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PASTORAL COUNCIL

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 JoAnn Hedrick — Assist. E. O.
 Tom Leitch — Secretary
 Chris Ariganello — Trustee
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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

RCIA For information on the process for adults being fully initiated into the Catholic Church, please call the Pastor.
 Tues. 6:30 PM
 Sat. 4:45 PM

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.

The Language of Reconciliation

As Catholics we know many blessings and challenges. One of the blessings is a unique language that has deep meaning to our Catholic understanding of life. Words like "incarnation", "sacrament", "Eucharist", "holiness" all speak to us of the presence of God and his love for his people. The challenge comes in how to deepen our understanding of these terms and what they mean for our spiritual lives. This is especially true when talking about our faults and how our mistakes break our relationship with God. The word for that is "sin". Take the following test and see how well you can match the terms in the left column with the correct meaning on the right.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| A – Mortal Sin | 1 – The remnant of Adam and Eve's sin passed on to us |
| B – Metanoia | 2 – Sin that weakens our relationship with God |
| C – Penance | 3 – The process of conversion, turning back to God |
| D – Venial Sin | 4 – The place for final purification of God's chosen people |
| E – Concupiscence | 5 – Sin we know is bad, we think about it and do it anyway |
| F – Purgatory | 6 – How we make up for the sin we commit |

For answers to this quiz see the Adult Faith Formation section on page 3.

40th anniversary survey cards

Members of Pastoral Council's History group are doing research for the upcoming observance of 40 years. Survey cards are to be picked up from and returned to the gathering space. Cards ask to record memories, thoughts, and suggestions to move us into the future. Comments will be preserved for the future as well used during the anniversary events. We hope to compile the cards during the month of February. Thanks for your interest and cooperation.

St. Paul If specialty license plates were an option in Paul's time, what would he choose. Most agree that Paul could not be concise; therefore, he could not pick a short catchy phrase. One example is Ephesians vv. 15-19. In the original Greek, this is one sentence of 99 words! Our English Bibles usually break Paul's thoughts down into more sentences, but even those have to be pretty long to convey Paul's thoughts. He had so much to say.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Dec 15	8:30 am	+Alice Shields
Tuesday	Dec 16	7:00 pm	
Wednesday	Dec 17	8:30 am	
Thursday	Dec 18	8:30 am	
Friday	Dec 19	8:30 am	+ Leo Daney
Saturday	Dec 20	5:30 pm	+Joseph Brennan
Sunday	Dec 21	8:15 am	+Frank Pulice
		10:30am	Parish Community
		5:30 pm	

A (+) next to a name denotes deceased

STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

All of the people in today's readings – the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist – seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

During November, you contributed \$9,398 electronically and \$32,150.38 through the offertory collection.

Please remember to fill out your **Stewardship pledge** card, even if you are not changing your commitment. Thanks

PARISH WIDE EVENTS

Dec 15/20	Sort Outreach Gifts	All week
Dec 16	Gospel of Mark	7:30 pm
Dec 16	AA meeting, rm. 3	7:00 pm
Dec 21	CLOW	10:30am
Dec 21	Deliver Gifts	

Please check our website for updates and changes
<http://resurrectionde.org/>

LITURGY

Christmas Evening/Day Mass Schedule:

Wednesday, December 24 -- **5:00** pm, 7:30 pm, 11:00 pm
 Thursday, December 25 – 10:00 am

Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule:

Wednesday, December 31 – 5:30 pm
 Thursday, January 1 – 10:00 am

Environment Preparation for Christmas season, after the 10:30 am. Mass, December 21. Please help if you are able.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule is available online at:
<http://resurrectionde.org/Lsched.html>.

Part of the function of the Advent season is simply to wait: to make ourselves ready for Christ's return. During this year's season of waiting in joyful hope, we are giving special attention to the moments of silence called for in the liturgy. The periods of silence during the penitential rite and before the opening prayer are not there to give time to find the prayer in the book. These communal silences are provided for the assembly to bring their needs and concerns, regrets, hopes, and prayers to the liturgy. Communal silence in the liturgy also follows the scripture readings and the homily. Such silence allows for a back-and-forth movement between God's word to us and our reflective taking in of that word. The *Lectionary for Mass: Introduction* (LMI) of 1981 states: "The dialogue between God and his people taking place through the Holy Spirit demands short intervals of silence, suited to the assembled congregation, as an opportunity to take the word of God to heart and to prepare a response to it in prayer. Proper times for silence during the Liturgy of the Word are, for example, before this liturgy begins, after the first and the second reading, after the homily" (LMI, 28). In addition to those times when all are silent together, another important kind of silence in the liturgy is when all listen reverently to, for example, the chanting of the cantor or choir or the priest's parts of the Eucharistic prayer.

Adapted from Sourcebook 2008 and Pastoral Liturgy Magazine

Choir for 11:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve: We welcome all those interested in singing to attend rehearsals on Sunday December 14, 12:30 – 2pm; Sunday December 21, 6:30-8:30 pm. We'd love to know in advance if you can be there. Contact Ruth Sanders, rsanders@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 X106.

Liturgical Ministers Sign-Up for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses: Look for the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Space, or contact Ruth Sanders rsanders@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 x106.

Please pray for the Sick of our Parish Family: Lord, allow your healing hand to assist Sharon McDermott, Lauren Wisniewski, Sharon Dudek, Joey Genovese, Paul Roman, Bob Hanson, Betsy Barber, Kyle Rzucidlo, Richard Kelly, Rosemary Barbati, Kathy Bernardin, John Houtman, Marjorie Swain, Mike Turano, Scott Hicks and all the needs in our Book of Intentions.

PARISH FAMILY LIFE

Christmas Gift Suggestions:

- To your enemy, forgiveness;
- To an opponent, tolerance;
- To a friend, your heart;
- To a neighbor, service;
- To all, charity;
- To every child, a good example;
- To yourself, respect.

Oren Arnold

Life Gets Even Busier: Please pick up a free copy from the gathering space of “*five minutes with the Word.*”

Donut Ministry: The following served during the month of November: Carol & Flo Gargula; Ed & Thelma Kennedy; Alexis, Faith, Michael & Steve Newton; Bill, Carolyn, Christopher & Megan Reynolds; Carol & Dick Schwer; Barbara & Jim Sherlock; Gail & Sullivan and Cory & Mark Zolandz. Thank you making our Sunday mornings a time of joyful fellowship. The Ministry always needs additional smiling faces to serve one or more Sunday morning Mass. Please sign up on the schedule near the kitchen or by calling either Doug Keilman at 239-5554 or Don Coons at 369-6802 if you would like to help. Training is always available.

Parish Nursery Volunteers: The nursery is open every Sunday except the 4th Sunday of the month. We are in need of volunteers to cover the nursery once a month. For more information, please contact Joanne at 368-0146, ext. 104

Husbands and wives spend immense amounts of time on their jobs, careers, children and leisure. How much time do you spend just for the two of you as a couple? You deserve to learn how to make the most of your time and relationship. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and find out how. For information about the January 23-25th weekend in Rehoboth Beach call Jack & Bridget O'Connell at 302-653-1434.

Resurrection Prayer Chain: If you or a family member needs prayer please call Valerie Werner 239-2220 or vjw302@verizon.net. All prayer requests are confidential.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Many Thanks: Thanks to the generosity of our Parish Thanksgiving Drive, we fed over 40 families. We also have sufficient food to feed some needy families from our Giving Tree at Christmas.

Christmas Giving Tree: All wrapped gifts should be returned by December 14th. Gifts will be sorted for delivery the week of December 14th. We will need volunteers to deliver gifts to organizations next Sunday, December 21st. Contact Cindy Mooney at 302-893-8891 or cindymooney@comcast.net

Novena for Justice and Peace: Please join our community in praying the Novena beginning December 28 at 9:30 am in the chapel and continuing each Sunday through January and February. The Novena is rooted in our biblical tradition and Catholic Social teaching. Itnd is intended to promote justice and peace in our lives and our world. “Spirit of God, fill our hearts with peace so that we may bring peace to our community. Amen

Donations to Catholic Charities can bring tax credits

Catholic Charities is pleased to announce that donations to its Crisis Alleviation program qualify for tax credits under the Delaware State Housing Authority's Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program. The NAA tax credit is available to any individual or business paying income tax in Delaware, as long as the contribution is made to an approved NAA non-profit organization. For individuals, the minimum contribution is \$5,000. For businesses, the minimum contribution is \$10,000. The maximum contribution cannot exceed \$200,000 per tax year. In exchange for a qualified contribution, the donor receives state tax credits equal to 50% of their contribution. For example, a contribution of \$5,000 qualifies for \$2,500 in tax credits. DSHA staff members review applications and award the credits on a first-come, first-served basis. Each year a maximum of \$500,000 in tax credits is available. If you would like to contribute to the Crisis Alleviation program and receive the tax credit, contact Paula Savini at Catholic Charities, 302.655.9624.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Read Your Way to a Richer Spirituality: Stop by and visit our parish library.

CFP Elementary Calendar: Dec. 14, Dec. 21 no CFP Return on Jan 4 & 11, no CFP on Jan. 18, Jan. 25

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Jan. 10 at 9am. Please remember to pray for our candidates. Sign up to be a prayer partner in the gathering space.

God, our loving Father, these young people come before you ready to do your will. Send the Holy Spirit upon them that they may be witnesses of peace and reconciliation as they live their lives as your disciples. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord. Amen.

If one by one we counted people out for the least sin, it wouldn't take us long to get so we had no one left to live with. For to be social is to be forgiving. Mahatma Gandhi

Catholic Internet Sites: The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere via the internet. The goal is to support the church's professional ministry of religious education and faith formation in cyberspace. The VLCFF is coordinated and sponsored by the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives (IPI) at the University of Dayton - a Catholic Marianist Institution. Affordable on line courses begin on Jan. 11 to Feb. 14, cycle 2 is from Mar. 1 to Apr. 4. Web site is <http://vlc.dayton.edu>. Loyola University is also offering affordable on line courses that begin on Jan. 20. Web site is <http://lim.loyno.edu>

The Light Weigh: Would you like to learn how to eat the foods you enjoy while you lose weight? Would you like to get peace with food and get off the diet roller coaster? Give God a chance and rediscover the freedom from food you had as a small child! A Light Weigh Orientation Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 20 from 10am to 11:30am in room 4. Come and find out about the Light Weigh Bible Study and video series, and how this program has been a blessing to others. For more information, contact Joanne at 368-0146, ext. 104 or email at jhuhn@resurrectionde.org. Bring a friend.

YOUTH MINISTRY

High School Youth Group: We meet on Dec. 21st 6:30-8:00PM. **Epiphany Party:** 12 – 1:30 PM January 4th. Please bring a \$5 present for the gift exchange and a yummy snack to share. **Middle School Youth** are invited to attend but must also attend their regular CFP class at 6:30PM.

Middle School Youth Group: We meet on December 21st and January 4th from 6:30- 8:00 pm.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Dinner is scheduled with several other parishes in our diocese at 6:30pm on December 15th at St. Thomas More Oratory at the University of Delaware. Please bring a \$5 gift card if you wish to participate in the exchange. Notify Vanessa 368-0146x107 or email youth@resurrectionde.org no later than Dec 12th to RSVP and for directions.

If you are 18-35, please email Vanessa at youth@resurrectionde.org so that you can be informed of all upcoming events. Vanessa will be updating our young adults about parish, Diocese of Wilmington, and other young adult events in our area.

Theology on Tap is back! This popular discussion program for young adults in their 20's and 30's, married or single is at Catherine Rooney's Irish Pub. The evening begins with a 7:00 pm social and the presentation starts at 7:15 pm, followed by discussion.

December 16: *Top Ten Misconceptions of our Faith: Explained* with Rev. Leonard Kempinski. Hosted by Catherine Rooney's Irish Pub, Phone: (302) 654-9700 <http://www.catherinerooneys.com/>

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Gospel of Mark: With our new liturgical year B we focus on the Gospel of St. Mark, the first written about Jesus. There will be an Advent Scripture Study on Tuesday, December 16 after the 7:00 pm Mass. It will last until 9:00 pm. The study will meet in room 4 and be facilitated

by Mary Louise Chesley-Cora. Bring your bibles. All are welcome.

Webcasts: More than 100 past programs, including presentations by journalist John Allen, theologians Lisa Sowle Cahill and Bryan Hehir, and author George Weigel, available online at www.bc.edu/church21/webcast.html

Third Sunday of Advent: Today Isaiah states specifically the message that he himself brings from God. That message also prefigures the message that God sends to us through Jesus: Isaiah and Jesus both announce they are to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners. "As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations," says Isaiah. As followers of Jesus, we are called to praise and to work for justice. For more information on Catholic social teaching, or to arrange for a speaker at a parish function, contact Andy Zampini at Catholic Charities at 302-655-9624 or azampini@ccwilm.org.

Answers to the reconciliation quiz on the front page. A-5, B-3, C-6, D-2, E-1, F-4

JESUS HOUSE

Christmas Open House and Gift Sale: Come visit the Jesus House Prayer & Renewal Center Sunday, December 14, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. There will be artisans, crafts people and artists sharing their talents. Complementary tea, coffee, etc. with Christmas goodies will be available in one of our retreat houses where you can relax and enjoy some quiet conversation or for some solitude the beautifully decorated chapel will be open to enjoy some prayer time & respite from the busyness of preparing for the Christmas Holidays. For information, contact Jesus House at 302-995-6859.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Advent is preparation time. Celebration of **Penance** is a great way to allow the Lord to enter your more fully. Times: 7:00 PM—

Dec. 15: Our Lady of Fatima

Dec. 16: St. Mary's in Hockessin

Dec. 17: St Catherine of Siena

Dec. 17: St. John the Beloved

Dec 22: St John the Beloved, Noon & 7 PM.

Jesus says of his Second coming, "Be on watch, be alert, for you do not know when the time will come."

Mark 13:33

Alternative Christmas Store



December 13 and 14, 2008
After All Masses

Once again Resurrection Parish is offering this unique opportunity to present your friends and family with a special gift card that indicates a donation has been made to one of the charitable organizations listed below in their name. Gift cards will be provided for your purchases. Please join us to shop for great “alternative” gifts at our annual Alternative Christmas Event.

The Bayard House, Wilmington, DE

A residential program for women who lack the support they need during pregnancy.

Emmaus House, Newark, DE

A temporary shelter for families who do not have a home.

Voices Without Borders, Wilmington, DE

A community organization seeking to empower their local members to improve their lives.

Sojourner's Place, Wilmington, DE

A shelter for the homeless providing treatment for them to become productive members of society.

Midwives for Haiti, Richmond, VA

Support for training and medical equipment assist Haitian midwives to care for pregnant women.

Habitat for Humanity, New Castle County, DE

Builds new homes for low-income families who also help in the production process.

Jesus House Prayer & Renewal Center, Wilmington, DE

Provides a quiet, reflective atmosphere for retreatants to grow spiritually.

St. Martin's Ministries, Ridgeley, MD

Provides transitional housing for mothers and children with distribution of clothing & food.

Friendship House, Wilmington, DE

A shelter that helps adults re-establish themselves to be self-supporting

San Marcos Water Project, San Marcos, Guatemala

Building safe drinking water facilities for the San Marcos community.

Project Amigo, Oaxaca, Mexico

Offers support to two schools in two poor communities of Oaxaca, Mexico.


Resurrection Parish Outreach, Wilmington, DE

Provides emergency assistance to low-income families for utilities, housing and food.

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