

St. Philip Neri Church
437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444



“If you wish, you can make me clean”

“I do will it. Be made clean”



February 11, 2024
6th 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 Joe D'Angelo, William McTamney, Donna Otto, Sr. Marie Rudegeair SSJ, Alan Trost, Rev. Eugene M. Tully and the souls in purgatory. May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."



Saturday, February 10th

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5PM Vigil – Frank & Josephine Polomski

Sunday, February 11th

7:30AM – Parishioners

9:30AM – Mary Lawless

11AM – Hank Darragh

Monday, February 12th

8:30AM – Raymond Quaglia

Tuesday, February 13th

8:30AM – Hector DiGiacomo

Wednesday, February 14th

Ash Wednesday

6:30AM – Walter J. Palmer, Jr.

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

7PM – Hank Darragh

Thursday, February 15th

8:30AM – Peter & Rose Witalec

Friday, February 16th

8:30AM – Wally Flamm

Saturday, February 17th

Seven Founders of the Servite Order

8:30AM – St. Philip Neri Guild

5PM Vigil – Robert Getz

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.**



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, Charlie
Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa

Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Eileen Drab,

Bernadette Fisher, Donna Little, Phyllis Luther,

Robyn Lee Malachefski, Joan Marine, Elizabeth

Peirce, Penny Purcell, Barbara Pester, William

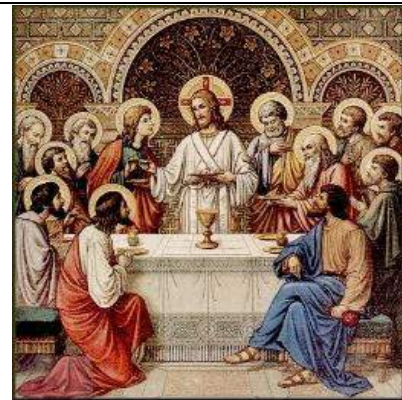
Pinto, Maria Prince, Martine Schaffer, Michael

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, our Gospel reading from Mark 1:40-45 recounts a powerful encounter between Jesus and a man suffering from leprosy. This story invites us to reflect on

the healing touch of Christ's compassion and the transformative power of His mercy. In this passage, we see a leper approaching Jesus with a humble plea, "If you wish, you can make me clean." This man, burdened

by the physical and social isolation imposed by his condition, demonstrates great faith in recognizing Jesus

as the source of healing. In response, Jesus does something extraordinary – He reaches out and touches the leper. In that simple yet profound act, Jesus not only

heals the man physically but also restores him to the community from which he had been excluded. This touch of Christ speaks volumes about the nature of our

Savior. In a society where lepers were considered unclean and untouchable, even seen as suffering for the consequence of sins of their parents or their own, Jesus

breaks through these barriers to show that His love knows no bounds. He teaches us that true compassion goes beyond social norms, prejudices, and fears. Jesus is

willing to touch the untouchable, and in doing so, He demonstrates the transformative power of His love. As

we reflect on this Gospel passage, we are called to examine our own lives and consider the areas where we may be in need of Christ's healing touch. Just like the

leper, we all carry wounds – whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. The good news is that Jesus is ready and willing to embrace us in our brokenness. He

invites us to approach Him with faith and trust, acknowledging our need for His mercy and healing.

Furthermore, as followers of Christ, we are called to imitate His example of compassion and mercy in our relationships with others. Are we willing to reach out

and touch those who may be marginalized or excluded in our society? Do we extend a healing touch through acts of kindness, forgiveness, and understanding? In our faith

journey, let us be inspired by the leper's humility and faith, recognizing Jesus as the ultimate source of healing

and restoration. May we approach the Lord with confidence, trusting in His boundless compassion. And

may we, in turn, become instruments of His love, reaching out to touch the lives of those around us with the same compassion that Christ has shown us.

Similarly, as we approach Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, we are reminded of our own need for spiritual healing and renewal. The ashes imposed on our

foreheads symbolize our mortality and call us to repentance, echoing the transformative healing seen in the Gospel passage. Just as Jesus reached out to the leper with compassion, during this Lenten season, we too seek

God's mercy, acknowledging our brokenness and embracing the opportunity for spiritual cleansing and

renewal. Let the story of the leper and Ash Wednesday inspire us to approach this season with humility, repentance, and a profound awareness of God's redeeming love.

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.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in memory of A.J. McGee requested by the SPN School Community.

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



Wednesday evenings in Lent at 7PM

Starting February 21st

*The ashes mean I am a sinner
The shape of the cross means
I have a savior.*

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

Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company

A tribute in the style of Sinatra as performed by Joey C.

Feb 23rd, 7PM to 9PM, catered dinner

Advance Tickets are \$60.00

Go to: www.Fundraising@BARRENHILL.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.



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

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 Whitemarsh Woods.



Super Bowl Hoagie Sale Knights of Columbus

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 at *The Ale House* (405 Germantown pike, Lafayette Hill). 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 March 2nd & 3rd and before 9AM on pick-up day, Wednesday, March 6th 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).

*Remember that you are dust,
And to dust you shall return.*



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.

Save the date...

SPN WOMEN'S GUILD



*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

St. Gen's Alumni & Former Teachers Reunion

Saturday, April 13th, 7PM to 11PM at Sandy Run Country Club. \$45/pp includes apps, dinner, desert and complimentary drink. Send registration & fee to: St. Gen's Reunion, P.O. Box 31, Orelan, PA 19075. Contact Tricia Geppert Haber tricia@trimarcontractors.com

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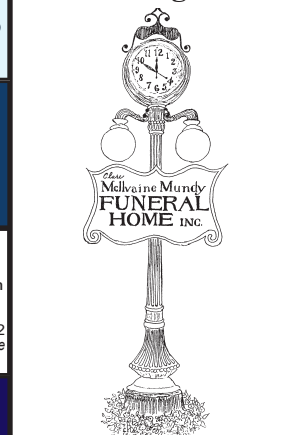
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