November 18, 2018—Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTORAL STAFF
Rev. Stephen Howell, V.G., Pastor
Rev. Brendan McBride, In residence
Irish Immigration Pastoral Center
Rev. Patrick Summerhays, In residence
Director of Vocations, Priest Secretary
Office of Archbishop
Rio Stefanus, Finance/Business Manager
Mary Dante, Bookkeeper
Sandra Kearney, Pastoral Associate

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 PRE-SCHOOL
Phone: 415.282.0143
Rachel Williams, Pre-School Director
preschoolinfo@saintphilipparish.org
www.saintphilippreschool.org

ST. PHILIP SCHOOL
Phone: 415.824.8467
Fax: 415.282.0121
Mary McKeever, Principal
info@saintphilipsschool.org
www.saintphilipsschool.org

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.” - Mk 13:31

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

“The end of the world is at hand!” says the placard carried by the devout believer on the side of the street. Each age has had its share of true believers who maintained that the world was doomed, ready to be destroyed by God who was waiting for only a few moments before bringing down his fiery wrath on the heathens. In Jesus’ own day, and in the decades that followed, apocalyptic fever was high. Messianic expectation combined with a desire for God’s judgment of the wicked were saturating the environment. And yet, the world continued, and Rome dominated for hundreds of years hence. At the turn of the first millennium monasteries and convents were filling up with those who understood that the thousand-year reign of the saints (understood as the church) was quite literally being fulfilled, after which the dragon who had been locked up for one thousand years would be released (Rev 20:2-6)! What other more definite sign would one need than the authority of Scripture to know that the end was near? Yet, the year 1,000 came and went, followed by 1,001, 1,002, and so on. The monasteries and convents gradually lost some of their devoted converts from only a few years earlier.

In our own day there are many prophecies and predictions about the end of the world, a “black pope” (the Jesuit pope, as Jesuits wear black?), and more oddball fanciful extrapolations of various sorts. Preaching about the end of the world with zany predictions about pending doom can certainly attract attention and might even bring in the parishioners and churchgoers, but is it accurate?

In today’s gospel perhaps the most significant line is at the end, when Jesus says, “But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” Despite that rather stark, plain sentence, we have all undoubtedly heard some say, “Jesus says nobody knows the day or hour, but he doesn’t say anything about the month or the year!” And then the wild predictions start again. Such interpretations miss the mark wildly.

Rather than worry about when the world will end, it might be more productive to wonder about my own personal end. That is, when will I die? How have I prepared myself for that eventual end? How have I lived my days knowing that nothing I accumulate on earth will be taken with me when I pass from this life? We know that we are definitely going to experience our own personal end, our own death. We are less likely to be here for the end of the world.

Turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberries, family, friends, and relatives are some of the words that might come to mind when we consider this day, a uniquely American holiday. We all recall that Abraham Lincoln was the US president who truly established this national holiday, in the midst of the great Civil War. Though party politics may seem rough-and-tumble today, things are much, much better than brother taking up arms against brother, and state fighting state, which characterized this tumultuous time in the nineteenth century. In the midst of that great strife more than 150 years ago Lincoln proclaimed a national holiday of Thanksgiving. Though nobody could have known it, they had nearly two years left before the war was finally concluded. If the divided nation could find a way to be thankful in the midst of such tumult, war, and chaos, we can certainly be thankful today.

We have so many gifts, resources, and blessings, that it would be shameful not to stop and offer gratitude. This is why the church gives us the reading from the Gospel of Luke today where Jesus heals ten lepers but only one expresses thanks. Perhaps there is something in the human condition that does not naturally say “thank you.” But it’s good to be reminded of polite manners. And yet, the expression of gratitude is much more than simply being polite. Jesus did not need gratitude; those who had been cured needed to express it. In other words, saying thank you is not as much for the one who gave as it is for the one who receives. Cultivating an “attitude of gratitude” makes our lives more appreciative. We become more giving and generous when we say and develop a habit of expressing “thank you.”

Perhaps this is why Jesus remarked that only the foreigner, the Samaritan, said “thank you.” The expression is less about Jesus than it is about the one who was healed. How appropriate, then, that on this day we take time to say “thank you” and in doing so we develop ourselves as more generous and more giving.
A Prayer for Vocations

Loving and generous God, you called the prophets to bring your word to your chosen people. Your Son, Jesus, called the first disciples to be bold proclaimers of the good news. In the modern world, you continue to call your sons and daughters to the priesthood, diocese, and consecrated life. Calm the chaos and soothe the sounds of our world, and allow more to hear your soft voice calling them to pick up their cross and follow. May the Holy Spirit fall upon your church in a profound way, so that we may experience a tremendous harvest of grace. May vocations increase ever abundantly and may your church stand as a witness to the world of the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.
May the Perpetual Light Shine upon them

All Souls offering envelopes can be found in the pews and back of the church. These will be placed on the Sanctuary and remembrances offered during all the Masses in November.

Good and faithful God,
you have given us so many people in our lives that have given us joy and solace.
We ask you to remember our dearly departed.
Keep them close to you as we all wait for that day when we all will come and worship in your presence.

We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Thomas Burke Mary Crowley
Juana Gomez Catherine Mayer
AnnMarie Ravara-Naidus Kimberly O’Kane Ingram
“Gene” Hance Patricia Crowley
Shirley Casteneda Kathleen O’Donnell
Maureen Dineen George Wheatley
David Dickey Ava Powell

Charles Matthews

We are collecting non-perishable and canned foods for those in need through November 25th. The collection barrel is by our Mary’s Statue

You have been most generous in the past and hope to continue this gesture of gratitude for our brothers and sisters less fortunate.

Items donated benefit, St. Martin de Porres House of Hospitality & the SF-Marin Food Bank Pantries who reach out to several other agencies in the our City

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We continue to be blessed as we welcome Micah Brennan into the Catholic faith Community November 4, 2018

Interested in having your child Baptized at Saint Philip the Apostle Church?

Please call the parish office at 415.282.0141 to reserve your spot for any upcoming preparation session and schedule a date for the baptism. Next Session will be held on Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Our young faithful, ages 4-6 are invited to participate in Children’s Liturgy during the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the side chapel

Our leader’s role is to open the hearts of the children to the word of God and allow them to respond. Parents are welcome to sit with their children if this is a new experience for them.

We continue to be blessed as we welcome Micah Brennan into the Catholic faith Community November 4, 2018
JOIN US THIS ADVENT SEASON!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS?

What is Lectio Divina?
Lectio Divina is the art of praying with the Scriptures that dates back to early monastic days. It is a form of meditation to find deeper meaning from the Word, thus growing more intimate with God.

Beginning with the First Saturday of Advent, December 1, 2018, join us prior to the Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m. as we encounter the Word by practicing Lectio Divina as a group. We will meet for the four Saturdays of Advent December 1, 8, 15 & 22, 2018. Call the Parish office at 415.282.0141 for more information.

As St. Augustine noted, when we pray, we speak to God; when we read Scripture, God speaks to us.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Good and gracious God,
You do all things well.
You make the sun and rain come,
nurturing the earth, making it fertile and fruitful.
Through Your gift of creation and the work of our hands,
we reap an abundant harvest.
We give You thanks for Your many gifts that sustain us;
for health and home, dignified labor,
for family, friends, neighbors,
and those whom -- today -- we may still consider enemies.
As we reflect in thanks this day,
may we remember those who lack something we have.
May our gratitude move us to love,
serve, and give.
Together we rejoice in Your gifts,
and in Your abundant life!
Amen.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." None of us knows when the world will end. All we know is that it will end. All things do.

Many people choose to live a somewhat carefree life by living as if life will never end. They go from one day to the next, never giving a thought to the fact that today may be their last. If you knew exactly when your life will end, what would you do differently? As Christians, we are called to be people of beginnings and endings. God is in all of life even when we think that life cannot get any worse than it is. Creating life out of death is what God does best. We are asked to live vigilantly, seeing God in all things and being ever prepared to meet him, whenever that time comes.

Please be generous in this week’s second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in seven people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.
Be a Good Steward of Thanksgiving Day

Your Thanksgiving Day can be more than just enjoying a great meal and turning on the television to search for the traditional parades and football games. How about expressing your stewardship of this day in a more meaningful way? Here are some suggestions for making Thanksgiving an opportunity for expressing our gratitude to the Lord in creative ways:

- **Go to Mass and count your blessings.** Start the day off on a positive note and celebrate the Eucharist. In your prayer reflect on five things you are most grateful for in your life. Then reflect on how you can be an even better steward of these gifts. **Mass at St. Philips will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.**

- **Write “I’m thankful for you” cards** and give them out or e-mail them on Thanksgiving (or mail them beforehand).

- **Share your Thanksgiving meal** with someone who is alone this Thanksgiving. Look for someone, such as a neighbor, co-worker, fellow parishioner, college student or armed services personnel who may be separated from family and ask them to join in your Thanksgiving dinner.

- **Visit the sick.** Check with hospitals, assisted living facilities or nursing homes in the area to see if there are volunteer opportunities to visit with patients or residents on that day.

- **Help someone if you can.** Extend your generosity and blessings beyond your own family. Be part of an adopt-a-family effort, help distribute food baskets, or bring canned foods for our annual food drive.

- **Volunteer your time** at a soup kitchen to help prepare and serve Thanksgiving dinners to others.

- **Take a walk.** Find a place to enjoy God’s gift of creation. Head out the door for a refreshing walk. Invite family, friends or others to share the experience too.

- **Most important!** Take advantage of the Thanksgiving holidays to focus on what you’re grateful for and the things you appreciate about yourself and others. **It is an ideal time to remember and to celebrate the many blessings in our lives.**

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The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary—11/21/2018

Mary’s presentation was celebrated in Jerusalem in the sixth century. A church was built there in honor of this mystery. The Eastern Church was more interested in the feast, but it does appear in the West in the 11th century. Although the feast at times disappeared from the calendar, in the 16th century it became a feast of the universal Church.

As with Mary’s birth, we read of Mary’s presentation in the temple only in apocryphal literature. In what is recognized as an unhistorical account, the *Protoevangelium of James* tells us that Anna and Joachim offered Mary to God in the Temple when she was 3 years old. This was to carry out a promise made to God when Anna was still childless.

Though it cannot be proven historically, Mary’s presentation has an important theological purpose. It continues the impact of the feasts of the Immaculate Conception and of the birth of Mary. It emphasizes that the holiness conferred on Mary from the beginning of her life on earth continued through her early childhood and beyond.

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Who is an Active Parishioner?

- Regular attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Registered in the Parish, receiving and using weekly envelopes or online platform supporting the Parish according to the best of one’s ability.
- Volunteers and participates in Parish activities with time, talent, and resources as means permit.
- Trying to live the Catholic Faith as best they can with God’s help and the support of family and friends at home and in the Parish.
PARISH SERVICES

**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

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PARISH RESOURCES

**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.saintphilipsschool.org  
Email: info@saintphilipsschool.org

**Pre-School**
(415) 282-0143   www.saintphilippreschool.org
Ms. Rachel Williams, Director  
Email: preschoolinfo@saintphilipparish.org

**Parish Outreach**
Baptismal Classes First 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) Sun 9:15 (Resource Center)
RCIA (Adult Faith Instruction) Second & Third Thursday,  
11:30a.m., (Hall 3)
Rosary Makers
School Consultative Board
Young at Heart (Senior Club 50+) 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. Keyboard (Ladies) 6:00 p.m. Hall 3
Wednesday A.A. Meeting (Women's) 7:00 p.m. Lyons

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**Parish Office Hours**
Monday—Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
415-282-0141  Fax: 415-282-8962
www.saintphilipparish.org —info@saintphilipparish.org
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