

Resurrection Parish

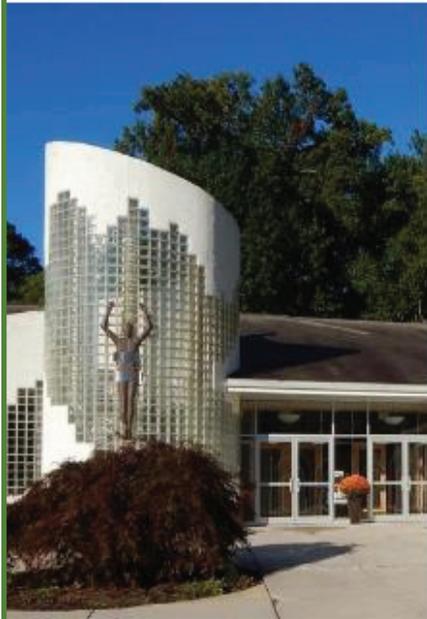
December 9,
2018

A Catholic Christian Community

Second
Sunday of
Advent

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
Rev. Gregory Corrigan, Assoc. 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.
6:00-8:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

ext. 102
ext. 115
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

In today's second reading, Paul and Timothy write: ***"This is my prayer for you—that your love may keep growing until it is overflowing..."*** (Phil 1:9, gmc). I pray for such love. It is something I long to experience.

A blogger named Kristen Whitby describes such a love as she anticipates the arrival of her baby.

"I feel my heart is so full right now it could literally burst. We are cherishing the moments before we welcome this new little one. I am also so overwhelmed and humbled by this great blessing. We are so grateful.

I feel overwhelmed with love for my husband. His love, faith, and unfailing kindness bless my life every single day. I feel so honored for my precious daughter Ella. Her smile and zest for life make my calling as a Mommy so joyful. When she puts her little hand in mine, I know that we are all connected...we all belong to each other.

I am ever so grateful to God. I am so aware that what God is doing in me is a blessing for the world. In every way that God engages us, it is always to bring more love into the world."

This is my prayer for you—that your love may keep growing until it is overflowing.

Kristen Whitby describes a love that is growing to overflowing. That's the hope of Advent. Will that be the fulfillment of Christmas?

Another pregnant mother, Mary, experienced that same love and hope and trust. Her family were refugees. They were homeless. Their survival depended on the goodness of strangers—strangers like us. To hold the little hand of a migrant child is to hold the hand of Jesus. To welcome a homeless family is to celebrate the Holy Family.



My artist friend Mickey McGrath created a painting of the caravan migrants arriving at our border. Along with security guards and guns, in the middle of the painting is Jesus, kneeling down, with a towel and bowl of water. He will wash the feet of the migrants as he welcomes them.

I long to experience a love that keeps growing until it is overflowing. Perhaps I should go to that place where surely Jesus is. Will you go to the border with me?

To have a conversation about possibilities, email me at quierespaz@gmail.com

Peace, Fr. Greg



INTENTIONS

Monday	Dec. 10	8:30 am	+ Stanley Zion Jr.
Tuesday	Dec. 11	7:00 pm	+David M. Goff Sr.
Wednesday	Dec. 12	8:30 am	+Col. Joseph Bunce USAF, Ret.
Friday	Dec. 14	8:30 am	
Saturday	Dec. 15	5:30pm	Parish Community
Sunday	Dec. 16	8:15 am	+Ken Pfeiffer
		10:30am	+Mike Turano



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. *Lord, allow your healing hand to assist*

Richard McCracken, Eva Skripchuk, Linda Scarola, Burt & Carol Strasser, Rachel Rose Boucher, JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Bill Dorsey, Joseph Hemphill, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Helen Meys, Candi Smith, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Kevin Rzucidlo, Mike Pohlen, Cass Thomas, Courtney Corridori, Patty Calhoun, Laurel Milano, Katie Fink, Beth Bell, Julie Edmiston, Pete DeAscanis and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions.

LITURGY



MISA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

Please join us for our 8:30 a.m. mass honoring Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe on Wednesday, December 12, 2018. Father Greg will celebrate this mass in Spanish and English in gratitude to our loving

God who creates and celebrates the blessing of diversity! ¡todos son bienvenidos! In honor of our Lady, please feel free to bring roses!



MUSIC for Christmas Eve:

Teens and adults interested in joining the Resurrection Parish Music Ministry are most heartily welcomed! All newly interested and currently serving singers are invited to

join the choir for our 11:00 pm

Christmas Eve Mass. Rehearsals are **Sunday, December 9, 12:30-2:00 pm, Monday, December 17, 6:30-8:30 pm and Sunday December 23, 6:00-8:00 pm.**

We'd love to have music ready for you, so if you plan to join in, please contact Ruth Sanders, 302-368-0146 Ext. 106, rsanders@resurrectionde.org.



"Best Advent Ever" -- NIGHT

**An evening of friendship and reflection
Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 pm**

Have the "Best Advent Ever" video emails been impacting you in a new and exciting way? (See below if you'd like to sign up or get more information.)

Take a moment for your faith
Enjoy the friendship of others
Talk about what Advent has meant to you and your hopes for the Christmas season

We will gather in the home of Ellen Turano and share about that day's Best Advent Ever reflection as well as the coming Sunday's Gospel reading. Please RSVP to secretary@resurrectionde.org or 302-368-0146 ext.0

Interested in receiving Best Advent Ever daily emails?
Sign up at dynamiccatholic.com.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention-December 2018 Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith:

That people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

ADVENT TAIZE PRAYER



**RESURRECTION, HOLY ANGELS,
& IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISHES
PRAY TOGETHER**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 6:00 PM
AT HOLY ANGELS CHURCH**

82 POSSUM PARK ROAD, NEWARK, DE

To open the gates of trust in God, nothing can replace the beauty of human voices united in song. This beauty can give us a glimpse of "heaven's joy on earth" -- Eastern Christians put it -- and an inner life begins to blossom within us. Come pray in song, scripture and silence.

TWO ENVIRONMENT PREP DATES for

CHRISTMAS: This year, we'll prepare our Worship Space for Christmas on two different dates. On Sunday **December 16** we'll put up the Nativity Scene and complete other tasks that can be done early. On Sunday

December 23 we'll change banners, put up and decorate trees, add chairs, and generally make Resurrection ready to welcome Christ in all our guests and parishioners! We'll work beginning at 11:30 am (after the 10:30 am Mass) on both dates. **Thank you** for any and all help you can offer.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Christmas Giving Tree: Please return wrapped gifts to Gathering Space and Resurrection Outreach Donations to Parish Office by December 9th. Contact Cathy Blanchet 302-462-6700 or Betsi Gerber 302-354-0834 for information or to help sort and/or deliver.

STEWARDSHIP

Please fill out your commitment card and return to the collection basket or to the box in the Gathering Space by December 9th. Thank You.

PARISH LIFE

Support the Retirement Fund for Religious

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

Parishioners are invited to the next Pastoral Council meeting on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 4.

WELCOME: Sunday, December 9, at the 10:30 am mass we welcome Caitlin Nichols to our parish family through the sacrament of baptism. Caitlin is the daughter of Kristine and Jason Nichols. They were married here at Resurrection by Fr. Greg in 2016. As Caitlin's new parish family, we pledge to support her in faith and to shower upon her the love that makes her a child of God.



Shawl Ministry: As we knit and crochet shawls, we pray for those in need of physical, spiritual and mental comfort. *Come join us Monday, December 10 from 12:30 to 2.*

CONTEMPLATIVE CHRISTIANITY

Wednesday, December 12, 2018
6:30 - 8:15 p.m.

Gathering Space at Resurrection Church

ALL ARE WELCOME please join us!

Facilitated by Bev Roberts and Mary Trotter

*"Silence is the language of transcendence.
When God speaks, it is to sensitize us to his inner silence."
- John Main*



Save the Date!
Annual Winter Arts
Festival
Saturday
January 24, 2019

ELEMENTARY CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Our K to 5 Elementary Program

will meet on 12/9 and 12/16 from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Drop off begins at 9:10am. See you there!



See our website or gathering space for a full calendar and other registration forms.

Would you like more information?

Contact Nancy Maloney, CFP Coordinator, at nmaloney@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 ext. 104.

CFP: YOUTH MINISTRY



Middle and High School Youth Group

December 16 6:30-8:15- Middle school and high school youth group.

Sign-in in the gathering space and gather in the youth room.

College students are welcome to join the high school students when we discuss how we make decisions both large and small in light of our faith. We would love your wisdom!



Second Sunday Social

JOIN US TODAY December 9 at the Christiana Skating Center 1:30-4:30 pm. \$7 per person/ Skate Rental \$4

Taking it Home

Advent we say is a season of hope and a season of virtue. The hope is that God will be true to the promises that God made with us. And the virtue is that Advent helps us to see those things, which are the marks of the reign of Christ, patience, peace, justice, mercy, kindness and humility. Our scriptures for this weekend give us a picture of both this Advent hope and virtue.

The prophet Baruch in the first reading speaks of Advent hope, but he speaks of it in terms of God's justice. And what is God's justice? God's justice is fidelity – "I am your God always." And so it is that God will remove the obstacles that block the peoples' return from exile: "lofty mountains are made low... gorges filled and made level... as God leads Israel

in joy." Because God has been faithful in the past, God will be faithful now. This is God's nature; God cannot ever be anything other than who God is, a God of faithful love. And so God will provide a way for the people to make and complete the difficult journey from captivity to freedom.

Baruch is reminding the people of the covenant that God has made with them and what that covenant means from God's standpoint, faithfulness. But Baruch is also saying is that as God has been with us so we need to be for each other. And this is where the message of John the Baptist enters the picture with a message of "repentance." But how does repentance have anything to do with hope? To have hope in the Catholic Christian sense is not wishful thinking; it is not wishing that God will make something happen. Instead, hope believes in God's faithfulness. God is a faithful God who will always be true to what God promises, loving faithfulness.

But to have hope in this Catholic Christian sense means that we too will have to turn from our human ways to God's ways. For with our ways we see no reason to have hope. Our human ways are filled with thoughts of being wounded and unfortunately, our wounds lead to wounding others in turn. When we feel that we have been sinned against, our human response is to sin in return; as we have been hurt so we hurt others. So we say we cannot trust others. We say that we cannot live in peace. We say that we cannot even count on the faithfulness of our friends let alone that of strangers. Our lives are a mess and there is no way we can get to the other side of hope because there are too many obstacles, mostly of our own making.

Our human ways lead to the development of two kinds of attitudes. One is the "poor me" syndrome. It is expressed this way: "my world is a mess, and I am a failure and am not worthy, so what reason is there to have hope?" The second is expressed this way: "I can't count on anyone, especially God to insure my happiness so I will go my own way and stand on my own two feet."

The problem with the first attitude is the failure to recognize what Paul says in our second reading: "God has already begun the good work in you." Yes we are wounded sinners who feel unworthy, but God has already determined that we are worthy and so God has shown us mercy and forgiven our sin; and so we can think better of ourselves. The problem with the second attitude is that it fails to understand the virtue of humility. Humility is coming to terms with who we are and whose we are, persons in loving union with the source of life. Humility is the recognition that God made us and that our very existence depends on God. When we are humble we recognize the need for others and we recognize the importance of living in right relationship with God, self and neighbor.

Repentance, this turning around, this "metanoia" and letting go and putting on the mind of Christ is what we need to do if we are to believe that God has and will continue to carry through the good work God has already begun. Repentance is not easy. It comes with obstacles. All we have to do is recognize God's fidelity toward us and see that as God has been for us so we can be for one another. By living a life of repentance, a life transformed, we can put on hope and see a world where with God all things are possible. Deacon John



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GOSPEL - LUKE 3: 10-18

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert.

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Gospel Reflection: The second and third weeks of Advent this year focus particularly on the role of John the Baptist as the one who prepared the way for Jesus and announced his coming. It continues the theme of preparation that was begun last week, but still, rather than preparing for the birth of Jesus, we are exploring the wider theme of preparation. The gospel writer includes a quote from Isaiah in which the prophet says, "Prepare a way for the Lord." (Often translated as "Prepare the way of the Lord.") The application of this passage to John the Baptist is a logical one. This gospel emphasizes that John was preaching "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." Throughout the gospel of Luke, the recognition of sinfulness and the desire to repent and seek forgiveness is the prelude to receiving God's favor.

This gospel passage makes it clear that one way in which we can prepare a way for the Lord is to recognize our faults and failings and to seek forgiveness. It is only through such repentance that we can make ourselves receptive to the love of God. The only preparation of the way that is necessary for the Lord is a personal preparation to be receptive. We are absolutely assured of God's love. The problem is that we often feel that we are undeserving of that love or are unable to receive it. When we are called to "Prepare a way for the Lord," it is a call to prepare a way in our own hearts—to break down the barriers that we have put up; to clear the obstacles that we have placed in the path. God's love will find a way! We simply make the way easier for ourselves to recognize God's love if we "Prepare a way."

At this time: This particular gospel goes to great lengths to place the events of Jesus' life in a particular historical context. It is the gospel of Luke that identifies the birth of Jesus as taking place in the reign of Caesar Augustus and the governorship of Quirinius. In this passage, the writer makes clear that the ministry of Jesus occurred in a particular time and place. But the gospel also makes clear that the message Jesus proclaimed reaches beyond its original context across time and place to our lives today.

Baptism: We may think that Baptism is an invention of the Christian community, but today's gospel makes it clear that baptism was used within the Jewish community and was put to a particular purpose by John the Baptist. Baptism was part of the Jewish tradition well before the time of Jesus. Ritual cleansing by full immersion was an important element of worship and converts to Judaism were required to walk through a deep bath known as a mikveh. John's use of baptism as a washing away of sin was a different interpretation of the well established practice.

Make way! This gospel passage is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us.

Q. Why is it so hard to forgive ourselves when we are assured God's love and forgiveness is there for the asking?

Q. What image captures for you the idea of "preparing a way"?

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