

St. Philip Neri Church



Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

+ + + + +

December 29, 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



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St. Philip Neri

Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

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



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 and active with a parish. Young adults who turn 26 or complete higher education and continue to reside within our area should register individually.

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*

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Available at every Mass, the celebrant will have them available; simply ask him when you present to receive Holy Communion.



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.**

We Pray

For all those souls who have gone on before us marked with the sign of faith, most especially, John Coscia Sr, Sr. Jane Day, Sr. Ruthann O'Mara and the souls in purgatory.

May God, in His mercy, grant them eternal rest and give hopeful peace to those who mourn.



**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
Wednesday, January 1st
Masses at 8:30AM & 10AM
Vigil Mass on Dec 31st at 4PM**



Holy Family Sunday

5PM Vigil – Edward W. Moser

Sunday, December 29th

7:30AM – John & Bernadette Catania

9:30AM – Steven Fosbrook

11AM – Robert Gavaghan

Monday, December 30th

8:30AM – Evelyn Pilecki

Tuesday, December 31st

St. Sylvester 1, Pope

8:30AM – William Gallagher

56th Anniversary

4PM Vigil Mass of Solemnity of Mary

Wednesday, January 1st

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Masses at 8:30AM & 10AM

Thursday, January 2nd

Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:30AM – Robert Farrell

Friday, January 3rd

Holy Name of Jesus

8:30 AM – Gloria Bello

Saturday, January 4th

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30AM – People of the Parish

Vigil – Thomas “Bud” Greenfield

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in
the Church on Monday, January 13th,
9AM to 5PM.

Pre Jordan / Baptismal Instruction

If you are having your first child baptized, the archdiocese requires the parents to attend a Pre-Jordan Class. Deacon Mike Cipressi hosts these virtual classes on a monthly basis.
Call the Church Office at 610-834-1975.



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

George Alburger, Richard Bapst, Nancy Bogdon, Charlotte Craven, Valerie Carlisle, Betty Chichearo, Charlie Dickman, Clare DiDonato, Emily Donhauser, Lisa Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Eileen Drab, Johnny Higson, Annamarie Koch, Phyllis Luther, Joan Marine, Maria Marley, Anna Marlin, Terrence Martin, Baby Hadleigh McCarthy, Susan McLaughlin, Rowan McNichol, William Pinto, Maria Prince, Michael Shaw, David Sparacino, Betty Sparks, Brian Stenz, Amy Swift, Patricia Trioli, Frank Tulino and James Williams. 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.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of Macaitis & Pisarek Families, req'd by Macaitis & Pisarek Families.
2 candles will burn at the statue of the Blessed Mother.
1 in memory of Anna Sabol, req'd by Her Family.
1 in memory of Carlotta Fare, req'd by Fare Family.

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 visit: www.archphila.org

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

Our annual Block Collection is underway, envelopes were sent to all parishioners, and responses have been coming in, please help if you can. This along with the Christmas and Easter Collections are pivotal to the structure of our parish finances. Your goodness provides a sound base from which we maintain and improve our Church and campus. Thank you!

**2345 Registered Families
447 Envelopes Received**



Merry Christmas! We give praise and thanks to God for the graces and blessings He has given us. Today, we gather to celebrate two profound mysteries of our faith; the Feast of the Holy Family and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, which marks the Octave Day of Christmas. These celebrations invite us to contemplate the beauty of family life and the role of Mary as the Mother of God and our spiritual mother.

First, let us consider the Holy Family; Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The Gospel reminds us of their unity, love, and fidelity to God's plan. Despite the challenges they faced – the journey to Bethlehem, the flight into Egypt, and raising the Son of God in humility and simplicity – The Holy Family models trust in God and obedience to His will. Their example reminds us that holiness begins at home. Families are called to be schools of love, forgiveness, and faith, where Christ is at the center. Whether our families are big or small, traditional or unconventional, each is invited to reflect the light of God's love to the world.

Now, we turn to Mary, the Mother of God. Today's celebration honors her unique role in salvation history. By her "yes" to God, Mary became the Mother of Jesus, who is fully God and fully man. The title "Mother of God" doesn't elevate Mary above God but acknowledges her as the *Theotokos*, the "God-bearer". Through her, the eternal Word took flesh and dwelt among us. Mary's maternal care didn't end with Jesus' earthly life; she continues to intercede for us as a loving mother who understands our struggles and joys.

These celebrations come at the perfect time, as we continue to bask in the light of Christmas. The Octave Day reminds us that Christmas is not just a single event but an enduring reality. Jesus' birth renews humanity and transforms our lives. He came to dwell with us, bringing peace, hope, and salvation.

So how can we honor the Holy Family in our daily lives? First, let us strive to make our homes places of prayer, love, and reconciliation. Let us seek Mary's intercession, asking her to guide us in following her Son more closely. Finally, let us remember that just as the Holy Family lived with trust in God's plan, we too are called to trust and surrender our lives to Him. As we continue this Christmas season, may the Holy Family inspire us to grow in holiness, and may Mary, the Mother of God, draw us closer to her Son, Jesus Christ, who is our Savior and Lord

May God bless you all, please invite someone to Mass today,
St. Philip Neri, pray for us.
Fr. Szparagowski

Happy New Year to all!

Prayers for a healthy & prosperous 2025

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. Call rectory or Church Office.

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.



Test your knowledge of history, pop-culture, and current events at SPN Trivia Night. The event is Friday, January 17th at 7PM in the school gym. Doors open at 6PM. Cost is \$40/pp for early bird sign up by January 3rd, or \$50/pp afterwards, and includes trivia, two EasyPasses 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, so register today at: <https://tinyurl.com/spn2025trivia>. You can register as individuals or teams of up to 10. Please contact Maggie Atkins at: maggiekatkins@gmail.com with questions.



This program help support our school and is driven by parishioner participation...give it a try!

GIANT, ACME, SHOP RITE, WEIS, KOHLS, **FLOCCO'S**, BOSCOVS, MACY'S & LOWES

Cards are available in the Church Office.

Scrip Cards will soon be available in the vestibule after Masses.



School News

Our parish maintenance garage roof has been replaced and our gym roof has received two coatings to insure years of protection. The cost was \$100,000.00, only your generosity makes these maintenance projects possible....thank you!

Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope.
Celebrating the 2025th anniversary of the Incarnation. The Holy Father will open the Holy Door in Rome on Dec 24th, opening the year of joy. Go to www.archphila.org for more information.



The Sisters of St. Joseph, from St. Philip Neri Convent, wish our parishioners a happy and blessed new year. We remember you daily in our prayers. If you want to have us pray for a special intention, please email

mbambrick1941@gmail.com ,God Bless you.

Sr. Marie Bambrick, Sr. Colleen Dauerbach,
Sr. Carol Heffner, Sr. Mary Elizabeth Karatis,
Sr. Lourdes Kennedy, Sr. Margret Mary Smith
& Sr. Kathi Szpila.



A new organ for our parish!

We are thrilled to announce that our parish now has a beautiful, refurbished organ to enhance our worship! Our old organ, which served us faithfully for many years, was nearing the end of its life. But through God's providence and the generosity of a parish family, we are blessed with a new organ, including installation and new speakers, fully funded by their charitable donation. This generous family, who wishes to remain anonymous, has shared an extraordinary gift with our parish. Their kindness reflects the great love and charity of God that shines through the hearts of so many in our parish family. I am deeply grateful for this donation, which will allow our music ministry to flourish and bring even greater beauty to our liturgies. Fittingly, this blessing unfolded on the Feast of St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music and musicians. Inspired by the generosity of this gift and the intercession of St. Cecilia and St. Philip Neri. May our music always glorify the Lord and uplift our parish community.

St. Cecilia & St. Philip Neri, pray for us!



Go to the parish website to sign up, it's easy, free and can be stopped or adjusted at any time. In these busy times please do not forget your parish and help us, if you can, to meet our unchanged financial obligations.

As always, thank you for your generosity!

Respect Life Corner

Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month...nine months after her mother conceived her. The only change at birth is a change in the external life support system of the baby. She is no different now than before birth except she breathes and eats differently. She is truly a miracle. She began as a 46-chromosome cell and has grown over the past nine months into this unique human baby we can see. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist who is exactly like your baby. Your prayers saved her life. Thank you on behalf of all the little babies and their parents for your loving prayers that helped to bring them to birth, "so that they might have life and have it to the full!"

Knights of Columbus



Tickets are \$100.00 / Maximum of 400 tickets sold.

1 grand prize winner of \$10,000

(or 25% of all sales)

20 second place winners of \$500

(or 1.25% of all sales)

Drawing is March 30, 2025

Proceeds go to support the parish general fund and Knights charities. Tickets will be sold after Masses on Sundays at the doors of the Church, they are always available in the Church Office, Monday to Friday 8AM to 5PM. Makes a great stocking stuffer!

Thanks for your support of our parish and the Knights of Columbus charities!

St. Francis Inn

Please help if you can, we are having a difficult time keeping up with need. Always looking for volunteers, go to volunteers@stfrancisinn.org

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.

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 December 28th and 29th or any time between Dec 28th And Jan 2nd. If you need an alternate date or time call Eileen at 215-939-8368, or email at:

hurdles28@hotmail.com drop off is at
2308 Mulberry Lane.

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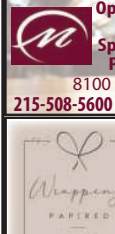
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