

St. Philip Neri Church

437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444



“Behold the Lamb of God.

...who takes away the sins of the world.””

January 14, 2024

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



“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 Venezia
School Principal

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 William Moffitt, Hugh Moran, Sr. Anne Winkelmann SSJ, George Zinni and the souls in purgatory. May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.

"True humility is not thinking less of yourself;

It is thinking of yourself less." C.S. Lewis



Saturday, January 13th

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

5PM Vigil – Annette Terreri

Sunday, January 14th

Sts. Fabian & Sebastian

7:30AM – Albert J. LaBrusciano

9:30AM – Robert DiBenedetto

11AM – Tom Morrison

Monday, January 15th

8:30AM – Ida Bozzo

Tuesday, January 16th

8:30AM – Margaret Rayca

Wednesday, January 17th

St. Anthony, Abbot

8:30AM – Robert Veneziale

Thursday, January 18th

8:30AM – Joseph G. Perri & Joseph G. Perri, Jr.

Friday, January 19th

8:30AM – William Cunningham

Saturday, January 20th

Sts. Fabian & Sebastian

8:30AM – St. Philip Neri Guild



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, Sally Cahill, Eleanor Cimini, Ava Love Conley, Charlie Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Holstyn Fink, Bernadette Fisher, Mary & Molly Lozinak, Phyllis Luther, Greg deGroot Maggetti, James Maggetti, Robyn Lee Malachefski, Joan Marine, Bernie McLafferty Sr, Julia McLaughlin, Steven Merlin, Christopher Minetti, Joe McLaughlin, Joe O'Brien, Elizabeth Peirce, Penny Purcell, Barbara Pester, William Pinto, Maria Prince, Ann Marie Sanders, Martine Schaffer, Michael Shaw, David Sparacino, Betty Sparks, Brian Stenz, Amy Swift, 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.



Sanctuary Memorials

1 candle will burn at the statue of the Blessed Mother, in memory of deceased members of the Petruzzelli Family, req'd by Al & Barb.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

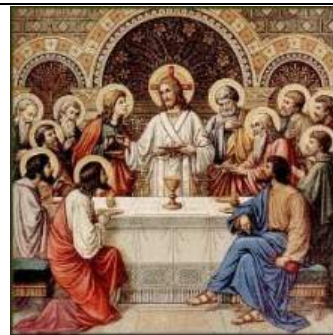
2nd Monday of the month in the chapel.

Next is February 12th from 9AM to 5PM.

Come and spend some time with Our Lord, have a quite talk, He's waiting!

When doing your financial planning, please think about remembering St. Philip's in your will.

We Welcome, Emery Grace, daughter of Philip & Colleen April, who was recently baptized here at St. Philips!



2024 Mass Book is Open

Masses and Intention Candles are available for the deceased, the living, a special intention or to commemorate a birthday or an occasion.

Sunday Masses are also available.

Please call 610-834-1975 or stop by the Church Office to reserve a date.

Dear St. Philip Neri Families & Friends



We give praise and thanks to God for the graces He has given us. In the tapestry of this Sunday's readings, we find a common thread woven through the stories of Samuel, the psalmist, Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, and the disciples in the Gospel of John – the theme of responding to the call of God. Each passage unfolds a unique aspect of how God beckons us, and our reply shapes the fabric of our faith journey. The first reading takes us to the young Samuel, nestled in the quiet of the night. Initially, he mistakes God's voice for that of Eli. It takes patient guidance for Samuel to discern the divine call. In our own lives, the Lord's voice may be subtle, requiring attentiveness and discernment amidst the noise of the world. The Responsorial Psalm echoes the responsive heart, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." This refrain encapsulates the essence of our relationship with God – an offering of ourselves in humble obedience. The psalmist's words inspire us to be open to God's plan and ready to surrender to His will. In Paul's letter to the Corinthians, we are reminded that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. The physical and spiritual dimensions of our existence are intertwined, emphasizing the sacredness of our being. This recognition invites us to honor God in all aspects of our lives, glorifying Him with our bodies and souls. The Gospel narrative from John introduces us to the initial disciples of Jesus. As John the Baptist points them to the Lamb of God, they follow Jesus and inquire, "Where are you staying?" In response, Jesus invites them to "Come and see." This simple yet profound invitation mirrors the constant call to encounter Christ in our lives, to dwell in His presence. Combining these readings, we are invited to reflect on how we respond to God's call. Do we, like Samuel, attune our ears to the divine whispers? Do we, with the psalmist, joyfully declare our readiness to fulfill God's will? Are we, in the light of Paul's teaching, mindful of the sacredness of our bodies and souls? Can we, like the disciples, echo a resounding "yes" to Jesus' invitation to "Come and see." This Sunday calls us to embrace a responsive and receptive heart, allowing the divine call to permeate every aspect of our lives. As we partake in the Eucharist, let us renew our commitment to be attentive disciples, ready to follow Christ wherever He leads. May our response be one of joy, gratitude, and an unwavering commitment to live out God's will in our daily journey of faith. Amen.

Please invite someone to Mass.
St. Philip Neri, pray for us.
Have a blessed week,

Fr. Szparagowski



Congratulations

Congratulations to Stephen Schilling & Kelly Packer and Daniel Anderson & Coeli Ciammetti, both couples were recently married here at St. Phillip's. We pray for God's blessing on these new families.

Baptismal Instruction / Pre Jordan

The next session will be February 12th; 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

Block Collection

2023 Annual Block / Census Collection

Number of registered families – 2312

Number of responses – 511

Thank you for your contribution to this most important collection to keep our parish fiscally sound, if you haven't already donated, please consider doing so today. Thank You!

Thank you to all who so generously donated to our Christmas Collection. This collection supports a sizable portion of our yearly budget. God Bless your goodness!

Project HOPE

A group of concerned parishioners who are willing to assist others in need of transportation to places within the community such as doctor's offices, therapy centers and Church. Please call Brigid at 267-879-6534

St. Monica Club

Have your loved ones drifted away from the Church? Follow the example of St. Monica and **PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!** Join us for our next meeting in the convent chapel on Jan 23rd at 7PM. We pray, talk about how to love those who are rejecting the faith and be good witness for them, and share the good news when prayers are answered. Contact Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875.



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.



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. Call the Church Office at 610-834-1975.



Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are scheduled for the 2nd & 4th Sunday of every month immediately following the 11AM Mass. Call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 to schedule a Baptism and/or to register for the Pre-Jordan Class.

Respect Life Committee Meeting

The SPN Respect Life Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday, Jan 23rd at 7PM, in the Rectory Conference Room. The meeting will briefly review 2023 activities and plan an agenda for 2024 activities. All parishioners are invited, for information contact Joe Manta at 215-353-7577 or Mary McMonagle at 610-220-6898.

Catechist Needed

Is your New Year's resolution to deepen your faith and get more involved with your Church?
Do you feel called to teach children about the faith?

We are in need of a catechist on
Tuesday afternoons, 4:15 to 5:30PM.
Please call Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875

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 215-587-3750
Or go to: www.archphila.org.

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.

Young Adult Ministry

The Young Adult Ministry group is inviting all parishioners and guests to attend a Holy Hour on Wednesday, January 17th at 7PM in our Church. All are welcome to join us. We will have contemporary Christian music with a brief reflection. Afterwards, everyone is invited to meet at the Ale House on Germantown Pike for a refreshment and social. Please spend time with us and with our Lord, as we pray for each other. Please invite your friends and family to join us for prayer and fellowship as we begin the New Year. For more information, please contact Francesco Cesareo at francescocesareo@spnprep.org



SPN Women's Guild Presents
"A tasting tour & food paring of
fine Italian wines."
Friday, 1/26/24 at 7PM
SPN School Hall
Space is limited
Questions call Rita DeCarlo
215-974-2246



Test your knowledge of history, pop-culture, and current events at SPN Trivia Night. The event is Friday, January 19th at 7PM in the gym. Doors open at 6PM. Cost is \$40/pp for early bird sign up by December 29th, \$50/pp afterwards and includes trivia, two Easy Passes for the table (a free answer) and unlimited beer, hard seltzer, and non-alcoholic beverages, Food is BYO. Space is limited and on a first come basis.

Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/spn2024trivia>, contact Maggie Atkins at: maggiekatkins@gmail.com



School News

The annual week celebrating Catholic Schools is Jan 28th to Feb 4th. The theme is: Catholic Schools; United in Faith & Community". We will be having an open house on Sunday, Jan 28th, 9:00 to 11:00 AM. All parishioners, alumni, families and friends are welcome to stop in to tour the school, meet the faculty and see what our students are learning.

Thank you for your support of our school!

Mrs. Elizabeth Veneziale, M.Ed, principal

We have some more wonderful news to share about some updates that have occurred at our School in the last few months. Completed just before our School Christmas shows, the entire sound and video systems were replaced in our School Hall/Cafeteria with a state-of-the-art system that can now be utilized by not only our School and Prep programs but also by our other church and social groups that utilize the space. This project cost more than \$35,000 but thanks to the generosity of both the Connelly Foundation (a \$25,000.00 grant for being awarded a Blue-Ribbon school) and the almost \$5,000 raised through our *#I Give Catholic campaign*, a substantial portion of this cost has already been accounted for with these donations. Also, over the Christmas break, we had an electrical contractor update all the traditional cost prohibitive light bulbs (over 1600 bulbs) in all areas of the school as well as replacing the Gym light fixtures with the latest LED bulbs and fixtures that we hope will not only be more environmentally friendly but also a welcome reduction in our electricity expenses moving forward. Most of the cost of this program was paid for through a PECO grant program, our net expense was roughly \$1,500.00 that included disposing of the old mercury lightbulbs through a designated recycling program.

Please review the following information about the state sponsored EITC/OSTC program. Through the establishment of Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs, donors can receive up to a 90% tax credit against their personal PA state tax liability by making their gift through BLOCS.

An individual or company who wishes to take advantage of this tax-credit program may become a member of a BLOCS Scholarship LLC ("LLC") with a 2-year commitment to fund the LLC. These credits will be distributed to each member via K-1 and are then applied to your PA tax liability for the tax year in which the donation is made. When participating in the program you can designate St. Philip Neri as the recipient on your donations through the program. For more information go to: www.blocs.org/taxcredit

For more than forty years, Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) has provided educational opportunities for children ages pre-K through 12th grade throughout the Philadelphia five county area and across the state of Pennsylvania.

Viewed as the premier scholarship organization in PA, BLOCS partners with more than 100 Archdiocesan and 300 private Catholic and non-Catholic schools to provide over 17,000 need-based scholarships annually. BLOCS is the largest scholarship organization in the state to provide scholarships funded heavily through Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development's Educational Improvement (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) Programs.

Thank you and may God bless you for your continued support of both St. Philip Neri Church and School.
St. John Neumann, Patron of Catholic Schools, pray for us!

Fr. Szparagowski

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