

Saint Philip Neri Church

December 15, 2019

3rd Sunday of Advent

Second Collection – Capital Replacement

*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
He will prepare your way before you.*



*Jesus Said, "Amen, I say to you, among those born of women
there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the
least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."*

Block Collection

Thank you to all who have turned in their contribution.

Number of registered families - 2398

Number of envelopes received - 485



There will be a special blessing for expectant mothers at the 10AM Mass on Sunday, Dec 22nd. If you wish to receive this blessing, please call the Church office at 610-834-1975.

We Pray: For those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially Rev. Msgr. Joseph Anderlonis.

We Welcome: Delfina Victoria, daughter of Giovanni & Carol DiSalvatore, Hartlee Maria, daughter of Michael & Kaitlyn Fitzgerald, Emma Christine, daughter of James & Barbara Rockenbach and Johnathan Francis, son of John & Moira Sears, all recently baptized at St. Philip's

Advent Prayer

Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan you sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts for the coming of your Son. Help me to hear His words and repent of my sins, so that I may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak, and the life to live for Him, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday

6:30AM Tony Hayden
8:30AM Frank Stanczak

Tuesday

6:30AM Elinor Kollmer
8:30AM Deceased Members of the Hartley Family

Wednesday

6:30AM Deceased Members of the
Brennan & Lowry Families
8:30AM William Gallagher

Thursday

6:30AM Florence Magrath
8:30AM Englebert & Stephens Families

Friday

6:30AM Alexander Tarsi, Jr. & Alexander Tarsi III
8:30AM Tom Morrison and the
Mullen & Morrison Families

Saturday

8:30AM Thomas F Keane III & Thomas F Keane Jr
Frank & Concetta Lupinacci & Family



This week our sanctuary lamp will burn in
memory of Danny Link requested by
The Zolty Family.



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: Angelo Amoroso, Baby Rayna, Michael Basara, Lori Belardo, Bella Jones Borkowski, Marita Boyce, Jennifer Brands, Jim Brooks, Audrey Michelle Cacchio, Lou Cacchio, Barry Cahill, Vince Cellucci, Ava Love Conley, Frank Craig, Hunter Cranage, Charlie Dickman, Joseph DiGiovanni, Dr. Robert Domanski, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downs, William Drayton, George & Roseann Eberwine, Peter Gallagher, Christopher Greuters, Andrea Harrison, Joseph Hoch, Charles Kropp, Anne Lintner, George, Mary & Molly Lozinak, Phyllis Luther, James Maggetti, Jim Mahoney, Sue Male, Joan Marine, John McCann, Julia McLaughlin, Baby Avery McNichols, Steven Merlin, Baby Jack Muller, Joe Mulligan, Joe O'Brien, Doris Palumbo, Baby Addison Pfeffer, William Pinto, Ann Purkin, Jim Rafter, Baby Harper Ann Renshaw, John Reynolds, David Sandy, John Schaifer, Gena Schindler, Donna Schoen, Tim Schwartz, Michael Shaw, Kristin Shearon, Monica Skrocki, Robert Smith, Sarah Smith, Brian Stenz, Yvonne Stephens, Amy Swift, Kena Thompson, Mary Vogel, Wendi Wagoner and Loretta Zych and for all those who are hoping and praying for organ transplants.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4PM Children's Mass

5:45PM Mass

7:30PM Mass

(Adult Choir Choral Prelude 7:15PM)

Midnight Mass

(Schola Choral Prelude 11:45PM)

Christmas Day

7AM, 8:30AM, 10AM & 11:30AM

New Year's Eve

Vigil Mass at 5PM

New Year's Day

Please make note of new Mass times

7:30AM, 9:30AM & 11:30AM

* January 1st The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is a Holy Day of Obligation.



Parish Penance Service

Wednesday, December 18th at 7PM

The theme of Advent is to prepare the way of the Lord, what better way than the Sacrament of Penance to clear that way in our own lives for the Christmas miracle.

Extra priests will be available to hear confessions.

"You will never be happy if your happiness depends on getting solely what you want. Change the focus. Get a new center. Will what God wills, and your joy no man shall take from you.
Bishop Fulton Sheen

Baptismal Instruction / Pre Jordan: The next session is scheduled for Monday, December 16th at 7:30PM 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. Please call the Church Office (610-834-1975) to sign up.



Schola Voices Needed for Christmas Eve Mass

SPN Schola of young voices has a tradition of singing at Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. Prelude Music is sung by the Schola beginning at 11:40PM. We would like to have more young voices join our group. Rehearsals are held the week before Christmas to accommodate the availability of college students. Contact Jean Martin: 215-704-0508 or email

Gaudete Sunday

The 3rd Sunday of Advent is sometimes called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is Latin meaning "to rejoice" taken from the Entrance Antiphon. The candle in the Advent Wreath is a rose color as well as the priest's vestments (Rose vestments are used only 2 X's, today and the 4th Sunday of Lent). Although it takes place during the usually penitential period of Advent, it serves as a mid-point break in expectation as we draw ever nearer to the Solemnity of Christmas.

Last Sunday our choir, under the direction of Jean Martin, presented a Christmas concert titled "Lessons & Carols". The many who attended can attest to its uplifting music, melodic voices and deep spiritual flavor. Many thanks to Jean and all the members of the choir for their obvious dedication and preparation in this awesome presentation, well done one and all! As I always say the best choir in the Archdiocese!
Msgr. Vance

Are you a parent who has lost a child: An informal group of Moms & Dads get together to talk or to just listen to others who understand how you feel. The next meeting is Tuesday, January 21st at 6:30PM in the rectory conference room. For more information contact Marianne O'Connor at 610-825-4975 or Rosemary McNichol at 215-247-2267.

St. John's Hospice: St. John's Hospice and the many homeless they feed and clothe send their heartfelt thanks and wish you and your families all of the blessings of the Christmas Season. Your generous donations throughout the year have made a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate and hungry. Could you consider donating a casserole this Christmas? Casserole donations can be homemade or store bought. Also, did you know that St. John's will gladly accept gently used or new men's clothing donations to help clothe the homeless? Frozen casseroles, can be dropped off at 2311 Mulberry Lane on Saturday, Jan 4th & Sunday, Jan 5th before and after all Masses and by 9AM on Wednesday, Jan 8th. If you need an alternate drop off day or have any questions please call Lynne Kennedy at 610-828-6728 or email: lkennedy1071@comcast.net. Your continued generous support is much appreciated! Thank you!

A Friendly Reminder: Gifts from the Giving Tree are due back soon! The deadline to return gifts is December 20th if you took a tag please have your gift in the Church vestibule by December 20th. Many, many thanks for your generosity!

Men's Prayer Group: Men of different ages meet every Wednesday morning in the rectory conference room from 7:30AM to 8:30AM. If interested please call Duane McCarthy at 610-825-5237. There is a prayer petition book in the rear of the Church for your intentions, please note your intention so the group can pray for your petition.



"Any one thinking of the Holy Child as born in December would mean by it exactly what we mean by it; that Christ is not merely a summer sun of the prosperous but a winter fire for the unfortunate"
G.K. Chesterton

St. Francis Inn: There is not just one cause of hunger, which means there is not just one solution. But one thing is clear; St. Philip Neri Parish is making a huge difference in the lives of clients who rely on St. Francis Inn. We pray for you, our generous benefactors, who make it possible for us to care for God's people in Kensington. We are especially remembering your sacrifice with heartfelt gratitude. Merry Christmas from everyone at the Inn! We are in the most need of cold weather gear, THERMAL UNDERWEAR (tops & bottoms, men's & ladies). Clean warm coats, hats, scarves, gloves, shoes & boots, clean blankets, throws, comforters, new white athletic socks, new ladies slippers, men's boxers & ladies underwear, hooded sweatshirts (L & XL). Coffee, lg tea bags, sugar, **powdered milk, oatmeal** (not instant, reg 5min variety). Deodorant, hotel toiletries, tissues, paper towels, baby formula, diapers (Sz preemie & Sz 6, pull-ups Sz 3T & 5T). Dish towels, spray air freshener and cleaning supplies. Check our Amazon Wish List: St Francis Inn. Donations may be dropped off at the Muller's porch, 472 Poplar Lane in Whitmarsh Woods or in the box in the Church vestibule. Our complete list of needs can be found on the front of our donation box. May God Bless you always abundantly!



Knights of Columbus / Memorial Lanterns

Lanterns will be placed on the island outside Church and burn in memory of a loved one. They will be lit Christmas Eve through Christmas Day. The name of the person being remembered will be on a ribbon attached to the lantern, after Christmas you can stop by and take the lantern home. The cost is \$25.00 and all proceeds will benefit the charitable works of the Knights. **The deadline is December 20th**, sign up sheets and a collection box is in the vestibule outside the Church office.



The Knights are organizing a bus for transportation to Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life on January 24, 2020...stay tuned, details to follow.

Parish Mission - March 8th & 9th - 7PM
Living the Catholic Life / Fullness of Purpose
With international speaker Ken Yasinski



Attention School Parents

In order for this program to render the maximum benefit to the school (and thus helping to keep tuition as low as possible) it is crucial to have a large pool of participants. If you are not participating please consider using the program. Scrip can be ordered on line and sent home with your child. If you are spending the money (especially groceries) why not get the added benefit to yourself and SPN. Please think about it!

\$5 & \$10 Gift Cards

Thru Dec 23rd...perfect stocking stuffers and small gifts for friends, teachers, coaches, mail carriers, etc!

Flocco's Uniform Supplies & Shoes

We have Scrip Cards in the Church Office & on sale in the vestibule after Masses.

You can buy gift cards for over 780 retailers (www.shopwithscrip.com) and earn a rebate on every card.

"The human being is single, unique, and unrepeatable, someone thought of and chosen from eternity, someone called and identified by name"

Pope St. John Paul II

Trivia Night

Home & School Association Presents Annual Trivia Night
Save the date! Friday, January 17th
SPN Gym – details to follow...

Missionary Volunteers Needed: Are you looking for a chance to do a little bit of missionary work to help the poor and the needy? Is God calling you? Father Chuck's Challenge is inviting you to join us in our funding campaign for homes that are to be built for the poor in Haiti and Nicaragua. We are in need of volunteers. We will be having a Q & A meeting on Jan 12th, for info contact Kathy John at 215-646-1399.

Project Hope: If you or anyone you know, needs transportation to a doctor or dentist appointment, or to Mass on Sunday, please call Anne or Bill Franks at 610-828-2530 or email: ann59bil@gmail.com. We are always in need of weekday drivers and group leaders!