



We can have
hope
because God
is faithful
and will keep
the promises
He made to us.
Our hope
comes from God.

Romans 15:12-13

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**SAINT PHILIP NERI CHURCH
LAFAYETTE HILL, PENNSYLVANIA**

**SAINT PHILIP NERI
CHURCH**

NOVEMBER 27, 2011

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Second Collection: Debt Reduction

**Second Collection Next Weekend:
Christmas Decorations**

PLEASE PRAY for the sick so that they may be comforted by the concern and love of their families and the family of the Church: Peter Black, Mary Connery, Mary DiDonato, Hector DiGiacomo, Lillian Doherty, Marge Gallagher, Sharon Hofknecht, Rachel Horvath, Vincent Jacoby, Geraldine Jones, Catherine Kershaw, Lauretta Kolb, Pat Kost, George and Molly Lozinak, James Maggetti, Sue Male, Joan Marine, Barbara Martinick, Julia McLaughlin, Margaret McLaughlin, Jean McLenigan, Carmen and Helen Morelli, John Mullahy, Lisa O'Brien, Thomas Mortimore, IV, John Rees, Gloria Reilly, Baby Peter Sayegh, Tim Schwartz, Betty Smith, Gabriel Vereczkei, and for all those who are hoping and praying for organ transplants.

PLEASE PRAY for those who died and those we remember in the silence of our hearts.

BAPTISMAL INSTRUCTIONS are scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 7:30 PM in the Rectory Conference Room. Your baby is always welcome in Church, however, for the instruction itself, please try to schedule a babysitter so you may be free to concentrate. Also, please call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 for sign up purposes.

WE WELCOME James Xavier, son of James and Angela Clarke, Charlotte Catherine, daughter of Daniel and Rachel Ryan and John Joseph, son of Jonathan and Bridget Bushnell

into the Parish Community of Saint Philip Neri Church.

These babies were baptized last week.

Question of the Week

At this time, how faithful do you feel you are being to God's plan for you?

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ANNOUNCED MASSES

Monday

6:30 AM Donna Cannone
8:30 AM Holy Souls

Tuesday

6:30 AM Rose C. Rose
8:30 AM Mary L. Basile

Wednesday

6:30 AM Lorraine G. Sirianni
8:30 AM Kenneth Gallagher

Thursday

6:30 AM Joseph DeVita, Jr.
8:30 AM Joseph Luber

Friday

6:30 AM Thomas F. Keane, III
Frank and Concetta Lupinacci
and Family
8:30 AM Elinor Kollmer

Saturday

8:30 AM John, Paul and Michael Caviston



Giving Tree

During the holiday season it is more rewarding to give than to receive. Please pick a name off the giving tree located in the Lobby of the Church. Please return the wrapped gift with the tag attached as soon as possible or no later than December 13. This will give us time to sort and deliver the gifts to less fortunate children from Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament School located in Philadelphia and The Devereux Kanner Center in West Chester. Thank you for your continued support for this wonderful cause in bringing joy to a child.



ADVENT MASS and SOCIAL

Please join us for the advent Mass on **Wednesday, December 7**, at 7:00 PM in Church.

Please bring a wrapped gift, clearly labeled boy/girl or neutral with appropriate age group. After Mass please join us for a social in the School Cafeteria.

Any questions, please contact Jennifer Fioravanti, 215-901-4122.

Children's Liturgy of the Word
10:00 AM Sunday, Preschool Building
nlcwilliamson@comcast.net

CYO PHILLIES FUNDRAISER

Saint Philip Neri CYO is once again selling tickets for a chance at winning (2) full 2012 Phillies Season Tickets. Price is only \$10 per chance and chances may be obtained from any CYO Board Member. Any questions please contact Pete Black at Pblack3rd@aol.com.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

The high school youth group will be volunteering at Operation Santa Clause on Saturday, December 17. We will leave SPN at 9:30 AM and return for a pizza lunch at 12:30 PM. Let's try to make this year as successful as last year! Please RSVP to Mrs. McGroary at mbmcgroary@saintphilipnersischool.com
The youth group will have a meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 7:00-8:30 PM in the old gym.
Hope to see you there!

Saint Philip Neri Scrip Program Using SCRIP gift cards for your everyday purchases will stretch your budget and support St. Philip Neri Parish. Buy SCRIP gift cards after the weekend Masses, or during church office hours, or at www.shopwithscrip.com – SPN enrollment code 7D53E11E329L. \$100 per week of grocery store gift cards (for a year) will earn you \$125 in FREE tuition credits or FREE gift cards. SPN will also earn \$125 in FREE money – at no extra cost to you. **Giant A Plus School Rewards Program**. Thank you, 66 Giant Bonus Cards have been registered! There's still time for you to register! Simply e-mail your name and Giant Bonus Card number to spnscrip@gmail.com, OR jot down your name and Giant card number and drop it in the collection basket. Your Giant purchases will earn money for SPN School through March 2012. If you have questions, please contact Patti Hinchey or 215-836-2129.

SAINT PHILIP NERI School News

This past summer, St. Philip's administered an **online parent survey**. The results have been compiled and we are pleased to report that the satisfaction levels across the board indicate that there is much to celebrate at SPN. There was a high degree of satisfaction with our programs, school, facilities, and instruction. There were also many suggestions made regarding areas of improvement for our school. The candid responses were much appreciated as we actively address these areas and keep our school families abreast of the progress being made. We honored **saints and souls** this month as we began November with our annual Saint's Parade. The 8th grade partnered with their 2nd grade prayer partners and paraded into church to celebrate the lives of many saints. A wonderful job was done by all as the younger children dressed as their patron saint and told why we honor them. Our **fall book fair** was a great success. It was a huge support for reading. Enough profit was made to be used for our annual author's visit in March. Money was also raised for our library along with Scholastic giving up to 80 books to children's literacy programs. Thank you to everyone who supported this very important event. In keeping with our Wellness objectives, SPN celebrated **National Apple Crunch Day**. We did our part in promoting healthy nutrition by inviting students to taste fresh apples and sip apple cider while hoping to encourage healthier eating habits and attitudes related to good health. This was a great kick-off to achieving our goals related to wellness throughout the rest of our school year. Sixteen fourth graders were installed as **peer mediators** this month during one of our weekly liturgies. The liturgy focused on peace, representing the program's philosophy of showing everyone dignity, respect, honor, and importance. After a day and a half of training with

counselors from the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, our peer mediators gained an understanding of conflict being a normal part of living and mediation being a respectful way of resolving that conflict. These students are helping to make our school a better place by creating positive ways to resolve conflict. Congratulations and thank you to all of our peer mediators! **Una Bella Sera** was had by all on Saturday, November 13th. St. Philip's Home and School Association hosted a live and silent auction where over 200 people attended. Parents, faculty, administration, and community members enjoyed delicious food, good friends, and spending a little money! Whether it was a pew and parking space for the children's Christmas Eve mass or a dinner prepared by faculty, there was so much to go around. Through unending efforts by those in charge, it was a huge success! St. Philip's hosted their first of two **open houses** this month. There were numerous people who came to visit our school. Whether it was during the morning or the evening open house hours, there were many visitors walking the halls, enjoying a tour given by our generous parent volunteers and enrollment committee. We have so much to be proud of at St. Philip's and given the opportunity, like hosting an open house, we are able to spread the good news of the value of a Catholic education.

BJ's Membership Drive is BACK!!!!

It is \$40 for membership, instead of \$50, 15 months instead of 12, plus free household membership card. St. Philip's will get \$5 for every new or renewed membership. Any questions, please feel free to contact Linda Pizzi, lpizzi@verizon.net or 610-940-1331. Applications are available in the back of church on the table.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Please consider joining our Women's Prayer Group. We meet from 10:00-11:00 every Thursday morning in the Rectory Conference Room. We would be glad to have you join us.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Men of different ages meet every Wednesday morning in the Rectory Conference Room from 7:30 to 8:30. There are no experts, just men searching for a deeper relationship with God. If you are interested in joining and wish more information, call Duane McCarthy at 610-825-5237.

H.O.P.E. If you, or anyone you know, needs transportation to a doctor or dentist appointment, or to Church on Sunday, please call Anne or Bill Franks at 610-828-2530 or email: ann59bil@gmail.com, or Loretta Zych at 215-836-1127. Additional weekday drivers and group leaders are needed.

Word of Life

Every child conceived by in vitro fertilization is truly deserving of respect and love. Each is a human person, regardless of the manner of conception. The problem is that the way they are brought into the world does not live up to their dignity. –“Life Matters: Reproductive Technologies,” *Respect Life Program* 2011-2012.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12
9:00 AM TO 7:00 PM- CHAPEL

ADULT Faith Formation is a Lifelong Journey

Contact: LindaBaneckerAFF@aol.com
Or 610-828-0344

Save the Date...

Father James Martin, S.J.
Friday, December 16 at 7:30 PM

Father will be speaking at our parish as well as conducting a book signing. Father is a graduate of Plymouth Whitemarsh High School and Wharton School, editor at American Magazine, commentator for CNN, NPR and Fox News, and renowned author.

Small Christian Community: Reflect on the Sunday Scriptures *Tuesday mornings after the 8:30 Mass in the sacristy.*

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Philippians – Anyone interested in joining our organization, please call Joan Meade at 610-828-6641. New members are always welcomed.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith? If you are interested in becoming a member of the faith community here at St. Philip Neri, call the Religious Education Office at 610-834-9868. We are interested in learning more about you too!

Frozen Casseroles for St. John's Hospice

Could you find time to make a casserole for the homeless of St. John's? Pans, lids and recipes are available in the Church Office and at Barbara McCarthy's (610-828-2058). Frozen casseroles are brought to Barbara's house before 9:00 AM the first Wednesday of each month. The next delivery is Wednesday, December 7. Please consider this work of mercy in your busy schedule.

Music Notes – Wedding/Funeral Music

Please contact Jean Martin 215/704-0508

Please be mindful of the ministry of the parish musicians and their concentration on the liturgy. *“If the space occupied by the choir and instruments is visible to the assembly, it must reflect the sacredness of the music ministry.”* Church Document: Sing to the Lord, *Music in Divine Worship, USCCB*

Volunteers needed... Saint Philip Neri Church is in need of volunteers to help clean the Church. Can you spare one hour on a Friday morning, once a month, to be part of a group that helps keep our Church beautiful? If you are interested please call Mary in the Church Office at 610-834-1975.

Holiday Craft Show – Epiphany of Our Lord School, Saturday, December 3 and Sunday,

December 4. For more information visit website: www.eols.org/craftshow.

GAUDEAMUS will be performing on the following dates: Epiphany of Our Lord Church – Plymouth Meeting, Sunday, December 11~ 7:30PM and St. Francis of Assisi Church, Norristown, Sunday, December 18, ~ 3:00PM

Gaudeamus is a ten-piece musical group featuring Connie Cannon Steuer as pianist, Sarah Agnew Norman and Kelly Brobson as vocalists, and an ensemble of professional musicians. The concerts will consist of sacred, traditional and classical Christmas music and will include many of your holiday favorites! Both concerts are free and open to the public. For additional information, please visit the Gaudeamus website at letusrejoice.net or contact Connie at (610) 291-4255.

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