

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024



SUNDAY SCRIPTURE – QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- ~ How will you find ways to focus on prayer this Advent?
- ~ When burdened with anxiety, how can you hand over your troubles to God during prayer?
- ~ What can you do this Advent to increase your love for others?

**Happy
New Year!**

Today, Sunday, December 1st, marks the beginning of a new liturgical year in the Church. The Advent Season always signals a new Church Year. What resolutions will you make for this new Liturgical Year?

LITURGY OF THE WORD - CYCLES OF THE CHURCH YEAR



In the Roman Rite, the Mass is made up of two principal parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The Mass begins with the Introductory Rites and ends with the Concluding Rites.

The Liturgy of the Word contains the First Reading, Responsorial Psalm, Second Reading (on Sundays and solemnities), Gospel Acclamation, Gospel, Homily, Profession of Faith (on Sundays, solemnities, and special occasions) and the Universal Prayer.

There are three Sunday Cycles (Year A, Year B, and Year C). Over the course of three years, you will hear from all of the Gospels. With the new Liturgical Year, the readings heard at Sunday Mass will now be from Year C. In Year C, we hear the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of John is read during the Easter season in all three years.

The first reading is usually from the Old Testament and reflects important themes from the Gospel reading. The second reading is usually from one of the epistles, a letter written to an early church community.

LET US PRAY

Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 30		St. Andrew, Apostle
4 pm Charles Robinson Jr.		- The Robinson Family
Bob Gallihar		- Deacon Frank & Debbie Weber
Gerri Nevins		- Sister Miriam Catherine. O.P.
Sunday, December 1		1 st Sunday of Advent
10:30 am Robert H. Smith		- Diane & Mike Dellinger
Janyce Pajerowski		- Richard Pajerowski
Linda Montuori		- Michele Coldiron
Monday, December 2	No Mass	- Advent Weekday
Tuesday, December 3		- St. Francis Xavier
8:30 am Parishioners		
Wednesday, December 4		- Advent Weekday,
		St. John Damascene
8:30 am Those enrolled in our Purgatorial Society		
Thursday, December 5	No Mass	- Advent Weekday
Friday, December 6	No Mass	- Advent Weekday
		St. Nicholas
Saturday, December 7		- St. Ambrose
4 pm Amelia Romquillo		- Betty Pingol
Constancia Alday		- William & Jessica Burke
Otto & Mary Paepke		- The Mood Family
Sunday, December 8		1 st Sunday of Advent
10:30 am Judith C. Jock		- Michael Jock
Gerald Mood		- Delaware State Columbiettes
Living Intention for Fr. Jim		- BVM Sodality

Please Pray for Our Sick & Those in Need of Our Prayers

To have someone's name added to the Bulletin for prayers, please email submission@saintpolycarp.org or call the office and leave a message. Names will remain on the prayer list for eight weeks unless other arrangements have been requested.

Phyllis King, Mary Anne Olenik, Carol Walczak, William Green, William Neilson, Jordan Butler, Mike Bernardi Family, Cicero Family, Carol Donahue, ReAnna Hackett, Jimmy Callahan, Jesse L. Brooks, Nancy Melville, Carol Timmons, Nick Sarro, Joe Wisnewski, Anne Borgman, Margaret Williams, Liam Travers, Jimmy Wiggins, Alison Seewald, Bob Reeder, Lauren Travers, Marguerite Maguire, Lisa Wisnewski, Kathleen Gianjullo, J. R. Peck, Josefina Ocasio, Diana Bullins, Kenny Bullins, Bobby Bullins, Teresa Tier, Bridget O'Connell, Maureen Robinson, Robin Husman, Milli Burris Alvarez, Lyllie Deter, Dottie Patterson, Laverne Dykes, Janet Alexander, Kay Gallihar, Grace Wagner, Cathy Connell, Joe Donofrio, April Doyle, Andrea Laws, Angel Grasso, James Dean, Greg Kujala, Holly Powell, Lily Griffiths, Patty Moon, Deirdre Moor, Linda Blow, Mariann Pierson, Jaci Stokes, and residents of Pinnacle and DHCI.

We Pray for our Deceased

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

Prayer Chain: To request prayers or to be part of our Prayer Chain, contact Laverne at laverne427@icloud.com or call 302-653-8064.

Rosary by Telephone: Tuesdays at 11 am. The dial in number is: 1-701-802-5254/PIN: 1747300#.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays, 11 am – 8 pm – Chapel; and at the end of the 4 pm Vigil Mass, before the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Flame of Love Rosary: Thursdays at 6:30 pm - Chapel
Divine Mercy: Fridays at 3 pm – Chapel.



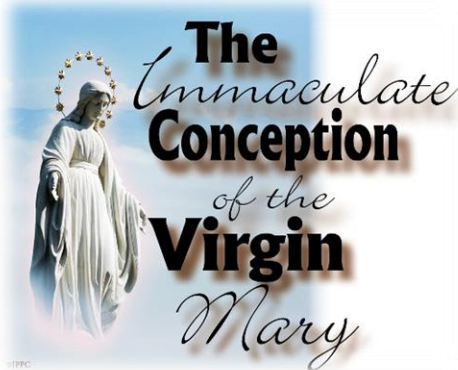
DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Use this QR code or visit

<https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>

LITURGY

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION A Holy Day of Obligation



The Catholic Church teaches that Mary was without Original Sin from the moment of conception.

This year, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, December 8th, falls on a Sunday, the Second Sunday of Advent. The Sunday Liturgy takes precedence over the Holy Day. Therefore, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, will be transferred to Monday, December 9th. It is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Accordingly, the faithful have **two obligations**:

1. To attend Mass either Saturday evening or Sunday morning to fulfill the obligation for the Second Sunday of Advent

4 pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 7th
10:30 am Mass on Sunday, December 8th

2. To attend Mass either Sunday evening or Monday to fulfill the obligation for the Immaculate Conception.

4 pm Vigil Mass on Sunday, December 8th
8:30 am Mass on Monday, December 9th
(St. Dennis – Monday, December 9th at 7 pm)

Many people wonder why they just can't attend the Sunday evening Mass and fulfill the obligation for both. The Readings for each Mass are different. One set of readings is for the Second Sunday of Advent and one set is for the Holy Day.

St. Dennis Parish
153 N Main St, Galena, MD 21635
410-648-5145 www.stdennischurch.org.



The Sacrament of

Reconciliation

St. Polycarp – In addition to Saturdays from 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm, Confessions will be heard following the 10:30 am Mass on Sundays during Advent: December 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

Deanery Penance Service

Thursday, December 5th, at 7 pm

Holy Cross Church, Dover

Several Priests will be present to hear Confessions.

Reconciliation Monday

Monday, December 23rd, 3 pm - 5 pm and 6 pm - 8 pm

St. Polycarp Church and St. Dennis Church

Two priests will be present during each session.

VOCATION CHALICE



The Vocation Chalice encourages individuals and/or families to pray regularly for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Call or text Alice Gaston if you can take home the vocation chalice for a week of prayer, 302-670-7924.

Family/Person	Weekend	Mass time
Lail Family	December 8 th	10:30 am
Netz Family	December 29 th	10:30 am
Arrive 15 minutes before your mass time and pick up (or drop off) materials in the sacristy.		

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

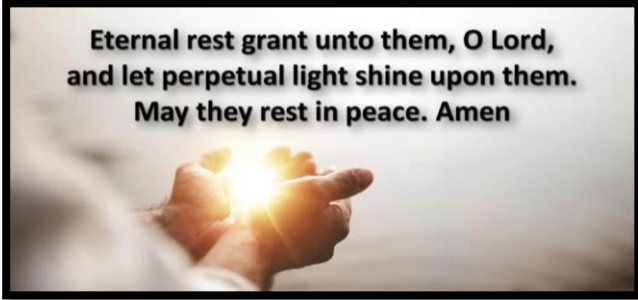


Advent is a time of preparation. Just like parents in every time and every location prepare for the birth of their child, Mary and Joseph did their best to welcome the Holy Child in the humble surroundings where our Lord entered the world. Wouldn't this be the ideal time to proclaim the birth of our Savior by decorating our Church with all of the splendor befitting the birth of the King of Kings? During this Advent season, please consider using the Christmas flower envelope to help us proclaim our joy as we rejoice in the birth of our Lord.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA OF MASSES

Christmas is a time to reflect on the blessings of family and shared togetherness. We exchange gifts as an act of love and appreciation, but there is no greater gift we can give than the gift of the Holy Mass. Although a loved one may no longer be present to share this time with us, let us remember that, now more than ever, they rely upon us for their spiritual well-being. Take a moment to show your affection by praying on their behalf. Living or deceased, the best gift you can give is the gift of the Mass. Please use the Christmas Novena envelope to show your loved ones they have not been forgotten.

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH – December 4th
We Pray for those enrolled in our Purgatorial Society



- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sylvia Vessels DuRoss | Gerald J. Mood |
| Bob Gallihar | Delia Cantor |
| Amelia Ronquillo | Rodolfo Baltazar |
| William & Mary Etta Maycen | Albino & Mary Gioiosa |
| Joseph Gioiosa | Roberto Pingol |
| Elizabeth Ann Lee | Diane Kravitz |
| The Petrilla Family | Robert H. & Carol D. Smith Family |
| Jimmy Biggs | Kathleen Donnell |
| Kenneth & Margaret Burke | Louis & Angelina Arrighi |
| Barbara Hynson | Victor Chavez |
| Joseph Maguire | The Saber Family |
| William E. Brown | Camilo Arguelles |
| Filomena Arguelles | Lucita Dico |
| Serbolo Edward Ibao | Win Him Eng |
| Sonja Ann Gilliard | Eddie Robert Maycen |
| Vicente D. Lim, Jr. | Ponnampalam Sabanayagam |
| Maureen McNamee | Deacon Charles Robinson |
| Charles Robinson, Jr. | Jose Crisostomo |
| Sophia Crisostomo | Mario & Rosina Chiusolo* |
| Stephanie McDowell* | Preston & Luigina Pendarvis* |
| Alexander & Agnes Peters* | |

For all those who have no one to pray for them.

* indicates final month enrollment

Don't forget to check out our Bulletin Overflow for things that just don't fit in this bulletin.

www.saintpolycarp.org/overflow

LET US PRAY...



Please join our Facilities Planning Committee in prayer as we seek God's guidance for updating our Parish kitchen. We will be praying the "Planning Prayer" immediately following the Prayer of the Faithful. Prayer cards are available in the pews. Please return your card to the pew following Mass.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

GIVING TREE

Return Gifts No Later Than December 1



Our Giving Tree Committee coordinates the Christmas gifts for needy children in our community. We work closely with our Parish School of Religion and the Smyrna School District to identify children in need. The **Giving Tree** is set up inside the Main Entrance of the church with the children's requests. Please purchase a gift for the child on the tag you choose and return it to the Parish Hall no later than **Sunday, December 1st**. Contact Fran and Jim Walls at 302-359-9152, if you have any questions. **Thank you for your continued support and generosity!**

FINANCE COUNCIL

RESERVED PARKING SPOT

ALL BIDS DUE THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 AT 3 PM



WHAT: Help out the church with this annual fundraiser and Parish tradition of putting up a parking spot to the highest bidder! You will have the reserved spot (with your name on it) for one year. With winter weather coming, maybe you want a close spot for you or a loved one (maybe as an

early Christmas gift.)

WHERE: Back parking lot by the brick wall around the HVAC unit, practically right under the portico!

HOW: Please submit your bid amount by **December 1st at 3 pm** by emailing financialmanager@saintpolycarp.org with the Subject Line: "Parking Spot Bid" or dropping it in the collection basket or black drop box under the portico labeled "Parking Spot Bid" with your name & phone number on it. Besides individual bidders, Parish organizations or groups can consider putting in a collective bid for your group. All bids **MUST** be in writing.

NATIVITY OF THE LORD
MASS SCHEDULE



ST. POLYCARP CHURCH

Tuesday December 24 at 4 pm
 Tuesday, December 24 at 9 pm
 Wednesday, December 25 at 10 am

ST. DENNIS CHURCH

Tuesday, December 24 at 4 pm
 Tuesday, December 24 at 6 pm (Hispanic)
 Wednesday, December 25 at 10 am

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE



Parish & Family Life is representing St. Polycarp Church in the Smyrna/Clayton

Christmas Parade being held Sunday, December 1st. The parade will begin at Clayton Elementary at 5 pm. If you cannot join us, consider supporting us with a bag of candy which will help us spread Christmas cheer and welcome members in our community! Contact Deanna Lail at dlail14@comcast.net or 302-535-2957 or Ashley Wilson at ashfran8587@gmail.com.

COLUMBIETTES ANNUAL COOKIE WALK



Join us on Saturday, December 21st, after the 4 pm Mass or on Sunday, December 22nd, after the 10:30 am Mass. You will be able to purchase delicious homemade cookies lovingly baked by our Columbiettes! Many varieties. Only \$1 per bag!



Come join the Brother Vincent K of C and Columbiettes for dinner, a show and more! St. Polycarp Mother Drexel Hall on Saturday, January

18. Contact Anna Skinner at ANNA.SKINZ@gmail.com, 302-883-5647 or Mike Cunningham at mikec923@yahoo.com, 302-389-8952 for tickets or more information. See the flyer on the bulletin boards for details!

COLLECTIONS

OFFERTORY

Date	Offertory	Children's Offertory	Total Offertory
November 17	\$4192	\$21.65	\$4213.65

SECOND COLLECTION - NOVEMBER 10

SVDP/Poor Box	Holy Day	Human Dev.	Rel. Retirement
\$194.50	\$10	\$774.68	\$5
Christmas	Christmas Novena	Christmas Flowers	
\$30	\$10	\$10	

The Second Collection next weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Aging religious need your help. "Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

eGiving through Faith Direct is the easiest and most convenient way for our parish to receive your weekly offering and other Church support Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/DE831 or call their Customer Service team at 866-507-8757. You can also text "Enroll" to 302-202-2251 or you can use this QR code for easy giving.



Thank you for your continued generosity.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

For the most up-to-date information Visit <https://saintpolycarp.org/calendar/>

Saturday, November 30 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS
Sunday, December 1 9 am Faith with Friends (Library) 10:30 am MASS 10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Hall) Following Mass - Confession
Monday, December 2 8 am Delaware State Police Memorial Service (Church/Hall) 6:30 pm OCIA Session (Hall)
Tuesday, December 3 8:30 am MASS 9 am Adult Faith Formation - Connected in Christ (Library) 11 am - 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel) 11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone) 4:15 pm Finance Council Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Facilities Planning Committee (Hall) 6:30 pm K of C 4 th Degree (Library) 7 pm Grade 2 & ISP Parent & Student Meeting & Rehearsal (Church) 7 pm PSR Grades 5-8 (Rooms 3-8)
Wednesday, December 4 OFFICE CLOSED 8:30 am MASS 1:15 pm Pinnacle - Deacon Frank 5 pm Forum Planning Meeting (Library) 6 pm Pastoral Council Executive Committee (Library)
Thursday, December 5 10 am Pathway to Peace (Library) 6 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (Hall) 6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel) 7 pm Deanery Advent Reconciliation Service (Holy Cross, Dover) 7 pm Grief Support Group (Room 8) 7 pm K of C 3 rd Degree Business Meeting (Library)
Friday, December 6 3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)
Saturday, December 7 11 am First Reconciliation (Church) 12 pm Reception for First Reconciliation (Hall/Kitchen) 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS - ADORATION

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: HOLIDAYS 2024

Due to early deadlines for submission to our publisher for the upcoming holidays, below are the deadlines for submitting articles to be published in our bulletin:

BULLETIN DATE	SUBMIT BY NOON
December 15	Tuesday, December 3
December 22	Monday, December 9
December 29	Monday, December 16
January 5	Wednesday, December 18
January 12	Thursday, January 2

Email submissions to: submission@saintpolycarp.org