Pope’s Intention for December: The Future of the Very Young. That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

December 1, 2019

STAFF
Rev. John Mary Chung, Administrator
Rev. Brendan McBride, In residence
Rev. Patrick Summerhays, In residence
Mary Dante, Administrative Assistant
Carlton White, Music Director
Gilberto Mancia, Maintenance
Brendan Scharetg, Maintenance
Mercedes Alvarez, Housekeeper

Church Hours
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Weekdays
7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturdays
7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Sundays

MASS TIMES
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. & Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. Chapel
Holy Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS
4:00-4:45p.m., Saturday, or by appointment

DEVOTIONS
Holy Hour & Rosary:
Monday-Saturday after 8:00 a.m. Mass
(except Tuesdays)
Sundays after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Tuesdays 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
Mary McKeever, Principal
info@saintphilipschool.org
www.saintphilipschool.org
December 1, 2019

11/30 Saturday
Saint Andrew, Apostle
8:00 a.m. † Patricia Crowley
(by: Patricia Crowley Estate)
5:00 p.m. † Mary Ann Ripple
(by: Helen Ripple)

12/01 Sunday
First Sunday of Advent
8:00 a.m. Fe Tamparong, B-day Blessings
(by: Pura Lippi)
10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

12/02 Monday
8:00 a.m. † John & Patricia Ripple
(by: Helen Ripple)

12/03 Tuesday
Saint Francis Xavier, Priest
8:00 a.m. Rosa Ferroza Unvala (Spl Int.)
(by: Helen Ripple)

12/04 Wednesday
Saint John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church
8:00 a.m. † Patricia Crowley
(by: Patricia Crowley Estate)

12/05 Thursday
8:00 a.m. † Margaret Mary High
(by: Dorothy Orndorff)

12/06 Friday
Saint Nicholas, Bishop
8:00 a.m. † For the Deceased of the Howell -McDermott - Rach Family
(by: Rev. Stephen H. Howell)

12/07 Saturday
Saint Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
8:00 a.m. † Francisco Tamparong
(by: Pura Lippi)
5:00 p.m. † Denis T. Murphy
(by: Rita Murphy)

12/08 Sunday
Second Sunday of Advent
8:00 a.m. † Denis T. Murphy
(by: Rita Murphy)
10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

Let us remember in our Prayers…
Those who are sick or who suffer in any way, especially the home-bound and the elderly, that God will assist them in their time of need and that they may find comfort and healing in Christ.

John Bamber Michael Brust Mary Dekle
Corrado DeMartini Marian Dickey Danny Forchione
Laura Garcia Denyse Hale Dolores Martin
Fred Jungmann Mow, Kain Chiu Ron Ramirez
Bill Matthews Agnes Piva Crystal Zapata
Cody Bordelon

Those who have died, 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.

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

Our collection figures will be presented at a later date due to early bulletin submission requested by our printers.

Thank you for your understanding.

12/01 Sunday, Annual Ornament Exchange Luncheon
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Parish Hall

12/08 School Candle Lighting Ceremony during 10:30 a.m. Mass, fellowship & hospitality will follow in the Parish Hall

12/08 Second Collection—Support the Retirement Religious Fund

12/19 Thursday, School Christmas Program, Church, 7:00 p.m.

12/21 Saturday, Parish Advent Retreat, Church
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Next Week’s Second Collection

Next weekend’s second collection is the annual collection for the Retirement fund for Religious. Donations to this Fund for Religious support more than 32,000 senior religious and their communities. Most older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests worked for small stipends, leaving a large deficit in retirement funding. Each year, proceeds from the annual collection help hundreds of religious communities furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. A portion also underwrites assistance for retirement planning and education. This support helps communities address funding challenges so they can care for elder members while continuing important ministries to the People of God. As always, your generous support is greatly appreciated.

Next Sunday’s Readings (12-8-2019)

Prepare Your Heart & Mind for Next Week’s Encounter

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 – On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious

Psalm: 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17—Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9 – May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12—John the Baptist appeared, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

“Stay awake!” These words in the Gospel of Matthew today strike us to the core as we begin the Advent season. These words also foreshadow the disciples’ struggle during the agony in the garden. The call to stay awake presumes that we might be dozing off, idling our time away. Disciples must be ready at all times without resorting to a false sense of security.

Jesus tells his audience that as it was in the time of Noah, so shall it be at the coming of the Lord. In Noah’s day, human beings went steadily on their way, unaware and apparently unconcerned that something larger was at work. Yet, “the flood came and carried them all away,” Jesus tells his listeners that the Son of Man will come when we do not expect it. These words were written for Matthew’s community, which might have grown complacent during the intervening decades between Jesus’ time on earth and the composition of the gospel. But these same words are for us, even two thousand years later. Rather than expecting a cataclysmic event like the flood of Noah or something apocalyptic, we might consider our own death, which may come when we least expect it.

Unfortunately, some preachers and many others take the imagery in the gospel passage literally. There was even a 2014 movie that depicts the events from Matthew’s gospel in graphic detail. The film, *Left Behind* starring Nicolas Cage, was widely dismissed and received dismal reviews from critics and many moviegoers. It portrays a regular day with families, friends, people going to work, etc., when suddenly millions of people around the world vanish in an instant with resulting mayhem, disorder, and disaster—cars crash, planes fall from the sky, and more. The remaining people resort to panic, looting, and violence. The character played by Cage is perplexed as he tries to sort out what this means. And all of this is brought to you by a loving God! It’s not likely Jesus had such a scenario in mind two thousand years ago, though it does sell movie tickets.

Perhaps there is a reason biblical literalism, also known as a fundamentalist approach to Scripture, is referred to as “a kind of intellectual suicide” by the Pontifical Biblical Commission (*The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*, 35). As Catholics, we recognize the theological truth conveyed in these gospel stories are much more profound than that portrayed in a 2014 action/horror film. When we reduce the message of Christ to crashing planes and big explosions, we may be fairly sure we are no longer on sound footing.

In sum, we must be prepared for the coming of the Son of Man, when we meet our own personal end (death). And with respect to that day, none of us knows when it might be. It will come as a thief in the night. Therefore, we should not grow weary, but instead “stay awake!”
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Advent Calendar 2019 |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| **First Sunday of Advent**<br>Make a resolution at the start of this liturgical year that will bring you closer to Christ. | **Second Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **3rd Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **4th Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **5th Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **1st Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **2nd Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **3rd Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **4th Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | **5th Sunday of Advent**<br>In today's Gospel, the Church proclaims that the Lord is coming. We can do more than prepare for a family prior to Christmas. | (Note: The rest of the Advent Calendar is not visible in the image.)
Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used. The violet candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord’s first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

The blessing may conclude with a verse from “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”:
O come, desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind; bid ev’ry sad division cease and be thyself our Prince of peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

—From Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers About Advent Wreaths

Advent Retreat
The Power of Silence
Retreat Speaker: Fr. Vito Perrone  Founder of the Contemplatives of St. Joseph
St. Philip the Apostle Church
725 Diamond Street
San Francisco
Saturday, December 21, 2019
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

10:00 - Prayer
10:15 - 1st Talk: The Power of Silence and Lectio Divina
11:00 - Mass
Noon - Lunch Hour
1:00 - 2nd Talk: The Power of Silence and Adoration
1:45 - Adoration and Confessions
3:00 - 3rd Talk: The Power of Silence and Contemplative Prayer
3:30 - Q&A
4:00 - Retreat Ends

For more information: Please call the Parish Office (415) 282-0141 or email to: info@saintphilipparish.org

Blessing of an Advent Wreath
The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent.

When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

V: Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R: Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, Isaiah 9: (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or Isaiah 63 (lines 16-17 & 19) or Isaiah 64 (lines 2-7) is read:
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 to complete the form online.

Are you planning a spring 2020 wedding?

If so, now is the time to contact the church’s rectory office and discuss your plans with our Administrator and reserve the church.

Keep in mind Archdiocese guidelines require couples contact the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding date to begin the Pre-Cana preparation.

Call our parish office to schedule your initial meeting at 415-282-0141.

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

Parents are required to meet with Father John Mary Chung prior to attending a preparation session.

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 Saturday January 4, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Rectory.

We encourage you to enroll in our online giving Program

♦ It’s easy to set up
♦ Gives you real-time access of your charitable donations

Please visit our website at www.saintphilipparish.org and select the online giving tab on the homepage.

Alternatively, you can download the mobile app “Online Giving” from Googleplay or the Apple App Store. Register by entering our church ID of (4254).

GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Did you know that our parish school can earn cash by collecting General Mills Box Tops for Education?

You may recognize the logo noted above on several products you purchase throughout the year. All you need to do is clip that little logo, collect several and turn them in to the school or rectory office. It’s that easy.

Watch for those logos on various baking item goods as you start your holiday baking goodies!

What does Advent Mean?

Advent comes from the Latin word meaning “coming.” Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation, much like Lent. Prayer, penance and fasting are appropriate during this season.

Advent is not as strict as Lent, and there are no rules for fasting, but it is meant to be a period of self-preparation. The violet color associated with Advent is also the color of penance. The faithful should fast during the first two weeks in particular and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The color of the Third Sunday of Advent is rose. This color symbolizes joy and represents the happiness we will experience when Jesus comes again. The Third Sunday is a day of anticipatory celebration. It is formerly called "Gaudete" Sunday; gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin.

Finally, Sundays during Advent, just as during Lent, should not be given to fasting, but instead to celebration because we celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord every Sunday. It is important to remember, however, there are no particular rules for how the laity should observe Advent.

2020 Mass Requests

Those who wish to have Masses offered during 2020 for your friends and family members our 2020 Mass Intention Book is now open for reservations. Offering a Mass for a dearly departed one or special intention for a friend is a wonderful gift to present.

Masses can bring comfort for those physically or emotionally ill in need of healing and prayers. Masses are also a thoughtful gift to celebrate a birthday or special milestone.

Drop by the rectory office between the hours of 9-5 on weekdays and we will be happy to assist with your re-
**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 will take place the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. The preparation may be 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, held in the Lyons Room. 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 4:00—4:45 p.m. or by appointment

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**
Monday—Friday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
415-282-0141    Fax: 415-282-8962

**Protecting God’s Children**
If you believe you are a victim of sexual abuse, please call our secure and confidential hotline of the Archdiocese of San Francisco at 415.614.5506

**PARISH RESOURCES**

**Parish Office**
Mary Dante, Administrative Assistant
Email: mary.dante@saintphilipparish.org
Brendan Scharetg, Parish Maintenance
Email: btscharetg@aol.com
Gilberto Mancia, School Maintenance
Mercedes Alvarez, Housekeeper

**Music Ministry**
Carlton White, Music Director

**Devotions**
Rosary & Holy Hour:- Monday - Saturday After 8:00 a.m. Mass
Sunday After 10:30 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
Ms. Mary McKeever, Principal
Phone: (415) 824-8467
www.saintphilipschool.org
Email: info@saintphilipschool.org

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

**Parish Outreach**

**Baptismal Classes**
First Saturday of the Month 9:00 a.m. (Rectory by appt.)
Belfry Society
Adult Choir  Tuesday 7:30 p.m. (Church)
Children Choir  Tuesday 4:00 p.m. (Hall 1)
First Communion Instruction  Sundays 9:15 a.m. (Chapel)
Confirmation Instruction  Sundays 9:15 a.m. (Lyons Rm)
Liturgy Committee
Parish Council  Third Monday of the month
Parent Teacher Group (PTG)
RCIA (Adult Faith Instruction)  Sunday 9:15 (Resource Center)
Rosary Makers  Third Thursday, 11:30 a.m. (Hall 3)
School Consultative Board
Young at Heart (Senior Club 50+)  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 (Ladies) 6:00 p.m. Hall 3
Wednesday  Alonan 7:00 p.m. Lyons

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