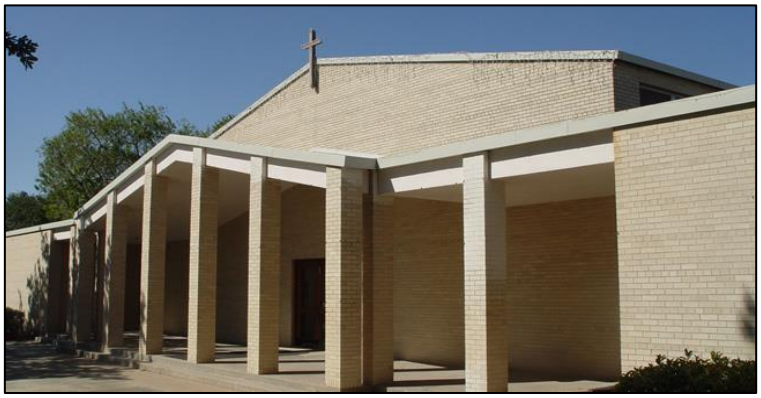
ST. PHILIP NERI CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON – MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **SEPTEMBER 27, 2020**

"TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE HIM KNOWN"



PASTOR: REVEREND CHRISTIAN-MARY ANOSIKE ALIMAJI, MSP

10960 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD HOUSTON, TEXAS 77048-1815

Pastoral Assistants: Deacon Ronald Simon (Retired)…713.734.4530 Deacon Orrin Dwight Burroughs...281.485.1971

Office Hours: Mon.–Fri. 9:00am – 5:00pm Phone: 713.734.0320 Fax: 713.734.0331 Email: officespn@yahoo.com or spnbulletin@yahoo.com Hall: 713.733.8000

To register, complete registration form, call, or come by the office or visit our website. http://www.stphilipnerichurch.org

PARISH SECRETARY
Runda J. Bailey…….713.734.0320

BOOKKEEPER
Chris Cronin……713.659.5461

FACILITIES MANAGER
Arthur Franciour……832.212.5691

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Shirley Moss……713.842.3520

LECTORS
Mary Helen Rideaux……713.398.2382

MINISTER OF MUSIC
Charles Hendricks……713.553.7245

ANGEL & PRAISE DANCER
Monique Auzenne……713.875.3671

BIBLE STUDY
Arnell Wells……713.733.9006
David Collins, Sr……832.758.7246
Fr. Chris Mary, MSP……713.734.0320

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Rose Lewis……713.882.1134

PRAYING CHRISTIANS/CHAIN
Dorothy Babineaux……832.566.6300
Bea Cunningham……832.622.7652

PRISON MINISTRY
Dcn. Ronald Simon……713.734.4530

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Susan Walker……713.734.1961

USHERS & HOSPITALITY
Wilfred Gray…… 713.738.3581

REVISED SCHEDULE DUE TO COVID-19 MASS SCHEDULE

Mon-Tue …….. 7:00 pm
Wed-Thurs-Fri…… …7:00 am
Thurs – Adoration……7am – 7pm
Sunday ……..…10:00 am ONLY!

LITURGY COMMITTEE
Deacon Orrin Burroughs……281.485.1971

MARRIAGE MINISTRY
RCIA
Fr. Chris Mary, MSP……713.734.0320
Barbara Andrus……832.514.0757

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL
Andrill Davis……281.782.3141

CCE FOR CHILDREN
Angelia Linzy……713.733.8000

YOUTH MINISTRY
Karen Roberson ……713.922.4822

SACRISTAN & ACOLYTE
David Collins, Sr……832.758.7246

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for appointment with the Pastor. Preparation classes are required for parents and Godparents.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(CONFESSION)
Only by appointment!

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples must contact the Pastor or any of our Deacons at least six months prior to the intended wedding date. If remarrying and in other special cases, one year before intended wedding date.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Anyone who is scheduled for surgery for a serious illness; anyone whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age should be anointed as soon as possible (preferably before going to the hospital). Contact the Parish priest for anointing.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Please contact the parish office before making arrangements with the funeral home.

Sign up to receive text and email messages from the parish.
Text the word SPNH to 84576 or visit flocknote.com/spnhou

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ez. 18:25-28
Phil.2:1-11 or 2:1-5
Mt. 21:28-32

26th Monday in Ordinary Time
Job 1:6-22
Lk.9:46-50

Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
Dn. 7:9-10, 13-14 or
Rev. 12:7-12a
Jn. 1:47-51

Memorial of St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
2 Tm. 3:14-17
Mt. 13:47-52

Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Is 66:10-14C
Mt. 18:1-4

Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels
Ex. 23:20-23
Mt. 18-1-5, 10

26th Saturday in Ordinary Time
Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17
Lk. 10:17-24

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 CONTRIBUTIONS

CANDLES	*$ 61.00*
RAFFLE BOOKS	*$200.00*
BAZAAR DONATION	*$1100.00*
DEVLOPMENT FUND	*$ 20.00*
MASS INTENTION	*$ 10.00*
CONTRIBUTION	*$4,005.00*
TOTAL	*$5,396.00*

DSF Report –JULY 2020

Goal:	*$30,190.00*
Total Paid	*$9,809.11*
Total Pledged	*$14,534.11*
# of Participants:	*46*
Percent Paid:	*32.49%*

IGNITE CAMPAIGN, 2019 - 2023

Goal	*$182,825.00*
Total Pledged	*$93,559.50*
Total Amount Paid	*$28,239.50*
# of Participants	*49*

In today's second reading, Saint Paul calls upon the Philippians to be of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing." We come here today probably each thinking different things, but during this holy time together we pray that the Holy Spirit may unite us in heart and mind, with the love of God and love of neighbor we have in common, as we lift our voices tosing and pray as one.

TO KNOW HIM AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020: 10:00 am

†REST IN PEACE †
LIN LEBLANC

SPECIAL INTENTIONS
JUDITH & KENE NWEKE
MR. & MRS. COOK

This Mass is live-streamed at 10:00 am every Sunday. Try to join us from home on Philip Neri Facebook or Chris Alimaji Facebook page

BIBLE STUDY

We are now into the second month of weekly Bible Study every Wednesday via teleconference from the comfort of our homes. It is encouraging that those who did not have the opportunity prior to COVID-19, now can study the Bible from home just by calling in. To join us please dial: 1. 605.313.5544 - Access Code: 618351
TOPIC THIS SEASON: THE BOOK OF PSALMS

We Offer Weekday Masses. Masses can still be booked and offered for your intentions. All Mass Intentions must be submitted in writing. All morning Masses begin at 7:00 a.m., evening Masses at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES - 42

Pray for the Sick & Shut In

Get Well Soon

Natasha Alie, Paul Alimaji, Dorothy Babineaux, Anna Broussard, Rose Broussard, Wallace Charles, James Clark, Leola Collins, Marie Collins, Betty Conley, Freddie Conley, Robert Conley, Mary Demus, Earstene Dotson, Caffery Eli, Ruby Fields, Ann Foster, Amy Gallow, William Gardiner, Robert Gillord, Rose Guilbeau, Joseph Guillory, Karlin Good, Peter Good, Sheryl Graham, Anna Guidry, Daniel Guidry, Derella Heflin, Kendall Henry, Kyle Henry, Tracy Henry, Marie Hill, Willie Howard, Laura Huntsberry, Robert Gibson, Jane Johnson, Iona Jones, Vincent Jones, Anna Joseph, Kathryn Kay, Howard Kennerson, Georgia Kyle, Orphy Lewis, Dee Lewis, Damian Manuel, Hazel Marks, Willie Mae Mays, Maxine Matthews, Joseph & Tallulah McMillon, Royce N. Meekins, Latonya Miles, Geraldine Milson, Pauline Minkins, Lillie Morris, Kaelyn Mudd, Matthew Neveu, Shirley Perry, Josiah Peterson, Mary Beatrice Pickering, Krunslete Posey, Ricky Premeaux, Herman Rayme, Verna Rayme, Hila Richard, Geraldine Roberts, Winzell Roberts, Jr., Jaquetta Robinson, Kenneth Robinson, Sr., Kenneth Rogers, Mary Sallie, Merrick Sam, Sr., Shontell Robinson Sanders, The Sanders Family, Margaret Senegal, Mario Scott, Montra Scott, Brittany Sims, Roderick Simmons, Rufus Smith, Barbara Stafford, Roosevelt Stafford, Campsey Thomas, Freddie Ray Thomas, Roland Trent, Mary Ann Thomas, Mary Ward, Johnny & Patricia Williams, Johnny Williams Jr., Cathy Winn, Raymond Winn, Jim 'Papa' Woods, Jean Zeno, Reginald Jackson, Judy Humphries, Marina Guilbeau, Delores Mitchell, Dorothy Spencer, Richard Robles, David A. Robinson, Desria Pradia, Joe Mott, Ruth Thomas and all of the ill and shut-ins.

FROM FR. CHRIS ALIMAJI'S DESK

Reflections Obedience to God's Will

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A. Readings from Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32; and our Song of Praise is Psalm 25. Over the past two months, with the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, we have been on teleconference Bible Study on the Book of Psalms. The psalms are becoming more alive for us here in St. Philip Neri Church. I find the attendance responses very encouraging. Join the parish community from the comfort of your homes so that you will not be left out.

We are still on St. Matthew's line up of parables. In week's gospel the earliest workers in the vineyard complained that the payment they received was unfair. They got the same pay as the latter hired workers. **Although the Prophet Ezekiel delivered his message six centuries before the gospel, he seemed to be responding to it, or vice versa.** "You say, 'the Lord's way is unfair!' Hear now, house of Israel: is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?" (**Ezek. 18:25**). In his message, to stay in sin brings death to a sinner, irrespective of how nice a person you were in the past. On the other hand, or conversely, to turn away from sin, which we call repentance, brings life. Yes, this sounds like a shocking message to you and me. Our God is not pleased with the death of a sinner. Again, the God's thoughts are not our thoughts, his ways are not our ways, (**cf. Is. 55:8**). In our world, we seem to believe and conclude that goodness or holiness is particularized on certain classes of people, just as we associate riches, fame, success in exams, celebrity, and so on, to those known to have excelled in them in the past. While at the same time, we associate poverty, failure, unsuccessfulness, underdevelopment, losers in sports, etc. to certain nations, peoples and teams.

Our surprises would always be that these lifestyles or life-situations are not fixed on some classes of people. Changes can take place either way. God has given his **grace to all**, and his mercy is equally available to all.

Continued

Hence whoever calls on the name of the Lord would be saved. **Salvation is for the humble and repentant person; hence holiness is available to every person irrespective of nationality, color or race**. Jesus made it clear to the chief priests and elders of the people in today's gospel, that class or human judgment or position in human society has no role to play in this matter,(**cf. Mt. 21:28-32**). Rather, **a change of heart to do God's will** is what exonerates a person in spiritual rating and realm. **Holiness is not hereditary**. So, what shall we say or do? What is your opinion?

Obedience to the Father's will, request, directive, command, instruction is our focus. The one who said: "I will", "Yes Sir", but went away without fulfilling his words, his promise counted for nothing. He is not trustworthy. He puts his father to shame, and would face his father's anger and wrath, because he was deceptive. The one who said: "No sir", "I can't do it", changed his mind and fulfilled his father's will and command. Blessings, grace and mercy shall follow him all the days of his life. He shall dwell and live in his father's house and share in his love all his life long. The Lord's parable in this gospel resembles what we experience in our daily lives: in the family, workplace, in church ministries. The one instruction is given to all persons. Some heed to it and make the most of it, bearing fruit in plenty. Others work away, dilute and falsify the directive to the distaste and anger and disobedience of all who hear their distortion. The result is that the request is no longer adhered to. No fruit would come out of it. The desired goal is not reached. Satan takes the glory, unfortunately! Some others walk away, do nothing about it, until their labor will be of no useful purpose, then they want to act upon it. They too would bear rotten fruits. They will never please their master or father with such lackadaisical response. It is true in the place of work where the CEO gives clear message to the Director. He in turn hands it over to the Managers, and they to the Supervisors who again direct their subjects to execute the CEO's instruction. At the end, due to unclear or incomplete sub-instructions, the desired goal is not achieved. The CEO's anger would be more on the Director than on the rest of the staff. That is why the Directors often lose their jobs, while the lower ranks remain and even get promoted. That is why in our works, some get salary increase at high percentage and others at low percentage. Everything counts on the day of reckoning. To whom much is given, much is expected of him or her. This is how things are in our situations in life. "**Obedience is better than sacrifice**," so said the Prophet Samuel, disapproving mere externals without heartfelt obedience, (cf. 1 Sam. 15:22).

In Conclusion: As in Isaiah 45:15-25 and in Philippians 2:1-11, people of all nations will become disciples of the Lord. "Only in the Lord are just deeds and power."

Continued

Let us have the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus. He was humble, emptied himself and obedient to the Father, to the point of death. Every knee shall bend at the name of Jesus. All the descendants of Israel will glory in the Lord's gift of victory.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ENVELOPE COLLECTION

Thank you for taking the pains to return your weekly offerings. We appreciate your efforts. Visit our website to see our latest developments and how you can give online too.

MASS ATTENDANCE

We entered a new phase in our church attendance. We give thanks to God as a parish family for his protection from coronavirus COVID-19. In the new phase we ask the Music Ministry to send two or three persons each Sunday. Let them join in singing, and to play some musical instruments after choosing the appropriate songs for the liturgy, We thank our attending church members here present who voluntarily attend Mass each week, for participating graciously in communal singing, and participating in other activities. We also thank the lectors, ushers and the sacristans for maintaining their roles during this COVID-19 and new ministries that have evolved, braving aside the fear of the virus. May the Lord reward you abundantly! Young adults, 18-35, should consider returning to church. The rest of us please continue to observe the Cardinal's directive regarding age and those with fever and chronic health conditions. Let us know those in need of special prayers.

BAZAAR UPDATE

Raffle Books are now available in the office for pickup during the hours of 9 am – 5 pm, Monday thru Friday. You can also pick it up today, directly following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We are still accepting donations and appreciate your generosity and support of SPN.

Regards,

Jeannette Bougere, Bazaar Chair
Kaphne Harris, Bazaar Co-chair

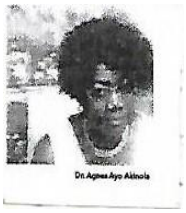
"When we act in accord with the Spirit, we show our kinship with Jesus, "for whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother" (Mark 3:35). Resisting temptation is not easy, for the serpent is a formidable foe, but when we do we progress toward the reward of "an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison

(2 Corinthians 4:17).

How important is your priest?

If the choir is present but the priest isn't, can there be a Mass? If the Eucharistic Ministers are there but the priest isn't, can there be a Mass? If the congregation is there but the priest isn't, can there be a Mass?

If the priest is there but the choir, Eucharistic Ministers, and congregation isn't, can there be a Mass? Let that sink in. Honor, Respect and Pray for your priest. Without him, there is no Eucharist. Show him the appreciation he richly deserves.



Salve Regina International Outreach Ministry Corp.
832-272-6301

Our Programs / Monthly Workshops

1. **Empowered Health Consciousness – opioid crises**
2. **Resilience and Thriving- coping with stress**
3. **CDC recognition curriculum – Prevent T2 – Weekly Meetings**
4. **Mindfulness – Meditation/ Music/ Relaxation**
5. **Yoga/ guided imagery**
6. **Christian talk therapy**

10 Sins That Must Be Confessed

You can't receive the Eucharist if you've:

1) **Missed a weekend or Holy Day Mass without a valid reason.**
2) **Having sex outside of marriage, with yourself (masturbation) or someone else.**
3) **desecrated the Eucharist**
4) **haven't been to confession in a year**
5) **Use artificial birth control - condoms, pills, patches, IUD's, etc.**
6) **sponsor or help in any way with an abortion or any destruction of an embryo.**
7) **Murder**
8) **Hate/Anger**
9) **Lust after someone**
10) **Pride, Greed, Sloth, Envy etc. etc. The list is not exhaustive, and any sin that we have meditated on beforehand, understood its gravity and still chosen to do it can be a deadly sin.**

Dr. Umekei Smith
* Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #159

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PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Almighty and eternal God, in your unfailing love You provide ministers for Your Church, St. Philip Neri. We pray for those whom You call to serve the Church as priests, deacons, and religious. Inspire in them a generous response. Grant them courage and vision to serve Your People. May their lives and service call Your people to respond to the presence of Your Spirit among us that, faithful to the Gospel and hope of Jesus the Christ, we may announce glad tidings to the poor proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free and renew the face of the earth.

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