

St. Philip Neri Church



**“The seed is the Word of God,
Christ is the sower.”**

July 16, 2023

437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

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
Pastor

Rev. Christopher Redcay
Weekend Assistant

Rev. Msgr. Charles P. Vance, *Pastor Emeritus*
Rev. William B. Dooner, *In Residence, Retired*
Deacon Robert G. Flynn
&
Deacon Michael J. Cipressi

Parish Staff

Michael Pastorius
Business Manager

Mrs. Betty Veneziale
School Principal

Mrs. Jean Martin
Director of Music

Mrs. Sharon Otto
Director of Religious Education
Barney McGee
Parish Accountant



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 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.

Good News! Fr. Christopher Redcay will be assisting here at St. Philip's on Sunday's. Father is the spiritual director at St. Charles Seminary and will assist on Sunday's when he does not have obligations at the seminary. Please say hello and make him feel welcome!



Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening Vigil Mass

5PM

Sunday Morning

7:30AM - No Music

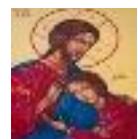
9:30AM & 11:00AM

Daily Mass Schedule

Monday through Saturday 8:30AM

Holy Day Mass Schedule

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



Confessions are heard every Saturday from 3:45PM to 4:45PM 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. Ellen P. Casey SSJ,

William E. Nessler, and Sr. Elizabeth Ellen Tombler SSJ. May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.



For more information call Fr. David Friel at 610-667-5778



Baptismal Instruction / Pre Jordan

The next session will be August 14th; 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. Today we are asked to meditate upon the profound and timeless wisdom found in the Gospel of Matthew (MT 13:1-23). In this passage, Jesus shares the powerful parable of the sower, teaching us invaluable lessons about the receptiveness of our hearts to God's Word. Let us open our hearts and minds to the message of this parable and allow it to transform our lives. In the parable, Jesus tells the story of a sower who went out to sow seeds. As the sower scattered the seeds, some fell on the path, where birds quickly devoured them. Some seeds fell on rocky ground, and though they sprang up quickly, they withered away due to lack of root. Other seeds fell among thorns, which choked them. Yet, some seeds fell on good soil, yielding a bountiful harvest, multiplying manyfold. Brothers and sisters, we are called to reflect on the condition of our hearts and the soil within us. Are we like the rocky ground, with shallow faith that withers in times of difficulty? Are we among the thorns, entangled by worldly desires and neglecting our spiritual growth? Or are we the good soil; fertile ground where God's Word flourishes? Let us strive to cultivate the good soil within us. To do so, we must approach the Word of God with an open heart, allowing it to penetrate our souls deeply. Regular prayer, frequenting the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion, and practicing acts of charity will nourish the seeds of God's Word, enabling it to take root and bear abundant fruit. As we leave Mass today, let us carry with us the profound message of the parable of the sower. May we become the good soil, opening our hearts to the transformative power of God's Word, and allowing it to flourish in our lives. May we grow in faith, hope, and love, becoming beacons of light and hope to the world around us. Let us remain steadfast in our pursuit of holiness, ever mindful that God's Word, sown in good soil, will yield a bountiful harvest in our lives.

The roofers are working diligently on our new Church roof. We hope to have the roof completed in 5-6 weeks, as long as the weather conditions will allow the roofers to do their work. I want to thank all of you who gave generously from your heart to offset the expense of the Church roof. I have said this from the pulpit and I say it again, "all of you are so generous and it reflects the love of God in your hearts."

Please invite someone to Mass today.

Have a blessed day!

St. Philip Neri, Pray for us.

Please pray for me.

Fr. Szparagowski

*The seed is the Word of God, Christ is the sower.
All who come to Him will have life forever."*



Mass Intentions

Monday, July 17th

8:30AM – William Murphy

Tuesday, July 18th

St. Camillus de Lellis

8:30AM – Barbara Duffy

Wednesday, July 19th

8:30AM – Joseph DiSimone

Thursday, July 20th

St. Apollinaris

8:30AM – Steve Petrokubi

Friday, July 21st

St. Lawrence of Brindisi

8:30AM – Deceased Members of the Brennan & Lowry Families

Saturday, July 22nd

St. Mary Magdalene

8:30AM – Michael Macaitis

New Mass Schedule

Saturday

Confessions 3:45-4:45PM

Vigil Mass 5:00PM

Sunday

7:30AM – No Music

9:30AM

11:00AM

Daily Mass

Monday through Saturday

8:30AM

Holy Days

6:30AM, 8:30AM & 7:00PM



Lucy Rosemary, daughter of Casey & Sarah Cardwell,
Joel Constantine, son of Joel & Carolann Crum,
Maddox John, son of David & Alexandra Martin and
Jayden Scott, son of Joshua & Karen Simms. All were
recently baptized here at St. Philip's!

Sanctuary Memorials



1 candle will burn at the statue of the
Blessed Mother
in memory of A.J. McGee,
req'd by Zolty Family.
1 candle will burn at the statue of St. Joseph
in memory of Yvonne Stephens
req'd by Lynn Kennedy.



This week the Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of
Rachel & Troy Engle
req'd by Mom, Dad & Brother.

The 2024 Announced Mass Book has not been opened yet, the opening date will be published in the bulletin a couple of weeks beforehand. However, there are other memorials available, sanctuary lamp, BVM and St. Joseph candles, altar candles, bread & wine used for Masses. Stop by or call the Church Office (610-834-1975) to reserve in someone's memory.

Metropolitan 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 215-587-3760 or go to:

www.archphila.org

St. Monica Club

Have your loved ones drifted away from the Church? Are you worried that they may not return? What are we to do? Follow the example of St. Monica and PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!

Join us for the first meeting of the St. Monica Club on September 19, 2023 at 7PM in the Convent Chapel. We will pray together, talk about how to love those who are rejecting the faith and be good witnesses for them, and share the good news when prayers are answered. For more information, please contact Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875.



Please know your weekly contribution is most appreciated and essential to the financial health of the parish. On line giving is easy and time saving, go to the parish website to sign up, it 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 ongoing financial obligations. As always, thank you for your generosity.



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

Audrey Michelle Cacchio, Lou Cacchio, Ava Love Conley, Elizabeth Cunningham, Charlie Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Jean Girard, Kathryn Griffin, John Griffin, Andrea Harrison, Winifred Headman, Kathleen Kunes, Ann Litman, Mary & Molly Lozinak, Phyllis Luther, Greg deGroot Maggetti, James Maggetti, Robyn Lee Malachefski, Joan Marine, Bernie McLafferty Sr, Julia McLaughlin, Baby Avery McNichols, Steven Merlin, Randolph & Sylvia Miller, Christopher Minetti, Joe McLaughlin, Annie Hope Munn, Joe O'Brien, Baby Addison Pfeffer, William Pinto, Remo Pitassi, Maria Prince, Ann Purkin, John Reynolds, David Sandy, John Schaifer, Tim Schwartz, Michael Shaw, Robert Smith, David Sparacino, Betty Sparks, Brian Stenz, Amy Swift, Kena Thompson, Patricia Trioli, Frank Tulino, 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.



Church Roof Update

The project has started, scaffolding is in place and removal of the old roof has begun. The scale of the project will require 5-6 weeks to complete. This is not just re-shingling, but applying sub roofing and insulation and installing new downspouts and gutters as well. Access to the Church will be kept clear but just be aware of scaffolding, dumpsters, roofing materials, etc as you enter the parking lot and Church. Thank you!

Retrouvaille

This program helps couples in hurting marriages put the pieces back together and rebuild loving relationships. If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, Retrouvaille may be able to help. For information call 1-800-587-4505.



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 2nd & 4th Sunday of every month immediately following the 11AM Mass. For first time parents, Pre-Jordan classes are required. Deacon Mike Cipressi conducts these classes via zoom appointments, they are offered on the 2nd 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, contact the Church Office at 610-834-1975 to schedule. The Archdiocese requires that couples attend a Pre-Cana class before marriage. At this time, we ask you to go to www.archphila.org, under marriage preparations to take class on line. Liturgy and musical planning are done through Mrs. Jean Martin our Director of Music (215-704-0508).



National Eucharistic Revival

This second year of the revival is directed to parishes, institutions, and communities in an effort to cultivate a deeper appreciation for the Eucharist. The archdiocese has developed a wonderful website with videos, commentaries, prayers & devotions, etc. for people of all ages.

Please go to revival@archphila.org



Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is for individuals interested in exploring and discerning membership in the Catholic Church. This program is for non-Catholics who may or may not have been baptized in another Christian Church and wish to receive the Sacraments of Penance, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. It is also for those who were baptized in the Catholic Church but never received the other Sacraments of Initiation. Call Barney McGee in the Church office at 610-834-1975 for more information.

PREP Program

We need some help; do you love Jesus? Do you want to help children love Him, too, especially in the Eucharist?

Then you need to join our vibrant team of faith-filled catechists and aides. There is so much you can do in just a few hours in an afternoon! On Mondays & Tuesdays, we have positions for a level 4 & 5 classroom lead teachers and aides, yard monitors, and a snack volunteer. We also have 2 aid positions for level 2 & 3. We begin PREP 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 www.spnprep@spnschool.org

PROJECT HOPE

HOPE is a group of concerned people who are willing to assist others with transportation to places within the community such as doctor's offices, therapy centers and Church. Please call Brigid at 267-879-6534 to see if we can help with any of these needs. We are always in need of new volunteers, please consider offering some of your time.



Please join Honor Flight Philadelphia on September 9th, at Sts. Simon & Jude Church to thank over 170 aging veterans as they return home from their day of honor in Washington, DC.

Any questions email:
andrew@honorflightphiladelphia.org

Constant Contact

SPN is using Constant Contact as a means to contact you, our parishioners, via email or text messaging regarding upcoming parish events, Mass & Holy Day schedules or in case of an emergency situation (e.g. power loss, snow or weather event).

To sign up go to the link on the parish website (www.saintphilipnerichurch.com) and click on the link to provide your email information or call the Church Office with your information (610-834-1975)

St. Francis Inn

Many thanks for your continuous support! The listing of current needs is attached to the collection box in the vestibule. They have an amazon wish list for direct donations and a PayPal linked to our website: www.stfrancis.org. 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.



School News

Our school is looking for middle school teachers. Interested candidates should email their letter of interest along with their resume to the principal at: venezialee@spnschool.org



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 donation program is looking for casseroles. The next drop off dates are before and after all Masses on the weekend of July 29th & 30th, and before 9AM on pick-up day, Wednesday, August 2nd. If you need an alternate day or time call Lynn Kennedy at 610-828-6728, or email at lkennedy1071@comcast.net. Dropoff address is 2311 Mulberry Lane (right across Ridge Pike from the Church).

Spiritual Adoption Update

Your baby is quite active in the womb now...although the mother won't feel him for another couple of months. If his mother's womb had a window, you could watch your spiritually adopted baby squint, swallow and move his tongue. He can make a tight fist if you touch his palm. He is breathing amniotic fluid which continues until birth, although he obtains oxygen his body needs through the umbilical cord. The baby you are praying for weighs one ounce. Early this month, at just 9 weeks, he began to suck his thumb.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast Day July 16th

Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary in her role as patroness of the Carmelite Order. The first Carmelites were hermits living on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land, near Nazareth in the late 12th century. Mount Carmel was taken by the Muslims in 1291, and many of the brothers were killed and the hermitage burned. The Carmelites spread into Europe, largely attributed to one of their members, St. Simon Stock (1247-1265). St. Simon prayed earnestly for help in guiding the friars as they refocused their vocation.

On July 16, 1251 Our Lady appeared to him and gave St. Simon a scapular with the following promise, "Receive, my beloved son, this habit of thy order: this shall be to thee and to all Carmelites a privilege, that whosoever dies clothed in this shall never suffer eternal fire...it shall be a sign of salvation, a protection in danger, and a pledge of peace." The scapular is worn as a sign of love and devotion to the Mother of God. The modern-day scapular represents the brown wool habit of the Carmelite Order. Scapular originally was a word describing a monk's work apron, it evolved into a symbol of Marian devotion for Catholics. Many popes and saints have strongly advocated wearing the Scapular throughout history. Conditions must be fulfilled to obtain the promises of Our Lady,

- Wear the Scapular continuously
- Observe chastity according to one's state in life
- Recite daily the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin or recite the rosary

The Scapular is not a magic charm like a rabbit's foot rather it is a symbol of our devotion. If we draw close to Mary, who always points us to Jesus, and open our hearts to the graces that she offers and give ourselves to her protection from earthly sin and temptation we are deepening our relationship with Jesus. Our faith tells us that Jesus Christ alone has earned redemption and salvation for the world, a scapular is one way His mother tries to guide all souls to Him. To Jesus through Mary.

Scapulars will be available at the Masses today.

