

# St. Philip Neri Church



"I am the gate for the sheep...whoever enters through me will be saved"

## 4th Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023



437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

[www.saintphilipnerichurch.org](http://www.saintphilipnerichurch.org)

Church Office 610-834-1975

Rectory 610-828-5717

School 610-828-3082

Convent 610-828-2866

PREP Program 484-804-1875

Director of Music 215-704-0508



"The love of God makes us do great things"  
St. Philip Neri

### Priests & Deacons

Rev. George J. Szparagowski

*Parochial Administrator*

Rev. Msgr. Charles P. Vance, *Pastor Emeritus*

Rev. Richard K. McFadden

*Parochial Vicar & Vice Chancellor*

Rev. William B. Dooner, *In Residence, Retired*

Rev. Joseph W. Bongard, *Weekend Assistant*

Deacon Robert G. Flynn

&

Deacon Michael J. Cipressi

### Parish Staff

Michael Pastorius

*Business Manager*

Mrs. Betty Venezia

*School Principal*

Mrs. Jean Martin

*Director of Music*

Mrs. Sharon Otto

*Director of Religious Education*

Barney McGee

*Parish Accountant*



### **Parish Mass Schedule**

#### Saturday Evening Vigil Mass

5PM

#### Sunday Morning

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

#### Daily Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday 6:30AM & 8:30AM

Saturday 8:30AM only

#### Holy Day Mass Schedule

6:30AM, 8:30AM, 12:05PM & 7PM

*"I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I  
know my sheep, and mine know me."*



Our parish community extends a welcome to our guests and visitors. We welcome you to our Church to share our faith and celebrate the Eucharist.

Please go to our website:

[www.saintphilipnerichurch.com](http://www.saintphilipnerichurch.com) for more information or if you have any questions or want to register call the Church Office at 610-834-1975. In order to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist or Matrimony or to have access to Letters of Eligibility to stand as a godparent at Baptism or sponsor at Confirmation you need to be registered with a parish. Young adults who turn 26 or complete higher education and continue to reside within our area should register individually.



Confessions are heard every Saturday from Noon to 1PM, or by appointment, call 610-834-1975 to schedule.

#### Gluten Free Hosts

Gluten free hosts are available at every Mass. The celebrant will have them available; simply ask him when you present to receive Holy Communion.

#### We Pray

For all those who have gone on before us marked with the sign of faith, especially, Sr. Susan Hurlbrink SSJ, and Louise Hirst. May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.



#### Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Monday, May 8th

9AM to 5PM in the Church



#### Baptismal Instruction / Pre Jordan

The next session will be May 8th; these sessions are virtual. Once you register, Deacon Mike Cipressi will contact you with meeting details. Please call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 to register.



### Dear St. Philip Neri Families & Friends

We give praise and thanks to God for the graces He has given us. This Sunday is traditionally known as “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus teaches us that He is the ‘Good Shepherd.’ The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd has always been close to my heart. It makes it easier for me to trust and approach Jesus, as the Good Shepherd. I pray this is the same for many of you. We are blessed to

have a Good Shepherd who is loving, compassionate, willing to defend us, willing to die for us and powerful enough to rise from the dead for us. Jesus speaks to us about the importance of recognizing His voice and Him. He is the only way to the Father, and we must follow Him if we want to have eternal life. But how do we recognize His voice? How do we know that we are following the true Good Shepherd and not a thief or a robber? The answer is simple; we must listen to Jesus’ word and follow His example. Jesus is the Word made flesh, and His teachings are the Way, the Truth, and the

life. Jesus shows us how to love God and love our neighbor, how to forgive our enemies and pray for those who persecute us, and how to live a life of humility and service. But following Jesus is not always easy. We live in a world that is full of distractions and temptations, and it can be hard to hear Jesus’ voice amidst all the noise. We may be tempted to follow these false shepherds who promise us wealth, power, or pleasure, but who lead us astray from the path of righteousness and eternal life.

That is why we need to stay close to Jesus, to pray and read the Scriptures, to receive the Sacraments, and to be part of a community of believers who support and encourage us on our journey. We need to trust in His love and guidance, even when the road is difficult and the way is narrow. Let us listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd, who calls us by name and leads us to green pastures and still waters. Let us follow Jesus with all our heart and soul, and trust in His promise of abundant life. May we never stray from Christ’s path, but always remain faithful to Jesus, The Good Shepherd. Please pray for our parish children who will be making their 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion next Saturday.

St. Philip Neri, pray for us.

Please invite someone to Mass. Have a blessed Easter Season!

Fr. Szparagowski



### Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> / St. Joseph the Worker

6:30AM – Robert & Patricia McIntyre

8:30AM – George Hottensen

### Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> / St. Athanasius

6:30AM – Victoria Dachille

8:30AM – Joseph Reilly

### Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> / Sts. Philip & James

6:30AM – Souls in Purgatory

8:30AM – Rocco & Jennie Colagreco

### Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

6:30AM – Souls in Purgatory

8:30AM – Jake Smart

### Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

6:30AM – Josephine Murphy

8:30AM – Mr. & Mrs. Ray Nanartowicz

### Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

8:30AM – Margaret Ponietowicz



### Church Roof Update

Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to our second collection last weekend. To date we have raised approximately \$30,000 to help offset the cost of our new Church roof. Your past donations to the Capital Replacement Fund has allowed us to set aside monies for extraordinary expenses such as this, however it will not cover the total cost. The anticipated time frame from beginning to end will be 6 weeks, starting in mid June. There will be another roof replacement collection on May 21<sup>st</sup>. For those who perhaps did not know about the first collection last weekend.

Please be as generous as your budgets allow. In the past you have always come through with great generosity, and relying on that spirit of support, we as a parish family will get our roof replaced. I will keep you updated and thank you for all you do to make St. Philip Neri a loving and caring parish.

Fr. Szparagowski

There will be a May Crowning of the Blessed Mother at every Mass next Sunday to honor Mary in this month dedicated to her.

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Today – Capital Replacement

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Next Week – Catholic Home Missions

### Sanctuary Memorials



1 candle will burn at the statue of St. Joseph  
In memory of Giovanni Cesareo  
Req'd by Francesco & Filomena Cesareo.



This week the Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of  
Joan Regan  
req'd by Clare Regan.



**Please pray for our sick, the home-bound, and  
those in nursing homes,  
we particularly remember:**

Baby Rayna, Nancy Bogdon, Ryan Bonner, Audrey  
Michelle Cacchio, Lou Cacchio, Joan Coldwell, Ava Love  
Conley, John Coscia Sr, Hunter Cranage, Charlie  
Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa  
Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Margie Ganter, Joyce Gil,  
Jean Girard, Christopher Greuters, Andrea Harrison,  
Winifred Headman, Kathleen Kunes, Ann Litman, Mary  
& Molly Lozinak, Phyllis Luther, Greg deGroot Maggetti,  
James Maggetti, Robyn Lee Malachefski, Sue Male, Joan  
Marine, Bernie McLafferty Sr, Julia McLaughlin, Baby  
Avery McNichols, Steven Merlin, Randolph & Sylvia  
Miller, Christopher Minetti, Rosemary Moran, Thomas  
Nguyen, Christine Petrokubi Monroe, Joe McLaughlin,  
Trey Miville, Annie Hope Munn, Joe O'Brien, Doris  
Palumbo, Baby Addison Pfeffer, William Pinto, Remo  
Pitassi, Ann Purkin, Jim Rafter, John Reynolds, Ann  
Marie Sanders, David Sandy, John Schaifer, Tim  
Schwartz, Michael Shaw, Robert Smith, Betty Sparks,  
Brian Stenz, Yvonne Stephens, Amy Swift, Kena  
Thompson, Jackson Thorburn, Patricia Trioli, Frank  
Tulino, Wendy Wagoner, William Wilder, Deb Wilson  
may God strengthen them in their struggle and bring  
them healing.

*Our bulletin sick list will list the names of the sick for a 6-  
week period, if additional time is needed, please call the  
Church Office at 610-834-1975.*



### **Anointing of the Sick**

Primarily intended as prayers for healing from serious illness  
or as a spiritual preparation before surgery, it can involve  
multiple sacraments; Penance, Anointing & Eucharist. When  
death is imminent, it serves as "Last Rites" which include a  
special Apostolic Pardon. Please do not delay in calling for  
your elderly or chronically ill family member.  
Call the Church Office to schedule an anointing.



### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Baptisms are scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every  
month immediately following the 11:30AM Mass. For first  
time parents, Pre-Jordan classes are required. Deacon Mike  
Cipressi conducts these classes via zoom appointments, they  
are offered on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. Godparents are  
required to obtain Letters of Eligibility; these letters are due at  
the Parish Office at least one week before the scheduled  
baptismal date. Call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 to  
schedule a Baptism and/or to register for the  
Pre-Jordan Class.



### **Sacrament of Marriage**

Arrangements must be made with a priest at least 6 months  
prior to your desired wedding date. A Pre-  
Cana Class is required and held here at St. Philip's twice per  
year, usually in the spring and again in the  
fall. Please call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 to schedule  
a meeting with a priest and to obtain information on the Pre-  
Cana Class. Liturgy and musical planning are done through  
Mrs. Jean Martin our Director of Music (215-704-0508).



Manna Bags will be distributed at all of the Masses on the  
weekend of May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>. Kindly return your filled Mana  
Bag on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Canned  
food items:

beef stew, tuna fish, fruit, vegetables, pasta, soups and the  
like. If you are not able to bring a filled bag, you can  
donate on line at <https://yougivegoods.com>.

Thank you for reaching out to people in  
emergency situations.





### Looking for Adult Volunteer Sunday Sacristians

We are looking for adult volunteers to perform sacristy duties for Sunday Masses. We are hoping to get enough volunteers so the schedule can rotate every 4 to 6 weeks or even split the Masses on Sunday.

Think about this ministry of service at the altar.  
Call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 for details.

### Parish Registration

In order to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist or Matrimony, or to have access to Letters of Eligibility to stand as a godparent at Baptism or a sponsor at Confirmation you need to be registered in a parish. It also helps parishes plan for the future needs. If you are not registered or if you have any questions please call the church office at 610-834-1975.

### Prayer for all who protect us

Lord, hold our military, police & fire and first responders in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.  
Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
Our Lord and savior. Amen.

### Archdiocesan Tribunal

The Tribunal is available to help people who have experienced divorce and who may wish to remarry in the Catholic Church. If you are divorced and want to marry in the Church or remarried outside the Catholic Church, please call the Tribunal Office at 215-587-3750 or go to:

[www.archphila.org](http://www.archphila.org)

If you were not married in the Church, and would like to have your marriage blessed by the Church call the Church Office at 610-834-1975.



*All Catholics are called to share the Good News. Some are called to share it with our parish children. Do you love Jesus? Do you want to help our children love Him, too, especially in the Eucharist? Then you need to join our vibrant team of faith filled catechists and aids! There is so much you can do in just a few hours on a Monday or Tuesday afternoon (3:30-5:30PM). With 275 families and growing, you are needed! We need classroom aides, lead teachers, yard monitors, and cafeteria volunteers. We begin again in September, but if you call now, we can help you prepare over the summer and be ready to receive the children in His name! All training will be provided, call Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875 or email: [spnprep@spnschool.org](mailto:spnprep@spnschool.org)*

## Spiritual Adoption Program

### Development of Your Baby / My heart is Beating!

Your spiritually adopted baby has been quite active over the past month. Already your baby is 10,000 times bigger than at conception. Your baby has developed the foundations of his brain, spinal cord, and nervous system by the 20<sup>th</sup> day. His heart began to beat on the 21<sup>st</sup>, pumping blood through its own circulatory system and the blood type can be different from his mother's. Your baby is most vulnerable during the next month of being aborted.

Pray that the Lord of Life might move the heart of his mother to give him the most precious gift of all—the gift of life.



## School News

**Congratulations to 10 of our honors math students, under the direction of their teacher, Mrs. Lauren Amoroso, they secured a 1<sup>st</sup> place team win and two tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place individual wins at LaSalle College High School's Mathlete competition last Saturday.**

**Congratulations as well to all our student musicians who performed in the annual Archdiocesan Elementary String Concert. Finally, a big thank you to the volunteers who assisted with our Special Persons Day and Spring Fling events!**

### Catholic Charismatic Renewal for Montgomery County

Would you like to discover the transforming power of the Holy Spirit in your life and develop a personal relationship with Jesus? The Service Committee for the Archdiocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites you to join us for Montgomery County's *Life in the Spirit* Seminar. It will be seven consecutive weeks of talks starting May 2<sup>nd</sup> and ending June 13<sup>th</sup>. The seminar is being hosted by Epiphany of Our Lord Church at 3050 Walton Road and will meet at 7PM in the Church. To register or any questions call Bobbie Cefaratti at 267-261-8995.

### New Beginnings, Widows and Widowers

Join us for some fun and friendship, we meet at St. Helena's Church in the cafeteria the first Wednesday of the month at 7PM. Any questions please call Joseph Smerecki at 610-457-4993

### St. Joseph the Worker / Feast Day May 1<sup>st</sup>

To foster devotion to St. Joseph among Catholics, and in response to the "May Day" secular celebrations for workers sponsored by the Communists, Pope Pius XII instituted this feast in 1955. The dignity of human work has long been celebrated as a participation in the creative work of God. By work, humankind both fulfills the command in Genesis to care for the earth and to be productive. St. Joseph, the carpenter and foster father of Jesus, is but one example of the holiness of human labor. St. Joseph the Worker, pray for us!

### Celebration of Confirmation

Archbishop Perez will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. Philip's on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Baptized Catholics in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above may be confirmed at this Mass. If you are an adult who has not yet been confirmed, contact Barney McGee at 610-834-1975. Student needing Confirmation preparation should contact Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875.

### St. Francis Inn

Many thanks for your continuous support!

Items we need most: 10 lb. bags of rice, 5-minute oatmeal, coffee, sugar, large tea bags, canned food, plastic grocery bags & reusable store bags, paper towels, toilet paper, air fresheners, Pine Sol & bleach, DEODORANT (no roll on please), small travel size toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, toothpaste), toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, laundry soap, diapers (size 6 & newborn), blue disposable face masks, twin size blankets, towels, washcloths, winter clothing (coats, men's jeans, sweatpants, belts, thermal underwear, sweatshirts & hoodies). \*\*Health inspectors require all coats, clothing & linen donations be laundered, please label your bags as "clean". But most of all keep us in your prayers! The collection box is in the Church vestibule year-round accepting your donations. Donations can also be dropped off at the Muller's porch, 472 Poplar Lane in Whitemarsh Woods.

Worry is a conversation with yourself  
about things you cannot change.



Prayer is a conversation you have with  
God about things He can change.

### Lost and Found

We have a small collection of earrings, chains, glasses, etc. that were found in the Church, if you think you might have lost something in the Church, stop by the Church Office and check our lost & found. There is a box in the cry room that contains hats, gloves, scarves, and the like, please take a look if interested.

Our Church is open every day, Monday to Friday, until 5PM. Stop by for a visit with our Lord. It's a busy world and this is a wonderful opportunity to step away for some quiet time in prayer.



All major food stores and major clothes retailers have cards available; please go to the website for a complete list. These programs help support our school and is driven by parishioner participation...give it a try!

GIANT, ACME, SHOP RITE, WEIS, KOHLS, BOSCOVS, MACY'S & LOWES just to name a few.

Cards are available in the Church Office, Monday to Friday, 8AM to 5PM.

### St. John's Hospice

St. John's Hospice casserole program is a donation program that has been supported by the generous parishioners at SPN for many years. Casseroles can be home made or store brought. The next drop off dates are before and after all Masses on the weekend of April

29th & 30th and before 9AM on pick-up day, Wednesday, May 3rd. If you need an alternate day or time call Lynn Kennedy at 610-828-6728, or email at [lkennedy1071@comcast.net](mailto:lkennedy1071@comcast.net). Dropoff address is 2311 Mulberry Lane (right across from the Church). St. John's thanks you for your generous donations and wishes all of the blessings of Easter to you and your families!



Go to the parish website to sign up, it's easy, free and can be stopped or adjusted at any time. In these busy times please do not forget your parish and help us, if you can, to meet our unchanged financial obligations.

As always, thank you for your generosity.

### Philadelphia Catholic Scholars Program

July 5-14, 2023

Spend 10 days on the seminary campus and explore the relationship between Faith & Reason with other high school men. Study Western tradition in discussion based seminars led by University and Seminary professors. Earn 3 college credits, private dorm room, recreation, daily Mass and prayer opportunities, cultural excursions and scholarships are available, go to: [PhiladelphiaCatholicScholars.org](http://PhiladelphiaCatholicScholars.org)

### Holy Savior Class of 1966 Reunion

Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Steppy's Sports Bar & Grill in Norristown.

\$30/pp, go to [holsavior.66@gmail.com](mailto:holsavior.66@gmail.com)

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