

St. Philip Neri Church

437 Ridge Pike / Lafayette Hill, PA 19444



“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life”

March 17, 2024

5th Sunday in Lent

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 Veneziale
School Principal

Mrs. Sharon Otto
Director of Religious Education
Michael X. Lundy
Director of Music
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.



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 Eleanor Cimini, Joan Healy, Quentin Monte, Marcus Pochettino, and the souls in purgatory. May God grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.



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



The sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of Nancy Liberato, Requested by Liberato Family.

2 candles will burn at the statue of St. Joseph
1 in memory of Frank & Rose Jankowski
1 in memory of Edward & Catherine Pilcicki
Requested by the Jankowski Family



Saturday, March 16th

5th Sunday in Lent

5PM Vigil – Nancy Brown Della

Sunday, March 17th

St. Patrick

7:30AM – Jay Kunaszuk

9:30AM – Ursula Jones

11AM – Richard Jones

Monday, March 18th

St. Cyril of Jerusalem

8:30AM – Nancy Liberato

Tuesday, March 19th

St. Joseph

8:30AM – Walt Dunsmore

Wednesday, March 20th

8:30AM – Joseph & Eleanor McNichol

Thursday, March 21st

8:30AM – Alfonso DeLuca

Friday, March 22nd

8:30AM – Glenn & Susan Shapley

Saturday, March 23rd

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

8:30AM – St. Philip Neri Guild

5PM Vigil – Joe D'Angelo



St. Philip Neri Guild

This is a guild of living and deceased persons, prayer intentions or any special occasion, that are listed and prayed for every Saturday at the 8:30AM Mass. This Mass is offered for guild members and their intentions. Please call the Church Office to include your intention(s). Suggested offering is \$20.00, which goes to support our sanctuary fund.

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

2nd Monday of the month in the chapel.

Next is April 8th from 9AM to 5PM.

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

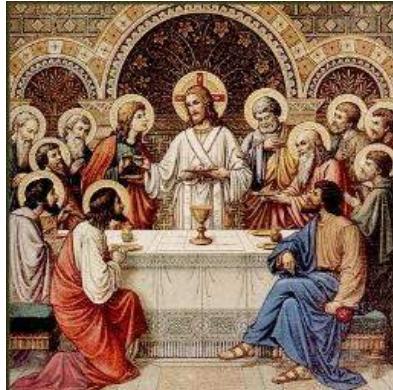
Happy St. Patrick's Day



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

George Alburger, Nancy Bogdon, Charlie Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Eileen Drab, Kerin Dungan, Bernadette Fisher, Winnie Headman, Donna Little, Phyllis Luther, Joan Marine, Baby Hadleigh McCarthy, Joe McGrath, Elizabeth Peirce, Sloane Porcaro, Penny Purcell, Barbara Pester, William Pinto, Maria Prince, Ann Marie Sanders, Martine Schaffer, Michael Shaw, David Sparacino, Betty Sparks, Barbara Stuhl, Brian Stenz, Amy Swift, Joe Thomas, 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. In the delicate art of *kintsugi*, broken pottery is meticulously mended with lacquer mixed with powdered gold, silver, or platinum. Instead of disguising the cracks, the artist accentuates them, turning the mended piece into a stunning mosaic of resilience and beauty. This ancient Japanese practice serves as a profound metaphor for the way God heals our brokenness and transforms our hearts into vessels of grace. Just as the skilled hands of a *kintsugi* artist embrace the shattered fragments of pottery, God lovingly takes the broken pieces of our lives into His hands. In the gentle touch of divine grace, our fractures are not concealed but rather revealed with a luminous radiance.

God's healing is not merely a restoration but a transformative process that transcends the original state, creating a masterpiece from the shards of our brokenness. The cracks in our hearts, like the fissures in the pottery, tell stories of pain, loss, suffering and sin. However, God, the ultimate artist, pours His divine love into those crevices, filling them with the radiant gold of His mercy. In this process of divine *kintsugi*, our brokenness becomes a canvas for the beauty of redemption. As we reflect on the Japanese art of *kintsugi* in the light of our Catholic faith, we find parallels between the broken vessels and our wounded hearts. God's grace, like precious metals used in *kintsugi*, not only binds the brokenness but enhances the beauty of our souls. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we experience the transformative power of God's love and mercy, mending our sins with the golden threads of His forgiveness. Just as *kintsugi* requires trust in the artist's skill, the Sacrament of Reconciliation calls for trust in God's boundless mercy. It is the fearless acknowledgement that, in our brokenness, we are not abandoned, but embraced by God's love that seeks to transform, not condemn. The confessional becomes a sanctuary where our sins are not met with judgement but with the gentle touch of divine healing. May we cast aside our fears, trusting that God's love is greater than any sin, and boldly approach the confessional, allowing the art of *kintsugi* to inspire us to embrace the sacrament with open hearts. In doing so, we discover that our brokenness is not a barrier but a bridge to the infinite mercy that waits to make us whole once more. In the tapestry of our lives, God's grace is the golden thread that weaves through every broken moment, creating a masterpiece of redemption. As we gaze upon the healed and radiant vessel of our hearts, we are reminded that God's love is the ultimate *kintsugi*, transforming our brokenness into a testament of His enduring and restoring grace.

Inspired by reflection from Lent 2024

Magnificat Lenten Companion

Please invite someone to Mass.

St. Philip Neri, pray for us!

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Szparagowski



Wednesday, March 27th
Stations of the Cross at 7PM & Confessions

Holy Thursday, March 28th

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7PM

A concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper with the Washing of Feet. Church will be open for visits / adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10PM.

Good Friday, March 29th

Passion & Death of the Lord at 3PM

During the liturgy, communion will be distributed and Veneration of the Cross will take place.

&

Tenebrae Service at 7PM

(see below)

Holy Saturday, March 30th

Confessions from Noon to 1PM

Easter Vigil at 7PM

Liturgy of Light

Liturgy of the Word

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Easter Sunday, March 31st

Masses at 7:30AM, 9:30AM & 11AM

Good Friday at 7PM

Tenebrae / Service of Darkness

Lamentations of the Lamb

An ancient service of readings and meditations on the Passion of Christ. Music by Schola Cantorum with flute, oboe, cello & piano will perform at this spiritually moving Good Friday Service, come join us in this solemn commemoration of Our Lord's Passion.

Family Rosary

Join us on Tuesday, March 19th, the Feast of St. Joseph, for our monthly family rosary at 7PM in the Church. A great devotion to help prepare for Holy Week.

2nd Collection Today – Capital Replacement

2nd Collection Next Weekend – Easter Flowers



Sacraments

Baptism

Baptisms are scheduled on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of every month immediately following the 11AM Mass.

Godparents need Letters of Eligibility, for first time parents the Pre-Jordan Class is required. Call the Church Office at 610-834-1975 to make arrangements.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made with a priest at least 6 months prior to wedding date. Pre-Cana classes are required, contact Church office at 610-834-1975.

Anointing of the Sick

Primarily intended as prayers and anointing for healing from serious illness or as a spiritual preparation before surgery. Last Rites or Extreme Unction are for those in danger of imminent death.



Home and School St. Patrick/St. Joseph Dinner

Join us on Saturday, March 23rd as we celebrate St.

Patrick & St. Joseph! Tickets are \$50/pp, 21+, includes dinner buffet, beer, hard seltzer and soft drinks as well as live music from Celtic Pride! 50/50 raffle items will be available for purchase. Call the Church office for tickets at 610-834-1975 or go to <https://forms.gle/fvFfYBD8Nnqa1oMQA>.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

The annual Mass is for couples married 1-5 years, 25 years, and 50 years. The Mass will be May 4th. To RSVP go to:

<http://form.jotform.com/230443950527152>

The Food Gleaners

An invitation to help feed the hungry, the Food Gleaners have an opportunity to glean the meat trimmings from Eddie V's steakhouse in King of Prussia. The Missionary Sisters of Charity would love to make hearty stews and soups for their guests. The donation is available on Fridays at 1PM at the back door of the restaurant. It needs to be delivered to the sisters on DeKalb Pike, if interested in getting involved contact Cindy Veit at LWVeit@gmail.com

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.



Knights of Columbus Lenten Sale!

Monday, March 18th is deadline for orders.

Pick-up day will be Saturday, March 23rd

Order forms are in the vestibule.

Thanks for your support!

St. Frances Cabrini Film

The film is based on the true story of Francesca Cabrini, an Italian immigrant, and centers around the beginning of her mission in NYC in the 19th century. She was canonized a saint in 1946 by Pope Pius XII. Go to www.angel.com/watch/cabrini for locations, its well worth seeing!



SPN 2024 Annual Golf Outing

Sponsors needed!

Monday, April 29, 2024

Sandy Run Country Club

\$45/pp for happy hour only ticket

See flyer at doors of Church for more information.

Respect Life Corner

St. Philip Neri Respect Life Committee

Rosary of Life – March 16th

<http://tinyurl.com/FarwellProLifeHero>

Spiritual Adoption of an Unborn Baby March 23-24

Through the inspiration of the late Bishop Fulton Sheen the Spiritual Adoption of an unborn baby has become a national crusade. St. Philip Neri will again participate in the crusade. On March 23rd & 24th a table will be set up in the Church vestibule with information on how parishioners can spiritually adopt an unborn baby. Please stop by after Mass and join the crusade to save lives of unborn babies.

Contact: Joe Manta at josephgmanta@me.com

SPN Theatre

Congratulations and thank you to all who made possible the beautifully designed and performed "Finding Nemo" last weekend. The performance was over the top! Well done!

Young Adult Ministry

The next Praise & worship Holy Hour will take place on Thursday, March 21st at 7PM in the Church. The theme will be "The Cross" in preparation for the celebration of Holy Week. All parishioners are invited to join the young adults in the parish spending time together in prayer and reflection in preparation for the Sacred Triduum. Attendees are invited to a social gathering at the Ale House (405 Germantown Pike) following the Holy Hour. The Young Adult Ministry is sponsoring a Lenten Service Project on March 23rd from 1PM to 3PM at Cradles to Crayons, a local non-profit organization that helps alleviate poverty for children in the Philadelphia area. They offer clothes, shoes, school supplies and other items to children in need. We will be volunteering at their Giving Factory (4700 Wissahickon Ave, Suite 142, Phila., PA 19144) where we will help organize donations and ensure that children are receiving good quality items. Any young adults in the parish who wish to join us for this service project need to register by March 20th by emailing your contact info Francesco Cesareo at francescoccesareo@spnprep.org



Save the date! SPN Women's Guild

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 23, 2024

12 Noon, Rain or Shine

Parish Playground/Ball Field

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.

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**

For Information call

Rose Boneck 610-324-3111 or

Loretta Gallagher 484-213-1202

Calling all Hams!

Supermarkets are offering free hams for shoppers who have earned bonus points. If you don't plan on using the ham you can drop it off after all Masses on Palm Sunday at the school cafeteria. Coupons can be dropped off as well but they must have cardmembers phone number on them to redeem. Contact Cindy Veit at www.lwveit@gmail.com

St. John's Hospice

Casseroles can be home made or store bought. The next drop off dates are before and after all Masses on the weekend of April 6th & 7th and before 9AM on pick-up day, Wednesday, April 10th 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



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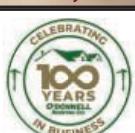
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