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<http://www.resurrectionde.org>



PASTORAL COUNCIL

Peg Smith — Executive Officer
 JoAnn Hedrick — Assist. E. O.
 Tom Leitch — Secretary
 Chris Ariganello — Trustee
 Wolfgang Scherr — Trustee

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.

"In his book *The Jesus Way* (40-41), Eugene Peterson recalls that hiking in the mountains was a favorite family recreational activity when his sons were growing up. But when the boys reached adolescence, he recalls, they became impatient with the slow pace of their parents on the ascent and would rush off ahead. "For them," writes Peterson, "the trail, the way, was reduced to one thing and one thing only: the way to the top of the mountain. They set out with all deliberate speed to conquer (their verb of choice) the mountain, get to the peak, write their names in the metal box containing the names of successful climbers. They always took a couple of pictures to document their feat. And then, reeking with boredom, they waited for their slowpoke parents who were carrying the lunch. 'What took you so long? ... We've been waiting for *hours!*'"

Peterson gives this explanation, "What *did* take us so long? Well, there was a lot to see, to savor, to absorb, to enjoy: a mountain goat posing regally on a cliff, a blue-fringed gentian [plant with showy flowers] to look at again for the first time, the wind-sculpted trunk of an ancient white-bark pine, a water ouzel [bird] plying in a waterfall, the nectarine that we relished as we sat and took in the next range of mountains that had just come into view ... *Way* for us was far more than a way to get to the top. It was a way of being present to everything on the way ..." He recalls a line by Robert Pirsig: "To live only for some future goals is shallow. It's the sides of the mountain which sustain life, not the top. Here's where things grow. But of course, without the top you can't have the sides. It's the top that *defines* the sides."

(This article is to help us through Christmas and into the New Year. It is taken from *Homiletics*, c. 2008 by Communications Resources, Inc, Canton, Ohio.)

Peterson recalls that Dorothy Day loved to quote St. Catherine: "All the way to heaven is heaven, because he had said, 'I am the Way.'"

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Dec 22	8:30 am	
Tuesday	Dec 23	7:00 pm	
Wednesday	Dec 24	8:30 am	
Christmas		5:00 pm	
Eve		7:30 pm	
		11:00pm	Parish Community
Christmas	Dec 25	10 am	
Friday	Dec 26	8:30 am	
Saturday	Dec 27	5:30 pm	
Sunday	Dec 28	8:15 am	
Holy Family		10:30am	
		5:30 pm	Parish Community

A (+) next to a name denotes deceased

STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE

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 21	CLOW	10:30am
Dec 21	Deliver Gifts	
Dec 23	AA meeting, rm. 3	7:00 pm
Dec. 28	Novena for Peace & Justice	9:30 am

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

Have you been away from the church for awhile? Are you thinking about returning? Check out this web site for inspiration – www.oncecatholic.org

LITURGY

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

Christmas Eve/Day Mass Schedule:
Wednesday, Dec. 24 -- **5:00** pm(nursery open), 7:30 pm, 11:00 pm
Thursday, December 25 – 10:00 am

Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule:
Wednesday, December 31 – **5:00** pm
Thursday, January 1 – 10:00 am

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

Waiting in joyful hope--silence in the liturgy: In the liturgy, we are silent *together*. This is not an individual silence, even though each of us – as best as each of us is able – is silent. This is not a passive silence, even though we try to be as still as we can be. We are silent together, actively quiet, purposely still. We're silent before the liturgy begins in order to be present to each other and thus find God. We are silent at the words "Let us pray." At this invitation we pray. We are silent after readings of scripture and after the homily. How else can God speak to us? How else are we to hear the divine voice, not only echoing from long ago in ancient words brought back to life, but speaking now, in this time, in the quiet that we provide here? After the readings and the homily we are silent together because we are listening together for the voice on which our very lives depend. If we are not silent to listen, how else will we know the voice that bids us to come out of our dumb tombs to live and love, again. On occasion instead of singing, we may be silent when the gifts are gathered for the poor and for the church, and when the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar. And when all have been fed, when all have drunk from the cup, again we are silent, caught up in the reverie of great mystery, standing wide-eyed and satisfied, breathing quiet gratitude for life breaking out everywhere, enjoying the quiet of this moment before an eternal dawn, when God will be all in all and the final silence will be ruptured with raucous, joyous cries of "Worthy! Worthy! Worthy!"

Adapted from *Saving Signs, Wondrous Words*, D. Philippart
© 1996 Archdiocese of Chicago, Liturgy Training Publications

Choir for 11:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve: We welcome all those interested in singing to attend rehearsal on 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 Rzuclidlo, 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

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.

Donut Ministry 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

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.

Small Group Faith Sharing: The fourth session of small groups will begin the week of January 18th. Signups will start January 3rd through the 18th. Look for the list in the Gathering Space at that time. The book for this session is called "*The Mass is Never Ended, Rediscovering our Mission to Transform the World*".

Picture Mary in today's Gospel. Does she appear serious yet humble, a very holy person? We shouldn't let this image mislead us. Mary hesitated and felt uncertain before she gave her simple and clear 'Yes.' This makes her more like us and like our parish family. She is our model of faith and acceptance. Please consider a bequest in your will to help our parish continue to be faith-filled in the future. For specifics on bequests or other planned gifts, please contact Sister Margaret Mahoney at (302) 573-3125 or mmahoney@cdow.org.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Christmas Giving Tree: We need volunteers to deliver gifts to organizations 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

It can be both frightening and fearful to work for justice. We don't always know what we are walking into and we often do not see successful results to our efforts. The angel's words to Mary can also bring us comfort: "Do not be afraid..." Nothing will be impossible for God

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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

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

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Saturday, Jan. 10 at 9am. Please remember to pray for our candidates. Sign up to be a prayer partner is 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.

He that cannot forgive others, breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass if he would ever reach heaven; for everyone has need to be forgiven. –George Herbert

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.

Child Abuse – Many Catholics are unaware of the Church's effort to address the tragedy of Child sexual molestation by clergy or Church related personnel. Find out what the Diocese of Wilmington does when a report of abuse is given. Learn about the outreach the Diocese makes to victims and/or their families, and what is being done to prevent abuse. This information and more is available on the Diocese of Wilmington's web site at www.cdow.org.

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.

New Confirmation Preparation Process: Parent orientation and student registration will be January 4, 2009 at 2:00 PM. Confirmation preparation begins in 9th grade with confirmation being received in November of 10th grade. Students must currently be enrolled in religious education class or a catholic school to participate. Of course, the family needs to be members and registered in this parish. (A check: do you get the Diocesan newspaper, The Dialog?) Call the office if you are not sure. Thanks for your cooperation.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adults 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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

JESUS HOUSE

Christmas Open House and Gift Sale: Come visit the Jesus House Prayer & Renewal Center where you can relax and enjoy some quiet conversation or for some solitude in the beautifully decorated chapel which 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.
Dec 22: St John the Beloved, **Noon & 7 PM.**

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.

Couples give a wonderful gift to each other for Christmas this year - just think - Golf weekend for him - \$650 Spa weekend for her - \$700 Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend together – PRICELESS. For more information about the January 23-25th weekend in Rehoboth Beach call Jack & Bridget O'Connell at 302-653-1434

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity comes up in the middle of January. Resurrection Parish used to cooperate with a handful of local churches. But over the years this has diminished. So, at least, be mindful and pray with Jesus: "that all my be one." The unity week gives Christians an annual opportunity to continue their quest for the unity they already share in Christ. It is also a time to gather in praise of the Triune God and to deepen the understanding of the ecumenical movement. By joining in this annual celebration Christians raise their voices, hands and hearts to God seeking the fulfillment of the prayer of Jesus, the Son of God, "that they all may be one."




The Week of Prayer also invites those who participate to use it as an opportunity to examine the effectiveness of the ecumenical movement in seeking to end the divisions among Christians. From the smallest to the largest communities, from all cultures, races and language groups, from all the baptized to all those in ordained ministry, the Week of Prayer is also an opportunity to ask examine the level of support they have given to this important movement in the life of the Church. An accounting of each Christian's discipleship and faithfulness to the proclamation of the Gospel — the good news of reconciliation — can be taken every year during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

January 18-25, 2009 is the annual observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme chosen for 2009 is "That they may become one in your hand." Throughout 2009, join Christians everywhere in praying "that they may all be one" joining our prayer with that the Lord Jesus Christ. For more information go to: www.geii.org

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