



# St. Philip the Apostle Parish

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17th, 2017

2111 Millersville Pike

Lancaster, PA 17603-6216

Phone: 717-872-2166 Fax: 717-872-2587

## Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am

Daily Mass (Tuesday-Friday) 9:00am

Holy Days of Obligation: 9:00am & 7:00pm

Vigil 5:00pm

## Reconciliation/Confession

Saturday: 3:45-4:30pm

## Religious Ed Classes

September until May for all children four years old through 12th grade. Classes are held on Sunday. Religious Education Office: 717-872-5653 (Sundays), 717-872-2166 (Monday– Friday).

## Baptism

Baptisms are normally held on the third Sunday of the month following the 11:30am Mass. Please call the parish office to register and to attend the mandatory baptism class.

## Marriage

Couples must contact the parish office nine months prior to the intended date. Participation in an Engaged Encounter or Pre-Cana program is required.

## RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is an adult catechistic class. Contact the parish office 717-872-2166.

## Parish Membership

Please call the parish office if you wish to join our parish family, move out of the parish, change your address or phone number. All who are over 18 years of age should be registered as adults in the church even if you are still living with your parents!

**Website:** [www.stphilipmillersville.org](http://www.stphilipmillersville.org)

## Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 9:00am-4:30pm

## Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Lawrence W. Sherdel

[frlsherdel@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:frlsherdel@hbgdiocese.org)

Deacon: Fred Wendt

[fremarwen@msn.com](mailto:fremarwen@msn.com)

Director of Religious Education: Christine M. Miller

[cmiller@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:cmiller@hbgdiocese.org)

Director of Music: Steve Sauer

[lemonsauer@gmail.com](mailto:lemonsauer@gmail.com)

Youth Director: Jasmin Maloney

[jmaloney@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:jmaloney@hbgdiocese.org)

Parish Manager: Susan Havey

[shavey@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:shavey@hbgdiocese.org)

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Linda Neff

[lneff@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:lneff@hbgdiocese.org)

Bulletin Editor: Kim Anspach

[kanspach@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:kanspach@hbgdiocese.org)

Maintenance: Eric Asso

**Lower Lot - Reserved for Elderly,  
Handicapped and Wheelchair Accessible**

## Stewardship Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray for your blessing and wisdom so that we might recognize the gifts and graces given to us by the power of your Holy Spirit. Please help us to use these gifts to foster stewardship in our parish. We give our utmost gratitude to you and ask this in your precious name, Amen.

## Parish Mission Statement

Jesus Christ said to St. Philip the Apostle, "Come follow Me." The parish community of St. Philip's seeks to live as disciples of the Lord by living our faith through service to others. Based on a strong faith, a guided hope and a well rooted love, we encourage all to walk that journey with Christ with humility and courage.

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16th

5:00pm Tito Cascieri, JR.

Sunday, December 17th

7:30am Mr. & Mrs. Victor Hecker

9:30am Anne P. Accardi

11:30am Parishioners of St. Philip's

Monday, December 18th No Mass

Tuesday, December 19th

9:00am Donald Mangold

Wednesday, December 20th

9:00am Anthony & Theresa Bomenka

Thursday, December 21st

9:00am Rev. Kenneth F. Lawrence

Friday, December 22nd

9:00am Gloria Barbadoro

Saturday, December 23rd

5:00pm Parishioners of St. Philip's

Sunday, December 24th

9:30am Paul D. Sonny Hirsch

11:30am Leo Walsh

6:00pm Mr. & Mrs. Harold Pillion

10:00pm Dorothy Rup

**Remember in your prayers** those whom are sick and homebound especially: Artie Chodkowski, Johanna Chodkowski, Diane Spano, Michael J. Spano, Mary Warnell, James O'Halloran, Sally Messina, Bill Henry, Melissa Sherlock, Carlene Axe, Alexander DiGuiseppe, Debbie Joline, Tom Schaller, Angelica Zander, Richard Mercandetti, Samantha Payne, Jeff Tracy, John Mikita, Celi Shaeffer, Rosemary Harney, Joe Fliss, Maria Wendt, Rose Turnowchyk, Dottie Moser, Felecia Campbell, Nancy Straw, Linda Losito, Gloria Schnee, Sue Bleacher, Rudy Oleksa, Bruce Wendt, Dale Goodman, Jerry Buchko, Tom Malloy, Rebecca Davenport, Rosemary Matyi, Drew & Emily Sahd, Georgia Ransom, Paul Derr, Kerlee Fox, Charles Fowler, Minda Phillips, Barbara Dochat, Patricia Shoemaker, Caroline Shoemaker, James Anderson, Catherine Mills, Philip & Nancy Fisher, Maryann B. & Thomas Griffin, John & Barbara Hackash, Barbara & Michael Horvath, Florence King. For all our parishioners who are hospitalized, in hospice centers or in nursing care facilities not listed above. May God's healing touch be upon them and all in need of His healing for this we pray, Amen.

### The 3rd Sunday of Advent

According to the teachings of the Catholic Church, the Third Sunday in Lent is known as Gaudete. This is the Sunday where the Pink candle is lit on the Advent wreath. Pink is for the Joy in this Holiday Season and the word Gaudete means, "rejoice" in Latin. The readings bring great peace, joy and comfort to us. In the first reading, the Spirit of the Lord is upon Isaiah and he is anointed. His words bring good news to the poor, promises of healing to the broken hearted, and freedom for the captives. Rejoice, God has clothed our souls in a robe of salvation, and wrapped us in the mantle of justice. How can we not feel the awesome, powerful praises of joy and thanksgiving welling up within us! This God loves us so much He is sending His son into our midst to save us from our sins. This is also the day when we hear our blessed Mother rejoice. "*The Almighty has done great things for me and Holy is his Name.*" He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation and He will help His servant Israel! We should be falling to our knees in thanksgiving or shouting from every rooftop the good news! Instead we are probably in a panic about what we haven't accomplished for this Christmas, worrying about last minute shopping or baking, or which party to attend and what to wear. Some may even be anxious about unfinished decorating. We are human and we do get caught up in the preparations for Christmas. But if we would only stop and pray, giving thanks in all circumstances, thereby allowing the Spirit of the Lord to enter in. The Spirit will make us Holy so that when Jesus does come we will be blameless! God is faithful and he will accomplish this in us. So, set aside your worries and cares just long enough to give him the glory, being thankful for all he has done in your life. Pray for his spirit to take over and your joy will be complete. Not only that but as you go about the remainder of your preparations, you will find that Jesus is with you and that he goes before you making your life easier. Things just seem to fall into place when you put Him first in your day, in your celebration, in your life. Not only that, your voice will become the voice of the prophet crying out in the desert witnessing to the wonderful things that have happened in your life and bringing the "hope" of Christ to others. God bless you!

### Parish Information

**Rosary:** The rosary is prayed every Tuesday through Friday at 8:35am and Saturday evening at 4:40pm.

**Communion to the homebound:** Eucharistic Ministers visit every Sunday except the Sunday following the first Friday of the month; the Priest visits on first Fridays. Please call the parish office if you or a family member are homebound, have been admitted to the hospital nursing facility.

**Sponsor Certificates:** Sponsors of the Sacraments can be issued to registered members of the parish who are receiving the Sacraments on a regular basis. Please stop by the office to complete sponsor forms.

**Guidelines for the prayer list:** Your family member's name will remain on the list for 4 weeks. Please call the parish office to have it continue on the list.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Information for the Bulletin is due 9am on Thursday the previous week. Announcements are due by 5pm on Wednesday. Send to:

[KAnspach@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:KAnspach@hbgdiocese.org)

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** -- As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will GOD make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

**Psalm** -- My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

**Second Reading** -- Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

**Gospel** -- I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

**Monday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

**Tuesday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

**Wednesday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

**Thursday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

**Friday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

**Saturday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

**Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

### Saints and Special Observances

**Thursday:** St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins

**Saturday:** St. John of Kanty



**Divine Mercy...** The message of The Divine Mercy....Jesus Himself....is at the heart of the gospel. The message of mercy presents the truth and the call of the gospel to our present age. This message of mercy is proclaimed by Pope John Paul II, in his encyclical **Rich in Mercy**, the Church must consider it one of her principle duties....to proclaim and introduce into life the mystery of mercy, revealed in Jesus Christ. **Remember** following the regular 9am Wednesday Mass, the Friends of Divine Mercy, pray the chaplet and meditate on Jesus Intention for the day, (all within approx. 20 minutes), in church in front of the Divine Mercy picture portrait. **All are welcome, bring a friend!**



### 8 Ways to Put Christ Back in Christmas-

By Ben Luthi-Familyshare.com

1. *Find ways to serves as Christ did-without using money.* Donate blood, serve at the soup kitchen or shovel a neighbors lot.
2. *Hang a stocking for Christ..* Fill it with notes from family members about the Savior and read on Christmas day.
3. *Study the Gospels*– Read a Chapter of the four Gospels every morning
4. *Give the Savior a gift* - more time praying, give up a bad habit or give to those in need.
5. *Invite someone to share Christmas dinner with you.* The elderly, college students who didn't go home, or someone from your church who is alone.
6. *Allow your children or grandchildren to tell the Nativity story-in their own way,* through art, drama or by reading it.
7. *Teach your children the symbols of Christmas*-stars, bells angels and mistletoe have symbolic meanings that can be tied to the life of Jesus.
8. *Teach your children the real story of St. Nicholas*– son of wealthy parents used his entire inheritance to help the needy, giving his whole life to live the teachings of Christ.

### Save the Date



**First Penance Retreat** is scheduled for Sunday, January 7th at 9:15am-12pm in the Gym.

**First Penance** is scheduled for Saturday, January 20th at 10:00am in the Church.



### Usher's & Greeters Meeting

There will be an important Usher's & Greeters meeting on Monday, December 18th at 6pm in the Multi-purpose room #1. Please make sure to add this to your calendar. Father Sherdel will be covering information concerning Christmas Mass protocol. Thank you for all that you do! You are blessing to our parish life!

### Collections December 3rd, 2017

Last Year: \$ 10,991

This Year: \$ 13,448

On Line Giving \$ 4,365

Budgeted weekly: \$ 12,304

Budget **Surplus** 4,365 **Thank you!**



### Year to Date Budget Detail

YTD Budget \$ 284,774

YTD Actual \$ 270,499

**YTD Shortfall** \$ (14,275)

**Please remember St. Philip's in Your Will!**

### The Altar Ministry Schedules are in the Sacristy...

Please sign up for Christmas Eve, Christmas, the Solemnity of Mary vigil and the Solemnity of Mary. Sign up sheets are in the sacristy. Please help Father during this blessed season. He is in need of your humble service.

### St. Philip's is a Tithing Parish

10% of this Sundays Collection goes to:

December 17th St. Philip's Poor and Needy Fund

December 24th Catholic Worker House

December 31st Millersville University Newman Catholic Ministry

January 7th St. Anne's School



## *This Week...*

Sunday, December 17th

RE am

1:00pm Catholic Daughters of America- PAC

4:00pm Youth Ministry Cookies & Caroling-Gym

Monday, December 18th

6:00pm Usher Meeting-MPR1

6:30pm Boy Scouts-PAC

Tuesday, December 19th

5:45pm Girl Scouts-PS

6:30pm Cub Scouts-Gym

7:00pm CMG-Church

Wednesday, December 20th

9:30am Divine Mercy-Church

Thursday, December 21st

6:45pm Men's Club-PAC

7:00pm Choir-Church

Friday, December 22nd

9:45am Lectio Divina- Church

Saturday, December 23rd

3:45pm Confession

5:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 24th

9:30am Sunday Mass

11:30am Sunday Mass

6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

10:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

The Parish Office will be **closed** on Monday and Tuesday, December 25th & 26th.

**Merry Christmas!**



### **Christmas Candy Cane Poem for Jesus**

Look at the Candy Cane, What do you see?  
Stripes that are red, Like the blood shed for me  
White is for my Savior, Who's sinless & pure!  
"J" is for Jesus My Lord, that's for sure!  
Turn it around, And a staff you will see  
Jesus my shepherd  
Was born for me!  
~Felicia Mollohan



### **Youth Ministry Lock-In**

**Wednesday, December 27th 8:00 pm**

**Thursday, December 28th 8:00 am** St. Philip's Annual Lock-In. Group games, prayer and worship, movies, food and more! Cost is \$5. St. Philip's will cover midnight pizza and breakfast. Please RSVP by Friday, December 22nd. Permission form and money due at the door.



The Men's Club will be holding their second **Train Show** of the season on Saturday, January 6, beginning at 9:00 AM. Vendors will be on hand to buy and sell toy trains and other railroad items. There is a \$4 admission fee to attend. If anyone has any questions on the show or would like to know more about their trains, please call Charlie Sauer at 717-872-8481.



### **Great Christmas Presents**

Our Stewardship racks offer great opportunities to share the faith with friends and loved ones. We have a series of kids music CDs, a few Veggie Tales DVDs (upstairs rack). There are Great Books and CDs for all ages, little hand books that read in short form. Great stocking stuffers! Please put donation in envelope provided and drop in collection basket or drop off at office. Remember: **Keep Christ In Christmas!**



### **Christmas Wafers**

**Oplatek Sharing...** Polish families prepare the traditional foods and everyone anxiously awaits the moment when the first star, known as the Gwiazdka, appears in the eastern sky, commemorating the birth of the Christ Child. A thin layer of hay is placed under the white tablecloth cover in memory of the Godchild in the manger. Before sitting down at the table, everyone breaks the traditional wafer, or Oplatek and exchanges good wishes for health, wealth and happiness in the New Year. This is such a deeply moving moment that often tears of love and joy are evoked from the family members who are breaking this symbolic bread. The Oplatek is a thin, unleavened wafer similar to the altar bread in the Roman Catholic Church. It is stamped with the figures of the Godchild, the Blessed Mary and the holy angels. The wafer is known as the bread of love and is often sent by mail to the absent members of the family. These Christmas wafers are available in the office. There are four in each pack. Donations will go to the St. Philip's Poor and Needy fund.



**Thank you** to all those who donated to the Women's Auxiliary Craft Show! Many wonderful items were donated which helped to make the day a Huge Success! As well thank you to all who volunteered on craft day, set up and clean up. Your help was truly appreciated. The auxiliary wanted to thank you for all the parish support!



**Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!**

In the event of inclement weather, please check the following resources for information about class cancellations. Thank you!

**Parish Office Answering Machine:** #872-2166, Extension #103. RE Office: #872-5653.

**WGAL Channel 8.** Online only. WGAL limits on-air notifications. **St. Philip the Apostle Church website**

<http://www.stphilipmillersville.org> **St. Philip's Facebook page** <https://www.facebook.com/StPhilipMillersville>

**We may not always cancel the PM class when we cancel the AM Class and visa versa.** If there is ever a time when you do not feel safe driving but RE Classes are being held, use your own discretion about attending class. Please let your child's teacher know at the next class that you missed due to bad weather. **Christine Miller, DRE**



**Lancaster Catholic** will be hosting an Activities Fair on Saturday, January 27th from 1-3 PM. All aspects of Lancaster Catholic's culture will be highlighted, from the Fine and Performing Arts department to the vast options of clubs including Mini-Thon and Respect Life to Athletics and Campus Ministry. One lucky family that is looking to join the Lancaster Catholic community for the 2018-2019 school year, by attending the Activities Fair, will be awarded one year's paid tuition upon completion of their application. For more information about the day or the admissions process, please contact Kyla Hockey at [khockley@lchsyes.org](mailto:khockley@lchsyes.org).

**Watch special EWTN Christmas Programming...**



EWTN is proud to bring you LIVE Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. Also, tune in for inspiring musical performances, specials for children and teens, and new holiday presentations that the whole family will enjoy. Watch or listen to EWTN TV & EWTN Radio on your local channel, online, or even on your smartphone using our free EWTN App!

**Christmas Schedule 2017**

**Sunday Mass**

December 24<sup>th</sup>

9:30am and 11:30am

**Christmas Eve Masses**

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

6:00pm and 10:00pm

**Christmas Day Masses**

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

9:30am and 11:30am

**Sunday Mass**

Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

9:30am and 11:30am

**New Year's Eve**

Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

**Solemnity of Mary-Vigil**

5:00pm

Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

**Solemnity of Mary Mass**

9:30am and 11:30am



**Knights of Columbus Council 867**

1575 New Danville Pike Lanc.

(717)397-0011, <http://867kofc.org>

**3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knighthood-** Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. **Women's Auxiliary Christmas Party-** Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at Mick's, 6:00. **Monthly Council Meeting-** Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. **Friday Night Specials are back- 12/22/17-** Roast Beef dinner \$9.95. **12/29/17-** Ham or turkey club sandwich with French fries \$8.95. All specials include soup and salad bar, coffee and dessert. With the increase of popularity in our Friday Night specials, we recommend parties of 6 or more people make reservations. **Banquet Room Rental-** our newly renovated banquet room has one of the lowest rental rates in the area. Holiday parties are beginning to book up. Please also consider us for your class reunion. Call Paul Kephart for info. 717-490-4085. Bingo every Monday and Thursday 6:30 multiple jackpots. Membership? Call Ed Krause (717)490-9066.

Perpetual Adoration at St. Joseph's Church Lancaster

- Wednesday 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Thursday 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Saturday 2:00 to 3:00 pm



Substitutes are also needed. Please call Mary Ellen at St. Joseph Rectory 717-397-6921.