

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

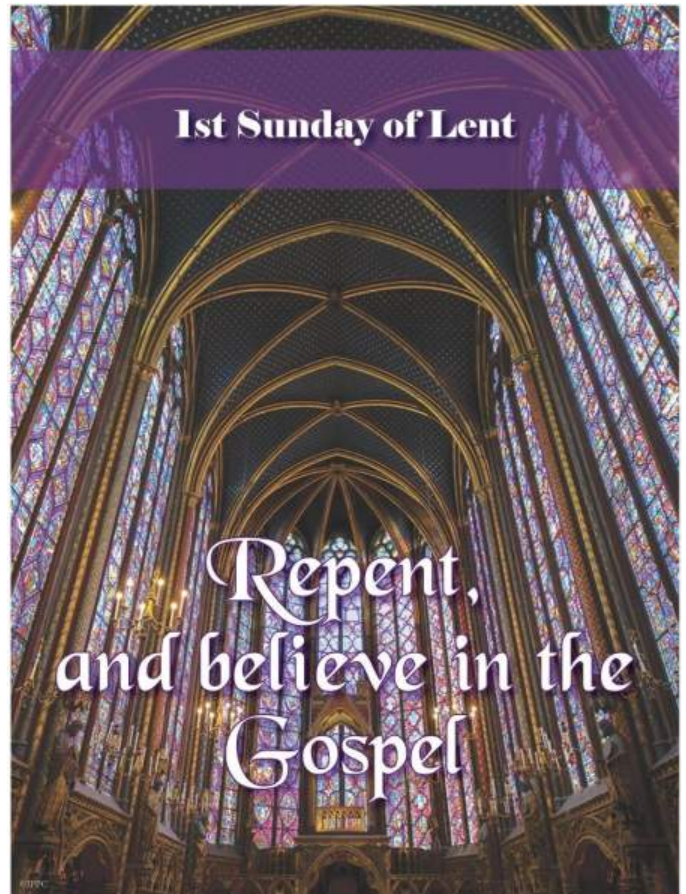
dre@saintpolycarp.org

Assistant to CRE, Judy Lamborn

assistdre@saintpolycarp.org

For those in need—St. Vincent de Paul Society

(302) 264-6630



1st Sunday of Lent

Repent,
and believe in the
Gospel

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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 god-parents. 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: 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.



February 18, 2024

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE - QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- ~What signs of God's covenantal faithfulness have you experienced in your life?
- ~How will the journey of these forty days change your heart?
- ~What do Jesus' words "Repent and believe in the Gospel" mean to you this Lent?



STATIONS of the CROSS
& Benediction

St. Polycarp - 7 pm on Fridays in Lent
St. Dennis - 5 pm and 7 pm (Hispanic) on Fridays in Lent.



Saturdays, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm at St. Polycarp
 Sundays, 7:00 am – 7:30 am at St. Dennis
 Deanery Lenten Penance Service – Thursday, March 21st
 at 7 pm at Holy Cross, Dover
 (Several priests will be available to hear confessions)
 Reconciliation Monday, March 25th -
 Monday of Holy Week
 3 pm – 5 pm at St. Polycarp
 6 pm – 8 pm at St. Polycarp
 3 pm – 5 pm at St. Dennis
 6 pm – 8 pm at St. Dennis -
 (Fr. Oscar – Hispanic & English)

LET US PRAY

Intentions

Saturday, February 17	The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
4:00 pm Antonio Cantor	- Betty Pingol
Mary Ann Christofferson	- Maureen Robinson
Stephanie Johnson	- Carol Grove
Sunday, February 18	1 st Sunday of Lent
10:30 am Madeline Dickinson	- Diane & Mike Dellinger
Monday, February 19	
NO MASS	
Tuesday, February 20	
8:30 am James Arcadia	- Carol & Jack Molyneaux
Healing Intention for Reynaldo Rosales	- Dee Lim
Wednesday, February 21	St. Peter Damian
8:30 am Parishioners	
Thursday, February 22	The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
NO MASS	
Friday, February 23	St. Polycarp
NO MASS	
Saturday, February 24	
4:00 pm Ray Zaczek	- Kathy Zaczek
Sylvia Vessells DuRoss	- Jim DuRoss
Sunday, February 25	2 nd Sunday of Lent
10:30 am Amanda Rigor	- The Rigor Family
Deceased members of the Garabiles & Rigor families	

Week of February 18th:

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in memory of Ray Zaczek, at the request of Kathy Zaczek.

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.

Teresa Tier, Bridget O'Connell, Maureen Robinson, Diane Kravitz, Carol Timmons, Robin Husman, Milli Burris Alvarez, Lyllie Deter, Dottie Patterson, Laverne Dykes, Janet Alexander, Bob Gallihar, Kay Gallihar, Grace Wagner, Cathy Connell, Joe Donofrio, April Doyle, Andrea Laws, Kaysie Borgman, Angel Grasso, James Dean, Violet Farkas, Greg Kujala, Holly Powell, Lily Griffiths, Patty Moon, Deirdre Moor, Linda Blow, Mariann Pierson, Ruth Staub, Jaci Stokes, and residents of Pinnacle and DHCI.

We Pray for our Deceased

Robert Gabage
 Brenda DiMichele

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, 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.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Use this QR code or visit

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

LITURGY

Saint Josemaría Escrivá

“You don’t know how to pray? Put yourself in the presence of God, and as soon as you have said, ‘Lord, I don’t know how to pray!’ you can be sure you’ve already begun.”

VOCATION CHALICE



The Vocation Chalice encourages individuals and/or families to pray regularly for vocations to priesthood and consecrated life. At the end of Mass, the chalice is taken home with a promise to pray for vocations during that week. The family would place the chalice in a prominent place in their home and would gather each day asking God to help raise awareness for vocations in our parish. Prayers accompany the chalice if needed. At the end of the week, the family would bring the chalice back to church so the next family could take it home. The hope is that through prayer, our parish may become a source of vocations to serve the diocese and the Church. 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
Lim	February 18	10:30 am
Arrive 15 minutes before your Mass time and pick up (or drop off) materials in the sacristy.		

“The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38).

HOW IS THE HEALTH OF YOUR SOUL AND BODY TODAY?

“Take good care of your health, because the health of the body is God’s second gift. The first one is that of the soul.” ~ Padre Pio

Speaking of health, how’s the health of your soul? Would now be a great time to consider the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Do you desire peace and forgiveness in your soul?

Numerous opportunities to experience this amazing sacrament of God’s mercy, love, peace, and forgiveness have been arranged for you this Lent (see the first page of the Bulletin for dates, times, and locations).

No reservations are required. Just show up with a willing and open heart. The priest will walk you through the sacrament. Jesus Himself is waiting in the guise of the priest to forgive you.

God wants to welcome you back into a relationship with Him and your neighbor right now. He truly desires you to be a part of His Family!

Will you take God up on His generous offer?

Prepare your soul for the joy and appreciation of the Easter miracle (Jesus’ resurrection on Easter Sunday)!



Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Roman Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. ~USCCB

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD



will take place at Sunday’s 10:30 am Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity for children in PreK-4th grade. Children will be called forward before the First Reading and will return to you after the General Intercessions. Our leaders and assistants have cleared background checks.

SOCIAL CONCERNS



Please pick up a rice bowl as you leave Mass today. Rice bowls are returned to Church at the end of Lent.

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.

For more information, visit crsricebowl.org.



THE RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

will be collecting items for Easter Baskets for patients at DHCI. A box/bin will be outside Mother Drexel Hall beginning Saturday, February 17th. It will be available through Sunday, March 17th.

We were asked to go very easy on candy due to dietary issues. The patients cannot do actual jigsaw puzzles. However, items we can supply: Puzzle Books (Sudoku, Find a Word, etc.), stuffed animals, cookies, crackers, hand lotions, books, socks, and handmade crafts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email eckard.margie@gmail.com. Thanking everyone in advance for their help.

EYEGLOSS DONATION DROP BOXES



Did you know that we collect usable eyeglasses for the Clayton Lions Club? The drop box is on top of the filing cabinet near the South Street Doors (near the bathrooms). Make a positive difference. Donate your usable eyeglasses and help someone see better!

PARISH AND FAMILY LIFE

IT'S PRETZEL TIME SOFT PRETZEL SALE AFTER MASSES NEXT WEEKEND!



The Knights of Columbus will once again be selling soft pretzels after Masses next weekend, February 24th and 25th. Pretzels are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

LENTEEN RETREAT

Fatima: Miracle of the Sun Crossroads
Saturday, March 2nd

Brother Vincent Columbiettes will be sponsoring a Lenten Retreat right here at St Polycarp Church on Saturday, March 2, 2024. Everyone is invited to attend an 8:30 am Mass and then come to the retreat. It is entitled: FATIMA Miracle of the Sun Crossroads. It will identify two different paths that were taken after seeing the sun dance at Fatima. Our presenter, Alice Reis Israel, will once again bring her incredible remembrances of Fatima this time, via Zoom. We will begin at the crossroads and identify two paths taken which will help all of us understand our own spiritual journey.

There is no charge for this retreat, but we will be accepting donations. Coffee and danish will be provided before the retreat and a light lunch afterward. We welcome everyone to take this spiritual journey with us. Contact Anna Skinner anna.skinz@gmail.com for reservations 302 883 5647.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION



JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY!

Do you have the desire to dive into the divine but find yourself caught in the whirlwind of multitasking?

Fear not, for the salvation of scheduling has arrived! Introducing a new time for "Faith with Friends".

*Sundays in the library,
starting on February 25th at 9 am*

What's in the holy mix?

Sip on wisdom-infused coffee, donuts sent from the heavens, and sweet divine fellowship!

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy." Pope Francis

JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASSES THIS WEEKEND TO LEARN ABOUT A NEW CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN KENT COUNTY



Bishop Koenig has given permission for a Catholic High School in Kent County. Please come for coffee, donuts, and a short briefing about this exciting and important opportunity for our students following Mass this Saturday and Sunday – February 17th and 18th.

DIGITAL MINISTRY



The Digital Ministry meets on a monthly basis. We have been extremely busy over the last several months.

These are some items we have worked on:

-Successfully switched our email server host and completed the migration to Microsoft 365 on the office computers. A huge thanks to the Digital Ministry members who spent countless hours preparing and working on the switchover and migration to ensure the staff was up and running with no issues.

-Hardwired all the network connections throughout the buildings to allow for better connectivity and faster speeds for the Wi-Fi. Polycarp-guest is the Wi-Fi available to all parishioners and visitors. There is no password, just agree to the "Guest" terms at the bottom of the page when connecting.

-What is the Digital Ministry? Scan the QR code below to find out more about this exciting ministry!



BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY - INTERESTING FACT

Did you know that St. Joseph Church on French Street in Wilmington was founded by the *Josephites* in 1889? The religious order of St. Joseph's Society of the Sacred Heart, otherwise known as the *Josephites*, "is a religious community of Catholic priests and brothers, committed to serving the African American community through the proclamation of the Gospel and [their] personal witness." While the *Josephites* no longer serve here in the Diocese, St. Joseph Church in Wilmington remains a vibrant community of predominantly African American Catholics.

HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH (MIDDLETOWN) PRESENTS "WAY OF THE CROSS"

The Music Ministry of St. Joseph Parish will present a Cantata, "Way of the Cross," this Sunday, February 18th, at 4 pm, featuring the parish choir, cantors, and orchestra. "Way of the Cross" is approximately one hour long. The concert is free. For questions, contact St. Joseph's Parish Office at (302) 378 - 5800.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!!! No group sharing required. The next weekend is March 1st - 3rd at the Brighton Suites in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. For information visit our website <http://www.wwme.org> or call Tony and Linda Massino at (302) 648 - 2228.

CONFERENCE OF THE CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF MARYLAND

Men of the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington are invited to participate in the 25th Anniversary Conference of the Catholic Men's Fellowship of Maryland on Saturday, March 9th, at Saint Philip Neri Church in Linthicum, MD. Visit <https://catholicmensfellowship.com/> or contact Ed Roberts at edw.roberts.28@gmail.com or (443) 858 - 7504 for details.

FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council meets monthly to review the financial operations of our parish and related matters. Here are some items discussed at our January meeting:

- The new electric candles program.
- The upcoming fiscal year budget timeline.
- Plans for the upcoming annual Offertory Reflection Program.

COLLECTIONS

OFFERTORY FEBRUARY 11

Offertory	Children's Offertory	Total Offertory
\$3443	\$47	\$3490

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Little Sisters of the Poor	Parish Utilities	PSR	Holy Days	SVDP Poor Box
\$2035	\$625	\$30	\$85	\$46.25
Catholic University & Communications		Black, Native, Home Missions		
\$10		\$37		

Offertory	Received	Budgeted	Over/(Under)
January Total	\$27,814	\$27,550	\$264
Fiscal YTD	\$212,795.31	\$192,150	\$20,645.31

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.

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, February 17

12 pm Environment Committee (Church)

2:30 pm Confession

4 pm MASS

Speaker at Mass - New Catholic High School

Following Mass - Reception with questions & answers about the new Catholic High School

Sunday, February 18

9 am PSR Grades P/K-4, PSR ONLINE, no in-person class

10:30 am MASS

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

10:30 am Speaker at Mass - New Catholic High School

Following Mass - Reception with questions & answers about the new Catholic High School

5:30 pm Confirmation Class (Hall)

Monday, February 19

OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 pm Brother Vincent Columbiettes Rosary (Library)

6:30 OCIA Session (Hall)

7 pm Brother Vincent Columbiettes Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, February 20

8:30 am MASS

9 am - 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)

9 am Adult Faith Formation- Connected in Christ (Library)

10:30 am DHCI Communion Service (at DHCI)

11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone)

1 pm CFC General Meeting & Executive Committee (Room 4)

6:30 pm Liturgy Committee Meeting (Room 7)

6:30 pm Finance Council (Library)

7 pm PSR Grades 5-8, PSR ONLINE, no in-person class

Wednesday, February 21

8:30 am MASS

9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting (Library)

6 pm Columbiette Board Meeting (Library)

6:30 pm Baptismal Class- Advance Registration Required (Room 7)

7 pm K of C Officers Meeting (Library)

Thursday, February 22

10 am Seasons of Hope (Library)

6 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (Hall)

6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel)

Friday, February 23

3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)

7 pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, February 24

12 pm Environment Committee (Church)

2:30 pm Confession

4 pm MASS

5 pm K of C Pretzel Sale at Church doors

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 19th, in observance of Presidents' Day.

Serving the community since 1876.
 Planning in advance of need makes good sense.

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 2400 Lancaster Avenue
 302-656-3323

All Saints Cemetery
 6001 Kirkwood Highway
 302-737-2524

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