

ST. POLYCARP CHURCH

In
The Silver Lake Deanery
Of
The Diocese of Wilmington

Rev. James D. Hreha, Pastor

Deacon Frank Weber



Pastoral Council—Ken Eckard

Finance Council—Kevin Titus



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm & Sunday 10:30 am

Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 am

LIVE STREAM MASS: Saturdays at 4pm,
Tuesday & Wednesday at 8:30 am.

www.youtube.com/c/StPolycarpSmyrnaDE

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 2:30–3:30 pm or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE:

Monday—Friday, 9 am to 3 pm

302-653-8279

55 Ransom Lane Smyrna, DE 19977

www.saintpolycarp.org

Parish Secretary, Kathy Watts

office@saintpolycarp.org

Financial Manager, Laura Pajerowski

financialmanager@saintpolycarp.org

Facilities Manager, George Hutchinson

facilitiesmanager@saintpolycarp.org

Communications Director, Judy Lamborn

communications@saintpolycarp.org

CHRISTIAN FORMATION OFFICE:

302-653-4101

Coordinator of Religious Education, Erica Taylor

dre@saintpolycarp.org

Assistant to CRE, Judy Lamborn

assistdre@saintpolycarp.org

For those in need—St. Vincent de Paul Society

302-264-6630

The angels sang a message of

J·O·Y

Romans 15:12-13



Third Sunday of Advent

WELCOME

We're glad you joined us today. If you are new to the parish, please consider registering. Forms can be found at the Church doors or online at www.saintpolycarp.org.

THE SACRAMENTS OF OUR CHURCH

Baptism: Catechesis is provided for parents and godparents. Contact the Parish Secretary to register.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, or completing the Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist and Confirmation), contact Deacon Frank at the Parish Office or email DeaconFrank@saintpolycarp.org.

Marriage: Formation is provided for couples. Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance. Contact the Parish Office.

Vocations: Contact Rev. Norman Carroll at (302) 573 – 3113

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the Parish Office.

Nursing Home Communion Services: DHCI, 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am. Pinnacle, 1st Wednesday of the month at 1:15 pm.

For Funerals: Contact the Funeral Home of your choice. They will then coordinate with the Parish Office.

*Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday - Rejoice!
December 15, 2024*



SUNDAY SCRIPTURE – QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- ~ As an Advent practice, how can you embrace the joy that is part of being a Christian?
- ~ Where is your kindness known?
- ~ How can you practice the humility that John the Baptist shows?



ST. POLYCARP CHURCH

- Tuesday, December 24th, at 4 pm
(Children's Nativity Pageant to Follow)
- Tuesday, December 24th, at 9 pm
- Wednesday, December 25th, at 10 am

ST. DENNIS CHURCH

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

You are cordially invited to join us at the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass to watch our 1st graders bring to life our Nativity Pageant.



The reenactment of the First Christmas will take place immediately following the Mass. This performance will surely put you into the Christmas Spirit.

LET US PRAY

Intentions for the Week

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Saturday, December 14 | St. John of the Cross |
| 4 pm Winifreda Aboyme | - Marie & Epi Aboyme |
| Jack & Jared Grove | - Carol Grove |
| Bob Gallihar | - The Taylor Family |
| Sunday, December 15 | 3rd Sunday of Advent |
| 10:30 am Gerald Mood | - The Hutchinson Family |
| James R. Kinsella, Jr. | - Nancy A. Kinsella |
| RoseMarie Blanton | - Lori & Andy Ostrowski & Family |
| Monday, December 16 | No Mass |
| Tuesday, December 17 | |
| 8:30 am Catherine Philomena Collins | - The Sloven Family |
| William Sherman | - Roseann Maguire |
| Gary Paul | - Roseann Maguire |
| Wednesday, December 18 | |
| 8:30 am Parishioners | |
| Thursday, December 19 | No Mass |
| Friday, December 20 | No Mass |
| Saturday, December 21 | St. Peter Canisius |
| 4 pm Barbara Hynson | - Janice & Roy Arrighi |
| For the Intentions of Father Jim | - Parishioner |
| Sharon A. Kornutiak | - Carol & Leon Walczak |
| Sunday, December 22 | 4th Sunday of Advent |
| 10:30 am Lucy Sumaraga | - Dee Lim |
| Gerald Mood | - Joanna Thalheimer |
| Rose Marie Blanton | -Kathy Ursitti |

Bread and Wine Offering for December 21st is in celebration of the 50th Wedding Anniversary for Renato & Ana Besido, at the request of Ana Besido

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.

Paul Camerote, 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 Wisniewski, Anne Borgman, Margaret Williams, Liam Travers, Jimmy Wiggins, Alison Seewald, Bob Reeder, Lauren Travers, Marguerite Maguire, Lisa Wisniewski, Kathleen Gianjullo, J. R. Peck, Josefina Ocasio, Diana Bullins, Kenny Bullins, Bobby Bullins, Teresa Tier, Bridget O'Connell, Maureen Robinson, Robin Husman, Millie 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 Cookie Ruane at

rosie11031949@yahoo.com or call 302-540-6429.

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.

LITURGY



Don't stay away because it's been so long or you forgot the "how to". The Priest will help you through this Sacrament of mercy and love.

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 15th and 22nd.

Reconciliation Monday

Confessions will be heard at St. Polycarp from 3-5 pm and 6-8 pm on Monday, December 23rd. Two priests will be available: Fr. Trader & Fr. Hynes from 3-5 pm; Fr. Jim & Fr. Hynes from 6-8 pm. Confessions will also be heard at St. Dennis from 3-5 pm (Fr. Jim) & 6-8 pm (Fr. Herring).

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & NOVENA OF MASSES



Gifts are usually given at the birth of a child. Let us generously give the Holy Family beautiful flowers for Christmas representing the intentions of our loved ones.

Christmas is a magical time of year for LOVE and PEACE and time to reflect and BELIEVE that God gave us His Son to be with us always. There is much comfort in knowing that God loves us unconditionally. Share the joy of Christmas by adding all your loved ones to our Christmas Novena of Masses.

Envelopes can be found at the doors of the Church.

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
Netz Family	December 29 th	10:30 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Chapel will **not** be open for Adoration on the following Tuesdays: December 24th & December 31st

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Use this QR code or visit

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



PARISH & FAMILY LIFE



Columbiettes

COOKIE WALK 2024

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!



BREAKFAST WITH JESUS



Come join us Sunday morning after Mass on December 22nd, for BREAKFAST WITH JESUS. Brother Vincent Knights of Columbus will be serving a pancake breakfast with scrambled eggs. Let us celebrate the pending birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rumors have it that a jolly elf in red will appear.

COME JOIN US!
 Saturday January 18, 2025
 5:30-9:00 P.M.
Brother Vincent #7517
K of C & Columbiettes

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 Mike Cunningham (mikec923@yahoo.com) (302-389-8952)
 RSVP BY: January 4, 2025

Make checks payable to:
Knights of Columbus #7517
 Mail to: Knights of Columbus #7517
 55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, Delaware

SOCIAL CONCERNS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

The Society is a worldwide Catholic Lay Organization in over 156 Countries with over 1 million members. In the United States, there are 100,000 members in 155 Dioceses. In the Wilmington Diocese, we have over 1,000 members. The vocation of the Society is to follow Christ through service to those in need and so bear witness to His Compassion and Love. Vincentians show their commitment through person-to-person service and seeing the face of Christ in the people we serve. For more information you may contact any of our members or Chuck Miller (302) 270-4942. We meet monthly on the second Monday of the month in the library at 12:00.

Members of the St Vincent de Paul Society assisted 118 families and individuals during the 2024 Vincentian year. This help totaled \$31,691 and helped our parishioners and neighbors with rent, mortgage payments, utilities, medicine, transportation, and food. None of this would be possible without donations to the poor box and individual donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society. The Diocesan Annual St. Vincent de Paul Society Mass and Dinner was held at St. Edmonds in Rehoboth on September 28th, Bishop Koenig celebrated the Mass and joined us for the dinner.

Throughout the Diocese, St Vincent de Paul helps over 25,000 people in need with over \$3M in services, food, utilities, rent and medical assistance. The most critical need in Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland is affordable housing. For many, the average cost of an apartment is \$1,500 - \$2,000 a month. This is beyond the ability of those on a fixed income or making less than \$35,000 a year to afford. Frequently there is a 2 - 6 year wait for affordable housing throughout Delaware, places like Luther Towers, Frazier Place and Delaware Housing Authority. The members of St Vincent de Paul of St Polycarp frequently are trying to bridge the gap of what people can afford and the actual cost of housing. Your generosity makes a dire situation livable.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE

Is showing a Very Important Short Video

“The Veil Removed”

Movie time!

Snacks will be provided!

Come to the hall immediately after the 4 pm Mass this Saturday, December 14, 2024. We will watch a very short video (about 7 minutes) and have a snack. This video is highly acclaimed, and we are sure you will not be disappointed. This video is approved for all ages.



ANNUAL DEACON CHARLIE ROBINSON MEMORIAL ADVENT POSTER CONTEST

Our PSR students participated once again in the Annual Deacon Charlie Memorial Advent Poster Contest. Our students did a remarkable job and are getting more and more creative each year.

Sunday:

1st Place: Ryder Hackett (PreK)

2nd Place: Ethan Okpara (2nd Grade)

Honorable Mention: Jase Reed (3rd Grade)

Tuesday:

1st Place: Kiara Okpara (7th Grade)

2nd Place: Alana Oscar (8th Grade)

Honorable Mention: Hailey Arrighi (6th Grade)

Be sure to stop by Mother Drexel Hall to see for yourself all the wonderful posters! All 70 posters are on display from now through the Epiphany!

Honorable Mention: Jase Reed (3rd Grade)



Honorable Mention: Hailey Arrighi (6th Grade)



CHECK IT OUT!

Did you know that our Parish has a Lending Library?

We have a Lending Library Cart right next to the Chapel in the main hall by the Office entrance. About every 4-6 weeks books are rotated from our larger Parish Library. You can find books about the Catholic Faith, Saints, Popes, Prayer, Seasonal Feasts, and lots more.

If you would like to check out a book, or two, from the Library Cart, please make sure to write your name, contact information, and date that you checked out the book(s). Then, when you return the book(s) just put it back on the cart and write the return date where you signed out.

We work hard to maintain the integrity of all the books we lend out, so, please, do not leave any books on the cart that were not checked out from the cart.

PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS

**THE ANNUAL FORUM
FORUM**



Mark your calendars! The Saint Polycarp Annual Forum will take place on Sunday, January 12, 2025, following the 10:30 am Mass. Come and hear about our Parish accomplishments and voice your dreams for the coming year.

RESERVED PARKING - WE HAVE A WINNER!



The highest bidder in our annual parking spot auction wishes to remain anonymous and would like the parking spot to go to Deacon Frank Weber in gratitude for his ministry here at St. Polycarp. Enjoy the parking spot for another year, Deacon Frank!

Thanks to everyone who submitted a bid.

COLLECTIONS

Figures for this week's collections were unavailable due to the early submission dates for the Bulletin. Figures will be reported at a later date.

The Second Collection last weekend was for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit <https://retiredreligious.org/>.

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, December 14 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS Following Mass - CFC Video "The Veil Removed" (Hall/Kitchen)	
Sunday, December 15 9 am Faith with Friends (Library) 9 am Nativity Rehearsal (Church) 9 am PSR Grades P/K-4, (Rooms 1 - 6, 8) 10:30 am MASS 10:30 am Grade 4 Families attend Mass 10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Hall) Following Mass - Confession	
Monday, December 16 6:30 pm Brother Vincent Columbiettes - Rosary (Library) 6:30 pm OCIA Session (Hall) 7 pm Brother Vincent Columbiettes - Meeting (Hall)	
Tuesday, December 17 8:30 am MASS 9 am Adult Faith Formation - Connected in Christ (Library) 10:30 am DHCI Communion Service (at DHCI) 11 am - 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel) 11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone) 1 pm CFC General Meeting & Executive Committee (Room 4) 7 pm PSR Grades 5-8 (Rooms 3-8)	
Wednesday, December 18 8:30 am MASS 9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting (Library) 6:30 pm Baptismal Class Advance Registration Required (Rm 7) 7 pm K of C Officers Meeting (Library)	
Thursday, December 19 10 am Pathway to Peace (Library) 6 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (Hall) 6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel) 6:30 pm Digital Ministry (Library) 6:30 pm Parish & Family Life (Rm 7) 7 pm Grief Support Group (Room 8)	
Friday, December 20 3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)	OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON
Saturday, December 21 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS Following Mass - Columbiettes Cookie Walk (Hall)	

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas from Tuesday, December 24th, to Thursday, December 26th. The Parish Office will be open on Friday, December 27th, at 9 am.

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 29	Monday, December 16
January 5	Wednesday, December 18
January 12	Thursday, January 2

Email submissions to: submission@saintpolycarp.org

"It's Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, It's Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." Mother Teresa

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 302-656-3323

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 302-737-2524

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S A M I

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