

# ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

May 21, 2023

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord



## PARISH INFORMATION

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(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](mailto: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, last weekend, in anticipation of his Ascension to the Father, our Lord Jesus Christ assured us of and promised us an Advocate. He said, "I will ask my Father, and he will give you another advocate to be with you always." (John 14:16). He made the great promise of sending us the Holy Spirit that will teach us everything and that he will never abandon us, for we are never alone. Before making this great promise, he asked us to prove our love for him in these words, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:15).**

**Also, we witnessed that with the power of the Holy Spirit, Philip enthralled the city of Samaria with the gospel of resurrection. We prayed for the grace to do all that he asks of us and to be open to receive the Holy Spirit.**

**On this Sunday before the Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate another major feast in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, the solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord into heaven. Every Sunday and on solemnities, we faithfully profess, as part of our belief during the profession of faith: "He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father." The Ascension of Christ is part of our belief. Forty days after his resurrection, the judge of the world and Lord of Lords ascended into heaven. He ascended not to distance himself from our lowly state but that we, his members, might be confident to follow where he, our head and founder, has gone before (Preface of Ascension). And part of today's opening prayer says, "...for the Ascension of Christ, your son is our exaltation, and where the head has gone before in glory, the body (us) is called to follow in hope." A close look at both the opening prayer and the preface of Ascension clearly indicates that Christ's Ascension into heaven is for our benefit. He ascended to heaven for our exaltation so that we are called to be where he is. So, we join in prayers today and ask that we strive hard to be where the Lord is in glory.**

**The Catechism of the Catholic Church, in its teaching on the Ascension of Christ, strongly emphasizes the importance of this great event for us. According to the Catechism, "Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him forever. And Jesus Christ entered the sanctuary of heaven, once and for all, constantly interceding for us as the mediator, who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 665 - 667).**

**Pope St. John Paul 11 said this about the Ascension, "In the Scripture readings, the full significance of Christ's Ascension is summarized for us. The richness of this mystery is spelled out in two statements: Jesus gave instructions, and then Jesus took his place." His words became a treasure.**

**Today's first reading is from the beginning of the Acts of Apostles; in this passage, Luke narrates that Jesus gathers his apostles in the city of Jerusalem, a place of great importance in the mystery of God's saving plan. Jerusalem is where Jesus' public life began and ended. He brings them together to give them instructions to carry his message to the world. The apostles, however, are focused on something else and ask Jesus, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus quickly brushes aside their question and answers, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established," instead, he makes his expectation to them. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witness in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." This mandate is crucial because it is the last thing he said before a cloud took him from their sight. Just as he said, he returned to the Father, and the apostles witnessed this spectacular event.**

**The psalmist asks all the people to clap and shout for joy, for God ascends to his throne with shouts of joy: "All the peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness...God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the Lord, amid trumpet blast...God reigns over the nations; God sits upon his holy throne." It is a thing of joy that Christ ascends to the Father to take his place as he had foretold. *Continued on page 7***

## This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

### **Sunday, 5/21/2023 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**

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

### **Monday, 5/22/2023**

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Frannie Adams  
 (Fred & Carolyn DeLange)  
 6:00pm: RCIA/Hall

### **Tuesday, 5/23/2023**

6:30pm Mass: +William & Helen Carnahan  
 (Larry & Nancy Carnahan)

### **Wednesday, 5/24/2023**

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Greg Lowry  
 (Paul Lowry & Claudia Evers)

### **Thursday, 5/25/2023**

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church  
 8:00am Mass: +Mary Lou Silvander  
 (Sherrie & Mary)  
 7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

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



### **Friday, 5/26/2023 Memorial of St. Philip Neri**

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

### **Saturday, 5/27/2023**

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

### **Sunday, 5/28/2023 Solemnity of Pentecost**

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

**May 29<sup>th</sup>:** Memorial Day



*Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Mary Lou Silvander who passed into God's loving arms on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Funeral details to come.*

**Thank you,** Ed Schneider and Crew for the wonderful Mother's Day Breakfast last Sunday. The food was yummy. Thank you! Thank you!

### **Congratulations on your Confirmation!**

Abbi Alexander, Mai Alexander, Romeo Daly, Jairo Lopez Martinez, Jasmine Olson, William Person, Cara Stasiewicz received the sacrament of Confirmation at Christ the King on May 19<sup>th</sup>. May you all be filled with the Holy Spirit and grow in faith and love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

If you would like to be a part of planning Fr. Paschal's farewell party, please come to the Hall on June 4<sup>th</sup> after the 8am Mass.

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

Having a servant's heart means sharing God's gifts with our neighbors. Join us with your servant's heart when you make a monthly recurring gift to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal at [JesusChangesEverything.church](http://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.

Join local Catholic Engaged Encounter leaders Michael and Nancy Fisher for an enrichment on **re-connecting with your spouse**. Whether you've been married one week, one year, or more than a decade, this is for you! Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 3:00-5:00 Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 13715 SW Walker Rd. Beaverton.

### Finance Corner

Registered Household 222	WEEK OF 5/07/2023 Actual	Budget
Donors 48	\$5,624 (online: \$1,325)	\$5,448
Fiscal Year	\$225,680	\$223,165

### Next Weeks Assignments

#### Ushers

**5/27~5:30pm:**  
**5/28~8:00am:** Pat Keavney  
**5/28~10:30am:** Kevin Horace

#### Lector/Commentator

Tom Muldoon  
 Danielle Dryden  
 Dan Sweeney

#### Extraordinary

Jeanne Hubel  
 Kristine Bible  
 Marina Logue

**May Church Cleaners:** Michelle Harrington (971-409-5664)  
**May Altar Linens:** Janet Tankersley (503-545-2229)



**5/28 9:00am:** Elaine & John  
**11:30am:**





[Jesus said], “You will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8

## Power Unmasked

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**hen the Lone Ranger and Tonto rode across our TV screens in days of old, someone would often ask, “Who was that masked man?” Folks never learned his identity, and it didn’t matter. For that man had saved them from evil, restoring their lives. In a sense, the Ranger, with Tonto, had passed on to them the power to live safely and productively.

As he was about to return to his Father, the risen Lord said to the apostles, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). Yet being blessed with the power that raised the Lord Jesus does not always feel much like a blessing. At times it can feel more like a burden that falls upon our shoulders, one to heal and mend as we try to bring peace and a better world. We wonder why we always must be the one who says, “I’m sorry.” Why must we always be the one who plans the evening out or writes the Christmas cards or calls Mom or spends time with the children or listens to someone’s tale of woe? Yet such is the power of Jesus for bringing about healing to both spirits and bodies, for creating joy, for designing bridges into the hearts of others, all because the Messiah rode off on a cloud of silver to be welcomed to the right hand of God. Thus, he empowers us. ●

### Reflect

***Have you ever been surprised by the good God has brought about through you?***

# Dear Padre,

## Why should I be confirmed?

In baptism, God calls you to be a priest, prophet and king. In confirmation, you receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live out those vocations. A priest offers prayer and sacrifice. In confirmation, you are moved to make your everyday life a sacrifice that you join to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross (Romans 12:1). *Prophet* is from *prophētēs*, a Greek word meaning “spokesperson.” In confirmation, you are compelled to preach the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:16), just as the apostles were when they received the Holy Spirit on the original day of Pentecost (Acts 2:2–4). When you were baptized, you were made a member of the royal family of God (1 Peter 2:9). Just as Jesus showed what it means to be a Servant King, so are we called to serve others in love. In confirmation, we are inspired by the love that God pours into us in his Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5).

In his first public preaching, Jesus quoted from Isaiah the prophet: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me” (Luke 4:18). That was the beginning of his public ministry. When the bishop anoints you with chrism, you can say the same. Your confirmation is the beginning of your own public ministry. ●



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*A disciple follows the Master daily and shares the joy of discipleship with others. Not by conquering, mandating, proselytizing, but by witnessing, humbling oneself alongside other disciples and offering with love the love that we ourselves received. This is our mission...to show by our lives...that God loves everyone and never tires of anyone.*

HOMILY, ROME, OCTOBER 20, 2019

CNS PHOTO/GUGLIELMO MANGIAPANE, REUTERS



**Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

#### MONDAY

May 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 19:1–8  
Jn 16:29–33

#### TUESDAY

May 23  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 20:17–27  
Jn 17:1–11a

#### WEDNESDAY

May 24  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 20:28–38  
Jn 17:11b–19

#### THURSDAY

May 25  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11  
Jn 17:20–26

#### FRIDAY

May 26  
St. Philip Neri, Priest  
Acts 25:13b–21  
Jn 21:15–19

#### SATURDAY

May 27  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 28:16–20, 30–31  
Jn 21:20–25

#### SUNDAY

May 28  
Pentecost  
Acts 2:1–11  
1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13  
Jn 20:19–23

### The eighth day: image of eternity

26. By contrast, the Sabbath's position as the seventh day of the week suggests for the Lord's Day a complementary symbolism, much loved by the Fathers. Sunday is not only the first day, it is also "the eighth day", set within the sevenfold succession of days in a unique and transcendent position which evokes not only the beginning of time but also its end in "the age to come". Saint Basil explains that Sunday symbolizes that truly singular day which will follow the present time, the day without end which will know neither evening nor morning, the imperishable age which will never grow old; Sunday is the ceaseless foretelling of life without end which renews the hope of Christians and encourages them on their way. Looking towards the last day, which fulfils completely the eschatological symbolism of the Sabbath, Saint Augustine concludes the Confessions describing the Eschaton as "the peace of quietness, the peace of the Sabbath, a peace with no evening". In celebrating Sunday, both the "first" and the "eighth" day, the Christian is led towards the goal of eternal life.

### The day of Christ-Light

27. This Christocentric vision sheds light upon another symbolism which Christian reflection and pastoral practice ascribed to the Lord's Day. Wise pastoral intuition suggested to the Church the Christianization of the notion of Sunday as "the day of the sun", which was the Roman name for the day, and which is retained in some modern languages. This was in order to draw the faithful away from the seduction of cults which worshipped the sun, and to direct the celebration of the day to Christ, humanity's true "sun". Writing to the pagans, Saint Justin uses the language of the time to note that Christians gather together "on the day named after the sun", but for believers the expression had already assumed a new meaning which was unmistakably rooted in the Gospel. Christ is the light of the world (cf. Jn 9:5; also 1:4-5, 9), and, in the weekly reckoning of time, the day commemorating his Resurrection is the enduring reflection of the epiphany of his glory. The theme of Sunday as the day illuminated by the triumph of the Risen Christ is also found in the Liturgy of the Hours<sup>32</sup> and is given special emphasis in the Pannichida, the vigil which in the Eastern liturgies prepares for Sunday. From generation to generation as she gathers on this day, the Church makes her own the wonderment of Zechariah as he looked upon Christ, seeing in him the dawn which gives "light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death" (Lk 1:78-79), and she echoes the joy of Simeon when he takes in his arms the divine Child who has come as the "light to enlighten the Gentiles" (Lk 2:32).

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

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### REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

**"Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father's glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him forever. And Jesus Christ entered the sanctuary of heaven, once and for all, constantly interceding for us as the mediator, who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit."** (CCC 665-667).

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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).

## JESUS AND THE TEMPLE

On the threshold of his Passion Jesus announced the coming destruction of this splendid building, of which there would not remain "one stone upon another". By doing so, he announced a sign of the last days, which were to begin with his own Passover. But this prophecy would be distorted in its telling by false witnesses during his interrogation at the high priest's house, and would be thrown back at him as an insult when he was nailed to the cross. CCC 585

Far from having been hostile to the Temple, where he gave the essential part of his teaching, Jesus was willing to pay the Temple-tax, associating with him Peter, whom he had just made the foundation of his future Church. He even identified himself with the Temple by presenting himself as God's definitive dwelling-place among men. Therefore his being put to bodily death presaged the destruction of the Temple, which would manifest the dawning of a new age in the history of salvation: "The hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father." CCC 586

## JESUS AND ISRAEL'S FAITH IN THE ONE GOD AND SAVIOUR

If the Law and the Jerusalem Temple could be occasions of opposition to Jesus by Israel's religious authorities, his role in the redemption of sins, the divine work par excellence, was the true stumbling-block for them. CCC 587

Jesus scandalized the Pharisees by eating with tax collectors and sinners as familiarly as with themselves. Against those among them "who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others", Jesus affirmed: "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." He went further by proclaiming before the Pharisees that, since sin is universal, those who pretend not to need salvation are blind to themselves. CCC 588

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Continued from page 2

**Today's gospel adds to the final moments of Jesus with his apostles, which took place on the mountain where he ordered them to assemble. When they saw his appearance at the mount of Olives, they were struck with awe and worshipped him. In this solemn and breathtaking moment, Jesus gave them a significant mandate and charged them to: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Then in his final word, Jesus promised to be with them always. The mystery of our faith that we enter today is that of Jesus, who ascended to the Father so that the same Spirit who empowered the Apostles would equally empower each of us to go; teach and live the gospel.**

**Indeed, this significant mandate to go and make disciples of all nations is meant for all Christians. The first witnesses dedicated their lives to the gospel and handed the baton to us to continue to make Christ known wherever we are by our words and actions. Undeniably, not many of us could publicly preach the gospel, but our lives, actions, and deeds say much and go a long way from what we say. Here, we recall the powerful words of St. Francis: "Preach the gospel at all times. When necessary, use words."**

**The mission to go, live, and preach the gospel is not easy; it needs our total commitment. Paul prayed in the 2nd reading, "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what the hope that belongs to this call is." Our eyes need proper enlightenment to know the seriousness of this mission. Our Lord wants us to be courageous in living a good Christian life because he promised to be with us till the end of time. Although intimidation, persecution, and fear abound; however, such should not be an obstacle to the dissemination of Christ's gospel. By his promise, Jesus reminds us and emphasizes the meaning of his name, 'Emmanuel' – God is with us. As we celebrate happily today, the great feast of Ascension of the Lord, let us always respond to this significant mandate and, with courage, live and preach the gospel.**

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

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

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