

ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

May 28, 2023
Solemnity of Pentecost



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

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 feast of Ascension of the Lord into heaven; Jesus Christ ascended to take his place and to prepare a place for us. Before this spectacular event, he gave us instructions and, at the same time, empowered us to proclaim the Gospel everywhere we go. He instructed us thus, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth." Continuing with the instruction and empowerment to preach the good news, Jesus said in last Sunday's Gospel, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." Jesus Christ made the great promise of sending us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth that will teach us everything and every truth. Above all, he promised to be with us till the end of time.

After Jesus' ascension into heaven, the disciples stayed back in Jerusalem as Christ instructed them; then, they devoted themselves with one accord to prayer in preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Fifty days after Christ's resurrection, the Holy Spirit came upon Mary, the apostles, and the Church. Thus, Christ fulfills his promise of sending the Holy Spirit to the disciples. The descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost prepared Mary and the apostles for their post-ascension missions. Today, as we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the birthday of the Church. As reported by Luke, Pentecost was a miracle of the unity of different nations under the heavens, proclaiming the blessings of God in the Church. We celebrate the birthday of the language of love, which, when spoken, is fully understood by all, irrespective of tribe and race, because it is only love that wins and unites. When the language of love is expressed, everybody hears and understands it because the language of love is simple and knows no boundaries.

In today's first reading, Luke recounts what happened on this special day. On the day of Pentecost, they were all in one place, and suddenly the Holy Spirit descended upon them, empowering them to speak in different tongues and, at the same time, helping the people of various tribes and races to hear and understand their message. God's children can speak the message of love under the direction of the Holy Spirit. According to St. Paul, no one can speak the language of the Spirit unless the one who is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.' The message of love expressed by the Church is that God is love' (Deus caritas est). The message that the tongues of fire that appeared in the upper room infused in their hearts. It is a message, when spoken, pierces into hearts and yields positive results. Also, in the Gospel, John recounts how Jesus appeared to the Apostles, breathing the Holy Spirit upon them and commissioning them to go forth and continue the mission of announcing the coming of God's kingdom.

Upon the first and Gospel readings, it is imperative to know that Christ entrusted us with continuing the work that he started. A mission that has love as its engine, and we received this mandate from Jesus Christ to make God's love known in our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities. The language of love must envelop our mission and apostolate. As we go about announcing the work and building God's kingdom on earth with love, it is important to remember, as Paul makes clear in today's second reading, that each of us is uniquely gifted by God. Therefore, we have a distinctive contribution to the overall mission entrusted to us as members of his body, the Church.

Like a body with several parts to which Paul eloquently refers, we are to work in harmony and collaboration, not in competition with one another, but in calling forth, respecting, and welcoming the gifts of all. We should endeavor to do our part to bring God's kingdom to fruition wherever we find ourselves.

On this Pentecost Sunday, the Church sings one of the four sequences/ ancient poetic songs that precede the singing of the Gospel acclamation. In the Pentecost sequence, Veni, Sancte Spiritus, the Church, prays for the Holy Spirit to come. The sequence using the beautiful poetic titles, calls on the Father of the poor, the comforter, Divine light, Sweet Rest, and Healer, emphasizing that if the Holy Spirit is absent, we have nothing. When the Holy Spirit is present, we have the salvation of the Lord. *Continued on page 7*

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 5/28/2023 Solemnity of Pentecost

8:00am Mass: All Parishioners
 10:30am Mass: +Ryan Finney (Janet Tankersley)

Monday, 5/29/2023 Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Leslie Lowry
 (Paul Lowry & Claudia Evers)
 6:00pm: RCIA/Hall

Tuesday, 5/30/2023

6:30pm Mass: +Dick & Alice Hans
 (Marc & Carol Jenquin)

Wednesday, 5/31/2023 Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Sr. Lucinda Shellenbarger
 (Fred & Carolyn DeLange)

Thursday, 6/01/2023 Memorial of St. Justin

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Salvatore D' Esposito
 (Stasiewicz Family)

7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

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



Friday, 6/02/2023

10:30am: Rosary
 11:00am Funeral Mass: +Mary Lou Silvander

Saturday, 6/03/2023 Memorial of St. Charles Lwanga & Companions

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church
 5:30pm Mass: +Gary Conwell (Becky Wooten)

Sunday, 6/04/2023 Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

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



Our condolences go out to Joyce Wetzel and Debbie Schaffer on the loss of their husband and father, Alfred Wetzel, who passed into God's loving arms on Friday, May 19th. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. Funeral Mass will be Monday, June 12th at 11:00am with Rosary at 10:30. Reception to follow in the Hall.

Funeral Mass for Mary Lou Silvander will be Friday, June 2nd at 11:00 with Rosary at 10:30. Reception to follow in the Hall.

Save the Date for Fr. Paschal's farewell party, June 25, 2023. If you would like to be a part of the planning, please come to the Hall on June 4th at 9:15.

Father's Day Breakfast after both Masses on Sunday, June 18th. Fathers eat for free, Adults \$10, Kids \$5 and families \$20. If you can help with this event, please contact Loretta Payne 503-632-4370. Thank you.

Do you have children attending Parochial School? The deadline to apply for tuition assistance is June 1st. Pick up an application from the office.



June 11th: Blood Pressure readings in the Hall 9:15am



Finance Corner

Registered Household 222	WEEK OF 5/21/2023 Actual	Budget
Donors 58	\$6,579 (online: \$2,278)	\$4,767
Fiscal Year	\$230,023	\$227,251

Next Weeks Assignments

Ushers

6/03~5:30pm: Clay Rosenau
 6/04~8:00am: Butch Searls
 6/04~10:30am: Kevin Horace

Lector/Commentator

Tom Muldoon
 Kristine Bible
 Jerry Siler

Extraordinary

Jeanne Hubel
 Jeannine Breshears
 Janet Tankersley

June Church Cleaners: Gail & Abby Williams (971-277-0954)

June Altar Linens: Pam Erickson (503-459-8285)



6/04 9:00am: Pat & Elaine
 11:30am:



Dear Padre,

I am a practicing Catholic and I don't remember being confirmed. Is it too late for me to be confirmed?

The sacrament of confirmation usually happens when a person is older, and therefore you would likely remember the occasion. It could be that you were not confirmed. You can check with the parish you lived in during your school years to be sure. They keep records of confirmations done in the parish.

Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation. Baptism ushers us into our life with God by giving us new life. Confirmation seals us with the spirit so we can follow Jesus and live out our particular vocation. And the Eucharist gives us strength for the journey and keeps us in union with God.

If you discover you have not been confirmed or if you can't find out for certain, talk with your pastor. You would not be the first adult seeking confirmation. Your pastor can tell you how your diocese handles confirmation for adults. There might be a program of adult instruction for confirmation to ensure you understand the sacrament and the teachings of the Church.

Today is Pentecost, the day when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the apostles. The Spirit gave them strength for what they had to do. The Spirit can do the same for you.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



CNS PHOTO/GUILLERMO MANGIAPANE, REUTERS

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 29 <i>Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i> Gn 3:9–15, 20 or Acts 1:12–14 Jn 19:25–34	May 30 <i>Weekday</i> Sir 35:1–12 Mk 10:28–31	May 31 <i>Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Zep 3:14–18a or Rom 12:9–16 Lk 1:39–56	June 1 <i>St. Justin, Martyr</i> Sir 42:15–25 Mk 10:46–52	June 2 <i>Weekday</i> Sir 44:1, 9–13 Mk 11:11–26	June 3 <i>St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs</i> Sir 51:12cd–20 Mk 11:27–33	June 4 <i>Most Holy Trinity</i> Ex 34:4b–6, 8–9 2 Cor 13:11–13 Jn 3:16–18



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

On the day of Pentecost, Jesus' disciples were still disoriented and fearful. They did not yet have the courage to go out in the open. We too, at times, prefer to remain within the protective walls of our surroundings. But the Lord...sends upon us the Holy Spirit who envelops us and overpowers all our hesitations.

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 23, 2021

A VIGIL LED BY POPE FRANCIS AHEAD OF PENTECOST SUNDAY AT THE VATICAN IN JUNE 2019.
CNS PHOTO/REMO CASILLI, REUTERS

The day of the gift of the Spirit

28. Sunday, the day of light, could also be called the day of “fire”, in reference to the Holy Spirit. The light of Christ is intimately linked to the “fire” of the Spirit, and the two images together reveal the meaning of the Christian Sunday. When he appeared to the Apostles on the evening of Easter, Jesus breathed upon them and said: “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained” (Jn 20:22-23). The outpouring of the Spirit was the great gift of the Risen Lord to his disciples on Easter Sunday. It was again Sunday when, fifty days after the Resurrection, the Spirit descended in power, as “a mighty wind” and “fire” (Acts 2:2-3), upon the Apostles gathered with Mary. Pentecost is not only the founding event of the Church, but is also the mystery which forever gives life to the Church. Such an event has its own powerful liturgical moment in the annual celebration which concludes “the great Sunday”, but it also remains a part of the deep meaning of every Sunday, because of its intimate bond with the Paschal Mystery. The “weekly Easter” thus becomes, in a sense, the “weekly Pentecost”, when Christians relive the Apostles’ joyful encounter with the Risen Lord and receive the life-giving breath of his Spirit.

The day of faith

29. Given these different dimensions which set it apart, Sunday appears as the supreme day of faith. It is the day when, by the power of the Holy Spirit, who is the Church’s living “memory” (cf. Jn 14:26), the first appearance of the Risen Lord becomes an event renewed in the “today” of each of Christ’s disciples. Gathered in his presence in the Sunday assembly, believers sense themselves called like the Apostle Thomas: “Put your finger here, and see my hands. Put out your hand, and place it in my side. Doubt no longer, but believe” (Jn 20:27). Yes, Sunday is the day of faith. This is stressed by the fact that the Sunday Eucharistic liturgy, like the liturgy of other solemnities, includes the Profession of Faith. Recited or sung, the Creed declares the baptismal and Paschal character of Sunday, making it the day on which in a special way the baptized renew their adherence to Christ and his Gospel in a rekindled awareness of their baptismal promises. Listening to the word and receiving the Body of the Lord, the baptized contemplate the Risen Jesus present in the “holy signs” and confess with the Apostle Thomas: “My Lord and my God!” (Jn 20:28).

(POPE ST. JOHN PAUL 11, Apostolic letter on Dies Domini, July 30, 1998).

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

“Pentecost is the moment when a heart of stone is shattered, and a heart of flesh takes its place.” Fr Raneiro Cantalamessa (Preacher to the Papal Household)

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).

III. JESUS AND ISRAEL'S FAITH IN THE ONE GOD AND SAVIOUR

Jesus gave scandal above all when he identified his merciful conduct toward sinners with God's own attitude toward them. He went so far as to hint that by sharing the table of sinners he was admitting them to the messianic banquet. But it was most especially by forgiving sins that Jesus placed the religious authorities of Israel on the horns of a dilemma. Were they not entitled to demand in consternation, "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" By forgiving sins Jesus either is blaspheming as a man who made himself God's equal, or is speaking the truth and his person really does make present and reveal God's name. CCC 589

Only the divine identity of Jesus' person can justify so absolute a claim as "He who is not with me is against me"; and his saying that there was in him "something greater than Jonah, . . . greater than Solomon", something "greater than the Temple"; his reminder that David had called the Messiah his Lord, and his affirmations, "Before Abraham was, I AM", and even "I and the Father are one." CCC 590

Jesus asked the religious authorities of Jerusalem to believe in him because of the Father's works which he accomplished. But such an act of faith must go through a mysterious death to self, for a new "birth from above" under the influence of divine grace. Such a demand for conversion in the face of so surprising a fulfilment of the promises allows one to understand the Sanhedrin's tragic misunderstanding of Jesus: they judged that he deserved the death sentence as a blasphemer. The members of the Sanhedrin were thus acting at the same time out of "ignorance" and the "hardness" of their "unbelief". CCC 591

Continued from page 2

Beloved in Christ, as we can relate, generally, birthdays come with many goodwill messages, blessings, and gifts. On this Church's birthday, we, the body of Christ, have been blessed with awesome gifts of the Holy Spirit. The seven precious gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, knowledge, understanding, counsel, fortitude, piety, and fear of God (Isaiah 11:1-2) bestowed on us are tools that equip us in our mission to preach love, peace, and reconciliation. When we sincerely activate and use these gifts well, they produce the precious fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5: 22 -23). Filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and nourished again today with the body and blood of Christ, we join the psalmist in praying: "Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth." As we end the Easter season today, and profess the inundation with the power of the resurrection and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, let us go forth and renew the face of the earth by our lives and deeds, imitating and following the steps of the twelve apostles.

Let's conclude with and pray together the opening prayers of this great feast, "O, God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers." Through Christ our Lord, Amen. Remember, the closer we are to God, the better for us.

Blessings,

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Paschal Ezurike

Memorial Day Sale!

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Thursday & Friday: 12 pm - 7 pm
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