clip). The basket is located at the back door.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

PSR Begins:

Grades P/K, 1-4 on Sunday, September 10th
Grades 5-8 on Tuesday, September 12th

*Please remember to keep
Seminarian Adam Bauer in your prayers.*



Jesus presents to us another parable from Matthew's Gospel this week. In this parable Jesus tells us how valuable the Kingdom of Heaven truly is. Being more valuable than anything else, one is moved to give all that they have in order to ensure they remain a part of His Kingdom. Ask yourself, how much are you willing to invest in order to ensure you are part of this Kingdom? Are there things that you are holding back from giving up, things that would prevent you from entering His Kingdom? This Gospel message reminds us that when we recognize the treasure we have in Jesus we cannot help but joyfully give up everything in order to maintain that treasure. What is God calling you to give up for His Kingdom? Are you doing this joyfully?

VOCATIONS

In today's first reading, Solomon asks God for "an understanding heart." He wants, in other words, a heart that understands God's will for him and for the people he is to serve. What is God's will *for you*? Could He be calling you to serve His people as a priest, deacon, religious sister or religious brother? If you think so, please call or write Father Norm Carroll, the Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302 - 573 - 3113 or vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

The **Share the Harvest table** is under the Portico.



This allows our parishioners to share their abundant yield with their Church family. All are welcome to share and receive.

CPR/AED Training: Registration Deadline is Friday, August 4. An instructor from the DE State Fire School will be at St. Polycarp on **Wednesday, August 16th**, to hold a CPR/AED training course from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. If you are interested in participating in the class, please call 653 - 8279 or email lisa.titus@saintpolycarp.org to reserve your spot. The cost is \$50. You will receive CPR and AED training, a 2-yr certificate, handbook, and mask. Space is limited. Payment is due by Friday, Aug 4th. Checks should be payable to St. Polycarp.

The Academy

For information about our Academy (pre-school for ages 3 & 4) contact Nancy Koska at 653 - 1496.

9/11 **Filled the bus!** If you are interested in going, we do have a waiting list in the event that someone cancels. Contact Joan O'Drain (659 - 5317) or (busylady39@comcast.net) to have your name added to the list. Our trip is on **Thursday, September 28th**. Visit our website (under Bulletin Overflow) for more information.

Reserved Parking Spot It Could be Yours!

Have you ever noticed that there is a Reserved Parking Spot in our back lot? Annually, this spot goes to the top bidder at our Auction. Unfortunately, this spring we did not have an Auction since no one stepped forward to coordinate it. Therefore, we are continuing the tradition by putting the parking spot up to the highest bidder! You will have the reserved spot (with your name on it) for one year. Please submit your bid amount by **Aug 21st at 3pm** by emailing lisa.titus@saintpolycarp.org with the Subject Line: **"Parking Spot Bid"** or dropping it off at the office or in the collection basket labeled **"Parking Spot Bid"**. All bids MUST be in writing. We will announce the winner at the end of August!



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STEWARDSHIP

Collections – July 23, 2017

Please note the change in format.

	Offertory	Poor Box	Utilities	Basilica-National Shrine
Collections	\$5,021	\$266.75		
eGiving	\$1,905		\$235	\$50
Total	\$6,926			
Budgeted	\$6,955			
Over(Under)	(\$29)			

Note: eGiving figures are reported twice a month.

50/50 for July 23rd, #111 was drawn; there was no winner. Next week's prize is \$153.00. Envelopes are located at Church entrances. Place \$1 in the envelope, fill out the front and drop in the collection basket. It's that easy!

eGiving Program

There has been a tremendous response in the first few months of kicking off our eGiving program. Thanks to everyone who has signed up! Please note, for those who have signed up, it will take at least a couple of months for your physical envelopes to be cancelled with the printing company but you will eventually stop receiving them in the mail.

St. Polycarp has partnered with Faith Direct to make it easier for you to be a good steward and to support our parish. Visit www.saintpolycarp.org, for a direct link to sign up or to print and fill out a paper enrollment form. Please consider supporting our parish electronically. May God continue to bless you and reward your generosity!

The **Cathedral of Saint Peter** is in need of our help. The weekend of **August 19th and 20th**, a special collection for the maintenance and preservation of the Cathedral of Saint Peter will be taken up in all parishes in our diocese. Please be as generous as you can. For more information about the Cathedral, please visit the Cathedral's website at www.cathedralofstpeter.com. If you visit the diocesan website (www.cdow.org), you can view a video tour of the Cathedral, special video message from Father Klein the Cathedral's Administrator, and a tour of the Cathedral's 99 year-old organ.

This Week in Our Parish

Sun. July 30

Mon. July 31

Tues. August 1 7:30 pm K of C 4th Degree (Hall)

Wed. August 2 9 am SVdP (Library)

9:30 am RCIA Team Formation (Rm 4)

6 pm Pastoral Council Ex. Comm. (Library)

7 pm Parish Leaders Meeting (Hall)

Thurs. August 3 9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting

11 am Seasons of Hope (Library)

7 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel)

7 pm K of C 3rd Degree (Hall)

Fri. August 4 9:15 am Altar Guild I

Sat. August 5 12:30 pm Baptismal Class – Advance Registration Required (Library)

3:30 pm Confession