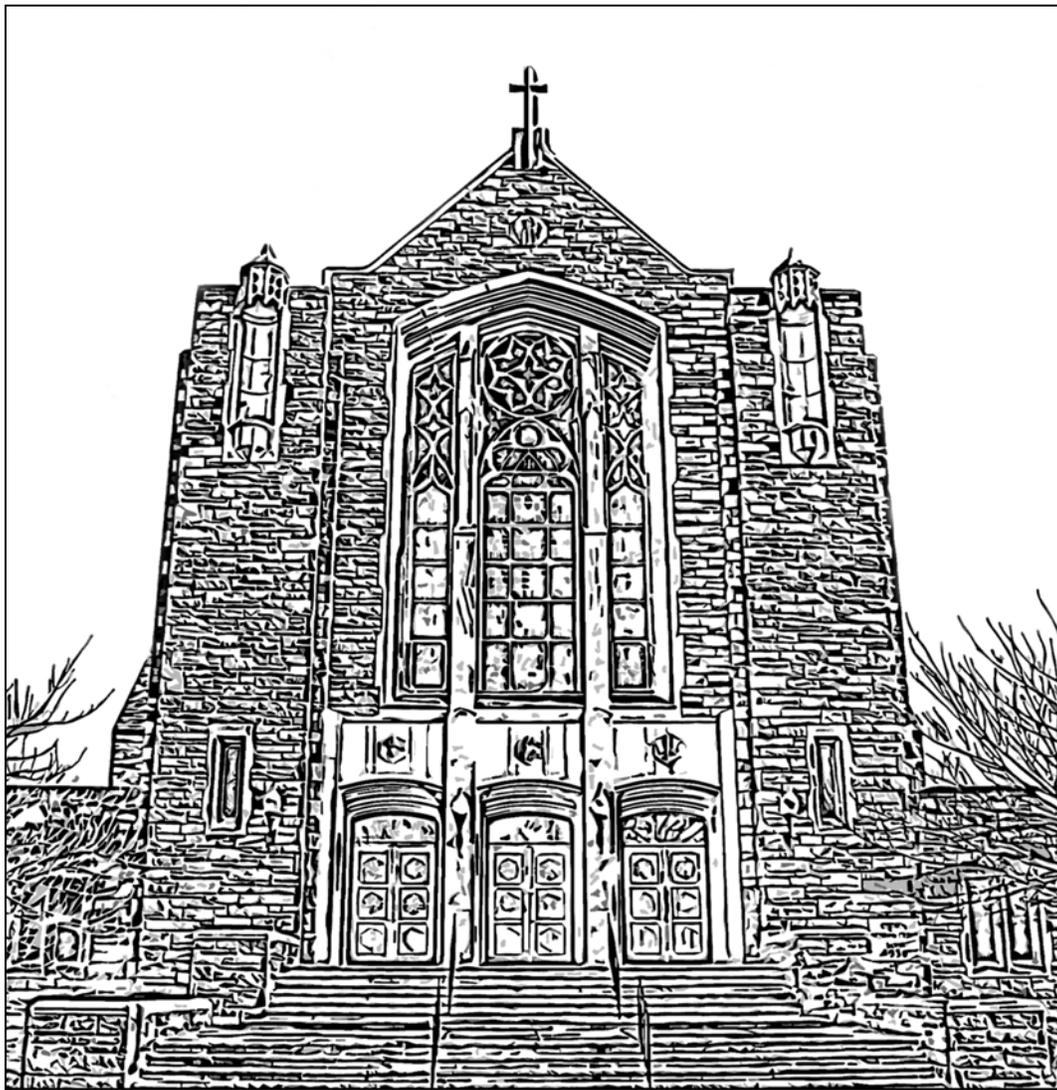


RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD PARISH

# Resurrection of Our Lord Church

Serving the Community  
Since 1928



*Parish Handbook*  
*Parish Handbook*

**RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD CHURCH**

**Parish Handbook**

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## Contact Information

### To reach a member of the staff:

#### Rectory

2000 Shelmire Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19152  
Phone: (215) 745-3211  
Fax: (215) 745-0587  
[resurrectionchurch@resurrectphila.org](mailto:resurrectionchurch@resurrectphila.org)

#### Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
The office is closed between the hours of  
12:00 Noon & 1:00 PM for lunch  
and 5:30 - 6:30 PM for dinner.

#### School

2020 Shelmire Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19152  
Phone: (215) 742-1127  
Fax: (215) 742-0947  
[resurrectionschool@yahoo.com](mailto:resurrectionschool@yahoo.com)

#### Hours of Operation

7:45 AM - 3:45 PM  
Monday - Friday

#### Office for Parish Faith Formation

Phone: (215) 745-5568  
Fax: (215) 745-0587  
[jscafidi@resurrectphila.org](mailto:jscafidi@resurrectphila.org)

#### Parish Pastoral Council

[parishcouncil@resurrectphila.org](mailto:parishcouncil@resurrectphila.org)

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## Mission Statement

We, the people of Resurrection of Our Lord Parish, acknowledge our call to grow as a faith community.

Baptized in Christ Jesus and confirmed by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to worship God by active participation in the Sacraments of Our Lord, especially the celebration of the Eucharist.

We proclaim the Good News through service to others:

- ~ by providing for the religious and spiritual development of old and young;
- ~ by giving spiritual and financial aid to those in need;
- ~ by eliminating indifference and prejudice wherever it exists;
- ~ and by reaching out to the alienated.

Through love, faith, and acts of kindness, we pledge ourselves to exemplifying the saving message of Christ, our Risen Lord.

## Liturgy Schedules

### **Sunday Mass**

**Vigil Mass:** Saturday 4:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday:** 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

### **Weekday Mass**

**Monday through Saturday:** 8:30 a.m.

### **Holydays of Obligation**

Schedule posted before each holyday.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

**Saturdays:** 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**Vigils of Holy Days:** 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

### **Prayer and Devotion**

#### **Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

Open Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

#### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Beginning 7:30 a.m. Wednesdays mornings in the lower Church and concluding with Benediction prior to daily mass at 8:30 a.m.

#### **Charismatic Prayer Group**

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. (lower church)

#### **Divine Mercy Devotions**

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. (lower church)

## Sacraments of Initiation

### **Baptism**

*"Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission"*  
(Catechism, 1213)

Baptism of Children is celebrated every Sunday throughout the year at 1:45 p.m. in the upper church. Please contact the rectory to arrange for baptism.

Godparents play a special role in the Church and in the life of the baptized person. Therefore, godparents must obtain a *letter of eligibility* from their parishes to certify that they meet the Church's requirements for this role, namely:

- A child must have at least one eligible Catholic godparent; he or she may have two godparents, and if so, one must be a man and one must be a woman.
- The godparent must not be a parent of the one to be baptized.
- The godparent must be:
  - at least sixteen years of age;
  - a fully-initiated Catholic; that is, he or she has received Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion;
  - a practicing Catholic; that is, he or she attends Mass every Sunday and holyday, receives the sacraments regularly, and, if married, is married in the Church.
- Along with an eligible Catholic godparent, a baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic Christian church or ecclesial community (i.e., Episcopal, Protestant, evangelical, etc.) may be admitted as a Christian witness to the baptism.

Parents are required to attend a pre-baptism meeting, held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the convent.

We are pleased to welcome priests and deacons who may be friends or members of the family to celebrate baptism. Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

### **Sacrament of Confirmation**

*"The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For 'by the sacrament of Confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed."* (Catechism, 1285)

Our parish celebrates the sacrament of Confirmation each Fall. Eligible candidates are children in the sixth grade or higher of Catholic education. Parents of students attending grade five in a private Catholic school should contact the Director of Faith Formation to arrange for proper preparation. Parents of older children and teens should also contact the Director to arrange for preparation classes.

Those to be confirmed are to have a sponsor, who must meet the same requirements for a godparent at baptism (see above). The confirmation sponsor may be one of the child's baptismal sponsors. A candidate may only have one (1) sponsor.

Adults who desire Confirmation should contact the Director of Faith Formation for information about the RCIA (see below).

### **Sacrament of the Eucharist**

*"The Eucharist is 'the source and summit of the Christian life.' 'The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Passover.'"*

(Catechism, 1324)

First Holy Communion is given each Spring to students in our parish school and in our parish Faith Formation Program (CCD). Students enrolled in private Catholic schools should contact the Director of Faith Formation to make arrangements for First Communion.

Holy Communion is administered regularly to homebound parishioners who cannot come to Mass. Communion is brought monthly by the parish priests and religious sisters, and weekly by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Please make arrangements for Communion in the home by contacting the parish office.

### **The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

As Catholic Christians, we share in the life of Jesus Christ through the *Sacraments of Initiation*: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Although many Catholics receive the sacraments of initiation early in life, there are many others who come to the faith after being raised in another religion or in another Christian church, or with no religious background at all. These people are incorporated into the Church through the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)*. This program has open enrollment and accepts inquirers at any and all times during the course of the year. Contact the Director of Faith Formation for more information at (215) 745-5568,

The RCIA prepares several groups of people to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil or at Pentecost:

- those who were brought up in a non-Christian religion, or with no religion and desire to be baptized (these are called *catechumens*);
- those who were baptized and raised in another Christian church or ecclesial community, and desire to make a profession of faith in what the Catholic church believes and teaches (called *candidates for full communion with the Catholic Church*);
- those who were baptized Catholic but need to complete their reception of the sacraments of initiation.

The RCIA happens in several stages. It begins with a period of *inquiry*, when potential catechumens and candidates first make contact with the parish and ask preliminary questions about the faith. Shortly thereafter, catechumens and candidates are welcomed by the community in a public ceremony and begin the period of *catechesis*, when they are instructed weekly in what

Catholics believe about God, about ourselves, about the Church and the Scriptures, and about the moral life. On the first Sunday of Lent they are welcomed by the Archbishop at the *Rite of Election*, and enrolled as candidates to receive the sacraments. During Lent they participate in a period of *purification* and intense preparation for the Easter Vigil. After Easter they share in the joy of the *mystagogy*, when they give thanks to God for the grace of the sacraments and strive to live them out faithfully as full members of the parish community.

## Sacraments of Healing

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Confession)

*"Those who approach the sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offense committed against Him, and are, at the same time, reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by their sins and which, by charity, by example, and by prayer labors for their conversion."* (Catechism, 1422)

Individual confessions are offered every Saturday, and on the vigils of Holy Days of Obligation. Facilities are generally available for both anonymous and face-to-face confessions with several priests. Appointments may be made with any of the parish priests to receive the sacrament at times other than those regularly scheduled.

Communal penance services are held in Advent and Lent, which combine a liturgical celebration (with songs and readings, a homily, and prayers of repentance) with time for individual confessions with a large number of priests. Penance services are announced in the parish bulletin.

Parishioners are invited to contact one of the parish priests if they have any questions about how to go to confession, what to confess, or to address any concerns, fears or difficulties about celebrating this sacrament. Parishioners may also call the archdiocesan help line, 1-800-BLESS-ME, to speak anonymously with a priest.

*First Penance* is celebrated with our young parishioners who are in the second grade or higher of Catholic education, and have been prepared to receive this sacrament. Our parish upholds the archdiocesan policy that candidates must have *at least two consecutive years* of Faith Formation prior to the celebration of this sacrament for the first time.

For this reason, children should begin formal faith formation in our parish CCD Program in *First Grade*. Parents should contact the Director of Faith Formation if their child attends first grade in a private school or neighboring Catholic school.

### **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

*"By the sacred anointing of the sick and the prayer of the priests the whole Church commends those who are ill to the suffering and glorified Lord, that he may raise them up and save them. And indeed she exhorts them to contribute to the good of the People of God by freely uniting themselves to the Passion and death of Christ."*

(Catechism, 1499)

The Anointing of the Sick is given to any member of the faithful who is seriously ill due to injury, disease or old age. It should not be delayed until the moment when death is near. Anyone who is

hospitalized or preparing for surgery should contact the parish office to make arrangements to receive this sacrament.

A communal celebration of the Anointing of the Sick within Mass is organized each Fall. Those who are visited regularly in their homes with Holy Communion will be informed of this celebration. Other persons who are ill and wish to take part should contact the rectory. Resurrection's upper church, where Sunday masses are celebrated, is accessible to persons with disabilities.

## **Sacraments of Vocation**

### **Sacrament of Holy Orders**

*"Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time: thus it is the sacrament of apostolic ministry."*

(Catechism, 1536).

God continues to call young men to serve His people by dedicating their lives to the Church as ordained priests. Any man who believes that God may be calling him to this ministry should contact one of the parish priests.

Some men, whether married or single, are called to service as permanent deacons. These ordained ministers live and work in the world, and serve the parish in liturgical and service ministries. For more information, contact one of the parish priests.

### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

*"The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament."*

(Catechism, 1601)

Weddings are celebrated in the upper church on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. Weddings may also be scheduled on Friday evenings. Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to the intended date of the wedding. A couple should be married in the parish church of either the bride or the groom. Call any parish priest to make wedding arrangements.

Engaged couples are required to participate in a Pre-Cana program of marriage preparation. This can be done in the parish or through programs sponsored by the archdiocesan Family Life Office. Parish Pre-Cana sessions are usually held in March and October.

The Pre-Cana team is always looking for married couples who are willing to share their experience and enthusiasm with engaged couples. To get involved, contact one of the priests at the rectory.

Any person who has been previously married to a person who is still living may not be married again unless the Church can prove that the first marriage did not create a lasting sacramental bond. The process for finding the answer to this question is called an *annulment*. No arrangements may be made for a second marriage unless and until a Decree of Nullity is obtained. The parish priests can provide more information on the annulment process.

Catholics have an obligation to marry according to the liturgical ceremonies that the Church prescribes. In certain circumstances exceptions may be made to this rule, but generally Catholics who marry before a civil magistrate or a minister of another religion without first obtaining permission from the Catholic Church are not validly married. In most cases the marriage can be “blessed” through a process called *convalidation*, which simply involves celebrating the marriage according to the required ceremonies. Contact any parish priest for more information about convalidation.

## **Liturgical Ministries**

### **Altar Servers**

The ministry of altar server is open to boys and girls of the parish who are in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. These students assist the priest at Sunday and daily Mass, funerals, weddings and other parish liturgies and devotions is provided each Fall. Contact one of the priests for more information.

### **Lectors**

Lectors participate in the celebration of Mass by proclaiming the readings from scripture, as well as leading the community in the prayer of the faithful. Initial training and ongoing formation are provided to help the lector develop the necessary skills and become comfortable with reading in front of the assembled community. For more information or to become a lector, contact one of the priests at the rectory.

### **Minister of the Word for Children**

Adults lead the Liturgy of the Word for Children (see page 11) by proclaiming the readings from the Lectionary for Masses with Children, and leading the young people in a reflection and activities based on the readings. Leaders are scheduled once a month on a rotating basis, and are given some training to help them become comfortable in this ministry. Contact the Director of Faith Formation at (215) 745-5568 for more information.

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Extraordinary Ministers assist the priests and deacons in the distribution of Holy Communion during Mass, and take communion on Sunday mornings to parishioners who are confined to their homes. Contact the rectory to participate in this ministry.

### **Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)**

Ushers greet and welcome all who enter our church for worship. They also assist at the Offertory of the Mass by receiving the offerings of the faithful and at Holy Communion by directing the communicants to the communion stations. Call the rectory to volunteer.

### **Music Ministries**

Saint Augustine is credited with the saying, “The one who sings, prays twice.” Music is an essential part of our community liturgical celebrations, helping all who gather to praise and

worship God with body and soul. There are many opportunities for people with musical talent—whether vocal or instrumental—to take part in this important ministry:

- **Cantors** guide the community in song during the liturgy, both by leading the hymns and by proclaiming the psalms and acclamations.
- The **Choir** supports the assembly in the hymns, and also offers choral pieces at various points in the liturgy. The choir rehearses weekly, and takes part in both Sunday Mass and other parish celebrations.
- The **Children’s Choir** is open to all young parishioners in grades 3 through 8. They sing at the 11:00 am Mass on a monthly basis, and participate in special parish celebrations.
- The **Handbell Choir** adds to the beauty of choral and congregational singing with the unique sound of these beautiful instruments.
- **Organists** and other **instrumentalists** add another dimension to the music which forms the backbone of our community worship. Instrumental music is used both to support the singing and, when appropriate, to promote an atmosphere of prayerful reflection.

All of these ministries are coordinated by the parish Director of Music. Training and support are provided. Contact the Director of Music at (215) 745-3211 for more information.

### **Altar Guild**

Members of the Altar Guild keep the church clean, and assist in the decoration of the altar and sanctuary for liturgical celebrations. Members are scheduled for Monday mornings on a rotating basis, with special arrangements made in preparation for holy days and other parish events. Contact one of the priests to volunteer for this ministry.

## **Prayer Groups**

### **Charismatic Prayer Group**

This group is committed to the deepening of one’s prayer life through scripture reading and bearing witness to the power of the Holy Spirit with praise and thanksgiving. Weekly meetings (Tuesdays at 7:00 in the lower church) follow a format of hymn singing, teaching, witnessing and faith-sharing, and intercessory prayer. Pilgrimages are organized at various times to area shrines. For more information about the Charismatic Prayer Group, contact the rectory to get in touch with the coordinator.

### **Divine Mercy Devotions**

Members of this group are devoted to prayer in the spirit of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who experienced visions of Our Lord, who asked her to spread devotion to His Divine Mercy. Wednesday evening devotions include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, which Our Lord entrusted to Saint Faustina. All are welcome to attend. For more information call the rectory.

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

All are welcome to visit the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel located at the wheelchair-ramp entrance (open Mon –Fri from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm), and during Exposition in the upper church on Wednesdays mornings in the lower Church beginning at 7:30 pm and concluding with Benediction prior to the start of daily mass.

### **Requests for Prayers**

A list of the sick who have asked for prayers is printed weekly in the bulletin. In addition, names of the sick and of the recently departed are included in the Prayer of the Faithful on Sundays. To have your name or a loved one's included in the list, contact the rectory.

## **Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic School**

**2020 Shelmire Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19152 · (215) 742-1127**

*“In our efforts to educate the whole child, we provide a balance of spiritual, intellectual, social, physical and emotional experiences. We attempt to nurture in our students a positive self-image and a spirit of inquiry and discovery that will inspire them to attain mastery of curriculum commensurate with their abilities.”*

(Mission Statement)

Founded in 1929, Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic School exists to teach and to develop young Christians. Our school offers a learning environment in which the educational process is centered upon Christian values and in which parents, faculty and students work together in a Christ-centered community.

Resurrection of Our Lord School welcomes students from Kindergarten through Grade 8. In addition to academic subjects, our school provides formation for our students who are completing their Christian Initiation through the reception of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. Daily prayer in the classroom, seasonal prayer services and monthly celebration of Mass are all important parts of our school program.

Please contact the school office for more information about:

- school tuition and fees
- admission policies and procedures
- volunteer opportunities for parents
- the after-school program

The school office is open on weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students of our school. Similar policies apply to the school staff. Resurrection School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the admission of its educational policies, its admission policies, or in any school-administered program.*

## **Faith Formation**

*“Solicitude for catechesis belongs to all members of the Church according to each one’s role. Parents above others are obliged to form their children by word and example in faith and in the practice of Christian life . . .”* (Code of Canon Law, 774)

The mission of the Office for Parish Faith Formation is to assist parents in providing sound catechesis to form their children in the Catholic faith. This is accomplished by providing a variety of resources and programs that will enable young parishioners to cultivate a deep appreciation and understanding of what it means to be a Catholic Christian in today’s changing world.

Parish Faith Formation programs are under the direction of the Director of Faith Formation. For more information on any of these programs, or to volunteer your time and talent as a catechist, contact the Director at (215) 745-5568.

### **Faith Formation Program (CCD)**

The parish Faith Formation Program (also known as *CCD*) provides religious instruction and spiritual experiences for school-age children who attend public or non-Catholic private schools. Classes are geared to correspond to the child’s grade in school, and include preparation for the sacraments of First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation. Special classes are provided for school-age children who have not yet been baptized.

The CCD program attempts to provide children with ample opportunities to live and practice their faith through experiences of catechesis, service, worship and fellowship. Parents are strongly encouraged to take an active role in supporting and reinforcing their child’s participation in the CCD program.

CCD sessions meet on Tuesday evenings from September to May, from 6:15 to 7:30 pm in the School. For more information or to register, call the Director at (215) 745-5568.

### **Liturgy of the Word for Children**

Children from 4 to 10 years old are invited to take part in a special Liturgy of the Word during certain Sunday liturgies. The celebrant calls them forth after the Opening Prayer, and volunteer adult leaders take the children to the lower church. There, the Sunday readings are proclaimed from the *Lectionary for Masses with Children*, a special translation prepared to be more understandable for young people. Special songs and activities are used to help the children get involved in the story of that week’s readings. After the Profession of Faith and prayers of Intercession, the children return to the upper church during the Preparation of the Gifts to celebrate the Eucharist with their families.

Liturgy of the Word for Children is celebrated throughout the year at both the 4:30 pm Vigil Mass and the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday. Special arrangements are made for the summer months and holidays, and are printed in the bulletin and online. There is no cost for participating in this program, and no registration is required. All those children ages 4 to 10 attending these Masses are welcome to participate.

Volunteers are always welcome—both adult leaders and teenagers are needed for this program. To get involved, call the Director of Faith Formation.

### **Scripture Study**

*“In Sacred Scripture, the Church constantly finds her nourishment and her strength, for she welcomes it not as a human word, `but as what it really is, the word of God’ (1 Thes 2, 13). In the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven comes lovingly to meet his children, and talks with them.”* (Catechism, 104.)

Several opportunities are available throughout the year to help adult parishioners come to a deeper understanding of the riches of God’s Word:

**“Breaking Open the Sunday Scriptures”**

Facilitated discussions each Friday morning, September through June, following the 8:30 a.m. Mass, in the Saint John Neumann Room (adjacent to the lower church). Participants share their reflections on the readings assigned for the following Sunday. No registration is required.

**Adult Faith Formation**

Presentations or series are given from time to time on various theological topics that may be timely or of special interest to parishioners, and are announced in the bulletin. To suggest topics for Faith Formation programs, contact the Director of Faith Formation for current offerings.

**Faith Formation Ministries**

**CCD Catechist**

**Responsibilities:** This position requires an adult to prepare and teach weekly lessons to a class of 12-15 participants enabling them to cultivate their Catholic Christian Faith and deepen their relationship with God. Full materials and training are provided.

**Qualifications:** This person must be living in accord with the Catholic faith and be open and willing to share it with others. He or she should have an ability to communicate with and manage a group of children. Classroom management and other teaching skills can be acquired through training and consultation sessions.

**Commitment:** Tuesday evenings from 6 PM to 7:30 PM, September through May with an additional one to two hours of lesson preparation at home each week. Catechists are required to take at least one ten-hour certification course each year. Course offerings are made available through the year. The cost of which is covered by the parish.

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**CCD Catechist Aide**

**Responsibilities:** This position is a training position for anyone considering the position of catechist. Catechists Aides work closely with the catechist in implementing the weekly lesson plan and may after a time be invited to prepare and lead a weekly lesson.

**Qualifications:** This person should have the ability to establish a good rapport with program participants. Organizational, clerical and creative skills are an asset. Orientation and training will be provided.

**Commitment:** Tuesday evenings from 6 PM to 7:30 PM, September through May.

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**CCD Classroom Assistant**

**Responsibilities:** The position requires the person to assist the catechists in meeting classroom needs. Responsibilities include taking roll, distributing handouts, collecting homework, assisting students with special needs, etc.

**Qualifications:** This person should have the ability to establish a good rapport with program participants.

**Commitment:** Tuesday evenings from 6 PM to 7:30 PM, September through May.

This is an excellent opportunity for high school teens seeking to fulfill volunteer service requirements for school!

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**CCD Clerical Assistant**

**Responsibilities:** This position requires a person to collect the absentee slips from each classroom, record the attendance for the entire program, to verify an absence or notify a parent about an ill child during class hours.

**Qualifications:** This person should have the ability to supervise the main reception area of the Program on Tuesday evenings, and possess basic organizational and clerical skills.

**Commitment:** One Tuesday evening every 4 weeks from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM from September through May.

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**CCD Door/Hall Monitor**

**Responsibilities:** This position requires a person to monitor the main entrance area of the building to insure safety and security and to inquire about the coming and going of program participants and others during class time.

**Qualifications:** This person should be alert and proactive. Must politely greet visitors and require them to request permission from the Director to visit the building.

**Commitment:** One Tuesday evening every 4 weeks from 6:15 PM to 7:30 PM from September through May.

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**Children's Liturgy of the Word - Catechist**

**Responsibilities:** To proclaim the Sunday readings to the children ages 4 to 10 and lead them in prayer and reflection. Materials are provided to assist in the preparation of the reflection and prayer, and new ministers are teamed up with an experienced minister until they are comfortable leading the Liturgy solo.

**Qualifications:** Person must be living in accord with the Catholic faith and be open and willing to share it with others. He or she should have an ability to communicate with and manage a group of children ages 4 to 10. All presentation materials are provided by the program director along with orientation, training and ongoing support

**Commitment:** One Saturday (4:30 PM) or Sunday (11:00 AM) Mass every 4 weeks for at least a year.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word - Catechist Aide**

**Responsibilities:** To assist with the supervision of the children ages 4 to 10 as they go to the lower church for the Children's Liturgy of the Word, while they are at the Liturgy, and as they return to the upper church following the conclusion of the Liturgy. Catechist Aides serve to help maintain a prayerful attitude among the children during the celebration of the Liturgy.

**Qualifications:** This person should have the ability to establish a good rapport with children of all ages. Must be willing to supervise children in order to maintain a prayerful attitude and respect among participants. Orientation and training will be provided.

**Commitment:** One Saturday (4:30 PM) or Sunday (11:00 AM) Mass every 4 weeks for at least a year.

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**RCIA Catechist**

**Responsibilities:** Catechists work with those individuals who are preparing to be received into the Catholic Church. RCIA Catechists will have an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of sacred scripture through discussion of the Sunday scripture readings, give witness to their own faith journey through faith sharing opportunities and discussion, and/or have an opportunity to assist with the presentation of various topics on Catholic faith and spirituality.

**Qualifications:** Interested persons must be fully initiated and living in accord with the Catholic faith. They should also be comfortable discussing and sharing their Catholic faith with others. An ability to work with and lead small groups is also helpful, but not required.

**Commitment:** At least one year with opportunities for involvement ranging from weekly to monthly participation. Sessions are held Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 PM. Full training and support are provided.

**RCIA Catechists for children**

These RCIA adapted for children follows a similar process as that for adults, but is adapted to better meet the needs of children of various ages who are seeking baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. Sessions are held on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., mid-September through May.

For information on any of these ministries call the Director of Faith Formation.

## **Pastoral Outreach**

**Ministry to the Elderly and Homebound**

Many parishioners are not able to join with the parish community at church because illness or injury keep them confined to their homes. Others are separated from us on a short- or long-term basis when they are admitted to hospitals, nursing homes or assisted-living facilities. Resurrection Parish is committed to keeping in touch with these parishioners, and offering support and encouragement to them as they deal with illness and pain.

Outreach to the elderly and homebound takes several forms. Parish priests visit shut-ins to bring them Holy Communion and to make Anointing and Reconciliation available to them once a month. Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion visit many of them on a weekly basis

(usually Sunday morning) to bring the Blessed Sacrament, and to remind them of how much the parish community supports them and relies on their prayers. In addition, several members of our parish pastoral staff visit the elderly in their homes and in area nursing homes on a regular basis to offer both prayerful encouragement and other assistance.

Homebound parishioners and their loved ones may arrange for these pastoral visits by contacting the rectory.

### **Hospital Ministry**

Resurrection of Our Lord pastoral staff minister regularly to parishioners who are hospitalized because of surgery, illness or injury. However, recent state and federal laws place restrictions on the way that patient information may be given out to people other than a hospital's medical staff. Patients or their family members should contact the rectory themselves to arrange for a hospital visit.

Resurrection priests join those of other area parishes in providing pastoral care to Jeannes Hospital and Fox Chase Cancer Center. A Catholic priest is always on-call to answer emergency requests for the sacraments from patients in these hospitals. In addition, Sr. Phyllis DiRenzo, IHM, visits patients daily with Holy Communion, and informs the visiting priest when a patient requests a pastoral visit or reception of the sacraments.

### **Bereavement Ministry**

The Bereavement Team comprises several caring volunteers who make contact with those who have recently lost a loved one to death. They offer assistance with planning the funeral liturgy, and try to share the care and concern of the entire parish community.

When a loved one has died, arrangements for a Funeral Mass or liturgy are usually made through the family's funeral director. A member of the Bereavement Team then contacts the family to offer assistance in selecting from the many options available for scriptural readings and music, to make the funeral liturgy as personal and meaningful as possible. The parish priest who will celebrate the funeral also tries to meet with the family prior to the funeral.

The vigil for the deceased (also known as the *wake*) may be held either the evening before the funeral at the funeral home, or for a time in church before the celebration of the funeral Mass. Funeral Masses may be celebrated on any day except holy days of obligation, Sundays of Advent, Lent and Easter, and the Easter Triduum.

It is permitted for Catholic people to be cremated for a serious reason, provided that the cremated remains are interred in a cemetery or mausoleum. The funeral may take place before the cremation with the deceased person's body present, or after the cremation, with the cremated remains present in church.

We are always in need of volunteers to share in this important ministry. Contact the rectory for more information.

### **Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

Founded in 1833 by Blessed Frederic Ozanam, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is an organization of Catholic laypersons dedicated to offering personal service to those who are suffering or in need. The international society is organized in local conferences, which seek to work together with other parish members and organizations to provide services such as food cupboards, clothing drives and thrift stores. To become a member of the Resurrection of Our Lord parish conference, contact the rectory at (215) 745-3211.

### **Pro-Life Group**

This group takes an active role in praying and witnessing for an end to abortion and for respect for human life in all its stages. A parish coordinator coordinates parishioners' participation in events like the annual March for Life, held in Washington, DC, on the anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Call the rectory at (215) 745-3211 to get involved.

### **Aid for Friends**

This program provides homebound people with food, friendship and emergency aid and advocacy. The volunteers who assist in the food program prepare nutritious home-cooked dinners that include a diverse menu. Frozen meals are collected at the parish and distributed to the homebound who reheat them as needed.

Anyone may participate in this program by preparing dinners and bringing them to church to be collected. Kits consisting of aluminum trays, bags and menu cards are available in the lower church vestibule (rectory side), where the freezer is located. You may prepare a special meal, or simply cook an extra portion of whatever your family is sharing on a particular night. For more information call the rectory at (215) 745-3211.

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

The International Red Cross regularly organizes Blood Drives at various community, school and parish locations throughout the area. Resurrection of Our Lord hosts a Blood Drive twice a year, and all are encouraged to participate.

In addition to donors, volunteers are needed to make telephone calls, staff the site on the day of the drive, and provide assistance with babysitting and refreshments. Contact the rectory for more information.

## **Youth Ministry**

### **Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)**

Resurrection of Our Lord is committed to providing opportunities for our young parishioners to grow in Christian discipleship through a variety of programs that involve them in areas of service, spiritual and social development, and athletic and personal growth. The CYO program has several components:

#### **High School CYO**

This group strives to keep teen-age parishioners connected to the parish, the community and one another through social gatherings and service projects throughout the year. Regular meetings are held following monthly Youth Masses—the 5:30 pm parish Mass on the third Sunday of the month—at which CYO members take part as lectors and music ministers.

### **Junior CYO**

Junior CYO provides opportunities for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders to take a more active role in service to the parish community. At the monthly Youth Mass, Jr. CYO members serve as greeters, ushers and gift-bearers. Following this Mass, monthly meetings keep them aware of service projects and other programs. Jr. CYO also sponsors dances and other social events throughout the year.

### **CYO Sports**

Various inter-parochial athletic programs are organized throughout the year through the CYO Sports organization. Coaches are accredited through the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Young Adults, which oversees games and meets within Regions. Costs for participating vary with the equipment and procedures involved for each sport. Registrations are announced in the parish bulletin; children must meet certain eligibility requirements to participate. Volunteer coaches are always welcome.

Contact the rectory at (215) 745-3211 to get in touch with the CYO coordinators.

### **Boy Scouts of America**

Troop 394 (Cradle of Liberty Council) of the Boy Scouts of America was founded at Resurrection of Our Lord in 1942. Scouts, who are between 11 and 18 years of age, meet weekly during the school year. Various programs are organized at the parish and regional level to keep boys involved in scouting activities as well as service to the parish and community. Parishioners are welcome to join both as scouts and as troop leaders and assistants. Contact the rectory for more information.

In addition to regular scouting activities, members of Troop 394 also work to achieve various religious awards, including the *Ad Altare Dei* medal and the Pope Pius XII award. We are pleased to have a number of scout leaders who are certified catechists for leading these religious programs.

### **Cub Scouts**

The Cub Scout program provides an introduction to scouting for younger boys, between 6 and 11 years of age. In addition to perennial favorites like the Pinewood Derby, cub scouts may earn two religious awards: the Light of Christ award and the *Parvuli Dei* (“Children of God”) medal. Contact the rectory to get involved with Cub Scouts.

### **Girl Scouts**

Roots of Girl Scouting at Resurrection go back to 1954. Presently, the Girl Scout program provides many opportunities for girls from pre-school through high school age to get involved in various spiritual, service and social activities. Annual events include the Girl Scout birthday celebration and the Cookie Drive. Girls also earn several religious awards during their years in the troop. Contact the rectory to get involved with Girl Scouts.

All of our Scouts make a commitment to spiritual activities. Notably, many of the Scouts and their leaders are regular attendees of our 8:30 am Mass on the first Saturday of the month.

## **Social and Fraternal Organizations**

### **Resurrection Seniors (“Recs”)**

Parishioners aged 50 years and older gather in the School Hall on Mondays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (September through June). The goals of the Seniors’ group are social, spiritual, charitable and civic. Activities include: luncheons, casino trips, occasional bus tours and trips, collecting labels for the school, and general fellowship and good fun. In addition, members are committed to attending funeral Masses for fellow members and spouses, and participate in an annual Memorial Mass in November for deceased members. To participate, contact the rectory for more information.

### **Ladies of Resurrection Association (LORA)**

LORA is a social group for women of all ages. Monthly meetings encourage fun and friendship through entertainment activities, speakers, games, dancing and singing, and occasional trips. Refreshments are served and all are welcome. Contact the rectory for more information.

### **Knights of Columbus**

Men of Resurrection Parish are welcome to join the Father Thomas Ryan Council (5036) of the Knights of Columbus, an international fraternal organization founded in 1882 by Father Michael McGivney. In addition to time for socializing and fellowship, the Knights make a commitment to supporting the church both locally and internationally. Some activities include: participation in the annual March for Life; financial and prayerful support of seminarians; volunteer service to local parishes; annual Columbus Day Dinner; Memorial Mass each November for deceased members. The Council Home is located 9090 Old Bustleton Avenue; regular meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month. For more information call the Grand Knight, Frank Domzalski, at (215) 464-1023.

## **Parish Leadership**

## and Support

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

The parish pastoral council is a consultative body which advises and assists the pastor in areas of pastoral concern. It is also involved in developing and implementing a parish pastoral plan, and participates in ongoing pastoral planning at the level of the parish and the cluster. It includes members of the parish pastoral staff, as well as lay parishioners. The members strive to reach consensus on important issues and make recommendations to the pastor, who is the Chair of the pastoral council.

### **Parish Finance Council**

This group of parishioners, appointed by the pastor, assist him in the administration of the temporal goods and financial concerns of the parish. The pastor is the Chair of the committee,

### **Resurrection of Our Lord Parish Memorial Fund**

The parish Memorial Fund receives donations in honor of living and deceased loved ones, which are used to purchase and care for vestments, sacred vessels, and other items needed for worship. A Mass card and certificate of enrollment in the Memorial Fund is available for a donation of \$25.00. The name of the deceased is inscribed in a book placed on Saint Joseph's altar in the upper church. Mass is offered monthly for the members of the Memorial Fund.