



St. Polycarp Church

55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, Delaware 19977

www.saintpolycarp.org

Rev. James D. Hreha, Pastor
Deacon Frank Weber

The Ascension of the Lord

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 - 3rd Tuesday of the month 10:30 am

PINNACLE - 1st Friday of the month 10:30am

Communion Services for Residents

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 Pajeroski
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

Pastoral Council – Kathy Curlett

Finance Council – John Fcasni

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



First Eucharist, Saturday, May 6, 2023

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, for those who desire to become Catholic, or for those who were baptized Catholic and desire First Eucharist / Confirmation. Contact Deacon Frank at (302) 653-8279 or DeaconFrank@saintpolycarp.org

WELCOME VISITORS & NEW PARISHIONERS!

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

The Ascension of the Lord on the 7th Sunday of Easter May 21, 2023



The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord celebrates the fact that Jesus ascended (rose) into heaven. Where Jesus has gone (heaven), He is preparing a place for us to be with Him.

Our afterlife choice is up to us: Eternal Life (heaven) or damnation (hell). Where we end up when we die, is greatly influenced by the life we lead on earth.

Being a disciple of Jesus is not always easy. There will be joy. There will be hardship, pain and suffering (mental and physical). There will be tough choices to make.

Jesus left us a model to follow – Himself. He also gives us the Holy Spirit, His Mother (Mary), His Foster Father (St. Joseph), our very own guardian angel, and all the saints to help us too. We are never alone on our journey toward heaven!

Do we ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen within us the seven gifts He gave us when we received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Do we have a favorite saint or two whose very life story has touched us in a special and meaningful way? We can pray to these saints to help us as we experience the joys and sufferings of life on earth. *Anyone in need of a saint of impossible cases? Consider praying to St. Rita of Cascia (feast day: May 22nd).*

Is your life, your actions, and your words motivated and guided by the Beatitudes, the Ten Commandments, the Spiritual Works of Mercy, the Corporal Works of Mercy, the Precepts of the Church? Or are our lives and actions influenced by the world and the culture of death around us?

In other words: Do we impact the world? Or do we let ourselves be impacted and influenced by the world?

Another way to look at this:

Do our actions and words show the world that we follow Jesus? Or do our actions and words deny Jesus?

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.”
(Mark 12:30-31)

LET US PRAY

Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 20 Saint Bernardine of Siena
4 pm Mother's Day Novena

Sunday, May 21 7th Sunday of Easter
The Ascension of the Lord
10:30 am Mother's Day Novena

Monday, May 22 St. Rita of Cascia
NO MASS

Tuesday, May 23
8:30 am Mother's Day Novena

Wednesday, May 24
8:30 am Mother's Day Novena

Thursday, May 25 St. Bede the Venerable,
St. Gregory VII & St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi
NO MASS

Friday, May 26 St. Philip Neri
NO MASS

Saturday, May 27 St. Augustine of Canterbury
4 pm Mother's Day Novena

Sunday, May 28 Pentecost Sunday
10:30 am Parishioners

Week of May 21st

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in prayer for blessings received during our 55 years in our present Church.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann's Chapel burns in prayer for those who administer and care for our veterans cemeteries.

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.

Bob Gallihar, Kay Gallihar, Diane Bullins, Grace Wagner, Ron Pleasanton, 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, 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, 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

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.

LITURGY

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE - QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- ~ Why is Jesus' ascension into heaven a cause for celebration?
- ~ How has this Easter season prepared you to carry on Jesus' mission in the world?
- ~ How do you feel knowing Jesus' promise, "I am with you always"?

ST. POLYCARP CHURCH FILIPINO - AMERICAN COMMUNITY

FILIPINO - AMERICAN INCULTURATION



DATE: May 21, 2023 (TODAY)
TIME: Following the 10:30 am Mass
PLACE: Mother Drexel Hall

Learn more about our
CATHOLIC CULTURAL HERITAGE

WHAT IS INCULTURATION ?

Inculturation in the Catholic Church is adoption of Christian teachings, encouraging of different culture and values while safeguarding the integrity of the Gospel.

While people immigrate to different parts of the world, bringing with them their unique local traditions and values that enables them to keep and celebrate their unique Christian identity. Come and join us and learn how the Filipinos adopted and accepted the Catholic religion as an alternative to their indigenous beliefs and allowed Christianity to prosper in the Philippines.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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



THE EASTER SEASON

The close of the Easter Season is almost upon us. The Easter season (fifty days of rejoicing and celebrating Jesus' resurrection and His victory over death) concludes with the Solemnity of Pentecost (next Sunday, May 28th). The very next day, Monday, May 29th, is the start of the 8th Week of Ordinary Time.

PENTECOST SUNDAY - NEXT SUNDAY! WEAR RED!



Be with the Spirit and remember to wear red next weekend (May 27th & 28th) as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. Flames of the Holy Spirit rested upon each Apostle and they received the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

COME, HUMBLY KNEEL BEFORE HIM.



Do you have one hour a week to come adore Jesus in the Eucharist?

We need adorers for these timeslots on Tuesdays: 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm, and 3:00 pm. Call Cheryl Thomas at (302) 363 - 0404 or email her at salcrest7@gmail.com.

Jesus suffered and died for you and me. Do you have even a half hour to spend time with our Lord who gave up His life so you can have a share in Eternal Life with Him in Heaven?

VOCATIONS

RECENT ORDINATIONS IN OUR DIOCESE

Please pray for James Gebhart who was ordained as a Transitional Deacon and for Deacon John Enemou who was ordained as a Priest.

*Thank you God for choosing these men to help serve the Diocese of Wilmington!
Remember to keep praying for Vocations.*

Deacon Formation Information Nights



New class of
Permanent Deacons
starting in June 2023

For more information, visit: cdow.org/deacons

If you feel that God may be calling you to a vocation, you can contact the Rev. Norman Carroll, Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations at (302) 573 - 3113 or vocations@cdow.org. More information is available at www.cdow.org/vocations.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ST. POLYCARP CHURCH

Friday, May 26th marks the 55th anniversary of the dedication of St. Polycarp Church in Smyrna, Delaware (1968 – 2023)!

1963

Father Francis J. Tierney was appointed the first Diocesan pastor. He continued to build community among Catholics in the area, using the chapel at St. Joseph's in Clayton.

May 26th, 1964

Bishop Michael W. Hyle announced plans to build a new St. Polycarp Church on South Street and Ransom Lane in Smyrna.

January 20th, 1968

Church in Smyrna opened its doors for the first time.

May 26th, 1968

St. Polycarp Church solemnly dedicated by Bishop Thomas Mardaga.

ST. POLYCARP, PRAY FOR US!

INTERESTING FACT ABOUT OUR DIOCESE



The Catholic Diocese of Wilmington was established in 1868 and comprises 56 parishes, 18 missions, and 29 schools serving the State of Delaware and the nine counties of Maryland's Eastern Shore. Additional Information is available at www.cdow.org.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

The Parish and Family Life (PFL) Committee has not been able to successfully represent our Parish in the town during parades and events. We are looking for Parishioners to represent our Parish or assist in decorating for the parades! If you are able to help in being crafty and maybe have ideas to help design a float or just want to walk with us and hold our banner, please reach out to Deanna Lail at (302) 535 – 2957 or dlail14@comcast.net. All of invited to join us for our next PFL meeting (the third Thursday of each month)!



Are you ready to think ahead to those Christmas gifts?! PFL is planning a Fall Quarter Auction with assistance from other Ministries. We are searching for helpers and items for auction that can assist in making this 1st time event possible and successful! If you have experience in hosting or possibly able to help in the process reach out to Chair Deanna Lail @ 302-535-2957 or dlail14@comcast.net

BROTHER VINCENT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our Council continues to help our Church and community. You can help by purchasing delicious *nuts*, *snacks*, and *chocolates*. A Portion of every product sold on this fundraising website (<https://council7517-KofC.terri Lynn.com>) benefits the Brother Vincent Council #7517 Knights of Columbus! Orders to each person SHIP FREE anywhere in the US when their items total \$30 or more!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

Registration is now open for 2023-2024 religious education classes.

Please register early to help us plan for next year & registering early helps you save money! (see form for tuition rates).

We have a variety of ways to register:

1. Pick-up a printed copy from the black drop box located outside under the portico and return it along with payment.
2. To print the Registration Form, visit <https://saintpolycarp.org/religious-education/>
3. Online – To pay with a credit or debit card or from your bank account, visit <https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/org/831>
4. Use this QR code



For more information, contact Mrs. Erica Taylor, Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE) at 302-653-4101 or dre@saintpolycarp.org or visit <https://saintpolycarp.org/religious-education/>

HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

MASS AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SHRINE

Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, May 21 at 4:00 PM at St. Francis Xavier Shrine (Old Bohemia). The presider will be Rev. Christian Wagner, SJ from Georgetown University in Washington, DC. At 3:15 PM, Fr. Chris will give a talk on The Intersection of Scientific Research and

Faith. Visitors are welcome to arrive at 2:00 PM to learn about the history of Catholicism in the Colonies, tour the Rectory Museum, and view graves dating back to the 1700s. Founded in 1704, the St. Francis Xavier Shrine is the Mother Church of the Diocese of Wilmington. The church is located at 1690 Bohemia Church Road, Warwick, MD 21912. For additional information, email OldBohemiaHS@gmail.com or call 302.545.2126

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 & continued stewardship.



FINANCE COUNCIL



The role of the Finance Council is to: Support all Parish ministries; facilitate the achievement of the Parish mission, and provide ongoing financial guidance to Fr. Jim and Parish leadership.

If you have an interest in assisting in the financial success of St. Polycarp, please reach out to John Fcasni at (609) 529 - 1986 or john.fcasni@gmail.com



50/50 MONTHLY DRAWING!
\$1.00 per chance!
Proceeds benefit our PSR.

Simply place \$1 per chance in one of the envelopes found at the doors of the Church. Place the envelope in the collection basket or drop off at the office. **Enter as many times as you like for the month! Each dollar gets you one chance for that month!** Winner pulled monthly on the last Monday of the month! Winner gets half: PSR gets half!

Thank you for supporting our PSR!



Catholic Diocese of Wilmington 2023 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal

Thank you to everyone who pledged the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal. If you have not yet participated, please consider doing so today. Your gift makes a real difference in the lives of thousands of individuals and families who reside within our 12-county diocese. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews of the Church and can be placed in the offertory basket. Thank you for your generosity and support.

To learn more about the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal, visit www.cdow.org; click "Giving" then "Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal," or simply scan this QR code with your cellphone.



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, May 20	12 pm Environment Committee (Church) 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS
Sunday, May 21	10:30 am MASS Following Mass - Inculturation Agape (Hall/Kitchen)
Monday, May 22	6:30 pm RCIA Sessions (Library)
Tuesday, May 23	8:30 am MASS 9 am Adult Faith Formation - Connected in Christ (Library) 11 am Columbiettes Rosary (Telephone) 12 pm - 8 pm Eucharistic Adoration (Chapel) 6:30 pm Social Concerns (Library)
Wednesday, May 24	8:30 am MASS 6:30 pm Squires (Library)
Thursday, May 25	6 pm Girl Scouts Meeting (Hall) 6:30 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel)
Friday, May 26	Anniversary of Dedication of St. Polycarp Church 3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)
Saturday, May 27	12 pm Environment Committee (Church) 2:30 pm Confession 4 pm MASS

COLLECTIONS

Collection	Offertory	Children's Offertory	Total Offertory
May 7	\$4895	\$23	\$4918

	Poor Box
May 7	\$395

The Second collection this weekend will be for the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED . . .

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, May 29th, in observance of Memorial Day.

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