

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

(302) 834-4321

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St. Paul's Religious Education: Sister Lawrence Therese, O.S.F.S.

(410) 398-3699

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

(410) 398-3699

Secretary: Mrs. Toni Hebert

Feast of the Holy Family

WORD OF GOD FOR A SUNDAY:

The Holy Family provides a model for relationships of mutual love and respect between parents and children. God blesses and protects all families as the first school of love.

THE READINGS:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

A parent's authority comes from God. Children are blessed when they respect their parents.

Colossians 16:25-27

God has chosen us and loved us, thus we are called to live a life of virtue. Love is the garment we must wear over all other virtues.

Luke 2:22-40

Mary and Joseph fulfill the Law by bringing Jesus to the temple. Simeon and Anna, who represent all those who have waited faithfully, recognize the child as the Messiah.

Offertory Collection

December 21, 2003

\$1960.00

Christmas

\$5398.00

Lectors for next weekend's Masses are: 5 p.m. – Jean Beldyk-Byers, 9 a.m. – Michael Spinella.

The **Sanctuary Candle** is lit from December 27th – January 10th in memory of Richard & Rose Meli by Louise Meli.

The staff and children of the CCD Program would like to thank La Matesina Restaurant for their generous pizza donation during the Christmas Pageant rehearsal.

According to the laws of the State of Delaware, two trustees must be elected on the first Sunday of January. To vote you must be a registered parishioner and be at least 18 years of age. It will be held in the priest's sacristy after the Mass next Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday,	December 27,	5:00 PM (rip) Richard & Rose Meli by Louise Meli
Sunday,	December 28,	9:00 AM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Monday,	December 29,	8:00 AM (rip) Paul Casey by M/M Paul Matarese
Tuesday,	December 30,	8:00 AM (rip) Martin & Mary Brannon by Helen Brannon
Wednesday,	December 31,	5:00 PM (rip) Louis Mroz by Susan Walker
Thursday,	January 1,	9:00 AM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Friday,	January 2,	8:00 AM (rip) Patsy Cook Mulrooney by The Binder Family
Saturday,	January 3,	5:00 PM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE (living & deceased)
Sunday,	January 4,	9:00 AM (rip) Schroeder Family by Martha Lester

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.

Catholic Forum – Tune in to Catholic Forum each Sunday morning at 10:05 on AM 1150 WDEL or www.wdel.com. Next Sunday, January 4th, Sr. Betty Ann McNeill will discuss her new book, "15 Days of Prayer with Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton." Catholic Forum is a production of the Diocese of Wilmington's Office of Communications.

Vocations – We have so much to learn from the Holy Family. Mary allows God's will to change her life; Joseph pays close attention to and follows the prompting of the angel; Jesus says to the Father "not my will, but Thine be done." What is the Father's will for you? Are you taking steps to find out? If you think God might be calling to you to live out a religious vocation, call Father Joe Cocucci, Diocesan Director of Vocations at (302) 573-3113.

The Grace of Recognition



We might say that Anna was in the right place at the right time to see and hold the Christ Child. But a closer reading shows that her presence in the temple was no accident. She, Luke tells us, was constantly in the temple, worshipping day and night in fasting and prayer. What can you do this week to make yourself more likely to recognize the presence of God in your home and community?

The Holy Family

December 28, 2003

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to wish all of you and your families a very happy, holy, and healthy New Year!

*Sincerely in Christ,
Father Philip Siry*