



St. Polycarp Church

55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, Delaware 19977

www.saintpolycarp.org

Rev. James D. Hreha, Pastor
Deacon Frank Weber

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm &
Sunday 10:30 am

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 am

RECONCILIATION

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

DHCI / PINNACLE

Communion Services

LIVE STREAM MASS: Saturdays at 4pm,
Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 8:30 am.
www.youtube.com/c/StPolycarpSmyrnaDE

PARISH OFFICE:

Monday—Friday, 9 am to 3 pm
(302) 653-8279

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

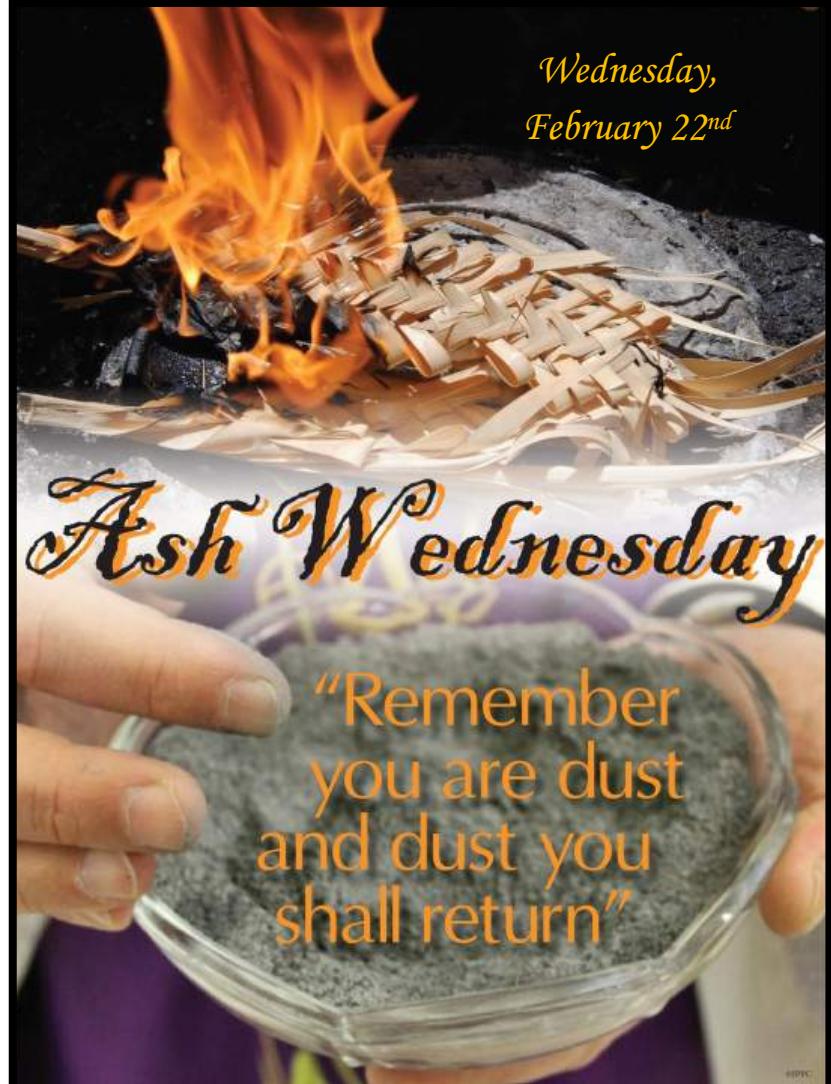
CHRISTIAN FORMATION OFFICE:

(302) 653-4101

Coordinator of Religious Education, Erica Taylor
dre@saintpolycarp.org

Assistant to CRE, Judy Lamborn
assistedre@saintpolycarp.org

Pastoral Council – Kathy Curlett
Finance Council – John Fcasni
St. Vincent de Paul Society – (302) 264-6630



Baptism: Pre -Baptismal class is required. Arrangements are to be made in advance by contacting the parish office.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least one year prior to the date. Contact the parish office.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the parish office.

Vocations: For Priestly and Religious vocations contact Rev. Norman Carroll at (302) 573 – 3113.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

RCIA is for adults who are in need of Baptism, who were baptized in another Christian tradition who desire to become Catholic, or who were baptized Catholic and desire First Eucharist and /or Confirmation. Contact Deacon Frank at (302) 653-8279 or DeaconFrank@saintpolycarp.org

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 19, 2023

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE - QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- ~ How should you respond to someone who has wronged you?
 - ~ Have you ever had to let go of a grudge? What helped you?
 - ~ What does Jesus mean by “be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect”?
- (Pastoral Liturgy)



A time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

ST. POLYCARP CHURCH: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 21st 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Palms to Ashes Service

Tuesday, February 21st, at 7 pm

Ash Wednesday Mass &

Distribution of Ashes

Wednesday, February 22nd, at 8:30 am and 7 pm

Stations of the Cross and Benediction

Fridays in Lent, beginning February 24th, at 7 pm

ST. DENNIS CHURCH (GALENA, MD):

Ash Wednesday Mass & Distribution of Ashes

Wednesday, February 22nd, at 5:30 pm (Hispanic) and 7 pm

Stations of the Cross

Fridays in Lent, beginning on February 24th, at 5 pm and 7 pm (Hispanic)

SHROVE TUESDAY DINNER THIS TUESDAY, February 21



The Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes will be serving pancakes and sausage, on Shrove Tuesday, February 21st, in Mother Drexel Hall, from 5 pm until 6:30 pm. All are welcome. Bring your edible temptations to be shared by all.

The word “Shrove” comes from the past tense of the Latin translation of “Shrive” which means to “confess one’s sins”. Shrovetide was once a time when many Christians devoted to confess one’s sins before the beginning of Lent. In Early Christian times, the Shriving Bell would be rung calling the faithful to confession. Before the Lenten fast could begin in earnest, all edible temptations needed to be removed.

To remove edible temptations, Early Christians made pancakes to use up their supply of eggs, milk, and butter in preparation for lent. Pancakes were served on the Tuesday prior to Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. This tradition became known as “Shrove Tuesday” or in later times, as “Pancake Day”.

God Bless all
Jack Barnas (Grand Knight 7517)

PALMS TO ASHES SERVICE

Tuesday evening, February 21st, at 7 p.m.

Come Join Us! All are welcome!!!

SERVICE BEGINS IN CHURCH.



Did you know that the ashes that are distributed on Ash Wednesday come from the palms that you previously received and returned? It is tradition here at St. Polycarp to burn some of the palm during our *Palms to Ashes Service* on the eve of Ash Wednesday. We will continue this tradition again this year. We hope you will join us. Stop in the hall for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner prior to this service!

OLD PALMS

Old blessed palms may be brought to Church and placed in the baskets at the entrances to the Church. These palms will be burned for ashes.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES AT 8:30 am and 7:00 pm.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. It begins the preparation time for the Celebration of Easter. The Season of Lent is characterized by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence.

Did you know that there are two ways for ashes to be distributed? For years and years and years, most people only had ashes placed on their foreheads in the shape of a cross. But over the last two years, due to covid, the practice of having the ashes sprinkled over the top of our heads, took place throughout the United States including here at St. Polycarp. While the placing of the ashes in the shape of a cross on the forehead is most commonly used in the U.S., the sprinkling of the ashes on the top of the head is actually the most widely used practice throughout the Universal Church. Whichever way the priest chooses to distribute ashes, we are reminded of our call to repentance and that God created us from dust.

Repent and believe in the Gospel.

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Roman Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Roman Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

~USCCB



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Use this QR code or visit

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

Visit "Bulletin Overflow" at <https://saintpolycarp.org/this-weeks-bulletin/> for additional information that just didn't fit in this weekend's Bulletin!

LET US PRAY

Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 18

4 pm Antonio Cantor

James Alexander

Sylvia Vessels DuRoss

Sunday, February 19

10:30 am Madeline Dickinson

Valerie Lee Milillo

Monday, February 20

NO MASS

Tuesday, February 21

8:30 am

Wednesday, February 22

8:30 am Parishioners

7 pm

Thursday, February 23

NO MASS

Friday, February 24

NO MASS

Saturday, February 25

4 pm Ben Walters

In thanksgiving for the births of Cecelia Elena Pappas

and Braden William Hutchinson

- Kathy Chambers

- Mary Grace & George Hutchinson

Sunday, February 26

10:30 am Emilio Evangelista

Ben Walters

1st Sunday of Lent

- Fatima Evangelista

- Carol Donahue

Week of February 12th

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in prayer for the safety of those in schools.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann's Chapel burns in prayer for the victims of the earthquakes in Syria and Turkey.

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.

Beth Lightcap, Thea Berg, Patricia Capobianco, Barbara Hynson, Charlotte Konesky, Eileen Fox, Maryann Allison, Ashley Mullins, Tina Kelley, Cathy Connell, Allen Ruff, Kevin Skaggs, Bobby Bullins, Jen McCade, Joe Donofrio, April Doyle, Adam Fisher, Beth Kelly, Andrea Laws, Kaysie Borgman, Angie & Al Grasso, Lana Reed, Rick Dean, Catherine Corso, Jeff Johnson, Erica White, James Dean, Violet Farkas, Greg Kujala, Teresa Tier, Holly Powell, Rob Tuxward, Billy Killen, George Kayati, Andrew Cella, Jr., Lily Griffiths, Rob Miller, Ed Stachow, Patty Moon, Deirdre Moor, Linda Blow, Mariann Pierson, Ruth Staub, Jaci Stokes, and residents of Pinnacle and DHCI.

We Pray for our Deceased

Paul Leclerc

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 (302) 653 - 8064.

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

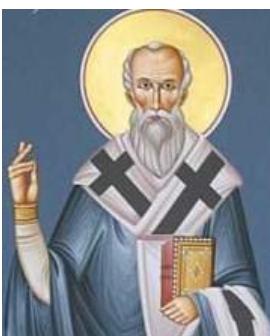
Eucharistic Adoration – Tuesdays, Noon – 8 pm – Chapel

Flame of Love Rosary: Thursdays at 6:30 pm - Chapel

Divine Mercy: Fridays at 3 pm – Chapel.

Saint Polycarp - February 23

St. Polycarp, Pray for us!



events contradicted this trust.

Living among pagans and under a government opposed to the new religion, he led and fed his flock. Like the Good Shepherd, he laid down his life for his sheep and kept them from more persecution in Smyrna.

Saint Ignatius, on his way to Rome to be martyred, visited Polycarp at Smyrna, and later at Troas wrote him a personal letter. The Asia Minor Churches recognized Polycarp's leadership by choosing him as a representative to discuss with Pope Anicetus the date of the Easter celebration in Rome—a major controversy in the early Church.

Only one of the many letters written by Polycarp has been preserved, the one he wrote to the Church of Philippi in Macedonia.

At 86, Polycarp was led into the crowded Smyrna stadium to be burned alive. The flames did not harm him and he was finally killed by a dagger. The centurion ordered the saint's body burned. The "Acts" of Polycarp's martyrdom are the earliest preserved, fully reliable account of a Christian martyr's death. He died in 155.

Polycarp summarized his trust in God just before he died: "Father... I bless Thee, for having made me worthy of the day and the hour..." (*Acts of Martyrdom*, Chapter 14).

POLYCARP . . . THE MOVIE

Watch on You Tube (with commercials)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njp3WNVQ904>

LITURGY

CHALICE MINISTRY

The Vocation Chalice encourages individuals and/or families to pray regularly for vocations to priesthood and consecrated life. 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.

February 25th, 4 pm Mass – Penny Gugliuzzo

The **Blessing of Parish Ministries** will take place this Saturday, February 18th, at the 4 pm Mass

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE



Rice Bowls (an annual activity during the Lenten Season) will be available next weekend at the doors of the Church. Thank you for helping your neighbors around the world.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A PARISH BABY SHOWER



Sponsored by Brother Vincent Columbiettes
Supporting the Wilmington Pregnancy Center
and the families they serve.

PLACE: St. Polycarp Mother Drexel Hall

DATE: Sunday, March 5th

TIME: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Please bring your gift unwrapped.

RSVP by Saturday, February 25th to: Linda Montuori at (302) 270 – 5347 or lindamontuori@yahoo.com



The Knights of Columbus Brother Vincent Council and the Special Olympics of Delaware would like to thank all St Polycarp Parishioners who were able to give toward this year's Polar Bear Plunge. We collected \$450 and our check was delivered by our plungers Laurie DeZao and her granddaughters Madison and Melany. In total our Polar Knights from across the State collected over \$10,000 this year. God Bless you for your continued generosity



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

March 12, 2023

Line-up at St. Polycarp

Parade begins at 2:00 pm

The Parish & Family Life would love to have your participation by representing our Parish by either walking with our Banner or making a Parade Float. Please contact Chairperson Deanna Lail at dlail14@comcast.net or (302) 535 - 2957.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

PARISHIONER COFFEE

THIS TUESDAY FOLLOWING 8:30 am MASS



Parishioners are welcome to share a morning of light food and conversation after the 8:30 am Mass this Tuesday, February 21st. This invitation is open to all parishioners, including daily communicants, the CIC (Connected in Christ) group, and any other parishioners that would like to enjoy some coffee and good company. Feel free to bring snacks or anything else you would like to share. Let us know if you plan to come, so that we will have plenty of coffee or juice. Call Cookie Ruane at (302) 540 - 6429 or Joyce Tolson at (302) 448 - 9678.

Christ) group, and any other parishioners that would like to enjoy some coffee and good company. Feel free to bring snacks or anything else you would like to share. Let us know if you plan to come, so that we will have plenty of coffee or juice. Call Cookie Ruane at (302) 540 - 6429 or Joyce Tolson at (302) 448 - 9678.

WORLD'S FINEST CHOCOLATE!

If you missed picking up your ordered CHOCOLATE BARS after Masses last weekend, bars may be picked up -
 - at the Parish Office between 9 am and 3 pm, Mondays to Fridays
 - contact Erica Taylor, CRE at (302) 653-8279 or dre@saintpolycarp.org
 - at your child's next in-person PSR class.

Thank you so much to those who ordered chocolate!
 It's delicious as always!

PASTORAL COUNCIL



Notes from the February 2023 Pastoral Council Meeting

- The Pastoral Council Election Committee is looking for volunteers to join our Pastoral Council in June. Elections will take place in May. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kathy Curlett at (302) 222 - 9326 or kathleencurlett19@gmail.com.

• Two new Comprehensive Parish Signage Chairpersons are working with Father Jim on obtaining new signage throughout our campus.

• All Committees are working on addressing the Wish Lists from our Annual Forum in September. Committee and council leaders need to respond to the Wish List by the end of April.

COLLECTIONS

Collection	Offertory	Children's Offertory	Total Offertory
February 12	\$4,067	\$16	\$4,083

There will be a special collection on Wednesday, February 22nd, for Ash Wednesday at both Masses. Thank you for your generosity.

Please consider signing up for eGiving to ensure your contributions are received even when you are not here for Mass. Recurring, catch up, or one-time gifts (please indicate your intention) can be made. Visit faith.direct/DE831. Text-to-Give: Text "Enroll" to (302) 202 - 2251 or you can use this QR code. *Thank you for your generosity and continued stewardship.*



DE831

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

For the most up-to-date information

Visit <https://saintpolycarp.org/calendar/>

Parish Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am – 3 pm

Saturday, February 18

12 pm Environment Committee

2:30 Confession

4 pm MASS (Blessing of Parish Ministries)

5 pm Annual Parish Appreciation Dinner (Hall/Kitchen)

Sunday, February 19

9 am PSR- Grades PK-4, **ONLINE LESSON POSTED**

10:30 am MASS

10:30am Children's Liturgy of the Word

Monday, February 20 **OFFICE CLOSED** – PRESIDENTS' DAY

6:30 pm RCIA Sessions (Library)

6:30 pm Brother Vincent Columbiettes - Rosary (Hall/Kitchen)

7 pm Brother Vincent Columbiettes Meeting (Hall/Kitchen)

Tuesday, February 21

8:30 am MASS

9 am Parishioner's Coffee (Hall/Library)

10:30 am DHCI Communion Service

11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone)

12 pm – 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel)

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

5 pm - 6:30 pm Shrove Tuesday Dinner (Hall)

6:30 pm Finance Council (Library)

6:45 pm PSR Grades 5-8 (Rooms 3,4,6,8, Hall)

7 pm Palms to Ashes - Begins in Church

Wednesday, February 22 – **ASH WEDNESDAY**

8:30 am MASS & Distribution of Ashes

7 pm MASS & Distribution of Ashes

Thursday, February 23

10 am Seasons of Hope (Library)

6 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (Hall)

6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel)

Friday, February 24

3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)

7 pm Stations of the Cross/Benediction (Church)

Saturday, February 25

11 am Confirmation Retreat (Hall)

12 pm Environment Committee (Church)

2:30 pm Confession

4 pm MASS

W. A. Faries, Jr.

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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