

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 23rd, 2017

From Our Seminarian ...

Hello! My name is Adam Bauer. You likely remember me from several weeks ago, when our dear Fr. Jim introduced me at the end of Mass as a new seminarian from our Diocese. That introduction was quite brief; however, and a more comprehensive introduction is in order.

I have been a parishioner at St. Polycarp Church for years. While I was in high school, I was an altar server, and my father, Robert Bauer, is a sacristan, and my mother, Nancy Bauer, helps wash the Church linens. I have been thinking of the Priesthood for as long as I can remember. I cannot definitively say what it was that initially attracted me to the Priesthood; it always seemed to be the right path for me.

It was when I went to college at Franciscan University of Steubenville and joined the Priestly Discernment Program when I first truly began discerning my calling, whether it be to the Priesthood or someplace else. I grew very much as a person and a man of God in the four years I spent there, discerning my call.

I am excited for what the coming years of my discernment have in store for me, and as I go into the seminary in August, I would ask for your prayers; I need them more than anything else. I may have grown as a person in leaps and bounds in these past four years, but I still have a long way to go to becoming the man that God wants me to be. Know too that I will keep you in my prayers as well. God Bless!

Adam Bauer

CORRECTIONS!

The following are corrections from the Pastoral Council notes which appeared in the July 9th bulletin:

~ The Pastoral Council Meetings are held on the **second Wednesday** of each month in the Library at 7 pm.

~ **Bill Czachorowski** is Chairperson of the Facility Planning Committee. **Tommy Watts** is the **Pastoral Council liaison** to the Facility Planning Committee. Construction should begin in the Spring.

Anyone Have Plans for Tuesdays?

Come join us at the 8:30 am Mass on Tuesday and then spend some time (several minutes or a whole hour) praying before the Blessed Sacrament during Adoration. **Adoration** is on **all Tuesdays** in the St. Ann Chapel from 9 am to 9 pm.

LITURGY



Bread & Wine for the Eucharist are given for members of our parish staff.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in prayer for the sick of our parish.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann Chapel burns in prayer for living and deceased members of Brother Vincent Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Let Us Pray ...

For Our Sick ~

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

Pray For Our Deceased ~

Shawn C. Kelly
Parishioner Thomas Kolakowski

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Mon. July 24 **Saint Sharbel Makhluf**
8:30 Archie Bethard - Diane Bethard

Tues. July 25 **Saint James, Apostle**
8:30 John Koch - Rev. Paul Mast
9 am – 9 pm Adoration
10:30 am DHCI Communion Service

Wed. July 26 **Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
8:30 Phoebe & William Dunn & Family - Terri Dunn

Thurs. July 27
8:30 Mary Carrucane - Kathy & Terry McCormick

Fri. July 28
8:30 Amelia Wicks - Margo Orlando
1:00 pm Pinnacle Communion Service
3:00 pm Divine Mercy

Sat. July 29 **Saint Martha**
8:30 Amelia Wicks - Joyce & Dieter Raczkowski
3:30 pm Confession
5 pm Catherine Stump - Joyce & Dieter Raczkowski

Sun. July 30 **Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time**
8:00 Parishioners
10:00 Fran D'Agostino - Gretchen Weber



MUSIC MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT

“Among the many signs and symbols used by the Church to celebrate its faith, music is of preeminent importance”

(The US Conference of Catholic Bishops; Music in Catholic Worship: §III, no. 23).

The Saint Polycarp Music Ministry mission is to bring people closer to God by deepening the experience of liturgy through music. It is also our goal to invite, encourage, and develop talent within our community to enhance the music programs at our church. Varying musical approaches will be used: including the use of vocalists and instrumentalists available from within the parish as well as, on occasion, and guest musicians from outside the parish who might be brought in to fulfill a specific need not available from within.

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!

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



Changes Regarding Confirmation

For the past several years, Bishop Malooly has sought advice from his priests and DREs about our Diocese moving to deanery-wide celebrations of Confirmation. The move, necessitated by the priest shortage and ever-increasing demands of bishops and priests, is soon to become a reality. St. Polycarp is in the Silver Lake Deanery with Holy Cross Church, Immaculate Conception Church (Marydel), St. John the Apostle Church and St. Dennis Church. In May 2018, St. Polycarp confirmandi will celebrate Confirmation with our deanery parishes at Holy Cross Church.

Although the move from Confirmation in our parish to the deanery-wide celebration is a paradigm shift, there will be further spiritual benefits. Our ninth graders will feel at one with seventy other teens as they participate in a Confirmation Mass with them. They will have a sense of the universal reality of the Church, and that St. Polycarp Church is a part of something much bigger! More than ever, our wonderful young people are in special need of the grace to live their lives in witness to the faith they received at Baptism.

Let us pray to the Holy Spirit, to move powerfully in the lives of all the students, waiting for His coming in May of 2018.



PSR - Second Grade Parent Meeting

The formal preparation for reception of First Eucharist will begin with a mandatory meeting for parents **this Tuesday, July 25th**, at 6:30 pm in our Cardinal O'Connor Library. At least one parent or guardian is required to attend. Please use the door under the portico.



This week, in Matthew's gospel, Jesus presents us with another parable. This parable provides us with an account of a farmer planting seeds. Jesus informs us that while the farmer plants good seeds, there is another, our enemy, who also spreads weeds amongst them. Rather than immediately pulling out the weeds, Jesus informs us that we should wait until the time of harvest. At this time, they will all be uprooted and separated, the weeds to the fire and the wheat to the barn. This parable offers us some great insight into our judgmental nature, and our need to be patient and allow God to work on his time, not our own. How often are we quick to judge others? Let us not forget that there is a danger of judging too quickly and uprooting wheat with the weeds. Are you more likely to pass judgment on those around you or spread the love of Christ? Are you treating others as Christ would, in the hope that they are wheat, or have you already passed judgment as if they are weeds? Stay hopeful and spread the love of Christ to all. We never want to uproot the wheat with the weeds so let God do the harvesting.

~ God's Time not our time ~

VOCATIONS

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Romans (*and us*) that "the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit." He's speaking, of course, about the Holy Spirit, Who knows God's unique plan for each one of us. What are you doing to try to discern God's plan *for you*? Is God calling you to priesthood or to religious life? How would you know? If you would like to talk about it, 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!

Please remember to keep Seminarian Adam Bauer in your prayers.

HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

Now through Saturday, July 29. Please stop by the **Delaware Right to Life** booth at the **Delaware State Fair in Harrington**. Our volunteers staffing the booth hope to see you there!

HELP WANTED

The Diocese of Wilmington/Catholic Charities is seeking a **full time Secretary I at Seton Center**, a community center. This community center offers financial coaching and case management services, financial help for rent, mortgage, utility payments, behavioral health services, food cooperative for qualified households, emergency food pantry, immigration services, information and referral services, and a thrift store, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in Princess Anne. This position provides support services for the staff and clients. Bilingual (Spanish/English) is preferred. The work schedule is 35 hours per week Monday through Friday. To apply, see the posting on www.CareerBuilder.com

Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at 10:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, July 30th, Catholic author and humorist, Susie Lloyd, will discuss her book, "**Bless Me, Father, for I Have Kids.**"

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our **BROTHER VINCENT COLUMBIETTES** have been honored again to win the Mary Mangan Award. This award is given in recognition for all the achievements and good works performed in UNITY, not by any individual. The award is not just an honor for Brother Vincent Columbiettes, the recognition also reaches out to all those who benefit from the fruits of our labors and prayers. To learn more about joining this award-winning group feel free to contact any of our members or Jill Mercer at 518 - 795 - 7579.



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: 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. The deadline to sign up is Friday, Aug 4th. Payment is also due by Friday, Aug 4th. Checks should be payable to St. Polycarp.

9/11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM *There are still some seats available on the bus for all eager parishioners hoping to visit the 9/11 Memorial Museum on **Thursday, September 28th**. For more information or to reserve your spot, call Joan O'Drain (659 – 5317) or email her (busylady39@comcast.net). Visit our website for more information.*

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP VISIT

Five young men and women from Catholic Heart Workcamp came to St. Polycarp on June 19th and 20th to provide some much needed and appreciated cleaning services. The team cleaned and polished the church pews, cleaned the outside windows and screens of the new building, and scrubbed the brick pathway to the Blessed Virgin Mary Garden.

The Catholic Heart Workcamp, founded in 1993, is based in Orlando, Florida. The work of the team that came to our area was coordinated by Linda Darling, the Director of Youth Ministry at Holy Cross. The members for this team came from Virginia, Ohio, and Connecticut. We are deeply grateful for their generous service to us.

The Academy

For information about our Academy (pre-school for ages 3 & 4) contact Nancy Koska at 653 – 1496. We are excitedly preparing for the school year 2017/2018!

Marriage Moments: "For we do not know how to pray as we ought" (Romans 8: 26). Praying together is one of the most intimate (and scary) deeds a couple can do. Revealing our innermost thoughts and feelings can be a risk.

Parenting Pointers: When speaking to your kids (or anyone) consider these proverbs: "It is better to leave angry words unspoken than to mend the heart those words have broken" and "The tongue is the only instrument that gets sharper with use".

Ministry Leaders Organizational Meeting
Wednesday, August 2nd, at 7 pm or Thursday, August 10th, at 7 pm! If you are a chairperson of one of our ministries, you should have received an email about this meeting. RSVP by Monday, July 24th, to Judy at assistdre@saintpolycarp.org.

STEWARDSHIP

Collections – July 16, 2017

	Received	Budgeted	Over	(Under)
Offertory	\$5,171	\$6,955		(\$1,784)
Missionary	\$2,171			
Poor Box	\$146			

50/50 for July 16th, # 264 was drawn; next week's prize is \$128.00

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! The proceeds are divided (50/50) between the winner and our PSR!

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!

This Week in Our Parish

- Sun. July 23
- Mon. July 24
- Tues. July 25 6:30 pm Social Concerns (Library)
- Wed. July 26 6:30 pm Squires (Library)
- Thurs. July 27 9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting
11:00 am Seasons of Hope (Library)
7:00 pm Knights Officers Meeting (Room 4)
- Fri. July 28 9:15 am Altar Guild IV
- Sat. July 29 3:30 pm Confession