

ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter



PARISH INFORMATION

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Dan Sweeney

Adoration: Janet Tankersley
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Minister Volunteer Coordinators

Altar Servers: Don Payne
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503-631-3531

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hahannam@juno.com

And I will ask the Father, and he will give
you another advocate to help you and be
with you forever—

I will not leave you as orphans; I will come
to you.

John 14:16, 18

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, the Good Shepherd reinforced why we should listen to and follow him. Speaking with authority, he reminded us that he is the only way to salvation, the embodiment of truth, and the source of all life, and he has come that we may have life and have life in abundance. Additionally, the gate for the sheep and the main entrance to the Father, encouraged us not to let our hearts be troubled because he has things under control; however, we must firmly put our faith in him.

As we celebrate these days of joy with heartfelt devotion, the Lord prepares to ascend to the Father; on this sixth Sunday of Easter, he assures us that he will never abandon us and that we are never alone. Jesus said, “I will ask my Father, and he will give you an advocate to be with you always.” (John 14:16). But before this great promise, he asks us to prove our love for him by keeping his commandments “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” (John 14:15). Prayerfully, we ask for the grace to do all that the Son of God asks of us and to be open to receive the Holy Spirit.

Consequent to the severe persecution that descended on the church in Jerusalem, most of Christ’s followers dispersed to various cities not to hide but to continue the spread of Christ’s message for which they were suffering incessant intimidation and untold persecution. The power of the Lord’s resurrection manifested itself in the ministry and lives of these early disciples/followers. One of the seven deacons, Philip, went down to Samaria and set the city ablaze with the resurrection gospel. Philip’s exploits and accomplishments with the help of the Holy Spirit in Samaria are the messages of today’s first reading.

Philip was among the seven deacons appointed to the office of service to help distribute food to the poor, but he went beyond that and proclaimed the Messiah to the people. Inundated with the Holy Spirit and wisdom, Philip spoke with authority. His Spirit-filled speeches necessitated the release from the grip of those in evil spirit bondage. Many were healed and cured of their infirmities and diseases. These positive results brought great joy to the people. When the messengers of Christ spread the Gospel of Christ with love and are equally received with love, it brings genuine joy and spiritual upliftment in a parish/community.

Philip’s activity in Samaria is the beginning of the spread of Christianity outside the boundaries of traditional Judaism. The people of Samaria and Judea had little need for one another to the point that strict Jews were said to have considered eating with a Samaritan which is the equivalent of eating pork, which they thought deeply as an unclean food whose consumption was prohibited by the law. However, despite the long rift between Samaria and Judea, the Samaritans, being impressed by Philip’s works, listened to his words and accepted his message as the word of God. Peter and John’s visit to lay hands and ask the Holy Spirit to come to them signified that the Samaritans were entirely accepted by the Jerusalem-Christian community. To lay hands on someone is to completely identify with the person. They confirmed them, and God bestowed the Holy Spirit on them, which is the natural fruit of Easter. The Holy Spirit moved Philip to Samaria, unlocked the ears of the Samaritans, and inspired Peter and John to pray with them.

In the second reading, St. Peter continues to encourage followers of Christ to live their vocations/callings faithfully. Among other things, this implies that, their heartfelt dedication to Christ as their Lord is real. Peter calls on Christians to evangelize in a way that gives witness to the Lord’s approach. And to be ready to explain to anyone the reason for their hope. He instructs them to be gentle and treat people with respect, even those who despise the gospel of Christ.

Continued on page 7

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 5/14/2023

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

Monday, 5/15/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Frank Gerkman Family
 (David & Rosalie Swanson)
 6:00pm: RCIA/Hall

Tuesday, 5/16/2023

6:30pm Mass: +Bill Celorie (Lois Celorie)


Wednesday, 5/17/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Ann & Lewis Douglas
 (Todd & Heather Zak)

Thursday, 5/18/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Pete & Jean Jenquin
 (Marc & Carol Jenquin)

7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

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

Friday, 5/19/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Zofia Potoczny
 (Anna & Jacek Wiktorowicz)

Saturday, 5/20/2023

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church
 5:30pm Mass: All Parishioners

Sunday, 5/21/2023

8:00am Mass: +Claire Glenn (Mary Pattyn)
 10:30am Mass: +Ryan Finney
 (Janet Tankersley)

May 14th: Mother's Day Breakfast.

Happy Mother's Day

May 15th: Newsletter articles are due



Dearest parishioners, If you did not hear the announcement after Masses last weekend, I want to let you know that I have been reassigned. The location of my reassignment is not known at this time. I will let you know when I know where I am going. My official last Sunday at SPB will be June 25th. **Fr. Paschal Ezurike**



Happy Mother's Day! The Mother's Day Breakfast is today,

May 14th in the Hall after both Masses. Moms eat for free, Adults \$10, Kids \$5, Families \$20.



Congratulations to Scarlett Dahle and Sonia Czyzewicz on their Baptisms last Sunday. May they grow in faith and love in the care of their parents and godparents.



Our condolences go out to Larry Wooten on the passing of his sister, Sharon Horn. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.

Thank You to Heather Hannam for all your time and effort in putting together the National Day of Prayer (for many years). Your efforts do not go unnoticed. You are very much appreciated. Thank you!

Do you have children attending Parochial School? Around 1990 a SPB parishioner donated money for an educational fund in honor of Rev. Willis Leo Whalen. The fund has been opened to the parish for the school year of 2023-24. Pick up an application from the office.

Gifts to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal are immediately invested in works of mercy, education, and charity. To make an immediate impact on – and for – our faith community, visit JesusChangesEverything.church or call (503) 233-8336.

St. Philip Benizi's goal this year is \$21,919. Please send in your donation. Envelopes are at both doors of the Church. Thank you.

If you have articles for the Newsletter please bring them to the office or send them to Bill Breshears ASAP. The deadline is Monday.

Finance Corner

Registered Household 222	WEEK OF 5/07/2023 Actual	Budget
Donors 62	\$4,138 (online: \$1,261)	\$5,448
Fiscal Year	\$220,055	\$217,036

Next Weeks Assignments

Ushers

5/20~5:30pm:

5/21~8:00am: Jim Charriere

5/21~10:30am: Larry Carnahan

Lector/Commentator

Tom Muldoon

Kristine Bible

Nancy Carnahan

Extraordinary

Becky Wooten

John Buxman

Jeanneene Siler

May Church Cleaners: Michelle Harrington (971-409-5664)

May Altar Linens: Janet Tankersley (503-545-2229)



5/21 9:00am: Pat Baldock


11:30am:





Apron Strings

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A pink and white checkered apron hanging on a white wall. The apron has a neck strap and a large pocket on the front.

[Jesus said], “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth.”

JOHN 14:16–17A

There are moments when we realize the baton has been passed to us, and now we must conduct the symphony

of our lives. One such moment may be when both parents have died. “They” say we never fully grow up until that occurs, for from that time on we can no longer go home. I know of a daughter who received a gift from her mother when the daughter moved out on her own. Inside, the daughter discovered a pair of apron strings, a symbol of her break with home. At various times, life hands us a bountiful serving of responsibility as we commit to a vocation, or for many, become parents for the first time. On such occasions, the future may weigh heavily upon us.

This week’s Gospel is a farewell speech of sorts. Given to the Twelve on the night before his passion and death, Jesus promises he will not leave us orphans and that the Spirit will be given to us to do what we must do.

There have been any number of times when life has unfolded for me into new circumstances and life roles, occasions often filled with anxiety and sometimes even fear. I usually found I could deal with such realities by asking myself what would be the worst that could happen, and if it did, could I handle it? Every time, I found myself realizing I *could* handle the worst. Importantly, the ability to do what needs doing always seems to flow from God’s Spirit that is given to each of us. If our faith in God is alive in us, our spiritual apron strings are never severed. ●

Reflect

Has the Spirit of God ever helped you face a daunting responsibility?

Dear Padre,

If the Catholic Church recognizes baptisms from other Christian denominations, why not confirmations?

Baptism signs us with an indelible mark. It defines our character and can never be repeated. A baptism is always held to be valid if a person is baptized with water using the Trinitarian formula (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1256). If a priest is unsure of the validity of a person's baptism, he would baptize the person conditionally, recognizing the earlier baptism if it happened and was valid. The minister of baptism is usually an ordained minister, but in necessity anyone can baptize, including a non-Christian, if the person intends what the Church intends.

Confirmation also leaves an indelible mark, as does holy orders, and they also cannot be repeated. What makes confirmation different from baptism is that the minister of confirmation is ordinarily the bishop because this expresses the apostolic unity of the Church (CCC 1312). If someone had been confirmed in a Church that has apostolic succession, their confirmation would be considered valid, and the person wouldn't be reconfirmed.

Most Christian churches have a common understanding of what the sacrament of baptism is, but while other churches might have communion, confirmation, and ordination, their celebration of those sacraments may not include all the requirements necessary for the Catholic Church to consider them valid. ●



Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Ascension</i>
Acts 16:11-15	Acts 16:22-34	Acts 17:15,	Acts 18:1-8	Acts 18:9-18	Acts 18:23-28	Acts 1:1-11
Jn 15:26-16:4a	Jn 16:5-11	22-18:1	Jn 16:16-20	Jn 16:20-23	Jn 16:23b-28	Eph 1:17-23
		Jn 16:12-15				Mt 28:16-20



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[The Holy Spirit] is the Gift of God; he is God himself, who helps us to be free people, people who want and know how to love, people who understand that life is a mission to proclaim the wonders that the Lord accomplishes in those who trust in him.

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 17, 2020

CNS PHOTO/JAMES RAMOS, TEXAS CATHOLIC HERALD/MONDAY

The day of the new creation

24. A comparison of the Christian Sunday with the Old Testament vision of the Sabbath prompted theological insights of great interest. In particular, there emerged the unique connection between the Resurrection and Creation. Christian thought spontaneously linked the Resurrection, which took place on “the first day of the week”, with the first day of that cosmic week (cf. Gn 1:1 - 2:4) which shapes the creation story in the Book of Genesis: the day of the creation of light (cf. 1:3-5). This link invited an understanding of the Resurrection as the beginning of a new creation, the first fruits of which is the glorious Christ, “the first born of all creation” (Col 1:15) and “the first born from the dead” (Col 1:18).

25. In effect, Sunday is the day above all other days which summons Christians to remember the salvation which was given to them in baptism, and which has made them new in Christ. “You were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead” (Col 2:12; cf. Rom 6:4-6). The liturgy underscores this baptismal dimension of Sunday, both in calling for the celebration of baptisms—as well as at the Easter Vigil—on the day of the week “when the Church commemorates the Lord’s Resurrection”, and in suggesting as an appropriate penitential rite at the start of Mass the sprinkling of holy water, which recalls the moment of Baptism in which all Christian life is born.

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

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” (John 14:15, 21).

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).

JESUS AND THE TEMPLE

Like the prophets before him Jesus expressed the deepest respect for the Temple in Jerusalem. It was in the Temple that Joseph and Mary presented him forty days after his birth. At the age of twelve he decided to remain in the Temple to remind his parents that he must be about his Father's business. He went there each year during his hidden life at least for Passover. His public ministry itself was patterned by his pilgrimages to Jerusalem for the great Jewish feasts. CCC 583

Jesus went up to the Temple as the privileged place of encounter with God. For him, the Temple was the dwelling of his Father, a house of prayer, and he was angered that its outer court had become a place of commerce. He drove merchants out of it because of jealous love for his Father: "You shall not make my Father's house a house of trade. His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'" After his Resurrection his apostles retained their reverence for the Temple. CCC 584

Continued from page 2

Today's gospel passage continues the discourse of Jesus at the last supper. Earlier in this discourse, Jesus had told his followers that they should stick with him because he is the way, the truth, and life. In today's segment, he tells them to prove their love for God by keeping his commandments: "Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."(John 14:15) The one whose mission is to give us life in abundance, who died on the cross to save us, the good Shepherd that leads us to greener pastures, the one who is patient, kind, and merciful to us, and the one who is love itself, seems to be begging us to 'love him and keep his commandments.' What is this commandment that God calls on us to keep? To love God and our neighbor. To preach the good news to all the nooks and crannies of the earth. To do what Philip did by spreading the gospel without boundaries. Also, it is in line with what Peter counsels us to do in the second reading. Keeping God's commandments is what we should do, it is a mandate for all God's children; however, in our haughty and stubborn attitudes, we prefer to misuse our freedom and carve suitable commandments for ourselves. Such commandments suit our selfishness and concupiscence, which result in ultimate regret if there is no repentance.

Although Jesus was giving his farewell speech, he promised not to abandon his disciples. He would ask the Father for an Advocate, the Spirit of truth, who would always be with them.

An Advocate is someone called to one's side as a helper, principally as a defender in a lawsuit. Somebody who needs an advocate is a person who cannot speak for himself. So, we need the advocate, intercessor, support, faithful spokesman and interpreter, the Spirit of truth that will guide and teach us all truth. Truth is the content of the gospel of the resurrection. The Spirit of truth is the greatest gift: therefore, the promise of sending the Holy Spirit is the most significant. Jesus came as an advocate from the Father and did what the Father asked him to do. Preparing to return to his Father, he assured his disciples that his Father would send them an advocate: The Spirit of truth who will dwell with and in them. Jesus will be in the Father, and they, the disciples, will be in him.

As they grow in keeping Jesus' commandments, allowing the Spirit to remind them of his words of life, they will become true children of God in union with Christ. As current Christ's disciples, the same promise is fulfilled in us as we abide in Christ. Dear friends, today's gospel passage reminds us that our Lord is with us eternally; with his authority, Jesus assures us that no matter how trying and challenging things are in our lives, he is with us and will never abandon us. The Spirit of truth, the comforter, is with us perpetually. The Lord will never leave us nor forsake us. Remember that love wins; the closer we are to God, the better for us.

Blessings, Your servant in Christ, Fr. Paschal Ezurike

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For more information: Larry & Nancy Carnahan (503) 804-6029

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