

St. Polycarp Church

55 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, DE 19977-1617

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU BECAUSE WE SEE CHRIST IN YOU

Office Hours: 9 am - 3 pm weekdays
(302) 653-8279
office@saintpolycarp.org
www.saintpolycarp.org
diocesan website: www.cdot.org

The Academy at St. Polycarp (Pre-School)

499 W. South Street
Smyrna, DE 19977
Nancy Koska, Director, 653-1496



Rev. James D. Hreha, Pastor
Deacon Mike Boyd, Sr.
Deacon Charles Robinson
Patricia Freedman, DRE
Judy Lamborn, Assistant to DRE /
Communications Director
Lisa Titus, Business Manager
Teresa Cariello, Parish Secretary
Jack Molyneaux, Finance Council
Jack Barnas, Pastoral Council

WE CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST - MASS

Saturday, 4pm
Sunday, 10:30 am
Daily, Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am

DE Home for Chronically Ill –
First Tuesday of the Month at 10:30am

WE FORM ADULTS & YOUTH IN FAITH

Christian Formation Office/Religious Education -
(302)653-4101, dre@saintpolycarp.org
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults -
deacon.Mike.Boyd@gmail.com

Baptism classes are held on the 1st Saturday each month. Please call Deacon Charlie at (302) 653-4654 to register. Baptisms are held on the 2nd Sunday during the last Mass and on the 4th Sunday after Mass.

WE CELEBRATE FORGIVENESS - RECONCILIATION

Confessions: Saturday, 2:30-3:30 pm or by appointment. No matter how long you may have been away, you are always welcome back!

WE GATHER FOR PRAYER

Eucharistic Adoration in St. Ann Chapel -
9 am – 9 pm Tuesdays
Sacred Heart Devotions –
9 am 1st Fridays
Novena to the Miraculous Medal –
9 am 1st Saturdays
Flame of Love – 7 pm Thursdays
Divine Mercy Devotions, 3 pm Fridays
Rosary before Daily Mass

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



We will be happy to meet with you in our office or register you over the phone. Working adult children living with parents should register separately. You must attend Mass weekly for us to certify you to stand as a godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation.



1883

Our Parish Mission

We, are a welcoming Roman Catholic family of faith, a thankful, holy people sent forth from our celebration of the Eucharist to walk in faith, live in hope, and act with love for God and one another. Through our ministry we embrace the poor, the suffering, and the lost. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are committed to justice and peace through prayer, Christian formation the New Evangelization, and stewardship.



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Fifth Sunday of Lent March 18, 2018

Stations of the Cross - Fridays at 6:30 pm

CALLING ALL GENERATIONS
LENTE RETREAT MARCH 24TH
An Intergenerational Retreat:
Passing on Catholic faith at St. Polycarp
for future generations

The retreat team members of the *Baby Boomer Generation* (1946 - 1961) will direct the Lenten Intergenerational Retreat on Saturday, March 24th. They will share what it is like to have children, who were educated and raised Catholic, but no longer practicing their faith, nor passing it on to their grandchildren. The small groups will focus on ideas for reversing this trend at St. Polycarp. The closing prayer service will be the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament - a Catholic devotion that was a centerpiece of Baby Boomers spirituality.

Triduum



Holy Thursday: March 29, 2018
7 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Polycarp
Followed by Adoration in St. Ann's Chapel until 11pm.

Good Friday: March 30, 2018
3 pm Passion of the Lord at St. Dennis, Galena MD.

Holy Saturday: March 31, 2018
7:30 pm - Easter Vigil at St. Polycarp

Easter Sunday: April 1, 2018
8 am & 10 am Mass at St. Polycarp
8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am(Spanish) at St. Dennis

LET US PRAY




Bread & Wine for the Eucharist are given in prayer for our deceased loved ones.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in Church burns in memory of Tom McElrone requested by Marg & Dick Gonyea.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann Chapel burns in prayer for an increase in vocations.

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK



Mon. March 19 **Saint Joseph**
8:30 Irene Willey Bryk - Andres & Phyllis Ortiz

Tues. March 20
8:30 Thomas F. Gibson Jr. - John & Susan Pokolski
9 am - 9 pm Adoration
10:30 DHCI Communion Service

Wed. March 21
8:30 Frelda White & Sophla Wilson - Theresa Devine

Thurs. March 22
8:30 Peter Bonsignore Jr. - Beverly Klernan
7 pm Flame of Love Rosary

Fri. March 23 **Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo**
8:30 Deceased members of the Hogan & Hopper
Families - Tom & Mary Anne Hopper
3 pm Divine Mercy
6:30 pm Stations of the Cross

Sat. March 24 Blessed Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr
8:30 Trudy Kasubinski - Walter Kasubinski
2:30 pm Confession
4 pm Bruce Frye - Barry & Joyce Yerger

Sun. March 25 **Palm Sunday**
10:30 Parishioners

We Pray for our Sick & Deceased

Our Sick ~

Week I Linda Blow, Florence Lepkowski, Craig Harman, Patti Benson, Heidi Giuttari, Olivia Billert,

Week II Samantha Lane, Jimmy Callahan, Janet Girello, Joe Dugan, Patricia Freedman, Kevin Patterson, Baby Makenzie

Week III Marie Nardone, Betty Campbell, Joy Carr, Frances Abernathy, Father Tom Flowers

Week IV Roger Blankenship, Dottie McCracken, Brad Ganson, Wayne Paret

Week V Lorraine Macasevich, Kathleen O'Brien, Sophia Wilson, Deirdre Moor, Dylan Fairbanks, David DeVincentes, Bill Hill

Week VI Laura Saporito

Our Deceased ~
Raymond Weckerly, Sr. - parishioner (& father of Theresa DiMeo); Kay Vaughn

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord
And let the perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

A Message from our Director of Religious Education



Dear Parishioners,

It is never enough to "give up" something for Lent. We need to offer ourselves to the Lord by allowing Him to change our heart and draw us closer to Him. And we need to "do something" to change the world around us for our neighbor half a block -- and half a world -- away. Lent is the vision of just who we want to be in the light of Easter morning.

~Pope Francis

Sometimes Lent comes to us in a way we did not anticipate. Indeed that is the case for me this year. Recently I was diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer. I am being treated at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and await the date to begin chemotherapy.

Adjustments to my work schedule have been made. The Christian Formation Office has wonderful ministry leaders, whose dedication and devotion to our parish and our Catholic faith is exemplary.

As expressed in the above quote, with God's ever-abundant grace, I am offering this illness to our Lord, trusting that this suffering will benefit the Kingdom of God, especially here at St. Polycarp. Thank you for your prayers.

In Jesus our Hope,

Patricia Freedman, DRG

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION - PSR

Almsgiving

Our PSR students will once again be participating in a special **Lenten Almsgiving Outreach Activity** this week. All students have been asked to bring in a food item that will be donated to the Smyrna Food Pantry. To make this a more meaningful Lenten activity, children were encouraged to use their own money to purchase their food donation. The children will gather for an Almsgiving Prayer Service during which time they will hand in their donation.

www.saintpolycarp.org

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Easter Novena: The first novena offered by the apostles and Blessed Mother culminated in a shower of graces on Pentecost. We have a similar opportunity to offer a novena of Masses for our loved ones, as well as ourselves, from Easter through Divine Mercy Sunday. To share this gift of grace, please submit your Easter Novena envelope. Envelopes may be placed in the collection basket.

LITURGY



Please have your child join us on Sundays at the 10:30 am Mass. Children in pre-kindergarten through fourth grade are invited forward before the readings to join the week's leader and assistant to be dismissed to the Parish Center. No registration needed! The children return to Mass during the collection. The enthusiasm of the children who are present during this sharing is contagious!

SOCIAL CONCERNS

The **Food Pantry** is asking for canned chicken, beef stew, rice, dried milk and juice. Don't forget to bring in your coupons (no need to clip). Please no expired food. We are looking for more volunteers to pack food in the pantry on a monthly basis.



Lost and Found -This is the last weekend to claim! All items not claimed by this weekend will be donated to charity. Our lost and found is located on top of the filing cabinet to the right of the coat rack near the South Street doors.



HAPPENING IN OUR DIOCESE

Saint Thomas More Academy Spring Open House

Tuesday, March 20th, from 5 pm - 8pm.

Come and learn what amazing opportunities your child can experience academically, socially, and through extracurricular programs at STMA.

Ninth Annual Youth Pilgrimage

Our St. Polycarp Confirmation Candidates will be participating in the Ninth Annual Pilgrimage through the streets of Wilmington this coming Saturday, March 24. Please pray for our youth as they, along with Bishop Malooly and youth from across the diocese carry the Diocesan Pilgrimage Cross through the streets of Wilmington as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and His journey on Good Friday to Calvary.

Vocations

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God promised that He would write His covenant in the hearts of His people. Throughout the history of Christianity, courageous women and men have generously offered the whole of their lives in the service of that covenant as consecrated religious sisters and brothers. Do you have what it takes to follow their lead? If you'd like to explore the options, please call or write Father Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113; vocations@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.cdow.org/Vocations

THE ACADEMY

THE ACADEMY at ST. POLYCARP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN for 2018-2019

The Academy at St. Polycarp is a faith based, state certified preschool for children ages 3 & 4. Please contact Nancy Koska at 653-1496 (The Academy) or 653-8279 (our parish office) for more information or to register. Visit our webpage <http://saintpolycarp.org/preschool/> for more information.



The Academy celebrated the Winter Olympics. The children enjoyed racing their homemade bobsleds, hockey shoot out and snowball toss. All received a medal for their efforts.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

SAVE THE DATE TRIVIA MASTER, RICH SCHAUER, IS BACK!!



Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 28th in the Parish Hall. Food will be served at 5pm. Trivia will start at 6pm.

Round up your own team of up to 8 people or come and join a team. \$5 per person donation

Lite fare, beverages and snacks will be sold by the Knights of Columbus. For information, call Eleanor Schauer, (302) 378-4756

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION



Brother Vincent Council's annual St. Patty's Day Social will take place this weekend Sunday, March 18, following the 10:30 am Mass in the hall.

Corned beef and cabbage, ham and potatoes and desserts are on the menu.

Entertainment will be provided by the **Docairde School of Irish Dance**. You will be amazed how very talented these young dancers are.

A special thank you to all who supported our recent soup and chili sale.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

St. Polycarp Parish Directory



Only individuals or families that participated by having their picture taken will receive a free Directory. As you pick-up your free directory (available by stopping by the office), we will cross your name off our list. If you did not participate by having your picture taken and accidentally picked up a directory, we ask that you return it to the office or leave it in the black drop box near the Office/Chapel doors. Directories are not available for purchase at this time. An inquiry has been made to Lifetouch Photography to see if extra copies can be made available for purchase. Updates will appear in the Bulletin if any become available. Thank you.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Easter Flowers: We all recognize the sacrifices Jesus endured for our salvation. Please complete the Easter Flower envelope to help decorate our Church as a visible sign of our appreciation for the gift of our resurrected Lord. Envelopes should be placed in the collection basket.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. When you contribute to this Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

OFFERTORY REFLECTION PROGRAM

Please remember to return your response card!

Thank You!

The Offertory Reflection Program is now under way. We ask for your prayers for success as we begin this annual process. Important Information was mailed regarding this important part of our annual budget planning process. Please reserve some time to prayerfully reflect on God's Blessings and how you are helping to build His Kingdom here at St. Polycarp. We ask that you return the response card indicating your anticipated level of offertory giving. This is not a pledge. We thank you for your support. Cards may be placed in the collection basket, mailed or brought to the office.

"...As each one has received a gift use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."

1 Peter 4:10

STEWARDSHIP

2nd Collection - This weekend Parish Utilities

March 11	Offertory	Poor Box	Catholic Relief - Latin America (3/4)
Collections	\$5,708	\$201	
eGiving	\$3,634	\$1065	\$147
Total	\$9,342		

2nd Collections	Easter Flowers	Easter Mass Remembrance	Holy Land Shrines	Parish Utilities
Collections	\$463	\$475		
eGiving	\$158	\$167	\$107	\$177
Total	\$621	\$642	\$107	\$177

eGiving figures are reported twice a month.



St. Polycarp has partnered with Faith Direct to make it easier for you to be a good steward and to support our parish. Visit www.saintpolycarp.org for a direct link to sign up or to print and fill out a paper enrollment form. Please consider supporting our parish electronically.

Proceeds benefit PSR



Envelopes available at the doors. Place \$1 in the envelope and complete the information. Prize is split 50/50 between the winner and our PSR (Parish School of Religion). Thank you for your support!

Date	Number Drawn	Winner	Prize - Next Week
March 11	1024	None	\$240

This Week in Our Parish

Sun. March 18

Fifth Sunday of Lent

9 am PSR Grades P-4 (Rooms 1-8 & Library & Hall)

9:10 am PSR Lenten Almsgiving Prayer Service (Church)

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Hall)

11:30 am St. Patrick's Day Social

Mon. March 19

12:30 pm Academy 4's

6 pm Knights 1st Degree (Hall)

6:30 pm Columbiettes (Library)

Tues. March 20

9 am - 9 pm - Adoration (Chapel)

12:30 pm Academy 4's

6:30 pm Finance Council (Room 7)

7 pm PSR Grades 5-8 (Rooms 1-6, 8, & Library)

7:10 pm PSR Lenten Almsgiving Prayer Service -Church

Wed. March 21

9 am Academy 3's

9:30 am Pastoral Staff Meeting (Rectory)

12:30 pm Academy 4's

7 pm Facilities Planning Committee (Library)

Thurs. March 22

9 am Academy 3's

12:30 pm Academy 4's

6 pm Girls Scouts #547 (Room 6)

7 pm Knights Officers Meeting (Room 4)

7 pm Flame of Love Rosary (Chapel)

7 pm RCIA (Library)

Fri. March 23

9 am Academy 3's

9:15 am Altar Guild IV (Church)

12:30 pm Academy 4's

3 pm Divine Mercy (Chapel)

6:30 pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

Sat. March 24

Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage (Wilmington)

9:15 Lenten Retreat (Hall)

2:30 pm Confessions

W. A. Faries, Jr.

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Jennifer C. Liquido, M.D.
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