

ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

February 6, 2022
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



"Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." -Luke 5:1-11

PARISH INFORMATION

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Matt Anderson

Administrative Council Chair:

Dan Sweeney

Adoration: Janet Tankersley

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Minister Volunteer Coordinators

Altar Servers: Don Payne

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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.

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 weekend, the significance of love in our undertakings dominated our reflection. The words of encouragement stressed the fact, that love motivates selfless activities and propels us to undertake challenging tasks for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. As was prominent in last week's readings, love strengthened Prophet Jeremiah to prophesy to the people despite the imminent dire consequences of suffering and persecution. In the same vein, because of love, Jesus allowed himself to be born in a manger; and at the same time identified with fallacious and disobedient finite creatures. He willingly accepted and endured suffering and was finally nailed to the cross because of sinners. Therefore, our apostolate/mission devoid of love becomes inefficacious and an empty show. The reflection urged faithful followers to emulate Jesus the Savior and Prophet Jeremiah in striving to excel in their different vocations by embracing selfless love and shunning selfishness. Doing this will help followers to score befitting marks in God's sight.

As we gather to celebrate the divine mysteries on this fifth Sunday of the year, the Church wants us to look deeply into our attitudes and responses to God's commands and expectations from us. Today's liturgy is dominated by essential characters who submitted and embraced the burdens of obedience to fulfill God's demands. Premier among all in today's readings is Isaiah the prophet. In today's prophecy, he narrated and situated the period God called him as a prophet. Isaiah, a man of unclean lips, beholds the Lord's glory in the temple and is sent on a mission. He emphasizes that God called him during a temple liturgy. Seraphim surround the throne and celebrate God's holiness. God converses with the prophet, who senses his unworthiness in the divine presence, but God purifies his mouth so he can convey God's word. After the purification, Isaiah freely volunteers for this service by proclaiming: "Here I am, send me." With his cleansing, he listened to the voice of the Lord and determined to be God's servant. Like Isaiah, we should willingly respond to the Lord by readily embracing the glad things and disseminating the same to those around us. We must be the light illuminating the face of the earth and the salt that embellishes the sweetness of the earth.

In his experience, Paul, in today's second reading, situates and narrates how, despite the vile abominations he perpetrated by killing the followers of Christ, confessed that God showed him favors and accepted him as an agent of the good news. As he presents his testimony, Paul states his qualifications: "the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. But by the grace of God, I am what I am." Paul acknowledges that God's power works through his weakness in his humility. Also, he recognizes that the responsibility of any messenger of the Gospel is not to preach/announce his message but what he has received and experienced personally. Therefore, Paul admits that by the grace of God in him, he has the mission to preach nothing but the crucified and risen Christ. Though unworthy, Paul availed himself of God's grace, harkened and obeyed God's command, and became a changed person. His transformation propelled him to become indefatigable in his apostolic mission. A well-known murderer ultimately became an ardent crusader of the glad tidings because of obedience to God. When we willingly accept God's instructions, their positive outcomes are unfathomable, no matter how strange they are.

Luke presents an exciting encounter between Jesus Christ and Simon, James, and John. Jesus meets and engages the would-be fishers of men amid their lives and activities at the lakeshore. From the passage, Simon and his partners had finished fishing for the day, and, while washing their nets, at an unhappy hour, having caught nothing all day, Jesus entered the boat belonging to Simon. He used Simon's boat as a rendezvous to teach those longing for the good news. After Jesus' words of exhortation, he challenged Simon to go back to the lake and lower his net. Remember, Simon and his colleagues spent the night without catching any fish. Jesus, from his family background, specializes in woodwork and not casting a net into the deep water. But in this passage, he mandated Simon, a renowned fisherman, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." (Luke 5:4). Jesus here proves himself to be the jack of all professions/vocations and Master of all. Simon's reply speaks volumes about his internal struggles with the command of Jesus. "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing." Simon, in a way, is saying, this is what we do for a living. We have been fishing all night without success, and you want me to do it again?

Continued on Page 7

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 2/06/2022

8:00am Mass: +William Pattyn (Mary & Josh Pattyn)
10:30am Mass: +Garcia Family (Marina Logue)

Monday, 2/07/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Hoby & Molly Watts
(Dale & Kim McGriff)

Tuesday, 2/08/2022

6:30pm Mass: +Phil & Dorothy Schwab (Clay Rosenau)
7:00pm: RICA/Hall

Wednesday, 2/09/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Gerkman Family
(David & Rosalie Swanson)

Thursday, 2/10/2022 Memorial of St. Scholastica

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Mary Thurber (David & Christa Kordosky)
7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

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



Friday, 2/11/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Jeanne McIntee (Jerry & Janeene Siler)

Saturday, 2/12/2022

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church
5:30pm Mass: Ann Wuester (Mary Pattyn)

Sunday, 2/13/2022

8:00am Mass: +Anne Doran (Denise Shea)
10:30am Mass: All Parishioners

February 6th: Blood Pressure Readings
in the Hall after the 8am Mass.



Grief Support meeting after the
10:30 Mass in the Fireside room in the Hall.

Synod Discernment Session

St. Philip Benizi discernment session: Sunday,
February 27th at 5:00pm-7:30pm.
5:00: Meet in the Church for Eucharistic
Adoration and prayer before our discussions.
6:00: Move to the Hall, get pizza/sandwich and
beverage, then break into small groups.
6:10: Discuss the 3 questions in small groups.
7:10: Regroup into large group to discuss
outcome from small groups.
7:30: Conclusion



Mark your calendars for the Madi Gras
Party Sunday, February 20th from
5:00pm -8:00pm.

Come to the Hall for great music, dancing,
pizza and prizes. Fun for the whole family. See the
attached flyer.



Our condolences go out to John Langlo
and the family and friends of Margaret
Langlo who passed into God's loving arms
1/27/22. Her funeral will be at St. John the
Apostle on February 10th. Rosary at 10:30 and
funeral Mass at 11:00.

Your 2021 donation statement was mailed to you.
Please look over your statement. If you see an
error on your statement, please call the office.

Finance Corner

Registered Household 218	WEEK OF 1/30/2022 Actual	Budget
Donors 63	\$3,835 (online: \$555)	\$6,611
Fiscal Year	\$148,355	\$147,556

Below, on the right, is the QR code for Parish Soft.
Point your phone camera at the picture and it will
take you to the link for donations.

Ushers

2/12~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon
2/13~8:00am: Paul Lowry
2/13~10:30am: Larry Carnahan

Next Weeks Assignments

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam
Kristine Bible
Nancy Carnahan

February Church Cleaners: Carolyn Brown (503-799-4201)
February Altar Linens: Elaine Buxman (503-655-7208)



2/13 9:00: Ed, Bill, Barb & Patti
11:30:



Dear Padre,

I heard some people talking about the coming of the Antichrist. Who or what is this Antichrist?

Some Christian sects believe there will come a point when the faithful of their church will be taken off the earth and whisked into heaven. This is usually referred to as “the rapture.” After this event, they believe the Antichrist will come. This Antichrist is an individual man who will incarnate in himself the power of Satan. He will deceive even the holiest person and will rule the entire world. It is believed that Jesus will then return and defeat this Antichrist in the ultimate battle between good and evil. The appearance of the Antichrist supposedly coincides with the end of time.

Most of the material that would support this scenario is found in the thirteenth chapter of the Book of Revelation. Here the devil tries to stop Christ’s victory and to convince people that Christ is not the master. This chapter of Revelation deals with the conflict in the Roman Empire between the emperor Nero and the faithful Christians. Nero, the evil one, is assigned the number 666 so Christians could refer to him without openly attacking him. This section of the book was written to give hope to persecuted Christians.

Instead of worrying about the end of time, an Antichrist, a final battle, and “evil” numbers, Catholics are encouraged to believe that Christ has already conquered sin, death, and Satan. God’s reign is already here in our midst (see Luke 17:20–21). Our task is to prepare for our own moment of dying and meeting the Lord. We leave the rest to God’s providence!



ROMAN EMPEROR NERO. LEFT FROM “HISTORY OF THE CHURCH.” AROUND 1880 / SERGEY KOHL / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We can make many pastoral plans, conceive of new methods for drawing people close, but if we don't take the path of God who has come in the flesh...then we are not on the path of the good spirit. [Instead, what prevails] is the Antichrist, worldliness, the spirit of the world.

MORNING MEDITATION, JANUARY 7, 2016

Calendar

Monday

FEBRUARY 7

Weekday

1 Kgs 8:1–7, 9–13

Mk 6:53–56

Tuesday

FEBRUARY 8

Weekday

1 Kgs 8:22–23, 27–30

Mk 7:1–13

Wednesday

FEBRUARY 9

Weekday

1 Kgs 10:1–10

Mk 7:14–23

Thursday

FEBRUARY 10

St. Scholastica, Virgin

1 Kgs 11:4–13

Mk 7:24–30

Friday

FEBRUARY 11

Weekday

1 Kgs 11:29–32; 12:19

Mk 7:31–37

Saturday

FEBRUARY 12

Weekday

1 Kgs 12:26–32;

13:33–34

Mk 8:1–10

Sunday

FEBRUARY 13

Sixth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Jer 17:5–8

1 Cor 15:12, 16–20

Lk 6:17, 20–26

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

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



Our Parish COMMUNITY

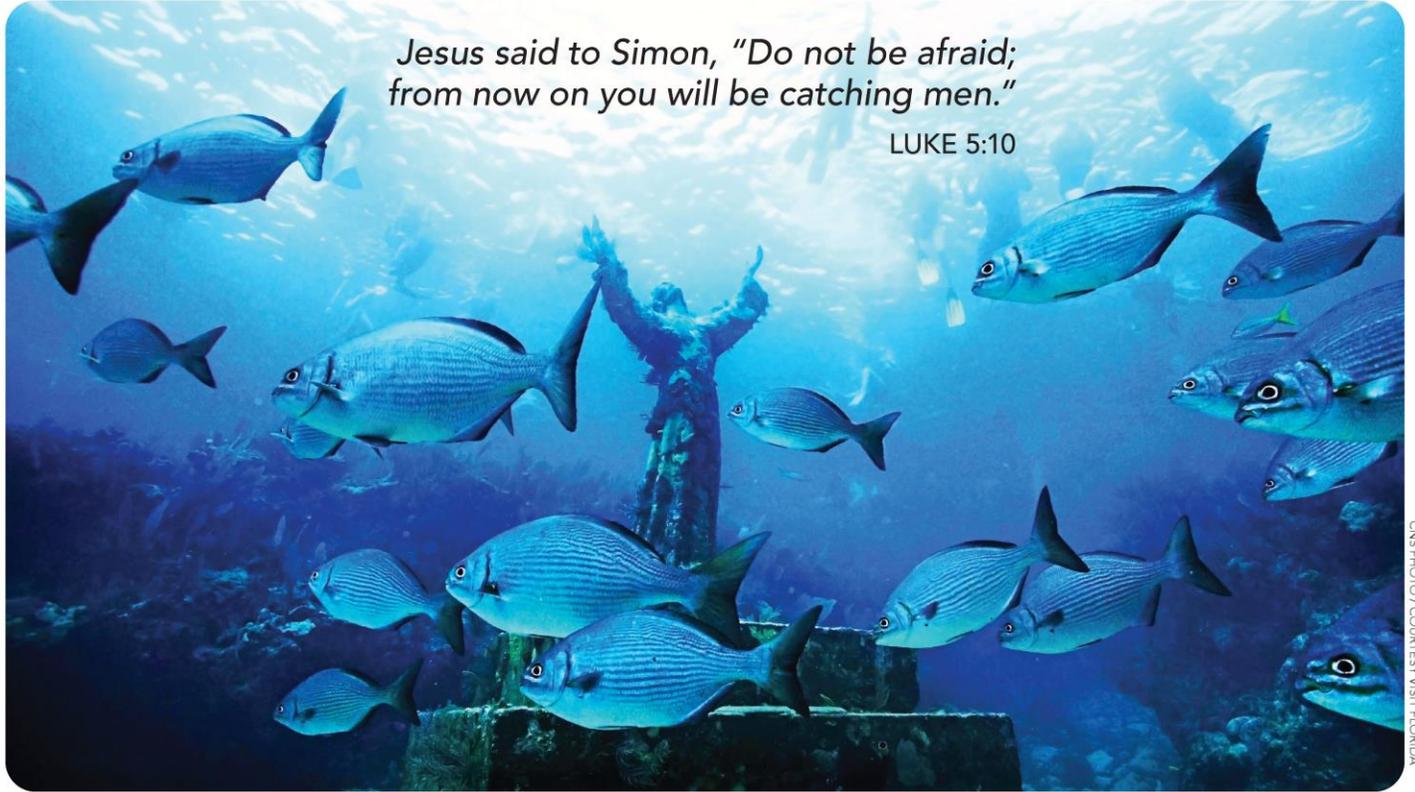
February 6, 2022

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Is 6:1–2a, 3–8

1 Cor 15:1–11 or 15:3–8, 11

Lk 5:1–11



Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."

LUKE 5:10

CNS PHOTO / COURTESY VISIT FLORIDA

Whom Shall I Send?

This could very well be called **Mission Sunday**—not because there is a second collection, but because today’s readings challenge us to examine how we have responded to being called and sent.

Isaiah recounts a religious experience he had while in the Temple. Most majestic of all aspects of that vision was the voice that spoke to him. He heard the words, “Whom shall I send?” (Isaiah 6:8). Send where? To do what? Presumably it meant: “Whom shall I send to speak my word to the people?” The eagerness of the prophet is remarkable: “Here I am...send me!” This passage describes Isaiah’s call to ministry, to be God’s prophet to the people.

The Gospel reading reports another call—that of Peter, James, and John. After showing that he was able to fill the nets of these fishermen, even to the breaking point, Jesus offered them the opportunity to

attract (catch) men and women. Again, almost without thinking, “they left everything and followed him” (Luke 5:11).

In his First Letter to the Corinthians, Paul explains to the “fish” (his converts) how this message is communicated, how fish are caught, how the gospel is preached: “I handed on to you...what I also received” (1 Corinthians 15:3). In all cases, the message is basically the same: “I will be your God and you will be my people.” This is what we’ve all been called to experience, then sent to proclaim—first Isaiah, then the disciples, then Paul, and now you and me.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ *In which life circumstances have you been called to be a disciple of Jesus?*
- ★ *How might you spread the Good News of God’s love to others in your life?*

Let us understand the workings of God's grace

Paul writes to the Galatians to make them understand that by God's grace they are no longer under the law. When the Gospel was preached to them, there were some among them of Jewish origin known as circumcisers—though they called themselves Christians—who did not grasp the gift they had received. They still wanted to be under the burden of the law. Now God had imposed that burden on those who were slaves to sin and not on servants of justice. That is to say, God had given a just law to unjust men in order to show them their sin, not to take it away. For sin is taken away only by the gift of faith that works through love. The Galatians had already received this gift, but the circumcisers claimed that the Gospel would not save them unless they underwent circumcision and were willing to observe also the other traditional Jewish rites.

The Galatians, therefore, began to question Paul's preaching of the Gospel because he did not require Gentiles to follow Jewish observances as other apostles had done. Even Peter had yielded to the scandalized protests of the circumcisers. He pretended to believe that the Gospel would not save the Gentiles unless they fulfilled the burden of the law. But Paul recalled him from such dissimulation, as is shown in this very same letter. A similar issue arises in Paul's letter to the Romans, but with an evident difference. Through his letter to them Paul was able to resolve the strife and controversy that had developed between the Jewish and Gentile converts.

In the present letter Paul is writing to persons who were profoundly influenced and disturbed by the circumcisers. The Galatians had begun to believe them and to think that Paul had not preached rightly, since he had not ordered them to be circumcised. And so the Apostle begins by saying: *I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting him who called you to the glory of Christ, and turning to another gospel.*

After this there comes a brief introduction to the point at issue. But remember in the very opening of the letter Paul had said that he was an apostle *not from men nor by any man*, a statement that does not appear in any other letter of his. He is making it quite clear that the circumcisers, for their part, are not from God but from men, and that his authority in preaching the Gospel must be considered equal to that of the other apostles. For he was called to be an apostle *not from men nor by any man*, but through God the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ.

(From an explanation of Paul's letter to the Galatians by Saint Augustine, bishop)

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

“God's commands for us are not necessarily what we want to hear or desire to do. Generally, they seem strange, impossible, challenging, and often senseless. Obedience to God's command reveals one's limitation and affirms that one is not wise in their estimation.”

--- Fr. Paschal Ezurike

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).

Steubenville The Rockies

Last year was the first time I went to a Steubenville Conference. I was excited because the year before was online and I didn't know what to expect for this year. Sure, I had heard other people's stories of Steubenville, but I was anxious because I didn't know if it would be as meaningful to me as it was for others.

Though the trip was a religious retreat, we did other activities too. Some of the activities we did were going to the amusement park as well as swimming in the pool at the resort. What made it more enjoyable was the time we spent as a group. It was especially fun because the male chaperone was my grandpa.

Meanwhile, the conference was amazing! The music and the talks were great. The most impactful part of the Steubenville Conference was Father Leo's talks, and adoration. Why I enjoyed Father Leo's talks was because he was relatable. When he talked he was emotional and compassionate. What made adoration impactful for me was the time we got to spend with God. Father Leo explained that adoration is a time for you to spend with God.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to go to Steubenville, and to the parishioners who helped us fund-raise to be able to go on the trip. I had a great experience at the conference and became closer to God. I am looking forward to next year's conference and hope I become even closer to God and our youth group family.

William Person

Continued from page 2. Consequently, Simon reluctantly obeys the instruction/command of Jesus Christ. He said, "But at your command, I will lower the nets." Simon's lowering of the net was life-changing. The result was stunning and beyond one's imagination. Not only that they caught a significant number of fish, but they also signaled others in the other boat for assistance. Also, Simon's amazement at what he saw made him acknowledge his sinfulness. He crouched at the Master's feet and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."- a response that echoes Isaiah's vocation when he, too, felt unworthy in God's presence. (1st reading). In addition, Simon's unexpected catch eternally changed his vocation from catching fish to catching men for the kingdom. According to the Gospel passage, Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on, you will be catching men." And with that, Simon and his partners left everything and followed Jesus. They entrusted themselves to his care.

Obedience to God's command reveals one's limitation and affirms that one is not wise in their estimation. Adherence to God's instructions opens a wide range of avenues to what God has in store for the obedient child. Indeed, God's instructions/commands for us are not necessarily what we want to hear or desire to do. Generally, they seem strange, impossible, challenging, and often senseless. They creep into our planned activities and turn them upside down, and because of that, we detest and despise harkening to God's command. But when one freely and wholeheartedly listens and obeys God's directives, one's life changes for the best. God is the best; therefore, he gives us the best when we faithfully obey his commands. The lives of Mary, Joseph, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Paul, Peter, and numerous obedient men and women changed for the best because they followed God's command. As current followers of Christ, may we be open to anything God asks us to do and not lock ourselves in our pseudo comfort zones for selfish reasons. Being available to God's command is indeed beneficial and life-changing. Like Isaiah, let us pray the Lord to send us on his mission and consequently be determined to go. Also, like Simon, be proud to say, 'but at your command, I will lower the nets/do whatever you want' unworthy though I am. Indeed, being attentive to God's commands, willingly yielding to them positively outweighs doing the things we desire. And such positive attitudes are edifying and uplifting the soul. Remember, the closer we are to God, the better for us.

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



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