St. Philip the Apostle Church

725 Diamond Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

Phone: 415.282.0141     Fax: 415-282.8962
www.saintphilipparish.org          Email: info@saintphilipparish.org

October 1, 2017     Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Stephen Howell, Pastor
Rev. Brendan McBride, In residence
   Irish Immigration Pastoral Center
Rio Stefanus, Finance/Business Manager
Mary Dante, Bookkeeper
Sandra Kearney, Pastoral Associate
Tony LesCallett, School Principal
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.
            9:00 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

ST. PHILIP SCHOOL
Phone: 415.824.8467
Fax: 415.282.0121
October 1, 2017—Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

One of the hardest things for us to do is to admit we’ve been wrong. But when we do, we often open up our lives to much affirmation.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

This Sunday begins a series of gospel selections over the next three weeks, each beginning with the introductory phrase, “Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people” (or similar words). In each gospel the phrase introduces a parable that strikes at the hardened and misguided hearts of these religious leaders. They were narrow and exclusive in their belief about who could be saved: only those people chosen from of old by God and who strictly kept the traditions that had been developed. Forgotten by these leaders was the lived law of love of God and neighbor also handed down from of old. Forgotten by them was the message of the prophets calling the people to conversion and renewed covenantal living. Forgotten by them was God’s incomparable mercy and compassion which does not restrict salvation to a chosen few but instead extends salvation to anyone who is faithful to the divine will. At this point in Matthew’s gospel Jesus has triumphantly entered Jerusalem. These confrontations about who can be saved contribute to the religious leaders’ determined and hateful desire to have Jesus condemned and put to death. Jesus does not shrink from the confrontations, from the truth, from his own choice to be utterly faithful to his Father’s will. Indeed, these gospels suggest a new twist to the saying that we must walk the talk. What Jesus is teaching through these parables is that we must walk the walk. The walk is resoluteness about our relationship with the heavenly Father and doing the divine will.

In this Sunday’s gospel Jesus pointedly indicts the “chief priests and elders of the people” by equating them in this parable with the second son who does not do the “father’s will.” Surprisingly, who does do the “father’s will” are “tax collectors and prostitutes.” Their sinful lives indicated an initial no to God, but then they came to belief, changed their minds, and repented when they heard a call to “the way of righteousness.” Believing is not paying lip service to doing the Father’s will. Believing is changing our way of living, walking “the way of righteousness,” and doing the Father’s will. Believing is walking the walk with Jesus, even when that walk includes confrontation, suffering, and death.

Truth be told, all of us are a little like both sons in the parable. Sometimes we hear and respond faithfully to God’s will, but at other times our actions don’t carry through what we hear and believe. The good news in this is that God does not change the divine mind about calling us to salvation. Whether we say yes or no to God’s call, God does keep calling us. We are the ones who need a change of mind. We are the ones who must believe in God’s offer of salvation and faithfully do God’s will.

Reflection Prayer

God our mercy, you sent Jesus to teach us the ways of humility and truth. May his example encourage us to empty ourselves of what is not your way so that we might become as merciful to others as you are to us.

Amen

♦ When have you said no to God’s ways but then relented and did what was right?
♦ How has God’s mercy changed how you viewed yourself or someone else?

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Amen

♦ When have you said no to God’s ways but then relented and did what was right?
♦ How has God’s mercy changed how you viewed yourself or someone else?
# Masses for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Type</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/30 Wednesday</td>
<td>Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Geoffrey Chin (by: Marissa Browne)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>† Mary Smith (by: The Robinson Family)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/01 Sunday</td>
<td>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Alaia Deon (B-day) (by: Mama &amp; Papa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/02 Monday</td>
<td>The Holy Guardian Angels</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>For the People of the Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/03 Tuesday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. Patrick &amp; Grace Maughan</td>
<td>(by: The Maughan Family Trust)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/04 Wednesday</td>
<td>Saint Francis of Assisi, Principal Co-Patron of the Archdiocese of San Francisco</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/05 Thursday</td>
<td>Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Special Intention (by: Anonymous)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/06 Friday</td>
<td>Saint Bruno, Priest, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Nick Verreos (by: The McAuliffe Family)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/07 Saturday</td>
<td>Our Lady of the Rosary</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Special Intention (by: Anonymous)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>† Bridget Flanagan &amp; Family (by: Maureen Fitzpatrick)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/08 Sunday</td>
<td>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Nestor Quiambao (by: Mila Schneider)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>For the People of the Parish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Let us Remember in Our Prayers...

Those who are sick or who suffer in any way, especially the homebound 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
- Mow, Kain Chiu
- Mary Crowley
- Laura Garcia
- Mary Dekle
- David Crowley
- Agnes Piva
- Marian Dickey
- Dolores Martin
- John Bamber
- Bill Matthews
- Mary Leung
- Fred Jungmann
- Leo Juarez
- Michael Brust
- Jean Ramirez
- Chloe Smith
- Geneva Kissane

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.

## Masses for the Week

**October 1, 2017**

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

September 24 2017 Collection $1,422.00
Online giving $925.00
Total Collection $2,347.00
Second Collection & online—School $491.00

Tuesday’s Choir Practice
Adults : 7:30 p.m., Church
Children’s Choir - 4:00 p.m., Parish Hall

10/1 Sports Mass, 10:30 a.m. Hospitality Follows the Mass
10/1 Faith Formation Confirmation Session 9:15 a.m., Lyons Room (Extended Care) on Campus
10/4 8:00 & 8:45 a.m., Solemnity of St. Francis of Assisi
10/8 Parish Hospitality following the 10:30 a.m. Mass
10/8 School Second Collection
10/9 Parish Office Closed—Columbus Day Holiday
10/12 Seniors Gathering & Movie– 11:30 a.m., Parish Hall

2017-2018 Faith Formation Classes
First Communion, Confirmation

FIRST COMMUNION—Classes have begun
It’s too late to Register for one more week!

Classes for First Communion (2nd graders) for those who are not enrolled in our Parish School and wish to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion meet on Sundays, at 9:15 a.m. in the Church Chapel. If you missed the early registration date Please contact the Parish office for assistance.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION
We are pleased to offer Confirmation Preparation Sessions for those students who attend the Public Unified School System.

Sessions will commence on Sunday, October 1 at 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. in the Lyons Room (extended care room) on campus.

Please contact the Parish office at 415-282-0141 for Registration or visit our website for more detailed information. Baptismal certificate is required.

We offer our sincerest thanks and appreciation to all who participated in last weekend’s annual festival. It certainly took a collective group of attendees, booth chairs, countless volunteers, parents, parishioners, sponsors, donors, set up crews, kitchen volunteers, time, talent and treasure to make the festival an enjoyable time for all.

A special thanks to Robb Erskine and Kim Anderson who bravely took on the responsibility of leading the charge once again. We also offer our thanks to your families for supporting you dedicating your weekend to us. A job well done by all!

Congratulations to this years Festival Raffle Winners!
Elizabeth Kim—$2,500 prize
F. Balestrieri—$1,000 prize
Barbara Orge—$500 prize

Thank you for supporting our raffle fundraiser.

It’s Time for the Annual October Census Count
As in previous years our ushers will discreetly work their way up and down the church aisles at all the weekend Vigil and Sunday Masses during the month of October taking a census count. The first week in October will be excluded.

These statistics are used to help the Church strategize how best we can use our resources to ensure the faithfully are properly served. Come and be counted!

Come browse & shop the fall Scholastic Book Fair in the Parish Hall
Sunday, 10/1/17 following the Sports Mass, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, Monday, 10/2/17 - Friday, 10/6/17 after Parent/Teacher Conferences from 12:30 pm - 6:00 pm,
The Fair closes Sunday, October 8 following the 10:30 am Liturgy where hospitality will be provide

Hope to see you there!
Joan Gallagher, School Librarian
Prayer for our St. Philip Bruins Athletes

Loving God, we ask you to be present to our young athletes from Saint Philips. Let them play with great vigor but fairly. Let competition make them strong, but never hostile. Grant them the strength to beat their opponent, yet lead them to **always help their opponent up.**

Grant them moments to rejoice, but not in the adversity of others. Keep them safe from injury. Help them to learn something that truly matters once this game is over, but always let them remember that sports is simply a game.

If they know victory, allow them great joy. If they are denied, keep them from envy. If through this game, they set an example for others – let it be one of true sportsmanship and respect for each other’s gifts and abilities. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Called to Serve

Once again we will be offering training for Lectors and Extra-Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers.

If you are interested in any of these two ministries, join us on:

**Saturday - October 28, 2017**
**Location: Church**
9:00-10:00 a.m.—Eucharistic Ministers
10:15—11:15—Lectors

Please call: 415-282-0141 to reserve your spot so we can have adequate materials on hand. Lector training will having an opportunity to practice at the ambo.

**OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION**

A new tradition of devotion is beginning at St. Mary’s Cathedral here in San Francisco. Join in praying a Novena Prayer to Our Mother of Perpetual Help, each Wednesday following the 12:10 p.m. Mass in the Cathedral.

The prayer is said at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to the right side of the main altar.
Francis enjoyed a very rich easy life growing up because of his father's wealth and the permissiveness of the times. From the beginning everyone -- and I mean everyone -- loved Francis. He was constantly happy, charming, and a born leader. If he was picky, people excused him. If he was ill, people took care of him. If he was so much of a dreamer he did poorly in school, no one minded. In many ways he was too easy to like for his own good. No one tried to control him or teach him.

As he grew up, Francis became the leader of a crowd of young people who spent their nights in wild parties. Thomas of Celano, his biographer who knew him well, said, "In other respects an exquisite youth, he attracted to himself a whole retinue of young people addicted to evil and accustomed to vice." Francis himself said, "I lived in sin" during that time. Francis fulfilled every hope of Pietro's -- even falling in love with France. He loved the songs of France, the romance of France, and especially the free adventurous troubadours of France who wandered through Europe. And despite his dreaming, Francis was also good at business. But Francis wanted more...more than wealth. But not holiness! Francis retained an exquisite youth, he attracted to himself a whole retinue of young people addicted to evil and accustomed to vice.

Most of the troops from Assisi were butchered in the fight. All accounts say that he never lost his happy manner in that horrible place. Finally, after a year in the dungeon, he was released. Francis fulfilled every hope of Pietro's -- even falling in love with France. He loved the songs of France, the romance of France, and especially the free adventurous troubadours of France who wandered through Europe. And despite his dreaming, Francis was also good at business. But Francis wanted more...more than wealth. But not holiness! Francis wanted to be a noble, a knight. Battle was the best place to win the glory and prestige he longed for. He got his first chance when Assisi declared war on the nearby town of Perugia.

The experience didn't change what he wanted from life either: Glory. Finally a call for knights for the Fourth Crusade gave him a chance for his dream. But before he left Franci had to have a suit of armor and a horse -- no problem for the son of a wealthy father. And not just any suit of armor would do but one decorated with gold with a magnificent cloak. Any relief we feel in hearing that Francis gave the cloak to a poor knight will be destroyed by the boasts that Francis left behind that he would return a prince.

But Francis never got farther than one day's ride from Assisi. There he had a dream in which God told him he had it all wrong and told him to return home. And return home he did. What must it have been like to return without ever making it to battle -- the boy who wanted nothing more than to be liked was humiliated, laughed at, called a coward by the village and raged at by his father for the money wasted on armor.

Francis' conversion did not happen over night. God had waited for him for twenty-five years and now it was Francis' turn to wait. Francis started to spend more time in prayer. He went off to a cave and wept for his sins. Sometimes God's grace overwhelmed him with joy. But life couldn't just stop for God. There was a business to run, customers to wait on.

His search for conversion led him to the ancient church at San Damiano. While he was praying there, he heard Christ on the crucifix speak to him, "Francis, repair my church." Francis assumed this meant church with a small c -- the crumbling building he was in. Acting again in his impetuous way, he took fabric from his father's shop and sold it to get money to repair the church. His father saw this as an act of theft -- and put together with Francis' cowardice, waste of money, and his growing disinterest in money made Francis seem more like a madman than his son. Pietro dragged Francis before the bishop and in front of the whole town demanded that Francis return the money and renounce all rights as his heir.

Francis went back to what he considered God's call. He begged for stones and rebuilt the San Damiano church with his own hands, not realizing that it was the Church with a capital C that God wanted repaired. Scandal and avarice were working on the Church from the inside while outside heresies flourished by appealing to those longing for something different or adventurous.

Slowly companions came to Francis, people who wanted to follow his life of sleeping in the open, begging for garbage to eat...and loving God. With companions, Francis knew he now had to have some kind of direction to this life so he opened the Bible in three places. He read the command to the rich young man to sell all his good and give to the poor, the order to the apostles to take nothing on their journey, and the demand to take up the cross daily. "Here is our rule," Francis said -- as simple, and as seemingly impossible, as that. He was going to do what no one thought possible any more -- live by the Gospel.

Francis was a man of action. His simplicity of life extended to ideas and deeds. If there was a simple way, no matter how impossible it seemed, Francis would take it. So when Francis wanted approval for his brotherhood, he went straight to Rome to see Pope Innocent III. You can imagine what the pope thought when this beggar approached him! As a matter of fact he threw Francis out. But when he had a dream that this tiny man in rags held up the tilting Lateran basilica, he quickly called Francis back and gave him permission to preach.

Francis' final years were filled with suffering as well as humiliation. Praying to share in Christ's passion he had a vision received the stigmata, the marks of the nails and the lance wound that Christ suffered, in his own body.

Years of poverty and wandering had made Francis ill. When he began to go blind, the pope ordered that his eyes be operated on. This meant cauterizing his face with a hot iron. Francis spoke to "Brother Fire": "Brother Fire, the Most High has made me a companion of His suffering. I have been made like my master, brother Fire. My hands, not realizing that it was the Church with a capital C that God wanted repaired. Scandal and avarice were working on the Church from the inside while outside heresies flourished by appealing to those longing for something different or adventurous.

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was when he wrote his beautiful Canticle of the Sun that expresses his brotherhood with creation in praising God.

Francis never recovered from this illness. He died on October 4, 1226 at the age of 45. Francis is considered the founder of all Franciscan orders and the patron saint of ecologists and merchants.

**Out-reach activities On the Horizon**

**Sock Drive for the Needy**
For those on the street, feet matter.

Isabel Erskine, one of our students from our parish school has brought to our attention the need for socks among those on the street and shelters.

St. Anthony’s Foundation is seeking 10,000 pairs of socks yearly for those on the street. Access to shoes and socks is often limited for homeless men and women living in shelters and on the street. Blisters and infections are common conditions that can lead to more severe health issues.

Isabel is asking for our help with this plight. Here’s something we can do to show we care.

Donate new socks through our sock drive starting October 16 through October 29. Collection bins will be available at the school foyer and church. New, white athletic socks or outdoor socks are in great demand.

Let’s see just how many pairs we can gather for our brothers and sisters on the streets of San Francisco.

**St. Philip’s Social Out Reach Ministry**

SF-Marin Food Bank needs our help again as volunteers. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**
Anyone aged 9+ is welcomed for this time slot.

This will be St. Philip’s third year returning to the food bank. Call the Parish office to sign up. 415-282-0141

**Are you planning a 2018 spring wedding?**

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

Feel free to call our parish office to schedule your initial meeting at 415-282-0141.

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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
Tony LesCallett, Principal
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 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
Liturgy Committee
Parish Council
Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
RCIA (Adult Faith Instruction) Sunday 9:15 (Resource Center)
Rosary Makers Second & Third Thursday, 11:30a.m., (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:
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