

SAINT PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

209 Washington St., Delaware City, DE 19706

St. Paul's Official Website is: <http://www.StPaulsRCChurch.org>.

Pastor: Father Philip L. Siry

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Sister Mary Vincent, O.S.F.S.

(410) 398-3699

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Secretary: Mrs. Toni Hebert

Third Sunday of Advent



WORD OF GOD FOR A SUNDAY:

Our Lord is near. Emmanuel – God is with us. We rejoice in his presence and in his promises, even as we ask, “What should we do?”

THE READINGS:

Zephaniah 3:14-16

Zion rejoices that God has lifted all judgment and has promised to keep us secure from all harm.

Philippians 4:4-7

Paul exhorts us to always rejoice in the Lord. Always! We need not worry or be afraid. Our Lord is near. Rejoice!

Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist calls for a repentance that must manifest itself in deeds. He is the messenger of the One who is to come, whose sandal strap he is not worthy to untie.

Offertory Collection

December 7, 2003

\$934.00

Christmas Flowers

\$467.00

Holyday

\$357.00

This Sunday, a second collection will be taken up for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please help “Share in the Care” of those priests, Sisters, and Brothers who ministered to the needs of others all their lives.

Lectors for next weekend's Masses are: 5 p.m. – Charlie Gondek, 9 a.m. – Harry Killian.

The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit from December 13th – December 27th in memory of Albert Gondek by Charles Gondek.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday,	December 13,	5:00 PM (rip) John E. Gann by Ruth Press
Sunday,	December 14,	9:00 AM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Monday,	December 15,	NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE
Tuesday,	December 16,	8:00 AM (viv) The Peter Brannon Family by Helen Brannon
Wednesday,	December 17,	8:00 AM (viv) Donald Lilley by Helen Brannon
Thursday,	December 18,	8:00 AM (rip) Sr. Mary Paul, OSFS, by Louise Meli
Friday,	December 19,	8:00 AM (rip) Willard Smith by David Smith
Saturday,	December 20,	5:00 PM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Sunday,	December 21,	9:00 AM (rip) Joseph Plunkett, Sr. by the Family

The next **available dates** for **Mass Intentions** are: February 23, 24, and 25, 2004. **Mass stipends** are **\$10 per Mass** per Diocesan changes as of January 1, 2003.

Join our **CCD children** next Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall as they present a Christmas pageant. Refreshments will follow. All are invited!

Confessions will be heard on Monday, December 22nd, at 6:30 p.m. in preparation for Christmas.

Eternal rest grant to Josef Kopec, the father of Fr. Chris Kopec, all and the souls of the faithful departed.

Catholic Forum – Tune in to Catholic Forum each Sunday morning at 10:05 on AM 1150 WDEL or www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, December 21st, hear the annual Catholic Forum Christmas Program featuring Bishop Michael Saltarelli's Christmas Message to the Diocese of Wilmington. Catholic Forum is a production of the Diocese of Wilmington's Office of Communications.

Vocations – Through the prophet Zephaniah, God says “Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The Lord is in your midst!” Priests and religious sisters and brothers spend their lives helping other people recognize God in their midst. Are you ready to join them in their mission? Call Father Joe Cocucci, Diocesan Director of Vocations at (302) 573-3113.



Rejoice!

Zephaniah exhorted the Israelites to shout for joy because the Lord was in their midst. Joy is the hallmark of those who recognize the presence of God in their lives. Is yours a life of rejoicing? Do you allow the healing power of God's presence to ignite the spark of joy He planted deep within your own heart at your creation? Rejoice!

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2003