



ST. PHILIP NERI
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Portland, Oregon



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Third and Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time



January 21 &
January 28, 2024



ORDINARY • TIME

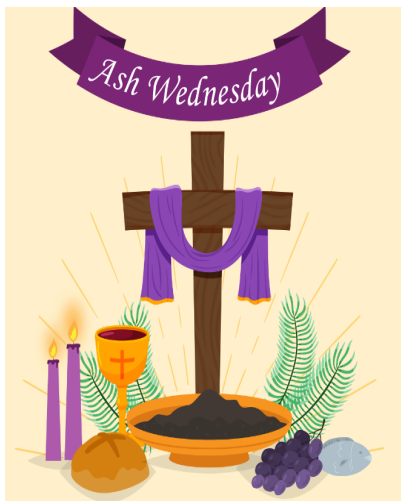
When the Christmas season ended, we emerged back into a brief stretch of “Ordinary Time,” until Lent starts February 14.

The reason the Church has a “Liturgical Year” is to mark the sanctification of time. Many ancient cultures saw time as “cyclical” — i.e., a never-ending cycle of repetition, going nowhere. The Christian view of time “linear” — that is, moving constantly ahead, “on a line,” going somewhere. The liturgical seasons and

feasts recur year after year, but they are like a spiral staircase — going upward, not around in the same circle. At times in our lives, we may feel like we’re trapped in a cycle (e.g., we make resolutions, break resolutions, make resolutions) but it doesn’t *have* to be that way. We may not be able to break out of it on our own, but the Lord helps us do what we can’t do on our own. It’s called “God’s grace.”

Consider taking your Bible and, beginning with Luke 4:14 (just after the baptism and temptation of Jesus), spending six minutes mulling over a few verses each day. They are graced words, and the Lord speaks to us personally through them. As we transitioned from the joyous holiday season to the rest of the “Year of Grace 2024,” may we stay close to the Lord, asking him to lead us on the path he calls us to walk.

Excerpted from the Little Blue Book, Jan. 8, 2024



On February 14th, **Ash Wednesday** marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for the high point of our Christian life, Easter.

Each year the readings are the same. They call us to a change of heart and teach us about the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These disciplines are to be part of the Christian life during every season, but during Lent, we renew our commitment.

Why does the priest trace the cross on our foreheads with ashes—the ‘liturgical sign’ of Ash Wednesday? On one level, the ashes remind us of our origin and our death. In the words of the prayer said when we receive ashes: “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” But, the ashes are also a sign of *victory*: the cross of Christ. In his death and

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resurrection, Christ conquered death. We acknowledge that victory when we “turn away from sin and [are] faithful to the gospel,” words from the alternative prayer when we are signed with ashes. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns followers against acting for the sake of appearance. When he asks disciples to give alms, pray, and fast, they are to do so in such a way that only God, who sees the heart and knows what is hidden, will know.

—excerpts from *Catholic Life and Loyola Press*

We wish everyone a blessed and meaningful Lenten season, an honest turning to the Lord.

The Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday will take place on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. If you can't join us for those times, please join us for the Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of the Ashes at 12:10 p.m.

Traditional February Rite

February 3, Friday St. Blaise (4th century). Blaise was a doctor in Sebaste, Armenia, the city of his birth. When the bishop of the city died, he was chosen to succeed him because the people loved his generous manner, piety, holiness—and his miracles. From all around, people came to him for cures for their body or spirit—even wild animals came seeking his help. In 316, the regional governor of Lesser Armenia arrived in Sebastia at the order of the emperor to kill the Christians, and he arrested the bishop. As Blaise was being led to jail, a distraught mother, whose only child was choking on a fishbone, threw herself at his feet and asked for his help. He offered up his prayers, and the child recovered. Consequently, Saint Blaise is invoked for protection against injuries and illnesses of the throat. It is said that while Blaise was kept in the dark prison, a woman secretly brought him candles and food. Every year on St. Blaise's feast, two candles tied with ribbon are used to bless throats.

We will be celebrating the ‘**Blessing of the Throats**’ in honor of St. Blaise but it will be deferred to the weekend Masses, on Saturday, February 3rd and Sunday, February 4th.



Honoring Our Departed Loved Ones

Each year we hold a special remembrance for those of our community who died in the past year.

On **Saturday, January 27th, 2024** after the 4 p.m. Saturday vigil—we will offer the short service of ‘Blessing of the Memorial Plaques’ in the Memorial Chapel at the back. Please join us to honor:

Marilyn Becic, Margaret Becker, Richard Dehen, August A. Gatto, Earl Hooper, Sr. Kathie Hearn, Leona Gambee, and George Spada.



There will be refreshments on Sunday, January 28th and February 4th. Drop by for a hot cup of coffee and chat with someone you haven't talked to before. Our community grows stronger as we make connections with each other. How long have you been in the parish? How long have they? Let's make each other feel welcome.

Our next Wine and Cheese Social will be in Carolin Hall on Saturday, January 27th following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. Why miss a chance to meet over a glass of wine and some cheese? Here's another opportunity to get to know other members of the parish as well as our pastor, Father Andrew, outside our worship service. Your church is built brick-by-brick and person by person.



Devotional Candle Prices

The Altar Society has set the following prices for lighting candles for personal intentions. Please put your donation in an envelope located by the candle racks and place it in the candles box. Thank you!



7 Day devotional candle
\$4.00

4 Hour votive candles
(by Blessed Mother's altar) \$1.00

Growing Old With God

We will be offering an adult education class called "Growing Old with God" this **January 20, 27th and February 3rd**. Start times will be an hour prior to the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass. Find us in the music room off the hallway behind the Altar / Sanctuary. All are welcome! Barbara Harrison and Mary Kavanaugh will team as the presenters.

Sanctuary Candle Offerings

The Sanctuary lamp next to the Tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. If you wish to have the Sanctuary Candle burning in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion, or a special intention, you can make arrangements with the Parish Office. The cost of the candle is \$20 and it burns for one week. A notice of your intention will be posted in the bulletin.



Andrea Del Rosario ♥ Antonette Amato
♥ Colin Andries ♥ Mary Schleich ♥
LeeAnn Mills ♥ Tessa Parise Murdock ♥
Bill Dietzler ♥ Family of Ambrose
Christopher Calcagno
(brother of Debbie Guthrie)

Please contact the office if you, or someone you know needs our prayers!

Just click on the **GIVE ONLINE** button and take a look around. It's designed to be easy. It can be found on the upper right of our home page on our new website.

www.stphilipneripdx.org
Thank you!

Church Cleaners Schedule

Jan 23 – Jan 26
Sue, Shirley & Natalie

Jan 30 – Feb 2
Marinka, Catherine & Joanne



Sat. Jan 20: 4:00 p.m. † Al & Jean Jarvis – Scott & Tina Jarvis
Sun. Jan 21: 9:30 a.m. People of St Philip Neri
Wed. Jan 24: 9:00 a.m. Margaret Capri – Marietta Spada
Thur. Jan 25: 9:00 a.m. Bryan Haugen – Lyndi Haugen
Fri. Jan 26: 12:10 p.m. † Robert Miranda – Edward Miranda
Sat. Jan 27: 4:00 p.m. † Richard Dehen – Dorothy Bruck
Sun. Jan 28: 9:30 a.m. † Joe Graziano – Shannon Alfonso
Wed. Jan 31: 9:00 a.m. † Mary Murphy
Thu. Feb 1: 9:00 a.m. † Sr. Katie Hearn
Fri. Feb 2: 12:10 p.m. Marcy McPherson – Jeanne McPherson
Sat. Feb 3: 4:00 p.m. People of St Philip Neri
Sun. Feb 4: 9:30 a.m. † Chris Helvey – Carol & Jane

MASS INTENTIONS



January 21 – January 27
† Margaret Capri

January 28 – February 3
† Barbara Douglas

"We the welcoming community of St. Philip Neri Parish, empowered by the compassion of Jesus and supported by the Eucharist and the Word, dedicate ourselves to engage with and enrich the lives of those we touch."

Reconciliation Times
Saturday
by appointment only

Pastor – #101

Fr. Andrew Thomas

athomas@stphilipneripdx.org



Administrative Assistant - #100

Debra Guthrie

debbieg@stphilipneripdx.org