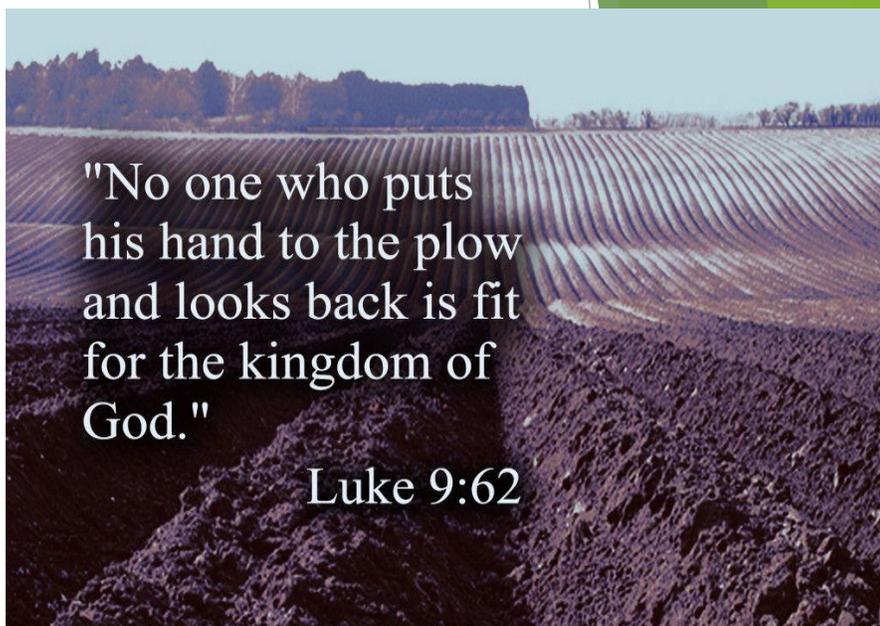




ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

June 26, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:62

PARISH INFORMATION

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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

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

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

Dear friends in Christ, last Sunday, we celebrated the solemnity of the most wonderful Sacrament of the Body and the Blood of Christ. We firmly expressed our belief in the Real Presence during the reflection- the dogma which states that Jesus Christ (Soul and divinity) is present in the Holy Eucharist. Believing in this doctrine is beyond human senses; it is only appreciated with the eyes of faith. St. Thomas Aquinas reflected that, "Praestet fides supplementum, sensum defectui." (Faith will tell us Christ is present when our human senses fail). Additionally, we urged those suitable to receive the Body and Blood of Christ to do so with utmost respect and dignity. The Eucharist is the spiritual food that sustains and illuminates us as we navigate the desert of this world. The solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ is an excellent opportunity to faithfully examine and x-ray our attitudes towards Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament. Such in-depth self-examination of how we relate to this vital Sacrament will be a source of encouragement or a wake-up call to quickly redress our steps.

We are back to the ordinary season of the cycle after the seasons of Lent and Easter, including other significant solemnities. The crucial journey to the promised land continues as we assemble to listen and reflect on the sacred tales of redemption and to feed on the Body and Blood of Christ. Perusing through the readings of the thirteenth Sunday, with the theme: "authentic freedom begins when one surrenders to the Lord. Indeed, authentic freedom begins when one surrenders to God's demand. It is of vital importance to know that freedom is the ability to confront our destiny by indulging in good choices. It is the capacity for our happiness. When we are ready and willing to follow what God created for us even amid challenges, its result is sure and genuine happiness. The hazards or difficulties of one's real vocation are part of the ups and downs in life; instead of the setbacks dousing one's Spirit, they should serve as catalysts to help reach the peak.

In today's first reading, Elisha gladly responded to his vocation by willingly sacrificing everything that would be a source of distraction. He offered his old self by burning his plowing tools to cook up his oxen to answer a new and fulfilling vocation. Elisha's act is a perfect act of freedom to have job satisfaction and fulfillment. By wholeheartedly detaching himself from the means of his livelihood, Elisha resolutely followed Prophet Elijah as his attendant. Elisha humbled himself to learn from his teacher. He conscientiously followed and obeyed Prophet Elijah's instructions so that he could reach the meaning of his life.

Elisha clearly understood that Elijah was calling him. He only asked that he be able to bid farewell to his parents. In this special goodbye to his father and mother, he also bid farewell to his material accomplishments. Elisha freely answered God's call, freeing himself from all that links to distraction, realizing that the Lord is his security and his inheritance. When God calls, He allows us to freely respond to him without compulsion. God enables us to use our freedom to follow the path that leads to perpetual life.

In today's second reading, St. Paul proudly schooled his readers and audience on what freedom is and how to live with God-given freedom. To appreciate freedom, it is also pertinent to understand its opposite: enslavement. Paul tells the Gentile converts not to submit any more to the yoke of slavery since, they were formerly enslaved by the worship of idols. Paul also clarifies that freedom is not the same as a license. Living in freedom means living by the Spirit and not in the flesh. By living in the flesh, Paul means being mired down in worldly things and enslaved to selfish desires. Living in the Spirit is using our freedom to the fulfillment of the Father's will. It is not doing what one wants/likes but making choices in line with Christ's teaching. Echoing Jesus' teaching, Paul sums up the whole law and living in the Spirit: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

In the Gospel, the Only Begotten Son of God shows us how to use freedom. Using his freedom, he positively and resolutely determines to journey to Jerusalem to accomplish his Father's will. As Paul said, "For freedom, Christ set us free." (Galatians 5:1) He knew what awaited him in Jerusalem, and he had the freedom to either go or not; however, He used his human freedom to follow the path that leads to life so that we would be set free. During the journey to Jerusalem, he encountered three potential followers. As Jesus spoke to them individually, his disciples were present to overhear what he was saying about discipleship. He was teaching each of them and everyone who hears this Gospel about the demands of discipleship: those who follow Jesus must be ready to sacrifice their comfort at the altar of service. Discipleship takes precedence over family ties and material accomplishments, and the relationship between Jesus and his disciples is permanent and unconditional.

Continued on Page 7

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 6/26/2022

8:00am Mass: All parishioners
10:30am Mass: +Bud George (Ero George)

Monday, 6/27/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +All Souls (Alexander Family)

Tuesday, 6/28/2022 Memorial of St. Irenaeus

6:30pm: **No Mass**

Wednesday, 6/29/2022 Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Thursday, 6/30/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church
7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

8:30am-10:00pm:
Eucharistic Adoration



Friday, 7/01/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Saturday, 7/02/2022

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church
5:30pm Mass: +Jose Castro (Diane Castro)

Sunday, 7/03/2022

8:00am Mass: +Frank Gerkman Family
(David & Rosalie Swanson)
10:30am Mass: All Parishioners

June 28th: Jim Lombardi providing dinner for the parish in the Hall at 5:30pm.

July 4th: Happy 4th of July

July 9/10th: 2nd collection for our sister parish in Russia

July 10th: Blood Pressure Reading after the 8am Mass/Hall



Thank you to Thuc Alexander, Debbie Schaffer, Janet Tankersley and all their helpers for a wonderful Father's Day Brunch. Thank you for all your hard work.

Thank You

Did you know about the St. Philip Benizi Whalen Fund?

It is time to apply to the Whalen Fund. If you have children in Catholic school, you are welcome to apply for a scholarship toward the cost of tuition. Applications and guidelines are at the side table. The deadline to turn in the application is July 15th.

Peter's Pence Collection

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous. For more info. Visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

Jim Lombardi would like to provide dinner as a thank you to the parish for all the support he has received since Mary-Jo's passing. Jim invites you to come to the Hall on Tuesday, June 28th, the anniversary of Mary-Jo's passing, at 5:30pm to enjoy a meal. Hope to see you there.

ACA update

Donors: 54, amount donated: \$17,510.69, Percentage toward our goal: 88.60%, to meet goal: \$2,253.63.



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

Finance Corner

Registered Household 218	WEEK OF 6/19/2022 Actual	Budget
Donors 48	\$3,385 (online: \$540)	\$4,803
Fiscal Year	\$242,080	\$241,347

Next Weeks Assignments

Ushers

7/2~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon
7/3~8:00am: Jim Charriere
7/3~10:30am: Kevin Horace

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam
John Buxman
Jerry Siler

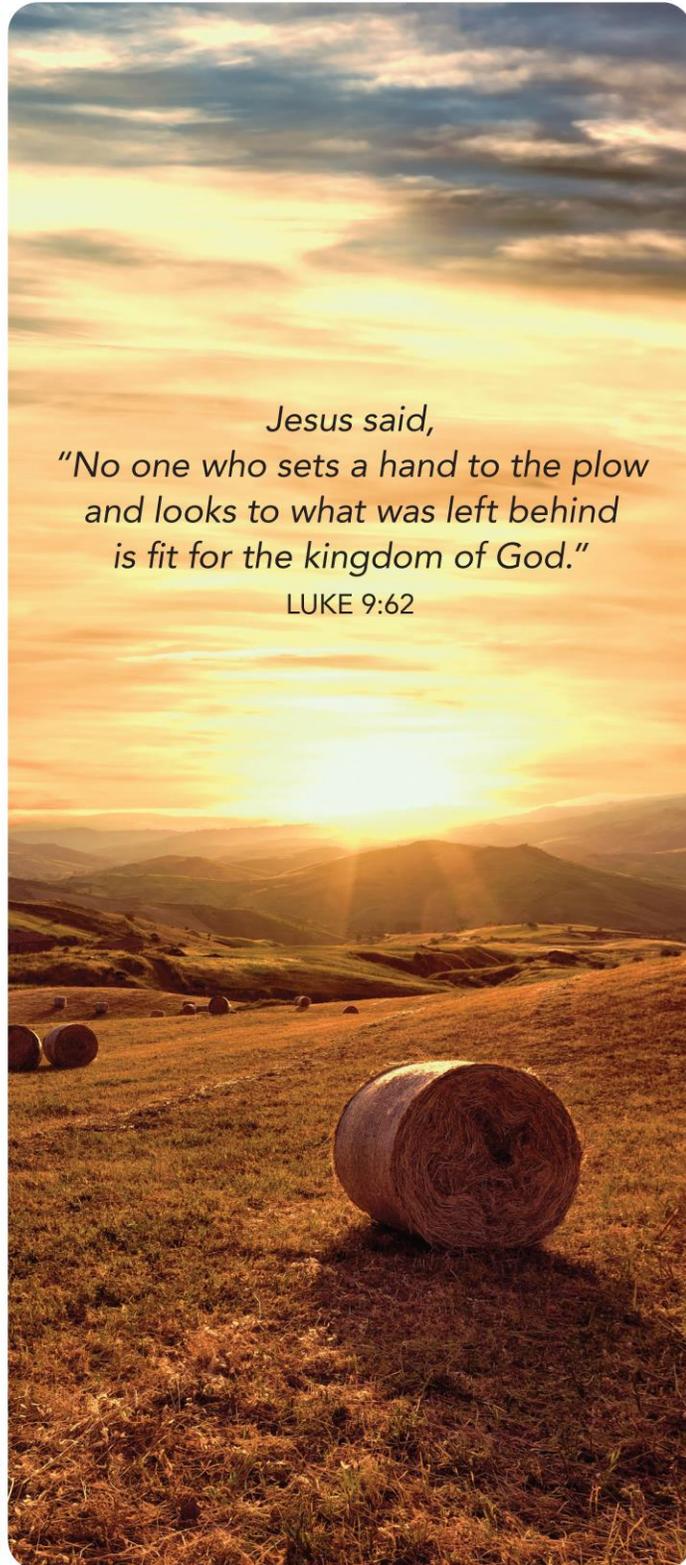
July Church Cleaners: Jerry Welle (503-804-1739) & Sherrie Havens

July Altar Linens: Jeanne Hubel (503-544-5054)



7/3 9:00:
11:30:





*Jesus said,
"No one who sets a hand to the plow
and looks to what was left behind
is fit for the kingdom of God."*

LUKE 9:62

What Are You Willing to Pay?

Everyone appreciates a bargain. However, there are some things we would give almost anything to acquire. Who or what determines the value of something? Some things are esteemed because they are old; some because they are rare. Often the value might really be in the meaning it holds for the one who desires or prizes it. We might want a house because it reminds us of our treasured childhood home. We might cherish a sweater that belonged to a loved one now passed. The price we are willing to pay indicates the value we give to it, and that price is not always monetary.

Elisha was in line to succeed the prophet Elijah. However, Elisha was required to consider everything else as second in importance to his commitment to this prophetic charge, even a son's responsibility to bid farewell to his parents. A parallel situation is found in the Gospel passage. At first glance one might think this is an extreme, even inhuman, demand. It should be noted, however, in neither situation was close following of a prophetic individual demanded of the person who wished to be a disciple. Each person first volunteered for that way of life before the price of following was revealed.

Various possible life directions are set before all of us. We are free to choose. However, the depth of our desire for our choice is measured by our willingness to pay the price that choice might exact. The price required for committing oneself to the reign of God is...everything!

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ *What do you cherish more than anything else?*
- ★ *Does the object you cherish most reveal the way you are establishing the reign of God in your life?*

Dear Padre,

After Mass, someone told me she overheard some people speaking wrongly about me. She defended me but wouldn't say what was said, or by whom. This troubles me. How should I deal with it?

First, consider why indulging in gossip is so prevalent. People leading uneventful lives often have an unhealthy interest in others' affairs, and they desire to gossip about it. Those who consider themselves to be poor conversationalists may gossip to feel important by imparting information that is seemingly in demand. Others resort to character assassinations out of jealousy or envy.

Because gossip easily spreads into a distortion of the truth, it can be, as Pope Francis said, "a plague more awful than COVID!" Some people permissibly spread gossip only when the truth of the rumor has been verified; for others, the truth of the matter is irrelevant. Regardless, when people gossip about us behind our backs—depriving us of our own input and version of the truth—we can feel victimized and defenseless.



TRUE TOUCH LIFESTYLE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Yet we aren't completely powerless. Just because something is perceived as the truth about us doesn't mean we have to accept it as such. (Nevertheless, in cases when we know what is said, we should honestly ask ourselves if there's any truth to it.) While we have no control over what people say about us, we can ultimately

decide how much attention a rumor deserves—and generally, the less time and energy we devote to rumors, the better we are!

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

When we see a mistake, a fault, a slip...usually the first thing we do is to go and recount it to others, to gossip...The great gossipier is the devil, who always goes about saying bad things about others, because he is the liar who seeks to separate the Church, to distance brothers and sisters.

ANGELUS, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020



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Calendar

Monday
JUNE 27
Weekday
Am 2:6–10, 13–16
Mt 8:18–22

Tuesday
JUNE 28
St. Irenaeus,
Bishop and Martyr
Am 3:1–8; 4:11–12
Mt 8:23–27

Wednesday
JUNE 29
Sts. Peter and Paul,
Apostles
Acts 12:1–11
2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18
Mt 16:13–19

Thursday
JUNE 30
Weekday

Am 7:10–17
Mt 9:1–8

Friday
JULY 1
Weekday
Am 8:4–6, 9–12
Mt 9:9–13

Saturday
JULY 2
Weekday

Am 9:11–15
Mt 9:14–17

Sunday
JULY 3
Fourteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Is 66:10–14c
Gal 6:14–18
Lk 10:1–12, 17–20
or 10:1–9

**Do you have
a question for
the Padre?**

Go to DearPadre.org to send
your question and to learn
more about Dear Padre.

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PUBLICATIONS
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Not to preach the Gospel would be my undoing, for Christ himself sent me as his apostle and witness. The more remote, the more difficult the assignment, the more *my love of God spurs me on*. I am bound to proclaim that Jesus is Christ, the Son of the living God. Because of him we come to know the God we cannot see. *He is the firstborn of all creation; in him all things find their being*. Man's teacher and redeemer, he was born for us, died for us, and for us he rose from the dead.

All things, all history converges in Christ. A man of sorrow and hope, he knows us and loves us. As our friend he stays by us throughout our lives; at the end of time he will come to be our judge; but we also know that he will be the complete fulfillment of our lives and our great happiness for all eternity.

I can never cease to speak of Christ for he is our truth and our light; *he is the way, the truth and the life*. He is our bread, our source of living water who allays our hunger and satisfies our thirst. He is our shepherd, our leader, our ideal, our comforter and our brother.

He is like us but more perfectly human, simple, poor, humble, and yet, while burdened with work, he is more patient. He spoke on our behalf; he worked miracles; and he founded a new kingdom: in it the poor are happy; peace is the foundation of a life in common; where the pure of heart and those who mourn are uplifted and comforted; the hungry find justice; sinners are forgiven; and all discover that they are brothers.

The image I present to you is the image of Jesus Christ. As Christians you share his name; he has already made most of you his own. So once again I repeat his name to you Christians and I proclaim to all men: Jesus Christ is the beginning and the end, the alpha and the omega, Lord of the new universe, the great hidden key to human history and the part we play in it. He is the mediator — the bridge, if you will — between heaven and earth. Above all he is the Son of man, more perfect than any man, being also the Son of God, eternal and infinite. He is the son of Mary his mother on earth, more blessed than any woman. She is also our mother in the spiritual communion of the mystical body.

(From a homily by Pope Paul VI)

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

“Surrender is not a weakness; it is a strength. It takes tremendous strength to surrender life to the supreme- to the cosmic unfolding.” Mooji.

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).

"AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD"

I. Jesus

The name of the Saviour God was invoked only once in the year by the high priest in atonement for the sins of Israel, after he had sprinkled the mercy seat in the Holy of Holies with the sacrificial blood. The mercy seat was the place of God's presence. When St. Paul speaks of Jesus whom "God put forward as an expiation by his blood", he means that in Christ's humanity "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself." CCC 433

Jesus' Resurrection glorifies the name of the Saviour God, for from that time on it is the name of Jesus that fully manifests the supreme power of the "name which is above every name". The evil spirits fear his name; in his name his disciples perform miracles, for the Father grants all they ask in this name. CCC 434

The name of Jesus is at the heart of Christian prayer. All liturgical prayers conclude with the words "through our Lord Jesus Christ". The Hail Mary reaches its high point in the words "blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus." The Eastern prayer of the heart, the Jesus Prayer, says: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Many Christians, such as St. Joan of Arc, have died with the one word "Jesus" on their lips. CCC 435

Continued from page 2

Furthermore, accepting the call to be a disciple is based fundamentally on one's choice. No one is mandated to follow Christ; it is our freedom that Jesus appeals to when he says follow me.

Responding to the three would-be disciples, Jesus succinctly addressed each from the onset regarding the burdens of discipleship. To the first man, Jesus advised, it is good to count the cost before committing to be a follower. To the open request, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus answered, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head." (Luke 9:) This implies that the task ahead is challenging and that the comfort of one's luxury is not feasible. The mission is for those ready to sacrifice; therefore, quality and not quantity is the answer. Those who willingly obey, and answer may be fewer, but their pledge and commitment to Christ and the mission remain unbreakable.

To the one who wanted to go first and bury the father, Jesus said to him, "*Let the dead bury their dead. But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.*" (Luke 9: 60). The point Jesus was making is that there is a crucial moment in everything, and if one misses that single opportunity, the thing will most likely never come to pass. Therefore, procrastination is an enemy in witnessing that one should avoid. Jesus urges us to act at once when he calls. Finally, his answer to the third person who requests to go and bid farewell to his family members speaks to us all. Therefore, to be effective in our apostolic work, there is no looking back once at work in the vineyard.

The mantra for God's children should be forward ever, backward never. There is no room for lukewarm and lackadaisical service. "*No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.*" (Luke 9: 62). So, it is our responsibility to decide to fully answer the owner's call or not to be among his witnesses. A call that, when one rightly chooses to follow and surrender to, will make the Lord of the mission to open the gate of authentic freedom for him. The Lord is our inheritance, and absolute freedom comes when we strongly capitulate to the demands of Jesus Christ, our savior.

Remember, the closer we are to God, the better for us.

Blessings,

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Paschal Ezurike.



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