



Saturday, December 19

9:00 am Carmina Young + | Young Family

5:00 pm Monsignor Thomas Kane +

Sunday, December 20 (4th Sunday of Advent)

9:00 am For the Parish

11:30 am Mai Xuan Nguyen | Thomas Do

Monday, December 21 (St. Peter Canisus, Priest and Doctor of the Church)

8:30 am Gertrude C. Toney + | Young Family

Tuesday, December 22

8:30 am Monsignor Thomas Kane +

Wednesday, December 23 (St. John of Kanty, Priest)

8:30 am Avelino Y Tanedo + | Tanedo Family

Thursday, December 24

8:30 am Charlie Bress

5:00 pm Jerry & Arvie Atkinson | Atkinson Family

Friday, December 25 (The Nativity of the Lord)

10:00 am For the Parish

Saturday, December 26 (St. Stephen, First Martyr)

9:00 am Steve & Pat Lewis

5:00 pm Marlyn Meoli + | Young Family

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER LEWIS

As we are drawn into the Christmas moment, the star, the angels, the shepherds, the manger – It's all too easy to get drawn into a scene of tranquility. We might come to imagine that the Holy Family came to rest and enjoy one another's company. They pose for Christmas cards, host carolers, drink eggnog, and, in this, we miss what's at the heart of the Scriptural passages we hear at Christmas. Christmas is all about peace on earth, it's not the peace that comes from a simple truce or passive resignation. The peace of Christmas is the peace of a king who has entered the world – a king who will set all things right.

It is no coincidence that we find ourselves in the City of David, with a star, with the shepherds (In Scripture, the king was often compared to a shepherd). This baby is no ordinary king. His reign will last forever, and the reign of sin, selfishness, deceit is over. He is Christ is king – peace on earth and good will to all.

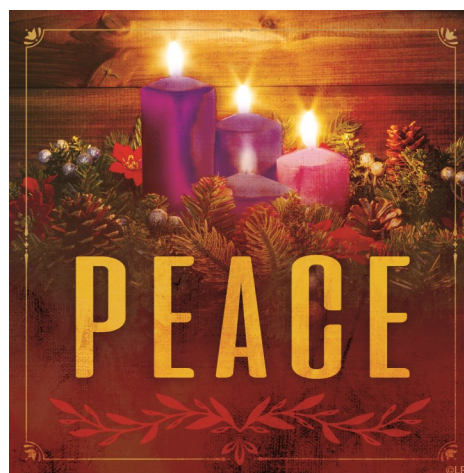
The Church fathers have written that on the night of Jesus' birth, there were two groups of angels. One of those groups had been here on earth, working to guide humanity to goodness. Their task was more often than not fruitless before the coming of the Lord. Without the grace of Jesus, false gods and false moralities and the allure of wickedness ensnared too many souls. But at the moment of Jesus coming into the world, this group sees the army of heavenly host coming to assist. In God becoming Man, evil would be overthrown. When the Word became Flesh, the light entered the world and the darkness of evil no longer had a chance.

School News & Church News

School Office is closed December 21 - January 1

Church Office is closed December 24 - January 1

The staff at St. Philip the Apostle would like wish you a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year!



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM:

Duffy Askin Family, Bradley Baker, Evan Beck, Pat Brooke, Counihan Family, Phil Eppard, Martin (Red) Fahey, Walter Harley, Lukas Hjort-Tyson, Hoehl Family, Art Grenier, Mary Gressett, Bert Latimer, Tonya Lee, Ralph Loveless, MacMannis Family, Lina Maralit, Jennifer Whipple-Marciano, Leondre Massey, Denise McHale, Grace Mueth, Nancy Palmedo, Deborah Pritts-Murray, Joe Norris, Shannon O'Connell, Matthew Pineda, Father Michael Quill, Barbara Ruf, Robert Wayne Saul III, Dolores Steinhilber, John Tierney, Elijah & Marilyn Thorne, Nellie & Ruth Wade, Suzanne Walters, Shawn & Tommy Webb, Dineen Whipple, Bee Duncan, Alma Streicher, Shoko Ferguson, Ryan Murray, and Patrick Baggott, Bee Dunkin

2020 Retirement Fund for Religious

Thanks for giving! “We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year,” says a Catholic sister. “Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters.” Thank you for donating to last week’s second collection.

RCIA

RCIA classes are being held on Sunday’s in the rectory or via Zoom from 10:15am – 11:15am. If you know someone who may be interested, contact Deacon Kelley at deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org

Evangelization Team

Are you interested in evangelization? Do you have a heart for reaching out to others? If so, please contact Deacon Kelley at deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org

St. Philip the Apostle Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
Thursday, December 24, 2020
Mass | 8:30 AM, 5:00 PM

Christmas Day
Friday, December 25, 2020
Mass | 10:00 AM

Saturday, December 26, 2020
Mass | 9:00 AM; 5:00 PM (Vigil)

New Years Eve
Thursday, December 31, 2020
Mass | 8:30 AM

Remembering St. Philip School’s early years, part XX

On September 11, 2001 the unimaginable happened when four hijacked planes crashed into the World Trade Center, a field in Pennsylvania, and the Pentagon. Televisions went on in the school—staff and students watched in horror. One of our own, Ada Davis died in the Pentagon attack.

Two months earlier, Steve Dameron, his guitar, and a cadre of St. Philipians had performed for the first time in the Morningside 4th of July Parade on Suitland Road. He and his family continued to march on the 4th until his death in 2015. Steve had often used that guitar and his powerful voice to provide music for School events.

Athletic programs were established, honoring two St. Philip's graduates who had died too soon: the Ben Walton Memorial Softball Tournament and the Troy Lee Award for excellence in athletics.

The memorial for babies killed by abortion was dedicated on Respect Life Sunday 2003. Chris Deaver suggested the memorial which was partially funded by the children of the parish who collected Pennies for Pro-life.

Girls started to serve at Mass, beginning on the First Sunday of Advent 1994. Victoria Cavanaugh and Annette Perez were among the first. Fr. Cusick prepared the servers for not only Sunday and daily Mass but for weddings, funerals, Benediction and other liturgies. Dolores Steinhilber prepared the schedule for the servers. Servers had to be in 5th grade or older.

George Hunt, an artist, led our students to an appreciation of art and its multiple media. Each spring he hosted an art show featuring student work—all for sale. The proceeds helped defray the cost of the program. At the 2007 Art Show, I bought an extraordinary collage by 5th-grader Devin McHugh for only \$20.

Offertory Summary for December 13, 2020
Parishioner Offertory: 3,623.00