

St. Philip Neri Church

437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444



“He cured many who were sick...
He drove out many demons.”

February 4, 2024
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 Dr. George Green, Rev. Jason V. Kulczynski and the souls in purgatory.
May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.**

"God's love is the anchor that keeps us grounded amidst life's storms."

St. Scholastica / Feast Day, February 10th



Saturday, February 3rd

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5PM Vigil – Jim Koller

Sunday, February 4th

7:30AM – Parishioners

9:30AM – George Westwood III

11AM – Eileen Szparagowski

Monday, February 5th

St. Agatha

8:30AM – Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, February 6th

St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30AM – Phyllis & John Kennedy

Wednesday, February 7th

8:30AM – John M. Travaline

Thursday, February 8th

St. Jerome Emiliani

8:30AM – William Berry

Friday, February 9th

8:30AM – William Moffitt

Saturday, February 10th

St. Scholastica

8:30AM – St. Philip Neri Guild

5PM Vigil – Frank & Josephine Polomski

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!*

Emails and texts have been reportedly being received by some parishioners from Fr. Szparagowski soliciting money or a favor. Please do not open or respond as Father has never, nor will he ever solicit money or services using email or texts.

2nd Collection – Aged & Infirm Priests



Knights of Columbus Family Rosary

Join us Thursday, February 15th at 7PM in the Church.

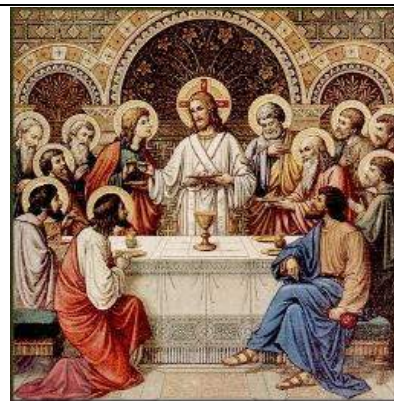
Bring your wants & needs to Mary's intercession.



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

Nancy Bogdon, Sally Cahill, Eleanor Cimini, Joe D'Angelo, Charlie Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Bernadette Fisher, Donna Little, Phyllis Luther, Robyn Lee Malachefski, Joan Marine, Elizabeth Peirce, Penny Purcell, Barbara Pester, William Pinto, Maria Prince, 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.



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.

*When doing your financial planning,
please consider remembering
St. Philip's in your will.*

Dear St. Philip Neri Families & Friends



We give praise and thanks to God for the graces He has given us. Today, we reflect upon the powerful words of St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians and the profound actions of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel according to

Mark. Together, they present us with a compelling invitation to embrace the mission of evangelization with a spirit of selflessness, adaptability, and a fervent prayer life. In the second reading, St. Paul expresses a deep sense of obligation to preach the Gospel. He recognizes that this calling is not a cause for boasting but rather a stewardship entrusted to him. "Woe to me if I do not preach it!", he exclaims. This urgency in Paul's words

should resonate with each one of us. We, too, are entrusted with the task of sharing the Good News, not as a burden but as a joyous responsibility as disciples of Jesus. Paul's example challenges us to offer the Gospel free of charge, not seeking personal gain but striving to win over as many hearts as possible. This requires a selflessness that mirrors the love of Christ. We are called to become all things to all people, adapting our approach to meet the diverse needs of those around us. In our

families, workplaces, and communities, let us be witnesses to the Gospel through acts of love, kindness, and charity. Turning to the Gospel of Mark, we witness the compassionate ministry of Jesus. He not only preaches the Good News but also heals the sick and liberates those possessed by demons. The scene unfolds with Simon's mother-in-law lying sick, and Jesus, without hesitation, reaches out to her. The fever leaves her, and she immediately begins to serve them. Jesus' healing touch transforms her, enabling her to respond in gratitude and service to the One who healed her. This narrative reminds us that our proclamation of the Gospel is not confined to words alone. We are called to imitate

Jesus by reaching out to those in need around us, offering healing and hope. Our homes, workplaces, and communities should be places where the love of Christ is not only spoken but also tangibly felt through acts of compassion and service. In the midst of His active ministry, Jesus retreats to a quiet place for prayer. This emphasizes the essential connection between action and contemplation. As Catholics, we are called to cultivate a deep prayer life that sustains and guides our efforts in spreading the Gospel. Just as Jesus found strength in communion with the Father, so too must we find solace in prayer, especially in the busyness of our lives. Finally,

Jesus responds to the disciples who seek Him out, saying, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose, have I come." These words echo the universal mission of the Church. We are called not only to share the Gospel within our immediate circles but to extend our reach to those who have not yet heard the Good News. As we reflect on these Scriptures today, let us renew our commitment to the mission of

evangelization. May the selflessness of St. Paul and the compassionate actions of Jesus inspire us to become true ambassadors of the Gospel, adapting to the needs of those around us and rooted in a deep life of prayer. Let us go forth, like Jesus, into the nearby villages of our lives, preaching and living the Good News

for the salvation of souls

Please invite someone to Mass.

St. Philip Neri, pray for us!

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Szparagowski



Ash Wednesday

February 14th

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

Imposition of ashes at each Mass.

12:05PM Liturgy of the Word only, with ashes.

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 - 518

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!

We Welcome

*Madelyn Marie, daughter of Mark & Annette
Angelo and McKenna Anne, daughter of
James & Kelly Leigh, who were recently
baptized here at St. Philips!*

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.



We often hear about Jesus' passion and death, but imaging experiencing them for the very first time. In *No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk-through Christ's Passion*, we are going to walk step-by-step with Jesus on His journey from agony in the garden to His crucifixion on Calvary. Along the way, we will unpack the biblical background to these events, the prophecies, and most especially, the ways Jesus is inviting us to walk more closely with Him today. It is a six-part bible study program that begins February 22nd at 7PM in the cafeteria. The cost is \$30.00/pp to offset the DVD and program book that will be provided, for more information or to register contact: Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875 or sharonotto@spnprep.org
Registration forms are available in the vestibule, just drop in the collection box when completed.

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

Novena to St. Joseph for Families

Does the evening news scare you? March is dedicated to St. Joseph. You are invited to a reflection on St. Joseph as husband, father, and patron of families. You will receive a Novena to St. Joseph to pray at home with your family before his feast on March 19th. Our sessions will be March 6th at 7PM in the convent. For more information contact Sister Lourdes at lourdesken@gmail.com

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, February 20th at 7PM in the convent chapel. We pray, talk about how to love those who are rejecting the faith.
Contact Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875.

"O Come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God."



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



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.

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

Designer Bag Bingo at St. Titus Feb 9th

To help fund the boys baseball team *The Pioneers* to go to Cooperstown this summer. Doors open at 7PM, tickets are \$35pp (prepaid) & \$40pp at the door. Contact Rhonda Slavin at 610-730-8412 for information

St. Francis Inn

Many thanks for your continuous support!

Items we need most are listed on the collection box in the vestibule. 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 Whitmarsh Woods.



Super Bowl Hoagie Sale Knights of Columbus

Pre Order forms are in the vestibule.

There will be hoagies for sale in the vestibule on February 10th & 11th. Turkey or Italian at \$10.00 per. Thank you for your support, all proceeds benefit Knight's charities!

Young Adult Ministry

The next Praise & Worship Holy Hour sponsored by the Young Adult Ministry will take place on February 22nd at 7PM in the Church. The theme for this month's Holy Hour is "Love". All parishioners are invited to join with the young adults in the parish, spending time together in prayer, reflection, and socializing together after the Holy Hour at a reception to be held in the Rectory Conference Room. The Young Adult Ministry Group also invites all parishioners and guests to attend an introductory session of "Living joy", on February 27th at 7PM in the Rectory Conference Room. The video series was produced by Chris Stefanick at Real Life Catholic and aims to help people deepen connections with others, embrace the profound love of God and unlock joy in their lives.

Attendees can expect time for conversation, reflection and light refreshments. Please join us for a kick-off of this series! We hope to see you there! For more information, please contact Francesco Cesareo at francescocesareo@spnprep.org

St. John's Hospice

St. John's would like to thank all who donated casseroles to the hospice. A total of 460 casseroles were donated last year!

Casseroles can be home made or store bought. The next drop off dates are before and after all Masses on the weekend of February February 3rd & 4th and before 9AM on pick-up day, Wednesday, February 7th before 9AM. 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).



SPN Super Bowl

Can you help keep the breakfast bowls in our community filled this winter? Will you donate a box of cereal or cereal bars?

Collection box will be in the Church vestibule until February 11th.

All food collected will be distributed by *Martha's Choice Marketplace*, a pantry in Norristown, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.



All major food stores and major clothes retailers have cards available; go to the website for a complete list.

These programs help support our school and is **driven by parishioner participation**...give it a try!

\$335 monthly in groceries = \$160/yr

\$250 monthly of dining out with a = \$240/yr

\$150 monthly clothing = \$70/yr

\$150 monthly in home improvement = \$70/yr

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.

SPN WOMEN'S GUILD ANNUAL SUZY JO DONUT SALE

**Saturday Feb 10th and
Sunday Feb 11th, after each Mass
½ DOZ DONUTS - \$8 or 1 DOZ DONUTS - \$15
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR
WOMEN'S GUILD!!**

Save the date...

SPN WOMEN'S GUILD

Covered
Dish
Supper



*Please join us for our annual
covered dish supper Thursday,*

April 4, 2024 6:30pm,

SPN School Hall

Flyer will follow.

For Information call Rose Boneck 610-324-3111 or Loretta Gallagher 484-213-1202

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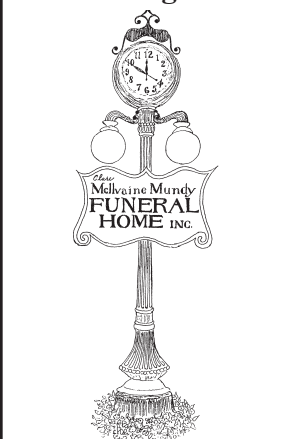
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