

OUR LADY OF FATIMA



*Our Family of Faith
Gathered Together in Christ...*



*We are a family happy and eager
to share with others...*



OUR PARISH... OUR FAMILY

It is 38 years since the Bishop of Wilmington sent Fr. Edmund McDonough to gather together the Catholic people of Wilmington Manor to form Our Lady of Fatima Parish.

Over those 38 years, our family has gathered to hear the Word of the Lord, to teach and explain that Word to new generations, to give thanks to the Lord for His goodness and to translate that love of the Lord into loving service for others. Month after month, week after week, we have gathered to pray, to work, to teach and serve in His Name.

There are still many among us who can remember those first days and years of sacrifice — when together we worked to build our first church and when we began our school in the crowded basement and rooms of the Rectory. There are many others who can remember coming together, working together to build our second church, now Msgr. Dwyer Hall, and our school and convent. In 1963, Msgr. Francis Desmond again called us together to build our new parish church — the first church in the round in our Diocese — a building whose very structure reflects what we are all about.

together to additional sacrifice to continue our parochial school with an all lay faculty. Through the years, we have built the structures that speak to all the thousands who drive past us on DuPont Highway of the strength of our faith. Our parish buildings speak the depth of our love of the Lord.

Now once again we call on you to continue the story of faith, the story of sacrifice, the story of love of the Lord. We are confident the Risen Lord who has begun the work in us will continue that work and help us find the extra strength and energy we need to do His work and build His Kingdom.

We may not have to build new buildings, but we do face the challenge of maintaining and repairing what we do have. The work of building a community of faith and charity is never completed. Each year we are called to new resources of generous spirit and committed love to keep building on the foundations the Lord — and we — have laid.

With thanks to the Lord — and to you — for all the goodness of the Lord and for the demonstration of your Catholic and Christian faith through the years, we once more call you to even greater sacrifice for the Lord!



Our Lady of Fatima is a community of people, a family of faith and charity. We are a people who pray together and experience the presence of the Lord in His Word and Sacraments and — in one another.

We are a community who are happy and eager to share with others, especially our young people, our faith and love of the Lord, a community called to celebrate and strengthen the bonds that bind us together as a church, a community open to the worlds around us, anxious to serve the needs of our brothers and sisters, eager to share the love of God we have known.



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How are we managing our lives? Are we living as Christians? Are we giving as Christians?

Frequent evaluations are basic to the efficiency of business and industry. No matter how small or how large the company, unless it keeps a sharp eye on its progress, on the efficient use of its resources, it will not succeed. So many of us fail to see that same need in our own lives... in how we manage our time, our talents, our income and possessions.

It would be prudent for us to take the time now and evaluate what we are doing for our parish. Is our financial support what it should be? Has it kept pace with increasing income?

Does it square with what we feel would be acceptable to Almighty God? Is our financial support proportionate to our ability to give? St. Paul always saw giving as an opportunity and not a burden; as an act of homage to God, not as a giving up. Eric Fromm once wrote, "The most widespread misunderstanding is that which assumes that giving is "giving up" something, being deprived. Giving is more joyous than receiving, not because it is a deprivation but because in the act of giving lies the expression of aliveness."

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We are called to be a people of prayer ...

Our Liturgical Committee helps to plan and prepare for liturgical celebrations and helps coordinate all the various liturgical ministries.

Our Adult Choir and Folk Group, cantors and organists help lead us in praising our God.

Our Lectors proclaim the Word of the Lord and our Eucharistic Ministers minister the Bread of Life to our family.

Our Altar Boys and Ushers help in the celebration of the sacramental mysteries.

Other members of our family help clean the sanctuary and linens and help decorate our sanctuary with banners, flowers, etc.

Our parish Prayer Group encourages us to grow in the gifts of the Spirit.

We are formed by God's Word and called to share it with others ...

Our Christian Formation Committee coordinates and encourages all our efforts to share the Good News of Jesus' love and truth to all.

Our Religious Education Office and School coordinate and assist our teachers and aides in sharing the Good News of Salvation with our children.

Our Sacramental Preparation Programs for Baptism, First Communion, Confession, and Confirmation help us to meet the Lord and grow in His grace.

Our R.C.I.A. Community (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) helps those who wish to learn more about the Lord and His love and join our community of faith.

Our God Before Six Program helps parents of pre-school age children begin their religious formation.

Our Home and School Association assists parents of children in our school work together with our teaching staff.

We are called to form a community of love, a family in Christ ...

Our Parish Life Committee helps plan parish social affairs to bring us together and help us know one another in Christ.

Our Sodality brings the ladies of our parish together in devotion to Our Lady and in service to our community.

Our Hall Committee coordinates our calendar and arranges rental of our hall.

Our June Fair, Christmas Bazaar, and weekly Bingo groups help plan and carry out the activities that bring together so many of our family and help so much with our financial needs.

Our Teen Youth Group brings our teens together in religious, social and cultural activities.

Our Youth Activities Program provides a full range of athletic programs for the youth of our parish.

Our Boy Scouts and Cubs, Girl Scouts and Brownies help our young men and women grow as wholesome persons and useful citizens of our society.

We are called to serve the needs of others ...

Our St. Vincent dePaul Society carries on a tradition of service to the poor and emergency aid.

Our Parish Outreach Office offers telephone reassurance to the elderly and sick, assistance to families, transportation and care for the needy; Meals on Wheels, and a parish Blood Bank group are also provided.

Our volunteers help Emmanuel Dining Room feed the hungry of Wilmington once a month.

Our Pro-Life group witnesses our concern for greater respect for life at every stage of development.

Our "Crossroads" monthly newsletter helps the members of our Fatima family communicate with each other.

We are called to care for the needs of our family ...

Our Parish Finance Council oversees all the financial functions of our parish, reviews income and expenditures and provides for our growth in the future.

Our Building and Maintenance Committee helps our Janitorial Staff serve the needs of maintaining and improving the physical facilities of the parish.

The Parish Council consists of our elected representatives who assist the Pastor in determining the priorities of our parish family and facilitate and coordinate all the organizations and ministries of our Parish.

THE CHALLENGE

The financial backbone of our parish is the weekly offerings. Many support the parish faithfully and with sacrifice. Then again, many more could and should do better.

Under the recommendation of the Finance Council and the approval of the Parish Council, we have begun a total parish support program.

Our minimum need to maintain programs and ministries at their current level of service is a weekly increase of \$700.00. In addition, we still have many repairs that are in need of being addressed. There is the aging of our buildings with constant need of repairs. The carpet needs replacing in our Church and the parking lot is in desperate need of resurfacing. Therefore, all parishioners are asked to look at their present rate of giving and plan an increase of their weekly offering "to the best of their ability." The

question of "how much to give?" can only be answered by you. No one can tell you how much to give. We only suggest, as do many passages in Scripture, that your giving is proportionate to your blessings and your income. Base your giving on an honest and a reasonable appraisal of your means. Your giving will mean more to you and represent more truly a Christian commitment.

"GIVE AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN TO YOU, GOOD MEASURE PRESSED DOWN, RUNNING OVER, WILL THEY PUT INTO THE FOLD OF YOUR GARMENT, FOR THE MEASURE YOU MEASURE WITH WILL BE MEASURED BACK TO YOU."

(Luke) 6:38

Having read this brochure, please reflect upon the goodness of our Lord. Are you giving back to God in full measure? Are you truly living your faith?

After prayerful consideration, you are asked to fill out the enclosed card indicating your intended weekly offering. Return it in the collection basket or to the parish office no later than Sunday, December 21, 1986.

If we do not receive your card by then, it will serve as an invitation for contact by our committee.

CHURCH SUPPORT IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

The parish is an extension to our homes. It is the physical and visible focal point of our faith. It is the channel God has chosen to give us His special graces through the sacraments. It is the public forum where we gather as a Christian community to give witness to God.

The well being of our parish is the concern and responsibility of every member of the parish. Its effectiveness and continued life depends on the support of the entire parish family. It can only serve us if we support it... we the young, the elderly, the single, the married. We all share. We are all stewards of God's Goodness.



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PARISH MINISTRY



YOUTH GROUP



LITURGY



ADULT EDUCATION



C.C.D.



SOCIAL CONCERNS

LITURGY

LITURGY COMMITTEE (2nd Friday of the Month)

Mrs. Lorraine Steele 322-4696

READERS

Fr. John Klevence (Moderator) 328-3431

Mrs. Gerry Romans (Scheduler) 328-3431

USHERS

Mr. Andy Marioni, Head Usher 322-8439

ENVIRONMENT & ART

Mrs. Eleanor Cushing 328-6515

CHOIR

Mary Lou May 328-6581

FOLK GROUP

Mr. Tony Romano 328-1074

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Nancy-Jo Stryker & Pat Walker 328-0307

OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL

Miss Kathleen Kenney, Principal 328-2803

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Joe Santo, President 834-3706

ADULT EDUCATION (R.C.I.A.) [Wednesday Evenings]

Fr. Stanley J. Russell 328-3431

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE (First Tuesday of the Month)

Mrs. Mary Weidick (Contact Person) 328-8580

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM (Last Tuesday of the Month)

Fr. Ralph Castelow 328-3431

PARISH LIFE

SODALITY

Mrs. Eleanor Cushing 328-6515

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Mr. Tom Hamberger 834-7216

GIRL SCOUTS

Mrs. Mary Ann Crosley 322-3511

BOY SCOUTS

Mr. Frank Flynn 322-3869

CUB SCOUTS

Mrs. Maureen Tong 328-0806

YOUTH MINISTRY

Mr. John Klevence 328-3431

CROSSROADS NEWSLETTER

Mr. Don Casey 322-1033

PRAYER GROUP

Mrs. Pat Darwicki 322-0780

BLUE ARMY

Mrs. Nicki Petro 322-4558

NEW LIFE (SEPARATED/DIVORCED)

Pat Handlin (Family Life Bureau) 655-9624
(9 a.m.-5 p.m.)

MINISTERS OF COMFORT (BEREAVEMENT GROUP)

Mrs. Diane Frechette 322-4809

SOCIAL CONCERNS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Mr. Paul Collins 328-3431

OUTREACH

Mrs. Betty Graulich 322-1525

Mrs. Diane Marchegiani

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM

Mrs. Rose Meyer 328-0380

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Mrs. Pat Lacey 328-0305

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE COUNCIL (2nd Monday of the Month)
Mr. John Gaul 322-4508

HALL RENTALS
Tony & Donna DeLillio 328-5277

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Mrs. Madeline Romano 328-1074
Mrs. Rossana Porter 328-9321

JUNE FAIR
Mr. Tony DeLillio 328-5277
Mr. Steve Binjansky 322-6035

BINGO
Mr. Jim Maucher 834-7686

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE
Mr. Jim LeNoir 328-3219

OUR LADY OF FATIMA
1989-90

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR
Fr. Stanley J. Russell 328-3431

ASSOCIATE PASTORS
Fr. John Klevence 328-3431
Fr. Ralph Castelow 328-3431

PERMANENT DEACON
Mr. Joseph Romans 322-4612

OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
Miss Kathleen Kenney 328-2803

CO-ORDINATORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Mrs. Nancy-Jo Stryker (School Program) 328-0307
Mrs. Pat Walker (CCD Program) 328-0307

SUPERIOR, FRANCISCAN SISTERS
Sr. Anna Mae 328-2752

PARISH COUNCIL

(Meets Third Tuesday of the Month)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Mrs. Joan Berl 328-5372

SECRETARY
Mr. Robert Rossi 328-4904
Mr. Michael Bourne 737-4967
Mr. Donald Casey 322-1033
Mr. Anthony DeLillio 328-5277
Mr. Leonard Earl, Jr. 323-4329
(8 a.m.-5 p.m.)
Mr. John Gaul 322-4508
Mrs. Jean Haney 322-2178
Mrs. Mary Justison 328-7574
Mr. Paul Lanouette 328-5707
Mr. James LeNoir 328-3219
Mrs. Maureen Mullins 328-1816
Mr. John Olivero 328-2319
Mr. Jon Romans (YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE) 322-4612
Mrs. Patricia Scarpitti 322-7902
Mr. Stephen Wham 328-8943