

ST. POLYCARP CHURCH

In
The Silver Lake Deanery
Of
The Diocese of Wilmington

Rev. James D. Hreha, Pastor

Deacon Frank Weber



Pastoral Council—Kathy Curlett

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

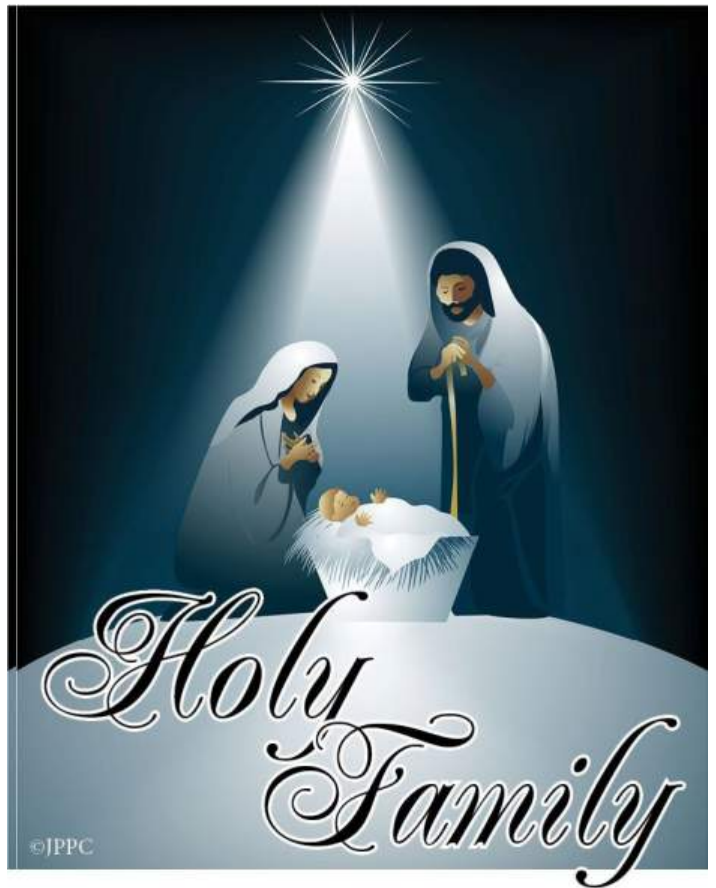
dre@saintpolycarp.org

Assistant to CRE, Judy Lamborn

assistdre@saintpolycarp.org

For those in need—St. Vincent de Paul Society

(302) 264-6630



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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.

RCIA (Rite 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.

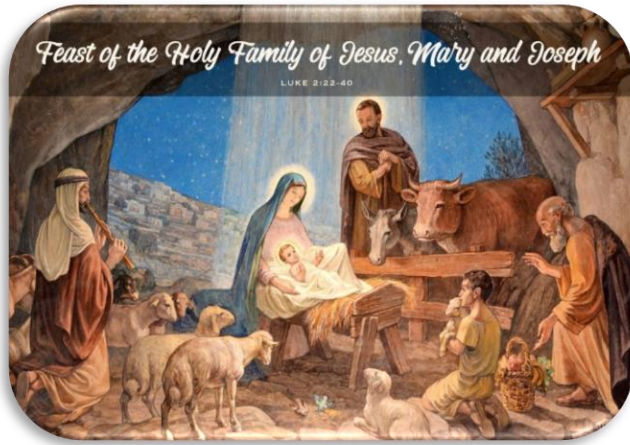
Marriage: Formation is provided for couples. Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance. Contact the Parish Office.

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.



December 31, 2023

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE - QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Abraham and Sarah, Simeon and Anna, Mary and Joseph all do what God asks because of faith. How does faith guide your actions?

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



The Saint Polycarp Annual Forum will take place on Sunday, January 21, 2024, following the 10:30 am Mass. Come and hear about our Parish accomplishments and voice your dreams for the coming year.

PARISH APPRECIATION DINNER

Reserve your spot for the Parish Appreciation Dinner.



If you are active in a church organization or serve in any ministry at Saint Polycarp Parish, the parish would like to show their appreciation by inviting you to the parish appreciation dinner. This year the event will take place on Saturday, February 10, 2024, following the 4:00 PM Mass. Seating will be limited, so reserve your spot today. You may make your reservations using the link below or simply scan the QR code. Not a fan of online formats? Call Kathy Curlett at 222-9326 to reserve your seats.



<https://forms.gle/TREWak6DL8JhndbA9>

LET US PRAY

Intentions

Saturday, December 30	
4:00 pm Christmas Novena	
Sunday, December 31	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
10:30 am Christmas Novena	
Sunday, December 31	Vigil Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
4 pm Christmas Novena	
Monday, January 1	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
10 am Christmas Novena	
Tuesday, January 2	SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
8:30 am Christmas Novena	
Wednesday, January 3	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
8:30 am Christmas Novena	
Thursday, January 4	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
NO MASS	
Friday, January 5	St. John Neumann Becket
NO MASS	
Saturday, January 6	St. Andre Bessette
4:00 pm Ann Weber	- Jeff & Marcia Johnson
John Anton	- Dolly & Jerry Markiewicz
Mary Eva Ross	- Chip & Pat Reinbold
Sunday, January 7	The Epiphany of the Lord
10:30 am Rosemary Den Bleyker	- Sloven Family
Linda Montuori	- Barbara Kaczorowski
Connor Hannah	- Hannah Family

December 30 – Bread and Wine Offering in memory of Pete Weber at the request of Marcia & Jeff Weber.

Week of December 31st:

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in memory of Linda Montuori at the request of Judy Lamborn.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Saint Ann’s Chapel burns in prayer for those who are spending the Christmas Season alone.

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.

Carol Timmons, Wally Wargo, Diane Bullins, Bridget O’Connell, Ava P, Robin Husman, Milli Burris Alvarez, Jack Barnas, Margaret Sevellina, Lyllie Deter, John Ruane, Dottie Patterson, Laverne Dykes, Janet Alexander, Bob Gallihar, Kay Gallihar, Grace Wagner, Patricia Capobianco, Barbara Hynson, Charlotte Konesky, Tina Kelley, Cathy Connell, Joe Donofrio, April Doyle, Beth Kelly, Andrea Laws, Kaysie Borgman, Angie 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
Ned Hadaway**

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 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

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



Holy Day of Obligation
& New Year's Day

Sunday, December 31st, at 4 pm
Monday, January 1st, at 10 am

The Blessing of Calendars will take place at the 4 pm Mass on December 31st and at the 10:00 am Mass on January 1st.

The Christmas Season is finally here.

Christmas Octave? Christmas Season?
WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

The Season of Christmas began on Sunday, December 24th with the Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, and will end on Monday, January 8th with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

The Octave of Christmas - celebrating Christmas for eight consecutive days, began on Monday, December 25th (the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord), and ends on Monday, January 1st (the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God).

The Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord: Christmas - the Birth of Jesus in the stable. December 25th.

The Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph: The Holy Family is the perfect model and example of a family that is close to God, trusts in God, relies on God to provide. Celebrated Saturday and Sunday, December 30th and 31st.

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God: Mary is recognized as the Mother of God, celebrated on January 1st.

The Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord
The 3 Wise Men visit Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.
Sunday, January 7th.

The Feast of The Baptism of the Lord:
John the Baptist baptizes Jesus in the river Jordan.
Monday, January 8th

The First Week in ordinary Time starts on Tuesday, January 9th.

Nativity Crèches from the Catholic Churches of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore.

On Sunday, December 17, a new video debuted on the Diocese of Wilmington's YouTube channel. This video presents a montage of photographs of Nativity crèches from the Catholic churches of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. We hope you take the time to watch this 12 ½ minute video. www.YouTube.com/DiocesefofWilm

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH - January 3 We Pray for those enrolled in our Purgatorial Society



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

Mario & Rosina Chiusolo	Stephanie McDowell
Preston & Luigina Pendarvis	Alexander & Agnes Peters
Walczak Family	Antanavige Family
Jose Remigio	Flora Sevillena
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	

LITURGY COMMITTEE DECEMBER 2023 NEWS

Here are several items that we discussed at our December Meeting:

- *New Devotional Candles are in place. We discussed the price of the white Memorial Candles.
- *Catechesis on the Gestures and Postures at Mass (see future Bulletin and Weekend Update)
- *Formation continued on the Document - The Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion.
- *Blessing of Calendars will take place on Sunday, Dec. 31st and on Monday, Jan. 1st.
- *Eucharistic Adoration on the 2nd Saturday (preceding the 2nd Sunday of the month) will continue next year.
- *Proposed document for Music at Funerals

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO THE PRIESTHOOD OR CONSECRATED LIFE?

"I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."
If you feel God is offering you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life as a sister, brother, or consecrated virgin, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (302) 573 - 3113 or by email at vocations@cdow.org.



BE BRAVE, ANSWER THE CALL

On January 29, 1973, the instruction *Immensae Caritatis* was issued by Pope Paul VI. With this instruction, the diocesan bishop was given permission to designate lay men and women to distribute the Eucharist as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Are you a Catholic living in harmony with the teachings of the Church? Are you at least 18 years old? Have you received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation? Are you sufficiently mature to perform the duties of Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at Mass or to the sick and homebound?

These are the qualifications needed to be considered for Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. If this is a ministry you feel God calling you to, please contact Cindy Kennedy at Kennedy-078@msn.com.

Formation and training will begin early January.



Our PSR students spending time adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.



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

SOCIAL CONCERNS

NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOUR INTENTIONS



We hope that you have noticed the new candle stands in the back of the Church. They are electric candles, which are safer and do not create soot. The \$3 aqua votive candles can be lit for your intentions. After you put your money in the slot, you just need to press the button in front of that candle. You must press and hold the button until it lights.

The white candles on the top row are Memorial Candles. The introductory fee will be \$120.00 for a candle to be lit for one year continuously. A small memorial name plate will be placed in front of your candle, with the name of your loved one engraved on it. If you are interested in having one of these candles lit, please contact Kathy at the office. This would be a lovely way of remembering someone close to your heart.

The introductory fee is good until Ash Wednesday when the fee will be \$150.



THANK YOU

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to **The Giving Tree** this year! You gave many, many children and families "comfort and joy" this Christmas due to your wonderful generosity! God bless you all! Visit our Bulletin Overflow at <https://saintpolycarp.org/overflow/> for information about how these gifts are distributed.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

BREAKFAST WITH JESUS



COOKIE WALK



Come join us next Sunday January 7th following the 10:30 Mass as we welcome in the New Year and celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord! Enjoy a delicious brunch, fellowship, and fun! All are welcome.

ROCK AND ROLL TRIBUTE



Come join us in the parish hall on **Saturday, January 13th, 2024** to rock in the New Year. Brother Vincent Knights of Columbus along with our Columbiettes are sponsoring a **ROCK AND ROLL TRIBUTE** with an evening of dinner, show and dancing

featuring Mr. Charisma! Tickets are \$45. Contact Anna Skinner at ANNA.SKINZ@gmail.com or (302) 883-5647. Please make checks payable to Knights of Columbus #7517, 55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, DE 19977.

VISIT BULLETIN OVERFLOW

for details on events & for things that we just don't have room for in our bulletin.

<https://saintpolycarp.org/overflow/>

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.

2023 FAITH & CHARITY CATHOLIC APPEAL



Thank you to all those parishioners who contributed to the 2023 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal. Our parish has achieved our goal in pledges and money collected for the appeal! Your generosity in supporting this year's appeal once again demonstrates that you understand the mission of our Church. Now that we have reached our goal in money collected, we will receive back half of the money collected above the goal for projects around our campus. We invite those who haven't yet had the opportunity to give to the Appeal to join us in spreading the spirit of gratitude. Envelopes can be found at the doors of the Church You can also support the appeal online at www.cdow.org

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.*



COLLECTIONS – DECEMBER 17

Offertory	Children's Offertory	Total Offertory
\$3,234	\$40.65	\$3,274.65

Christmas Flowers	Christmas Novena	Christmas Offering	Holy Days
\$369	\$337	\$875	\$68
St. Vincent de Paul/Poor Box		Religious Retirement	
\$252		\$37	

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

Saturday, December 30

12 pm Environment Committee (Church)

2:30 pm Confession

4 pm MASS

Sunday, December 31

NO PSR - No Class, NO PSR Online

10:30 am MASS

4 pm VIGIL MASS Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Monday, January 1

OFFICE CLOSED

10 am MASS Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Holy Day of Obligation

Happy New Year

Tuesday, January 2 **OFFICE CLOSED**

8:30 am MASS

9 am - 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)

11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone)

6:30 pm K of C 4th Degree (Library)

NO PSR - No Class, NO PSR Online

Wednesday, January 3

8:30 am MASS

9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting (Library)

1:15 pm Communion Service at Pinnacle

6 pm Pastoral Staff Executive Committee (Library)

Thursday, January 4

10 am Seasons of Hope (Library)

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)

Friday, January 5

3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)

4:15 pm Finance Council Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, January 6

12 pm Environment Committee (Church)

2:30 pm Confession

4 pm MASS

5 pm PSR Faculty Meeting (Hall/Kitchen)



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 302-737-2524

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