

## St. Elizabeth Roman Catholic Parish

Parish Established 1908 • Church Dedicated 1947



The Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 31, 2023

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday 12:15 pm Tuesday 7:15 am

Wed 7:15 am

Friday 12:15 pm

Saturday 8:15 am

Sunday

Sat. Vigil

4:00 pm

Monday & Friday *12:45-1:45 pm* 

Holy Hour

7:30 am

Confessions

10:00 am Saturday 8:45 am

4th Sunday of the month Filipino Mass at 4:00 PM

Sunday Mass will be live streamed at 10 AM on Facebook and posted on the website.

#### PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours—Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm

809 S. Broom Street (302) 652-3626 Wilmington, DE 19805-4244 Fax (302) 656-7513

Vy. Rev. Roger F. DiBuo, V.F., STL, Pastor rdibuo@steparish.org

**Deacon Ken Pulliam**, Permanent Deacon kenneth.pulliam@comcast.net

**Deacon Walter (Jay) Ferris,** Permanent Deacon wally157@msn.com

**Lisa Borgia**, *Parish Pastoral Assistant*lborgia@steparish.org

lborgia@steparish.org (302) 652-3626

Parish & School Staff(302) 656-3369Susan Testerman, Secretary & Bookkeeperx3044Paul Papili, Maintenancex3059Teresa Campbell, Business Managerx3098

www.steparish.org

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 31, 2023

#### Notes from Fr. Roger Mensajes de Padre Roger



The Catholic Church in the City of Wilmington
Cathedral of St. Peter I St. Ann I St. Anthony of Padua I St. Elizabeth
St. Hedwig I St. Joseph I St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
St. Patrick I St. Paul I St. Thomas the Apostle

## **Strategic Priorities**

for St. Elizabeth School

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY #3

St Elizabeth School will continue to **build upon its culturally rich diverse and inclusive** community further **fostering students spiritual development** aligned to the charism of St. Benedict.

## Fostering students spiritual development

- Fortify the current breadth of cultural activities, and decision making processes to include alumni mentors, local community groups, parents, and parishioners
- Strengthen collaboration between the High School and Elementary School to maximize talent, process efficiencies, and operational effectiveness
- Promote a comprehensive recruiting, retention, and talent development plan to attract "best in class" teachers and administrators
- Expand the diversity of full-time and part-time faculty and administrators and ensure an inclusive, hospitable community for all

#### Mass Intentions 12/30-1/7

Sat	4:00 pm	Arlene Whittington People of the Parish
Sun	7:30 am	Bill & Josephine Lukowski
	10:00 am	Daniel Fucella John Barbuscak, Jr.
Mon	8:15 am	People of the Parish
	12:15 pm	Raymond Falgowski
Tues	7:15 am	Gayle Czajkowski
Wed	7:15 am	Jane Seward
Fri	12:15 pm	Kathy Kihm
Sat	8:15 am	Thomas Rees
	4:00 pm	Kathleen Alfree
Sun	7:30 am	Joann Carello
	10:00 am	Joseph Norvell

Mass cards are available in the Parish Office—\$10 Offering Please call or visit the parish office to inquire about dates.

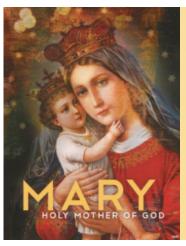
Masses can be said for birthday's, anniversaries, special intentions, etc.

#### STEWARDSHIP + OFFERTORY

December 17	\$4,086.00
Online	\$3,539.50
Total	\$7,625.50

Due to an early publication deadline, offertory information for **December 24** will be available in the next bulletin.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



#### Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

*Holy Day* 

Monday, January 1, 2024

<u>Mass</u> 8:15 AM 12:15 PM

## Commemorative Candles for the week of December 31

#### In memory Vicki A. Millis

Commemorative Candles - \$10 Offering - card available to send -

## Pray for...



We believe in the power of prayer. Please notify the office of changes in yours or a loved one's health so that we might properly focus our prayers.

Doris Wilds Jack McDermott, III Herman McDermott Kathleen Matarese Darlene Bargelski Joseph Korup Maryann Berry Tab Smith Debbie Buchler Harry Bargelski, Jr. Jolynn Maniscalc James Creedon Jack McDermott, I Claudette Bargelski Kathy McDermott Lorraine Talmo Madison McDermott

#### **SACRAMENTS**



The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be offered on Saturday mornings after the 8:15 AM mass.

The **Anointing of the Sick** may be requested after mass if you are preparing for surgery. "Last Rites" can always be requested at home or at the hospital. It is best to do so when the person is still able to participate in the prayer.

**Funerals** - Funeral directors will contact the church and make arrangements for you.

**Weddings** - Call for scheduling and PreCana. Couples should contact the parish at least 1 year in advance.

**Baptisms** - Baptisms will be celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11:15 AM. Please attend the 10:00 AM mass. Families should register in the parish. Discuss dates with Lisa in the parish office when you are ready. Participation in one preparation session is required. This can be done before the birth of your child.

#### St. Elizabeth Devotion



Our St. Elizabeth Devotion is a time to gather in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, to encounter the Word, Benediction, and the St. Elizabeth Prayer, Litany and Hymn. We celebrate this devotion to honor our patroness, to learn from her story and to strengthen us to be a community that stands up for life as Elizabeth did.

#### Please join us Monday, January 1 at 6:00 PM

There is a Blessing of the Child in the Womb at the conclusion. If you have received the good news that you are pregnant, come for the blessing.

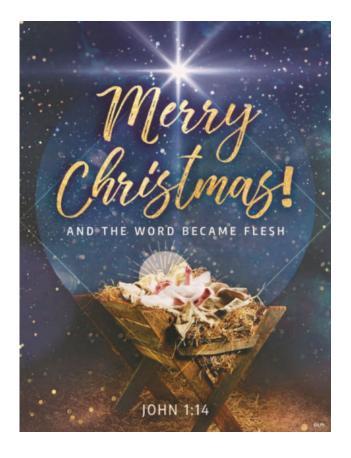
#### LEGION OF MARY CHAPTER

#### (Praesidium)

We would like to extend an open invitation to all the men and women of our parish to our weekly Meetings Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the Church's Altar Server Sacristy. If you are interested, please contact Deacon Ken at the parish office: 302-652-3626. We look forward to praying with you.

#### 1,000 Hail Marys Devotion

Please join us on Saturday, 1/27 to pray the Devotion of the Thousand Hail Marys, starting at 9:00 am (after the 8:15 mass). This devotion takes about 5 hours, however you do not need to be able to stay the entire time. Light refreshments are provided. Consider praying with us for all your personal intentions.



#### LITURGY

#### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Marion Jacob Director mjacob@steparish.org

Jean Scalessa Funeral Coordinator jeanscalessa@gmail.com



Are you in 4th grade or above and interested in being an altar server at Sunday Mass? If you are, let Fr. Roger know and we can set up a training session and begin as a crossbearer to observe.

#### Parish Choir

The Parish Choir is just kicking off their 2023-2024 season, and welcomes new members!

The choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm for rehearsal and sings at the 10 AM or 4 PM mass, with a call time one hour beforehand.

For more information, please reach out to our music director, Marion Jacob at mjacob@steparish.org or to Fr. Roger at rdibuo@steparish.org

#### **OUTREACH**

Outreach is aware that one of the biggest problems facing some members of our community is food insecurity. If you or someone you know is having trouble feeding their family please call 302-652-3626 and leave us a message by selecting the Outreach option. Please leave your name, phone number and best time to reach you.

#### **FAMILY PROMISE**

Would you like to prepare and share dinner with families currently at Jesus House with Family Promise? For more information about this ministry please reach out to the parish office.

#### **CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

(302) 652-3626

Religious Ed. classes (Grades 1-8) Sundays from 9:00-9:50 & 10:00 AM mass

Barbara Maddams, Coordinator Ed Graney, Confirmation Prep

#### WORD OF LIFE

"Dearest St Joseph... Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life (www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph)

#### VOCATION REFLECTION

"I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." If you feel God is offering you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life as a sister, brother, or consecrated virgin, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office, contact Fr. Carroll: 302-573-3113, www.cdow.org/vocations, or vocations@cdow.org. Check out the Facebook page "Vocations Diocese of Wilmington"

#### PADRE SERRA SAYS...

To High School Senior Men:
You face two challenges: what to do and who to be.
You must choose a college, a career, and a lifestyle. But
more importantly, you must choose how you will make a
contribution to the people of this world. How will you answer
that question?

The obvious answer is to be the very best person you can be. If you want to be a mechanic, be the best mechanic. If you choose law, be a lawyer of the highest integrity. If you enter the business world, then be above reproach.

Whatever you do, explore the possibilities.

Consider the priesthood as one of those possibilities. Many young men have thought about becoming priests, but they have not shared that thought with others. If you think about or are interested in priesthood, get in touch with your parish priest.

Your senior year will fill you with excitement as you look to the future and discover a way to do God's will and God's work in the world.

Serra for priestly and religious vocations

## GOOD NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Listen to Catholic Forum each week. Next Saturday, January 6th, tune-in for an interview with Jennifer Traeger and learn about the work of Catholic Charities Seton Center in Princess Anne, Maryland. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum, or by searching "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts. You can see videos of select interviews at YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm. For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at facebook.com/ CatholicForum @CatholicForum.

A new video, produced by the Diocese of Wilmington, presents a montage of photographs of Nativity crèches from the Catholic churches of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. The video, which also includes beautiful instrumental Christmas hymns as a background, is on the Diocese of Wilmington's YouTube channel. Families are invited to watch the 12 ½ minute video together, discuss which scene they like best and why, maybe try to be the first to identify the scene from your parish. Also, the video could be played in the background of Christmas gatherings so everyone can enjoy the holy music and images.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS
WILL BE LISTED
IN THE BULLETIN
ON JANUARY 7.
SORRY FOR THE
DELAY!

## FAITH AND CHARITY CATHOLIC APPEAL

As we approach the end of the year, we invite you to participate in our Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal-themed "Shining the Light of Christ." Your generous end-of-year giving supports our Church's vital work in spreading Christ's love and compassion. Together, let's illuminate the path for those in need and make a lasting impact on our community. Your contribution, no matter the size, helps us continue to shine the light of Christ brightly. Thank you for your continued support and blessings as we journey into the new year with hope and compassion. To donate, visit www.cdow.org. To date, our parish has raised \$54,152 and Collected \$47,050 of our \$52,000 goal. Please help to ensure that our parish collects the goal. Once we collect our goal amount, our parish is eligible for a rebate.

#### MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday beginning between 10:30/11:00. It usually takes volunteers between 1 1/2 and 2 hours to deliver, depending on the number of stops on the route. If you are interested: mealsonwheels@cityfare.org, 302.293.0008, 302.421.3731.

For Young Adults (18 to 35 years old) January 30 at 7:00 p.m.

# EUCHARISTIC ADORATION WITH PRAISE & WORSHIP HYMNS AND SILENT TIME

Every last Tuesday of the month.

Little Sisters of the Poor

185 Salem Church Road, Newark, DE 19713

Questions or to verify future monthly dates, contact us

Sr. Janet Mary

302-368-5886 or vocnewark@littlesistersofthepoor.org

www.littlesistersofthepoordelaware.org/news-events/



# BECOMING WOMEN OF THE WORD: HOW TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL WITH PURPOSE AND JOY One-Day Retreat for Women January 27, 2124 Featuring Sarah Christmyer

About Sarah

Sarah Christmyer is a Catholic author, Bible teacher, and speaker with a special love for lectio divina and journaling as ways to draw close to Christ in Scripture. She is the co-developer and founding editor of The Great Adventure Catholic Bible study program and author or co-author of more than a dozen books and Bible studies. Her latest book is Becoming Women of the Word: How to Answer God's Call with Purpose and Joy (Ave Maria Press). Sarah serves as an adjunct faculty member at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia and as a board member of the Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA. She blogs at ComeIntoTheWord.com.

WHEN: Saturday, January 27, 2023 9:00 am-3:00 pm (optional Mass at 8:30 am)

WHERE: St. Mary of the Assumption Church 7200 Lancaster Pike

Hockessin, Delaware 19707

St. Mary's Room

COST: \$35

which includes all retreat materials, continental breakfast and boxed lunch Register online at: smachurch.com/retreat

Since registrants will be choosing from a lunch menu during the online registration process, we are discouraging mail-in registrations. If you are unable to complete the online process and must register through mail in, please call the parish office at 302-239-7100.

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, wedding anniversary, or any anniversary beyond 50th, to the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass being held on World Marriage Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 1:00PM at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Reservations are required by February 2, 2024.

Bishop Koenig will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00 pm or plan to stay after Mass. Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing OMFL@cdow.org. Registration can be completed by using the following link –https://cdowcym.wufoo.com/forms/k1uxe9k20m649mn/

## RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties, or crises. The next program will be held February 16 - 18, 2024 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



#### <u>Background on the Gospel Reading</u>

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. This celebration is assigned to the Sunday within the octave of Christmas. The Gospel for today is taken from the Gospel according to Luke and is part of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Today's Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as

devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

According to the Law of Moses as presented in the Book of Leviticus, a woman was considered ritually unclean during her menstrual period and for a prescribed period of time following the birth of a child. After the birth of a son, a woman was considered ritually unclean for 40 days. After the birth of a daughter, a woman was considered unclean for 80 days. In order to be restored to ritual purity, a Jewish woman performed the appropriate rites of purification and made the prescribed ritual

Today's Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this tradition, Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's hope for redemption. In Simeon's words we find a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross. The Canticle of Simeon, also called by its Latin name, Nunc Dimitis, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.

#### Family Connection

offering.

Today's celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family highlights the Importance of family in our religious life. We know that Mary and Joseph's faithfulness to God enabled them to cooperate in God's plan for our salvation by accepting the responsibility to raise God's Son, Jesus. From his parents, Jesus learned how to be a faithful believer in his Jewish tradition. Simeon's prophecy about Mary's sorrow alerts us to the importance of a family's commitment to one another, a commitment that is expressed in both good times and bad.

Gather as a family and recall times when your family showed its commitment to one another in good times and in bad. Recall times when your immediate family was supported by members of your extended family. Note that today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, and we see in the family of Jesus an example for our own family life. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 2:22-40. Joseph and Mary expressed their faithfulness to God through their observance of the Law of Moses. Simeon prophesied the grief that Mary would experience at the foot of Jesus' cross. One of the blessings of family life is our commitment to one another, sharing good times and supporting one another through difficult times. Conclude in prayer together thanking God for the grace expressed in your family's commitment to another. Write a prayer together, thanking God for your family life and asking God to strengthen your family's commitment to one another. Pray this prayer together.

#### This Sunday's Readings

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-7,12-14

Honor to one's parents will be rewarded.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 105:1-6,8-9

A prayer of thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness to his covenant.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Do all things in the name of Jesus and give thanks to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the Temple in accordance with the Law of Moses.



#### St. Elizabeth School News

## BENEDICTINE SPIRIT VIKING PRIDE

We have been keeping some special gifts under the tree this Christmas season - high school acceptance boxes! Viktor, with a group of high school student ambassadors, congratulated our current 8th graders with their official Class of 2028 acceptance boxes! Some special memories were made for our students who have older siblings in the high school, sharing in the Viking tradition. Congratulations, Vikings! We look forward to having you continue your high school journey with us on the 2nd floor.

Since 1908, St. E has been working to educate, engage, and empower all learners who walk through our doors by living our mission of spiritual development, academic excellence, responsibility to self, and service to others. Our community, consisting of over 400 current students and thousands of alumni, embody our Catholic faith, Benedictine spirit, and Viking pride.

1500 Cedar Street Wilmington, Delaware 19805 (302) 656-3369

www.steschools.org

Fr. Roger DiBuo, Pastor rdibuo@viking.pvt.k12.de.us

Mr. Joseph Papili, President jpapili@viking.pvt.k12.de.us

Early Childhood Program & Elementary
Pre K 3–8

Shaquona Meyers, Principal smeyers@viking.pvt.k12.de.us

St Elizabeth High School 9th-12th grade Mr. Patrick Jordan Principal pjordan@viking.pvt.k12.de.us

Mrs. Caitlin Finkley, Marketing/Communication cfinkley@viking.pvt.k12.de.us

Mrs. Christine Nottingham, Admissions Director cnottingham@viking.pvt.k12.de.us



EDUCATE TENGAGE TEMPOWER

We can't wait for you to start your Viking Voyage with us as a member of the VKNation! Tour our campus and meet our faculty and staff at one of our open house events.

Register today at https://www.steschools.org/admissions

#### **OPEN HOUSE DATES:**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH 11:00AM - 1:00PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30TH 5:00PM - 7:00PM



REGISTER AT WWW.STESCHOOLS.ORG/ADMISSIONS

Contact our Admissions Director Mrs. Christina Nottingham 302:656:3369 x 3039 or email contingham/bulking out kt2 de us





Healing Happens Here.

**Accepting New Patients** 2500 W. 4th 302.654.0404 Dr. William T. Cowan PARISHIONER



#### Dedicated to Integrity, Honesty, and Fairness

Family Owned & Operated Since 1912

703 North Broom Street ~ Wilmington, DE 19805 (302) 652-5913 2509 Limestone Road ~ Wilmington, DE 19808 (302) 654-3005

www.mealeyfuneralhomes.com

HIGHMARK. 🔮 🕅 **HEALTH OPTIONS** 

Get screened



mammogram 1-888-672-9647

GREATSTUFF Upscale Resale Shop.1/ Donate. Support

#### **ADT-Monitored Home Security**

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

 Flood Detection Burglary 833-287-3502 AD Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide



DOHERTY HOMES



#### Wilmington

1900 Delaware Avenue Wilmington, DE 19806

Tel: 302-652-6811

#### Pike Creek

3200 Limestone Road Wilmington, DE 19808

Tel: 302-999-8277

#### CREMATION SERVICES



#### PROTECTING WHAT MATTERS MOST.

Serving people & families with compassion, trusted advise, and fearless advocacy.



(800) 516-3964 | wblaws.com clientservices@wblaws.com

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY. Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com



#### SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Local business ads sponsor the printing of our bulletin. 4lpi.com/adcreator



Elder Care • 24-Hr Care Respite Services . Senior Transportation Companion Care . Dementia Care Personal Care . Shopping

Let our family care for yours.

Hiring Caregivers And Companions

302.442.4260

www.homewatchcaregivers.com



Mon - Fri 8-5 302-924-3118 www.roofers.org



AD CREATOR STUDIO





FREE AD DESIGN

with purchase of this space

800-477-4574

#### LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Erica Johnson** 

ejohnson@4LPi.com 216-258-6202

#### ADT-Monitored Home Security Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

 Flood Detection Fire Safety
 Carbon Monoxide 833-287-3502

#### WE'RE HIR

BRING YOUR PASSION. **WORK WITH PURPOSE** 



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

#### HOUSE CALL PET DOCTOR

Caroline M. Wieczorek, VMD 302-234-7848

**Convenient Home Veterinary Care** 

John F. Yasik Funeral Service (302) 652-5114

www.yasikfuneralhome.com
Now serving families through the facilities of **Doherty Funeral Homes** 1900 Delaware Avenue – Wilmington 3200 Limestone Road – Pike Creek

#### If You Live Alone You Need MDMedAlert!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY! ✓ Ambulance Solutions as Low as \$19.95 a month **✓**Police **✓**Fire Friends/Family FREE Shipping **FREE Activation** NO Long Term Contracts CALL NOW! 800.809.3352 GPS Tracking w/Fall Detection Nationwide, No Land Line Needed

MDMedA/ert

EASY Set-up, NO Contract
24/7 365 Monitoring in the USA

#### **SHORT STAFFED?**



## TOMASETTI LAW, LLC

General Practice ◆ Wills ◆ Estates ◆ Real Estate

14 W. MARKET STREET **NEWPORT** 

302-995-2840

www.tlawde.com