



St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church

2308 3rd Street Huffman TX 77336

Spirit and Truth Newsletter

February 27, 2022

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Office

Phone: 281-324-1478
Fax: 281-715-5533
parishoffice@stphilip.cc

Mailing Address

PO Box 2363
Huffman, TX 77336

Office Location

2308 3rd Street
Huffman, TX 77336
Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 am-1:00 pm

Bulletin contact

spirit_truth@stphilip.cc

Pastor

Rev. Richard Barker

Mass Times

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday: 8:30 am
Children's Liturgy

Daily Mass

Tues - Fri: 11:45 am
First Sat: 9:00 am

Mary's Blessing Ministry

For financial assistance
please call :
(832) 764-9814

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 pm
or by appointment

ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON

My Finest Decade In Life

To everyone about the age of 70 or above, a moment for us. I appreciate the word *elder*, but I'm not fond of its adjective, *elderly*, or the term *old age* so often used to suggest impairment or irrelevance. *Middle age*, on the other hand, conveys years of full-bodied fervor and keenness embracing both present and future. Peggy Lee's song "It's a Good Day" expresses this well, "You know you gotta get going /If you're gonna make a showing /And you know you got the right of way." Middle age, it seems to me, should go all the way through one's 79th year.

It's a great compliment to say of a senior, *She's young at heart*. This is the gold ring for those who relish each day God gives them. *Young at heart* isn't just luck-of-the-draw, however. Acquiring a confident hope-filled 'life outlook' is very much a conscious vocation. Also, a person's life and self-confidence need "times of refreshing" (Acts 3:19) just like anything else. This is why we share our lives with others, seek out enjoyable activities, *pray constantly* and *celebrate the Mass* at every opportunity.

My parents in their 80's faced a big medical decision. Battleship Bob's doctor said, *You have a large aneurism below your heart*. They could go to a surgeon, he said, or they could wait for it to rupture. The surgeon, himself middle-aged, clearly advocated the rupture option, painting grim surgical prospects of suffering and demise. Mother interrupted the doctor's monolog, saying, *Doctor, perhaps you're not aware of this . . . my husband and I are Christian*. He was mystified as to what my mother meant. He was the only doctor they ever vetoed.

What the Queen of the West meant was, *Our lives and our future together are just as meaningful and purposeful and hope-filled today as on the day we were married*. They found another surgeon. Dad fully recovered from his operation and my parents happily returned to their daily lives. One day mother said, *My finest decade of life was my 50's*. Mom stretched out her fifth decade until the very end of her long life. I still see her carefully navigating her Cadillac out of a crowded parking lot and then flooring it on the boulevard. Father Barker

+++

The Parishioners' Pen Series - "Measure for Measure"

Want to contribute an article? Contact Tim Logsdon, tlogsdon@stphilip.cc



As guidance for Lenten renewal, last week's Gospel had **21** essential teachings (I counted them) for leading better lives, including the directive to "**Do to others** as you would have them **do to you.**" [Lk 6: 31]

Interestingly, the repetition of words that show mercy create a balance of *must-do* actions leading to *blessings-given* results . . . every time! "Be **merciful**, just as your Father is **merciful**. Stop **judging** and you will not be **judged.**" [Lk 6: 36] Examples keep coming: **Condemning/condemned, forgive/forgiven, give/given.**

We receive an amazing reward, a *quid pro quo*: "But love your enemies, and do good, and

(Continued on page 3)



Facebook.com/stphiliphuffmantx



www.stphiliphuffmantx.org

WELCOME TO OUR FAITH FAMILY AT ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE

When our patron saint, Philip the Apostle, invited a friend to meet Jesus, he said simply, *Come and see*. [Jn 1:46] This is our welcome to you. Come and see our faith family!

We invite all the people of our parish, our visitors and guests to experience the parish life of our Catholic community. Visitors who want to learn more about joining our St. Philip parish are encouraged to contact our parish office at 281-324-1478 or parishoffice@stphilip.cc.

St. Philip Ministry News

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." [Isa 6:8]
Ministry meetings held at St. Philip Parish Hall or classrooms. (Contacts: pick-up flyer at church entrance)

Knights of Columbus Council 9794

Meetings on the 3rd Thursdays, 6:30pm. It has never been easier to join!



The KofC BBQ pit is renewed. Our membership and projects are increasing. Men over 18, chat with a St. Philip Knight or come to a welcoming meeting!

Children's Liturgy Program St. Philip 8:30

Sunday Mass; special liturgy participation and discussion.

Mary's Blessings Ministry Members are preparing to celebrate another year serving the poor in the Huffman area. Coming soon: supporting projects/donation drives.

The Women's Guild The next luncheon is March 22 at 1pm at the Ginger Cafe in Atascocita. Our next regular meeting is April 12 at 10am at the church.

St. Philip Choir Come and sing for the Lord; ability to read music is not a prerequisite. Talk to us after Mass!

Confirmation Ministry Our 18 high schoolers are to be Confirmed on September 11. Please keep our Confirmandi in your prayers as they attend their final Confirmation retreat this weekend.

St. Philip Youth Group Our SPY group had the pleasure of serving the greater Houston community last weekend at the Beacon House. The kids came back with an appreciation for the support the center gives the homeless in our community and learned that it is much more than just a meal.

Journey in the Catholic Faith (JCF) The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. We will meet on Feb. 23 at 7 pm. See p. 3 for our special Lenten series.

Liturgical Ministers Join our team of Eucharistic Ministers (EOM) and Lay Readers. Call the parish office, or consult *St. Philip Ministry Contacts* if you would like more information.

Altar Servers See Father Barker after Mass to learn more about this great opportunity to serve our Parish.

Usher Ministry Talk with a St. Philip usher before or after Mass to learn more about our amazing ministry that supports our St. Philip liturgy.

Safe Environment training is required for participation in St. Philip ministries. Contact the Parish office for information.

Blessed are the poor in Spirit
Theirs is the Kingdom of God

Do you need more information on any of our Spirit and Truth articles?

Our parish website includes additional Spirit and Truth newsletter information. We regularly update our ministry pages with current information/events.

Mass Intentions

Sunday Masses

Saturday, February 26

4:00 pm - + Judy Ponson +

Sunday, February 27

8:30 am – Jacqueline Avila

11:00 am – Missa Propulo

Sunday and Daily Mass intentions are mentioned at every St. Philip Liturgy celebration.



Altar Flowers Given

Flowers are used to beautify our altar and to celebrate a loved one, anniversary, special event of joyful occasion, or as a memorial.

Call the parish office at (281) 324-1478 to schedule a date.



Pray For . . .

Graces, Strength and Healing

Joe Lombrana, Steve Fields, Joyce Driscoll, Parishioners in need

For the repose of the soul of

The Faithfully Departed

Use our website "prayer request button" or call the office to be added to the "Pray For . . ." list.

Out of Office Notice

Father Barker will not be available on the following Thursdays:

March 3, March 31, April 28, and May 26. Also, there will be NO DAILY MASS on these dates.

Thank you for your consideration.

Notice: Mass Intentions

The Mass is our greatest and most powerful prayer. The fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption.

We are encouraged to have Mass offered for loved ones, both living and deceased.

To have a Mass offered, please call our St. Philip parish office at (281) 324-1478. We will let you know what Masses are available in the liturgical calendar. Mass intentions may be requested for most weekday and weekend Masses.

Stop by the office or give us a call. We will help you!

Journey in the Catholic Faith



**Lenten Reflection:
The Mysteries of the Rosary**
Please make plans to attend our **WEEKLY** discussions during Lent.

The schedule and focus will be:

March 9- The Joyful Mysteries

March 16- The Luminous Mysteries

March 23- The Sorrowful Mysteries

March 30- The Glorious Mysteries

If you haven't had the chance or are hesitant to join us, make this part of your Lenten journey!

LENTEN Schedule

Ash Wednesday, March 2

Mass with distribution of Ashes
11:45 am and 7 pm

Stations of the Cross and Mass—Every Friday

Stations 6:30 pm
Mass 7 pm
(no morning Mass on Fridays during Lent)

Confessions—Every Saturday

3—3:30 pm

(Continued from page 1) ***"Measure for Measure"***

lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish." [Lk 6: 35]

Yes, in last Sunday's Gospel, we heard twenty-one very good reasons to change our behavior! There are always things in our lives that need improving. This week's challenge is to select one (or several) of the teachings and make them ours! Tim Logsdon

Catholic Corner

"Here am I! Send me." [Isa 6:8]

"I am very busy; maybe I can say YES later. Now? Can't it wait?" [Me 24:7]