

# *St. Polycarp Church*

*55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, DE 19977*

*(302) 653-8279    www.saintpolycarp.org*

Dear People of God,

I hope and pray that all is well with you and your loved ones as we celebrate Labor Day!

This 127-year-old holiday was established to honor the contributions and achievements of American workers. Often we forget how important our labors really are. Each one of us, through our work, build up our Country to be one of the finest in the world.

This reality applies universally throughout all time. Work is a necessary component of our human dignity. It is part of how we were created in God's own image and likeness. Through our labors we become an intricate part of the Body of Christ in the world. This is the tradition that has built and sustained our parish over the decades. It is also what provides our professional staff the grace to concretize the Kingdom of God.

Recently, our Parish Secretary, Teresa Cariello, has been dealing with a series of life challenges that has lead her and husband to re-locate back to the beach. This is certainly a loss to our family of faith! For years, she has been a blessing to God's people at St. Polycarp. Certainly, our prayers go with her on the next chapter of her journey of faith.

While her departure on September 10<sup>th</sup> weakens the Body of Christ here, we know that God will work through this challenge. The core belief of our faith is the Paschal Mystery, Passion, death and resurrection are but one event! This is the path that our Savior traveled that we must follow as His disciples.

Because of this fact, which has been reinforced throughout my 34 years of Priesthood, I know that God already has been working in the life of the personal that He wants to come forward and embrace this ministry. Yet, God also needs each one of us to be part of His plan. I ask all of our parishioners to pray about whether you are the one who God is calling to be our next Parish Secretary. Further, God may need you to be His messenger and prompt that person to come forward. Either way, God's grace will take care of the rest.

Interested candidates should send their resume to me at [fr.hreha@saintpolycarp.org](mailto:fr.hreha@saintpolycarp.org). A job description is available upon request. This is a full time position, with a comprehensive benefits package, that includes a retirement plan that is quite literally heavenly.

Thank you for your prayers, understanding and patience as we progress through the Paschal Mystery in the life of our parish.

May God continue to bless you and reward your goodness and faith.

Fraternally,



Rev. James D. Hreha  
Pastor

JDH/tkc

*“Remain faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”  
(message to the Church at Smyrna, Revelation 2:19)*