December 10, 2017  Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

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
Tony LesCallet, 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
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Shepherd of Israel

Almighty and ever-living God, you are the source of all consolation and font of our salvation. You have saved your people from the wilderness, gathered them like lambs into your bosom, and fed them with a mother's care. Make level within us all that sin has made rugged; take the crooked paths of our hearts and make them straight. May our repentant hearts turn to you and, at the coming of your Son, be found eager to welcome him so that, in joyful celebration, your chosen people can say, "Here is your God!"

Through Christ our Lord.

Sunday, December 10, 2017
A New Heaven and Earth

Today's Readings: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8. During this second week of Advent, we reflect on the future God has in store for us. When we delve more deeply into the Scriptures, it becomes clear that Advent is not as simple as we may think. Last week's readings urged us to be watchful and to ready ourselves for Christ's coming. This is not easy; it requires attention to God's Word within us. This week's message is in the same vein.

The prophet Isaiah paints a beautiful picture for the Israelites who are in captivity. Salvation will come, and the Lord will forgive all their sins. The image is radical. Isaiah depicts mountains being leveled and valleys being filled. He directs Zion to tell this Good News to the entire world. A similar theme is in the Gospel. John the Baptist is the herald of the coming Messiah. John calls all creation to repent and seek God's forgiveness. He is the herald who paves the way for Jesus, the one who reveals the new heaven and earth, which Peter speaks of in the Second Reading.

What does it look like to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ? It takes a vulnerable and watchful heart. We can find ourselves held captive. When we seek God's forgiveness with contrite hearts, we open ourselves to an amazing grace. God's mercy is the wellspring of all healing. So let us act out our salvation in the ways we live and announce the triumphant entry of the coming Christ.
## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**December 10, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Type</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/09 Saturday</td>
<td>Saint Juan Diego</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Margaret McGettigan</td>
<td>(by: Peggy Fullerton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/09 Saturday</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>† Celestina Denegri</td>
<td>(by: Agnes Piva)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10 Sunday</td>
<td>Second Sunday of Advent</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Jack Mahoney</td>
<td>(by: Deb Mahoney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10 Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† For the People of the Parish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11 Monday</td>
<td>Saint Damasus I, Pope</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Jimmy &amp; James Spillane</td>
<td>(by: The Rebel Cork Ladies Association)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/12 Tuesday</td>
<td>Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Patrick &amp; Grace Maughan</td>
<td>(by: Maughan Family Trust)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/13 Wednesday</td>
<td>Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Veronica Strudgeon</td>
<td>(by: Lisa Woide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/14 Thursday</td>
<td>Saint John of the Cross, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Salvatore Piersanti</td>
<td>(Parish Pastoral Staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/15 Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Jean Ramirez (Special Intention)</td>
<td>(Sandra Kearney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/16 Saturday</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Lucille Taft</td>
<td>(by: Anne Holman)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/16 Saturday</td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>† Lisa Hyland</td>
<td>(by: Kim Anderson &amp; Family)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/17 Sunday</td>
<td>Third Sunday of Advent</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>† Mila Schneider</td>
<td>(by: Erin Stroud)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† For the People of the Parish</td>
<td></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.

### This Week's Second Collection

This 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.

Each year, proceeds from the annual collection help hundreds of religious communities furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. As always, your generous support is greatly appreciated.

### Parking

Parking will be available in the school parking lot.

### Annual Christmas Movie!

Come and join in some fun, merriment, good cheer with old friends and new friends.

Popcorn and Refreshments will be made available too.

RSVP at 415-282-0141
We are sincerely grateful for your financial stewardship supporting our various parish needs.

### December 3, 2017 Collection
- Online giving: $1,090.00
- Total Collection: $4,940.00

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

**12/9**
- Pre-School Breakfast with Santa, 9-11AM, Parish Hall

**12/9-10**
- Anointing of the Sick at all weekend Masses will take place.

**12/12**
- Advent Penance Service, 7:00 p.m., Church

**12/13**
- Cub Scout Mtg, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**12/21**
- Parish School Christmas Program, 7:00 p.m., Church

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**Parish Advent Penance Service**
We will be offering our Parish-wide seasonal Advent Penance service on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Opportunity for individual confessions will be available.

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**ANointing of the Sick**

Receive God’s Graces
Administered at all the weekend Masses
December 9-10, 2017

Like all the sacraments, holy anointing was instituted by Jesus Christ during his earthly ministry.

The *Catechism* explains, "This sacred anointing of the sick was instituted by Christ our Lord as a true and proper sacrament of the New Testament. It is alluded to indeed by Mark, but is recommended to the faithful and promulgated by James the apostle and brother of the Lord" (CCC 1511; Mark 6:13; Jas. 5:14-15).

The anointing of the sick conveys several graces and imparts gifts of strengthening in the Holy Spirit against anxiety, discouragement, and temptation, and conveys peace and fortitude (CCC 1520). These graces flow from the atoning death of Jesus Christ, for "this was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, ‘He took our infirmities and bore our diseases’" (Matt. 8:17).

"The special grace of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has as its effects: the uniting of the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church; the strengthening, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age; the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of penance; the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul; the preparation for passing over to eternal life" (CCC 1532).

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It’s that time of year again friends when our “Giving Tree” makes its appearance so we unite as a community to share the power of giving to make a difference in the lives of those families who are disadvantaged in our local community.

The tree is adorned with gift tags noting suggested gift items that will be delivered to The Riley Center Women’s Shelter, St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Family Day Home, Casa de Las Madres and St. Joseph’s Family Center.

You have been most generous in the past expressing your love of neighbor through your efforts and brought relief and smiles to many families.

We ask that you place your unwrapped gift under the “Giving Tree” located by the Mary Statue by Sunday, December 18th to allow us time to deliver and sort the items.

If you would like to volunteer to sort and deliver gifts, do call the Parish Office at 415-282-0141.

In general gifts for infants, toddlers, teens, adults & seniors are needed.
SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT
Preparing our Hearts and asking for the Grace

We prepare this week by stepping up the longing. We move through this week by naming deeper and more specific desires.

Each morning this week, if even for that brief moment at the side of our beds, we want to light a second inner candle. We want to let it represent “a bit more hope.” Perhaps we can pause, breathe deeply and say,

“Lord, I place my trust in you.”

Each day this week, as we encounter times that are rushed, even crazy, we can take that deep breath, and make that profound prayer. Each time we face some darkness, some experience of “parched land” or desert, some place where we feel “defeated” or “trapped,” we hear the words, “Our God will come to save us!”

The grace we desire for this week is to be able to hear the promise and to invite our God to come into those real places of our lives that dearly need God's coming. We want to be able to say:

“Lord, I place my trust in your promise. Please, Lord, rouse your power and come into this place in my life, this relationship, into this deep self-defeating pattern. Please come here and save me.”

Dear Mother,

We love you. We thank you for your promise to help us in our need. We trust in your love that dries our tears and comforts us. Teach us to find our peace in your son, Jesus, and bless us every day of our lives.

You are our mother and our inspiration. Hear our prayers and answer us.—Amen

Guadalupe Expert from Mexico at St. Dominic Church
Tuesday, December 12, 7:30 pm
St. Dominic Church, 2390 Bush St., San Francisco

On the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Luis Fernando Castañeda, a scholar and expert on the Guadalupe story, will speak on the significance of the apparition and the subsequent conversion of more than nine million indigenous people. A resident of Mexico City, he regularly leads tours to pre-Christian and Christian sites in Mexico, and in 2014 served as guide for the Archbishop of Los Angeles. He has also recorded over nine hours of lectures on Our Lady’s apparition, which can be found on YouTube.

Admission is free, and a reception follows.
**YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

**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!

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

Archdioceses Approved Marriage Preparation Programs

- [Online Marriage Prep](http://www.catholicmarriageprep.com)
- Engaged Encounter: [www.sfcee.org](http://www.sfcee.org)
- Marriage for Life: [www.marriageforlifesf.com](http://www.marriageforlifesf.com)
- Engaging the Heart: [www.vallombrosa.org](http://www.vallombrosa.org)
- Saturday For Engaged Couples: 415-288-3866

PARISH REGISTRATION

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](http://www.saintphilipparish.org)

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, 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 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](http://www.saintphilipschool.org)
  - Email: info@saintphilipschool.org

PRE-SCHOOL

- (415) 282-0143
  - [www.saintphilippreschool.org](http://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 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:

- 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

Who is planning a 2018 spring wedding?

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

Who is planning a 2018 spring wedding?

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