

St. Philip Neri Church



Hosanna !



**"The love of God makes
us do great things"
St. Philip Neri**

Church Office 610-834-1975

Rectory 610-828-5717

School 610-828-3082

Convent 610-828-2866

PREP Program 484-804-1875

www.saintphilipnerichurch.com

Rev. George J. Szparagowski,
Pastor

Rev. Christopher Redcay,
Sunday Assistant

Rev. Msgr. Charles P. Vance,
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. William B. Dooner
In Residence, Retired

Dominic W. Mirenda
Transitional Deacon

Deacon Robert G. Flynn

Deacon Michael J. Cipressi

Palm Sunday – March 29, 2026



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



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*

Elizabeth Shin, *Director of Music Ministry*

Barney McGee, *Parish Accountant*

**Parish Office is open Monday to Friday
from 7:30AM to 5PM.**



**Confessions are heard every Saturday from
3:45PM to 4:45PM or by appointment,
call 610-834-1975 to schedule.**



We Pray for our Beloved Deceased
For all those souls who have gone on before us marked with the sign of faith, most especially, Francis Cunname and the souls in purgatory. May God, in His mercy, grant them eternal rest and give peace to those who mourn.



**Stations of the Cross
Wednesday, April 1st.**

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



Palm Sunday

5PM Vigil
Steven Rheam

Sunday, March 29th

7:30AM – Charles & Margaret Ponietowicz
9:30AM – Ann Marie Sanders
11AM – Joseph Michael Williams

Monday, March 30th

8:30AM – Deceased Members of the
Moss Family

Tuesday, March 31st

8:30AM – Timothy McNichol – 31st Anniversary

Wednesday, April 1st

8:30AM – George Szparagowski, Sr.

Thursday, April 2nd

Holy Thursday

Friday, April 3rd

Good Friday

Saturday, April 4th

Holy Saturday



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of
Jim & Rosemary Fitzpatrick,
req'd by Sharon Fitzpatrick.

A candle will burn at the statue of the
Blessed Mother, in memory of
Ginny & Joe McCartin,
req'd by Gallagher Family.

A candle will burn at the statue of
St. Joseph in memory of
Sr. Kathleen Moss SSJ,
req'd by Gallagher Family.

We Welcome

**Charlotte Ann and Noah Christian, daughter &
son of Noah & Elizabeth Bech, Dean William,
son of Timothy & Emily Bell, Jack James, son
of Michael & Kaitlyn Fitzgerald, Violet Fiorella,
daughter of Brandon & Olivia Rosenthal
all were recently baptized!**



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

George Alburger, Elisa Berry,
Jimmy Breen, Nancy Bogdon, Tom Bonk,
Charlie Dickman, Claire DiDonato, Lou Fare, Kathleen
Grundy, Andrew Donohue, Emily Donhauser, Lisa
Dougherty, Dolores Downes, Eileen Drab, Catherine
Hangholt, Johnny Higson, Suzanne Kulliver, Ed
Kortonick, Judith Lins, Phyllis Luther, Joan Marine,
Terrence Martin, Rowan McNichol,
Randy Milakofsky, Donovan Mitchell, Anne Navarra,
William Pinto, Maria Prince, Baby Colson Robert Riday,
Patrick Ryan, Nicole Sachs, Michael Shaw, Kehlani
Smith, Chris Solarski, David Sparacino, Betty Sparks,
Brian Stenz, Amy Swift, Patricia Trioli, Frank Tulino, and
Dyane Westerfer.

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.*

Are you a Parent who has Lost a Child?

An informal group of moms & dads get together to
talk or just listen. Contact Jeanne Keough at 215-
200-6070 or Karen Montgomery at 215-920-5269.

Project H.O.P.E.

A group of concerned parishioners who are willing
to assist others in need of rides to doctor's
appointments or to Church,
Call Brigid Isackman at 267-879-6534

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.

Low Gluten Hosts

Lab certified, under 20 parts per million are available at
every Mass. The celebrant will have them available, simply
ask him when you present to receive.

**2nd Collection Today
Snow Removal**



Dear St. Philip Neri Family and Friends,

We give praise and thanks to God for the graces and blessings He has given us.

Today we begin the most sacred week of the Church's year—Holy Week. We start with joy: palms in our hands, voices lifted high, echoing the crowd in Jerusalem: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" It is a moment of triumph. Jesus enters the city not as a warrior king, but humbly, riding on a donkey. The people welcome Him with hope, expectation, even excitement. They believe He will save them.

But then—everything changes. Only moments later in the Gospel, the same voices cry out: "Crucify Him!"

This dramatic shift invites us to reflect deeply:

How can the same crowd move from praise to rejection so quickly?

It is easy to judge the people of Jerusalem, but if we are honest, we recognize something uncomfortable: That same contradiction exists within each of us. There are moments when we proclaim Jesus as Lord—when we pray, attend Mass, and strive to live our faith.

But there are also moments when we turn away—through sin, indifference, or silence when we should speak truth. We, too, can welcome Christ on Sunday...and forget Him by Monday.

The Passion reminds us that Jesus is not the kind of king the world expects. He does not conquer through force, but through love. He does not rule from a throne of gold, but from the wood of the

Cross. In the suffering of Christ, we see:

- His obedience to the Father
- His mercy toward sinners
- His total self-gift for our salvation

Even in His agony, Jesus forgives:

"Father, forgive them..." Even in death, He gives life.

Palm Sunday is not just something we remember—it is something we enter into.

So today, as we hold our palm branch, we should ask ourselves:

- Do I truly welcome Jesus as King in my life?
- Where do I still resist Him?
- Am I willing to follow Him—not only in moments of joy, but also in sacrifice?

Because to follow Christ means to walk the path of the Cross...
trusting that it leads to Resurrection.

Let it be a sincere prayer:

"Lord, save me. Stay with me. Lead me."

May we not be a people who praise Him one moment and abandon Him the next,
but disciples who remain faithful—from the waving of palms
to the silence of the tomb and into the glory of Easter morning.

"We adore Christ and we praise You, for by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

Please invite someone to Mass today.

St. Philip Neri, pray for us.

Have a blessed Holy Week,

Fr. Szparagowski

Have a Blessed Holy Week



Wednesday April 1st

Stations of the Cross at 7PM

Holy Thursday, April 2nd

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7PM

A concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper with the Washing of Feet. Chapel will be open for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:30 PM

Good Friday, April 3rd

Morning Prayer at 9AM

Midday Prayer at Noon

Passion & Death of the Lord at 3PM

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

&

Tenebrae Service at 7PM

Holy Saturday, April 4th

Morning Prayer at 9AM followed by

Blessing of food baskets

Confessions from Noon to 1PM

Easter Vigil at 7PM

Liturgy of Light

Liturgy of the Word

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Easter Sunday, April 5th

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



Come, witness the night the world held its breath.

Tenebrae

A Service of Darkness

Step into the ancient darkness of Good Friday as scripture, silence, and candlelight lead us into the Mystery of Christ's Passion. Each extinguished flame deepens the shadows in a night of piercing music and profound prayer, drawing us into the powerful journey of Christ's sacrifice.

Good Friday • April 3, 2026 • 7:00 PM

Presider: Rev. George Szparagowski

Sacred Music by: Laudate Dominum Choir, Schola Cantorum, and Vox Lumina Strings



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.

Metropolitan Tribunal

The Tribunal is available to help people who have experienced divorce and who may wish to remarry in the Church. If you are divorced and want to marry in the Church or remarried outside the Church call 215-587-3750 or go to:

www.archphila.org



Adoration to Pray for Vocations

Spend one hour each week before the Blessed Sacrament praying for vocations. For locations go to: www.heedthecall.org/vocations/resources



Calling all hams!

Local supermarkets offer a free ham to customers with bonus points. If you would like to donate yours, Cindy will be collecting them on Monday, March 30th starting at 7:45AM outside the Church. She will be taking them to the Patrician Society in Norristown. Call Church office with questions, 610-825-1975.

St. Monica Club

Do you have a loved ones who have drifted away from the Church? Join us on Tuesday, March 24th in the Convent Chapel as we pray together, support one another, and share hope in God's faithfulness. For more info contact: Sharon Otto at 484-804-1875.



SAVE THE DATE SPN Women's Guild
Designer Bag Bingo Night

Friday, April 10, 2026 -SPN School Hall

\$45 pp (\$50 after 4/1/26)

"BYO drinks, food, snacks"

Final Deadline 4/6/2026 - Reserve your seat ASAP!!

No seats sold @ doors; No refunds.

Paula DiGiacomo, 610-308-0797

Deanna Marrone, 267-358-8015

Check out our Parish-wide Lenten Prayer Initiative in our Parish e-Newsletter!

Our weekly Newsletter shares parish news *And more* – including Archdiocesan updates, Special events, school news, and faith & family Resources. **New Content** is added weekly –

To help you stay connected.

Sign up: Text STPHILIP to 84576

Online: www.saintphilipnerichurch.com



Ready for a summer adventure?

Adventures await at RAINFOREST FALLS!

Join us at SPN from June 15th to 19th
9Am to Noon

- Children who have completed Pre-K through 3rd grade.
- \$100 per child, includes t-shirt, music CD, crafts & snacks.
- We're visiting Sunrise Retirement Community of Friday to share our songs!
- Register fast as spots are limited, go to: <https://spnprep.org/important-forms>



Why Palm?

In the ancient Near East, the palm branch was a symbol of victory, triumph, peace and eternal life. The tree is usually 40-50 feet tall but can reach 80 feet and provides much needed shade in a very hot climate. It does not bear fruit for 6 to 8 years after planting, but it's worth the wait as the fruits is highly nutritious. Its branches were used as roofing, for baskets, sandal making and medicinal purposes. It is mentioned throughout Scripture; Genesis, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Psalms, Kings and in the New Testament. Palm branches were often depicted on coins and decorative carvings, symbolizing goodness and well-being and used in the celebration of festive occasions. Kings and conquerors were welcomed home with palm branches being strewn before them and waived by admiring people along the route. Christ received such a welcome in Jerusalem on that first "Holy Week" over two thousand years ago. This is Palm Sunday, the beginning of our solemn remembrance of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection. Please join us for the Sacred Liturgies, as we commemorate these mysteries as a parish family.

Draped Crucifix & Statues

It may seem strange that during the most sacred time of the year you would enter the Church and see our beautiful crucifix and statues veiled? While it may seem counterintuitive to veil statues and images during the final weeks of Holy Lent, the Catholic Church recommends this practice to highlight our senses and build within us the longing for Easter Sunday. The unveiling before Easter is a great reminder of our own life on earth, we live in a "veiled" world, in exile from our true home. The practice goes back to the Middle Ages.

St. Francis Inn

The Inn is running short of supplies. Especially needed are large tea bags, paper towels, cooking oil, soup, sugar, travel size toiletries, razors, deodorant, blankets, jackets, backpacks, hoodies, sneakers, sweatpants and children's clothes. Collection box is in Church vestibule.

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