

Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time November 12, 2017

In some way, we all have become very aware of the reality of sharing our pastor with a second parish. As a result of this, every week our parishioners find new ways to help out during this transition period. Some of our folks have stepped forward for the first time and become active even if it has just been for an hour, or perhaps it's just by completing the census form or having your picture taken for the directory. Many have joined ministries or become more active in those ministries. Opportunities to serve in our parish are endless.

But the fact remains that only a priest can offer the Mass. And as we all know, there is a shortage of priests. Our parish secretary works hard to find priests to say Mass when Fr. Jim is at St. Dennis or when he is not available. Finding priests to cover Mass is becoming increasingly more difficult.

As a result of Fr. Jim's ministry as pastor of two parishes, and the shortage of priests, this Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 23, there will be no Mass offered at St. Polycarp. Fr. Jim will be celebrating Mass on Thanksgiving morning at 8:30 am at St. Dennis. We will pray that you join the celebration of Mass on Thanksgiving at St. Dennis. We are blessed to live in a diocese where we do have four other Churches less than seventeen miles away --- St. Joseph in Middletown, Holy Cross in Dover, Immaculate Conception in Marydel, and St. Dennis in Galena.

LET US PRAY



Bread & Wine for the Eucharist are given in prayer for our relatives and friends who are serving in our nation's Armed Forces.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in loving memory of deceased members of St. Polycarp who have served in the Armed Forces.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann Chapel burns in loving memory of relatives and friends who died in combat.



The flowers offered this weekend are at the request of Peg O'Conner in remembrance of the Doyle Family.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Mon. November 13 8:30 Louise Ligorio	Saint Frances Xavler Cabrini - Terence & Gemma Julien
Tues. November 14 8:30 Phillip Cataldi 9 am - 9 pm Adoration 10:30 DHCI Communion Service	- Linda Mood
Wed. November 15 8:30 Fred E. Burke	Saint Albert the Great - David Mast
Thurs. November 16 8:30 Jo Ann Baines 7 pm Flame of Love Rosary	Saint Margaret of Scotland and Saint Gertrude - Koska Family
Fri. November 17 8:30 Mark Cartwright 3:00 pm Divine Mercy	Saint Elizabeth of Hungary - Theresa Devine
Sat. November 18 8:30 Shawn C. Kelly 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm Catherine, William, Jack, & Rosann Wallace	The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne - Maggie Lynch & Eileen Price -Terri Dunn
Sun. November 19 10:30 am Parishioners	Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

...For our Sick & Deceased

Our Sick ~

- Week I** Donald & Geraldine Hreha, Michelle Collier, Joseph & Dorothy Eliz, Gordon Hollander, Lucinda Buxton, George Kaliyadan
- Week II** Samantha Lane, Paul Spirovich, Joe Dugan, Jimmy Callahan, Mary Fullerton, Pat Gibson, Don Watson
- Week III** Marie Nardone
- Week IV** Lorraine Macasevich, Maureen Robinson, Helen Armstrong, Brad Ganson, David DeVincences
- Week V** Betty Campbell, Mariann Pierson, Kathy Bruno, Jim Friel, Violet McKenna, Florence Scotto, Wayne Paret, Benjamin Mark Wilson III
- Week VI** Sophia Wilson, Bertha Hudson, Deirdre Moor, Kenneth Bullins, Bobby Bullins, T.J. Woolwine, Susan Skaggs, Annie Jones, Toni Schiavoni, James Dean

Please Pray For Our Deceased ~

Larry Armstrong, Rick Novak, Mrs. Marie Rossback (sister of the Reverend William M. Hazzard)

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord
And let the perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of
all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen.*

LITURGY

LOOKING TO THE LIGHT



Articles 11 and 12 / Window 8:

Article 11: "I believe in the Resurrection of the Body" – We firmly believe, and we hope that, just as Christ is truly risen from the dead and lives forever, so after death the righteous will live forever with the risen Christ and He will raise them up on the last day (# 989 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

Article 12: "I believe in life everlasting" – The Christian who unites his own death to that of Jesus, views it as a step towards Him and an entrance into everlasting life (# 1020 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

Symbols:
Christogram "IHS" – "IHS" is the Greek abbreviation for Jesus.

Billowing Clouds – This represents Jesus' Resurrection from earth into heaven.

Divine Mercy: Please join us on Fridays at 3 pm in the chapel. Come as you are. We will supply the prayers.



Interested in Becoming Catholic?
If I am interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and possibly becoming a Catholic, what should I do? Contact Deacon

Mike at Deacon.Mike.Boyd@gmail.com. More information is available on our parish website.

SOCIAL CONCERNS



The **Food Pantry** is asking for stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, yams, and pop tarts. Don't forget to bring in your coupons (no need to clip). Baskets/Boxes located near all Church entrances. Please no expired food.

Saint Vincent de Paul Society Annual Christmas Turkey Drop-off

On Thursday, December 16th, from 6pm – 7pm there will be a Turkey, Ham, Chicken, and Food Gift card DROP OFF in the Church's back parking lot. If you would like to donate to a needy family just drive by and drop it off, no need to get out of the car. The Knights of Columbus will be helping with the collection. Food gift cards (Acme, Food Lion, and Walmart) can be of any denomination but should not be over \$30. During November and December, the cards can also be placed in the Poor Box, located at each entrance of the Church. On Saturday, December 16th, SVdP Vincentians will distribute the donations to the homes we have visited during this year. As of Oct 31st, SVDP has visited 94 families.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped SVDP this year and in the past. With your generosity, I pray we can provide a Christmas meal for the less fortunate families in our community. If you or your family need assistance, please call SVDP 302 – 264 – 6630.

The **Giving Tree Committee** will be meeting at 9:00 am in Rm. 4 on Tuesday, November 14th. If anyone is willing to help, please come to the meeting! Our Giving Tree



Committee coordinates the gifts for the needy children in our community for Christmas. We work closely with the Smyrna School District and our Parish School of Religion to identify children in need.

The **Giving Tree** will be set up in the Hall with requests the weekend of November 19th. Each child is asked to request two items. Please purchase at least one of these requests. The gifts should be returned by Sunday, December 8th.

Christmas at Sea Program

Beginning Saturday, November 4th, through Sunday, November 26th, there will be a box marked "Christmas at Sea" at the front entrance and in the hallway under the coat rack, to collect essential items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, soap, deodorant, and other items that will be listed on the box. These items are for the seafarers (men and women) of the container vessels and tankers that arrive in Delaware during December.

These crews typically spend nine months at sea, working 12-hour shifts, seven days a week. The Seaman's Center of Wilmington will distribute to each seafarer a Ditty Box for Christmas. This could be the only Christmas gift that they receive. Please contact Lillian Fambach at 653 – 7086 with any questions.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Rite of Enrollment: This weekend our Confirmation candidates will make public their commitment of preparing for Confirmation with the parish community at our 10:30 a.m. Mass. For the candidates, the Rite of Enrollment makes the connection between Baptism and Confirmation tangible while they renew their baptismal promises. The candidates make a commitment to personal prayer, to community prayer by attending Mass, to take seriously all the preparation for Confirmation, at school, in the parish and at home and finally to do their best to be the kind of person that Jesus would want them to be. Their sponsors and parents are present to witness this commitment and to promise to help and encourage their confirmandi/child in their endeavors this year. Please keep the confirmandi in your prayers as they make the journey to Confirmation on May 12, 2018.

Vocations

Today's first reading reminds us that wisdom "is readily perceived by those who love her and found by those who seek her." God's wisdom for us includes our individual vocation, that unique plan God has for each of us to participate in His work. Like wisdom, God's call is "readily perceived" and "found" by those who put time and effort into discerning it. *What steps are you taking to discern your vocation?* 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/

HAPPENING In our DIOCESE

"Dignity of the Human Person" - Father Leonard Klein, the Director of Pro-Life Activities for the Diocese, will focus on many questions pertaining to sex, gender, marriage and human life on Saturday, December 2nd, after the 5 pm Mass and a pot luck supper, in the St. John the Apostle Parish Hall (506 Seabury Av, Milford, DE). Contact Mary Hall at 491 - 6432 with the number in your party if you are planning to attend.

The **Capital Ringers Holiday Classics** will be at the Presbyterian Church of Dover (54 South Street, Dover, DE) on Sunday, December 10th, at 7 pm. The suggested donation is \$15 per person while this event is free to children 18 and under. For additional information visit www.capitalringers.org or call 302 - 632 - 1043.

Employment Opportunity: The Diocese of Wilmington/Catholic Charities' **Delaware Energy Assistance Program (DEAP)**, which provides assistance with home energy costs, is seeking **1 certifier** to work for

6 months during the heating season for no more than 24 hours per week in Wilmington, Delaware. For more information or to apply, visit www.CareerBuilder.com, www.cdow.org, or jobs@cdow.org.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE



A Pancake Breakfast will take place in the Hall after the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, November 19. Come join the Parish Community for yummy food and fellowship!

Members of our various ministries had a fun time handing out candy at the **Smyrna Trunk or Treat Safe Zone** on October 31. It was great to see St. Polycarp Church represented at this community event! Thank you!



All Saints' Celebration - Our PSR children in Grades P/K to Grade 4 participated in our Annual Parade of Saints last Sunday. Each Student was asked to dress as a saint or to carry an item symbolizing the saint. In addition, the children brought if food items ("treats") for those in need.

Visit our website to view more photos of these two events and other parish events.

Thanks to the SVDP members, our scorers, Joe Thomas and Deacon Mike, and everyone who helped to make **"Trivia Night"** a fun night for all. The proceeds will help with the celebration of our Parish 50th Anniversary Celebration. See you in the spring for our next Trivia!! ~ Eleanor & Rich Schauer



Bishop Malooly will be at the start and finish line - will you?

Please join the **St. Polycarp team** for the **2nd Annual Bishop's 5K Run/Walk** on Saturday, November 18th, at Bellevue State Park in Wilmington to benefit Catholic Charities. Last year our team placed in various categories. You can sign up at <https://runsignup.com/RaceGroups/35468/Groups/404607> or visit our St. Polycarp website to register or for more information about the event. Hope you can join us!
www.saintpolycarp.org

St. Polycarp t-shirts and Cat's Meow Village Keepsake are still available for purchase! Order forms are available at the doors of the Church, in the office or visit our website to print the order form. (Go to "Bulletin", and use the drop down menu for "Commemorative Items".) Questions? Joan O'Drain at 302 - 659 - 5317.

St. Polycarp Church 2017 Census

All completed Registration forms should have been returned. If you have not completed a census, visit our website or call the Parish Office to complete one.



43 days until Christmas

Social Media is already reminding us how close Christmas is getting. Do not push panic buttons yet. Breathe deeply and think about a different family plan for Christmas this year. **Fr. Paul Mast will lead a three-hour workshop to help people plan a more rewarding 2017 Christmas season.** Based on the popular

book, *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, this workshop helps people reduce their stress and increase their enjoyment by making simple changes in their holiday celebration. Participants will be given a chance to examine their current practices, fine-tune their values, create a fantasy Christmas, and then combine all their insights into a workable plan for the coming holiday season.

The workshop is on **Thursday, November 30th (6:30 pm - 9:30 pm)**. You are welcome to invite a friend or neighbor.

A \$10 registration fee will pay for workshop materials. The workshop is limited to 30 participants. Please call the office and register (302 - 653 - 8279) in advance (before November 23rd) so enough materials are available.

STEWARDSHIP

October 29	Offertory	Poor Box	All Saints Day
Collections	\$7,332	\$524.00	\$1,315.40
Total	\$7,332		
Budgeted	\$7,383		
Over (Under)	(\$52)		

eGiving figures are reported twice a month.

One-third of our fiscal year is complete. Our Year-to-Date **Budgeted** Offertory is \$128,145 while our Year-to-Date **Actual** Offertory totals \$120,561, a shortfall of \$7,584.

As we continue to grow the Parish, your support is much appreciated!

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
- Matthew 6:21

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.

50/50 - Proceeds benefit PSR			
Date	Number Drawn	WINNER	Next Week's Prize
November 5	275	None	\$124.00

The annual collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR)** will be on December 9th and 10th. This fund supports the financial needs of the aging religious and their communities. The aging religious greatly appreciates your generosity and your prayers!

This Week in Our Parish

- Sun. November 12**
9 am PSR Grs. P-4 (Rms. 1-8 and Library)
10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Hall)
10:30 am Confirmation - Rite of Enrollment at Mass
11:30 am Confirmation Sponsor Meeting (Hall)
- Mon. November 13**
12:30 pm Academy 4's
- Tues. November 14**
10 am Finance Council Executive Officer
12 pm Ministerium
12:30 pm Academy 4's
7 pm PSR Grs. 5-8 (Rms. 1-6, 8, and Library)
7 pm Rehearsal for First Reconciliation and Parent Meeting (Church)
7 pm Liturgy Committee (Rm. 7)
- Wed. November 15**
9 am Academy 3's
9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting (Rectory)
12:30 pm Academy 4's
7 pm Facilities Planning Committee (Library)
- Thurs. November 16**
9 am Academy 3's
11 am Seasons of Hope
12:30 pm Academy 4's
6:30 pm Respect Life (Rm. 4)
7 pm Knights of Columbus - Social (Library)
7 pm RCIA (Hall)
- Fri. November 17**
9 am Academy 3's
9:15 am Altar Guild III
12:30 pm Academy 4's
- Sat. November 18**
Giving Tree placed in Hall
2:30 pm Confessions

On Tuesday, November 22nd, the **Parish Offices close at NOON**. The **Parish Office will also be closed** on Thursday, November 23rd, and Friday, November 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday.