

# Our Ministry of Stewardship

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## Stewardship **GPS**

Stewardship is rooted in gratitude and lived through the action of Giving, the action of Praying and the action of Serving. Together we call these actions Stewardship “GPS.” Just as an electronic GPS helps people navigate a journey toward a destination, Stewardship GPS guides our faith community along the journey of knowing, loving and serving God more.



St. Philip Neri  
Catholic Church

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

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# Introduction

St. Philip Neri Church is made up of a vibrant, faithful people who serve our parish and our community in numerous ways, from worship, religious education and formation, sacramental preparation and spiritual development, to community outreach and social activities. We strive to be a welcoming Parish that reflects the heart, mercy and teachings of Christ, the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and the spirit of joy manifested by our patron saint, St. Philip Neri. We pray you find St. Philip Neri Church a warm, welcoming home and a place where you can deepen your faith and become a special part of our Catholic faith community.



## St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

292 Munn Road, East  
Fort Mill, SC 29715  
[www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org)  
803.548.7282



## Mass, Reconciliation and Adoration Times

### Mass

#### Saturday Vigil

5:30 pm

Interpretation for the deaf on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month

#### Sunday

8:00 am

9:30 am

11:30 am

5:30 pm (Contemporary Music)

Live streaming of the 9:30 am

Sunday Mass:

[www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org)

#### Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

9:30 am

### Nursery

The nursery is provided during the 9:30 am and 11:30 am Masses for children between the ages of 15 months and 5 years.

### Reconciliation/Confession

#### Wednesday

7:00 pm

Or, by appointment scheduled through a parish priest

### Anointing of the Sick

Requested through the Parish Office, or experienced at the Healing Mass that is offered on a quarterly basis.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Commences in the Adoration Chapel Wednesday following the 9:30 am Mass and ends Saturday at 5:00 pm.

### Parish Office Hours

#### Monday through Friday

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

### Parish Website

[www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org)

Visit us online for more information: [www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org)



**St. Philip Neri  
Catholic Church**

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Welcome to our St. Philip Neri Catholic faith community. We strive to be a welcoming parish that reflects the heart, mercy and teachings of Christ, the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and the spirit of joy manifested by our patron saint—St. Philip Neri.

St. Philip Neri Church is made up of a vibrant, faithful people who serve our parish and community in numerous ways—from worship, religious education and formation, sacramental preparation and spiritual development, to community outreach and social activities. It makes no difference what your age is, whether you are in pursuit of a professional career, focused on raising a family, or retired, there are many opportunities for stewardship service. Whether you are interested in serving those in need in our local community, passing on the Catholic faith to children, or taking part in the Mass, there is a place for you here.

Here at St. Philip Neri Church, stewardship is rooted in gratitude and lived through the action of Giving, the action of Praying and the action of Serving. Together, we call these actions Stewardship “GPS.” Just as an electronic GPS helps people navigate a journey toward a destination, Stewardship GPS guides our faith community along the journey of knowing, loving and serving God more in fulfillment of our mission of continuing the ministry of Christ.

This guidebook, “Our Ministry of Stewardship 2018/2019,” provides information about the spiritual life at St. Philip Neri, and the numerous ministries and organizations that serve our parish and the community. We hope that the information provided helps you to prayerfully discern where your stewardship gifts might best be used to further the ministry of Christ. Please contact the Parish Office for additional information about any of these opportunities.

If you are new to the parish, we pray you find St. Philip Neri Church a warm welcoming home and a place where you can deepen your faith through spiritual life, practicing the actions of stewardship, and experience the joy of becoming a part of our Catholic faith community. For those of you who attend St. Philip Neri, but have not yet registered, we encourage you to join our parish family through our registration process. Registration information can be obtained online at [www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org), at the Welcome Desk in the gathering space, or at the Parish Office.

Thank you, as always, for continuing to live as Christian stewards, disciples of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us, and for making St. Philip Neri Church a welcoming place for all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. John Giuliani, C.O.

Pastor

*We will strive to be examples to others through open minds, open hearts and open arms.*



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
**OF CHARLESTON**  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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August 2018

Dear Parishioners of St. Philip Neri,

I want to thank each of you for your commitment to your parish family. By using the gifts God has blessed you with, you enrich the lives of all those around you. Through the time you offer in prayer, your involvement in ministries, and sharing generously of your financial resources, you increase the life of the Church!

St. Philip Neri offers so many wonderful and unique ministries, and you have played a significant role in assisting these ministries through your sacrifice and generosity. The Diocese of Charleston is growing and expanding. I am so grateful for parishes like St. Philip Neri that welcome all those seeking a church family.

Thank you again for all that you do to build up the Kingdom of God here in South Carolina. We are truly one faith, one family. Please know that you are in my prayers.

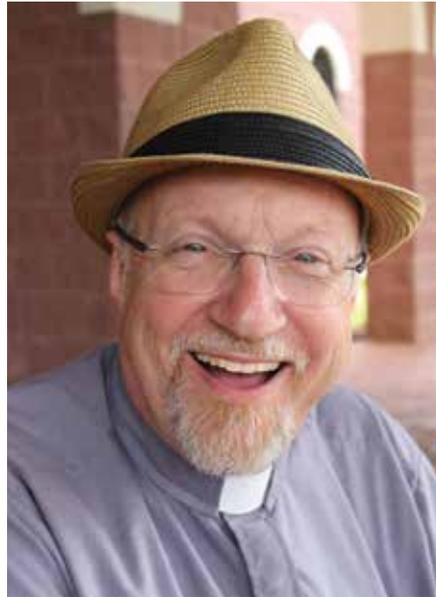
In the Lord's Peace,

Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmo  
Bishop of Charleston

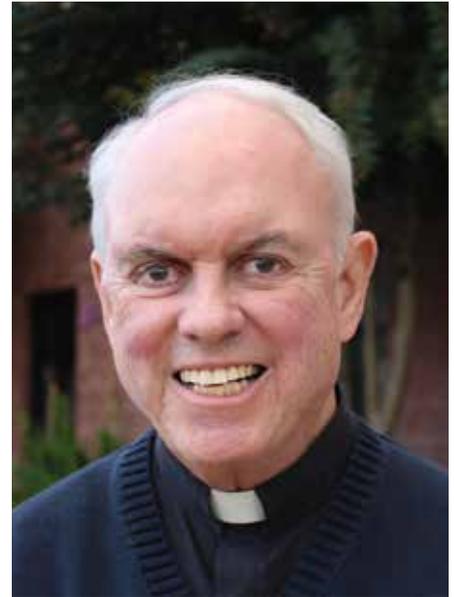
# Spiritual Leadership at Saint Philip Neri

## Priests

Since its founding in 1993, St Philip Neri Church has been served by priests that belong to The Congregation of the Oratory of Saint Philip Neri, a pontifical society of apostolic life of Catholic priests and lay-brothers who live together in community bound together by no formal vows but only with the bond of charity. Saint Philip Neri established this religious community in the 16th century. Members are known as Oratorians and live in Oratory houses throughout the world.



Rev. John Giuliani, C.O., Pastor



Rev. Edward McDevitt, C.O., Assisting

The Rock Hill Oratory is the oldest and largest house in the United States. Oratorians, who carry on Saint Philip Neri's charism of prayer, reflection on scripture and work with the

laity, use the initials C.O. after their names, a designation that stands for Congregation of the Oratory. Our pastor and assisting priests have

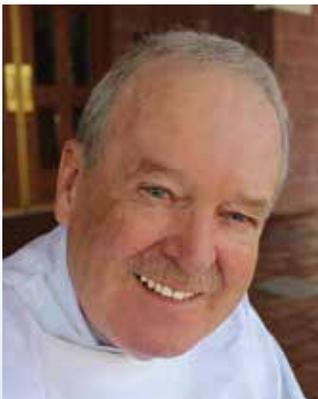
committed their lives to serving the people of God and ministering to the faithful by providing spiritual care and comfort.

## Deacons

Our deacons assist the priests in serving the spiritual needs of our parish. Deacons can baptize, witness

marriages, perform funeral and burial services outside of Mass, distribute Holy Communion and

preach the homily. Given their spiritual works, our deacons are a vital part of parish life.



Deacon Jon Dwyer



Deacon  
George Johnston



Deacon Steve Rhodes



Deacon  
David Bartholomew

## Parish Advisory Councils & Committees

### Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council is one of two advisory groups to the pastor of St. Philip Neri. The other is the Finance Council. The Pastoral Council's primary purpose is to represent the parishioners and serve as an advisory council to the pastor on matters related to the parish. Council members are appointed by the pastor and include one member of the Finance Council. Pastoral Council meets every month and on an ad-hoc basis as needed. Members are asked to be active in parish activities and ministries.

### Finance Council

The Finance Council is one of two advisory groups to the pastor of St. Philip Neri. The other is the Pastoral Council. The Finance Council's primary purpose is to serve as an advisory council to the pastor on financial matters related to the parish. Council members are appointed by the pastor. The Finance Council meets monthly and on an ad-hoc basis as needed. The members of the Finance Council are the primary stewards of the parish's financial resources and are accountable for the integrity of the parish's finances.

### Property and Facilities Committee

The Property and Facilities Committee advises the pastor, Business Manager and Maintenance Technician about the management and maintenance of the church properties. This committee, which assesses the short-term and long-term needs for all facilities, also offers guidance and recommends necessary improvements.

### Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee seeks to develop stewardship as a way of life in the parish, with members educating parishioners about how to live a life of Christian stewardship through the actions of giving, praying and serving. This committee is instrumental in the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the parish's stewardship program.

### Safety Team

The Safety Team, which provides security for the parish at weekend Masses and other events, has established, implemented and continues to assess the parish's safety and security plan. Team members are trained in first aid, CPR, evacuation techniques, safety responses to fire and weather emergencies and church security. In addition, they educate staff members, volunteers and parishioners about safety protocols that relate to the security plan.



## Parish Staff

Our parish is blessed with a dedicated and helpful staff that serves our parish community by assisting the pastor and parishioners with the church's day-to-day operations. All

members of the parish staff are ready to assist and welcome you to our parish community. Visit the Parish Directory on [www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org) for contact information.



Lynda Curry  
Business Manager



Isa Montes  
Administrative  
Assistant



Resa Reed  
Bookkeeper



Jenny Funk  
Volunteer  
Coordinator



Jen Fredenberg  
Communications/  
Social Media  
Coordinator



Linda Liberty  
Director of Music



Mary Harden  
Director of Faith  
Formation



Jeanette Swint  
Faith Formation  
Assistant



Tayler Howie  
Director of Youth  
Ministry



Beth Donnelly  
EDGE Coordinator &  
Receptionist



Audra Hesse  
Director of Child  
Development Center



Hanns Braun  
Maintenance  
Technician



Jeff Dupuis  
Audiovisual  
Co-Coordinator



Tony Pasquarelli  
Audiovisual  
Co-Coordinator

# Parish History

## Mission Statement

We are a Catholic community united to form a church family dedicated to continuing the ministry of Christ. We will strive to be examples to others through open minds, open hearts and open arms.

## 2018, our 25th Anniversary Year . . .

From our very humble beginnings more than 25 years ago, our church has developed a rich heritage with dedicated parishioners who have generously offered their time, talents and financial gifts to make St. Philip Neri Church what it is today. We have come this far by faith, and as we celebrate 25 years, we honor and reflect on the past and its many challenges. We also celebrate the present day and welcome the promise of a future that continues the mission to which we have been called—continuing the ministry of Christ. Today, St. Philip Neri has over 2,750 registered families and we continue to grow.



## St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

25th Anniversary



## 25th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, June 23rd, 2018 A Day of Prayer, Service and Celebrating

### Pray, Serve and Celebrate

- 7:00 am Morning Prayer
- 7:00 am Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
- 8:00 am Habitat for Humanity Service Project
- 9:00 am Adoration
- 5:30 pm Mass & Mortgage Burning with Bishop Guglielmone
- 7:00 pm Celebration Dinner

### Our Mission Continues . . .

The cross in the sanctuary, through which God's light shines, represents Christ's crucifixion and His sacrifice to redeem humanity and grace us with salvation. This cross, as Fr. John reminds us, should be an inspiration to all to graciously carry the crosses in our own lives, as well as bear one another's burdens with the compassion of our Lord. As a faith-filled community, we will joyfully continue the mission to which we have been called.

*External and loving God, we come to you with praise, honor, glory and thanksgiving for 25 years of worship and service. As we celebrate our past and rejoice in the present, we look forward with eager hearts to our future.*



# Our Parish Community

Welcome to St. Philip Neri Church. Our parish, founded in 1993, started with 70 families. Today, St. Philip Neri has over 2,750 registered families and we continue to grow while we serve the needs of both our parish and the community through faith-filled actions, prayer, service and fellowship. During the past fiscal year, over 300 families registered with our parish community. We strive to be a welcoming parish that reflects the heart, mercy and

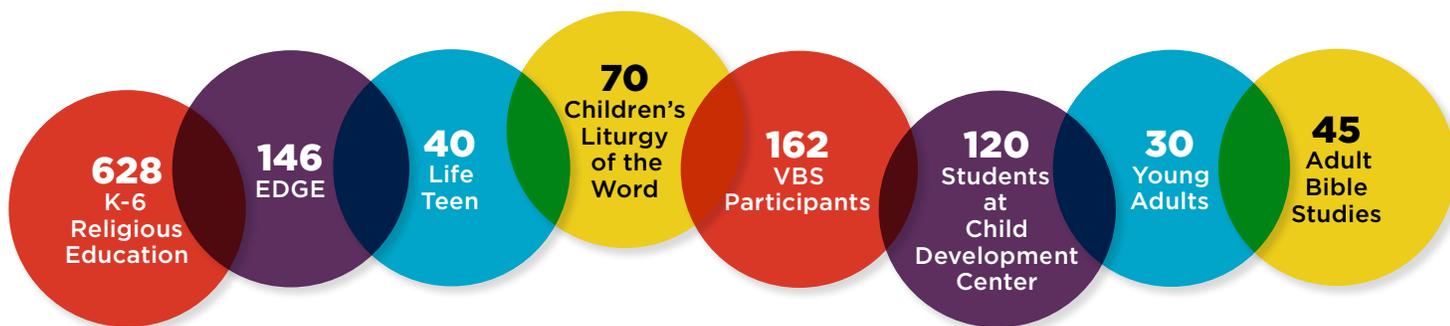
teachings of Christ, the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and the spirit of joy manifested by our patron saint St. Philip Neri.

We pray you find St. Philip Neri Church a warm, welcoming home and a place where you can deepen your faith, enrich your spirituality, and become a part of our Catholic faith community.

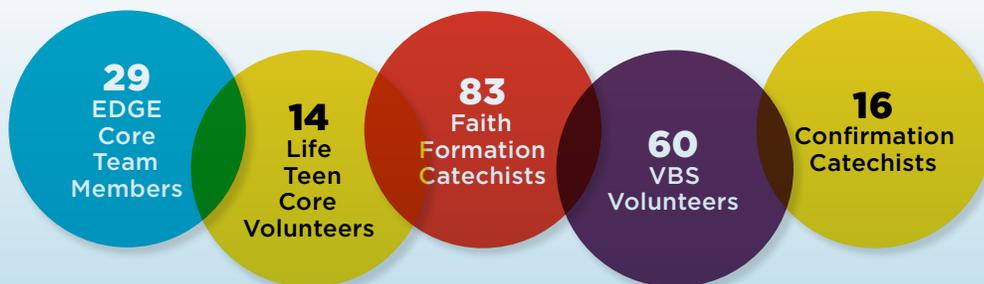
## Parish Statistics for Fiscal Year 2017/2018



## Religious Education Programs



## Religious Education Volunteers for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

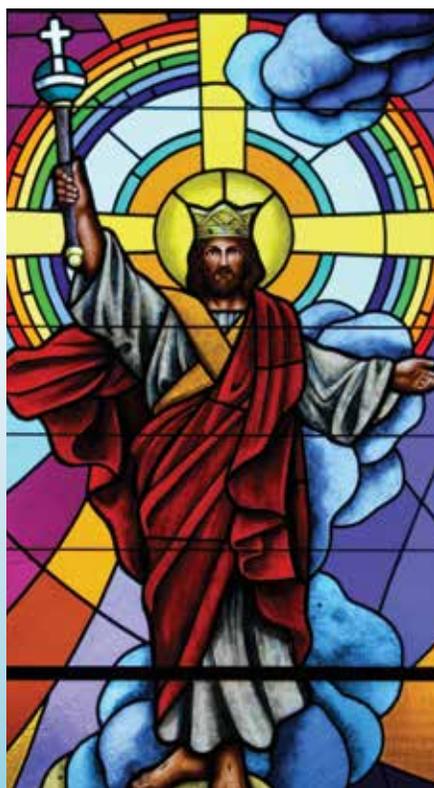


## Joining Our Parish

St. Philip Neri is a Catholic faith community united to form a church family dedicated to continuing the ministry of Christ. We strive to be examples to others through open minds, open hearts and open arms. We are a welcoming parish that reflects the heart, mercy and teachings of Christ, the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and the spirit of joy manifested by our patron saint, St. Philip Neri. All are welcome!

### Register in The Parish

If you are new or have been attending but have not yet joined our parish, we encourage you to register. Parish registration forms are available at the Welcome Desk in the gathering space of the church, in the parish office, or requested online at [www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org). Completed forms may be mailed, emailed or dropped off to the Parish Office for processing. This guidebook, "Our Ministry of Stewardship," provides information about the spiritual life at St. Philip Neri Church and the numerous ministries and organizations that serve our parish and community. St. Philip Neri is a service-oriented parish with ministries for all ages. We encourage all parishioners to get involved. Visit [www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org) for additional information.



## Becoming Catholic

St. Philip Neri is committed to the presentation of the doctrine of our faith, in a welcoming and understandable manner, to members of our community who have made the decision to seek this step in their personal faith journey. We invite you to join with us as we strive to live the mission of Jesus Christ through prayer, service, outreach, fellowship and a true sense of family as we minister to our community.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process used by the Catholic Church to present the beliefs of this faith to those adults (age 18 and older) who have made a conscious decision to explore coming into full communion with the Church. Programs for teenagers (RCIT: Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens) and children (RCIC: Rite of Christian Initiation for Children) are also available. Spiritual formation and education about our Catholic faith takes place during these rites, which enables individuals to become fully incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Catholic Church.



RCIA classes begin in September and are held every other Thursday until the Easter Vigil when those joining the Catholic church will be received through the Sacraments of Initiation. If you are interested in becoming Catholic, contact the church office at 803.548.7282, or [administrativeassistant@saintphilipneri.org](mailto:administrativeassistant@saintphilipneri.org).

# The Sacraments

The sacraments are Christ's own gift that provide us with His grace. They are the divine helps which God gave us to enable us to believe the truths of His faith, live according to His moral code and grow in His gift of divine life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) affirms that "the seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments in Christian life. They give birth and increase healing and mission to the Christian's life of faith." The sacraments are divided into three categories.

The sacraments of Christian Initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist—lay the foundations of every Christian life. The faithful are born anew by baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of confirmation and receive in the Eucharist the food of eternal life.

## Baptism

For Catholics, the sacrament of baptism is the first step in a lifelong journey of commitment and discipleship. It is the Church's way of celebrating and enacting the embrace of God.

St. Philip Neri offers the sacrament of baptism on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 11:00 am. Baptisms may also be celebrated during weekend Masses. Parents are required to register for and attend a baptism preparation class. Classes are held at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of every month. To schedule a baptism, attend a baptism class, or request additional information, please contact the Parish Office.

## Confirmation

Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal

grace. By the sacrament of confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. St. Philip Neri offers a two-year Confirmation program for ninth and tenth grade students. Classes are held the first and third Sundays of the month after the 5:30 pm Mass.



## Eucharist

As Catholics, we believe the Eucharist is the real presence of Jesus Christ and that He lovingly offers Himself as spiritual nourishment with each celebration of the Mass. This intimate exchange with the Lord strengthens us spiritually and brings us closer to God. Individuals unable to attend Mass may request the Holy Eucharist be brought to them as the need arises.

## First Holy Communion

Children may receive the sacrament of first Eucharist in the spring of second grade or older.

For older children and teens who are interested in receiving the sacraments of initiation (baptism, reconciliation and/or first holy communion,) please contact the Director of Faith Formation, Mary Harden at 803.548.7282 ext. 226

Adults who are interested in receiving the sacraments of initiation (baptism, reconciliation and/or first holy communion), please contact the parish office at 803.548.7282.



The sacraments of healing - reconciliation and anointing of the sick—celebrate the healing power of Jesus.

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Formerly known as Last Rites or Extreme Unction, anointing of the sick is not just for those at the point of death, but may be received by anyone in danger of death from sickness or old age. The ritual of healing is available for spiritual, physical and mental illness. This sacrament may be requested through the Parish Office, or experienced at the healing Mass that is offered on a quarterly basis. The service is open to all who seek healing for himself or herself, a family member, or anyone struggling with a health issue.

### **Reconciliation**

The sacrament of reconciliation (also known as confession or penance) brings about a change of heart through God's mercy and forgiveness. The sacrament of reconciliation has three elements: conversion, confession and celebration. In this, we find God's unconditional forgiveness; as a result, we are called to forgive others. The sacrament is offered every Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. In addition, the sacrament is available by scheduling an appointment through the Parish Office.



The sacraments at the service of communion - matrimony and holy orders—help members serve the community and are directed to the salvation of others.

### **Matrimony**

For Catholics, the sacrament of marriage, or holy matrimony, is a sign of God's loving presence in the world. The loving union of a husband and wife speaks of family values and God's values. Couples wishing to get married must contact the pastor at least six months prior to the desired date of the wedding. Preparation classes are held in the parish. Wedding arrangements must be made by calling the parish office at 803.548.7282.

### **Holy Orders**

Holy orders, or ordination, is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church. In the sacrament of holy orders, the priest who is ordained vows to lead other Catholics by bringing them the sacraments – especially the Holy Eucharist, by proclaiming the Gospel and by providing other means of holiness.

Everyone has something to contribute. When we encourage others to discern if they have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, we show our support for their desire to serve. Our priests and deacons will happily discuss their vocation, and offer insight and direction to those interested. Let us extend His call.

# Becoming a Stewardship Family Discerning How and What to Give

*“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” —1 Peter 4:10*

What identifies a steward? Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly is one answer; so is generous giving of your gifts—material and spiritual. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God’s gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. (U.S. Bishops’ Pastoral Letter on Stewardship)



## Make Prayer Your Priority

Prayer is the beginning of stewardship. Only when we spend time with God in prayer are we spiritually prepared to offer ourselves to others. As it says in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “prayer and Christian life are inseparable.” For Catholics, stewardship should include setting aside periods of time for personal and family prayer, for reading of scripture, for visits to the Blessed Sacrament

and for participation at Mass. The most important thing is to make a conscious effort to spend time with our God.

## Share Your Gifts in the Parish

As Catholics, we are called by our Baptism to reach out in love to others. While that may sometimes be difficult, it is nonetheless spiritually enriching and personally fulfilling. Being a good steward of your gifts means sharing your time, talents, skills and knowledge through volunteering for one or more of our parish ministries or outreach groups and activities. Each week at St. Philip Neri, dozens of ministry and outreach groups are working, praying and having fun serving together. There are numerous ways for you to get involved and where you can make a difference. Spend time

reviewing this Stewardship book and identify those that spark your interest.

## Put God First in Your Finances

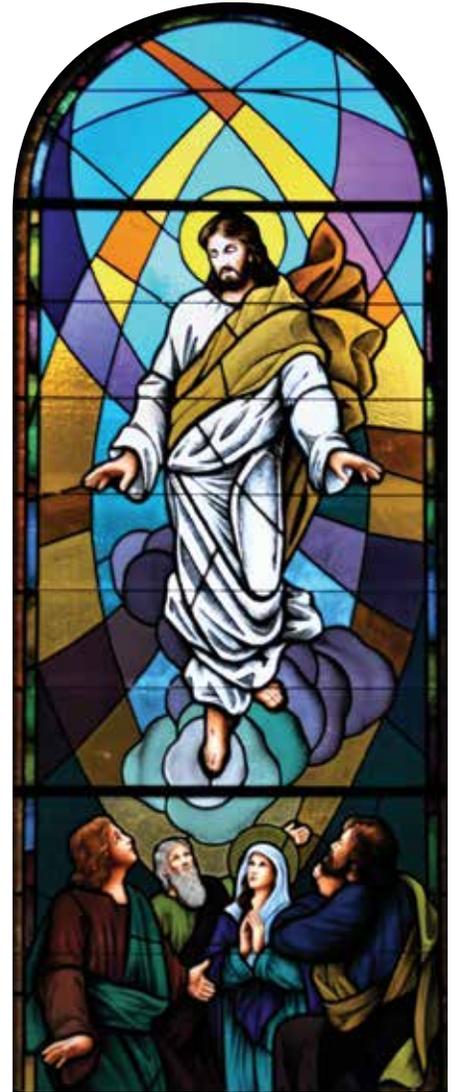
Scripture teaches us to give to God our “first fruits” or the first portion. Your financial contribution to the parish is vital to support all operations of the parish, including liturgies, catechesis and outreach activities to the faithful of the community and beyond. Responsible stewardship in this area includes a commitment to your weekly offering, either in your parish envelope or online giving, designated or restricted gifts, mention in a will, designate as a life insurance beneficiary, property, stocks and other contributions. In thanksgiving for God’s gifts, please prayerfully consider what your financial contribution to the parish will be.



## Questions to Assist in the Discernment of our Spiritual Gifts

We encourage each person in our faith community—adults and children, members and attenders—to take some time to work through these questions. Use whichever questions seem most helpful; it may be additionally helpful to process them in conversation with others. Spend time in careful thought and prayer and ask God to show you where He desires your presence.

1. What are the things in life that are so much a part of who I am, and that give me joy and energy, that I cannot keep from doing them?
2. What are the things that I am “good at”—that I have a talent, or training for?
3. How might I use my gifts to show my love for God and for one another?
4. What are the contexts in my life where I have most felt the Holy Spirit working through me?
5. What aspects of the church’s ministries and programs do I find most energizing?
6. Based on your review of the ministries and programs listed in this Stewardship Book, which are best suited for your gifts and abilities?
7. Have you observed a need or have a desire to establish a new ministry or outreach at St. Philip Neri Church?



### Stewardship Prayer

*Almighty and ever-faithful Lord, gratefully acknowledging Your mercy and humbly admitting our need, we pledge our trust in You and each other.*

*Filled with desire, we respond to Your call for discipleship by shaping our lives in imitation of Christ. We profess that the call requires us to be stewards of Your gifts. As stewards, we receive Your gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible manner, share them in practice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.*

*We pledge to our ongoing formation as stewards, and our responsibility to call others to that same endeavor. Almighty and ever-faithful God, it is our fervent hope and prayer that You, who have begun this good work in us, will bring it to fulfillment in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen*

# Getting Involved at St. Philip Neri Church

*“Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.” —John12:26*

St. Philip Neri Church is a service-oriented parish with ministries and groups for all ages. Our more than 50 ministries are grouped into five categories: Liturgy & Worship, Faith Formation & Education, Prayer & Spiritual Growth, Service & Outreach, and Parish Family Life. Whether you are interested in serving those in need in our local community, passing on the Catholic faith to children or taking part in the Mass, there is a place for you. This Ministry of Stewardship Book provides an overview of all ministries and organizations that are available at or through St. Philip Neri Church.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities and how to get involved, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Jenny Funk at 803.548.7282 ext. 229 or [volunteercoordinator@saintphilipneri.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@saintphilipneri.org)

## Liturgical & Worship Ministries

The celebration of the Eucharist is central to our faith community at St. Philip Neri Church, with this traditional practice enabling us to worship and live as faith-filled Catholics.

The Liturgical Ministries offer parishioners the opportunity to fulfill a special role in Eucharistic celebrations during daily and weekend Masses and other liturgical events. These roles, which may be either visible or behind-the-scenes, are extremely important to the

reverent and orderly celebration of the Mass. Help is always needed, and we gratefully welcome parishioners to become more involved in the Liturgical Ministries that serve the St. Philip Neri Church community.



## Altar Servers

Altar Servers assist the priest and deacon during Mass as needed with processions, blessings, rituals and readings. This ministry is open to adults as well as children that have made their First Holy Communion and completed the third grade. Altar Servers must possess the maturity required to respectfully serve on the altar and assist the priest and deacon. Orientation and training are provided, with attendance at one annual meeting required.

## Eucharistic Ministers

This ministry is open to any devout, practicing Catholic parishioner who is in full communion with the Catholic Church and has received the Sacrament of Confirmation. They must be at least 16 years of age, be

knowledgeable about the mystery of the Eucharist and reverent of the duty and privilege that they perform. Eucharistic Ministers assist the priest in the distribution of the Eucharist at a Mass of their choice and help by taking Holy Communion to parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes or in hospitals. Attendance at orientation and training is required.

### **Mass Greeters**

The members of this ministry help to create a warm and welcoming environment before Masses by greeting attendees as they enter the church. Greeters also hand out bulletins, assist in the distribution and collection of worship aids and direct guests and new members to the welcome desk in the sanctuary's gathering space. This ministry has no age limitations.

### **Ministers of the Word— Lectors**

Lectors reverently assist in the Mass, as they proclaim the Word of God during the first two Scripture Readings and lead the Prayers of the Faithful. This ministry is open to adults and teens who are articulate in their speech and pronunciations, have a clear voice and feel comfortable speaking in front of the congregation. Orientation and training is required.

### **Sacristans**

This ministry, which enables an orderly celebration of the Mass, is open to all adults and teens interested in administering several important works before and after the celebration

of the Holy Eucharist. Responsibilities include preparing the altar and credence table before Mass and gathering the vessels necessary for the sacrifice of the Mass. After Mass, sacristans are responsible for cleaning the sacred vessels and utensils that come in direct contact with the Blessed Sacrament and returning all items to their proper place.

### **Ushers**

This ministry, open to any interested adult or teen parishioner, provides assistance to the congregation during the celebration of the Mass. Ushers seat attendees as necessary, assist with offertory collections, count attendance and direct traffic flow as guests proceed to Holy Communion. In addition, they provide other services that may be required to maintain order throughout the Mass.

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

This program, offered during non-summer months at the 11:30 am Mass, is designed for children who are at least four years of age through Second Grade. During Mass, children are invited to gather for the Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) in the church basement. The CLOW leader presents the Scriptures at the children's level and how it pertains to them in their own life. After the Prayers of the Faithful, the children return to their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. There is no registration required to attend.



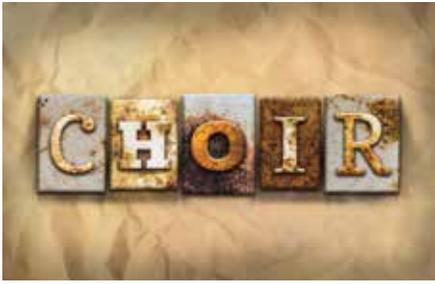
### **Welcome Desk in Sanctuary**

The members of this ministry provide assistance, as needed, before and after the celebration of weekend Masses. Volunteers with a joyful spirit sit at the welcome desk in the sanctuary to welcome parishioners and guests, share information and answer questions.



### **Sound & Video Board Operators**

This ministry is open to all adults and teens interested in operating the soundboard and video systems during the Mass to enhance the worship experience. Orientation and training are required.



## Music Ministries

Members of the Music Ministries proclaim and share the Word of God in song by participating in various music-related efforts at St. Philip Neri Church. Individuals who give of their time to offer their God-given musical talents, foster and nurture participation within the worshipping community during weekend liturgies and other special services.

## Mass Choir

This choir sings every Sunday at the 9:30 am and at the 7:00 pm Masses on Holy Days. Participants must be committed, enjoy singing and recognize its importance to the celebration of the Eucharist.

*Rehearsals take place every Thursday at 7:00 pm.*

## St. Cecilia Choir

St. Cecilia Choir, open to ladies age 15 years and older, sings at the 11:30 am Mass every Sunday morning. Participants must be committed, enjoy singing and recognize that music is an integral part of the solemn liturgy that assists participants in the celebration of our faith.

*Rehearsals take place every Thursday at 7:00 pm.*

## Lifenotes

This contemporary ensemble leads the music at the Life Teen Mass that is celebrated weekly on Sunday at 5:30 pm.

*Rehearsals are held on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 pm.*

## Children's Choir

This choir, open to all children ages 7 to 12 years, sings at Mass about every six weeks, as well as at occasional special services and Masses.

*The Children's Choir meets every Tuesday from September through May at 6:15 pm.*

## Consolation Choir

The Consolation Choir, which aids the assemblies at funeral liturgies, meets 30 minutes before the scheduled funeral Mass time. This choir, which is open to anyone who is available during the day, is usually notified on short notice when their participation is needed.

## Handbell Ensemble

This ensemble performs at select regular Masses and at special liturgies and services. The ability to read music or prior handbell ringing experience is helpful, but not a requirement.

*Rehearsals take place every Wednesday at 7:30 pm.*



## Brass Ensemble and Instrumental Soloists

This ensemble accompanies the liturgy on an as-needed basis, with rehearsals scheduled by appointment. Duo, trio, quartet and quintet ensembles are formed as needed. Woodwind and string players are needed throughout the year as well.

## Cantors

Our cantors, who make the congregation's prayer possible through song at each celebration of the Eucharist, are a vital part of the Mass. They assist the assembly as necessary, such as leading the proclamation of the responsorial song, the gospel acclamation and other liturgical songs. Cantors must have a strong singing voice, and ability to encourage participants to join in the songs and a dedication to the ministry of music. While cantors are encouraged to join the choir, it is not required.

## Additional Opportunities

Instrumentalists are needed at times, with both students and adults invited to participate. Pianist and organists are also occasionally needed to substitute for regular participants. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Linda Liberty, Director of Music at [musicdirector@saintphilipneri.org](mailto:musicdirector@saintphilipneri.org) or 803.548.7282 Ext. 249.

## Prayer and Spiritual Growth Ministries

These prayerful ministries and programs invite parishioners to raise their hearts and minds to God in prayer and enrich their spiritual lives. They support individuals on their journeys to the fullness of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and are designed to build a vibrant faith community of disciples who are equipped to proclaim and share the good news of Christ.



### Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is a practice that invites us to be present to God as God is present to us. In the silence of centering, we open ourselves to God's action in our lives. It is a process that transforms us and brings inner peace. In each session, we take time for centering prayer, reflection on the process, and encouraging each other to be faithful to the daily practice of centering.

*The Centering Prayer Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 pm.*



### Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration provides our fellow parishioners a place to offer thanks, petitions, and needs through prayers in the true presence of Our Lord. Sign up for one or more scheduled hours or drop in. Adoration is held each week in the Adoration Chapel beginning after the 9:30 am Wednesday Mass through Saturday at 5:00 pm. Contact [spnadoration@gmail.com](mailto:spnadoration@gmail.com) for additional information and to sign up.

### Joy in the Spirit

Joy in the Spirit is a Catholic Charismatic prayer group. Members seek to experience a richer and more tangible experience of the Holy Spirit through prayer and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. A Life in the Spirit Seminar, during which time one is introduced to a greater filling of the Holy Spirit, is scheduled annually.

*Joy in the Spirit meets on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at 7:30 pm*

### Small Faith Sharing Groups at St. Philip Neri

Join a small group to share friendship, faith, reflections and the messages of Jesus to enrich your spiritual growth while building community. A small group is a great way to make new friends and connections with St. Philip Neri parishioners and others. Centered in the Scripture, these groups meet in homes, workplaces or any comfortable setting twice a month to reflect on the Sunday Readings, share their insights and experience the grace of Christian community.

*For information on joining or hosting a group contact Deacon George Johnston at [gajohnston5998@yahoo.com](mailto:gajohnston5998@yahoo.com), or Deacon David Bartholomew at [davidbartholomew91@gmail.com](mailto:davidbartholomew91@gmail.com).*



### **Children's Rosary Prayer Group**

The Children's Rosary is a prayer group for children between 4 and 18 years of age to pray the Rosary. Children take turns leading the prayers. Adults are welcome to attend. "Our children have an enormous capacity for spirituality and a deep relationship with Our Lord and His Mother. In the springtime of faith may we look to the future of our church, our children, to help lead us all back to the warm embrace of Our savior."—Blythe Marie Kaufman, Founder of "Children's Rosary," A Prayer Group Movement for Children.

*The Prayer Group meets in the Daily Mass Chapel on the first Friday of each month from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm beginning in October through May.*

### **Praying for our Sick**

The parish staff maintains a list of individuals that are in need of God's grace and healing due to an illness of any kind. This list is regularly placed on the Welcome Desk in the church so that this prayer group is aware of those people in need. This prayer group helps to bear the burdens of members of our parish and beyond through intercessory prayer. Due to confidentiality concerns, please obtain permission from the individual in need of prayer prior to asking a member of the parish staff to include the individual's full name of the prayer list.

### **Pilgrim Virgin Statue**

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue, which represents Our Lady of Fatima, is

hosted weekly on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm. Participants gather to pray the Rosary, offer intentions and reflect upon the Mysteries of the Rosary.

### **Legion of Mary**

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active cooperation in Mary's and the Church's work. The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of each individual. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, and through collaboration in apostolic and missionary undertakings sponsored by the parish. Members of this ministry also show their devotion to the Blessed Mother by making Rosaries for distribution to various groups within the church community and beyond.

*This ministry meets every Wednesday at 10:30 am or 7:00 pm.*

### **St. Philip Neri Mom's Group**

St. Philip Neri Mom's Group supports the vocation of motherhood by strengthening faith through various readings including Scripture, the Catechism and various books applicable to Christian family life. This ministry engages moms who want to grow deeper in their faith and enjoy fellowship with other moms.

*St. Philip Neri Mom's Group meets throughout the school year on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 10:00 am. You can drop in for a session at your convenience or attend them all. All mothers are welcome!*

### **Women's Christian Walk**

Women's Christian Walk is a weekend retreat based on the Biblical account of Jesus' walk with two disciples on the road to Emmaus. The retreat provides an opportunity to leave behind busy schedules and worldly distractions to take time to ponder the ways in which the risen Christ reveals his love for us in the journey of life. After the retreat, participants continue to meet for breakfast once a month to continue sisterhood with each other and to deepen their relationship with God.

### **Men's Christian Walk**

This program, available for men 21 years of age and over, provides a weekend to reflect on one's spiritual relationship with Jesus. It is based on St. Luke's account of two disciples and Jesus as they walked together to Emmaus. These retreats, which offer a respite from the stresses of daily life, help individuals to renew their spiritual life, strengthen their relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit and spend time with God. All men are invited to meet Jesus on their personal walk to Emmaus.

### **Bible Studies**

God calls us to have a living faith, fully alive and always growing. Bible study keeps our minds and hearts afresh with new knowledge and wisdom. Our journey of faith is lifelong. Faith formation does not end after Confirmation. A maturing faith is a commitment to always learn more about God and His will. St. Philip Neri Church offers a variety of topical group Bible studies to encourage spiritual growth. Parishioners are also encouraged to form small faith sharing groups of their own.

## Service and Outreach Ministries & Organizations

As Christians, we are called to be disciples of Jesus. St. Philip Neri Church service and outreach ministries and organizations reach out to people, both within the parish and in the larger community, who may be challenged by injustices or are feeling powerless to change the circumstances in their lives. By aiding others with their spiritual and material necessities, Catholics grow in conformance to Christ and ultimately receive His Divine Mercy.



### Rosary Makers Guild

This ministry is devoted to helping our missions and others receive the gift of the rosary, thereby making their prayers more deeply centered in the life of Christ.

*The Rosary Makers Guild meets every Thursday at 10:30 am. The ministry always has openings for people devoted to helping our missions and others receive the gift of the rosary. Training is required and all materials are provided.*

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

The members of this ministry personally hand-knit or crochet prayer shawls for St. Philip Neri parishioners, participants in the Rachel's Vineyard Retreats and others in the community. Given to individuals in need of comfort and prayer, these handmade

“gifts of love” provide a tangible symbol of the loving embrace of a praying community.

*The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 am.*



### Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee welcomes parishioners and guests by serving refreshments after Masses on Hospitality Sunday, which is scheduled monthly. Volunteers also serve other parish events that include newcomer's luncheons and parish anniversary celebrations.

### Rose Garden Guild

The St. Therese Rose Garden, which was developed by the Rose Garden Guild in 2016, beautifies the

landscaping on our parish grounds while also offering parishioners a place to pray. Members offer their gifts of service and time to care for this garden that honors St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus.

### Health & Wellness Ministry

The Health & Wellness Ministry offers resources that enable parishioners to be better stewards of the life that God has given to each of us. This team of committed professionals and interested health care advocates support and assist the congregation in achieving better health through education, monthly health checks and other means.

*The Health & Wellness Ministry meets on the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 am or 7:00 pm.*

### Cancer Ministry

The Cancer ministry provides spiritual, emotional and practical support to parishioners who are either a current cancer patient, a caregiver for a cancer patient or grieving the loss of a loved one due to cancer. Services include, among others, transportation, handyman services, one-on-one partners, and a card and prayer ministry.

### Home & Hospital Visitation

Through home and hospital visits, Eucharistic Ministers provide the sick, elderly and homebound with companionship and the Holy Eucharist. Volunteers live their faith by taking Christ to others while they fulfill a vital corporal work of mercy, visiting the sick.



### **Pet Partners Ministry**

This ministry responds to God's call to visit and comfort the sick and lonely. Pet owners and their dogs visit nursing homes, hospitals, childcare centers and hospice facilities. The dogs must be friendly, mild mannered and have a gentle temperament. Volunteers that serve this ministry may be adults and teens. This ministry is also suitable for a family with children.



### **Bereavement Ministry & Bereavement Support Group**

At St. Philip Neri, we believe that in our faith community, no one should grieve alone. St. Philip Neri Bereavement Ministry gives emotional support and practical help to parish families going through the grieving process. Members of this ministry send cards, make calls and visits, host the Annual All Soul's Day Mass and ensure the availability of the Parish's Book of the Names of the Dead. This ministry also sponsors a grief support group that helps fill the loneliness and manage the emotions of a changing lifestyle.

*The Bereavement Ministry meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm. The Bereavement Support Group meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.*

### **Funeral Ministry**

This ministry provides comfort and compassion to the family and friends of deceased parishioners by coordinating meals and refreshments for receptions after Funeral Masses. Volunteers prepare food, set up the Parish Center prior to the reception, serve funeral attendees and clean up after the meal.



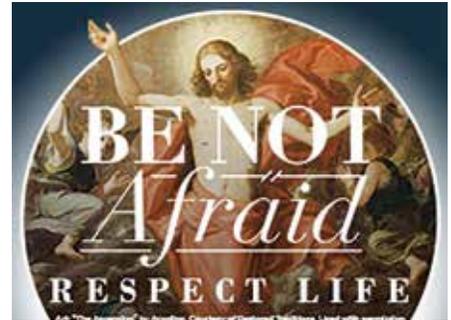
### **Social Justice Ministry**

The mission of the St. Philip Neri Social Justice Ministry is to foster a visible, active and growing culture of Gospel-centric peace and justice within our parish by providing opportunities for compassionate interaction with, and advocacy for the voiceless and marginalized of our society. All are welcome to participate.

*The Social Justice Ministry meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm..*

### **Respect Life Ministry**

The Respect Life Ministry focuses on increasing the awareness of the dignity and sanctity of all human life



from conception to natural death. This ministry educates our parishioners about the moral evils of abortion, infanticide, embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia and assisted suicide, and to defend and restore the Culture of LIFE through campaigns of prayer and worship. This ministry sponsors projects which protect and defend the unborn, the disabled, the terminally ill and the elderly.

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is a worldwide organization for Catholic adults that desire to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbors in need. Members, who grow spiritually during participation in the organization's efforts, provide food, clothing, financial assistance and spiritual support to the needy, aged and/or lonely individuals or families that are facing a desperate situation. All work is done on a confidential basis and in a manner that upholds the dignity of those in need.

*St. Vincent de Paul meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.*



## Martha's Meals Ministry

This ministry is devoted to providing lunches on Saturday mornings to shut-ins in the local community. The cooks prepare meals in the church, with the drivers paired in twos for each individual delivery route. Volunteers, who typically serve one Saturday per month, are scheduled on a rotating basis. In addition, other volunteers are needed to provide freshly baked cookies.

## Take Them a Meal

At times, life can make it a challenge to cook meals for your family. Welcoming a newborn, dealing with an illness or surgery, or dealing with a loss could present a need that this ministry can serve by preparing and delivering meals.

## Veteran's Ministry

The Veterans Ministry focuses on providing fellowship, support and service to past and present members of the armed forces at St. Philip Neri Church.

*The Veterans Ministry meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.*



## Red Cross Blood Drive

Conducted on a quarterly basis, the blood drive provides community members with the opportunity to donate the "Gift of Life." Signup sheets are typically available after all Masses two weeks prior to a planned drive. Volunteers are also needed to bake cookies for the blood donors.

## Parish Life Ministries & Organizations

Community—in families and in the parish—is basic and essential to living a fully Christian life. Parish Family Life Ministries and Organizations at St. Philip Neri Church seek to build a sense of community and belonging by drawing parishioners together for mutual support, activities, celebration and growth.

## Careers in Transition

This organization is a mentoring and networking group for people who are in transition with their professional career. The group offers support, encouragement, advice, skill building and networking opportunities through guest speaker and mentors who have career search experience and expertise.

*Careers in Transition (CIT) meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.*



## Cub Scouts—Pack 219

Membership in Pack 219, open to all boys in Grades One through Five, helps individuals grow into honorable men. The focus lies upon each boy's experiences with respect to religion, the outdoors, sports, citizenship and integrity. Growth, advancement and celebration are achieved through activities and monthly meetings.

*Cub Scout Pack 219 meets every Monday at 6:30 pm*



## Boy Scouts—Pack 219

Troop 219, chartered by St. Philip Neri Church in 2005, is open to all boys who have completed at least the 5th grade, have received their Cub Scout Arrow of Light Award, or are at least 11 years of age. This organization teaches young men about the outdoors, leadership and citizenship.

*Boy Scout Troop 219 meets every Monday at 7:00 pm.*



## Knights of Columbus

### Bishop Denis J. O'Connell— Council 12366

Knights of Columbus are men committed to acting on our faith and helping the world. Our strong dedication to serving the Church is rooted in our order's humble beginnings. On Oct. 2, 1881, a group of men met in the basement of St. Mary's Church on Hillhouse Avenue in New Haven, Connecticut. Called together by their 29-year-old parish priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, these men formed a fraternal society that would one day become the world's largest Catholic family, fraternal service organization. They sought strength in solidarity, and security through unity of purpose and devotion to a holy cause: they vowed to be defenders of their country, their families and their faith.

The order has been called "the strong right arm of the Church," and has been praised by popes, presidents and other world leaders, for support of the Church, programs of evangelization and Catholic education, civic involvement, and aid to those in need.

As Knights, our faith is our foundation. Through involvement with the Knights of Columbus, our members become better Catholics. Our fraternity of

brotherhood gives us the strength and desire to grow in our faith. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to practicing Catholic men who are at least 18 years old.

## Women's Group

This group, which is open to all interested women of the parish, actively engages women in a shared spiritual and social life. The members use their God-given talents to serve in the community and raise money for selected charities.

*The Women's Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm, August through May.*

## Wise Owls

This ministry, which brings together members of our parish age 55 and above, focuses on fellowship and companionship. Our motto of "Make Memories, Spread Happy" explains our goal of providing an atmosphere of congeniality where those of like interests can get to know one another and spread the sense of community. In addition, there are many opportunities to participate in trips and events.

*The Wise Owls meet on the first Friday of each month, September through May for lunch and a program.*

## Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians

This group, which is part of the nation's oldest Irish Catholic fraternal organization, is open to all women of Irish descent that practice the Catholic faith. Building upon the principals of friendship, unity and Christian charity, members foster the ideals, promote Irish culture and embrace the history and traditions of Irish people.

*The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, September through May.*

## The Polish Group

The members of this group, which all have Polish ancestral roots, seek fellowship and community. Members take part in lively discussions about ancestors, Polish customs and present-day Poland. They also enjoy traditional music and food during Christmas and Easter celebrations.

*The Polish Group meets the first Sunday of each month at 1:00 pm.*

## Saints and Sinners Bowling League

This recreational league, which uses a scoring system based on an individual's handicap, is made up of parishioners from local Catholic Churches that enjoy friendship and community along with a good bowling match. Mixed couples can join, as well as individuals or partial teams that are paired with other participants.

*The league meets every other week from September through April, excluding the holidays.*

## Independent Organizations

### Addiction Independence Ministry (AIM)

This organization aims to reduce the destructive impact of addiction, reduce the threat of relapse and increase prevention efforts across the community. AIM offers financial and moral support to families by sponsoring and mentoring their loved ones through the addiction treatment and recovery process. AIM also assists program graduates by offering post recovery sustainability through apprenticeship opportunities and career counseling. Additional information is available at [addictionindependenceministry.org](http://addictionindependenceministry.org).



### National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans challenged by mental illness. The local affiliate works in the community to raise awareness and provide support and education that was not previously available to those in need. The group serves to educate, advocate for, listen to and lead those individuals and families affected by mental illness. Additional information is available at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).



**WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE**

### Toastmasters

The affiliate of Toastmasters International, a world leader in communication and leadership development, provides parishioners with a forum to learn and practice skills such as public speaking. Members, through the offered programs, become more effective in serving God, the church, their family and the community. Additional information is available at [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org).

*Toastmasters meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.*

### Alpha Group

The Alpha Group, a local chapter of Sexaholics Anonymous (SAA), is a support network of men and women who gather to share their experiences, courage and perseverance as they strive to overcome sexual addiction and help others recover from sexual addiction or dependency. Using a 12-step program, the organization's primary goal is for members to stay sexually sober and help others to recover and achieve sexual sobriety. Additional information may be obtained at <http://saa-recovery.org>.

### Overeaters Anonymous

Overeaters Anonymous offers physical, emotional and spiritual recovery programs for those individuals who want to stop eating compulsively. It is a safe, encouraging community where one can share struggles and celebrate victories over addictions with compulsive overeating, under-eating, food addiction, anorexia, bulimia, binge eating, or over-exercising. Additional information is available at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org).

*Overeaters Anonymous meets every Saturday at 9:00 am.*



# Formation and Education at St. Philip Neri Church

The Formation and Religious Education programs at St. Philip Neri Church are designed to help our youth learn and participate in their faith, grow spiritually and ultimately to support adults in raising His disciples in the Catholic Faith.

These programs involve our entire faith community with parishioners serving as catechists that enthusiastically give their time and talent to assist our youth as they grow in their faith.

## EDGE (7th & 8th Grades)

This program, which focuses on Christ's teachings, provides a fun and spiritually filled atmosphere that encourages our youth to grow and share in God's love through our Catholic tradition. Faith is put into action, with children taking part in retreats and community-oriented service projects.

Classes are scheduled on the first and third Sunday of each month from September through May. Volunteer opportunities are available for adults. Contact Beth Donnelly at [edgecoordinator@saintphilipneri.org](mailto:edgecoordinator@saintphilipneri.org).

## Serving our Children

### Faith Formation (Kindergarten-6th Grade)

This program introduces our youth to God in a meaningful way and conveys God's love by providing an environment that encourages spiritual and developmental growth. Catechists, who model a living faith while providing creative learning experiences, educate children in the teachings and traditions of our Catholic faith while also preparing them for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Children must complete the First Grade Faith Formation program to enter a sacramental preparation class, with these sacraments then typically celebrated while students are in Second Grade.

Faith Formation classes are scheduled on Sunday morning 10:00 am to

11:15 am, Monday and Wednesday afternoon 4:30 pm to 5:45 pm and Wednesday evening 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm, from September through May.

Catechist opportunities are available for adults and teenagers. Contact Mary Harden at [faithformationdirector@saintphilipneri.org](mailto:faithformationdirector@saintphilipneri.org) or 803.548.7282 ext. 226.

## Serving our Youth

The nurturing of a young person's faith takes place within the family. As the parents are the primary faith educators during these initial middle school years, it is our goal to build upon the foundation you have laid in their early childhood and elementary years. This happens not only within the Faith Formation experience but through service opportunities, social events and retreats. This program focuses on helping our youth to embrace the Catholic faith, to spiritually prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and to support answering the call to discipleship.



## Life Teen (9th-12th Grades)

Life Teen, a movement that seeks to lead teens closer to Christ, is centered upon the Eucharist and consecrated to the Blessed Mother. Teens gather

to build community, have fun and learn more about the Catholic faith. A core team of adults leads the teens into a deeper relationship with the Lord through Life Nights, retreats and service projects. Additional events are also scheduled throughout the year.

Teens may find additional information about upcoming events by joining Saint Philip Neri Life Teen Group on Facebook and following @lifeteen\_SPN on Instagram and Twitter. Volunteer opportunities are available for adults and for parents to cook meals. Contact Tayler Howie at youthministry@saintphilipneri.org.

### **The Mass—Sundays, 5:30 pm**

At the Sunday 5:30 pm Mass, teens and their families are invited to experience the depth of God's love through the Word, the community, and the Eucharist. All teens are welcome to sit as a community in one section and are encouraged to participate as lectors, ushers, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

### **RCIT (Rite of Christian Initiation for Teens)**

This class is for teens coming into the Church who have not yet received all the Sacraments of Initiation and those who have not been enrolled in Faith Formation for an extended period. Through a relaxed, small group setting, they discover the teachings of the Catholic Church, what it means to live your life as a Catholic Christian, and the beauty and tradition of the Faith. Teens in this program begin classes in September and receive their sacraments at the Confirmation Mass celebration.

### **SPRED**

SPRED is a program of religious development specifically designed to



meet the spiritual needs of persons of all ages with developmental disabilities and intellectual challenges. This program, which brings individuals into communion with Christ and the Church, enables participants to sense His presence in their lives and experience Christ's love and mercy.

Classes are held on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from September through May. Catechists meet separately before each SPRED session to plan sessions and pray for our SPRED community members. Volunteer opportunities are available for teens and adults. Contact Mary Harden at faithformationdirector@saintphilipneri.org.

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

Vacation Bible School, which provides a fun and faith filled educational opportunity for children of the parish and community, takes place during the mornings of one week every June. Children learn faith lessons through hands-on crafts, games, music, skits



and creative snacks. Children must be at least four years of age (by September 1st) up through a rising 5th grader. Volunteer opportunities are available for teens and adults. Contact Mary Harden at faithformationdirector@saintphilipneri.org.

### **Other Programs for Sacraments**

Classes are occasionally offered for children in the third grade or above who have not yet received the sacraments of Reconciliation or First Holy Communion in the traditional manner. To obtain details, contact Mary Harden at faithformationdirector@saintphilipneri.org.

## **Serving our Young Adults**

### **Young Adult Ministry**

St. Philip Neri Young Adult Life Ministry provides young adults (20s–30s), single or married, opportunities to grow in their faith and be active in the St. Philip Neri community through spiritual, service, and social activities. We welcome all young adults, members or non-members of St. Philip Neri, to join us for our events.

Information about upcoming events can be found at York County Young Adults on Facebook. Contact Tayler Howie at youthministry@saintphilipneri.org.



# Preschool at St. Philip Neri Church's Child Development Center

Every child is unique and a special gift from God, with each individual possessing special talents and gifts. The Child Development Center, operated by St. Philip Neri Church, seeks to nurture each child's academic and social skills through a developmental hands-on approach to learning. The Center fills a substantial need of both our parish and the community by preparing preschool-aged children with the abilities necessary to enter kindergarten. It also offers children the experience of a Christian way of life.

spiritual growth, cognitive development, social skill, speech and language, self-help skills, gross motor skill and fine motor skills.

This program is open to children that are two, three or four years old. Attendees must be age-appropriate by September 1st. Sessions take place from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Monday through Friday during the months of September through May.

Visit [www.stphilipneripreschool.com](http://www.stphilipneripreschool.com) for additional information.

The goals of the Child Development Center, which are designed to be age and developmentally appropriate to optimize the preschoolers learning experience, are:

- To provide a safe, nurturing and child-centered environment for all children.
- To play and create a program based on the developmental milestones in a young child's life, using appropriate lessons and activities to foster his or her developmental growth.
- To provide a program that will nurture confidence, learning and caring.
- To show children and their families how special they are to us and God.

The curriculum is designed to encourage growth and learning across several developmental areas including



# St. Anne High School at St. Philip Neri Church Campus

Since August 2017, St. Anne High School of Rock Hill, South Carolina has been located in the Ministry Building of St. Philip Neri Church.

## The Mission, Vision and Philosophy of St. Anne High School

St. Anne High School unites the long-standing, bountiful tradition of Catholic education with a personalized learning experience. Students, who are strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit, are empowered to develop their potential as a human being, become virtuous leaders within the community, and constructive, active participants in the life of the Catholic Church. The school proclaims the Catholic way of life as manifested in the Scripture, the principles of moral values and practices of faith, as it fosters individual growth in the virtues of faith, hope and love.

The administrators and faculty of St. Anne School inspire excellence by educating the whole child—the intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, social and cultural dimensions of his/her personality. St. Anne School leaders believe that each of their students is called to serve humanity, with each administrator and teacher able to prepare students for this service by providing a strong academic foundation, a desire for knowledge and a sense of community.

For more information visit [2016.stanneschool.com](http://2016.stanneschool.com)

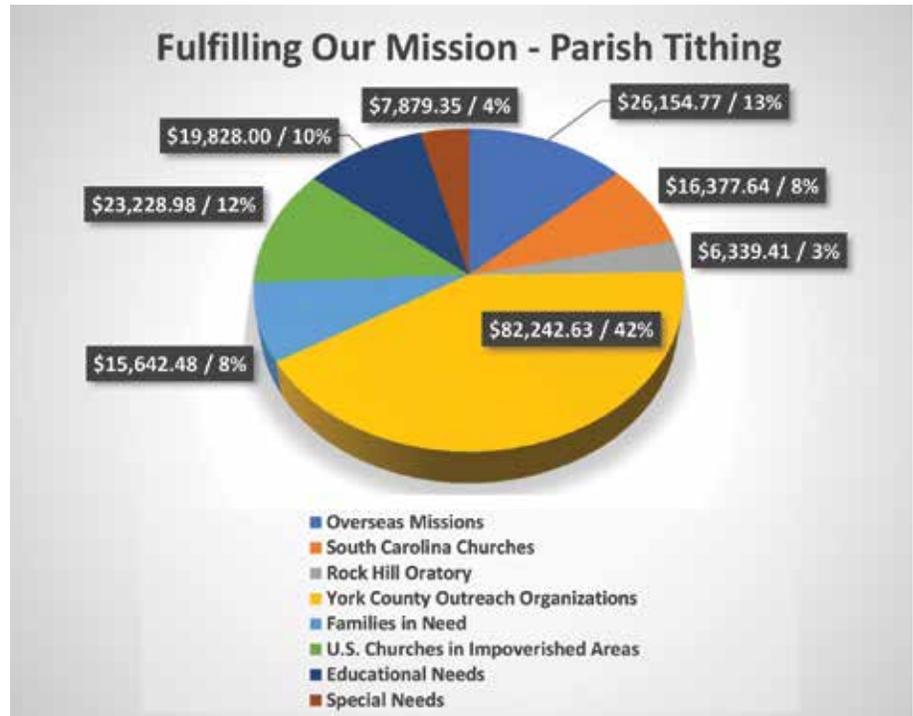


# Tithing at St. Philip Neri Church



As Catholics, we are challenged to choose stewardship as a lifestyle based on our baptismal call. This is not easy to do in today's world where we are bombarded on a daily basis with messages of consumerism, materialism and individualism. These messages tell us that money will make us happy, that the money we have is ours alone to do with what we want. But the Bible tells us something different. That everything—yes, everything—is a gift from God.

The Bible tells us that we are called to be good stewards (managers) not owners of the resources entrusted to us. Conscious that what we have been given by God belongs to Him, we are only giving back what He already owns. Stewardship is a way of life that leads to conversion and a deeper relationship with Jesus.



Tithing is one way we acknowledge God's provision in our lives and exercise good management. St. Philip Neri Church is a tithing parish—10% of our offertory is given to charitable causes. This is possible because of the generous financial gifts of our parishioners. For this we are truly grateful.

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2018, St. Philip Neri Church's tithing totaled \$197,693.26. Given the budget for 2018/2019, the parish will tithe an estimated \$198,000.00 during the current fiscal year for charity donations. Here's an overview of St. Philip Neri Church's tithing donations for the 2017/2018 fiscal year.



# Your Financial Stewardship At Work



## We Give, We Pray, We Serve

Ninety percent of our parish's ordinary income is supported through Sunday collections. We depend on these contributions to provide funding for our many ministries and programs.

Through the generosity of our faith family to Give and the many volunteers who Serve, we continue to grow and thrive. We Pray for God's continued blessings.

St. Philip Neri Church celebrates 25 years of fulfilling its mission of evangelization through our faith activities; spiritual life and music, faith formation and youth ministry, stewardship, parish life, properties and facilities, and our volunteers who support faith activities.

### Spiritual Life

Spiritual Life supports our clergy, deacons, liturgical and worship needs. Liturgical needs include wine, hosts, candles, flowers and other religious supplies.

### Faith Formation

Faith Formation provides for the ongoing religious education of children, kindergarten through 6th grade, sacrament preparation including first communion and confirmation, and adult education programs. Other programs funded include vacation bible school, bible studies, RCIA, marriage preparation and programs for persons with special needs.

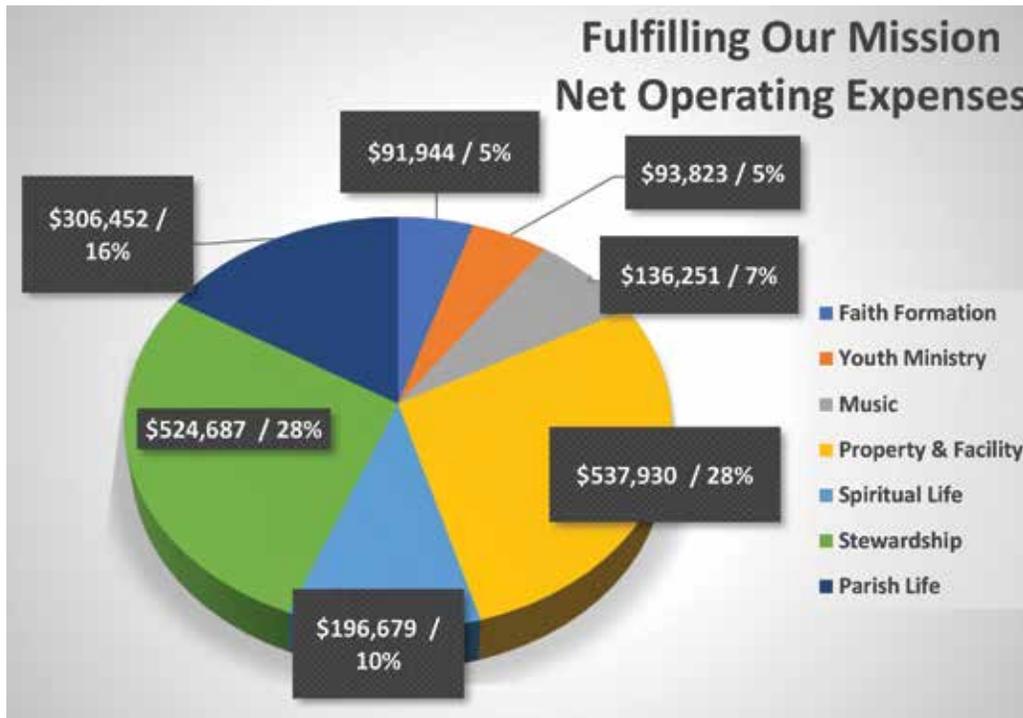
### Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry funding supports middle school students through our EDGE program, high school students through our Life Teen program and young adult programs. Programs provide retreat opportunities for prayer and reflection and social events to foster fellowship.

### Stewardship

Clerical and administrative needs are funded through our Stewardship ministry. Office supplies, equipment and support of Diocesan programs are also funded in this ministry.

# Your Financial Stewardship At Work, Cont.



## Music

The Music ministry supports liturgical celebrations with funding for musicians, sound and visual equipment and musical instruments and supplies.

## Parish Life

Parish Life promotes family life and outreach within the parish and community including funding for safety and medical ministries, bereavement and funeral outreach, hospitality, social justice, Catholic school support and tithing contributions.

## Property & Facilities

Utilities, maintenance and upkeep, capital improvements, and providing for a safe and secure campus, are funded through Property & Facilities.

## Volunteers

Without the many volunteers who support our faith activities, we could not fulfill our mission. Volunteers serve as catechists, musicians, gardeners and hold many other ministry positions, all serving to fulfill our faith activities, our mission of evangelization.

# Italian Festival

The Italian Festival, St. Philip Neri Church's biggest fundraiser, is held each May. Celebrated for over 20 years, 23 to be exact, the festival has grown into one of the largest community events in Fort Mill, annually attracting an estimated 10,000 visitors. The festival offers 3 incredible days and nights of non-stop festivities. Arguably, the best part of any festival is the food, and the Italian Festival delivers, with more than 20 different festival favorites and specialties there for the tasting.

This event, built upon a "Spirit of Caring and Giving," would not be possible without the considerable generosity and support of our volunteers, local area businesses and festival attendees. Festival proceeds support the Church's mission, with a portion of the Cannoli Run profits given to a local community outreach program.

It takes over 675 volunteers each year to accomplish such a successful event. Our volunteers are people like you, parishioners who recognize the importance of stewardship, and are called to serve our parish and our community.

Why so many volunteers? The Italian Festival is really that big! We have something for everyone who attends to appreciate, including authentic homemade Italian food, live music and entertainment, the Cannoli 5K Run and Family Walk, the Festival Fun Zone, Live and Silent Auctions,



Charitable Drawings, Wine and Beer Tastings, the Children's Benvenuti Parade, the Italian Idol Talent Contest, over 70 Local Artisans and Vendors, and much more.

Not only do all of these events have to run smoothly, we have to ensure that all of the numerous tasks to prepare for, run and clean-up the festival do too. Activities such as marketing the festival, finding local businesses to provide sponsorships, planning, organizing and implementing, preparing, cooking and serving the food, decorating, cleaning up, setting up and tearing down require volunteers and provide numerous stewardship opportunities.

You can join the Festival Committee and help to lead and organize, or you can join one of the teams in an area that sparks your interest—perhaps making lasagna, baked ziti, sausage, meatballs or cookies. If you don't have a lot of time, sign up to help in any way you can on a day or two of the Festival. It really does take 675 volunteers to make this Festival successful. So, please consider volunteering no matter how big or small your commitment may be.

*Your help is a huge part of our success.  
Grazie Mille!*

Visit [www.spnitalianfestival.com](http://www.spnitalianfestival.com) to learn more.

# St. Philip Neri

## The Patron Saint of Joy/Apostle of Rome

### Facts

Feast day: May 26th

Patron of Rome, US Special Forces,  
Humor, Joy

Birth: July 21, 1515

Death: May 26, 1595

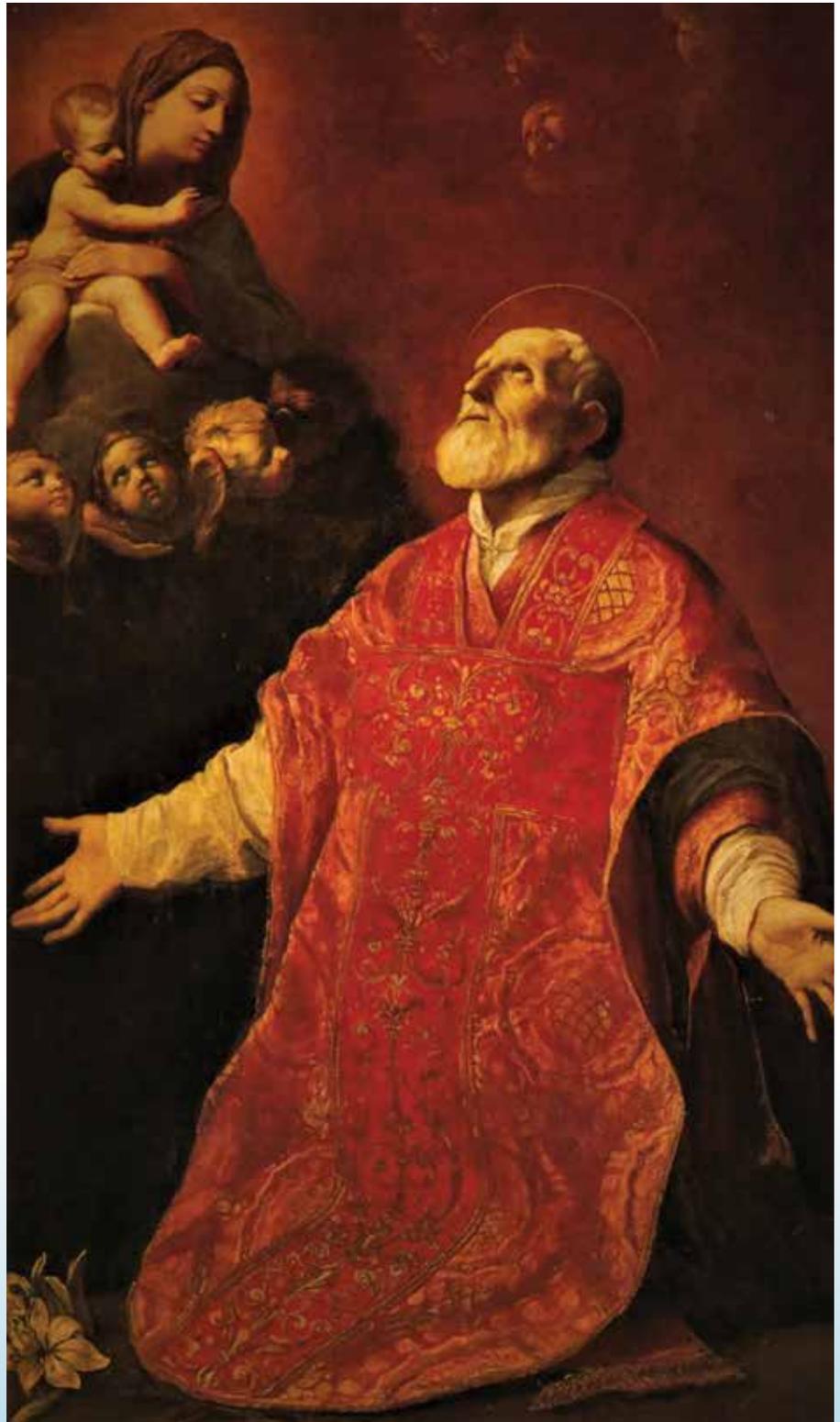
Beatified By: May 11, 1615 by Pope  
Paul V

Canonized By: March 12, 1622 by  
Pope Gregory XV

Over 500 years ago, in AD 1515, a man was born whom the world would come to know as the Apostle of Rome and one of the Church's funniest saints. In an age that badly needed holy men and women to rise above the spiritual squalor and needed reformers among its priests to counteract clerical corruption, he is known not only for his holiness but also for his humor. While the Council of Trent (AD 1545-1563) was addressing the scandalous confusion of the Protestant Reformation, he was winning friends by his contagious delight in the Gospel of Jesus.

The secret to St. Philip Neri's impact on the City of Rome, and cities and villages far beyond, was his keen awareness of the greatest roadblocks to finding happiness in life.

Impediments to joy. The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists five impediments to joy: indifference, ingratitude, lukewarmness, spiritual sloth and hatred of God (CCC 2094). Many people in the 16th century, as today, failed to grasp the wisdom



of this teaching, and thus failed to recognize the holiness of Philip Neri. But it mattered little to him whether he was laughed at or laughed with; what mattered was helping others to discover how virtue and laughter walk together hand-in-hand.

The poet Phyllis McGinley called Philip Neri “the merriest man alive” during the troubled times of the Protestant Reformation and Catholic Counter-Reformation. He was a man of mirth because he delighted every day in the wondrous love of God. He took time to notice and to praise God for His charity in all His dealings with the human family. From experience, this saintly priest knew how easy it is to overlook the goodness of the Lord, to fall into a steady diet of pessimism, and to succumb to self-pity; so he fought with dynamic stamina of soul and a smile on his face against this and the other four impediments to joy.

### Founder of the Oratory

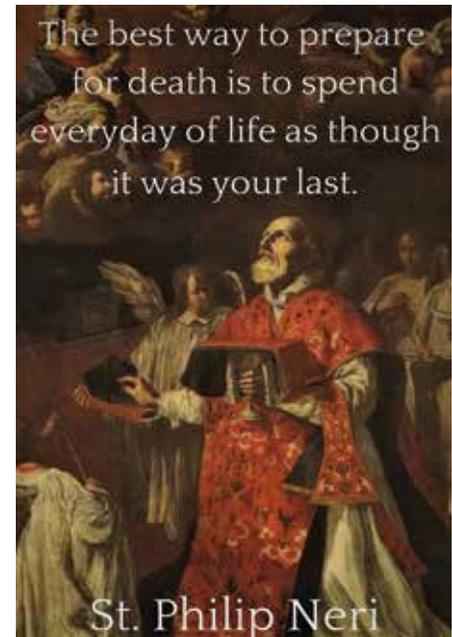
In order to share his happiness with others and to bear even more convincing witness to the joy of the Gospel, St. Philip Neri, at the urging of his confessor, accepted ordination as a priest and soon became well-known as an outstanding confessor. He had the gift of being able to see through the pretenses of penitents and, with charity and even humor, lead them to genuine conversion.

Gradually, a number of men seeking holiness of life were attracted

by his gladsome way and formed a community around him in which they shared all things in common. Some of these followers eventually joined with him in founding what he called the Oratory, a Clerical Society of Apostolic Life. While not a religious institute, it is comparable in many ways, having the traits of common life, common prayer, and mutual encouragement of one another in the service of God and neighbor.

In an age of irony and sarcasm, St. Philip Neri was a sign of contradiction just because he was happy, always rejoicing in the Lord and leading others to discover His joy. Since, deep down, every person wants to be happy, but often doesn't know how, his cheerful demeanor moved many to ask, “What's his

secret?” His secret was a humble and grateful heart that loved God and served Him with good cheer.



### Prayer to St. Philip Neri

Here is a short prayer to St. Philip Neri that can help a soul weighed down by the anxieties of the world see the joy of the Gospel in a new way.

*O holy St. Philip Neri, patron saint of joy, you who trusted Scripture's promise that the Lord is always at hand and that we need not have anxiety about anything, in your compassion heal our worries and sorrows and lift the burdens from our hearts. We come to you as one whose heart swells with abundant love for God and all creation. Hear us, we pray, especially in this need (make your request here). Keep us safe through your loving intercession and may the joy of the Holy Spirit which filled your heart, St. Philip, transform our lives and bring us peace. Amen.*



# **St. Philip Neri Catholic Church**

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

292 Munn Road, East, Fort Mill, SC 29715

[www.saintphilipneri.org](http://www.saintphilipneri.org)

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