

St. Polycarp Parish

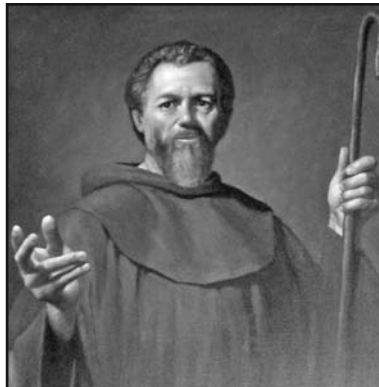
135 Ransom Lane, Smyrna, DE 19977-1617

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

Office Hours: 9:30 am - 3 pm weekdays
(302) 653-8279
st_polycarp@verizon.net
www.saintpolycarp.org
diocesan website: www.cdow.org

The Academy at St. Polycarp

(Pre-School)
499 W. South Street
Nancy Koska, Director, 653-1496



Father Tom Flowers, Pastor
Charlie Robinson, Permanent Deacon
Michael A. Boyd, Permanent Deacon
Carol Simperts, DRE carolsimperts@yahoo
Judy Lamborn, DRE's Assistant
Diane Dellinger, Social Concerns, 736-1737
Bernadette Baker, Administrative Assistant
Maureen Robinson, Secretary
Selina Paulish, Bookkeeper
Peter Luscko, Pastoral Council, 653-6517
Mike Baker, Finance Council, 376-0291
Peg Murphy, Facilities Rentals, 653-1086

WE CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

5 pm Saturday, 8 & 10:45 am Sunday
(10 am June - August)
8:30 am weekdays (except Thursday)
10:30 am Tuesday, Delaware Home

WE FORM ADULTS & YOUTH IN FAITH

Christian Formation Office, 653-4101
St. John Bosco Home School Study Group
Alison Seewald, 378-7198
Columbian Squires, Rich DeZao, 677-1999

WE CELEBRATE FORGIVENESS

Confessions 3:30-4:30 pm Saturday or by appointment

Image of St. Polycarp is from an original oil painting by Sean Faust which hangs in Mother Drexel Hall

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Members of our parish will be happy to meet with you, in your home or at our office, to share a welcome packet, answer questions, & fill out a registration form. We have a special program for folks interested in becoming Catholic. 653-8279

WE GATHER FOR PRAYER

Charismatic Prayer & Laying on of Hands, 6:30 pm, 3rd Monday of the Month
Eucharistic Adoration in St. Ann Chapel, 9 am - 9 pm Tuesday
Shepherds of Christ, 9 am Wednesday
Sacred Heart Devotions, 9 am 1st Friday • Cenacle of Our Lady, 9:30 am 1st Friday
Divine Mercy Devotions, 3 pm Friday • Intercession for Vocations, 7 pm Friday

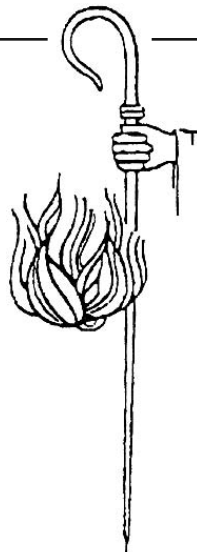
BVM Sodality Fran Miller 653-6035
Holy Name Society Jim Walls 653-1450

Knights of Columbus
Br. Vincent Council Rich Dezao 677-1999
4th Deg. Assembly Tom Boscher 653-7565
Columbiettes Marie Carney 659-3018

Holy Cross Elementary 674-5784
St. Thomas More Prep 697-8100

Diocesan Vocation Office
Rev. Joseph M.P.R. Cocucci 573-3113

Help With Pregnancy 698-9311
Post-Abortion Help 472-0649
jdzialak@ccwilm.org



Our Mission

We, the family of faith at St. Polycarp, are a welcoming Roman Catholic community, 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 for 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, evangelization, and stewardship.

We remember. We celebrate. We believe.

1883

Third Sunday in Lent
March 7, 2010

From Our Pastor's Desk

Members of our parish regularly demonstrate your keen sense of stewardship. For example, while most non-beach parishes see a significant drop-off of income during the summer months, collections here remain steady. Special collections like the one for Hurricane Katrina relief raised over \$15,000, three times our average Sunday offertory. When I obtained the altar & crucifix from St. Stanislaus Kostka last May, my appeal to cover the \$15,000 expense brought in \$18,000.

So it comes as no surprise that your children have an outstanding record of generosity in donating to the missions. For the 6th time since the 1990-91 academic year, our PSR students have taken 1st place in per capita contributions to the *Holy Childhood Association*. They have also taken 1st place in total contributions for the 4th time in 5 years. And this despite the fact that our 270 youth are outnumbered 3- or 4-to-1 by larger parish programs!

Since the 1990-91 academic year, children in our 600-household faith community have donated \$13,077.50. The money is donated during the PSR program, which runs from Sept. thru April, via mission boxes for each child in Advent and Lent and a classroom "globe bank" for the Holy Childhood Association. In addition to parents who witness the virtues of charity & justice, our youth benefit from catechists who encourage their support of the missions.

Carol Simpers has asked Chris & Darla Vinton and their sons, Wesley & Patrick, to represent our parish at the Knights of Columbus *Breakfast of Champions* today, at Christ our King in Wilmington. They will bring back to Smyrna another pair of plaques for a growing collection on the PSR *wall of honor*, outside the Cardinal O'Connor Library.

To our PSR students, I say this: Just as your parents & grandparents make me proud & happy to be pastor of St. Polycarp, so, too, your generous love and deep faith inspire me and bring joy to my heart. I thank God for each and every one of you!

And once again I'd like to thank all of you who turned in offertory envelopes for Sundays missed because of snow. You keep us in the black when the world turns white!

Father Tom

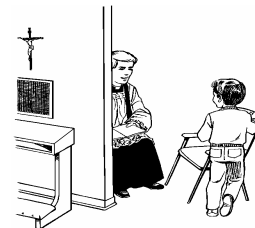
LITURGY & PRAYER

Bread & Wine is given this weekend for the intentions of the priests who will join Fr. Tom on Tuesday to hear your Easter confession.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns for girls & women in our parish who may be called to the consecrated life as a religious.

Our Sanctuary Lamp in St. Ann Chapel burns for all the members of our Teen Club.

When We Have Heavy Snow, you can check our Mass schedule by calling 653-8279 or 653-4101. Tune in to WDEL 1150 AM, WSTW 93.7 FM, or WDOV 1410 AM & WSDS 92.9 FM.



Prayer for Confessors

**Father of mercies,
You have placed within
the mantle of priestly ministry
responsibility to and for penitents.
We come to our priests in confidence,
seeking gentleness and patience,
wise and helpful counsel,
and the assurance of Your divine forgiveness.
Bless each priest who hears our confessions
during this holy and penitential season.
May they be the outstretched Arms
of Christ, Your Son,
welcoming home Your prodigal sons and daughters.
May they rejoice in having the great privilege
of embracing with Your Fatherly compassion
those who come repenting, fearful, doubting,
or in any way despairing of Your grace.
May they themselves
benefit from frequent and worthy confession,
We ask this through the wounded Heart
of Jesus, crucified and risen,
for He is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.**

At the Rite of Acceptance at Holy Cross on Feb. 20, Bishop Malooly recognized participants in our parish R.C.I.A. as they begin their final preparation for the Eater sacraments: catechumens who will be baptized and receive Confirmation & Eucharist are Francis Fox, Victoria Meekins, & Dustin Miller, and candidates who will complete their initiation as Catholics thru the sacraments of Confirmation & Eucharist are Shannon Dumire & Jackie Fortenbacher. Please pray for them in these final days of their making ready for the grace of Easter.

Confessors Helping on Tuesday are Norbertine Fr. Jim Bagnato, retired Fr. Tom Peterman, Elkton pastor Fr. Joe Piekarski, Milford pastor Msgr. Geo. Brubaker and Kent Island pastor Fr. Jennings.

*"We live in a Satanic culture
which has lost its sense of sin."*

--Pope Benedict XVI

In re: Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, Inc.;
Case No. 09-13560

**YOU MAY HAVE A CLAIM AGAINST
THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON, INC.**

On October 18, 2009, the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, Inc. (the "Debtor") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Bankruptcy Court").

**THE LAST DAY TO FILE AN ABUSE CLAIM
AGAINST THE DEBTOR IS APRIL 15, 2010
AT 4:00 P.M. (PREVAILING EASTERN TIME).**

**IF YOU WERE ABUSED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE
CLERGY OR ANY OTHER PERSON CONNECTED WITH
THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON, INC. YOU
MUST FILE A CLAIM BY APRIL 15, 2010 AT 4:00 P.M.
(PREVAILING EASTERN TIME).**

For more information, including a complete list of all parishes and schools within the geographic territory of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, or to receive a proof of claim form and associated documents, please (1) visit the Debtor's website at <http://www.cdow.org>; (2) visit the Claims Agent's designated website at <http://www.cdowreorganization.com>; (3) call the Claims Agent at (800) 761-6220, (4) write to The Garden City Group, Inc., Attn: CDOW Bankruptcy Administration, P.O. Box 9561, Dublin, Ohio 43017-4861; or (5) call the official committee of unsecured creditors appointed in this case at (888) 570-6269.

Liturgies & Prayer This Week

Mon., Mar. 8 *St. John of God*
8:30 Anthony Kowalski --grandson

Tues., Mar. 9 *St. Frances of Rome*
8:30 Dominic Grispiro --Terri & Milt Myers
9 am Adoration in St. Ann Chapel
10:30 int. of Stanley Kata --Bob & Marie Nolte
7:30 Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wed., Mar. 10
8:30 Bob Halsey --the Koska Family
9 am Shepherds of Christ (chapel)
6:30 *Radiance of Joy* rehearsal

Thurs., Mar. 11
8:30 Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Fri., Mar. 12
8:30 Minna Raczkowski --Grace & Don Howard
7 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction
Adoration in St. Ann's Chapel for vocations

Sat., Mar. 13
3:30 Confessions
5 pm Rita Lahey --Judy Lahey

Sun., Mar. 14 *Laetare Sunday*
8 am Missa pro Populo
10:45 John Mayo --Bernadette Baker
6:30 Confirmation class confessions

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

Join Us for Soup & Sharing on Mar. 21. Enjoy a variety of homemade soups and bring bread/rolls or a dessert to share. Following our 4 pm meal parish youth will offer a musical Passion play.

Our Knights of Columbus Invite You to honor good St. Patrick next Sunday. They will serve corned beef on potato rolls during our A'gape. All are welcome!

Let's Pray for Our Sick: Delores Kolokowski, Ed Green, Carlos Gonzalez, Vicky Bleyer, Mary Pat Brough, Len Richmond, Mark Zirilli, Linda Larkin, Helen Simperts, Cheryl Keleher, Archie Bethard, Patty Smith, Maryanne Sheltzer, Helen Kline, Jack Sheehan, Peg Schuyler, Geneviere Pietrucha, Kathleen Messina, John Lythgoe, Jim Halleran, Ray Gruwell, Richard Harman, Marion Murphy, Jane & Lyn Workmeister.

Let's Pray for Our Deceased: Sara Napolitano, whose funeral was celebrated by Deacon Charlie last Sat., Fr. Joseph Phalan (today), Fr. Carmen Vignola (Feb. 29), Fr. Russell Perkins, our former pastor, & Fr. Chris Plokhooy (Tues), Bishop Hubert Cartwright & Msgr. Paul Schierse (Sat.).

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Our Lenten Christian Friday Film Festival continues Fri., at 9 am, in the library. This week's feature: part 1 of *The Lamb's Supper* with Scott Hahn.

Ave Maria University offers a money back guarantee to all donors. They understand that Catholic parents want to make sure that sending a son or daughter to a "Catholic" college will truly deepen the faith experience of the young person and help him or her grow in the rich traditions of Catholicism. That's why Chancellor Tom Monaghan gives this guarantee to all donors:

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- 4) We guarantee that should you visit, you will be impressed with the progress of our University and the Town, and that you will receive materials at our Visitors center to help you enjoy your stay, and give you great hope for the future! Should we not live up to this Guarantee, we will give you your money back! This offer never expires, and is valid in all states and countries where Christ's message is needed!
For more info, go to www.avemaria.edu.

This Week in Our Parish

- Today** 9 am PSR, 10:45 am Mass & Scrutiny I and PSR P & K, 11:45 am R.C.I.A., 2 pm film, *Divine Mercy: No Escape*, 3 pm Polish Lenten devotions, 6:30 pm Teen Club
- Mon.** 11:30 Sodality rosary/lunch, 12:30 pm Academy, 7:30 pm *Circle Hope*
- Tues.** 9 am adoration & counseling, 10:30 am DHCI Mass, 12:30 pm Academy, 7 pm PSR, 7:30 pm Confessions, PSR, & K of C 4th Deg.
- Wed.** 8:30 am Academy, 9 am St. Vincent de Paul, counseling & Shepherds, 12:30 pm Academy, 6:30 pm *Radiance of Joy*, 7 pm AA
- Thurs.** 8:30 am Academy, 9 am counseling & Rosary makers, 12:30pm Academy, 7 pm PSR confessions, 7 pm K of C 3rd Deg. meeting
- Fri.** 9 am Altar Guild I & film festival, 9:15 Cenacle of Our Lady, Noon St. John Bosco lunch, 12:30 pm Academy, 3 pm Divine Mercy, 5 pm *Radiance of Joy* Lenten dinner, 6:30 pm ConQuest & Challenge, 7 pm Living Stations & Benediction, adoration in chapel
- Sat.** 9 am baptismal class for expectant parents, 1 pm Confirmation retreat, 6 pm bake sale
- Sun.** 9 am PSR, 10:45 am Mass & Scrutiny II and PSR P & K and PSR II, 11:45 am R.C.I.A. and K of C St. Patrick's Day observance, Noon PSR Faculty, 6:30 pm confirmation class and confessions

Try This at Home... During Mass, do you ever spot a family who you view as a good example of the Catholic faith? Don't worry that your family doesn't measure up. Instead, ask how you can teach the tenets of our faith. Does your family gossip, cheat, or curse?

God Called Moses From the Burning Bush. Is His voice burning in your heart? Is he calling you to live out your baptism as a priest, deacon, or religious. If you've felt that holy fire and don't know what to do next, contact Fr. Joe Cocucci, jcocucci@cdow.org or 573-3113. Be sure to visit www.CalledByTheLord.com.

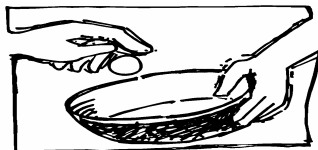
SOCIAL CONCERNS

Our Ecumenical Food Pantry has special need of canned fruit & tomatoes and dry milk or *Parmalat*.

A single human soul is of more worth than the Whole universe of bodies and material goods. There is nothing above the human soul except God. In the light of the eternal values and absolute dignity of the soul, society exists for each person and is subordinate thereto.

Jacques Maritain

The Rights of Man and Natural Law (1943)



Double Your Donation for Haiti Relief. Visit www.HaitiRenewal.org or send check to NCF/Haiti Renewal Fund, 11625 Rainwater Dr., Suite 500, Alpharetta, GA 30009. Foster Friess Foundation.

Choose Life License Plates! We have 166 people who have applied for one and need only 34 more. Register at www.dechoose-life.org. Contact Jim at 678-9955 or jim@cordie.us.

STEWARDSHIP

4th Sun. in Feb. \$ 5,747
Mortgage 1,226
poor box 337

Our 50-50 Drawing for Feb. 28 was # 68. Since we had no winner, today's pot is \$113.00.

Our Parish Office is Closed Monday so that our staff can share a day of prayer.

HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

Mar. 7-11 Parish Mission at St. Joseph in Middletown, 7 pm every evening. Fr. Jo Currie, SJ, Dir. Of Campus Ministry at Fordham, spent 2 decades in India as a formation director.

Mar. 13 Children's Clothing & Toy Resale at St. Catherine of Siena, 9:30 am-1 pm, in the Martin Center. 463-7792 or 234-1925.

Mar. 14 Catholic Forum at 10:45 am on 1150AM WDEL and www.wdel.com.

Mar. 17 Luck of the Irish Sweepstakes to support Little Sisters of the Poor "Winter Fuel Fund." \$50 @. Contact Maryann Altieri, 368-5886 and learn how you can win \$5,000, \$2,000, or \$500.

Mar. 20 Team Trivia at St. Thomas More Prep, 6:30 - 11 pm. Teams of 8 play 10 rounds. Bring food/snacks. \$15 per person. Beer/wine available. You must be 21 or older to play. Register by Mar. 18 at 697-8100, ext. 1 or www.saintmore.org.

Mar. 27 Young People: Take Up Your Cross! Join Bishop Malooly in processing thru the streets of Wilmington as a representation of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem and His journey on Good Friday to Calvary. Register at 9:30 am. Day concludes with concert with Steve Angrisano, our emcee for the day. Cost is \$15 (bring your own lunch). Visit cdow.org.

Apr. 18 Celebrate Life Day at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 4 pm liturgy followed by light supper. Bring 2-3 cans of food for parish food closet. Register by calling Sr. Sally Russell, 573-3130.

Apr. 9-11 Retrouvaille at Malvern Retreat House for couples in all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. (800) 470-2230 or www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

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Psalm 122:8

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- Minor Burns
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