

# December 8, 2024

## SECOND 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

<u>Administrator:</u>	Fr. Peter O. Okola, AJ (503)631-2882 <a href="mailto:pokola@archdpdx.org">pokola@archdpdx.org</a>
<u>Business Manager:</u>	Karen Henry (503)631-2882 <a href="mailto:khenry@archdpdx.org">khenry@archdpdx.org</a>
<u>Secretary:</u>	Aishad Friedman <a href="mailto:afriedman@archdpdx.org">afriedman@archdpdx.org</a>
<u>Music Director</u>	Debbie Schaffer
<u>DRE:</u>	<b>Vacant</b>
<u>Youth Minister:</u>	Katy Schnoor (503)314-8907

#### Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday 9 am - 4 pm, Friday 9am - 12

#### Ministries

<u>Adoration:</u>	Janet Tankersley (503)545-2229
<u>Altar Servers:</u>	Ed Schneider (971)563-3893
<u>Lectors:</u>	Nancy Carnahan (503)804-6029
<u>Ushers:</u>	Larry Carnahan (503)804-6418
<u>Email Prayer Chain:</u>	Heather Hannam <a href="mailto:hahannam@juno.com">hahannam@juno.com</a>

#### 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
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##### Holy Days:

Mass:	8:00am
Mass:	6:00pm



##### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays:	9:00am-9:00pm
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##### 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
12/14 5:30 pm	Tom Muldoon	Heather Hannam	Jeanne Hubel	Ed Schneider Oli Friedman Judy Bible
12/15 8:00 am	Pat Keavney Jim Charierre	Jerry Siler	Jeannine Breshears	Clay Dryden Claire & Grace Pattyn
12/15 10:30 am	Jim Stevens	Nancy Carnahan	Janet Tankersley	Jeff Mitchael Ed Schneider Oli Friedman

Dec. Church Cleaners	Dec. Altar Linens	Coffee Hour Servers 12/15
Elaine Keavney	Pam Erickson	9:00 Paul/Claudia 11:30 Volunteer

### Saint of the Week: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Dr. of the Church Feast day: 12/14



Saint John of the Cross was born Juan de Yepes y Alvarez, in Fontiveros, Avila, Spain in 1542. His father was employed by wealthy family members as an accountant, but they disowned him when he married a poor woman from the lower class. As a result of his family's poverty, John's family suffered greatly.

John became a priest in 1567 and considered joining the Carthusian Order where monks lived cloistered in individual cells. He was attracted by the simple and quiet life. However, he encountered Theresa of Avila, a charismatic Carmelite nun. Theresa asked John to follow her.

John was attracted by the strict routine followed by Theresa, a routine she hoped to reintroduce to her order, as well as her devotion to prayer and simplicity. Her followers went barefoot, and were therefore known as the discalced Carmelites. On Nov. 28, 1568, Theresa founded a new monastery. The same day, John changed his name again to John of the Cross. Within a couple years, John and his fellow friars, relocated to a larger site for their monastery. He remained at this location until 1572.

In 1591, John became ill with a skin condition that resulted in an infection. He died on December 14, 1591. John became known as a remarkable and influential poet, especially following his death. He has been cited as an influence to many poets, mystics, and artists, even Salvador Dali. Saint John of the Cross was beatified by Pope Clement X in 1675, and Canonized by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726.

## Liturgical Events This Week

Sunday 12/8/2024 (Second Sunday of Advent)	
8:00am	<b>Mass:</b> + Leslie Lowry <i>(Paul Lowry &amp; Claudia Evers)</i>
10:30am	<b>Mass:</b> + Mary Wetzel Anderson <i>(Joyce Wetzel)</i>
HDO Monday 12/9/2024 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	
7:40am	<b>Morning Prayer &amp; Rosary</b>
8:00am	<b>Mass:</b> + Joseph Gach <i>(Mary Gach)</i>
6:00pm	<b>Mass:</b> + Merilee Friedman <i>(Oliver &amp; Aishad Friedman)</i>
Tuesday 12/10/2024	
6:00pm	<b>Mass:</b> + Fran Crivellone <i>(Tim &amp; Jan Alderman)</i>
7:00pm	<b>RCIA</b>
Wednesday 12/11/24	
7:40am	<b>Morning Prayer &amp; Rosary</b>
8:00am	<b>Mass:</b> + Tristan Thomas <i>(Tim &amp; Jan Alderman)</i>
Thursday 12/12/24	
7:40am	<b>Morning Prayer &amp; Rosary</b>
8:00am	<b>Mass:</b> + Ilene Henry <i>(Mike &amp; Karen Henry)</i>
9:00am-9:00pm	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>
6:00pm	<b>Faith Sharing Group</b>
Friday 12/13/24	
7:40am	<b>Morning Prayer &amp; Rosary</b>
8:00am	<b>Mass:</b> Ellen Starks <i>(Mike &amp; Karen Henry)</i>
Saturday 12/14/24	
4-5:00pm	<b>Reconciliation/Church</b>
5:30pm	<b>Sun. Vigil Mass:</b> Geraldine Dulwick <i>(Diane Castro)</i>
Sunday 12/15/24 (Third Sunday of Advent)	
8:00am	<b>Mass:</b> + Mike Bible <i>(Judy Bible)</i>
10:00am	<b>Rosary</b>
10:30am	<b>Mass:</b> All Parishioners

## Religious Education

No RE Class: Dec. 22, Dec.29

Confirmation Class resumes : Jan. 12

**RCIA/OCIA Classes meet each Tuesday at 7pm in the Parish Hall.**



### HELPING HANDS GIVING TREE

\$25 or \$50 GIFT CARDS are still needed. Also turkeys or hams as well as any food donations. **Items needed include:** flour, sugar, stuffing mix, dry beans, chili, spaghetti sauce, canned meats, canned fruit, oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, laundry and dish soap. Drop off food donations near the doors of the church or bring to the hall. Please leave gift cards in the box at the base of the tree in the Narthex, drop into the offertory basket or bring to the office. **DEADLINE TO RETURN ITEMS IS NEXT SUNDAY, DEC. 15TH**

 **St. Philip Benizi Parish Family Choir Rehearsal for 5pm Christmas Eve Mass**  
**Next Sunday December 15, 2024**  
**after the 10:30am Mass in the Church.**

If you like to sing.... Please come and join in for this **one time REHEARSAL! ALL Kids, families, and Parishioners are welcome!**

Your Help would really be appreciated!!!

**SEE YOU ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH!**

Questions: Mary Ann Mitchael 503-631-3750 or the Parish Office 503-631-2882 



**Thank you** to all who donated blood in the hall on Nov. 26th. Forty-two patients will be receiving the blood donated. Look for the next blood drive, winter 2025.

**Special Advent edition** copies of The Word Among Us and Advent Newsletter are available at the doors of the church. Please pick up your copy and a copy for a friend!

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

### Finance Corner

12/1/24	Actual	Budget
<b>This Week, General Fund</b>	\$4045 Online \$584	\$6,200
<b>Fiscal Year (YTD)</b>	\$94,652	\$107,175

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

## THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST – Fr. Peter

I've always considered St. John the Baptist as the patron saint of Advent. If we want to prepare well for Christmas, for the birth our Lord in our hearts and souls, it is especially important to listen to the guidance and character of St. John the Baptist. Jesus himself stated, "Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). In the Catholic Church we celebrate only three birthdays of three personalities in the Catholic liturgical calendar.

We celebrate the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas on December 25th. Then we celebrate the birthday of our mother the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 8th, and lastly, we celebrate the birthday of John the Baptist on June 24th.

I recommend that this Advent we hold up St. John the Baptist as a kind of patron saint of this holy season. We can look at him teaching us four great lessons.

**\*1. HUMILITY**

**\*2. REPENTANCE**

**\*3. HOW TO BE CHRIST-CENTRED**

**\*4. THE POWER OF INTEGRITY**

**HUMILITY:** John the Baptist says about Jesus, "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30). Humility, my friends in Christ, is a virtue very proper to this season of Advent. To admit that we need a savior is nothing less than a beautiful act of humility. This advent season we need to allow Jesus Christ to increase in our lives, and that can only happen if we decrease. What are you going to decrease in your life to allow Jesus Christ to increase? When we decrease PRIDE, we increase HUMILITY. When we increase HUMILITY, we increase CHRIST.

**REPENTANCE:** Repentance, of course, flows from humility. Only one who is humble, not proud, will recognize and acknowledge that they are wrong and seek repentance. John quoting Isaiah 40:3 calls upon people to seek repentance. John says, clear the road, remove the obstacles and clear away the boulders so that the Lord's way will be made smooth and straight. It is fitting to approach the Sacrament of Penance during this season of Advent. Only penance can make the heart ready, and not only ready, but worthy for Christ.

**HOW TO BE CHRIST-CENTRED:** John the Baptist's entire ministry was captured in that one moment, when John eyeballed Jesus Christ coming out of the desert, and John bellows out to the crowd, pointing at Jesus, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29. This was John's job description – to point out Jesus Christ to the world.

Our mission as Christians is to point out Christ to others. When a parent guides the child to first Holy Communion, that parent is pointing out Jesus to the child. That parent is making that child Christ-centered. This Advent season we need to make Jesus the center of our lives and the lives of others, and not allow the material glitters of this world's Christmas to cloud our hearts.

**THE POWER OF INTEGRITY:** John the Baptist was a man of principle, conviction, and honesty. He did not shrink from confronting soldiers or tax collectors or Pharisees on Jordan's bank, and he did not hesitate to tell the truth to King Herod, even if it literally cost him his head. In our world, in this era of compromise, this world of waffling, this world of lying and blaming others for our losses, we need personalities with the rock-like character of St. John the Baptist.

This season of Advent, let us embrace these four gracious virtues or characteristics of John the Baptist, embracing **HUMILITY, REPENTANCE, BEING CHRIST-CENTRED and THE POWER OF INTEGRITY.**

# Christmas Decor & Swags



New Vendor Products  
Fruit Trees & Berry Bushes  
Local Honey  
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Hours:

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10 am - 5 pm



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Retrouvaille is a program designed to help struggling couples regain and renew the life and health of their marriage. It helps a husband and a wife rediscover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting or even broken marriages and bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages.

Join Oregon Retrouvaille as we host a working weekend for couples struggling in their marriages by couples who have been there in the struggle. Come January 31-February 2, 2025 at Canby Grove Retreat Center in Canby, Oregon.

For confidential information or to register for the program call 1-503-225-9191 or email: [portland@retrouvaille.org](mailto:portland@retrouvaille.org) or visit us at [Helpourmarriage.org](http://Helpourmarriage.org)

## 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.

Space Available  
Advertise here!  
Call 503-631-2882

**Additional Confession Times for Advent!  
Father has added Confession times for  
Thursdays at 8pm-8:45pm during Advent.**

The Second Collection next week will be for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Please see the insert for more information. Your donation is greatly needed and appreciated!