

# Thirty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time November 5, 2017

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear People of God,

I hope and pray that all is well with you and your loved ones!

As I have taken on the blessing of pastoring a second parish, all have become acutely aware of the importance of Priesthood to our Church. As we begin National Vocation Awareness Week, this reality should be the focus of our prayers. Imagine the outcome of each family in our parish praying daily for vocations to the Priesthood! (Speaking of which - - - Have you prayed for Adam recently?)

The seeds of a vocation are planted in the domestic Church - - - the Church of the Home. There, parents shape their children and help them to understand how to travel the road of life with a vision focused on eternity. In the domestic Church, the world's perspective of "What do I want?" is balanced by stewardship's question of "What does God want of me?"

The people of our parish continue to answer that question by stepping forward in faith to build the Kingdom of God. New life in our Councils, Committees and ministries abounds. Truly the Holy Spirit is at work in our midst! Each day St. Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 13:12-26 come to life more fully. We realize that God has given us each gifts to be used to build up the Body of Christ.

As our community flourishes, we will face the same challenges as the early Church, and indeed the same challenges that the Church has faced throughout the ages. Our human nature, tainted by sin, forgets about God's grace and our ego makes our self more important than we really are. To remind us of this, there is a change in the

front of our Bulletin in the listing of those who serve the Kingdom of God.

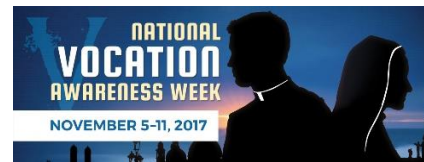
Our thanks go out to all who have worked so hard to create our Parish Pictorial Directory. This is a tribute to the spirit of our family of faith. Accordingly, we are grateful to all those who have helped us update our Census records. If you know of someone who has not yet responded, please encourage them to help our beloved St. Polycarp to grow.

May God to continue to bless us as we strive to build His Kingdom here in Smyrna!

Fraternalkly,



Rev. James D. Hreha  
Pastor



During your visit to adore **the Blessed Sacrament** (Adoration - St. Ann Chapel from 9am - 9 pm) you may want to pray for the living and the dead. As Roman Catholics, we have a responsibility to pray for the living and the dead. (Visit our website for select prayers and chaplets.)

Spiritual Work of Mercy: Praying for the Living and the Dead".

**Veterans Day** is Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> (observed on Friday, November 10). Remember to say thank you to a veteran for his or her service to our country and to pray for all veterans who sacrifice so much to keep our country safe and free.

## LET US PRAY



**Bread & Wine for the Eucharist** are given in prayer for all men and women who are currently serving the Church as Sisters, Brothers, and Priests.

**Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church** burns in prayer for all individuals who considering a vocation to the Priesthood or the Religious Life.

**Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann Chapel** burns in prayer for our Pope, Bishops, Cardinals, Priests, and Deacons.

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



**Mon. November 6**

8:30 Novena

**Tues. November 7**

8:30 Novena

9 am – 9 pm Adoration

10:30 DHCI Mass

**Wed. November 8**

8:30 Novena

**Thurs. November 9**

**The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

8:30 Robert & David Abernathy - Frances Abernathy  
7 pm Flame of Love Rosary

**Fri. November 10**

**Saint Leo the Great**

8:30 Theresa Flickinger - Mike & Diane Dillinger  
1:00 pm Pinnacle Mass  
3:00 pm Divine Mercy

**Sat. November 11**

**Saint Martin of Tours**

8:30 Andrew Montella - Lori & Andrew Ostrowski  
2:30 pm Confession  
4 pm Jimmie Dykes - La Verne

**Sun. November 12**

**Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time**

10:30 am Michael Lo Bue - Dieter & Joyce Raczowski

**...For our Sick & Deceased**

**Our Sick ~**

- Week II** Rick Novak, Marie Nardone
- Week III** Lorraine Macasevich, Maureen Robinson, Helen & Larry Armstrong, Brad Ganson, David DeVincentis
- Week IV** Betty Campbell, Mariann Pierson, Kathy Bruno, Jim Friel, Violet McKenna, Florence Scotto, Wayne Paret, Benjamin Mark Wilson III
- Week V** Sophia Wilson, Bertha Hudson, Deirdre Moor, Kenneth Bullins, Bobby Bullins, T.J. Woolwine, Susan Skaggs, Annie Jones, Toni Schiavoni, James Dean
- Week VI** Samantha Lane, Paul Spirovich, Joe Dugan, Jimmy Callahan, Mary Fullerton, Pat Gibson

**LITURGY**

**Praying for the Dead . . .**

St. John Vianney said, "If one knew what one may obtain from God by the intercession of the Holy Souls, they would not be so much abandoned. Let us pray a great deal for them, and they will pray for us."

There is still time to have your deceased loved ones remembered in the All Souls' Masses being offered during the month of November by writing their name in the Book of Remembrance and/or enrolling their name in the All Souls' Novena envelopes (located at all doors of the Church).

**LOOKING TO THE LIGHT**



**Article 8, 9, and 10 / Window 7:**

**Article 8:** "I believe in the Holy Spirit" – From the beginning to the end of time, whenever God sends His Son, he always sends His Spirit: their mission is conjoined and inseparable (# 743 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

**Article 9:** "I believe in the Holy Catholic Church" – The Church is, in a phrase used by the Fathers, the place "where the Spirit flourishes" (# 749 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

**Article 10:** "I believe in the forgiveness of sins" – It was when He gave the Holy Spirit to His apostles that the risen Christ conferred on them His own divine power to forgive sins (# 976 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

**Symbols: Christ and the Crossed**

**Keys of Heaven** – [The Church] has received the keys of the Kingdom of heaven so that, in her, sins may be forgiven through Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit's action (# 981 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

**The Holy Spirit as a Dove with Tongues of Fire** – In the form of tongues "as of fire", the Holy Spirit rests on the disciples on the morning of Pentecost and fills them with Himself. The symbolism of fire is one of the most expressive images of the Holy Spirit's actions (# 696 – Catechism of the Catholic Church).

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOw) is an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word offered weekly for children in Grades Pre-K through Grade 4 during the 10:30am Mass. No pre-registration is necessary! Just send your child forward with the other children!

**SOCIAL CONCERNS**



The **Food Pantry** is asking for Vienna sausages, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, canned pasta, and juice. Do not forget to bring in your coupons (no need to clip). Please, no expired food. Baskets can be

found at the doors.

[www.saintpolycarp.org](http://www.saintpolycarp.org)



The **Giving Tree Committee** will be meeting at 9:00 am in Rm. 4 on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. 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 19<sup>th</sup>. Each child is asked to request two items. Please purchase at least one of these requests. The gifts should be returned by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Christmas at Sea Program

Beginning Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, through Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 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.



### What is the box to the left of the ambo?

As the holidays and winter months draw close, this box serves as a reminder of all those who are in need and the many ways our parish assists them in those needs. Keep in mind whatever you do for the seafarers, the families in need through our Giving Tree and St. Vincent DePaul, you are doing for Jesus.

### Inquiring minds want to know...

What is an ambo and where is it? It's the stand to the left of the altar from which the Scripture and Gospel readings are proclaimed, where the homily is given and where the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) is prayed.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### Vocations

Today's readings remind us that priests are called to serve God and His people humbly and faithfully. As we pray today for God's blessings on our priests, please pray too that God call many healthy men to serve as priests in the Diocese of Wilmington. If you think God is calling you to the priesthood, contact Father Norm Carroll, (302 - 573 - 3113 or vocations@cdow.org).

### Children's Offertory Envelope Program

What is stewardship? Most likely, you are already doing stewardship: Giving to Good Will, giving to St. Vincent DePaul, helping at a soup kitchen, or participating in the parish Christmas Giving Tree ministry. Stewardship is a way of life. It is a way of living each day in gratitude for all the blessings that God has given to us. The roots of stewardship can be found in the Bible, which tells us repeatedly that God is the Creator and Giver of all gifts. It is our responsibility to show our gratitude to God for these gifts, by giving back to Him our time, talent and treasure.

Our PSR children need to hear the stewardship message—that God has given them many unique and special gifts. They need to hear that Jesus loves them just as they are. Moreover, they need to realize that they have something to share with the rest of the world. In September we began the Children's Offertory Envelope Program, which allows our children to place their own gifts to God in the Offertory basket each week.

Every student has the opportunity to participate by personally filling out their weekly envelope and placing it in the offertory basket at Mass. Envelopes were selected that invite each child to share how they lived their faith each week. The envelopes also allow the children to write down a gift of time to prayer, or the talent that they have shared that week in service to others.

### How are our children living their faith?

- "I helped my Grandma water her flowers."
- "I played with the new girl at school and made her feel welcome."
- "Making sure I say my prayers during meals especially in public."
- "Volunteering for the Agape. I helped with setup and cleanup."
- "Giving hugs to someone who needed a hug."
- "I have been helpful with my little sister."

(Visit our website to see more.)

### How have YOU lived your faith this week?

### 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](mailto:Deacon.Mike.Boyd@gmail.com). More information is available on our parish website.

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, after the 5 pm Mass and a pot luck supper, in the St. John the Apostle Parish Hall (506 Seabury Av, Milford, DE). Fr. Klein will explore some of the reasons why our society seems to have gone quite mad. Contact Mary Hall at 491 - 6432 with the number in your party if you are planning to attend.  
[www.saintpolycarp.org](http://www.saintpolycarp.org) **PAGE THREE - 301**

The **Open House** at **Saint Thomas More Academy (STMA)** is on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, between 12 pm and 3 pm. Stop by to meet our faculty, staff, and students. Visit [www.saintmore.org](http://www.saintmore.org) for information.

### 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.

### St. Polycarp Parish Directory

Lifetouch Photographers will be here for the final sittings on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have not already scheduled, please do. The sitting is free and you will receive a free 8x10 photograph as well as a new updated Parish Directory. Visit our website to schedule. If you have any questions or help scheduling, call Cindy Kennedy 302 - 653 - 7525.

## PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

### St. Polycarp Parishioners Pray the Rosary



The **Public Square Rosary**, sponsored by America Needs Fatima, was held on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm in front of the Blessed Mother statue (here, at St. Polycarp Church). Our rally was one of the 21,795 rallies that took place across the United States commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady's last apparition in Fatima, Portugal.

If you are interested, the Rosary is prayed daily before the 8:30 am Mass on Monday through Saturday. Come join the parish community in praying the Rosary.



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

Please join the **St. Polycarp team** for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bishop's 5K Run/Walk** on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 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!

**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.

## STEWARDSHIP

<b>October 29</b>	<b>Offertory</b>	<b>Poor Box</b>
<b>Collections</b>	<b>\$4,734</b>	<b>\$187.50</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,734</b>	
<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>\$7,330</b>	
<b>Over (Under)</b>	<b>(\$2,596)</b>	

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](http://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
October 29	206	None	\$99.00

### This Week in Our Parish

#### **Sun. November 5 National Vocation Awareness Week**

9 am PSR Grs. P-4 (Rms. 1-8 and Library)

9:45 am Parade of Saints

10:30 am BVM Sodality Corporate Communion

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Hall)

10:30 am PSR Grades P/K-4 attend Mass

11:30 am Agape (Hall)

5:30 pm Confirmation Class (Library)

#### **Mon. November 6**

11:30 am BVM Sodality

12:30 pm Academy 4's

7 pm RCIA Team Meeting (Library)

#### **Tues. November 7**

9 am Academy 3's

12:30 pm Academy 4's

7 pm PSR Grs. 5-8 (Rms. 1-6, 8, & Library)

7 pm Knights of Columbus 4<sup>th</sup> Degree (Hall)

#### **Wed. November 8**

9 am Academy 3's

9:30 am Professional Staff Meeting

12:30 pm Academy 4's

1:30 pm Photo Directory (Hall)

6 pm Pastoral Council Meeting (Library)

#### **Thurs. November 9**

9 am Academy 3's

12:30 pm Academy 4's

1 pm Columbiettes Officer Meeting

1:30 pm Photo Directory (Hall)

6 pm Girl Scouts #547 (Rm. 6)

7 pm Maintenance Committee (Rm. 4)

7 pm RCIA (Library)

#### **Fri. November 10**

9 am Academy 3's

9:15 am Altar Guild II

6:30 pm Parish and Family Life (Library)

#### **Sat. November 11**

**Veterans Day**

8 am RCIA Retreat (Hall & Church)

9:15 am Spiritual Wills Workshop (Library)

2:30 pm Confessions