

# December 22, 2024

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church

18211 S Henrici RD, Oregon

City, OR, 97045

PHONE: 503-631-2882

WEBSITE: [www.philipbenizi.com](http://www.philipbenizi.com)

### Parish Staff

Administrator: Fr. Peter O. Okola, AJ  
(503)631-2882  
[pokola@archdpdx.org](mailto:pokola@archdpdx.org)

Business Manager: Karen Henry  
(503)631-2882  
[khenry@archdpdx.org](mailto:khenry@archdpdx.org)

Secretary: Aishad Friedman  
[afriedman@archdpdx.org](mailto:afriedman@archdpdx.org)

Music Director Debbie Schaffer

DRE: **Vacant**

Youth Minister: Katy Schnoor  
(503)314-8907

### Office Hours this week

Monday & Tuesday 9am - 4pm, closed Wed.-Fri.

### Ministries

Adoration: Janet Tankersley  
(503)545-2229

Altar Servers: Ed Schneider  
(971)563-3893

Lectors: Nancy Carnahan  
(503)804-6029

Ushers: Larry Carnahan  
(503)804-6418

Email Prayer Chain: Heather Hannam  
[hahannam@juno.com](mailto:hahannam@juno.com)

### Mass Schedule

#### Sunday Mass:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am

10:30am

#### Daily Mass:

Monday: 8:00am

Tuesday: 6:00pm

Wed-Fri: 8:00am

#### First Saturday of the Month:

Anointing of the Sick Mass: 8:00am

#### Holy Days:

Mass: 8:00am

Mass: 6:00pm



#### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays: 9:00am-9:00pm

#### Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00-5:00pm

or any day by appointment

#### Anointing of the Sick and Communion to the Homebound

If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office.

#### Baptisms, Funerals, and Weddings

Call the parish office. (For weddings, please contact the parish office at least 6 months in advance of a potential date.)

#### St. Philip Benizi Mission Statement

St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church, being part of the universal Church, shares in its mission: to proclaim Jesus Christ who came to the world to fulfill His father's will; by proclaiming the kingdom of God, building up the parish community as a witness to God's love and care for the world, helping one another to become what God has called us to be. We are therefore encouraged to work toward God's purpose of "wanting all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim 2:4).

**NEXT WEEK'S ASSIGNMENTS**

Date	Ushers	Lectors	EMHCs	Altar Servers
12/28 5:30 pm	Tom Muldoon	Heather Hannam	Jeanne Hubel	Ed Schneider Judy Bible
12/29 8:00 am	Butch Searls/ William Person	Kristine Bible	John Buxman	Clay Dryden Claire & Grace PATTYN
12/29 10:30 am	Larry Carnahan	Caroline Brown	Marina Logue	Jeff Mitchael Ed Schneider

Dec. Church Cleaners	Dec. Altar Linens	Coffee Hour Servers 12/29
Elaine Keavney	Pam Erickson	9:00 TBJ 11:30 Volunteer

**CHRISTMAS**

**THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS – FR. PETER**

As we celebrate this coming Christmas, the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, I would like to encourage all of us, that this Christmas, let us take stock of our humanity and dispense our humanity where it is most needed. If we feel the impulse to be forgiving and charitable and loving, we shouldn't think twice about it, or we will miss the boat. The milk of human kindness does not come from cows or goats. The milk of human kindness is from that great repository of compassion and hope, namely, the human heart.

Christmas is a time of opportunity. Christmas creates a climate which encourages us to reveal our better nature.

Just as the spring assures the growth of crops, so Christmas assures the growth of love. It is not possible for us, because of our fallen nature, to be charitable and compassionate all year round. Let us, therefore, make the most of Christmas.

Christmas was born out of love and carries on out of love.

Christmas springs from God's gratuitous love for us. How bleak the world would be if there was no Christmas. There is nothing else with the power to move the human heart to its utmost capability. We must not take it for granted. If we have not done anything about it yet, then for pity's sake, let us do it now or we will be guilty of the awful crime of undermining Christmas.

Christmas is a feast of the heart. It reveals to us what the heart of God is like. It was God who started it all when he gave us the gift of his Son. At the same time, it reveals to us what the human heart is capable of. Christmas causes us to open our hearts. And the extent we open our hearts to God and to one another, will be the extent to which we experience the "GREAT JOY" the angels announced to the shepherds, because JOY is the fruit of LOVE.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!***

**Liturgical Events This Week**

Sunday 12/22/2024 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)	
8:00am	Mass: + Charles & Ann Evers <i>(Claudia Evers)</i>
10:30am	Mass: + Anna Drnjevic <i>(Tim &amp; Jan Alderman)</i>
Monday 12/23/2024	
7:40am	Morning Prayer & Rosary
8:00am	Mass: + George Herbst <i>(The Mitchael Family)</i>
Tuesday 12/24/2024 CHRISTMAS EVE	
5:00pm	Mass: + Merilee Friedman <i>(Oliver &amp; Aishad Friedman)</i>
Wednesday 12/25/24 CHRISTMAS DAY	
9:00am	Mass: + Michael Samael <i>(Oliver &amp; Aishad Friedman)</i>
Thursday 12/26/24	
7:40am	Morning Prayer & Rosary
8:00am	Mass: + Venita Alderman <i>(Tim &amp; Jan Alderman)</i>
9:00am-9:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration
6:00 pm	Faith Sharing Group
Friday 12/27/24	
7:40am	Morning Prayer & Rosary
8:00am	Mass: + Dwayne & Maria Garrett <i>(Sonia Benintendi)</i>
Saturday 12/28/24	
4-5:00pm	Reconciliation/Church
5:30pm	Sun. Vigil Mass: + Joseph Gach <i>(Mary Gach)</i>
Sunday 12/29/24 (The Holy Family)	
8:00am	Mass: All Parishioners
10:00am	Rosary
10:30am	Mass: + Al Wetzel Jr. <i>(Joyce Wetzel)</i>



## Religious Education

No RE Class: Dec. 22, Dec.29, Jan. 5  
Confirmation and RE Classes resume : Jan. 12  
No RCIA CLASSES Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> & Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>

# Merry Christmas!



Join us as we celebrate *the Jubilee* \*  
*Year of Hope*, declared by Pope Francis for 2025 — a time of renewal, grace, and spiritual joy observed every 25 years. In response to his call, dioceses worldwide will celebrate Opening Masses on **December 29, 2024, the Feast of the Holy Family.**

**Come to St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, December 29, at 11:00 AM, as Archbishop Sample concelebrates this special Mass marking the start of the Jubilee Year of Hope.**

Explore the 10 pilgrimage sites in western Oregon:  
Look up info on [archdpdx.org](http://archdpdx.org).

### Finance Corner

12/15/24	Actual	Budget
This Week, General Fund	\$3,829 Online \$1,188	\$5,167
Fiscal Year (YTD)	\$103,826	\$121,601

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the parish! May God's continued blessings be upon you and your loved ones.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### CARITAS CHRISTI URGENT NOS – FR. PETER

St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "The Charity of Christ compels us ..." (2Corinthians 5:14). The theme of Christmas according to God's plan is CARITAS CRISTI URGENT NOS. THE LOVE OF CHRIST COMPEL US. When God, who is LOVE shares LOVE, shares HIMSELF with us, and we openly receive the LOVE God shares with us, then we are compelled to share the LOVE we received from God with others. This is exactly what we celebrate at Christmas, we celebrate CARITAS CRISTI, and we must be compelled to share CARITAS CRISTI.

Our Lady the Blessed Virgin Mary is compelled, she is driven by charity and love, to go and serve her kinswoman Elizabeth in her need. Only moments after conceiving Christ, she goes to help somebody else. Mary forgets her own trouble, given that she was pregnant and not yet married, to go and offer love and charity. Once we have Christ, all self-absorption, all self-concern, all selfishness vanishes, as we are burning with eager love and charity to reach out to help others.

All of us feel the call to love. Some of us are, however, afraid of love because love demands setting oneself aside. Love demands that we be open, sensitive, and vulnerable to others. Those who cannot love do not stay in relationships for very long. Those who cannot love do not have any good friends, and if they do their friendships are superficial at best. Those who cannot love, or those who choose not to love, are doomed to live only for themselves, doomed to love only their own selves.

The second lesson to learn from Our Lady's visitation to St. Elizabeth: Our Blessed Mother becomes the first Christian missionary. A missionary is one who shares the good news of evangelization with others. That is why the Catholic Church called Mary, **THE STAR OF EVANGELIZATION**. She brings glad tidings, the gospel of our salvation, personally to St. Elizabeth. She is just bursting with sharing the Good News that the Savior of all humanity is on His way.

What is the result of this missionary journey of Our Lady to St. Elizabeth? The result is explosive, it is contagious. It has a tremendous impact. Elizabeth hears and rejoices. She observes that the baby in her womb, St. John the Baptist, leapt for joy at the sound of Mary's greetings. So, Elizabeth catches the Good News, John catches the Spirit. John the Baptist will later continue this noble work of evangelization as he points out Christ to the entire world as the Lamb of God who takes away its sins.

Please look on the back of the bulletin for more information! ➡



# Merry Christmas!

We are closed for the season!  
See you in the New Year!  
God Bless!



Visit us at:  
22280 S Beaver Creek Rd  
Beaver Creek, OR 97004

For more information: Larry & Nancy Carnahan (503) 592-4805

## Featured Listing!



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Local References  
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### Hiring at SPB

St. Philip Benizi is now hiring a Director of Religious Education (3-5 hrs a week). For more information or to apply please contact Fr. Peter.



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## Not willing to let go of your marriage?

*There is hope.*

**Stress in Your Marriage?** - Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel stressed, bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness and simply shut down. Others experience conflict and arguments in their relationship and don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouses about it. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

Visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) for emotional testimonials and program information. For confidential information or to register for the January 31-February 2, 2025 Oregon weekend at Canby Grove Retreat Center in Canby, Oregon, call 503-225-9191.

## New Year's Eve Ball

Join us for a magical evening at the New Year's Eve Ball, open to everyone ages 14 and up!

•**When:** Tuesday, December 31st, 7-10 PM

•**Where:** Carmody Hall, Saint Stephen Catholic Church

•**Admission:** \$20 per person

•**Dress Code:** Formal attire

Celebrate the arrival of 2024 with dancing, music, and fellowship!

**Location:**

Saint Stephen Catholic Church

Carmody Hall

1112 SE 41st Ave., Portland, OR 97214



Join EWTN Programs on December 24, 1:30 pm (ET) Solemn Mass of Christmas in Rome: Midnight Mass. Check your local listing for channel.

EWTN has some special programs that are worth checking out this holiday season!

