

# ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time



## PARISH INFORMATION

18211 S Henrici RD  
Oregon City OR 97045

PHONE: 503-631-2882

FAX: 503-631-7443

EMAIL:

stphilipbenizi\_redland@archdpx.org

**Pastor:** Fr. Paschal Ezurike

Email: pezurike@archdpx.org

**Parish Staff**

**Business Manager:** Mary Pattyn

503-631-2882

mpattyn@archdpx.org

**Secretary:** Sherrie Havens

503-631-2882

shavens@archdpx.org

**RE Director:** Melissa Payne

503-631-2882

mbear@archdpx.org

**Music Director:** Debbie Schaffer

(C) 503-887-7701

**Youth Minister:** Katy Schnoor

(C) 503-314-8907

**Pastoral Council President:**

Matt Anderson

**Administrative Council Chair:**

Dan Sweeney

**Adoration:** Janet Tankersley

(C) 503-545-2229

**Minister Volunteer Coordinators**

**Altar Servers:** Don Payne

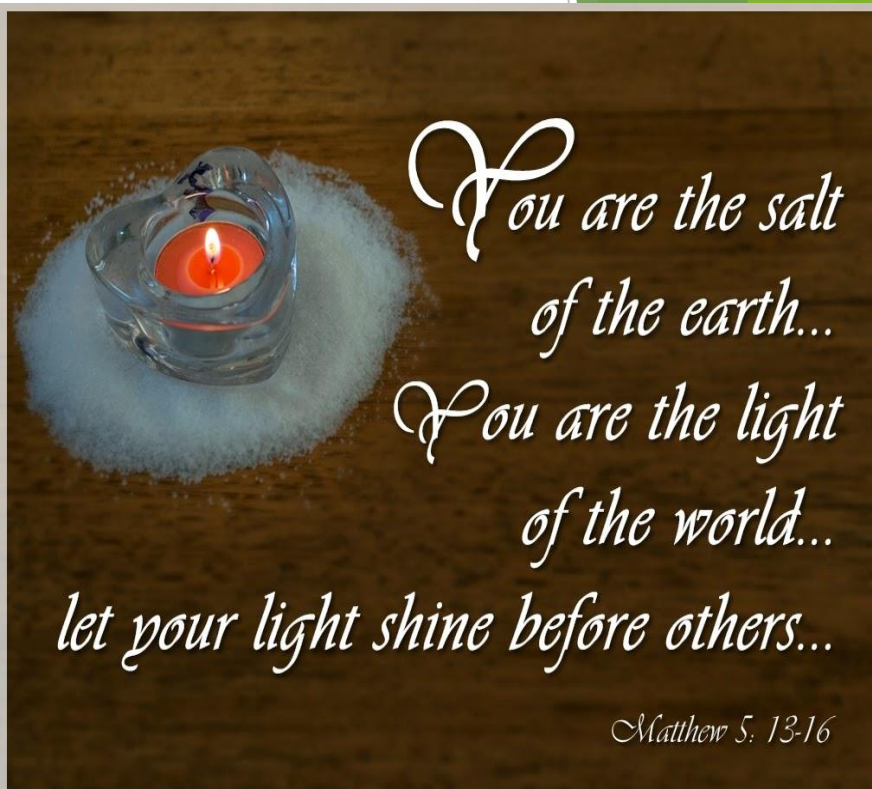
(H) 503-632-4370

**Prayer Requests:** Peggy St Andre

503-631-3531

**Email Prayer Chain:** Heather Hannam

hahannam@juno.com



## **MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm Mass

Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am Mass

Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri - 8am Mass

Tuesday - 6:30pm Mass

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22, Mass times: 8:00am & 7:00pm

## **RECONCILIATION:**

Saturdays – 4:00-5:00pm or by Appointment

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:**

Thursdays – 8:30am-10pm (*ends with Benediction*)

## **ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

If you or someone you know is homebound, wants to receive Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing, please call the parish office, 503-631-2882.

**Baptisms:** Call the Parish Office.

**Funerals:** Call the Parish Office.

**Weddings:** Call Fr. Paschal at least 6 months in advance of the planned date.

**St. Philip Benizi Website:** [www.philipbenizi.com](http://www.philipbenizi.com)

God is good! All the time! All the time, God is good.

Dear friends in Christ, last week, the gospel passage introduced the Sermon on the Mount. The greatly admired Sermon of Christ will continue to dominate the gospel reading for three more Sundays; also, we will hear part of the evergreen Sermon on Ash Wednesday. The Perfect Teacher and Messiah authoritatively taught his disciples and the crowds the beatitudes. Jesus, in the beatitudes, turns things upside down pointing out that those who want happiness and fulfillment must follow and walk his paths and not that of the world. To be fortunate and happy, Christ's disciples will be foolish, weak, lowly, and despised in the things of the world but be firm in following the teachings of Christ. In the words of enlightenment, we urged Christ's disciples to shun the transitory sermons and embrace Christ's Sermon so as to be happy and fulfilled. Today, the fifth Sunday in ordinary time, the liturgy of the word challenges us to shine with Christ's presence, compassion, care, and love. And to spice the earth with our virtues.

In the first reading of today, taken from the Prophet Isaiah (chapter 58), God orders the Prophet to denounce the people for their injustice. The people complained that while they seek God and perform religious acts, God pays no attention. God, in turn, points out their hypocrisy but encourages them to make the love of God practical. They make a great show of piety but exploit their workers. God explains that genuine righteousness is feeding the hungry, caring for the homeless and naked, and loving thy neighbor. Israel, who was called to be a light for the nations, could not fulfill that vocation with prayers and fasting that did not include the witness of justice. Holiness consists not only of prayer and fasting; it includes caring for the weak in society. When they cared for the needy, God heard them, and their light shined.

The psalmist strongly reinforces Isaiah's message that God's people should be the light amid a dark world. The refrain proclaims that the just person is a light in the darkness. The psalmist declares that God's justice, mercy, and generosity endure forever. It expresses that those who imitate God like God's justice will last forever.

The second reading today complements and unifies the other readings. St. Paul continues to challenge some of the values of the world. He claims that he came to the Corinthians in weakness, fear, and trembling and presented his message with an utter lack of sublime wisdom. He also pointed out that he did so not from the inability to do otherwise but so that God's power would shine forth. Paul wants the Corinthians to understand that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is the wisdom and power of God.

In today's gospel, Jesus said to his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world (Matthew 5:13 -14). He used two important images in a person's life - salt and light- to indicate what we are called to be. Jesus cautioned his disciples in the process, "But if the salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?"(Matthew 5: 13). It is no longer useful. Therefore, it should be thrown out and trampled underfoot. The Lord moved from the kitchen to the heavens, from salt to light, quickly spanning human experience in all its intensity. Christians are not only to be virtuous; they are also to be salt and the light; they are to raise the flavor of every activity and thus transform it.

In saying that his disciples are the salt of the earth, Christ describes the critical character of the Christian vocation. Either the Christian heightens the quality of human life and makes it palatable, tasteful, and delightfully nourishing, or the Christian has no reason for being. Salt, as we know, is not for itself and cannot be its end; it serves a humble yet indispensable purpose. Nothing can substitute for it. In a way, you are a delightfully nourishing Christian, or you are of no use. According to Leiva-Merikakis in his *Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word, Volume 1, "Inspired Christians, those who have lost their proper flavor, have forgotten their function as a condiment of society; they have forgotten the salt placed on their tongues at their baptism."* (pg. 206)

Christians are the means whereby God wants to flavor life and illuminate the life and the world. As the light of the world, we are to radiate Jesus' light to all the people we meet. Without light, we would be in darkness and always stumble in the dark. With light, we can see all obstacles and avoid them. Our obstacles are the device of the evil one. Jesus is telling us that by our example of living a Christian life through the grace of God, people would have a taste of what heaven would look like, and they would aspire to ask for that grace from God so they, too, can do good works that please God. *Continued on page 7*

# This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

## Sunday, 2/05/2023

8:00am Mass: +Ed Tyler (Janelle Wakefield)  
10:30am Mass: All Parishioners

## Monday, 2/06/2023 Memorial of St. Paul Miki and Companions

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass: +Dorothy Adams  
(Mary & Josh Pattyn)

## Tuesday, 2/07/2023

6:30pm Mass: +Dorothy Adams  
(Alderman Family)  
7:00pm: RCIA/Hall

## Wednesday, 2/08/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass: +Theda Curalli (Erin McClellan)

## Thursday, 2/09/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass: +Bill Celorie (Lois Celorie)  
7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

8:30am-10:00pm:

Eucharistic Adoration



## Friday, 2/10/2023 Memorial of St. Scholastica

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass: +Thomas Dale  
(Fred & Carolyn DeLange)

## Saturday, 2/11/2023

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church  
5:30pm Mass: +Ann Wuester  
(Tom & Debbie Schaffer)

## Sunday, 2/12/2023

8:00am Mass: All Parishioners  
10:30am Mass: +Edelmira Ayala (Karla Vazques)

## Please bring back your old palms

**Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> collection for Catholic Home Missions

**Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>:** Happy Valentine's Day

**Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>:** Mardi Gras party-Saturday 5pm-8pm

**Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Ash Wednesday-Mass at 8am & 7pm

**Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>:** Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper



## Travel with Fr. Paschal Ezurike, on our Pilgrimage to Ireland and England

August 11-August 21, 2023 Cost: \$4,999.00 Airfare and ALL-Included, except lunches and travel insurance.  
To register, please contact (855) 842-8001 or (508) 340-9370. You can also register online at [www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com).

## JPII Young Adult Crew

Join us, Feb. 11, 2023, for Mass at 5:30pm followed by dinner in the Hall and discussion about our Lenten plans.

Your subscription to **FORMED** has been renewed!!

If you need help registering call the office.

1. Go to [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup); Sign up as a parishioner
  2. Select your parish: Enter parish zip code **97045** and select **St Philip Benizi** from the dropdown menu
  3. Register with your name and email address
  4. Check that email inbox for a link to start watching.
- Check out the movies, videos, talks, books... so much available.

Please return your Time, Talent & Treasure forms. We have received 21% and we need 100% for updating our contact information and volunteer status. Please help by returning the form. Thank you.



Mardi Gras party, Saturday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm-8:00pm  
Pizza provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.  
See you there!!

Next week we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support of this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. More info. can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

## Finance Corner

Registered Household 222	WEEK OF 1/29/2023 Actual	Budget
Donors 48	\$3,319 (online: \$735)	\$6,611
Fiscal Year	\$146,368	\$148,028

## Next Weeks Assignments

### Ushers

### Lector/Commentator

### Extraordinary Minister

2/11~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon

Heather Hannam

Becky Wooten

2/12~8:00am: Jim Charriere

Danielle Dryden

Jeannine Breshears

2/12~10:30am: Larry Carnahan

Jerry Siler

Janeene Siler

**February Church Cleaners:** Carolyn Brown (503-799-4201)

**February Altar Linens:** Elaine Buxman (503-655-7208)



2/12 9:00am: Pat & Elaine  
11:30am: Volunteer





## No More Than Enough

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**“Y**ou are the salt of the earth.” Prior to industrialization, salt was a highly valued commodity. In the Middle Ages, a ton of salt sold for thirty-three gold ducats. Much earlier, Roman soldiers were often paid in salt. Hence our word *salary*. “You are the light of the world.” Like salt, light also is a valuable and necessary part of life. Without light, living plants die and human beings grow depressed.

Curiously, we only become aware of salt and light when they are absent. Food tends to be less tasty and bland without salt. And without light in the room we stumble and trip. Yet too much salt ruins food, while too much light blinds us, like when we drive facing headlights at night or stare at the sun. As valuable as salt and light are, both are at their best when unnoticed.

I offer these realities as images for persons of faith. Too much of “us” in the mix and we become the center of life, our egos blinding others to the workings of God. Yet absent, a world without persons of faith grows flat for lack of values and wisdom.

Likewise, the Church. Whenever the Church draws attention to itself, whenever it is clothed with pomp and majesty, God recedes to the background. Without the Church’s wisdom, however, a world hungry for meaning grows lost; charity is forgotten. We are called to be salt and light, no more than enough. ●

### Reflect

***How do I keep a balance between too much of me in the picture and too little?***



Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

MATTHEW 5:16

# Dear Padre,

***Sometimes I become pretty disgusted with my life and myself. I wonder if anyone really loves me. Is there any way I can know that God loves me?***

Every human person is made in the image of God. This means that your life is infinitely precious in God's eyes. God values and loves you beyond anything you could ever imagine.

God has also placed into our hearts a yearning for love and happiness that cannot be satisfied by anything less than God. True love will not be found in riches or well-being, in fame or power. True happiness will be found in God alone, the source of all life and all love.

In New Testament times, many people believed that wealth and success were signs of favor and love from God. If disaster struck, you would assume that God was angry with you, or that you had done something wrong. Ill-fortune was a "sign" that God's love had been withdrawn from you.

Jesus turned this sort of thinking on its head. Jesus taught that God truly loves all people, including those who are down on their luck. God's love is not based on wealth, fortune, or success. Rather, God loves you because you are God's own creation, God's child, and heir to God's own kingdom.

You might find it helpful to talk over those feelings of self-disgust with a spiritual director or a confessor. Meanwhile, take comfort in the words of Isaiah: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine (Isaiah 43:1). ●

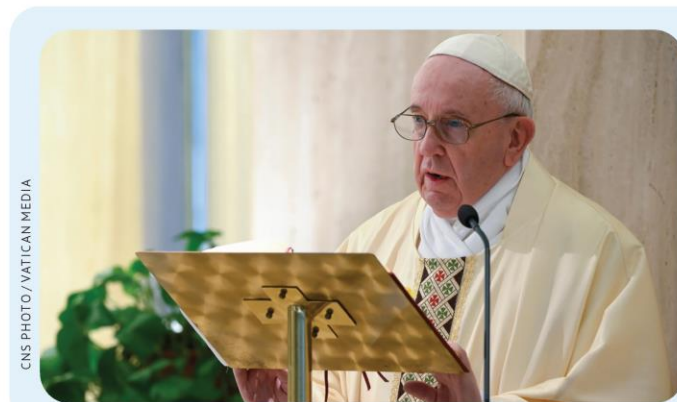


CREATIVIMAGES / SHUTTERSTOCK

***The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org***

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>
February 6 <i>St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i> Gn 1:1-19 Mk 6:53-56	February 7 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 1:20-2:4 Mk 7:1-13	February 8 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 2:5-9, 15-17 Mk 7:14-23	February 9 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 2:18-25 Mk 7:24-30	February 10 <i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i> Gn 3:1-8 Mk 7:31-37	February 11 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 3:9-24 Mk 8:1-10	February 12 <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Sir 15:15-20 1 Cor 2:6-10 Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34, 37

**Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?**  
Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).



CNS PHOTO / VATICAN MEDIA

## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***God changes the world by transforming our hearts, and this he cannot do without us. The Lord wants us to open the door of our hearts in order to enter into our lives....For when God finds an open and trusting heart, he can work wonders there.***

**HOMILY BAKU, AZERBAIJAN, OCTOBER 2, 2016**

**LET ME NOT ONLY BE CALLED A CHRISTIAN BUT PROVE TO BE ONE.**

You have never begrudged the martyrs their triumph but rather trained them for it. And so, I am asking you to be consistent with the lessons you teach them. Just beg for me the courage and endurance not only to speak but also to will what is right, so that I may not only be called a Christian but prove to be one. For if I prove myself to be a Christian by martyrdom, then people will call me one, and my loyalty to Christ will be apparent when the world sees me no more. Nothing you can see is truly good. For our Lord Jesus Christ, now that he has returned to his Father, has revealed himself more clearly. Our task is not one of producing persuasive propaganda; Christianity shows its greatness when it is hated by the world.

I am writing to all the churches to declare to them all that I am glad to die for God, provided you do not hinder me. I beg you not to show me a misplaced kindness. Let me be the food of beasts that I may come to God. I am his wheat, and I shall be ground by the teeth of beasts, that I may become Christ's pure bread.

I would rather that you coaxed the beasts to become my tomb and to leave no scrap of me behind; then when I have died I will be a burden to no one. I shall be a true disciple of Christ when the world no longer sees my body. Pray to Christ for me that by these means I may become a sacrifice to God. I do not give you orders like Peter and Paul. They were apostles, I am a condemned criminal; they were free, I am still a slave. But if I suffer, I shall become the freedman of Jesus Christ and I shall rise again to freedom in him.

Now as a prisoner I am learning to give up my own wishes. All the way from Syria to Rome I am fighting wild beasts, by land and by sea, by day and by night, chained as I am to ten leopards, I mean the detachment of soldiers who guard me; the better you treat them, the worse they become. I am more and more trained in discipleship by their ill usage of me, but I am not therefore justified. How happy I will be with the beasts which are prepared for me! I hope that they will make short work of me. I shall even coax them to devour me quickly and not to be afraid of touching me, as sometimes happens; in fact, if they hold back, I shall force them to it. Bear with me, for I know what is good for me. Now I am beginning to be a disciple. May nothing visible or invisible rob me of my prize, which is Jesus Christ! The fire, the cross, packs of wild beasts, lacerations, rendings, wrenching of bones, mangling of limbs, crushing of the whole body, the horrible tortures of the devil – let all these things come upon me, if only I may gain Jesus Christ!

**(From St Ignatius of Antioch's letter to the Romans)**

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**REFLECTION OF THE WEEK**

**"Inspid Christians, those who have lost their proper flavor, have forgotten their function as a condiment of society; they have forgotten the salt placed on their tongues at their baptism." ...Fr. Erasmo Leiva-Merikakis**

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**St. Philip Benizi Mission Statement**

St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church being part of the universal church shares in its mission: to proclaim Jesus Christ who came to the world to fulfill His father's will; by proclaiming the kingdom of God, building up the parish community as a witness to God's love and care for the world, helping one another to become what God has called us to be. We are therefore encouraged to work toward God's purpose of "wanting all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim 2:4).

### The mysteries of Jesus' hidden life

During the greater part of his life Jesus shared the condition of the vast majority of human beings: a daily life spent without evident greatness, a life of manual labour. His religious life was that of a Jew obedient to the law of God, a life in the community. From this whole period it is revealed to us that Jesus was "obedient" to his parents and that he "increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favour with God and man." CCC 531

Jesus' obedience to his mother and legal father fulfils the fourth commandment perfectly and was the temporal image of his filial obedience to his Father in heaven. The everyday obedience of Jesus to Joseph and Mary both announced and anticipated the obedience of Holy Thursday: "Not my will. . ." The obedience of Christ in the daily routine of his hidden life was already inaugurating his work of restoring what the disobedience of Adam had destroyed. CCC 532

The hidden life at Nazareth allows everyone to enter into fellowship with Jesus by the most ordinary events of daily life:

The home of Nazareth is the school where we begin to understand the life of Jesus - the school of the Gospel. First, then, a lesson of silence. May esteem for silence, that admirable and indispensable condition of mind, revive in us. . . A lesson on family life. May Nazareth teach us what family life is, its communion of love, its austere and simple beauty, and its sacred and inviolable character... A lesson of work. Nazareth, home of the "Carpenter's Son", in you I would choose to understand and proclaim the severe and redeeming law of human work. . . To conclude, I want to greet all the workers of the world, holding up to them their great pattern their brother who is God. CCC 533

The finding of Jesus in the temple is the only event that breaks the silence of the Gospels about the hidden years of Jesus. Here Jesus lets us catch a glimpse of the mystery of his total consecration to a mission that flows from his divine sonship: "Did you not know that I must be about my Father's work?" Mary and Joseph did not understand these words, but they accepted them in faith. Mary "kept all these things in her heart" during the years Jesus remained hidden in the silence of an ordinary life. CCC 534

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*Continued from Page 2*

**Continuing, Jesus said, "A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, giving light to all in the house."(Matthew 5:14-15). As Christians, we should not be hidden but must stand tall in virtues for others to see and emulate. The Christian, therefore, is placed on a high citadel for the world to see. The Christian cannot help it if God has identified and established him in the world to watch over the world, to be observed by the world. This precise image to be a city on a hill shows that Christians should let their works shine and radiate; we should put into practice what he has commanded us to do. Therefore, when we combine this image with that of light, it means we will become a city on a hill with bright light for others to see, and by following his teachings, we will be well-blended food for others with the right amount of salt.**

**As we continue our journey to the promised land, let us promise him today that we will always strive to be a light in the darkness to the upright, retain our edifying taste as the salt of the earth, and continue to stand tall with his grace. Remember that the Eternal light loves you, so strive to follow him, for by his grace, we have salvation. And the closer we are to Him, the better for us.**

***Blessings,  
Your servant in Christ,  
Fr. Paschal Ezurike***



Fall Sharathon: October 10-14, 2022

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