

Resurrection Parish

January 7, 2018

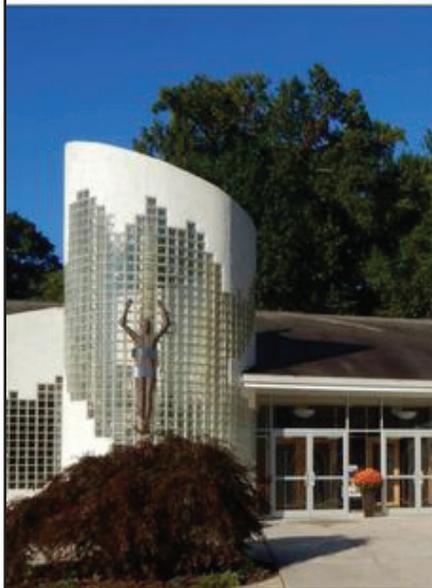
Epiphany

A Catholic Christian Community

3000 Videre Drive
Wilmington DE 19808
302-368-0146
www.resurrectionde.org

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.
Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:30 a.m.
Tues. 7 p.m.



Rev. William Graney, Pastor

John Falkowski, Deacon
Fran Huhn, Retired Deacon
Ruth Sanders, Liturgy/Music
Nancy Maloney, Christian Formation
Elaine Little, Youth Ministry
Sandy Landoll, Social Concerns
Tina Donald, Bookkeeper
Debbie Seymour, Admin. Asst.
Parish Office: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.
6:30-8:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

ext 102
ext. 110

ext. 106
ext. 104
ext. 107
ext. 103
ext. 105
ext. 0

Pastoral Council

Al Mercatante	Executive Officer
Sharon Gidumal	Asst. Executive
Mike Mitchell	Secretary
Maritza Poza-Grise	Trustee
Dick Schwer	Trustee

Reconciliation

Tues. 6:30 p.m. Sat. 4:45 p.m.
or by appointment.

Baptisms

Please contact Deacon John.

Marriage

Contact clergy one year prior.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

For hospital and home visits
contact clergy or the office.

Becoming Catholic

Learn more by contacting
Fr. Bill or Deacon John.

Spirituality Outreach Stewardship

Timeless truths for the New Year

A survey named these four books as the best Christian books of all time:

- The Cost of Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.
- The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien.
- Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis.
- Confessions* by Saint Augustine.

Mere Christianity was published for the first time 65 years ago, in 1952. Oddly enough, it wasn't even written as a book. During the darkest days of World War II, Lewis prepared four sets of radio talks on basic Christianity, and these evolved into the book *Mere Christianity*. Since 1952, the book's popularity has grown, and between 2001 and 2016, it sold 3.5 million copies in English alone. On top of this, it has been translated into at least 36 languages. For many Christians, *Mere Christianity* is their favorite religious book apart from the Bible.

So why is *Mere Christianity* one of the best Christian books of all time? According to church historian George Marsden, Lewis "was determined to present only the timeless truths of Christianity rather than the latest theological or cultural fashions." The book is his attempt to explain and defend "the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times."

Timeless truths. Basic beliefs. Common convictions. *Mere Christianity*.

"When you teach a child writing," says Lewis, "you hold its hand while it forms the letters: that is, it forms the letters because you are forming them." The same is true for God -- we love because God loves, and God "holds our hand while we do it."

Being focused more on God and Jesus than on ourselves, and trusting God to work through us -- that's the first step in being "merely" Christian. It requires leaning more on divine power than on human power, more on the Lord than on ourselves. "Give up yourself," writes Lewis, "and you will find your real self."

INTENTIONS

Monday	January 8	8:30am	Parish Community
Tuesday	January 9	7:00pm	
Wednesday	January 10	8:30 am	+Betty Harris
Friday	January 11	8:30 am	+Madeline Williams
Saturday	January 12	5:30pm	Parish Community
Sunday	January 13	8:15 am	+Jill Irwin
		10:30am	+Karen Shields



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** JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Bill Dorsey, Joseph Hemphill, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Maryann Ciabattoni, Helen Meys, Candi Smith, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Kevin Rzucidlo, Mike Pohlen, Cass Thomas, Courtney Corridori, Joel Rivera, David Heckman, Patty Calhoun, Laurel Milano Burt & Carol Strasser, Ed Baum, and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions.

LITURGY

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention—January 2018
Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia: That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

Baptism of the Lord and Ordinary Time: Usually the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord falls on the Sunday after we celebrate Epiphany. Because Epiphany is later this year, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord takes place on the Monday after Epiphany (January 8), a day when most don't go to Mass. So we may miss this year an important reminder: Baptism is the "foundation" for Ordinary Time: Jesus' baptism was the source for his ministry, and so it is for all Christians. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord serves to bridge the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany festal seasons and Ordinary Time. It ends a festal time and helps us to begin Ordinary Time. What characterizes Ordinary Time is a sequential reading from one of the synoptic gospels. (This is Year

B when we read from Mark's gospel.) During these next few Sundays and again during the Sundays in Ordinary Time to come after we've celebrated Lent-Triduum-Easter, we are reminded that we are baptized into Christ, share in His death and resurrection, and take up His mission to bring salvation to all people.

PARISH LIFE

Thank You!

Thank you to all who participated in the Capriotti's fundraiser in December. With your generous support we raised \$139.64!

Save the Date!



The Annual Winter Arts Festival and silent auction will be held Saturday Feb 24, 2018 in the gathering space. Plan ahead for how you can participate or help in making this a success. Thank you.



The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Group will be Monday Jan 8 from 12:30 - 2 pm. Please join us.

St. Thomas the Apostle Knights of Columbus has chartered a bus for people of all ages, weather permitting, for the **March for Life** held on Friday, January 19th. There will be a stop at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for those unable to make the March. The only cost to the individual passenger is a tip for the bus driver. Please contact Theresa Collurafici at 12374Columbiettes@gmail.com or 302-322-2929 to sign up.

Listen to Catholic Forum every Sunday morning at 10:05 a.m. on WDEL 101.7 FM, 1150 AM and www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, January 14th, Mr. Mark Christian, Executive Director of Catholic Cemeteries for the Diocese of Wilmington will discuss cremation. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, podcasts and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at www.facebook.com/catholicforum. Listen to past episodes of Catholic Forum online at cdow.org/communications or search "Catholic Forum" on Apple Podcasts or iHeartRadio podcasts

SNAP Support Group: A support group for survivors of clergy sexual abuse and their families sponsored by Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) meets in Wilmington on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:30pm. For the location, call Judy Miller at 302-234-1519 or email: snapdelaware@yahoo.com.

Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? *Retrouvaille* can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you to learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. **The next program begins on the weekend of February 16 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Additional weekends will be held in April and August.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Pastoral Council members will now be identified with name tags in order to be more visible to the Parish. Please take time to share your concerns, ask questions and get to know your representative. A vital parish depends on your participation. We need and value your input.

Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat for post-abortion healing will be held at Jesus House, Wilmington, DE April 6-8. The retreat weekend is a beautiful opportunity for any person who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion to heal. For more information contact Nan Freeman at 302-307-6130 or visit rachelvineyard.org.

If you, or someone you know is in distress or crisis, call 800-273-8255. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Fair Trade Coffee/Tea/Chocolate Sale: Our first Fair Trade sale of 2018 is the weekend of January 6/7 and the following weekend. Delivery will be the weekend of January 27/28. Thanks for your continued support for small farmers around the world.

ZINGO tapes for the past six months totaled \$55,286.18 and ZINGO will send a check for \$552.86 that Resurrection will use to purchase food items for the food closet. The total amount that ZINGO donated during 2017 was \$1305.94 and we thank them for having this program. Thanks to all who save their cash register tapes and deposit them in the box on the table near the classrooms.



Four “mileposts for action” are necessary in order to allow migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and trafficking victims the opportunity to find peace. These include:

- 1) Welcoming, which calls for “expanding legal pathways for entry” and better balancing national security and fundamental human rights concerns.
- 2) Protecting, or recognizing and defending “the inviolable dignity of those who flee”.
- 3) Promoting, which entails “supporting the integral human development of migrants and refugees”.
- 4) Integrating by allowing migrants and refugees to “participate fully in the life of society that welcomes them.” Doing so enriches both those arriving and those welcoming.

Pope Francis’ message is the most recent in a long history of messages for the World Day of Peace beginning with Pope Paul VI in 1968. Find out more at bit.ly/jan-1-peace-day. #sharethejourney

ELEMENTARY CHRISTIAN FORMATION



Welcome! K-5 Christian Formation Program (CFP) will meet on 1/7, 1/21, and 1/28 from 9:15-10:15. Drop off begins at 9:10. See you there!

Would you like more information about Christian Formation for Children (Religious Education or Sacramental Preparation)? Contact Nancy Maloney, CFP Coordinator, at nmaloney@resurrectionde.org

CFP: YOUTH MINISTRY



Middle and High School Youth Group
Enjoy your Christmas break!
We will gather again on
January 7, 2018 6:30-8:15 PM.

Epiphany Party for High School and College students! Bring a wrapped gender neutral \$5 gift.

Jesus House Prayer and Renewal Center

We offer a variety of spiritually enriching programs for adults. Our chapel is open all day, every day. 2501 Milltown Road (302) 995-6859, jesushousecenter.org

TAKING IT HOME

This weekend the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Epiphany is a Greek word meaning, “manifestation.” A manifestation is a revelation. On Christmas Jesus was revealed to his community of faith by angels, by shepherds and by supernatural means. Now on this feast of Epiphany, Jesus is revealed to the whole world by means of nature, astrology and through the stars. We see in these revelations that Jesus is no ordinary child.

In the tradition of the Church, we hear the same gospel story every year when we celebrate this feast, the story of the Magi. It is a delightful story, but its delight belies its deeper meaning. In fact, the story is full of multiple stories within the essential story. One of these smaller narratives is the story of King Herod and the Three Wise Men. Matthew, the gospel’s author, sets up a powerful contrast between these characters. The

contrast can be likened to the difference between a curse and a blessing.

As the story unfolds, the Three Wise Men follow a star. While following the star the Wise Men run into King Herod, who has yet to hear of this new born king, but when finding out more details about this new born king, intrigue begins to set in. Herod then instructs the Wise Men to continue their journey and to bring him back more information so that he too can go and worship this new king. But Herod’s purpose has evil intent.

The Wise Men once again follow the star, find the child king and bear him their gifts of frankincense, gold and myrrh in recognition of the true king that this child is. Following the gift giving, the Wise Men disappear into the night. They have placed their gifts at the feet of the young king and so can leave everything safely in his hands. The king’s star they know has eclipsed theirs and they are happy to let the young king have his place. Like good and faithful servants they can move on content that the world is now in the young king’s hands. Finally they are told about Herod and go by another way.

The news of the young king’s birth is not good news for Herod. In fact, Herod is threatened by what he hears and so instead of laying gifts at the young king’s feet, Herod plots to have him killed. The thought of new life giving promise becomes instead a threat to Herod’s own existence.

So the challenge has been laid; what will be our own reaction to the possibility of new life, especially to life that may in fact threaten, threaten to take away our sunshine? Will we, like the Wise Men, be content to lay our gifts at the feet of someone younger content to bless it, knowing that the world is in good hands even though those hands might not be ours? Or will we curse the life that is before us because it threatens to diminish our very existence?

To bless another is to give away some of one’s own life so that those others might have sufficient resources for their journey in life. Good parents do that for their children. Good teachers do that for their students, good mentors for their disciples, good pastors for their parishioners and good elders for the young. They are willing to give away some of their own lives in order that this new life might blossom.

We bless others when we see them, delight in their energy rather than feel threatened by it, and give away some of our own life to help give strength to their lives. Sadly, the reverse is also true. We curse others when we demand that they see and admire us, when we demand that they speak well of us, and when we use their lives to build up our own. A gesture of blessing feeds others; a cursing gesture feeds off of them.

Deacon John



**2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
GOSPEL – JOHN 1: 35-42**

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.”

The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?”

They said to him, “Rabbi”—which translated means Teacher—“where are you staying?”

He said to them, “Come, and you will see.”

So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon.

Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah”—which is translated Christ—. Then he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said,

“You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas”—which is translated Peter.

Gospel Reflection: Jesus’ invitation to “Come and See” is a powerful image in this week’s gospel. It is not a simple reply to the question of where Jesus is living. In some ways it is a summary of his whole ministry—come and see what I am about and become part of it. It is typical of the invitational nature of Jesus’ ministry. Throughout the gospels, Jesus offers and invites, he does not force his ministry onto anyone. When he invites us to “Come and See” it is an invitation to “give it a go”; take a chance; let go of what we know.

To “Come and See” is exactly what Jesus invited the apostles to do. In this week’s reading, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, takes up the invitation and becomes a follower of Jesus. He is so impressed with what he sees in Jesus that he finds his brother and tells him that they’ve found the Messiah and that Simon should come and join them. Jesus immediately gives Simon a new nickname: the Rock (Peter). There are many instances throughout the Bible of people taking or being given new names. Abram became Abraham; Jacob became Israel; Saul became Paul. This change of name is used as a sign that they have encountered God in a special way and have taken on a new life—a new commitment to God. In this instance, Simon is becoming a disciple of Jesus, a trusted and influential one at that.

Unlike the call of Samuel in today’s first reading, in which the call to discipleship is heard as a booming voice, Andrew and Simon experience the call through personal encounter with Jesus. A booming voice from the sky might be helpful, but for most of us the call comes in much more subtle ways through our prayer and reflection on interaction with others.

Living the Gospel: These days, the word “vocation” seems to be applied to whatever job someone happens to find themselves in. More traditionally, the word carries with it a sense of undertaking work that has a deliberate purpose about it and that is outwardly focused. Usually, there is a sense that there is “importance” to the work and that it is linked to God’s dream for the world. The word comes from the Latin, *vocare*, meaning call or name. Realizing to what it is we are called can be one of the great challenges of life.

Why disciples? Why did Jesus call a group of people to follow him closely and share in his ministry? Certainly, it was not uncommon at the time that a charismatic leader might attract a group of followers and “hangers-on” but Jesus appears to have deliberately called some people to travel with him and share in what he was about. So much of what Jesus spoke about was living in right relationships: with God; and with one another. Rather than simply being a “back-up group” for Jesus, the disciples provided a lived example of trying to live in right relationships. They didn’t always get it right, but they were on the way.

From the perspective of The Disciples: We’d been following John the Baptizer for nearly a year. He was a great man doing great work. He had called us to repent and baptized us in the river. We were so impressed with him that we began to follow him. There’d been plenty of other healers and preachers to follow, but John seemed to be something special—some had talked about him being the messiah! Then all of a sudden John pointed out Jesus and called him the Lamb of God. There was something different about this man and it just seemed right to leave John behind and go with Jesus.

Q. Why is John the Baptist’s role in this episode important?

Q. What role do the disciples play throughout the gospels?

Q. In what ways is it harder/easier to be a disciple today?

Q. How can you also invite others to “Come and See”?

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