

RESURRECTION PARISH

December 25, 2016

The Nativity of the Lord

MAIN PHONE NUMBER (302) 368-0146

Rev. William Graney, Pastor	x102
Rev. Greg Corrigan, Assoc. Pastor	x115
Secretary (Main Office)	x 0
John Falkowski, Deacon	x110
Nancy Maloney, Christian Formation	x104
Ruth Sanders, Liturgy/Music	x106
Sandy Landoll, Social Concerns Coord.	x103
John Werner, Business Director	x105
Elaine Little, Youth Ministry	x107

Parish Office Hours
 9:00am - 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mike Rzcudlo	Executive Officer
Sharon Gidumal	Assist E.O.
Joanne Hedrick	Secretary
Maritza Poza-Grise	Trustee
Chip Schussler	Trustee



3000 Videre Drive
 Wilmington, De. 19808

<http://www.resurrectionde.org>

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday
10 days prior**

SPIRITUALITY OUTREACH STEWARDSHIP

Resurrection Parish is a welcoming Roman Catholic Community founded on the renewed vision of Vatican II. Dedicated to the ongoing formation of all parishioners, we seek a deeper spirituality by encountering God in liturgy, prayer, scripture, service and in each other. We make a fuller commitment to outreach by seeking to understand and to address the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of our parish community and beyond our borders. For the evangelization of our community and our stewardship of God's kingdom we will joyfully share our time, talent and treasure making the gospel call to ministry our way of life.

THE LORD'S DAY
Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 AM
and 5:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASS
Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri. 8:30 AM
Tuesday 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Tues. 6:30 PM
Sat. 4:45 PM

RCIA
 For information on the process for adults being fully initiated into the Catholic Church, please call the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
 One year preparation period is required.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK
 For hospital and home visits, please call the office for arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
 Before the birth of your child, please call the Christian Formation Office about the preparation process.

From the pastor,

A Joyful Welcome to you. I encourage you to welcome others. We celebrate the wonderful and sacred ongoing experience of the Son of God entering our lives in a way that we can see and hear. The Eternal Word of God takes on a human body like ourselves. Our caring God wanted us to know without doubt Love beyond all loves.

The last few years I have been near the entrance to greet and attend to any needs the people might have as they arrive for Christmas worship. So, I am recalling the joy, the special dress and wonderful sight of people coming to adore and give thanks for the new born Christ –the long awaited One. As the song says: "A most wonderful time of the year."

But it has been a difficult past few months. A grandnephew, Joseph, died when he was hit from behind on I-95. Another young man in his 20's died when his vehicle hit a tree. Other young ones I know died from a lack of peace in their lives. We lift them and their friends and relatives up in prayer this season. We don't pretend that the hurt is not there. At the same time, we grapple with the Gospel:

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0310

"Glory to God...and on earth peace to all in whom God delights." We are a graced community. We see the great support of this community especially in rough times. Life continues and we walk with the general knowledge of a loving community. And in particular, special individuals as it were "hold our hands" as we walk and discern. On the news the First lady speaks of hope. Pope Francis is having a series of messages on hope. We can re-commit to be the best persons we are called by God to be. This will make us more able to sense or discern the needs of others. Do not be afraid to help people open up to a discussion about what is most important in life. Meaning, purpose, and direction in life. Christmas is the revelation of God's love but it takes a loving person to be an instrument of this message of hope and love.

Have a good, healthy, and blessed New Year. With peace, Fr. Bill Graney

Fr. Greg Corrigan is on medical leave for surgery on his spine which is the effects of being hit from behind while he was stopped for red light. Ongoing prayers are being said and are welcome.

INTENTIONS

Monday	Dec. 26	8:30 am	+Michael Sean Sweeney
Tuesday	Dec. 27	7:00 pm	Gina Marzouca
Wednesday	Dec. 28	8:30 am	Lazarus
Thursday	Dec. 29		No Mass
Friday	Dec. 30	8:30 am	+Lt. Col. Jack Letherman
Saturday	Dec. 31	5:30 pm	
Sunday	Jan. 1	8:15 am	+Doris Holmes
		10:30 am	Parish Community
		5:30 pm	No Mass

Parish **cancels daily Mass** on Thursdays Dec. 29, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26. We recommend attending a church closest to you.

God is the source of all healing and hope, to whom we lift up in prayer the needs of the sick and those who care for them.



Pray for all the needs in our Book of Intentions and for those in our Parish Family who are sick: *Lord, allow your healing hand to assist* Lauren Wisniewski, Beverly Detwiler, John Wisniewski, Tia Langan,

JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Joseph Hemphill, Renee Roder, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Maryann Ciabattini, Ben Stam, Helen Meys, Candi Smith, Larry & Kat Edwards, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Cass Thomas, Kyle Rzucidlo, Mike Pohlen, Carol Strasser, and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions.

LITURGY

Our Masses for January 1, the celebration of **Mary, Mother of God** will be **Saturday 12/31/16 at 5:30 pm** and **Sunday 1/1/17 at 8:15 am and 10:30 am**. There will be NO Sunday 1/1/17 5:30 pm Mass.



Feast of Faith -- The Shape of The Eucharistic Prayer: Our Eucharistic Prayers originated in the traditional Jewish meal prayers known as berakah, which were prayers of thanksgiving used at meals.

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Over the centuries, the Christian thanksgiving, or Eucharist, gradually took shape. While in the East the Eucharistic Prayers (called anaphora) took many forms, in the Roman Church there was for many centuries just one Eucharistic Prayer, called the Roman Canon (now known as Eucharistic Prayer I). Almost all Eucharistic Prayers include the same basic elements. They begin with thanksgiving and acclamation. Then there is an epiclesis, as the priest calls down the Holy Spirit upon the gifts. Then follows the institution narrative and consecration, as the words that Jesus spoke at the Last Supper are repeated. After the consecration, we remember in an explicit way all that Christ has done for us—this is the anamnesis, or remembering. The prayer concludes with the offering, the intercessions—prayers for the Church, our leaders, ourselves—and a final doxology of praise. The reforms of the Second Vatican Council enriched our liturgy with additional Eucharistic Prayers, including both ancient texts (Eucharistic Prayer II is based on the most ancient of all existing Eucharistic Prayers) and new compositions.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

PARISH LIFE

SAVE THE DATE!



The annual **Winter Arts Festival**, a fundraiser for the youth service trip this coming summer, will be held on **Saturday, January 21, 2017**. If you would

like to donate toward a basket or a complete basket for the auction please contact Elaine. Start preparing your acts!

New Parishioners: *We welcome you! Please register with the parish. Registration forms are always available after Masses on the book rack by the main entrance or in the Parish Office. For more information, call (302) 368-0146 x0*

Join Our Mailing List

Join our parish email list by visiting

<http://www.resurrectionde.org/join-our-email-list>. You may also opt in by giving permission to us via email at dseymour@resurrectionde.org.

Do you have an interest in becoming a Catholic? Does someone you know have an interest? To inquire about initial questions contact Deacon John Falkowski at 302-368-0146 Ext. 110. This can lead to follow up discussions handled by various parishioners or staff. This process is known as **the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**. It is also adapted for children.



And she gave birth to her firstborn,

She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:7

Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA)

A 12 Step Program for men and women who meet to support each other in our common recovery from two *No-Fault Illnesses*:

- an emotional or psychiatric illness, and
- chemical/substance dependency.

Meetings are Open and meet at Resurrection Parish (3000 Videre Drive, 368-0146 x.115) every Monday from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Tell a Friend!

The parish office is closed on December 26, 27, 30 for the Christmas and New Year Holiday.

Jesus House Prayer and Renewal Center

We offer a variety of spiritually enriching programs for adults. We provide time and appropriate facilities for prayer, contemplation, teaching, and recreation. We are located on a 10-acre partially wooded site. Visitors to the center are welcome to use the grounds for walks and private meditation. Our chapel is open all day, every day. 2501 Milltown Road (302) 995-6859, jesushousecenter.org

ELEMENTARY CHRISTIAN FORMATION



Welcome!

K-5 Christian Formation Program (CFP) meet from 9:15-10:15. Drop off begins at 9:10. See you there! 1/8, 22, 29.

Would you like more information about Christian Formation for Children (Religious Education or Sacramental Preparation)? Contact Nancy at 302-368-0146 ext. 104 or at nmaloney@resurrectionde.org.

CFP: YOUTH MINISTRY



Middle School and High School Youth Group: Sunday, January 29, 2017 from 6:30-8:15

January 1-No class

Happy New Year!

January 15 -No class due to the MLK holiday.

SUMMER SERVICE 2017: All participants and a parent are expected to attend each meeting to work on fundraising and community building efforts. We will be going to Boston Massachusetts and participate in the Young Neighbors in Action Program June 25-July1, 2017. We have a couple open spots. If you are interested let Elaine know IMMEDIATELY.

Confirmation class:
Jan. 8 and 22, 2017
12:00PM-2:30 PM

**COLLEGE AGE RETREAT
Jan 6-8, 2017**

Marianist Family Retreat Center
417 Yale Ave
Cape May Point, NJ 08212

This retreat is designed to bring together young people of college-age (17-22 Current Year High School Seniors are welcomed) to renew your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God and to enrich your association with your peers. Our time will be filled with prayer, special liturgies, peer group discussions and Eucharist. To Register go to:
<http://capemaymarianists.org/>

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting slandoll@resurrectionde.org.

Thank you for supporting our many ministries with time and treasure, including the Food Closet, Prison Ministry, Friendship House, Emmanuel Dining Room, Andrew's Place, Meals on Wheels, Family Promise, Immigrant Mass and Social, Thanksgiving Food Baskets, Christmas Giving Tree, and the Lazarus Bereavement Ministry.

TAKING IT HOME

TAKING IT HOME: A little girl was standing with her grandfather by an open well. They had just lowered a bucket and had drawn some water to drink. "Grandfather" asked the little girl, "where does God live?" Without responding the grandfather picked up his granddaughter and held her over the open well. Then he said, "look down the well and tell me what you see." The little girl said, "I see the reflection of myself." "And that's where God lives," said the grandfather. "God lives in you."

Much of the joy, hope and the truth that we celebrate at Christmas is contained in this little story of the grandfather and his granddaughter. Because God chooses this time to enter our world as a little child – as one like us – the grandfather's response to his

granddaughter is resoundingly true; God dwells in us. We are the dwelling place of God. It's good to be human and some would say incarnation is already redemption. We are saved by infinite love and mercy. Everything in creation merely participates in God's infinite goodness and our job is to trust and allow that as much as possible.

I think children really get this idea about Christmas because so much of Christmas is about children. In the dreams and hopes and child-like innocence of children, they come to understand the meaning and importance of Christmas. They recognize that this child born this day is no ordinary child and that this day is no ordinary day. This child and this day contain all our hopes and all our dreams about who we are and how we should live in this world; that peace is possible, that togetherness will come and that no one should be left out. This is why on this day we look through the eyes of our children for inspiration, faith and yes, belief.

But within our faith tradition, Christmas is really a feast for grownups. Yes it has to do with the birth of a child, but more importantly, it has to do with the significance of this child because this child is God, who chooses to become one like us in the flesh.

In this incarnation, the meaning of God taking our human nature, God reveals a God who comes in the confines of this world so that we might know the compassion, care and love of God. God chooses to take our flesh and to become absorbed in our concerns, worries and cares in order that God would more intimately connect with us. God comes in Jesus to share in and experience our human reality and to give us the courage to trust the same pattern in ourselves, in others and in history itself.

St. Augustine said, "God became human so that we humans might become God." We are the dwelling place of God. Our humanity is restored to its original grace and God's coming in us is a symbol of our always and original goodness. Christmas then is not simply one day out of the year when we dream of being who we can become and what our world can be, but it is the reality of who God created us to be forever and ever.

We are the Body of Christ and the power of the Spirit flows in us. And so with and through Christ and the power of the Spirit, we can heal, forgive sins, love others, be compassionate and have the promise of eternal life. Christmas is the realization that God dwells in us just like the little girl came to see in her reflection. And if this is what Christmas means, how do we live like God really dwells in us?

Deacon John



**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY
MOTHER OF GOD
GOSPEL –
LUKE 2:16-21**

They found Mary and Joseph and the infant. When the eight days were completed, he was named Jesus.

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Gospel Reflection

On January 1st, we celebrate the beginning of the New Year in our secular calendar. In the past, this day was celebrated liturgically as the Feast of the Circumcision to mark the eighth day of Jesus' life when, as for all Jewish boys, Jesus would have been circumcised in accordance with the covenant made by Abraham and God. This event is acknowledged in today's reading. Today, this day is celebrated as the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. January 1st was always a special day for honoring Mary and the Church has confirmed that by making this day a special celebration of Mary's role as mother of Jesus. This day also concludes the Octave of Christmas, the eight days from Christmas Day to January 1st that provide a special focus to the whole Christmas liturgical season. Finally, since introduced by Pope Paul VI in 1967, January 1st is recognized by the Church as World Day of Peace. A very busy day indeed!

Interestingly, today's gospel is virtually the same as the gospel used at the dawn liturgy on Christmas Day and follows directly on from the gospel used at Christmas Midnight Mass. It completes the nativity story with the shepherds' visit to the manger in Bethlehem. Despite what would appear to be a lot of excitement around the birth of her child, Mary is portrayed as remaining very calm, pondering all these things in her heart. It is a measure of Mary's acceptance of all that she had been asked to do. Despite the incredible series of events that led to and surrounded the birth of Jesus, Mary accepted with enormous grace the role she was asked to play in the salvation of the world. Perhaps it is Mary's calm in the midst of great events that makes this day an appropriate one to mark as World Day of Peace.

Q. What might Joseph the carpenter have thought about all the events he witnessed?

Q. What can we learn from the response of the shepherds?

Q. Where is there a lack of peace in your life?

Q. How could you directly help to bring about peace around you?

The Shepherds: What must the shepherds have made of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus? Shepherds occupied a very lowly status in Jewish society—they were generally regarded as thieves and cut-throats. Suddenly, these very lowly characters were thrust into great events: visions of angels; prophecies; the birth of the Messiah; and powerful experiences of the greatness of God. The gospel says they went back to their sheep glorifying and praising God. They must have been changed by this experience. Perhaps they never really made sense of what happened to them, but more likely it was the beginning of a whole new life experience.

What a woman! Luke's image of Mary is a very strong one. We must remember that Mary was no more than a girl—probably 14 or 15 years old. This was the usual age for young women to marry at that time. However, there wasn't much that was normal about the previous nine months of her life. In the midst of all the chaos involved in giving birth away from home and in less than ideal circumstances, she remains completely calm and "treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart." What an extraordinary young woman!

A Peaceful New Year? It is traditional around New Year's Day to make resolutions for the upcoming year: changes that affect the way you live; the way you treat others; setting goals to aim for and work towards. In this context, it is interesting that the Church marks this day as a World Day of Peace. Perhaps, among the self-promises to give up smoking, get a bit more fit, work and study harder, and treat little sisters better, we might find time to consider ways in which we can bring about a more peaceful world—even just my little bit of it.

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