

ST. PHILIP NERI CHURCH

437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444



Parable of the Two Sons

OCTOBER 1, 2023

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.



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. Rita Woehicke SSJ & John Viti. May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.

**2nd Collection Next Weekend
Pro-Life Educational Foundation**



Mass Intentions

Monday, October 2nd

Holy Guardian Angels

8:30AM – George Westwood

Tuesday, October 3rd

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

Wednesday, October 4th

St. Francis of Assisi

8:30AM – Philip Morris & Colin Still

Thursday, October 5th

St. Faustina Kowalska & Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

8:30AM – Nancy M. Liberato
Geraldine Lampe

Friday, October 6th

Sts. Bruno & Marie Rose Durocher

8:30AM – Thomas F. Keane, Jr -6th Anniversary

Saturday, October 7th

Our Lady of the Rosary

8:30AM – Nancy M. Liberato

Since there is no longer a 6:30AM daily Mass, 6:30 Mass intentions (already reserved) will be included at the 8:30AM Mass. Announced Masses for 2024 are available to reserve for deceased loved one(s) in the Church Office. The Vigil Mass & Sunday Masses are available.



Sanctuary Memorials



This week the Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of
Martin Hamberger, requested by Maryann Hudson.

2 candles will burn at the Blessed Mother Statue.

1 in memory of Anna Cudgma,
req'd by Francesco & Filomena Cesareo.

1 in memory of Nancy Liberato
req'd by Liberato Family.

2 candles will burn at the statue of St. Joseph
for a special intention.

ADORATION OF THE
MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9TH IN THE CHAPEL
9AM TO 5PM.

To help children feel included and learn more about
the Mass, *My Picture Missal* books are available for
use during Mass in a basket in the cry room. Please
help yourself and return books when finished.

Dear St. Philip Neri Families & Friends

We give praise and thanks to God for the graces He has given us. In today's gospel reading from Matthew, Jesus tells a parable about two sons. A father asks his first son to go and work in the vineyard, and initially, the son refuses but later changes his mind and goes. The second son agrees to go but does not follow through. Jesus uses this parable to illustrate the importance of actions over words. This parable challenges us to reflect on our own lives and our relationship with God. Are we like the first son, initially resisting God's call but ultimately following His will? Or are we like the second son, making promises to God but failing to act accordingly? In our journey of faith, it's not enough to merely profess our love for God; we must also live out our faith through our actions. Ezekiel's prophecy in the Old Testament reinforces this message. God reminds us through the prophet that He is just and fair. He does not hold the sins of the father against the son or the sins of the son against the father. Each person is responsible for their own actions and choices. This is a profound reminder of God's mercy and forgiveness. No matter how we may have strayed in the past, God gives us the opportunity to repent and turn back to Him. He does not desire the death of the sinner but rather their conversion and life. As we contemplate these readings, let us examine our hearts and our actions. Are we living in accordance with God's will, or are we merely paying lip service to our faith? God calls us to be people of integrity, whose actions align with our words. In times of sin and disobedience, let us remember that God is always ready to forgive and embrace us when we sincerely repent. May we strive to be like the first son in the parable, responding to God's call with a heart willing to change and obey, and may we trust in God's abundant mercy and love, as emphasized in Ezekiel's prophecy. Through His grace, we can continually grow in faith and righteousness.

Please invite someone to Mass.

St. Philip Neri pray for us!

Please pray for me, have a blessed week!

Fr. Szparagowski

SPN School News

We did it again! Our school has been awarded the
*Archdiocese of Philadelphia School of Distinguished
Instruction 2023* for growth and exceeding potential
based on the 2023 Spring Terra Nova Standardized Tests.
&

Our school has earned the 2023 National School of
Excellence Blue Ribbon by the US Department of
Education for the second time! Congratulations &
gratitude to faculty, staff, parents & students for their
time and effort in this rare accomplishment!

Well done Faculty and students!



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

George Alburger, Nancy Bogdon, Susan Bonner, Audrey Michelle Cacchio, Lou Cacchio, Ava Love Conley, Elizabeth Cunningham, Charlie Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Joseph Fox, Rick Gallagher, Jean Girard, Kathryn Griffin, Andrea Harrison, Winifred Headman, Kathleen Kunes, Ann Litman, Richard Lewis, 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, 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, Helen Tarsi, Kena Thompson, Patricia Trioli, Frank Tulino, William Wilder, may God strengthen them in their struggle.

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 & Concrete Project Update

The roofing project is completed!!! The concrete replacement in front of the Church has begun and hopefully within 2 weeks it will be completed as well. Your generous donations made all this possible. Thank you!



Baptismal Instruction / Pre Jordan

The next session will be October 9th; 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.

Are you a Parent who has Lost a Child?

An informal group of moms & dads get together to talk or just listen. Contact Judy Sturm at 610-909-2034 or Karen Montgomery at 215-920-5269 for more details.



Mothers & Babies in Need

October is dedicated to Respect Life causes. Items for mothers & babies in need may be placed in the crib in the Church Vestibule during the month of October. Gently used items are welcome. Size 4 diapers & developmental toys are needed.

St. John's Hospice

Casseroles can be home made or store brought. The next drop off dates are before and after all Masses on the weekend of September 30th and October 1st and before 9AM on pick-up day, Wednesday, October 4th. 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 from the Church).

**October 4th – St. Francis of Assisi
Blessing of the Animals at 7PM**

October is Respect Life Month

Second Collection next weekend - Pro Life

There will be a 2nd collection next weekend for the Pro-Life Educational Foundation, a 501 C(3), that provides funding for various pro-life groups such as Generation Life, college pro-life groups and crisis pregnancies centers. If not able to attend Mass donations can be sent to the Church Office. Thank you for your support!

Stop by the SPN Respect Life Committee display table in the vestibule and look over the handout material. Take any item that interests you. For further information about the respect Life

Committee contact:

Mary McGonagle 610-220-6898

mcmonagle49@comcast.net

Joe Manta 215-353-7577 josphgmanta@me.com

Vacation Bible School seems so very long ago! Autumn is here and your generosity continues to echo through the world's childhood community. Our Vacation Bible School raised \$409.88 for the missionary Childhood Assoc to help provide clean water in Nigeria.

Sisters of St. Joseph Chance Drive

Please help make this year's drive especially successful. Drawing is Dec 7th

Grand Prize \$10,000

5 prizes of \$500 each

\$5.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 5

Go to: www.ssjsphila.org

Call: 800-482-6510



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).



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.



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.

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 visit: www.archphila.org



Save the Date for the 2023 SPN Auction

Get ready for Gatsby Night! Saturday, November 18th at 6:30PM. Join your fellow parishioners and friends as we take it back to the Roaring Twenties for great food, drinks, music and tons of exciting live and silent auction items! Please check the table in the vestibule for more information on sponsorship opportunities!

Spiritual Adoption Program

Your spiritually adopted baby is developing quite beautifully now. Her weight is approaching 2 pounds. She sits up straight now to accommodate her internal organs which have moved into their final place in her little body. Babies born prematurely at this time have a very good chance of surviving. The medical advances in caring for extremely small newborn infants are extraordinary indeed. Don't forget to pray for your baby. Abortion is legal through all nine months and her mom might still feel pressure to abort.

St. Francis Inn

Many thanks for your continuous support! The listing of current needs is attached to the collection box in the vestibule. 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 Whitmarsh Woods.



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.



Friday, October 13 at 6:45PM in the gym!
\$40pp (\$45 after 10/6)

Deadline is 10/10, no tickets night of event
Deanna Marrone at 267-358-8015
Paula DiGiacomo at 610-308-0797

ADULT FAITH FORMATION



THE Mass by Bishop Robert Barron



Fr. Szparagowski will facilitate the presentation beginning October 5th at 7PM in the school cafeteria. For Catholics, the Mass is probably the most familiar part of the Faith. But sometimes, familiarity makes us take things for granted or prevents us from going deeper. Join us as we walk through the Mass with Bishop Barron. We will see how the Mass brings us out of the fallen world into the heavenly realm. We'll come to realize that the Mass is the most privileged and intimate encounter with the Lord, here on earth. Come and see that there is more to the Mass than you ever realized.

+++++

Register by October 1st

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

(Please cut out registration and drop in collection basket or drop off at the Church Office.)

Pastoral Installation



Sunday, October 8th



Fr. Szparagowski will be officially installed as our new pastor on **Sunday, October 8th** at the 11AM Mass. A representative of the Archbishop will officiate as he becomes our 7th pastor since we were established on September 12, 1945.

A catered luncheon will follow in the School, all are welcome and personally invited to attend this celebration. If you plan to attend, please complete the information below and drop it in the collection basket or send it in or drop it off at the Church Office:

437 Ridge Pike

Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

Any questions call the Church Office
at 610-834-1975.

Please join us as we celebrate as a parish this new page on our faith journey together.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number Attending: _____

(Please cut out reservation and return)

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