SAINT PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

209 Washington St., Delaware City, DE 19706

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

E-Mail Address: http://www.StPaulsRCChurch.org.

STPAULSDECITY@verizon.net

 Pastor:
 Father Roy F. Pollard
 (302) 834-4321

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(302) 834-7517 FAX

St. Paul's Religious Education: Sister Lawrence Therese, O.S.F.S. (410) 398-3699

Sister Michele Elizabeth, O.S.F.S. (410) 398-3699

Parish Hall (during class time) (302) 757-4551

Secretary: Mrs. Toni Hebert (usually Monday & Wednesday mornings)

Knights of Columbus: for information contact Pat McKenna (302) 832-2365

Confessions: $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before each Mass for twenty minutes or by appointment. The Reconciliation Room is located on St. Joseph's side in the sanctuary. If the door is closed, do not enter.

St. Paul's Cemetery Information: Contact Sheryl at 656-3323 (Catholic Cemeteries Office)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

WORD OF GOD FOR A SUNDAY:

The tiny village of Bethlehem holds the hope of Israel in the Old Testament and ultimately in the world. From there came both David the King and Jesus the Messiah. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, John the Precursor recognizes his savior, even in the womb.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

OFFERTORY COLLECTION December 13, 2009 \$1154.00 Religious Retirement \$ 342.00

Lectors for next weekend's Masses are: 5 p.m. - Susan Walker, 9 a.m. - Linda Michel.

The *Sanctuary Candle* is lit from December 19th – January 2nd for the McKenna & Talley Families (living & deceased) by Pat & Norma McKenna.

Thank you to all who gave gifts for the Governor Bacon Center Residents. If you forgot to bring your gift, I will be saying Mass there on Wednesday and you can bring it to the church before then. If you can't make that date then you can bring it directly to the Center. Let them know it is from St. Paul's Church.

Thank you to all who contributed food to the Ecumenical Food Closet.

Thank you to the person who made the outdoor Manger.

The Religious Ed. Students will perform a Christmas Play today at the Parish Hall after Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday,	December 19,	5:00 PM (rip) Jane & Littleton Mitchell by David Smith
Sunday,	December 20,	9:00 AM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE
Monday,	December 21,	9:00 AM McKenna & Talley Families (living & deceased) by Pat & Norma McKenna
Tuesday,	December 22,	9:00 AM McKenna & Talley Families (living & deceased) by Pat & Norma McKenna
Wednesday,	December 23,	8:00 AM MASS FOR THE PEOPLE
Thursday,	December 24,	4:00 PM For the intentions of Father Pollard
-		7:00 PM Nine Masses for Christmas
Friday,	December 25,	9:00 AM Nine Masses for Christmas
Saturday,	December 26,	5:00 PM Nine Masses for Christmas
Sunday,	December 27,	9:00 AM Nine Masses for Christmas

The next available dates for a Mass intention are April 28, 29, 2010. The stipend for a Mass is \$10.

Help Needed - If anyone is available to cut back the Hydrangea Bushes by the church and the rectory, as well as the Chrysanthemums before Christmas. Please go ahead and do it. Place the cuttings behind the garage. Thank you.

We will be decorating for Christmas after Mass today. All are welcome to help. The more help we have, the faster the work gets done.

The end of the Christmas Season is January 10th, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. After the Mass on Sunday your help would be appreciated so that we can take the decorations down and store them for next Christmas.

Vocations - In today's first reading, the Lord promises to send One "who will shepherd his flock." God has kept that promise throughout the centuries and continues to call shepherds for His people. Is He calling you to serve as a shepherd – to minister to His people as a priest?

25 December 2009 - The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord - Through Isaiah's prophecy, God says "How beautiful are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation." In every age God calls men and women to do this work through the prophetic living out of priesthood and religious life. Maybe God is calling you. If you think that might be the case, call or write Father Joe Cocucci, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113, jcocucci@cdow.org). Be sure to visit our website: www.CalledByTheLord.com!

My best wishes to you and those you love on this Feast of Christmas which

is old but should always be new within our hearts. As Christ gave himself for us, if you will as the first Christmas gift, may we give ourselves to him in gratitude.

Father Roy Pollard