



# ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

November 20, 2022  
Our Lord Christ the King of the Universe



## PARISH INFORMATION

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**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

## RECONCILIATION:

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

## EUCARISTIC 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 Sunday, we continued with the reflection on eschatology (the part of theology concerned with death, judgment, and the final destiny of the soul and humankind). The story of the unswerving mother and her seven offspring, the warnings of Jesus Christ to guide against false teachers, and to be ready to face persecution formed the basis of the spiritual exercise. Elucidating on the readings of the preceding Sunday, the words of encouragement urged us not to betray our precious faith but guide it jealously amid the attacks from faithless fellows. Also, we should guard against phony teachers who aim to deceive Christ's followers. As disciples, tribulations and persecutions are among the paths we are to walk on, but we should be firm to avoid distraction so that we can receive the crown of eternal glory.

We joyfully gather on this royal Sunday to honor and praise Jesus Christ, our universal King who loves us beyond all telling and also forgives our sins. Today is the solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of the universe. Significantly, the last Sunday of the liturgical year concludes with the proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord and King. Today's first reading from the second book of Samuel applies to the content, meaning, and significance of this great solemnity. In the bible passage, all the tribes of Israel came to Hebron to acknowledge the leadership of David. They admitted that David 'led the Israelites out and brought them back.' They accepted and anointed David king at Hebron because they recognized God's power in him. They demonstrated their loyalty to him and their readiness to serve under him. "When all the elders of Israel came to David in Hebron, King David agreed with them there before the Lord, and they anointed him King of Israel." His kingship prefigured the universal kingship of Christ, for Christ is the King of our lives and the King of the world.

Before delving deeper into the reflection, it is crucial to ask basic questions like who is this King of the universe and Who is the King, that the Church celebrates today? Having these questions in place will benefit us in the overall reflection. Though these questions might sound too elementary, they are relevant. In today's second reading, St. Paul's letter to the entire Christian world via his letter to the Colossians shines more light and explains who this universal King is and what we should know about him. He says that God, delivering us from the power of darkness and sin, transferred us to the kingdom of His Beloved Son (the King); through him, we are redeemed, and our sins are forgiven.

St. Paul says that the universal King is the image of the invisible God and the firstborn of all creation. He reminds us that everything both in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible came from him. Furthermore, the universal King is the beginning and the head of the church; above all things, he has come to reconcile all things to him, restoring peace with the blood he shed on the cross. (Colossians 1: 12 -20). Dear friends, Paul offered a powerful description and insight on Jesus Christ, the universal King who, today, we are acclaiming as King and Lord with psalms, harps, music, trumpets, and the sound of horn.

In today's gospel, Christ the King shows the world, especially those rulers who sneered at him, that he is the King who has the power to save and to forgive sins. In the second reading, Paul said, 'That through him all things will be reconciled by his precious blood on the cross.'

With his universal power to forgive or condemn, Christ the King dismissed the sins of the convicted criminal, who reached out to him for mercy. He also gave him a place in His everlasting kingdom. Luke says that one of the criminals said to the universal King, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Because the criminal acknowledged Jesus as King of the universe, not as a fellow criminal, and confessed his sins, Jesus immediately assured him of a place in his kingdom. As the Universal King, Jesus granted the repentant thief what no one could offer him; he forgave him and offered him a place in paradise. According to Luke's records, Jesus replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." (Lk 23: 43). The universal King has the final word because he is the beginning and the end, the image of the invisible God.

Dear friends, as we celebrate Jesus as the King of the universe with drums, harps, horns, trumpets, and the sound of music, it is imperative to acknowledge and acclaim him as our personal King, Lord, and savior. It is equally essential to shamelessly and valorously make Jesus Christ King of our homes, workplaces, in short, the King of everything. When we adequately acknowledge him as our King and Savior, we approach him with the respect, honor, and dignity he deserves as a universal king. When we acclaim him as the King of everything, we should ceaselessly dance with pomp and pageantry to the house of God every day, especially on Sundays, to give thanks, honor, and worship him accordingly. The psalmist sings with joy today, "let us go rejoicing to the house of God."

## This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

### Sunday, 11/20/2022

8:00am Mass: All Parishioners  
10:30am Mass: +Father Michael Patrick  
(Don & Loretta Payne)

### Monday, 11/21/2022 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass: John Robison (Jim & Kathie)

### Tuesday, 11/22/2022 St Cecilia

6:30pm Mass: Grace Dodson  
(John & Elaine Buxman)

7:00pm: RCIA/Hall

### Wednesday, 11/23/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass: +John Stanchfield (Becky Wooten)

### Thursday, 11/24/2022 Thanksgiving

9:00am Mass: +Jeanie Bernert  
(Tom & Debbie Schaffer)



10:00am-10:00pm:  
Eucharistic Adoration

### Friday, 11/25/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
8:00am Mass:+Marge Rowlands (Toni Nova )

### Saturday, 11/26/2022

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church  
5:30pm Mass:+Frank Dulwick  
(Diane, Jake, & Elizabeth Castro)

### Sunday, 11/27/2022

8:00am: All Parishioners  
10:30am Mass: +John Glenn (Josh & Mary Pattyn)

**November 24<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving Mass 9 am**  
**Thanksgiving Day collection is for Helping Hands.**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> :Time Talent and Treasure**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>: Advent Retreat in the Parish Hall with Sr. Loretta Schaff**

### Next Weeks Assignments

#### Ushers

11/24~9:00am Volunteer Needed  
11/26~5:30pm: Volunteer Needed  
11/27~8:00am: Jim Charriere  
11/27~10:30am: Kevin Horace

#### Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam  
Heather Hannam  
Kristine Bible  
Nancy Carnahan

**November Church Cleaners:** Thuc & Gail Alexander (503-740-8312)  
**November Altar Linens:** Pat Bullock (503-632-3834)

11/27 9:00: Jim and Li Stevens  
11:30: Volunteer Needed

### Renewal and Commitment

St Phillip Benizi Advent Retreat

### **"Holy Longing: The Intimate Nearness of God"**

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 2022

8 AM Mass, retreat 9–3 PM. Light breakfast and lunch served.

Opportunity for Reconciliation following.

Retreat Leader: Sister Loretta Schaff, OSF.

Free Will Offering

Register w SPB Office or Heather Hannam

[hahannam@juno.com](mailto:hahannam@juno.com)



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

Where: Galway, Our Lady of Knock, Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, Dingle Peninsula, Dublin, Downpatrick, City of Belfast

Trip Dates: 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).

"Giving to JPII Young Adult Crew - our group seeks to provide community and Catholic fellowship to young adults by following St. John Paul II's call to "spread the light of Christ wherever you go." We are a small group, just starting our journey and we would greatly appreciate your support. A generous parishioner has offered to match any donations we receive from now through December. Please prayerfully consider donating. Donations can be made through the ConnectNow Giving portal by selecting the "JPII Young Adult" tab or through checks made payable to the church with "Young Adult" in the memo line. We greatly appreciate your support in this ministry!"

*Thank you for your donations!  
Your support is very much appreciated.*

### Finance Corner

Registered Household 218	WEEK OF 11/13/2022 Actual	Budget
Donors 58	\$4917 (online: \$1210)	\$5810
Fiscal Year	\$90,831	\$90,122









**November 20, 2022**

*Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe (C)*  
2 Sm 5:1–3  
Col 1:12–20  
Lk 23:35–43

## Hail, Christ Our King

The readings for today's feast create a collage of images that capture different characteristics of Christ's kingship. "Shepherd" assures us his kingly rule is characterized by tenderness. "King of Israel" locates him squarely within human time and space. "Image of the Invisible God" acclaims his divine origin. "Firstborn of all Creation" places him over the entire created world. "Source of all Created Things" acknowledges him as the model after which all things were fashioned. "Head of the Body, the Church" underscores the intimacy and interrelationship between him and all those joined to him through faith and baptism. "Firstborn of the Dead" acclaims his resurrection and guarantees the resurrection of those who will follow him into death.

The Gospel's image of Christ as the crucified king clearly interprets all the other images. He is a shepherd who protects his flock with his life, a king who rules with dedication despite shame and defeat, divine yet accepted death on a cross. He was God who became a

vulnerable child of earth, a simple man who offered himself as sacrifice, the one through whom we will all enjoy resurrection from the dead.

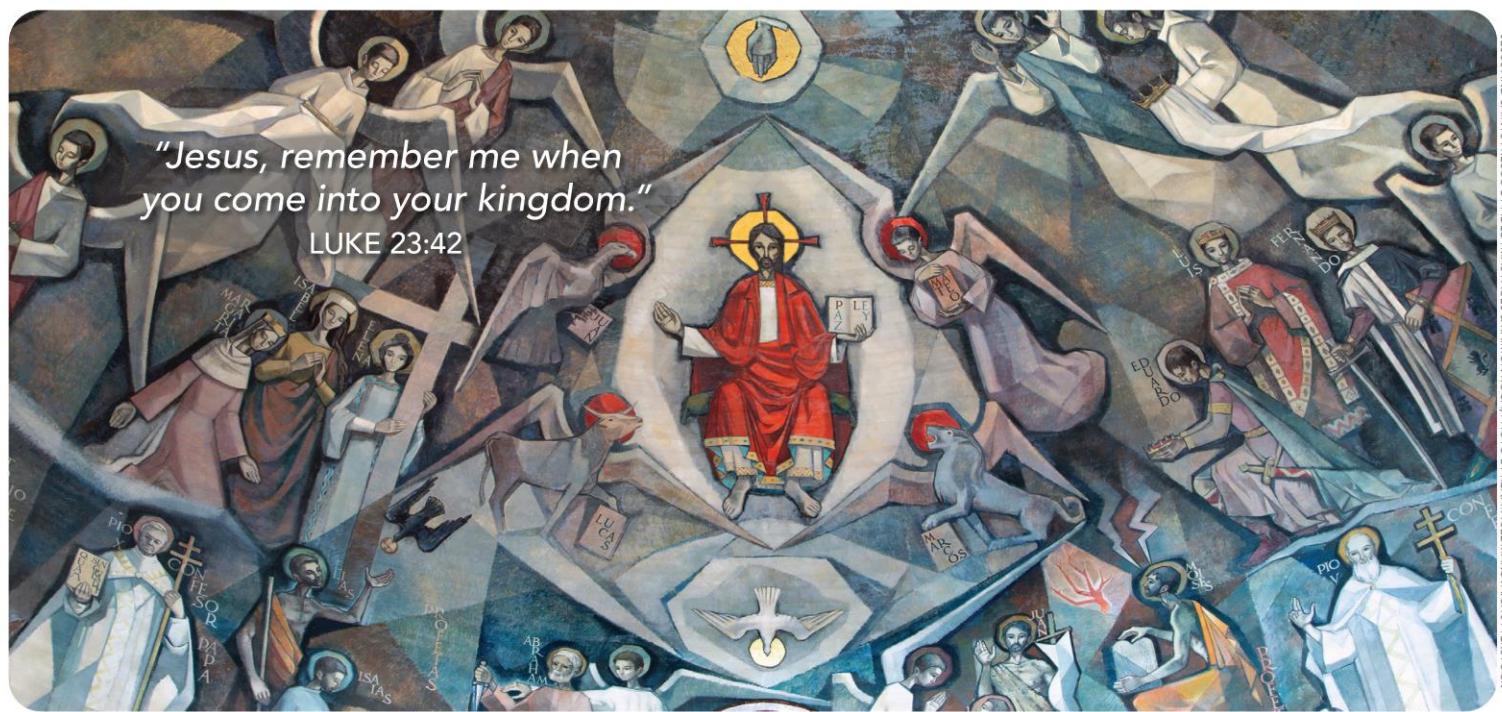
In the last words of the Gospel, Jesus opens the gates of his kingdom to a repentant sinner: "Today you will be with me in Paradise." This is what all of us long to hear, words that are empty when coming from one who has no authority, but charged with power when spoken by the one who is king over us all.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

**Editor's note:** This is Sr. Dianne Bergant's final reflection for *Our Parish Community*. She will continue to serve as professor of biblical studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. When a new liturgical cycle begins on November 27, 2022, we will welcome a new reflections writer, Fr. Joseph Juknialis. The people of Liguori Publications thank Sr. Dianne for her three years of insightful reflections. We wish her well.

### FOR Reflection

- \* Which image of Christ inspires you? Why?
- \* What must you do to allow Christ to have sway in your life?



JESUS AND SAINTS FRESCO BY FREDERIC TRAVIS PAGE & RAMON ROCA. PHOTO BY RENATA SEDMAKOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK

# Dear Padre,

**Can all good people go to heaven after they die, even if they haven't been a Christian? My dad is from India and grew up with another religion. The rest of my family is Catholic. I am afraid that we won't see each other again after we die.**

**P**ut your mind at ease. A person who is not a Christian can go to heaven. Heaven is not just for Christians, but for everyone who loves God and responds to God's will in his or her life.

We know that God wants all people to be saved, not just Christians. Jesus began a Church to help people achieve salvation. The Church teaches that those who seek "the truth and [do] the will of God in accordance with their understanding of it can be saved" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1260). What we know as Catholics is that God called us into the Church. It is there that we will work out our salvation. "Since Christ died for all, and since all are called to one and the same destiny, which is divine," we must believe that the Holy Spirit makes a way for everyone, a way that only God knows (CCC 1260).

You should pray for your dad and be a faithful Catholic. Perhaps your good example will help him become a Christian. Even if he never becomes a Christian, your prayers will help him work out his salvation without the benefit of the sacraments and a believing community. If he does what is right, God will reward him.

The Redemptorists  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



MIHAI ANDRITU / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM Pope Francis

*The face of God revealed by Jesus is that of a Father concerned for and close to the poor....We do not find him when and where we want, but see him in the lives of the poor, in their sufferings and needs, in the often inhuman conditions in which they are forced to live.*

MESSAGE, WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, NOVEMBER 14, 2021



## Calendar

### Monday

NOVEMBER 21  
Presentation of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Rv 14:1–3, 4b–5  
Lk 21:1–4

### Tuesday

NOVEMBER 22  
St. Cecilia,  
Virgin and Martyr  
Rv 14:14–19  
Lk 21:5–11

### Wednesday

NOVEMBER 23  
Weekday  
Rv 15:1–4  
Lk 21:12–19

### Thursday

NOVEMBER 24  
St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc,  
Priest, and Companions,  
Martyrs  
Rv 18:1–2, 21–23;  
19:1–3, 9a  
Lk 21:20–28

Thanksgiving Day (US)

Sir 50:22–24  
1 Cor 1:3–9  
Lk 17:11–19

### Friday

NOVEMBER 25  
Weekday  
Rv 20:1–4, 11–21:2  
Lk 21:29–33

### Saturday

NOVEMBER 26  
Weekday  
Rv 22:1–7 / Lk 21:34–36

### Sunday

NOVEMBER 27  
First Sunday of Advent  
Is 2:1–5  
Rom 13:11–14  
Mt 24:37–44

## Your kingdom come

*The kingdom of God, in the words of our Lord and Savior, does not come for all to see; nor shall they say: Behold, here it is, or behold, there it is, but the kingdom of God is within us, for the word of God is very near, in our mouth and in our heart.* Thus, it is clear that he who prays for the coming of God's kingdom prays rightly to have it within himself, that there it may grow and bear fruit and become perfect. For God reigns in each of his holy ones. Anyone who is holy obeys the spiritual laws of God, who dwells in him as in a well-ordered city. The Father is present in the perfect soul, and with him Christ reigns, according to the words: *We shall come to him and make our home with him.*

Thus, the kingdom of God within us, as we continue to make progress, will reach its highest point when the Apostle's words are fulfilled, and Christ, having subjected all his enemies to himself, will hand over his *kingdom to God the Father, that God may be all in all.* Therefore, let us pray unceasingly with that disposition of soul which the Word may make divine, saying to our Father who is in heaven: *Hallowed by thy name; thy kingdom come.*

Note this too about the kingdom of God. It is not *a sharing of justice with iniquity, nor a society of light with darkness, nor a meeting of Christ with Belial.* The kingdom of God cannot exist alongside the reign of sin.

Therefore, if we wish God to reign in us, in no way *should sin reign in our mortal body;* rather we should *mortify our members which are upon the earth* and bear fruit in the Spirit. There should be in us a kind of spiritual paradise where God may walk and be our sole ruler with his Christ. In us the Lord will sit at the right hand of that spiritual power which we wish to receive. And he will sit there until all his enemies who are within us become *his footstool*, and every principality, power and virtue in us is cast out.

All this can happen in each one of us, and the last enemy, death, can be destroyed; then Christ will say in us: *O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory?* And so, what is *corruptible* in us must be clothed in holiness and *incorruptibility*; and what is *mortal* must be clothed, now that death has been conquered, in the Father's *immortality.* Then God will reign in us, and we shall enjoy even now the blessings of rebirth and resurrection.

(From a notebook On Prayer by Origen, priest)

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## REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

**“To believe in Jesus is to accept what He says, even when it runs contrary to what others are sayings.” ---Pope St. John Paul II.**

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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).

### Mary's divine motherhood

Called in the Gospels "the mother of Jesus", Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her son, as "the mother of my Lord". In fact, the One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly "Mother of God" (Theotokos).

### Mary's virginity

From the first formulations of her faith, the Church has confessed that Jesus was conceived solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, affirming also the corporeal aspect of this event: Jesus was conceived "by the Holy Spirit without human seed" The Fathers see in the virginal conception the sign that it truly was the Son of God who came in a humanity like our own. Thus St. Ignatius of Antioch at the beginning of the second century says: You are firmly convinced about our Lord, who is truly of the race of David according to the flesh, Son of God according to the will and power of God, truly born of a virgin,. . . he was truly nailed to a tree for us in his flesh under Pontius Pilate. . . he truly suffered, as he is also truly risen.

The Gospel accounts understand the virginal conception of Jesus as a divine work that surpasses all human understanding and possibility: "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit", said the angel to Joseph about Mary his fiancee. The Church sees here the fulfilment of the divine promise given through the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son."

People are sometimes troubled by the silence of St. Mark's Gospel and the New Testament Epistles about Jesus' virginal conception. Some might wonder if we were merely dealing with legends or theological constructs not claiming to be history. To this we must respond: Faith in the virginal conception of Jesus met with the lively opposition, mockery or incomprehension of non-believers, Jews and pagans alike; so, it could hardly have been motivated by pagan mythology or by some adaptation to the ideas of the age. the meaning of this event is accessible only to faith, which understands in it the "connection of these mysteries with one another" in the totality of Christ's mysteries, from his Incarnation to his Passover. St. Ignatius of Antioch already bears witness to this connection: "Mary's virginity and giving birth, and even the Lord's death escaped the notice of the prince of this world: these three mysteries worthy of proclamation were accomplished in God's silence."

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*Continued from Page 2,*

Therefore, it is vital at this juncture to remind us that dressing appropriately and comporting ourselves before his presence is crucial. As those seeking redemption, we need to go to the Lord's house willingly with joy and happiness, submissively confessing our sins. Today's royal feast should open our eyes to perpetually have in mind that Jesus Christ is our King and Savior. He is the one who saves and rescues us when all hopes are lost, as manifested in the life of the repentant thief. The repentant thief acknowledged him as King and savior. Let us always learn to recognize him as our King and savior even when we are lost in the darkness of evil, for nothing is impossible for him.

Finally, let's conclude with the opening prayer of today's mass, which summarizes this reflection: "Almighty ever-living God, whose will it is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise." We ask this through Christ, our King, and our Lord, forever and forever, Amen. Remember, the closer we are to God the better for us.

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



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