



St. Polycarp Church

55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, Delaware 19977

www.saintpolycarp.org

The Epiphany of the Lord

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 MASS

Suspended until further notice.

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

Business Manager, Lisa Titus
Lisa.titus@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

Pastoral Council – Angela Gibson

Finance Council – John Fcasni

St. Vincent de Paul Society – (302) 264-6630

Bulletin Submissions (10 days in advance)
submission@saintpolycarp.org



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. For more information contact Deacon Frank at (302) 653-8279 or

DeaconFrank@saintpolycarp.org

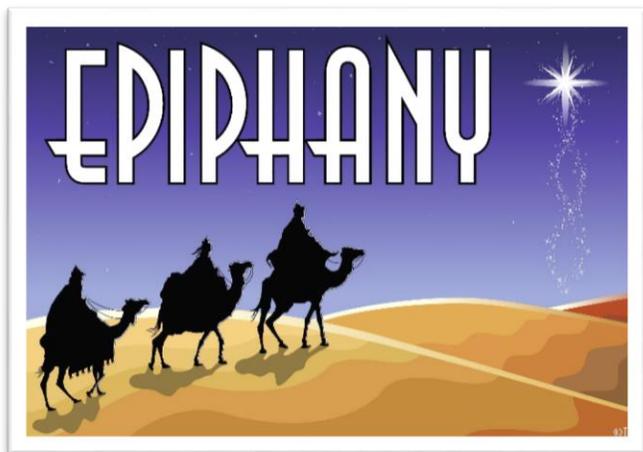
WELCOME VISITORS & NEW PARISHIONERS!

We're glad you're here!

Please contact the office or visit our website to register in our parish.

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 2, 2022



And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

2022

Happy New Year

**What return can we make to the Lord,
for all the things He has done for us?**

As we begin our new year, it's an excellent time to consider the ways in which we can share our Time, Talent and Treasures to repay our Lord for all of the blessings we have received throughout the past year. Imagine the impact even a modest increase in each of these areas will have on enhancing the well-being of our St. Polycarp parish!



As we look forward to a new year filled with hope and faith we once again invite you to share in the Blessings of our Savior Jesus Christ. Please join us for Agape! on Sunday,

January 2nd, after the 10:30 am Mass. All are welcome!
Hosted by: Liturgy Committee

LET US PRAY

WEEKLY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 1 4 pm Christmas Novena	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God The Epiphany of the Lord
Sunday, January 2 10:30 am BVM Sodality	
Monday, January 3 NO MASS	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Tuesday, January 4 8:30 am Michael Pasquale	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Melanie Swain
Wednesday, January 5 8:30 am Carol Williams	St. John Neumann - Steve & Kathy Chambers
Thursday, January 6 NO MASS	St. Andre Bessette
Friday, January 7 NO MASS	St. Raymond of Penafort/First Friday
Saturday, January 8 4 pm Parishioners	
Sunday, January 9 10:30 am Michael Yannette	The Baptism of the Lord - Bill Reece

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in memory of Reverend Monsignor Ralph Martin, at the request of Kathryn Duncan.

Bread & Wine Offerings:

Saturday, January 1st, in memory of Ann Weber, at the request of the Jeff & Marcia Johnson.

Saturday, January 8th, in memory of Mildred Lux, at the request of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

We 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 six weeks unless other arrangements have been requested.

George Kayati, Jim Walls, Ashley Pratt, Andrew Cella, Jr., Anne Borgman, Peter Borgman, Kaysie Borgman, Louis Terrenzio, Lily Griffiths, Rob Miller, Gordon Hollander, Ed Stachow, Patty Moon, Christie Moon, Ben Walters, Michelle Dean, Austin & Dylan Dean, Kenny Bullins, Deirdre Moor, Linda Blow, Mariann Pierson, Ron Ivory, Ruth Staub, Jaci Stokes, Jo Rolison, and all those suffering from Covid-19.

We Pray for our Deceased Edgar Smith

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.

Eucharistic Adoration – Tuesdays Noon – 8 pm in Church

Rosary by Telephone: Tuesday mornings at 11 am.
Contact Jill at (302) 653 - 3836 or jill_mercer@yahoo.com.

Flame of Love Rosary: Thursdays at 6:30 pm in Church.

Divine Mercy: Fridays at 3:00 pm in Church.



**IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE A
CHRISTMAS SPIRIT AND ATTITUDE
ALL YEAR LONG?**

The joy and wonder of Christmas is not limited to just Christmas Day but lasts for a period of time. The Christmas Season begins with the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) and ends with the Baptism of the Lord. Next Sunday, January 9th, is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The Baptism of Jesus by John in the Jordan River closes the Christmas Season. The Christmas decorations including the nativity will be put away until next year.

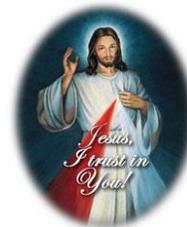
Just because the Christmas decorations and the tree are being taken down away, does not mean that we cannot keep the Christmas Spirit and the Christmas Attitude alive in our hearts during the rest of the year. By focusing on the wonder, joy, and peace that Jesus brings at Christmas, we can keep Christmas in our hearts all year long.

How do we keep the Christmas Spirit in our hearts all year long? By always making room in our hearts to welcome Jesus who may come in the disguise of our neighbor, friend, family member, coworker, maybe a difficult person, etc. By always keeping our hearts open to receive Jesus. By choosing to always help our neighbor. Remember whenever we are helping our neighbor, we are helping Jesus: *Whatever you did for the least, you did for Jesus.* By sharing our time, talents, resources with others, possibly even with the Parish community. (Is there a ministry that could benefit from your time, ideas, talents, resources, etc.) We receive Jesus at Holy Communion at Mass. We receive Jesus' grace and mercy when we experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We need to invite Jesus into our day. We encounter Jesus when we pray.

We ought to always be preparing our hearts for receiving and welcoming Jesus as well as inviting Jesus to stay forever! We are never really done preparing our hearts to receive Jesus.



**DIVINE MERCY
ALL ARE WELCOME**
New Year's Resolution. Pray More!



Come join us in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet whenever you can. We meet every Friday at 3 pm in the Church. Reading materials are provided which makes it easy to follow. Any questions? Call Janet at (302) 399 - 9066.



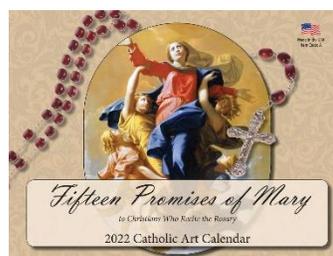
NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

It is that time again. Time to make resolutions for the New Year. How about this year you make resolutions that will have an impact and a positive influence on your souls?

It's finally a new year. No more 2021. One of the best resolutions you could make in the new year would be to experience the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist regularly!

Experiencing Confession regularly is a most important spiritual practice. Jesus knows it isn't always easy for us to follow Him. Jesus desires to impart to you graces that will aid you in overcoming temptations that lead to sins

Each time you receive Jesus at Holy Communion, you are letting Jesus to transform you so that over time you are following more closely in His ways - loving, forgiving, merciful, thinking of others, patient, peaceful amidst trials and sufferings, praying constantly, trusting only in God the Father . . .



Don't forget to pick-up your Church Calendar as you leave Mass! Thank you to Matthews-Bryson Funeral Home for once again providing our calendars!

"God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.

He has not created me for nothing. I shall do good. I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace; a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I but keep His commandments.

Therefore, I shall trust Him, whatever I am, can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him. In perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.

He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends; He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate; make my spirits sink; hide my future from me. Still, He knows what He is about."

St. John Henry Cardinal Newman

Connected

in Christ

Please join Connected in Christ on Tuesday mornings beginning January 11th, at 9:15 am in Mother Drexel Hall to watch and reflect on **Archbishop Robert Barron's series "The Creed"**.

Explore the meaning of "belief" and whether it contradicts reason, the creative love of God the Father, the shocking mystery of his Son's Incarnation and the great drama of his Crucifixion and Resurrection, the life-giving power of the *Spiritus Sanctus*, or "Holy Breath," shared between them, and the mystical reality of the Church, which calls all of humanity out of the world of sin to receive forgiveness and participate in Christ's divinity—not only in the next world, but here and now.

The Creed will help you rediscover the great intellectual and spiritual depths of Christian doctrine, and reclaim the unity, clarity, and conviction of the Christian faith (from wordonfire.org).

Bring your own coffee!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Change the World: Become a Catholic!
Glory to God in the highest
and on earth, goodwill to all!

The preparations for Christmas include buying or making gifts for those whom we love. You can give no better gift than the gift God has given us: the gift of his Son, Jesus. During the Christmas season invite someone who is not Catholic to attend Mass with you. Who knows, perhaps it may spark an interest in **"coming back home"** to the Catholic Church.

You may even wish to **"personally invite"** them to our RCIA sessions, that will start up again this Monday, January 3rd, at the Parish campus beginning at 6:30 pm. Sessions continue every Monday evening at the same time.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is for individuals who are unbaptized, baptized in other faith traditions or Catholic adults wishing to receive Confirmation and Holy Eucharist and seeking full membership in the Catholic Church.

We are all called to share the gift of our Catholic faith and you can make a difference by simply asking!

Please contact Deacon Frank Weber for more information at DeaconFrank@saintpolycarp.org or leave a message with the Parish office at (302) 653 - 8279.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

SMYRNA-CLAYTON FOOD PANTRY



Bins for your food donations are in the hallway outside of the Mother Drexel Hall. The pantry is in need of canned beef stew, canned chili, canned pasta, canned soup, dry milk, hot and cold cereal. Grocery

bags are also needed. *Please no coupons or expired food.* The pantry is located at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 22 North Union Street in Smyrna (Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 10:30 am) for anyone in the local Smyrna-Clayton area in need of food.

LOST AND FOUND



Our "LOST & FOUND" is located on top of the file cabinet (across from the restrooms in the hallway near the Mother Drexel Hall). Maybe something of yours is in there. Take a look!

A Christmas tree brooch was recently found in the Church. If you think it's yours, we have it in the Parish Office - call to identify.

HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

RETRUVILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 11-13, 2022 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215- 766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council here at Saint Polycarp Parish is looking towards the future with the development of a long-range plan. While we have always had an annual plan, the long-range plan will help steer and direct the parish for the next 3 - 5 years and longer.

To help make this endeavor a success, we want to have several parishioners who would bring different viewpoints and perspectives and would be willing to actively participate in the 3 sessions we are anticipating. The sessions would take place on weekends for 2 - 3 hours. There will also be some prayer, reading and thinking to take place in between sessions.

If you would like to participate or to learn more, please reach out to John Fcasni. He can be reached at john.fcasni@gmail.com or call or text him at (609) 529-1986.

COLLECTIONS

December 19 Collection	Offertory	St. Paul's Roof
	\$2,627	\$1,935

Note: eGiving figures are reported twice a month.

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.



New ways to give:
We now have Text-to-Give.
Text "Enroll" to 302-202-2251
or you can use the QR code for easy giving.

Thank you to all those who continue to send in their envelopes and for those who have enrolled in eGiving. Thank you for your generosity and continued stewardship.

The second collection next weekend, January 8th and 9th, will be for our Parish School of Religion. Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the religious education of our youth.

50/50 RAFFLE - PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR PSR!

Winner pulled monthly!

Simply place \$1 in an envelope (envelopes available at the doors) and mark 50/50 on the envelope along with your NAME and phone number. Place the envelope in the collection basket or drop off in the drop box. Winner gets half; PSR gets half! If you want to play more often, just put in whatever amount you like and we will enter you once a week for each dollar you send in! Thank you for supporting our PSR! Good luck!



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

For the most up-to-date information, visit

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

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

<p>Saturday, January 1</p> <p>10 am MASS (Blessing of Calendars)</p> <p>12 pm Environment Committee (Church)</p> <p>2:30 pm Confessions</p> <p>3:25 1st Saturday Rosary- Columbiettes (Church)</p> <p>4 pm MASS</p>
<p>Sunday, January 2</p> <p>10 am BVM Corporate Communion</p> <p>10:30 am MASS</p> <p>11:30 am Agape (Hall/Kitchen)</p> <p>5:30 pm Confirmation Class (Hybrid)</p>
<p>Monday, January 3</p> <p>11:30 am BVM Sodality (Hall/Kitchen)</p> <p>6:30 pm RCIA Sessions (Library)</p>
<p>Tuesday, January 4</p> <p>8:30 am MASS</p> <p>10 am Adult Faith Formation - Connected in Christ (Hall)</p> <p>11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone)</p> <p>12 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Church)</p> <p>7:30 pm K of C 4th Degree (Library)</p>
<p>Wednesday, January 5</p> <p>8:30 am MASS</p> <p>9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting (Library)</p> <p>6 pm Pastoral Council Executive Committee (Library)</p>
<p>Thursday, January 6</p> <p>10 am Seasons of Hope - Library</p> <p>6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Church)</p> <p>7 pm K of C 3rd Degree Business Meeting (Hall)</p>
<p>Friday, January 7</p> <p>3 pm Divine Mercy (Church)</p>
<p>Saturday, January 8</p> <p>12 pm Environment Committee</p> <p>2:30 pm Confessions</p> <p>4 pm MASS</p>

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

Grades P/K - 4 resume classes on Sunday, January 9th. Grades 5-8 resume classes on Tuesday, January 11th.

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