

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023



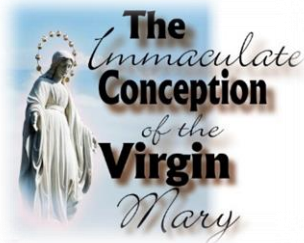
SUNDAY SCRIPTURE - QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- ~ How can you make Advent an opportunity to share your faith with another?
- ~ What daily practices in your home will help you turn to God during these weeks of anticipation?
- ~ Could you schedule a time during the day to be especially alert to God's presence?

HAPPY NEW LITURGICAL YEAR!

The Church begins her new Liturgical Year this weekend with the 1st Sunday of Advent. The Advent Season is a time of preparation of our hearts and lives by focusing on the heart of Christmas – the Birth of Jesus. The Church sets aside these four weeks prior to Christmas as a time of preparation of our hearts so that we can truly understand the meaning of Christmas. Will you choose to make this Advent Season, the Advent that truly prepares you and your loved ones to celebrate the birth of our Savior?

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Friday, December 8th, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day is a Holy Day of Obligation. This day is also the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America. The decision for the USA to be dedicated specifically to Mary under her title as “The Immaculate Conception” was made by the United States Bishops in 1846 and this choice was approved by Pope Pius X in 1847.

On the Immaculate Conception we remember that Mary was conceived without sin, preparing her with special graces to be the mother of God.

Masses at St. Polycarp for the Holy Day:
Thursday, December 7th, at 4 pm (Vigil Mass)
Friday, December 8th, at 7:30* am and 7 pm
Mass at St. Dennis for the Holy Day:
Mass on Friday, December 8th, at 9:30 am

*Please visit www.saintpolycarp.org for time.

LET US PRAY

Intentions

Saturday, December 2	First Saturday/ Blessed Virgin Mary
4:00 pm Janyce Pajerowski	- Richard Pajerowski
Dolores Rossetti	- Lois Ann Smith
William Nash	- Kathy & Larry Borgman
Sunday, December 3	1 st Sunday of Advent
10:30 am Amelia Ronquillo	- Betty Pingol
Otto & Mary Paepke	- Gerald & Linda Mood
Fred Isbert	- Fred & Theresa DiMeo
Monday, December 4	St. John Damascene
NO MASS	
Tuesday, December 5	
am Agnes V. Mullen	- Sloven Family
Maryann Styoiniski	- Sloven Family
Michael C. Sartin	- Sloven Family
Wednesday, December 6	St. Nicholas
am	Those enrolled in our Purgatorial Society
Thursday, December 7	St. Ambrose
Please visit www.saintpolycarp.org for weekday Mass schedule	
4:00 pm	Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception
Friday, December 8	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
am	
7:00 pm	
Saturday, December 9	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
4:00 pm Mildred S. Lux	- Rita Brown
George Reuter	- Kathleen Reuter
Catherine Corso	- Chuck & Erica Taylor
Sunday, December 10	2 nd Sunday of Advent
10:30 am Chrystalie Bruso	- Riordan M ^o Donald
Vincente D. Lim, Jr.	- Dee Lim
Grace Howard	- Josie & Rudy Cinco

Week of December 3rd:

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in memory of Constancia Alday at the request of Bill & Jessica Burke.
Our Sanctuary Lamp in Saint Ann's Chapel burns for an increase in vocations.

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 two months (eight weeks) unless other arrangements have been requested.

Diane Bullins, Bridget O'Connell, Ava P, Robin Husman, Milli Burris Alvarez, Jack Barnas, Margaret Sevellina, Lyllie Deter, Leon Walczak, John Ruane, Dottie Patterson, Laverne Dykes, Janet Alexander, Bob Gallihar, Kay Gallihar, Grace Wagner, Patricia Capobianco, Barbara Hynson, Charlotte Konesky, Tina Kelley, Cathy Connell, Jen McCade, Joe Donofrio, April Doyle, Beth Kelly, Andrea Laws, Kaysie Borgman, Angie & Al Grasso, Erica White, James Dean, Violet Farkas, Greg Kujala, Teresa Tier, Holly Powell, Rob Tuxward, Billy Killen, Andrew Cella, Jr., Lily Griffiths, Rob Miller, Patty Moon, Deirdre Moor, Linda Blow, Mariann Pierson, Ruth Staub, 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



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Visit <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading> or use this QR code

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, 9 am – 8 pm – Chapel, 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

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please pray for our Parish children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on **Saturday, December 2nd.**



The Sacrament of

Reconciliation

St. Polycarp – In addition to Saturdays from 2:30 – 3:30 pm, Confessions will be heard following the 10:30 am Mass on Sundays during Advent: December 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th

Deanery Penance Service

Thursday, December 14th, at 7pm
Holy Cross Church, Dover

Several Priests will be present to hear Confessions

Reconciliation Monday

Monday, December 18th, 3 pm - 5 pm and 6 pm - 8 pm
St. Polycarp Church and St. Dennis Church
Two priests will be present during each session.

St. Dennis – In addition to Sundays 7 – 7:30 am, Confessions will be heard 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 7th & 5:30 pm – 6 pm Thursday, December 21st.

December 24th is both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve.

MASSES FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23rd at 4 pm
Sunday, December 24th at 10:30 am.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24th at 4 pm and 9 pm
Monday, December 25th at 10 am.

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH – December 6
We Pray for those enrolled in our Purgatorial Society

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen**



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|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Walczak Family | Antanavige Family |
| Jose Remigio | Flora Sevilena |
| Roberto Pingol | Petrilla Family |
| Robert H. & Carole D. Smith | Sylvia Vessels DuRoss |
| Delia Cantor | Amelia Ronquillo |
| William & Mary Etta Maycen | Joseph Gioiosa |
| Albino & Mary Gioiosa | Victor Chavez |
| Mary DePasquale | Kenneth & Margaret Burke |
| Louis & Angelina Arrighi | William E. Brown |
| Saber Family | Vicente D. Lim, Jr. |
| Sara Jean Brimson | Deacon Charles Robinson |
| Carmela Tupia | Luigna & Preston Pendarvis |
| Rosina & Mario Chiusolo | |
- And for all those who have no one to pray for them.

ADORATION IN ST. ANN'S CHAPEL

Tuesdays from 9 am to 8 pm.

We need adorers to fill the following time slots:
Tuesday Mornings - 9:30, 10:00, 10:30
Tuesday Afternoons - 2:30, 3:30

Please consider signing up to fill one of these openings.
Contact Cheryl Thomas at (302) 363 – 0404 or salcrest7@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.

THE VOCATION CHALICE

The Vocation Chalice encourages individuals and/or families to pray regularly for vocations to priesthood and consecrated life. The Chalice is taken home with a promise to pray for vocations during that week. Call or text Alice Gaston at (302) 670 – 7924 if you can take home the vocation chalice for a week of prayer.

Family/Person	Weekend	Mass time
D. Adams	December 10	10:30 am
S. Roch	December 24	4:00 pm

Arrive 15 minutes before your mass time and pick up (or drop off) materials in the sacristy.

A VOCATION CALL?

“Like a man away on a journey, he assigns each of us a task; be on the alert.” Being chosen to serve as a priest or in the consecrated life is an amazing work of the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother to help you recognize and be faithful to your vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office at (302) 573 – 3113 or by email at vocations@cdow.org.

LITURGY COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 2023 NEWS



Here are a few things from our discussions at our November Meeting:

*For Advent – Music: Mass of Creation and Memorial Acclamation is “When We Eat This Bread”

*For Christmas – Music: Mass of Christ the Savior and Memorial Acclamation is “Save Us, Savior”

*Deanery Issues – Everyone is asked to take the survey for our parish. Visit www.iccmaryl.org/survey to take the survey.

* Masses for the Immaculate Conception at St. Polycarp are: Thursday, December 7th, at 4 pm and Friday, December 8th at 7:30 am and 7 pm.

* Every member of the committee received the Litany of the Holy Eucharist which was one of the new resources from the National Eucharistic Revival.

SOCIAL CONCERNS



THE GIVING TREE

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, Dec. 3rd**. Contact Fran Walls at **302-653-1450**, if you have any questions. **Thank You!**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

2023 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM

DROP OFF THIS THURSDAY



The St Vincent De Paul Society, along with the Knights of Columbus, will be conducting the Annual Christmas Gift Program.

Parishioners are asked to donate a turkey or ham. Gift cards (not to exceed \$30.00) are also greatly appreciated. Kindly bring your frozen turkey, ham or gift card to St. Polycarp’s Church parking lot on Thursday evening, December 7th between 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. St Vincent de Paul members will deliver the turkeys, hams and gift cards Saturday morning, December 9th, between 9 am to noon, to those in need within the parish boundaries. Someone must be home to receive these gifts.

If you know of anyone who is in need of a turkey/ham/gift card, please call St. Vincent de Paul at (302) 264 – 6630.

THE SMYRNA/CLAYTON MINISTERIUM FOOD PANTRY



is located downstairs at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 22 N. Union St., Smyrna. The pantry is open from 9:30 am to 10:30 am, Monday through Friday.

Here at St. Polycarp we have bins under the coat rack in the hallway outside of the Mother Drexel Hall for your donations. The pantry is in great need of cereal, juice boxes or pouches, peanut butter and jelly, hamburger helper, tuna helper, canned tuna, sloppy joe sauce (Manwich), boxed spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, vegetable beef and chicken noodle soups, macaroni and cheese, and Chef Boyardee canned pastas. Please **NO CANNED** vegetables or beans are currently needed.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

BREAKFAST WITH JESUS



Come join us Sunday morning, December 17th, following 10:30 am Mass, for **BREAKFAST WITH JESUS**.

Brother Vincent Knights of Columbus will be serving a delicious breakfast. Let us celebrate the upcoming birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. There is also a

strong rumor that St. Nicholas (Santa) will show up to check on the children. Breakfast is free (donations accepted).

“SAVE THE DATE”

Come join us on January 13, 2024 to **ROCK** in the New Year. Brother Vincent Knights of Columbus along with our Columbiettes is sponsoring a **ROCK AND ROLL TRIBUTE** with an evening of dinner and dancing. Mr. Charisma will be back to entertain us. Details to follow in future bulletins.



PASTORAL COUNCIL

PARISH APPRECIATION DINNER

Mark your calendars! The Pastoral Council is planning a celebration for Saturday, February 10, 2024, after the 4 pm Mass. Check the bulletin and weekly updates for more information. We are looking forward to honoring our parishioners who volunteer in the many ministries here at Saint Polycarp Parish.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: EARLY DEADLINES

BULLETIN DATE	SUBMISSIONS DUE
December 17	December 6, by noon
December 24	December 12, by end of day
December 31	December 19, by end of day
January 7	December 26, by end of day

Email all submissions to:

submission@saintpolycarp.org

**The Second Year of the *Eucharistic Revival*,
The Devotion To The Eucharist:
The Greatest Gift God has Ever Given
Are you looking for a Giving Opportunity?**



As we continue in the second year of the *Eucharistic Revival*, we are reminded of the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and how bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Would you like to make an offering for the wafers and wine that will be offered up during the Mass? What a wonderful way to participate in the offering of ourselves as the bread and wine are brought forward during the offertory procession.

If you are interested in making a donation toward our celebration of the Eucharist during this special second year, you can do so in several ways... Put a check in an envelope and mark it for "Eucharistic Revival" and place it in the offertory collection at Mass. You can drop off cash or a check at the office or place it in the mail. Just make sure to mark it for "*Eucharistic Revival*". Questions? Call or email Laura at the office (302) 653-8279 or finanacemanager@saintpolycarp.org. Thank you!



Please consider signing up for eGiving. Visit faith.direct/DE831 or you can use Text-to-Give. Text "Enroll" to (302) 202 - 2251 or you can use this QR code for easy giving. *Thank you for your generosity.*

Stewardship – A Way of Living

Today, as we begin our new liturgical year, it's an excellent time to consider the ways in which we can share our *Time, Talent, and Treasure* to build the Kingdom of God here at St. Polycarp. Imagine the impact even a modest increase in each of these areas will have on enhancing our parish life!

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

For the most up-to-date information
Visit <https://saintpolycarp.org/calendar/>
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am to 3 pm

<p>Saturday, December 2 11 am First Reconciliation 12 pm Reception for First Reconciliation 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS</p>
<p>Sunday, December 3 9 am PSR Grades P/K – 4 (Rms. 1-6, 8) 10:30 am MASS 10:30 am BVM Corporate Communion 10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word 11:30 am Confessions (Reconciliation Room) 1 pm DE State Columbiettes Christmas Party (Hall/Kitchen) 5:30 pm Confirmation Class (Library)</p>
<p>Monday, December 4 9:30 am Delaware State Police Memorial Service (Church/Hall) 6:30 pm RCIA Session (Hall)</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 5 7:30 am MASS 9 am - 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel) 9 am Adult Faith Formation - Connected in Christ (Library) 11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone) 4:15 pm Finance Council Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 pm K o C 4th Degree (Library) 6:30 pm PSR Grades 5-8 (Rms. 3-6, 8)</p>
<p>Wednesday, December 6 7:30 am MASS 1:15 pm – Pinnacle Communion Service 6 pm Pastoral Council Executive Committee (Library)</p>
<p>Thursday, December 7 7:30 am MASS 10 am Seasons of Hope (Library) 4 pm MASS (Vigil – Immaculate Conception) 6 pm Faith with Friends/Adult Faith Formation (Room 7) 6 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (Hall) 6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel) 7 pm K of C 3rd Degree Business Meeting (Library)</p>
<p>Friday, December 8 OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 am MASS 3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel) 7 pm MASS</p>
<p>Saturday, December 9 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS</p>

COLLECTIONS

COLLECTIONS – NOVEMBER 19

Offertory	Children's Offertory	Total Offertory
\$3,421	\$62	\$3,483

Christmas Flowers	Christmas Novena	Christmas Offering	Holy Days	SVDP/Poor Box
\$40	\$40	\$75	\$20	\$305
Share in the Spirit		Priest Retirement		
\$60		\$60		

This weekend's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Support a lifetime of service. Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education, and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

There will be a collection for the Immaculate Conception at the 4 pm Vigil Mass on December 7th and at both Masses on December 8th.

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**