We are a welcoming inter-generational community united through our faith in Jesus Christ, demonstrating our love to others through service and charity. All are Welcome, All Belong!

June 24, 2018 - The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Image: Luca Giordano, The birth of Saint John the Baptist

PASTORAL STAFF
Rev. Stephen Howell, V.G., Pastor
Rev. Brendan McBride, In residence
Rio Stefanus, Finance/Business Manager
Mary Dante, Bookkeeper
Sandra Kearney, Pastoral Associate

ST. PHILIP PRE-SCHOOL
Phone: 415.282.0143
Rachel Williams, Pre-School Director

MASS TIMES
Sunday: 8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
Saturday: Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. - Chapel
Holy Days: 8:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.
Confessions: 4:15 p.m. (Saturday)

DEVOTIONS
Rosary - Monday - Saturday after 8:00 a.m. Mass
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass

ST. PHILIP SCHOOL
Phone: 415.824.8467
Fax: 415.282.0121
info@saintphilipschool.org
“Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.”

Acts 13:25

THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
June 24, 2018

Reflecting on the Word

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Tiny fingers and toes. A little yawn. A loud cry. An infant wrapped in swaddling clothes. “What will this child be?” It is a question every parent asks time and time again. As first steps are taken, as personalities emerge, as a child shows interest in reading or drawing or climbing, the question is on our lips. “What will this child be?” This question is asked as John the Baptist is born. Will he be a priest like his father? Does his strange, unexpected name signal a departure from that inheritance? Could Elizabeth and Zechariah ever have predicted what would be?

Under the tutelage of his priestly father, John “became strong in spirit.” As an adult, John would retreat into the desert to preach repentance. He would attract a large following and eventually attract the attention of the rulers of the day. He would point out the adulterous ways of King Herod and would find himself in prison. Eventually, he would be beheaded. But today, he is a child, an infant newly born.

On this special feast, we’re reminded of the great humility required of parents. The character formation, the discipline and encouragement, the violin lessons and soccer practices … every parental effort is subjected to the decisions of the child themselves. Even children on a sure track by high school graduation transform under life’s circumstances. Entrusting our children to God can be incredibly intimidating. “What will this child be,” especially when that transformation lies outside of my control? John the Baptist’s story might not have ended as his parents imagined. But he is celebrated as the greatest of the prophets, as the one who prepared the way for the Messiah. Here is the hope of all Christian parents — that our children would be raised in such a way that when people meet them, they meet Jesus Christ.

Living and Praying with the Word

O Lord, you have probed me and you know me. You have called me from my mother’s womb to shine your light on all I meet. Bring light to my darkness and release my tongue to announce the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, today and every day of my life.

Amen
**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**  
*June 24 2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Names and Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/23</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.† Eithne Fullerton (by: The McLaughlin Family) 5:00 p.m.† Lillian Jeanette Cimino (by: The Anderson Family)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/24</td>
<td>The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist 8:00 a.m. Pura Lippi (by: Lina Henry) 10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/25</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.† Martin Francisco Ferrey (by: Maria Ferrey)</td>
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<td>6/26</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.† Patrick &amp; Grace Maughan (by: Maughan Family Trust)</td>
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<td>6/27</td>
<td>Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 8:00 a.m. Kamal Sengupta (Special Intentions) (by: Helen Ripple)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/28</td>
<td>Saint Irenaeus, Bishop &amp; Martyr 8:00 a.m.† Mary Ann Ripple (by: Helen Ripple)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/29</td>
<td>Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles 8:00 a.m.† Gordon &amp; Doris Ripple (by: Helen Ripple)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/30</td>
<td>The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church 8:00 a.m.† Mary Shields (by: Helen Ripple) 5:00 p.m. Intentions of Connie Weber &amp; Family (by: )</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/01</td>
<td>Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St. Junipero Serra, Priest Apostle of the Californias) 8:00 a.m.† David Dickey (by: The McAuliffe Family) 10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PARISH REGISTRATION**  
ALL ARE WELCOME, ALL BELONG

Our parish is blessed and enriched by the presence of new parishioners.

We welcome all new families and individuals. If you are interested in joining the Saint Philip’s parish community, feel free to call our office at 415-282-0141 for a registration form, or go online at www.saintphilipparish.org

**Bring your Faith during your Summer Travels!**

- Stay connected with your local church by visiting our website at www.saintphilipparish.org on your mobile phones and view the bulletins to stay current with parish news.
- Find a local Catholic church for Sunday services anywhere in the world at www.masstimes.org
- Continue your stewardship support by using the online offertory giving platform. Sign up at www.osvonlinegiving.com/4254

**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

As we celebrate today’s feast, we are reminded that God creates and fashions each one of us with intent and purpose. We are not random accidents. We are special creations and wonderfully made. Each of us brings a unique twist to the one shot at life that we are given. As people of faith and children of God, we are asked to use our specialness to announce God’s kingdom. Each of us reveals a unique part of God’s face. Each day presents opportunities to communicate our faith to others and to reveal God’s mercy. We have the means to point the way to Christ. How can we show Jesus to others today?

---

**Let us remember in our Prayers…**

Those who are sick or who suffer in any way, especially the housebound and the elderly, that God will assist them in their time of need and that they may find comfort and healing in Christ.

Patricia Crowley  
Laura Garcia  
Agnes Piva  
John Bamber  
Fred Jungmann  
Ron Ramirez  
Mow, Kain Chiu  
Mary Dekle  
Marian Dickey  
Bill Matthews  
Lea Juarez  
Chloe Smith  
Father Juan Manuel Lopez  
Jana Atlas  
Dolores Martin  
Michael Brust  
Corrado DeMartini  
Father Paul Rossi

Those who have died, David Dickey, Arthur Carlton White, Sr., the deceased of our parish, and especially those who have no one to pray for them.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. May the Perpetual Light Shine upon them.

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**We are sincerely grateful for your financial stewardship supporting our various parish needs.**

| June 17, 2018 Sunday Collection | $1,586.00 |
| Online giving | $740.00 |
| Total Collection | $2,033.00 |
| Second Collection—Annual Appeal | $447.00 |
WHY DO WE DO THAT?  
CATHOLIC TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

Question:
June 24 celebrates the feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist. How was that date chosen and why?

Answer: The date set for John the Baptist’s birth only came into existence once the date to celebrate Jesus’ birth was set. Evidence shows that by the middle of the fourth century Christians were celebrating the birth of Jesus around December 25. No one at that time knew when Jesus was born, but the date seemed to be selected to counter the Roman festival to the sun god.

Once December 25 had been selected for the birth of Jesus, a number of other dates could be set, using the biblical evidence at hand. When the angel appeared to Mary and she conceived, her cousin, Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, was in her sixth month. If Jesus was born on December 25, then he had to be conceived nine months before, on March 25. If Elizabeth was then in her sixth month, then John the Baptist was due three months later on June 25.

Then why June 24? A rather convincing reason stems from John’s witness in John’s Gospel. There John the Baptist says that Jesus must increase and he, John, must decrease. The other Gospels also have John point to Jesus and not himself as the chosen one of God. In making John’s birth a day less than Jesus’ full nine months, the Christian community communicated this Gospel reality in its liturgical calendar. Thus the Christian community continued to highlight John’s mission and ministry. Maybe we could strive toward that same mission in our own lives.

We are called to follow Christ as missionary disciples by serving others and living our faith in all that we do. Let us take a few moments each day from June 22 - June 29 to pray, reflect, and take action on religious liberty, both here in this country and abroad.

Day 3 - June 24

Pray
That the Holy Spirit would give us the courage to bear witness to the truth of the Gospel, even in the face of social and legal pressure.

Reflect
All baptized Christians are called to share the joy of the gospel with others. When most of our co-workers, neighbors, and even family members don’t share our faith and perhaps do not practice any faith at all, we might be timid or afraid to talk about our faith. But in a culture filled with so much junk, people are hungry for solid food. When we encounter Jesus Christ, we come to know the bread of life, the truth in which the restless hearts of our age can rest. We love our neighbors by helping them to encounter Jesus.

Act
As the Pope Francis teaches, “The Holy Spirit also grants the courage to proclaim the newness of the Gospel with boldness (parrhesía) in every time and place, even when it meets with opposition” (Evangelii gaudium, 259). Let’s take this week to exercise our freedom by sharing our faith.
in Jesus Christ or to talk about religious freedom with others. Try it today!

**Day 4 - June 25**

**Pray**
For our sisters and brothers in the Middle East; that through the intercession of the Apostles, who established these most ancient churches, Christians and all religious minorities would be freed from violent persecution.

**Reflect**
In July 2015, Pope Francis said, “Today we are dismayed to see how in the Middle East and elsewhere in the world many of our brothers and sisters are persecuted, tortured and killed for their faith in Jesus.... In this third world war, waged piecemeal, which we are now experiencing, a form of genocide – I insist on the word – is taking place, and it must end.” Today, Christians are among those religious minorities confronted with persecution, despite their having been critical to the vitality and pluralism of the region since the earliest days of Christianity.

**Day 5 - June 26**

**Pray**
That the Lord would protect all migrants and refugees, and that all those who work with people on the move would be free to serve.

**Reflect**
The Church has long sought to serve the unique needs of “people on the move,” from providing for basic needs, to assisting with resettlement, to offering legal services to help newcomers navigate the system of their host country. The Church provides exceptional service in this area and plays an indispensable role in our nation’s immigration and refugee resettlement system. In recent years, Christian services have faced legal attacks, because the Church refuses to facilitate abortions for the children who come under our care. Groups like the ACLU set up a perverse dilemma, trying to force the Church to choose between unborn children and migrant children. By defending religious freedom, we are saying that we refuse to make such a choice.

**Act**
The USCCB’s Justice for Immigrants Campaign is an effort to unite and mobilize a growing network of Catholic entities and people of goodwill in support of immigration reform. To learn more about the Church’s work with migrants and refugees, get news, resources, and action alerts from Justice for Immigrants at justiceforimmigrants.org/.

**Day 6 - June 27**

**Pray**
May nurses, doctors, therapists, and all ministers of healing be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their imitation of Christ’s compassion and care for the sick.

**Reflect**
Acts of healing were central to the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ. Christians have over centuries developed healthcare ministries dedicated to the study and practice of medicine. Indeed, the Church invented the hospital as we know it. Today, orders like the Little Sisters of the Poor serve elderly low-income Americans of all backgrounds, yet the Little Sisters’ work is at risk because of lawsuits brought by the states of California and Pennsylvania against the expanded religious and moral exemption to the HHS mandate. In New York, Catholic medical professionals - like nurse Cathy DeCarlo - have been forced to violate their consciences and participate in abortions. It is unthinkable that we would undermine our mission to heal by destroying innocent life and harming the persons for whom we are called to care.

**Day 7 - June 28**

**Pray**
May Catholic schools have the freedom to teach and bear witness to the truth about God and creation.

**Reflect**
Education is a central aspect of the Church’s mission. One of the Spiritual Works of Mercy is to teach. In the U.S., Catholic schools have played an important role in offering hope in impoverished, primarily urban, areas. Catholic schools have been significant anchor institutions in many neighborhoods, and thus they benefit even those who are not their students. Catholic leaders played a leading role in ensuring that African-American children could have access to quality education. Education is what Catholics do, and it is difficult to imagine an America without Catholic schools. Catholic schools need the space - the freedom - to operate in accordance with Catholic convictions if they are to continue to be a source of vitality for our society.

**Day 8 - June 29**

**Pray**
May we work to build a culture that recognizes and respects the dignity of all people.

**Reflect**
Religious freedom is for everyone. Religious freedom is rooted in human nature, and therefore it is a fundamental human right. When we speak up for religious freedom, we do so not only for ourselves, but because we are called to defend the dignity of every individual and community that seeks the truth about God, including Muslims, Jews, and others who do not share our Catholic Christian faith.
2018-2019 First Communion and Confirmation Religious Education Classes

Saint Philip Parish is pleased to announce we are currently accepting applications for the 2018-2019 term for students enrolled in our public and private schools into our Faith Formation Programs.

Sessions will commence in the fall during the September timeframe. If you are interested, please take an application from the vestibule bulletin board or visit our website at www.saintphilipparish.org for an online application.

You may also call the Parish Office for detailed information at 415-282-0141.

On your faith journey, have you

● Never been baptized?
● Baptized in another Christian church?
● Baptized Catholic, never received Eucharist?
● Baptized, received Eucharist but have not been confirmed?
● Left the church, but want to come home?
● Cradle Catholic confirmed, engaged, but looking for more?

If you identify with any of the above, or know of someone who does, come and explore the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) here at Saint Philip.

Interested parties please call the parish office 415-282-0141 for more information and a registration form.

Faith Formation

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Cathedral Seeks Sister in Religious Order for Homebound Ministry

The Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption is seeking a Sister in a Religious Order to fill the position of Homebound Ministry beginning July 1, 2018. This full-time position is exempt, offering 37.5 hours per week. Duties include, but not limited to: Sacramental outreach to homebound within Cathedral parish boundaries; coordinating lay ministry to homebound; coordinating or facilitating monthly Grief Support Ministry. Qualifications:

● Must be a Sister of a religious order in good standing.
● Must enjoy working with homebound, seniors and parishioners.
● Must be able to facilitate new ministries to serve parish as necessary.
● Prior experience in hospice, nursing, elder care or the like preferred but not necessary.

E-mail resume with subject line “Homebound Ministry” to accounts@stmarycathedralsf.org. NO CALLS, PLEASE.

2018 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal - Update

“By One Spirit we are all baptized into one body.” 1 Corinthians 12:13

As of June 18, we have raised $33,695 in funds and pledges $5,385.00 remains to be raised

THANK YOU for responding to our call for support. You can see our progress on the fund thermometer in the vestibule. We need a push for the remainder of June if we can trim down our balance by the end of June, 2018 if possible. We are almost there.

Brochures can be found in the pews to submit your support.

Remember, our parish benefits directly from the services provided from the Archdiocese. Let’s come together and do our share to keep these services available.

Please prayerfully consider your participation. Brochures are available in the pews and in back of the church for your convenience.

Anonymous  Joy MacIntyre
Rob & Kim Anderson  Dolores Martin
Frank & Lelani Avalos  Hudson & Lisa Martin
Paul Bisson  Daniel & Margaret McAuliffe
Lou & Margene Brignetti  John & Nicole McGrath
William Buerster & Pat Calder  Arthur & Helen McGuigan
Richard Carell  Maria Mow
David Castellanos  Shaun & Melanie Morrison
Eric & Eunice Chan  Thomas & Anne Louise Nieto
Ana Maria Chavez  Rhona O’Leary
Steven & Sheila Cibotti  Charles & Judith O’Malley
Jeff Clayton & Margaret McNamara  Luis & Lola Ortiz
Harold Coffee, Jr.  Ed Pasucci
Richard & Elizabeth Collins  Milena Pastori
Meghan Corcoran  Rosa Pavone
Corrado De Martini  Arturo & Ana Maria Peña
Mary Deke  Ed & Jane Perry
Julia Dowd & Timothy Freundlich  Bob & Karen Powell
Alaister & Peggy Fullerton  Bridget Procter
David & Theresa Erkkila  Lisbeth Prudden
Gerald Fennell  Dale & Catherine Richardson
Maureen Fitzpatrick  Charles & Nora Robinson
Daniel Forchione  Daniel Roddick
Marlyn Frike  Bessie Shih
David & Sandy Goldfein  Michael & Mary Stasko
Anne Auren-Gray & William Gray  Vincent & Laetitia Tarrazi
Rich Hammel  Evelyn Trauner
Heather Hart  Michael T. Uland
Anne Holman  Gary & Charito Ulinskas
Brian & Sandra Kearney  Mary C. Vargas
Pura Lippi  Bill & Betty Welch
Doriene Lopez  Barry & Patti Wood
ANOINTING OF THE SICK
This Sacrament is for those who are elderly, seriously ill, or scheduled for surgery. Contact the Parish Office to schedule the anointing in Church or at home. If in hospital, or care facility, please request the Catholic Chaplain or a priest from the Parish in which the hospital or care facility is located, through the nursing station.

BAPTISM
Parents wishing to baptize children should call the parish office to schedule the baptism and to schedule participation in our baptismal preparation program. Please call two months before you wish the baptism. Parents must make an appointment to attend the preparation session. Godparents may attend if they wish. These sessions normally take place the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The preparation maybe done before the birth of the child. Please call the Parish office at 415-282-0141 for more information.

FAITH FORMATION
Sacramental preparation is a one year program here at St. Philips. First Reconciliation and First Communion are celebrated in the 2nd grade. However, we offer accommodations for those older. Classes are held in the chapel on Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. A copy of the child’s baptismal certificate will be required upon registration. Please call the Parish office for complete details. 415-282-0141

Our Confirmation Program is designed for those youth entering the 8th grade or already in high school. These sessions begin in the fall. You must provide baptismal and First Eucharist certificates. To register call the Parish Office 415-282-0141

R.C.I.A.—Adults wishing to explore the Catholic faith are welcome to attend an Inquiry Session in the fall. Classes are held on Sundays from 9:15-10:15 a.m.in the Resource Center building (the old convent). Call the Parish Office at 415-282-0141 for a registration form.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY
Call the Parish Office to arrange for visitation and the gift of Holy Communion from one of our Extraordinary Ministers for your friends and family members who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or hospitalization. This is a beautiful ministry which allows for the Church to reach out to those who are homebound and share faith and friendship.

MARRIAGE
Couples are asked to call the Parish Office at least six months prior to their intended wedding date to schedule an appointment with the Pastoral Staff to begin their marriage preparation journey.

RECONCILIATION
Saturdays 4:15—4:45 p.m. or by appointment

PARISH SERVICES

PARISH OFFICE
Rio Stefanus, Financial/Business Manager
Email: rio.stefanus@saintphilipparish.org
Mary Dante, Bookkeeper
Email: mary.dante@saintphilipparish.org
Sandy Kearney, Pastoral Associate
Email: sandy.kearney@saintphilipparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY
Carlton White, Music Director

DEVOTIONS
Rosary - Monday - Saturday • After 8:00 a.m. Mass
Our Lady of Perpetual Help • Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass

SCHOOL GRADES TK-8
665 Elizabeth Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
Phone: (415) - 824-8467 • Fax: (415) 282-0121
www.saintphilipschool.org
Email: info@saintphilipschool.org

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PARISH RESOURCES

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Email: rio.stefanus@saintphilipparish.org
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(415) 282-0143 • www.saintphilippreschool.org
Ms. Rachel Williams, Director
Email: preschoolinfo@saintphilipparish.org

PARISH OUTREACH
Baptismal Classes October 2nd Tuesday of the Month
7:00 p.m. (Rectory by appt.)
Belfry Society
Adult Choir Tuesday 7:00 p.m. (Church)
Children Choir Tuesday 4:00 p.m. (Hall 1)
First Communion Instruction…Sundays 9:15 a.m. (chapel)
CCD Confirmation Instruction Sundays 9:15 a.m. (Lyons Rm)
Liturgy Committee
Parish Council
Parent Teacher Group (PTG)
RCIA (Adult Faith Instruction) Sunday 9:15 (Resource Center)
Rosary Makers Second & Third Thursday, 11:30am, (Hall 3)
School Board
Young at Heart (Senior Club) Second & Third Thursday, 11:30 a.m., (Hall 3)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Please contact the rectory at (415) 282-0141
As a service to the community, we sponsor the following:
Monday A.A. Meeting (Men’s) 7:00 p.m. Hall 3
Tuesday A.A. Kitchen 6:00 p.m. Hall 3
Wednesday Alanon 7:00 p.m. Lyons