

**Church of Saint Philip Neri  
Pennsburg, PA 18073  
Feb. 7, 2016**



**Rev. Robert A. Roncase, Pastor**  
**Rev. Raymond W. Smart, retired; resident**  
**Deacon Michael J. Franks**  
**Deacon Mark J. Meinzer, Business Manager**  
**Rev. Edmond J. Speitel, Pastor Emeritus**  
**Rev. John J. Scarcia, Retired Pastor**  
**Shirley Misiak, Office Manager**  
**Catherine E. Faust, Director of Music**  
**Wendy Benner, Coordinator of PREP/Religious ED**  
**Tom Dewees, Director Catholic Family Life Center**  
**Diane Cunningham, Adm. Assistant CFLC**  
**Anita Fuhs, Youth Minister**  
**Sister Patricia Kelly, M.S.B.T., Parish Outreach**

**Parish Phone Numbers:**

<b>Rectory</b>	215.679.9275
<b>Youth Ministry</b>	267.733.2572
<b>Religious Education/PREP</b>	215.679.7839
<b>Catholic Family Life Center</b>	215.679.2237
<b>Parish Hall</b>	215.679.8116
<b>Parish Outreach</b>	215.679.2282
<b>Neri Center</b>	215.679.6490

**Fax Numbers:**

<b>Rectory</b>	215.679.0386
<b>Religious Education/PREP</b>	215.679.8370
<b>Catholic Family Life Center</b>	215.679.8370

**Church & Rectory Address:**

1325 Kliner Rd; Pennsburg 18073

**Hours:** 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
**Email Address:** [spnofc@comcast.net](mailto:spnofc@comcast.net)  
**Website Address:** [www.spnparish.org](http://www.spnparish.org)

**Religious Education Office address & hours:**

26 E. Sixth Street, East Greenville, PA 18041

**Monday & Friday:** Offices are closed  
**Tuesday & Thursday:** 8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
**Wednesday:** 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
**Email address:** [spnprep@comcast.net](mailto:spnprep@comcast.net)

**Neri Center Address**

575 Main Street, East Greenville, PA 18041

**Catholic Family Life Center Address**

26 E. Sixth Street, East Greenville, PA 18041

**Email address:** [spncflc@comcast.net](mailto:spncflc@comcast.net)  
**Website Address:** [www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com](http://www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com)

**Youth Ministry Office hours: (East Greenville)**

**Tuesday & Thursday:** 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
**Wednesday:** 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
**Email address:** [spnym@comcast.net](mailto:spnym@comcast.net)

**ROSARY: Prayed in the Chapel**

Saturday after the 9:00 AM Mass  
Monday at 1:00 PM

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

1<sup>st</sup> Friday from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Chapel,  
followed by Benediction.

**FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS**

For a floral arrangement to be placed at the altar,  
please call the rectory.

**SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday – Vigil Mass – 5:00 PM  
Sunday – 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 AM  
Holy Day Masses as announced

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE - St. Anne Chapel**

The Chapel is open Monday thru Saturday until  
7:00 PM for your visits to the Blessed Sacrament.

Daily Mass is celebrated in the  
Chapel attached to the rectory:

Monday - 5:00 PM  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8:00 AM  
Saturday - 9:00 AM

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays: 4:00 – 4:45 PM *or*:  
at the Rectory BY APPOINTMENT anytime.

**BAPTISMS:** Please call the Rectory to schedule  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Baptisms are held **at** the 11 AM Mass  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Baptisms are held at 12:30 PM

**SPONSORS:** Sponsors for Baptism and Confirmation  
need to be at least 16 years of age, to be confirmed,  
attend Mass weekly, and if married, be in a valid  
marriage.

**PRE-JORDAN CLASSES**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in the  
Rectory meeting room.

**MARRIAGES**

Arrangements should be made at least SIX  
MONTHS before the date of the wedding.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Welcome to your new home!  
Please stop by or call the rectory between 9:00 am -  
4:00 pm to fill out a registration card.

**SHUT-INS**

Please call the Parish Outreach Office.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please call the Rectory.

## OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Catholic Parish Community of St. Philip Neri, answering Christ's call to discipleship through Word, Sacrament and Service. We proclaim God's hope and love to all.

### Serving at Mass Extraordinary Ministers

5:00 pm - Diane Kennedy  
Pat Kennedy  
Priest  
Deacon  
Dave Moser  
Trudy Moser

7:30 am - Beverly Bowser  
Cameron Bowser  
Priest  
Deacon  
Lori Brozena  
Trish Dornisch

9:30 am - Christine Adelsberger  
Steve Adelsberger  
Priest  
Deacon  
Rose Anderson  
Mary Ellen Paulk  
Mary Weber  
Renee DeGrassi  
Terry Benner  
Wendy Benner  
Mike Dougherty  
Leonette Nicolaou

11:00 am - Bob Hermley  
Jeanne Hermley  
Priest  
Deacon  
Barbara Schwind  
Bob Schwind

### Feb. 14 Lectors

Linda Franks  
S. Hunsberger

Chris Mullaney  
Ernie Quatrani

G. Kirkwood  
D. McCausland

Eileen Davis

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**February 7, 2016**

Monday, February 8, Saint Jerome Emiliani,  
Saint Josephine Bakhita  
5:00 pm - Lester Kemp, (Robert & Roselyn Parry)

Tuesday, February 9  
8:00 am - Jason Shellaway,  
(Bob & Barbara Schwind)

Ash Wednesday, February 10  
7:30 am - Karl Heebner,  
(Bob & Barbara Schwind)

9:30 am - Jim Brady  
7:00 pm - Stella Roney,  
(Christine Gible & Jean Gerhart)

Thursday, February 11, Our Lady of Lourdes  
6:30 am - Lenten Communion Service (Chapel)  
8:00 am - 39th Anniversary, Stanley Misiak  
(Mike & Shirley Misiak)  
7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

Friday, February 12  
6:30 am - Mass in Chapel  
8:00 am - Gloria Sweeney

Saturday, February 13  
9:00 am - Richard Walp,  
Jackie (Zaun) Marion & family  
5:00 pm - For the living and deceased members  
of the Parish.

### First Sunday of Lent February 14, 2016

7:30 am - Joseph Kaiser, (Gloria Kaiser)  
9:30 am - Joseph Josko, (Jenny Josko)  
11:00 am - James Butler,  
(Bob & Barbara Schwind)

### FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

The arrangement of flowers placed at the center altar is in memory of **Catherine Gehringer**; requested by Joe & Madeleine Gehringer.

### WE INVITE YOUR PRAYERS

For the sick, those in hospitals, nursing homes, also for their caregivers; and all those we hold close in our hearts.  
Please pray in particular for **Gene Falasco, Michelle Fillman & Joseph Iski**.  
For those who have died, and in particular for **Benjamin Pupek Jr.**, grant them eternal rest and peace.

### FEBRUARY 2016: This week at a glance

#### **Sunday - February 7**

Bingo	1:00 pm Parish Hall
Children's Liturgy of the Word	at the 9:30 am Mass
Little Church	9:30 am Parish Hall
Men's Basketball	8:00 pm Parish Hall
Youth Ministry	5:30 pm Parish Hall

#### **Monday - February 8**

Holy Rosary Mass	1:00 pm Chapel
Prayer Shawl Ministry	7:00 pm Neri Center
SPN Quilting	1:30 pm Parish Hall

#### **Tuesday - February 9**

Boy Scouts	7:00 pm Parish Hall
Car Show Committee Meeting	7:00 pm Rectory

**Wednesday – February 10**

Ash Wednesday - All Masses in Church: 7:30 am; 9:30 am & 7:00 pm in Church  
 PREP/Religious Education: Mandatory attendance to Mass at the Church; attendance will be taken.

**Thursday - February 11**

Bible Study 7:00 pm Neri Center  
 Pennsburg Manor Nursing Home Mass at 2:15 pm  
 NO Men's Basketball  
 NO RCIA  
 Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm Church

**Friday – February 12**

Bible Study 9:00 am Neri Center  
 Frontier Girls 6:30 pm Parish Hall  
 SPN Quilting 1:00 pm Parish Hall

**Saturday - February 13**

Breakfast setup 7:00 am Parish Hall

**Sunday - February 14**

Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 am Mass  
 Little Church 9:30 am Parish Hall  
 Men's Basketball 8:00 pm Parish Hall  
 Parish Breakfast 7:00 am - 12:30 pm Parish Hall

**Upcoming Meetings**

Holy Rosary Hour - Monday, February 15 - 1:00 pm - Chapel  
 SPN Quilting - Monday, February 15 - 1:30 pm - Parish Hall  
 Boy Scouts - Tuesday, February 16 - 7:00 pm - Parish Hall  
 PREP/Religious Education - Wednesday, February 17 - Catholic Family Life Center  
 Bible Study - Thursday, February 18 - 7:00 pm - Neri Center  
 NO Men's Basketball - Thursday, February 18  
 RCIA - Thursday, February 18 - 7:00 pm - Rectory Meeting Room  
 Stations of the Cross - Thursday, February 18 - 7:00 pm in Church  
 Bible Study - Friday, February 19 - 9:00 am - Neri Center  
 Frontier Girls - Friday, February 19 - 6:30 pm - Parish Hall  
 Parish Lenten Fish Fry - Friday, February 19:  
 Lunch in Parish Hall from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm; also,  
 Dinner in Parish Hall from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm  
 Charismatic Prayer Group - Saturday, February 20 - 10:00 am - Chapel  
 Children's Liturgy of the Word - Sunday, February 21 - at 9:30 am Mass  
 Little Church - Sunday, February 21- 9:30 am - Parish Hall Meeting Rooms  
 Men's Basketball - Sunday, February 21 - 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Parish Hall  
 Youth Ministry - Sunday, February 21 - 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Parish Hall

**PARISH NEWS**

St. Philip Neri Parish Council Members at large welcomes any questions or comments you may have.

**Names/email addresses:**

Tony Bauer ajbauer337@gmail.com  
 Matthew Fuhs matthew.fuhs@comcast.net  
 Dave Klauder stickman@enter.net  
 Marlene Leidy marleneleidy@comcast.net  
 Ed Tryon greeneng2001@yahoo.com  
 Theresa Walker cheg1978@comcast.net

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

January 25, 2015	Snow Storm January 24, 2016
Envelopes: \$ 6,943.00	\$ 2,229.50
Online: 1,930.00	2,169.00
Loose: 439.00	--
Children's: 61.50	--
Total: \$ 9,373.50	\$ 4,398.50

February 1, 2015	January 31, 2016
Envelopes: \$ 6,271.00	\$ 6,357.00
Online: 1,725.00	1,530.00
Loose: 577.00	1,210.00
Children: 49.00	56.00
Total: \$ 8,622.00	\$ 9,153.00

**ONLINE GIVING**

**Go green** with St. Philip Neri Church by signing up for **Online Giving**. Online giving is a secure and personalized way to give to the parish. It also can stand on its own as a means of a donation or can be used in conjunction with your offering envelopes. You have the option to keep receiving your regular offering envelope packets if you wish. ([www.spnparish.org](http://www.spnparish.org))

**Special Second Collections:**

February 2016

For those who do not receive Sunday collection envelopes or if you are an On-Line giver, the following second collections are:

**Ash Wednesday, Care of Aging/Ill Priests, Parish Debt collection 1st Qtr & Sharing Our Blessings 100th Anniversary.**

**NEW FAMILIES**

Next weekend at all the Masses, we welcome our newly registered families into the parish.

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE**  
**AND OTHER ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT**  
**2016**

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age or older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016, on all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to an including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in Parish Lenten Devotions as well as Lenten Education Programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross during Lent will be held on the Thursday evenings in Church at 7PM

**February 11th; 18th; 25th;**

**March 3rd; 10th; & 17th**

On each of these evenings, we invite you to our Parish Hall small Meeting Room to join us in Operation Rice Bowl Dinner. Dinner will be very simple; homemade soup, bread and a drink. (at least two different kinds of soup will be offered for dinner).

Homemade soup will be provided free of charge from 6PM to 6:45PM, followed by Stations of the Cross. Operation Rice Bowl reminds us of our responsibility to feed and care for the poor.

**Give a St. Philip Neri Building Memorial**

For a donation of \$35 or more, there is a beautiful Folder recording the gift and donor to be presented to the family.

In memory of **Elizabeth Brinckman**; requested by Rita Latshaw, Connie Marks and SPN Craft Guild.

In memory of **Don Lammers**; requested by: Connie Marks and Dave, Trudy Moser and children.

In memory of **Stella Roney**; requested by: Connie Marks

**PARISH BREAKFAST**

The next breakfast is February 14 in our Parish Hall from 7:00 am - 12:30 pm. Save the date!

Also . . . donations of baked goods are needed for our monthly bake sales held at the breakfast. Can you help? If so, call Rita Latshaw at 215.679.7009.

**LENTEN FISH FRY**

**SPN Parish Hall**

**EAT-IN OR TAKE-OUT**

**LUNCH EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT**

**February 19 - March 25**

**11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Orders taken during Fry Hours: 215.679.8116**

**DINNERS:**

**February 19, 26**

**March 4, 11 & 18**

**4:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

**LITTLE CHURCH**

Curious about Little Church? This is a Program that takes place during our 9:30 am Mass. Children ages 3 - Kindergarten are invited to participate. This Program teaches the children about Mass and they participate in a weekly Service where they hear the Good News, explore its meaning and interact with parts of the Service. There is no fee for this Program; however, registration is necessary. Call Wendy Benner if you are interested at 215.679.7839.

**SPN Catholic Family Life Center**

**215.679.2237**

We want to invite everyone to the Catholic Family Life Center on Tuesday, February 16th at 7:00 pm for the program "Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy" which will be presented by Meghan Cokeley from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Also, there is still time to sign up for the Phantoms vs Utica Comets on Saturday, February 27th. The bus leaves from the CFLC at 5:00 pm; returning after the game. Cost is Adults \$36/Children \$33.

Registrations are being taken for the trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show for Friday, March 11. We leave the CFLC at 12 noon and will be leaving the Show at 7:00 pm. Cost is \$35.

There is still time to register for the Spring Session of Programs; and plenty of room in all of the Programs.

**FOOD for FAMILIES**



St. Philip Neri Knights of Columbus Father Letterhouse Council 6614 is running a Food Drive on the weekend of March 12/13 and we need your help to stock the shelves at the Open Link's Food Cupboard!

Join in our efforts by donating canned goods and non-perishable food items such as: boxed meals, canned vegetables, juice, soup/stew, canned meats, canned pasta, boxed pasta, canned fruits, cereal and peanut butter. We will also be accepting monetary donations that will go directly to Open Link. Together we can make sure that NO child, adult or senior in the Upper Perkiomen Valley goes hungry.

**Collection sites:** SPN Church after Masses; in the Parish Hall at the monthly Breakfast; or at the Catholic Family Life Center in East Greenville.  
Questions, call Joe Dusko: 215.679.4881 or email to [skippyfish@comcast.net](mailto:skippyfish@comcast.net).

**ST. PHILIP NERI CHURCH**

**HOAGIE SALE**

**CHEESE, HAM, ITALIAN or TURKEY**

**TUESDAY – March 1**

**12:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**COST: \$5.00**

**Orders due: February 22**

**Call Rita: 215.679.7009 or**

**Pat: 215.679.5675**

**ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS**

**Vocation Office for Diocesan Priesthood**

Make a difference. Consider the Priesthood.  
[www.HeedTheCall.org](http://www.HeedTheCall.org).

**VATICAN SPLENDORS**

The beauty of Vatican City is currently being hosted at the Franklin Institute with the once in a lifetime exhibit, Vatican Splendors. From the sights and sounds of the grand Basilica to a touchable cast of St. John Paul II's hand, embark on a journey through the ages of artistic expression and religious iconography. Many of the items have never been seen outside of Vatican City.

The Franklin Institute is offering tickets that are discounted; call 215.448.1200; use promo code ARCHPHL and organize your trip today!

**MANUP PHILLY**

Transforming Men, Transforming Families

This year, Man Up Philly will be holding the 18th Annual Men's Spirituality Conference in Philadelphia. We encourage all men to join us for an inspiring time of faith and sharing. Experience our area's largest Men's Spirituality conference first-hand and join others who are ready to Man-Up, by living their true calling.

Join us on Saturday, March 12 at St. Joseph's University - Hagan Arena in Philadelphia.  
Visit [ManUpPhilly.com](http://ManUpPhilly.com) for more information and to register.

**MOM-Heart of the Home Day of Renewal**

Registration is OPEN! Calling moms of all ages and types: new moms, seasoned moms, grandmothers, step mothers. Even if you are not a mom, you are still welcome!

Start your Lenten season by replenishing your spirit. Come listen to two amazing, inspirational morning and afternoon speakers...Renee Eells and Kathi Clapham on February 13, 2016 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at Sts. Simon and Jude Meehan Center in West Chester.

See our registration form for all details at: [www.momheartofthehome.org/events.html](http://www.momheartofthehome.org/events.html) or call: 484.798.7368.

**Women's Weekend Retreat:**

**Mother Boniface Spirituality Center**

**WHEN JESUS SPEAKS**

February 19 - 21

Jesus speaks with His disciples often in Scripture. Do we, in the 21st Century recognize that He is speaking those same words, asking those same questions, to us? Jesus wants to be an intimate friendship with us - we just need to learn how to listen. On this retreat, we will look at seven questions Jesus asks and explore how to move from those questions to a personal response.

Presenter: Anne Trufant

Fee: \$165\* (includes a \$40 non-refundable deposit.

\*\$155 reduced rate for those who mail registration/deposit by Feb. 1

Call: 267.350.1830 or 267.350.1835 for more information or to register.

**Safe Environment Program**

Protecting God's children for Adults Awareness Sessions.

**Winter 2016**

- 2.13.16 Queen of Peace, Ardsley at 10:00 am
- 2.15.16 St. Matthew, Philadelphia at 7:00 pm
- 2.17.16 Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Philadelphia at 6:30 pm
- 2.17.16 SS Simon and Jude, West Chester at 1:00 pm
- 2.20.16 St. Joseph, Downingtown at 9:00 am
- 2.25.16 St. Elizabeth, Uwchlan at 7:00 pm
- 2.29.16 St. Andrew, Newtown at 6:30 pm

To register: [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) or call the Office for Child and Youth Protection: 215.587.2466.

**AREA PARISH SCHOOL NEWS**

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Church

CYO 2016 Dances: \$7.00/ticket

There will be two dances this school year on the following dates: March 5 and May 7. Call Lynn at: 610.283.5494 or email to [lynnearl@comcast.net](mailto:lynnearl@comcast.net).

Check out the website by going to the CYO Dance Registration for more details.

**AREA NEWS**

**Birthright of Pottstown is seeking:**  
**VOLUNTEERS**

Function: Pregnancy Help Center providing support to mothers of unborn babies, including friendship, maternity clothes, referrals and essentials for baby.

Volunteers can choose to help to two and one half hours one day a week Monday thru Friday:

10:00 am to 12:30 pm or

12:30 pm to 3:00 pm

There is also a one hour shift on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There are reserved volunteer parking spaces in a lot across from the office.

New volunteer training is next scheduled for the first three Mondays of February beginning at 3:00 pm at Birthright.

Contact Birthright at 610.327.2626 or at [birthrightpottstown@verizon.net](mailto:birthrightpottstown@verizon.net).

**About Malvern Retreat House** - owned and operated by Catholic lay leadership since 1912, it is the oldest and largest Catholic retreat house in the country - hosting 20,000 people annually at 250 retreats on 125 acres. You are invited to come and reflect, refresh and rejoice in your faith.

To find a spiritual retreat that is right for you, call 610.644.0004 or [MalvernRetreat.com](http://MalvernRetreat.com).

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.*

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2016**

### **FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

#### **All in the family**

During Black History Month, parishes today celebrate National Day of Prayer for African-American and African Families. For more than a quarter-century, this day has been an opportunity to recognize and support the African-American community, which is part of a larger call, reflected in Luke's gospel, for justice and unity in troubled times. When violence and hate rear up in ugliness, turn to your one family, to which each and every one of us belongs in Christ. You and your parish can strengthen and love all your members.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11* ([75](#)).

*“Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.”*

## **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

### **FEAST OF JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, VIRGIN**

#### **End injustice with prayer and action**

A Catholic sister and former slave, Saint Josephine Bakhita is for many a companion in the fight against human trafficking. Her feast day coincides with the U.S. Bishops' Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Human Trafficking. In 2013 when this day was inaugurated, Bishop Eusebio Elizondo called upon the church to “lift our voices loudly in prayer, hope, and love for trafficking victims and survivors” and emphasized awareness and action on their behalf.

Visit the [U.S. Bishops' website](#) for information on how you can be part of the solution.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56* ([329](#)).

*“The LORD intends to dwell in the dark cloud.”***Tuesday, February 9**

#### **Conserve and recycle**

Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si* sends an urgent message that invites you to change your ways and take better care of the earth. The document is a strong testament to our Catholic belief that all creation comes forth from God's goodness and is itself good. God gave us the gift of this home, where we live and breathe, and charged us to take good care of it. This Lent, do something each day to protect this precious gift.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13* ([330](#)).

*“This people pays me lip service but their heart is far from me.”*

## **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

#### **Lent is a communal act**

Lent is an annual opportunity for deep soul-searching. What have I done, and what have I failed to do, to live up to my Baptism? Yet the repentance and conversion called for in this season is a communal decision, not a private one. Together we gather to accept our ashes. Publicly, we remind our fellow citizens that life is short and fragile every step of the way. In our practices of self-denial, greater attention to prayer, and generous almsgiving, we inspire each other with the courage to go the distance these 40 days.



TODAY'S READINGS: *Joel 2:12-18*;  
*2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2*; *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18* ([219](#)). "Gather the people, notify the congregation; assemble the elders, gather the children."

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

### THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

#### Follow me

It's fitting that the day designated as the World Day of the Sick coincides with the liturgical calendar's feast dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes. Lourdes had no claim to fame in 1858, but it was home to a young Bernadette Soubirous. Life in Lourdes changed that year, however, when Mary, the mother of God, appeared repeatedly to Bernadette and, in time, the apparitions and healings gained the attention of the world. Today, 6 million pilgrims travel yearly to Lourdes seeking healing in the spring waters that it is said Our Lady revealed to Bernadette. In solidarity with the pilgrims, offer your day on behalf of those who have lost their health, their livelihood, or their hope.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 30:15-20*;  
*Luke 9:22-25* ([220](#)). "Whoever wishes to be my follower, must take up his cross each day and follow in my steps."

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

### FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

#### Why no meat?

Walk down the aisle of any supermarket these days and you'll find that meat abstinence is no hardship in a world of infinite variety. But it was more difficult back in the second century when

the church was already recording the practice of abstaining from meat on Fridays to observe the day of Christ's crucifixion. By the 13th century, Aquinas argued that meat, milk, and eggs incite lust, and fasting bridles desire since all physical pleasures keep close company. The carnivore lifestyle may or may not be good for body and soul—but self-denial does express our willingness to meet Christ at the cross.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:1-9a*;

*Matthew 9:14-15* ([221](#)). "Would that today you might fast so as to make your voice heard on high!"

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

### SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

#### Turn this thing around!

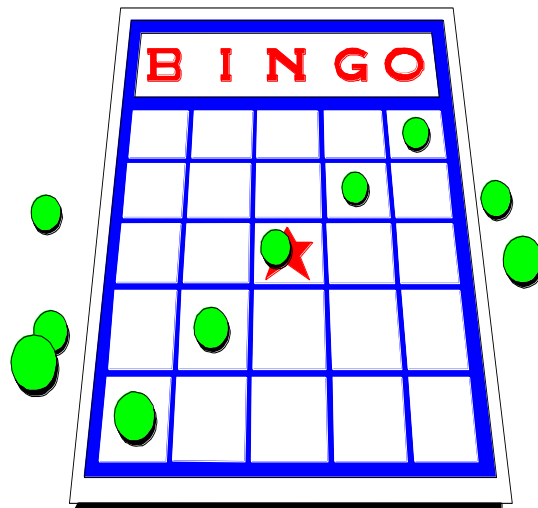
OK, so maybe Ash Wednesday came and went this past week while you were looking the other way. Here's the good news (yes, we still celebrate good news during Lent!): As long as you have breath to breathe it is never too late for what the Greeks called *metanoia*—we call it repentance but the literal meaning is more like the command "About face!" It's about turning your life around and heading in a better direction. We all have traveled a few highways and byways best left behind. If you're on one now, stop in your tracks, turn around, and get your *metanoia* on!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:9b-14*;

*Luke 5:27-32* ([222](#)). "Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do."



# ST. PHILIP NERI – SUNDAY BINGO



**today, February 7, 2016**

## **Working Team #2**

Bingo begins at 1PM;

Doors open at 12 NOON

Parish Hall

1325 Kliner Rd – Pennsburg

215.679.8116

All Regular Games Prize is \$50

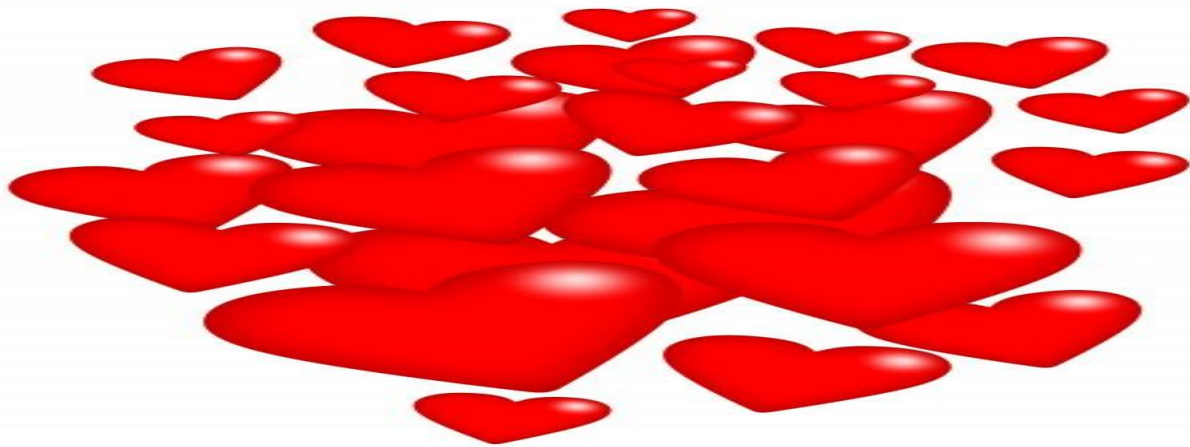
Final Cover All-Special – Prize is \$500

Great food available!

# SAVE THE DATE

SPN Senior Club Luncheon  
**FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

11:30 am in the Parish Hall



Come and enjoy a great catered lunch  
&  
There will be plenty of sweets for the sweet!

To make your reservation, please call  
**Rita Latshaw at 215-679-7009**  
**The reservation deadline is February 19,**  
**2016**

***Cost for lunch is \$3.00 per person***