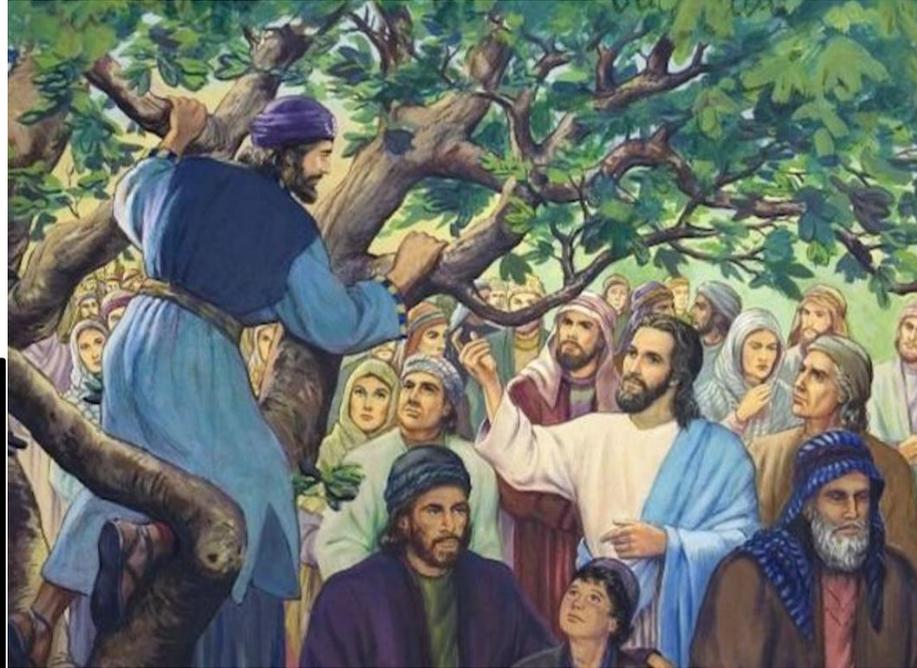




# ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 30, 2022

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 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](http://www.philipbenizi.com)

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

Dear friends in Christ, during last Sunday's food for the soul, emphasis was laid on the proper disposition of prayer, and the priceless virtue of humility when offering our prayers. The Gospel readings taught and projected that prayers made in humility speedily find favor in God's sight. According to Sirach, "The one who serves God willingly is heard; his petition reaches the heavens. The humble person's prayer pierces the clouds; it does not rest till it reaches its goal." The Gospel passage narrated the parable of the Pharisee and tax collector. Judging from their attitudes toward prayer, Luke recorded that the tax collector went home justified, not the Pharisee. He added, "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:14). Therefore, since God answers the humble person's petitions, the reflection urged followers of Christ to embrace humility and shun pride and selfishness.

Today's liturgy of the word reminds us that the mercy, love, and compassion we receive from God do not come to us because of our position in the society but because we are all valuable and precious God's children. We are his creatures, and he is our creator. He created us in his image and likeness. We are the image of God in the world. So, no matter how insignificant and sinful we think we are, God has mercy and love for us all, and he overlooks our sins when we repent and return to him. The Common Preface 11 of the mass puts it this way: "... For in goodness, you created man and when he was justly condemned, in mercy you redeemed him, through Christ our Lord."

Today's first reading from the book of Wisdom reminds us of God's mercy, which he extends to all his creatures irrespective of their status. Hence, despite the weakness of humankind, God continues to be merciful: "But you have mercy on all because you can do all things; you overlook people's sins that they may repent." In other words, our merciful God allows us to retrace our steps because he has no pleasure in the death of a sinner; instead, he wants the sinner to repent and live. He spares us from our shortcomings because we are his; as a lover of souls, God rebukes offenders little by little, warns them, and reminds them of their sins. The goal is for them to abandon their evil ways and believe in God.

The Gospel for today gives credence to the words of the author of the Book of Wisdom with the story of the short but wealthy Zacchaeus, the tax collector. The passage describes him as a short man; however, his stature is irrelevant in his search for the ultimate truth, Jesus the Son of God. In his quest to catch a glimpse of the truth, the wealthy tax collector did the unthinkable. His impediments notwithstanding, his pure intention to see Jesus inspired him to climb the sycamore tree. Zacchaeus desired to see Jesus; therefore, he pocketed his pride, wealth, and social status just to achieve his crucial goal. He is unperturbed by peoples' negative or positive opinions about his personality and actions. The essential thing for him was to see Jesus and hear Jesus' verdict. As a result, he developed a specific avenue to be among his disciples. He found a sycamore tree and climbed on it so that he could see Jesus.

Graciously, Zacchaeus' audacious action produced desirable results. When Jesus reached where short Zacchaeus was perching on the tree, striking his breast, and silently reciting *mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa*, he stopped and called him by name. Identifying him by his name and not by profession, Jesus shows us that despite his condition, Zacchaeus is a child of God. Jesus seeks him out and calls him to repentance. It is good to remember that at that time, tax collectors were in the same category as thieves, prostitutes, and murderers. They exploited the people because they made an illicit profit and worked for the Romans; therefore, they were traitors and received outcasts' treatment. A close look at the story reveals that human verdicts are not God's. We cannot influence God by our judgments on others because we judge from appearances. No wonder the people of Jericho complained when Jesus went to the house of Zacchaeus.

Indeed, Jesus is constantly seeking and saving the lost sheep. Calling Zacchaeus by name is a soothing balm for his heightened fear of Jesus' verdict. He feels known, loved, and recognized by calling his name even in his fraudulent profession. Zacchaeus never expected to hear his name from the lips of Jesus; he expected the consequences of his actions to be a negative exposure. However, the merciful Jesus offered him the package he least expected. Reaching the sycamore tree, Jesus said, "Zacchaeus come down quickly, for today I must stay in your house." Expectedly, taken aback in shock and surprise, he hurriedly descended from the tree and gave Jesus a red-carpet reception with utmost joy. The Jesus' visit to Zacchaeus' house brought criticisms and complaints among the people. Jesus Christ, who came to seek and save the lost, justified his action by saying that Zacchaeus, being a son of Abraham, was also entitled to God's mercy like the other Israelites. He later declared that it was to seek out and save the lost like Zacchaeus, the tax-collector, that he came, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and save what was lost." God poured his never-ceasing love into that home because Zacchaeus opened himself to Jesus and a new way of life, he then found wholeness in that new life. Touched by the kindness of Jesus, Zacchaeus saw his sinful ways, confessed all his sins, promised restitution, and resolved to change. Luke says, "But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone, I shall repay it four times over." *Continued on Page 7*

# This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

## Sunday, 10/30/2022

8:00am Mass: + Michael Schutt (Veronica Kholer)  
 10:30am Mass: +Patsy Sweeney (Dan & Helen Sweeney)

## Monday, 10/31/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Deleen Baker (Michelle Harrington)

## Tuesday, 11/01/2022 Solemnity of All Saints

8:00am Mass: Fr. Rodel DeMasa (Jim and Kathie)  
 7:00pm Mass: +Annette Williams (The Williams Family)

## Wednesday, 11/02/2022 Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Nichole Payne (Don & Loretta Payne)

## Thursday, 11/03/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Jeanene Bernert (Sherrie Havens)  
 7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

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



## Friday, 11/04/2022 Memorial of St. Charles Borromeo

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Bill Owens (Judy Bible)

## Saturday, 11/05/2022

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

## Sunday, 11/06/2022

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

**November 1<sup>st</sup>:** All Saints Day Mass: 8am & 7:00pm

**November 5<sup>th</sup>:** Set clocks back tonight

**November 6<sup>th</sup>:** Blood pressure readings/Hall 9:15  
 -2<sup>nd</sup> collection for Archdiocese for the Military Services

-Adoration Night/Dinner 5:00pm.

**November 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>:** National Vocation Awareness week

## All Saints Day is Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

All Saints day is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times will be 8:00am and 7:00pm.

All Souls envelopes are in the pews and at the side door. Please print legibly the names of deceased loved ones on the envelope and drop the envelope in the offertory basket or bring it to the office through the month of November. Masses will be scheduled for all the names received throughout the year. Suggested donation for each Mass intention is \$10.00.

Pick up a page for the All Soul's book at the side door. Fill it out with the names of deceased loved ones and bring it back to the marked box to be put in the book of Souls for the month of November.

Our next Adoration Night and Dinner for the whole parish will be next Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm hosted by the JP11 Young Adult Crew. The theme is: "The Body of Christ." Join us for worship, reflection, and adoration followed by dinner and small group discussions. Hope to see you there!

Come to the Parish Hall from 10am -12:30 on November 7. We will be making bears for Ukrainian Children displaced from their homes. Bring your sewing machine and stitchery skills. All materials will be provided at no cost. You may also take the Bear Packet home for the sewing and stuffing.

 Our condolences go out to Jesse and Kimberly Stanchfield on the loss of Jesse's dad, John Stanchfield, who passed into God's loving arms. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time.

**"Our Lady of Fatima"**  
 Presentation in the Hall on November 20<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:00  
 presented by John & Caroline Johnson.

### Finance Corner

Registered Household 218	WEEK OF 10/23/2022 Actual	Budget
Donors 58	\$3,867 (online: \$1,435)	\$5,025
Fiscal Year	\$76,691	\$77,940

## Ushers

### Next Weeks Assignments

11/1~8:00am: Paul Lowry  
 11/1~7:00pm: Larry Carnahan  
 11/5~5:30pm: Kevin Horace  
 11/6~8:00am: Jim Charriere  
 11/6~10:30am: Kevin Horace

**November Church Cleaners:** Michelle Harrington (971-409-5664)/  
 Thuc & Gail Alexander (503-740-8312)

**November Altar Linens:** Pat Buldock (503-632-3834)



11/6 9:00: Jim & Kathie  
 11:30:

## Lector/Commentator

Dan Sweeney  
 Jerry Siler  
 Jerry Siler  
 Kristine Bible  
 Jerry Siler



## “For God So Loved the World...”

**W**hen we hear this phrase from **John 3:16**, we think of God’s love for human beings—and rightly so. However, today’s first reading reminds us that God’s love is much broader. This reading offers us a glimpse into God’s love of all natural creation. The Greek word translated “world,” the word found in the passage from John as well as today’s reading, is *kósmos*, a word we think of today as “universe.” So we could say: “God so loved the cosmos.”

The author of the Book of Wisdom insists that God loves whatever God has made; that the power of the Creator is matched by the Creator’s love; and that this love is manifested through mercy to all. We are accustomed to hearing how God cares for us with holy abandon. This reading expands that love to include a tiny grain of sand or the morning dew. An even more daring statement claims that God’s imperishable spirit is in all things. How else could anything exist? This fact is the basis of what is referred to as “the intrinsic value of the entire natural world,” which means that everything has unique value simply because it was created by God—not because we can use it to enhance ourselves.

This kind of thinking might be new to many. However, it calls us to revere elements of nature like trees, flowers, wolves, and even mosquitos, because they are creatures of God. Our faith insists that “God so loved the cosmos.” —*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR Reflection

- ★ *Read the first reading slowly and thoughtfully. What new thinking does it suggest for you?*
- ★ *Think of how dependent you are on earth, water, air, and plants, for example, and give thanks.*

*For you [the Lord] love all things that are and loathe nothing that you have made;  
for you would not fashion what you hate.*

WISDOM 11:24



# Dear Padre,

**My aunt has terminal cancer. Her doctors have advised her to stop chemotherapy and begin palliative care, but she says that's equivalent to assisted suicide. Is that what the Church thinks?**

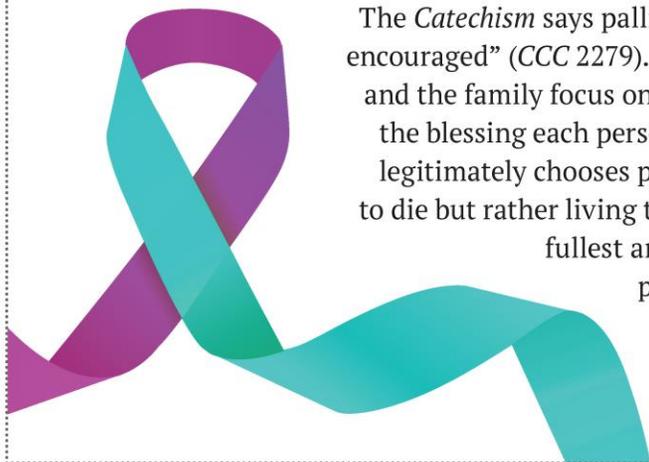
**P**alliative care doesn't prolong life, but neither does it cause life to end. The bishops are quite clear that palliative care is neither euthanasia nor assisted suicide, both of which are always sinful.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says treating or not treating a patient in a way that will cause death is always murder (CCC 2277). However, a patient's choice to discontinue "burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary" treatment "can be legitimate" when it's done not to cause death, but in recognition of "one's inability to impede it" (CCC 2278). But even when death seems to be close, "ordinary care" that would be given to any sick person cannot be interrupted (CCC 2279).

Palliative care does not cause death. It gives terminally ill people spiritual support and relief from their physical symptoms. An excellent resource on this topic, "Killing the Pain, Not the Patient: Palliative Care vs. Assisted Suicide," is available at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org).

The *Catechism* says palliative care "should be encouraged" (CCC 2279). It helps the dying person and the family focus on the gift of life and the blessing each person is. The patient who legitimately chooses palliative care is not waiting to die but rather living those last moments to the fullest and as comfortably as possible.

*Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR*  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Even if we know that we cannot always guarantee healing or a cure, we can and must always care for the living, without ourselves shortening their life, but also without futilely resisting their death. This approach is reflected in palliative care, which...opposes what makes death most terrifying and unwelcome—pain and loneliness.*

MESSAGE TO WORLD MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION, NOVEMBER 7, 2017



## Calendar

### Monday

OCTOBER 31  
Weekday  
Phil 2:1–4  
Lk 14:12–14

### Tuesday

NOVEMBER 1  
All Saints  
Rv 7:2–4, 9–14  
1 Jn 3:1–3  
Mt 5:1–12a

### Wednesday

NOVEMBER 2  
Commemoration of  
All the Faithful Departed  
(All Souls' Day)  
Any readings from  
no. 668 or from the  
Masses for the Dead

### Thursday

NOVEMBER 3  
Weekday  
Phil 3:3–8a  
Lk 15:1–10

### Friday

NOVEMBER 4  
St. Charles Borromeo,  
Bishop  
Phil 3:17–4:1  
Lk 16:1–8

### Saturday

NOVEMBER 5  
Weekday  
Phil 4:10–19  
Lk 16:9–15

### Sunday

NOVEMBER 6  
Thirty-second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
2 Mc 7:1–2, 9–14  
2 Thes 2:16–3:5  
Lk 20:27–38  
or 20:27, 34–38

***Woe to the soul that does not have Christ dwelling in it***

When God was displeased with the Jews, he delivered Jerusalem to the enemy, and they were conquered by those who hated them; there were no more sacrifices or feasts. Likewise angered at a soul who had broken his commands, God handed it over to its enemies, who corrupted and totally dishonored it. When a house has no master living in it, it becomes dark, vile and contemptible, choked with filth and disgusting refuse. So too is a soul which has lost its master, who once rejoiced there with his angels. This soul is darkened with sin, its desires are degraded, and it knows nothing but shame.

Woe to the path that is not walked on, or along which the voices of men are not heard, for then it becomes the haunt of wild animals. Woe to the soul if the Lord does not walk within it to banish with his voice the spiritual beasts of sin. Woe to the house where no master dwells, to the field where no farmer works, to the pilotless ship, storm-tossed and sinking. Woe to the soul without Christ as its true pilot; drifting in the darkness, buffeted by the waves of passion, storm-tossed at the mercy of evil spirits, its end is destruction. Woe to the soul that does not have Christ to cultivate it with care to produce the good fruit of the Holy Spirit. Left to itself, it is choked with thorns and thistles; instead of fruit it produces only what is fit for burning. Woe to the soul that does not have Christ dwelling in it; deserted and foul with the filth of the passions, it becomes a haven for all the vices.

When a farmer prepares to till the soil, he must put on clothing and use tools that are suitable. So, Christ, our heavenly king, came to till the soil of mankind devastated by sin. He assumed a body and, using the cross as his ploughshare, cultivated the barren soul of man. He removed the thorns and thistles which are the evil spirits and pulled up the weeds of sin. Into the fire he cast the straw of wickedness. And when he had ploughed the soul with the wood of the cross, he planted in it a most lovely garden of the Spirit, that could produce for its Lord and God the sweetest and most pleasant fruit of every kind.

(From a homily attributed to Saint Macarius, bishop)

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**REFLECTION OF THE WEEK**

**“To find truthful answers we must replace the search for answers with the search for truth”.**  
**A.A. Alebraheem.**

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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).

### The Immaculate Conception

To become the mother of the Savior, Mary "was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role." The angel Gabriel at the moment of the annunciation salutes her as "full of grace". In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace. CCC 490

Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854:

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin. CCC 491

The "splendor of an entirely unique holiness" by which Mary is "enriched from the first instant of her conception" comes wholly from Christ: she is "redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son". The Father blessed Mary more than any other created person "in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" and chose her "in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love". CCC 492

Continued from page 2.

Accepting Jesus into his house, confessing his sins and making commitments gained Zacchaeus salvation: Jesus said to him "Today salvation has come to this house." As we reflect on this powerful story, it is necessary to ask: Are we willing to risk everything as Zacchaeus, the tax collector did, accept Jesus into our lives and confess our sins, so as to find ourselves immersed in the love of God, who waits patiently for all of us, to lay our lives in his hand? This brings to our mind the need for us to regularly approach the healing Sacrament of reconciliation.

Today's Gospel also reminds us that Jesus passes our way daily, and it recalls the old hymn, 'Jesus is passing this way, he is passing this way today.' He comes with compassion, love, and mercy, but we must be ready to follow, not on our terms but on his. He comes to us daily through the sacraments, friends, neighbors, and even the oppressed, but do we recognize him? The first reading and the story of Zacchaeus indicate that the merciful God comes to seek and to save us irrespective of all human obstacles and failures. Also, we should not allow the crowd to prevent or deceive us from seeking the truth and living a Christian life. In addition, no impediment brazenly or stealthily should stymie our decision to fully embrace Jesus, the truth, the way, and the life. We must be ready 'to climb any tree' and do anything that will enable us to see and embrace Jesus because he is looking for us, and we need to respond urgently. Another lesson we should learn is, not to judge others quickly. Zacchaeus, the tax collector, is quintessential of those seeking to flee from various setbacks and impediments. Therefore, be resolute and hasten without stumbling in your decision to seek the truth (Jesus Christ), and receive what he has promised, the indescribable package.

St. Paul writing not only to the church in Thessalonica but to all Christians, urges us to be worthy of our vocation/call. He encourages us to continue without being carried away by false rumors of the Lord's imminent coming. In order words, as much as the Lord will come to fulfill his promise to us, we must go ahead living our lives. We must not just sit down doing nothing. Instead, we must get ourselves busy with charitable deeds.

A quick reminder, we are entering the month of November. The month we remember the dead and uniquely pray for them. So, remember to take time to pray for the dead and request the holy sacrifice of the mass for departed family members and friends. Kindly endeavor to attend mass on All Saints and All Souls. Let us gather to pray for departed souls. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in perfect peace, Amen.

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

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



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