

ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 23, 2023
Third Sunday of Easter



PARISH INFORMATION

18211 S Henrici RD
Oregon City OR 97045
PHONE: 503-631-2882
FAX: 503-631-7443

EMAIL: stphilipbenizi_redland@archdpdx.org

Pastor: Fr. Paschal Ezurike

Email: pezurike@archdpdx.org

Parish Staff

Business Manager: Mary Pattyn
503-631-2882

mpattyn@archdpdx.org

Secretary: Sherrie Havens
503-631-2882

shavens@archdpdx.org

RE Director: Melissa Payne
503-631-2882

mbear@archdpdx.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

“And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him...” (Luke 24: 30-31)

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, as we continue to celebrate the significant feast in the Church's liturgical calendar: the Lord's Resurrection, the liturgy of the word taken from the New Testament continues to reveal to us the power of Jesus' Resurrection, which was manifested in the lives of the apostles. Last Sunday, the liturgical readings assured us that God's love for us is beyond all telling and everlasting. In union with the psalmist, we repeatedly sang, 'give thanks to the Lord for he is good for his love endures forever.' As we savor the unique love of God, the reflection urged us to forgive and spread the love with those we encounter on this desirable but challenging pilgrimage.

Peter daringly gave his eloquent speech at Pentecost in today's first reading. His boldness and eloquence stem from the power of Christ's Resurrection as he addressed a larger audience, including the Jews. Peter lays out the sequence of Christ's Resurrection and the significance of the proof that the Messiah had come. Initially, the twelve could not publicly proclaim that Jesus was the Messiah for fear that the authorities that put Jesus to death would seek reprisal against them also. But because of the Resurrection's power, Peter could also speak boldly to the leaders and the Jewish people.

This passage and similar passages at this time of the year remind us from the outset that the Resurrection is real and is central to our faith. Sometimes, we take this incredible event for granted, or we do not even think about it. But Christ's death and Resurrection are at the heart of our Christian faith. That was true for the apostles and is still valid for us today. We would do well to reflect on it, especially during this blessed Easter season. The book of Acts of Apostles abounds with the Lord's Resurrection narratives which led to the formation of the Church. So, the Easter season is a beautiful time to explore, read, or re-read this inspiring book from St. Luke.

Also, in the Gospel readings of this essential and magnificent season, we read how Jesus Christ, after his Resurrection, appeared to several followers who felt disillusioned, disappointed, and discouraged about what happened to their leader, Christ. St. John succinctly gives its 'raison d'etre', "For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead." (John 20:9). Some of them decided to go back to their former professions/business, like Simon Peter, who said, "I am going fishing" and the other six disciples with him said, "We also will come with you." (John 21: 3) Consequently, out of frustration, they went back to fishing and behold, that night, they caught nothing." As they were digesting their disappointment from wasting all night, Jesus Christ appeared to them at this critical moment. Being the doyen of everything, he schooled them on what to do; following his instructions and by his power, they caught 'one hundred fifty-three large fish' (John 21:11), and he even prepared breakfast for them.

Some of Jesus' followers dispersed to various destinations because the breaking news crushed their hope; they hoped that Christ would be the one to redeem Israel. But their hope and expectation did not come to fruition according to their thinking. Two of them were on their way to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus. The story of the two, Christ's appearance to them, and what happened during the journey is today's gospel. Christ shows us the importance of the table of the word and the table of the Eucharist.

As Jesus walked along the road with his depressed, discouraged, and disillusioned disciples, brimful with sorrow and dashed hope; and realizing that the two allowed the trending news to obstruct them from recognizing him, Jesus assumed the role of the catechist. During their walk, Jesus probed for contents, and as they yielded, he schooled them in the scriptures, explaining the meaning of the Torah. He begins with Moses and shows how what was taught by the prophets refers to him, even though there was no mention that the Redeemer was to suffer as he did. The climax of this fantastic experience is the meal at the table. When the risen Jesus says the blessing, breaks, and shares the bread with his disciples, they finally understand and with great joy who he is. Shortly after this moment, he is gone, but only physically. He is never truly gone from them.

Continued on page 7

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 4/23/2023

8:00am Mass: All Parishioners
 10:30am Mass: +Nicole Payne
 (Don & Loretta Payne)

Monday, 4/24/2023

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

Tuesday, 4/25/2023 Feast of St. Mark

6:30pm Mass: +Robert & Juanita Wooten
 (Becky & Larry Wooten)

Wednesday, 4/26/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +John & Magdalena Perman
 (Larry & Nancy Carnahan)

Thursday, 4/27/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Robert Eldridge (Al & Jackie Davis)
 7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom
 8:30am-10:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration



Friday, 4/28/2023

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
 8:00am Mass: +Robert Cramer (Lois Celorie)

Saturday, 4/29/2023

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

Sunday, 4/30/2023

8:00am Mass: +Pat Reeves (Dryden Family)
 10:30am Mass: +Donald Perman
 (Larry & Nancy Carnahan)

Return Rice Bowls to the baskets by the doors of the Church

April 23rd: Adoration: 5:00pm, Dinner & Movie: 6:00pm

April 29th: Adopt a Road: 9:00am/parking lot

Adoration Night is TONIGHT, Sunday, April 23rd.

Please join your parish family in adoration in the Church at 5pm. A spaghetti dinner will be served at 6:pm while we watch, "The Shack".

The Knights of Columbus want to thank the parishioners of ST. Philip Benizi Parish for the generous donations made at the breakfast fundraiser last Sunday. We collected \$1155.00 that will go toward the purchase of a portable ultrasound machine for Obria Medical Clinics. Again, on the behalf of the members of The Knights of Columbus Oregon City Council, THANK YOU.

Archbishop's Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend April 22-23

Don't miss your chance to learn more about the 2023 Archbishop's Catholic Appeal in his new video, visit JesusChangesEverything.church, or call (503) 233-8336, or go to the SPB website to see the video from Archbishop Sample. ACA envelopes are in the pews and at the doors of the Church.

Adopt a road Saturday is next Saturday, April 29th at 9:00 AM. Meet in the parking lot of St. Philip Benizi Church. Please bring gloves and wear comfortable shoes. Pickers, vest, and garbage bags will be provided. Help is needed and appreciated.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER - Thursday, May 4, 2023

Ways to Participate:

1. Pray for specific government leader
2. Be 15 minute "link" in a 24 hour prayer chain
3. Voluntarily fast on **Thursday, May 4th**.
4. Join others across the United States as we simultaneously recite a prayer at noon, Washington D.C. time (9 AM SPB Time).
5. Join us for Prayer and Soup/Bread "Break-Fast" Potluck at **6:15 PM in the Parish Center**

Sign-ups in the Narthex after 5:30 Mass, and Parish Center after all Masses Sunday Questions? Contact Heather Hannam 503-631-7354 hahannam@juno.com

Finance Corner

Registered Household 222	WEEK OF 4/16/2023 Actual	Budget
Donors 55	\$2,998 (online: \$1,078)	\$6,331
Fiscal Year	\$206,782	\$200,618

Next Weeks Assignments

Ushers

4/29~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon
 4/30~8:00am: Pat Keavney
 4/30~10:30am: Larry Carnahan

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam
 John Buxman
 Nancy Carnahan

Extraordinary

Becky Wooten
 Jeannine Breshears
 Jeaneene Siler

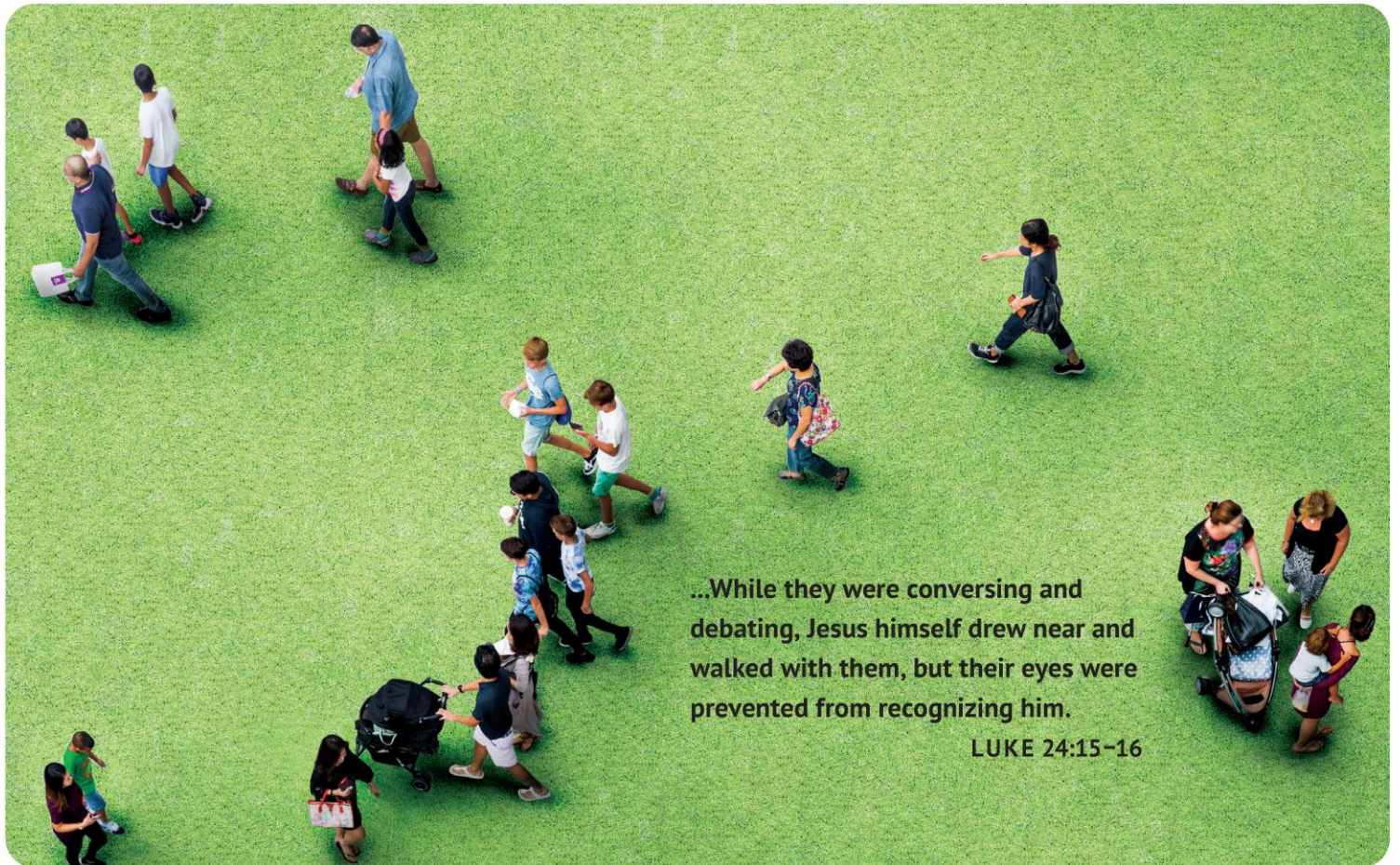
May Church Cleaners: Michelle Harrington (971-409-5664)

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



4/30 9:00am: Team MLS
11:30am:





...While they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

LUKE 24:15-16

Not Just a Walk in the Park

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A multiple-choice question: Life is (a) purgatory, (b) a party, (c) drudgery, (d) a maze, (e) a trial. Many of us might be inclined to answer, “All of the above.” Life takes us along many paths, through many fields, and down many blind alleys.

The Camino de Santiago is a hiking trail of about 500 miles that begins in France, makes its way through Spain, and ends at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, where tradition has it that the remains of St. James are buried. Many walk the journey to discover who they are and what their lives are about. Walking ten to fifteen miles a day with little to think about other than one’s life tends to turn the hike into a pilgrimage that thousands have made over the centuries for just that purpose. The pilgrimage is arduous, often plagued with rain, blisters, shin splints, and a discovery of how to

travel light. But then, such is all of life.

This week’s Emmaus Gospel recounts a similar journey compressed into one day. Like life, it begins in confusion, is scattered with insights and revelations about what has just taken place and ends with the discovery that the Lord has been the one walking with them. Faith does not solve one’s problems nor eliminate one’s difficulties. It does help us understand life and find meaning in the midst of it all, and somehow it brings us to realize that we do not travel alone, making the journey worthwhile and blessed. ●

Reflect

What has made you realize that the Lord walks with you?

Dear Padre,

Our planet's condition is now a serious problem. Why is climate change hardly mentioned in homilies?

Many people view climate change as a political issue more than a religious one. As such, some homilists avoid controversial, politicized topics altogether; others are selective in preaching about them; still others tend to use the pulpit as a soapbox for a single political issue or a variety of them. Moreover, preachers themselves are not apolitical, nor are they all centrist in their ideologies. Like those in the pews, homilists have biases, too.

So how did climate change become so politicized? Despite decades of substantial evidence from many respected scientific experts, confusion exists about climate change because the issue's scope is massive and hard to digest, international cooperation is mandatory, and polar-opposite opinions of politicians and their followers are often intransigent. Nevertheless, Pope Francis convened an international conference in 2019 to look at how religions can help the world reach sustainable ecological goals by 2030 to, he said, repair "the damage we have done. No branch of science or form of wisdom should be overlooked, and this includes religions and the languages particular to them."

Thus, according to the Pope, "religious voices" play a crucial role in addressing the serious condition of our planet. Inasmuch as religion has a fundamental responsibility to offer people faith and hope in a better world—and homilies help believers find meaning and purpose—taking action and speaking out about humanity's well-being are becoming less optional. ●



CHANASORN JELE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30
Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 6:8–15 Jn 6:22–29	1 Pt 5:5b–14 Mk 16:15–20	Acts 8:1b–8 Jn 6:35–40	Acts 8:26–40 Jn 6:44–51	Acts 9:1–20 Jn 6:52–59	Acts 9:31–42 Jn 6:60–69	Acts 2:14a, 36–41 1 Pt 2:20b–25 Jn 10:1–10



GIULIO NAPOLITANO / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The adversity that we are experiencing with the pandemic, and that we already feel in climate change, must spur us on, must drive us to innovation, to invention, to seek new paths. We do not come out of a crisis the same, we come out better or worse.

VIDEO MESSAGE TO MARK EARTH DAY, APRIL 22, 2021

From the Sabbath to Sunday

18. Because the Third Commandment depends upon the remembrance of God's saving works and because Christians saw the definitive time inaugurated by Christ as a new beginning, they made the first day after the Sabbath a festive day, for that was the day on which the Lord rose from the dead. The Paschal Mystery of Christ is the full revelation of the mystery of the world's origin, the climax of the history of salvation and the anticipation of the eschatological fulfilment of the world. What God accomplished in Creation and wrought for his People in the Exodus has found its fullest expression in Christ's Death and Resurrection, though its definitive fulfilment will not come until the Parousia, when Christ returns in glory. In him, the "spiritual" meaning of the Sabbath is fully realized, as Saint Gregory the Great declares: "For us, the true Sabbath is the person of our Redeemer, our Lord Jesus Christ". This is why the joy with which God, on humanity's first Sabbath, contemplates all that was created from nothing, is now expressed in the joy with which Christ, on Easter Sunday, appeared to his disciples, bringing the gift of peace and the gift of the Spirit (cf. Jn 20:19-23). It was in the Paschal Mystery that humanity, and with it the whole creation, "groaning in birth-pangs until now" (Rom 8:22), came to know its new "exodus" into the freedom of God's children who can cry out with Christ, "Abba, Father!" (Rom 8:15; Gal 4:6). In the light of this mystery, the meaning of the Old Testament precept concerning the Lord's Day is recovered, perfected and fully revealed in the glory which shines on the face of the Risen Christ (cf. 2 Cor 4:6). We move from the "Sabbath" to the "first day after the Sabbath", from the seventh day to the first day: the dies Domini becomes the dies Christi!

The weekly Easter

19. "We celebrate Sunday because of the venerable Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we do so not only at Easter but also at each turning of the week": so, wrote Pope Innocent I at the beginning of the fifth century, testifying to an already well established practice which had evolved from the early years after the Lord's Resurrection. Saint Basil speaks of "holy Sunday, honored by the Lord's Resurrection, the first fruits of all the other days"; and Saint Augustine calls Sunday "a sacrament of Easter". The intimate bond between Sunday and the Resurrection of the Lord is strongly emphasized by all the Churches of East and West. In the tradition of the Eastern Churches in particular, every Sunday is the anastàsimos hemèra, the day of Resurrection, and this is why it stands at the heart of all worship. In the light of this constant and universal tradition, it is clear that, although the Lord's Day is rooted in the very work of creation and even more in the mystery of the biblical "rest" of God, it is nonetheless to the Resurrection of Christ that we must look in order to understand fully the Lord's Day. This is what the Christian Sunday does, leading the faithful each week to ponder and live the event of Easter, true source of the world's salvation.

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

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

"After encountering Jesus, the two disciples immediately went to tell others what had happened. Similarly, like the disciples, we must share the gospel message with others and bear witness to Jesus' love and grace." – 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).

JESUS AND ISRAEL

From the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, certain Pharisees and partisans of Herod together with priests and scribes agreed together to destroy him. Because of certain acts of his expelling demons, forgiving sins, healing on the sabbath day, his novel interpretation of the precepts of the Law regarding purity, and his familiarity with tax collectors and public sinners -some ill-intentioned persons suspected Jesus of demonic possession. He is accused of blasphemy and false prophecy, religious crimes which the Law punished with death by stoning. CCC 574

Many of Jesus' deeds and words constituted a "sign of contradiction", but more so for the religious authorities in Jerusalem, whom the Gospel according to John often calls simply "the Jews", than for the ordinary People of God. To be sure, Christ's relations with the Pharisees were not exclusively polemical. Some Pharisees warn him of the danger he was courting; Jesus praises some of them, like the scribe of Mark 12:34, and dines several times at their homes. Jesus endorses some of the teachings imparted by this religious elite of God's people: the resurrection of the dead, certain forms of piety (almsgiving, fasting and prayer), The custom of addressing God as Father, and the centrality of the commandment to love God and neighbour. CCC 575

In the eyes of many in Israel, Jesus seems to be acting against essential institutions of the Chosen People: - submission to the whole of the Law in its written commandments and, for the Pharisees, in the interpretation of oral tradition; - the centrality of the Temple at Jerusalem as the holy place where God's presence dwells in a special way; - faith in the one God whose glory no man can share. CCC 576

Continued from Page 2

Indeed, this is true for us as well. Jesus always walks with us in our various challenges/situations. We are never alone. When we listen to the word and share the blessed bread at Mass, Jesus is present, just as he was at the table with the discouraged disciples on the road to Emmaus. We know this because Jesus told us this. Christ's presence in the Eucharist is not just symbolic. Our Catholic beliefs tell us that Christ is here with us as truly and substantially as he was with those he catechized in Emmaus.

Dear friends, let this gospel be a lesson for us on many levels, particularly the power of the word and the Eucharist. We should be present at both tables; we should be attentive and participate actively because the former table prepares us for the latter. We have access to both, read the bible, and prepare for every mass by reading and meditating on the readings. During the Holy sacrifice of the mass, we feed on two tables, the table of the word and the Eucharist. In the gospel, Christ first fed the two disciples from the table of the word before breaking bread (the table of the Eucharist); both necessitated the opening of their eyes. We pray that we always feel Jesus' presence in our lives and continue to recognize him in breaking the bread/Holy Sacrifice of the mass. Finally, as the two disciples did, we pray for the strength and grace to go with joy and share the Good News with others. God loves you.

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

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



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