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

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

January 14, 2018  The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” - John 1:35-42

PASTORAL STAFF
Rev. Stephen Howell, V.G., 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
We are anointed with holy oil both at our Baptism and Confirmation. This makes us “anointed ones” for God. But the sheen of that oil disappears soon—what must remain is our living witness.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Dear Parishioners & Visitors,

Now that we are in Ordinary Time it might be surprising to read from the Gospel of John. After all, we are in “Year B” when we read primarily from Mark. Even so, we begin with the Gospel of John, the author of which is also known as “The Theologian.” And the theology in this gospel can also be called Christology, for what he says about Jesus he says about God. The two are in a close, dynamic relationship so that Jesus can say, “The Father and I are one” (John 10:30). In today’s story we have the calling of the first disciples, only one of whom is named, Andrew the brother of Simon Peter. The other disciple has traditionally been understood to be the “beloved disciple” or “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” even though he is not named such here. Only later, beginning with the Last Supper, do we have that name (13:23-26; 19:25-27; 20:2-10; 21:7; 21:20-23; 21:24). But if this unnamed disciple from chapter 1 is the same as the beloved disciple from later chapters, then the “eyewitness” (John 19:35) of the Fourth Gospel would have been present with Jesus from the beginning of his ministry.

Andrew and the unnamed disciple evangelize Simon, Andrew’s brother, by saying they have found the Messiah. They bring Simon to Jesus. And before Simon can say a word, Jesus names him “Cephas,” the Aramaic term for “Rock,” translated into Greek as “Petros,” from which we get the name “Peter.” This story of Jesus naming Simon “Peter” is much different than that in the Synoptics, where Jesus names him “Peter” only after Simon confesses Jesus as the Messiah (Matt 16:16; Mark 8:29; Luke 9:20). The Gospel of John, with its intense emphasis on Jesus, does not allow the possibility of Simon’s name change to be associated with his confession, or absolutely anything else Simon has done. In fact, this seems to be why the Gospel of John places this story in the first chapter, immediately after the call of the first disciples. Moreover, Andrew, rather than his brother Simon, is the one who says Jesus is the Messiah. Simon merely hears the news and comes to meet Jesus. In the Gospel of John, Jesus exercises authority not dependent upon human beings. In this case, we see clearly Johannine theology with its overriding emphasis on Jesus. For this reason and many others the author of this gospel has been named “The Theologian.”

The gospel story about Peter reminds us that Jesus takes the initiative with us, his disciples. He sees who we truly are and calls us by name, even to the point of giving us a new name! Once we are known by Jesus, there is no need to “perform” or “meet targets.” We may rest in the knowledge that we are known by him. Like Simon Peter, we each have a destiny, a purpose, and meaning. Like Andrew, we also have a mission, and that is to proclaim Jesus to others. Only by Andrew’s proclamation did Simon learn about Jesus. And Andrew learned about Jesus only by John the Baptist’s testimony.

In our own lives we recognize that we learned about Jesus from someone else, whether a parent, grandparent, teacher, or friend. We too tell another about Jesus. In this way Christian faith is passed from one generation to the next. Evangelization is a hallmark of Christian identity from the beginning, as we see in today’s gospel. May we have zeal for evangelization that comes from the surety that we are known personally by Jesus.

CATECHESIS—Ordinary Time

This Sunday begins Ordinary Time, which is not really a season but the time between liturgical seasons. Though the Sundays we celebrate during these weeks may be simpler in solemnity compared to the Christmas or Easter seasons, “ordinary” does not necessarily describe the quality of this time. Rather, we call these weeks ordinary because they are “ordinal,” a word that refers to putting things into an order. In Ordinary Time, the church counts the weeks between the liturgical seasons and orders our days through the lens of the ordinary ways we encounter Christ in daily life.

During the Christmas season, we celebrated three manifestations of Christ: on Christmas Day in Bethlehem; to the magi on Epiphany; and in the Jordan on the Baptism of the Lord. Today the manifestation continues with John the Baptist recognizing Christ as he walks by. What a fitting way to enter into this “ordinary” time where every person who walks by us just may well be Christ in disguise.

Note that Lent this year begins in exactly one month on February 14.
Stewardship Second Collection Update

After discussion and approval by the Parish Finance Council and Parish Council, it has been decided that whenever we do not have a scheduled special second collection, we will have a second collection for the necessary maintenance of the Parish facilities.

Maintenance offering envelopes will appear in your March packet from our Offertory Printing Company.

Our next maintenance collection date will be 1/21/2018. As always your stewardship is greatly appreciated so we can continue to address necessary repairs and maintenance issues of the parish and grounds.

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 Dickey
Agnes Piva         Marian Dickey  Dolores Martin
John Bambrer       Bill Matthews  Michael Brust
Fred Jungmann      Leo Juarez    Corrado DeMartini
Ron Ramirez        Chloe Smith   Father Paul Rossi
Jana Atlas         Anne Rivera

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.

January 7, 2018 Sunday Collection
Online giving $700.00
Total Collection $2,037.00
Second Collection—Maintenance & grounds
Online giving $70.00
Total Second Collection $608.00

Walk for Life West Coast 2018:

Our local parish contact is: Daniel Roddick and can be reached at: 415-640-5741 or via email at: danielroddick@hotmail.com

Join fellow Catholics and ProLifers from all over California and beyond as we stand up for the littlest among us at the 14th Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on January 27, 2018.

There will be Mass at 9:30AM celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone at St. Mary’s Cathedral. The rally begins at 12:30PM in San Francisco’s Civic Center Plaza, and the Walk, down the city’s Market Street, begins at 1:30PM. Last year’s Walk drew 50,000+ people. For complete information about the Walk, visit www.walkforlifewc.com or call 415-658-1793.
The first readings for Ordinary Time introduce us to the lives of Israel’s many prophets. Samuel fails to recognize God’s call, not out of disinterest but “because the Lord had not revealed anything to him as yet” (Second Sunday). Jonah recognizes who’s calling all too well, and after several false starts, journeys to Nineveh to proclaim God’s word (Third Sunday). Israel’s greatest prophet, Moses, announces that the Lord will raise up one like himself from among the people (Fourth Sunday). Job is no prophet but he certainly experienced the inexplicable hand of God (Fifth Sunday). Finally, Moses and Aaron are charged with carrying out the word of God for the good of the whole community (Sixth Sunday).

The second readings are taken from the body of the First Letter to the Corinthians. Likely written in the early to mid-50s while Paul was in Ephesus, the letter addresses the schisms among the community and recommends a course of action that centers on love (1 Corinthians 13). In the sections read for these weeks of Ordinary Time, Paul is answering specific questions from the community about how to live as Christians in a Gentile world. Immorality affects not just the individual but the entire body of Christ of whom that individual is a part (Second Sunday). The nearness of the parousia should direct our daily encounters (Third Sunday), even our marital status (Fourth Sunday). Without charge Paul preaches, becoming a “slave to all” in order to save many (Fifth Sunday). He is thus the example the Corinthians should follow (Sixth Sunday).

The Gospel readings for these first weeks of Ordinary Time help us answer a very complex question: Who is Jesus? Is he the Lamb of God or Messiah or both (Second Sunday)? Is he a preacher like John, proclaiming repentance (Third Sunday)? Is he, as the unclean spirit announced, “the Holy One of God” (Fourth Sunday)? Is he a healer who recognizes his greater mission is to preach (Fifth Sunday)? Is he the reluctant Messiah who is moved with pity but commands silence (Sixth Sunday)? The consummate answer to all these questions is made painfully clear as we move into Lent. For the evangelist Mark, whose Gospel we read during this year of Ordinary Time, the question “Who is Jesus?” can never be fully answered this side of the Cross. Under the “Messianic Secret” Mark’s Jesus commands those who recognize him to keep silent. Only at his death will his true identity be announced: “Truly this man was the Son of God”.

Are you planning a 2018 spring or summer 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. 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.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2018 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.
Beginning Again: Talking With God

We have good intentions and resolves and one thing so many of us want is a deeper relationship with God. It is a longing that comes from our hearts but we don’t always know what to do with it.

Below are a few hints and resources to get us started – or re-started – talking to God. It sounds simple, so why does it get complicated?

The good news is that God is the one who really wants to talk with us. God wants us to feel that he loves us with a bottomless love and is just waiting to listen to anything we want to say. Further proof of this good news: It was God who sparked our hearts to make us want to respond to him in a newer way. What is standing in our way?

I just don’t know where to begin.

We can reflect on our prayer and what we mean by prayer. Sometimes the most difficult journey in prayer is the short distance from our heads to our hearts. We might enjoy reading theology and spirituality books and websites, but it can draw us into concepts and ideas about God rather than feeling in our hearts how much we are loved by God. The shift in focus happens when we move from “saying prayers” to praying in the sense of entering into a close, personal relationship, which centers on a sense of closeness, accompaniment and intimacy.

Prayer is really just conversation with someone who loves us more than we can imagine. What do we want to thank God for? What do we worry about? What are we facing today? What do we want to ask of God? Speak, then listen.

I don’t have a minute free all day – when can I possibly pray?

Spending 30 minutes in silent meditation is wonderful, but most of us can’t do that in our lives. But we all can find small “in-between” moments in our lives when we can find a greater intimacy with God. It means looking for the tiniest spaces in our day when we can simply lift our hearts to God. St. Ignatius encouraged his followers to be “Contemplatives in Action,” “seeking and finding intimacy with God, in all things,” and we can do that by continually tucking small prayer spaces into our days. Developing this pattern in our days can help us feel accompanied by God all day long.

Here are a few suggestions. Which ones might work for me today?

- Brushing teeth is something we do every day for a few minutes. If we transform that time into a simple talk with God, it can begin and end our day in prayer.
- A drive in the car can become a brief retreat if we turn off the radio and use that time to have a conversation with God.
- A regular shower or bath time can be the perfect, undistracted spot to connect with the One who loves us.
- We can pray walking to a meeting, crossing a street or heading into a store.
- As we reach to answer a phone, a 2 second prayer for the person calling can change my interaction with the caller.
- If we find our mind wanders, gently transform it into a prayer by saying to God, “I am distracted by the meeting I have today. Let me tell you what I am worried about.” Or, “I can tell I am preoccupied by my relationship problems with my brother. Please give me the grace to forgive him.” We can take our distractions to God and ask for help.

Ask, “Where is my focus, on me or on God?”

Come and join us at the 2018 St. Philip Annual Crab Feed supporting the Bruins Athletic Program

Saturday, January 27, 2018—Parish Hall

ST. PHILIP BRUINS PRESENT
HARDLY STRICTLY
CRAB FEED

6PM NO HOST COCKTAILS
7PM DINNER
8-11PM LIVE MUSIC

$75/Person in Advance $100/person @ Door Table of 10 = $700
$60/Seniors Corkage Fee $20/bottle
For Reservations visit: https://stphilip.wufoo.com/forms/2018-crab-feed/ or call the Parish Office 415-282-0141
14th Annual WALK for LIFE

Because Women Deserve Better than Abortion.

Walk for Life West Coast
Abortion HURTS Women

Saturday, January 27 • CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • San Francisco

Rally: 12:30 PM
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
Info Faire: 11:00 AM
Saturday, January 27, 2018

Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza, walking down Market Street (2 miles). Ends at Justin Herman Plaza/Ferry Building. BART stations at both locations. Ample parking.

Register and info:
415/658-1793 | email: info@WalkforLifeWC.com

WalkforLifeWC.com
**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 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. 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 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
Email: info@saintphilippschool.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 apt.)
Belfry Society
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)
Saturday 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

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**
Monday—Friday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
415-282-0141 Fax: 415-282-6932
www.saintphilipparish.org —info@saintphilipparish.org