

**Church of Saint Philip Neri  
Pennsburg, PA 18073  
February 18, 2018**



**Rev. Robert A. Roncase**, Pastor  
**Deacon Michael J. Franks**  
**Deacon Patrick J. Kennedy**  
**Rev. Edmond J. Speitel**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Rev. John J. Scarcia**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Locke Highleyman**, Business Manager  
**Shirley Misiak**, Office Manager  
**Catherine E. Faust**, Director of Music  
**Wendy Benner**, Coordinator of PREP/Religious ED  
**Joan Lampart**, Coordinator of Parish Outreach  
**Tom Dewees**, Director Catholic Family Life Center  
**Dianne Linden**, Administrative Assistant CFLC  
**Anita Fuhs**, Youth Minister

**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

**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 Klinerd Rd; Pennsburg 18073

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

**Religious Education Office Summer 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:** [prep@spnparish.org](mailto:prep@spnparish.org)

**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:** [tdeweese@spncflc.org](mailto:tdeweese@spncflc.org)  
**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:** [youthministry@spnparish.org](mailto:youthministry@spnparish.org)

**ROSARY: Prayed in the Chapel**

Monday's at 1:00 PM

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION in St. Anne Chapel**

**Monday – Friday:**

9:00 am - 7:00 PM

**Saturday:**

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**First Friday's:**

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM 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 AM; 10:00 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's: Communion Service: 8:00 AM

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8:00 AM

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays: 4:00 – 4:45 PM

or: at the Rectory BY APPOINTMENT.

**BAPTISMS:** Please call the Rectory to schedule

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Baptisms are held at the 10 AM Mass

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Baptisms are held at 11:30 AM

**SPONSORS:** Sponsors for Baptism and Confirmation

need to be at least 16 years of age, be baptized and

Receive the Sacraments of Communion

and Confirmation, attend Mass weekly, and if

married, be in a valid Marriage.

**PRE-JORDAN CLASSES**

Call the Rectory Office to schedule.

**MARRIAGES**

Arrangements should be made at least SIX

MONTHS before the date of the wedding.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Stop by or call the rectory between 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

**SHUT-INS**

Call the Parish Outreach Office.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Call the Rectory Office.

## 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.

**Station of the Cross and Benediction** will be held every Friday during lent beginning on **Friday, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>** and continuing every Friday thereafter until **Good Friday Mar 30<sup>th</sup>**.

The starting times will alternate each week as listed below, with the services lasting approximately 45-60 min. It is our hope that by altering the starting time, individuals and families will find more opportunities to participate in these services as a way to walk and draw closer to Christ during the Lenten season. Any questions contact the rectory, or see Fr. Roncase, Deacons Mike or Pat.

### **Lent 2018 - Stations of the Cross and Benediction Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Services</b>
Friday, Feb 16th	7 -8 PM	Stations & Benediction
Friday, Feb 23rd	3-4 PM	Stations & Benediction
Friday, Mar 2nd	7 -8 PM	Stations & Benediction
Friday, Mar 9th	3-4 PM	Stations & Benediction
Friday, Mar 16th	7 -8 PM	Stations & Benediction
Friday, Mar 23rd	3-4 PM	Stations & Benediction
Friday, Mar 30th	3PM	Out-door Stations (weather permitting)

### **Communion Services during Lent:**

Communion services will be made available in the Chapel during the Lenten season beginning on Thursday Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, continuing each day Monday through Friday, with the last service **ending on Wed Mar 28<sup>th</sup>**. The starting times will vary with the day, whereas, on **Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays**, services will begin at **6:30 AM** (morning); and on **Tuesday and Thursdays**, services will begin at **4:30 PM** (afternoon). Duration of the services are expected to last approx. 20 min. Any questions contact the rectory or see Fr. Roncase, Deacons Mike or Pat.

### **Serving at Mass** **Extraordinary Ministers**

### **February 25** **Lectors**

5:00 pm – Mike Dougherty  
Locke Highleyman  
Priest  
Deacon  
Diane Kennedy  
Marci Jaman

S Hunsberger

7:30 am – Mary R. Giambrone  
Barbara Jaruszewski  
Priest  
Deacon  
Maureen Moser  
Paul Moser  
Anthony Pongia  
Joan Pongia  
Chuck Rodgers  
Jan Valeriano  
Mary Weber  
Terry Quatrani

E. Quatrani

10:00 am – Karen Garland  
Mary Goodfellow  
Priest  
Deacon  
Bob Hermley  
Jeanne Hermley

R. DeGrassi  
C. Meinzer

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT** **February 18, 2018**

Monday, February 19  
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM - Adoration in the Chapel  
6:30 AM – Communion Service

Tuesday, February 20  
8:00 AM – Andrew Rocco, (John Burke)  
9:00 AM - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel  
4:30 PM – Communion Service

Wednesday, February 21, Saint Peter Damian  
6:30 AM – Communion Service  
8:00 AM – Stephen Burke Jr. (John Burke)  
9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

Thursday, February 22, The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle  
8:00 am – Fran Daley  
4:30 pm – Communion Service  
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM - Adoration in the Chapel

Friday, February 23, Saint Polycarp  
6:30 am – Communion Service  
8:00 am – Mike Metzinger, (Kitty Heebner)  
9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel  
3:00 pm – Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 24  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel  
5:00 pm - Donald Lammers,  
(Marge Lammers & daughters)

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**February 25, 2018**

7:30 am - For the Living and Deceased Members  
of the Parish.  
10:00 am - Third Anniversary, Joe Cassarella  
(Wife Theresa)

### **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:  
**Philip Myers; Michael Quigley and  
Barbara Schwind.**

For those who have died, and in  
particular for **Edward Lampart**,  
grant them eternal rest and peace.

## **PARISH NEWS**

### **SAINT PHILIP NERI**

#### **AT LARGE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Welcome any questions or comments you  
may have.

Tony Bauer: [ajbauer337@gmail.com](mailto:ajbauer337@gmail.com)  
Ray Carr: [bigdaddy2530@gmail.com](mailto:bigdaddy2530@gmail.com)  
Kevin Charlton: [mpcharlton@comcast.net](mailto:mpcharlton@comcast.net)  
Matthew Fuhs: [matthew.fuhs@comcast.net](mailto:matthew.fuhs@comcast.net)  
Karen Katrinak: [karenkat1@verizon.net](mailto:karenkat1@verizon.net)  
Theresa Walker: [cheg1978@comcast.net](mailto:cheg1978@comcast.net)

### **FIRST FRIDAY**

March 2<sup>nd</sup> is First Friday. Mass is 9:00AM  
in the Saint Anne Chapel. Adoration of  
the Blessed Sacrament in Chapel from  
10AM-7PM. Please commit to spend some  
time with our Lord at the Blessed  
Sacrament.

## **HOUSE BLESSINGS**

House Blessings can be arranged by  
calling or emailing Shirley Misiak at the  
rectory during business hours, Monday  
thru Friday (9:30 AM - 4:30 PM)  
(215.679.9275) or email to:

[ofcmgr@spnparish.org](mailto:ofcmgr@spnparish.org) to make a request.  
The request will then be recorded and  
then forwarded to one of the Deacons who  
will follow up with a phone call to  
schedule a visit.

## **LECTORS NEEDED**

We are in need of more Lectors to assist at  
Mass and various Liturgies; therefore, are  
inviting all parishioners, age 16 years and  
older to consider becoming a Lector.

The only qualifications are a willingness to  
open yourself to the Holy Spirit and  
become a voice in the service of our Lord.

Training will be offered to help everyone  
become comfortable before being  
scheduled to read. Please consider this  
Calling; if you are interested or would like  
more information, contact Deacon Pat:  
[deaconpat@spnparish.org](mailto:deaconpat@spnparish.org), 215.901.8446  
(cell number) or contact Shirley at the  
rectory: [ofcmgr@spnparish.org](mailto:ofcmgr@spnparish.org).

## **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

February 12, 2017	February 11, 2018
Envelopes: \$ 5,300.00	\$ 4,644.00
Online: 1,791.00	1,832.00
Loose: 1,205.00	583.00
Children: 49.00	5.00
Total: \$8,345.00	\$ 7,064.00

## **SPECIAL SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:**

**February 2018**

For those who do not receive Sunday  
collection envelopes or if you are an on-  
line giver, the following special collections  
are:

**Ash Wednesday; Care of Aging/III  
Priests; 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Parish  
Debt Collection 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter.**

## **CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: 2017**

Any parishioner requesting a copy of their contribution statement for 2017, call the rectory office between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM or email to: [ofcmgr@spnparish.org](mailto:ofcmgr@spnparish.org). Statements are mailed upon request only.

## **PARISH IMPROVEMENTS**

In response to parishioner's inquiries, if you would like to make a donation to a specific project being considered by the Church, please put your check or cash in an envelope and place the project you want to donate to on the front of the envelope and put it in the Sunday collection or drop off at the Rectory.

Your dollars will be put towards your specific project. The top four (4) projects currently being looked into are:

1. New Church Roof
2. New Church AC
3. Repaving Church Parking Lot
4. Refurbishing of Church Organ

## **FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

### **AND OTHER ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT**

**2018**

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018, on all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and 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.

## **Give a St. Philip Neri Memorial Gift!**

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 **Ron DiGiralomo**; requested by: Sal & Sue DiMarco; Greg & Roseann Hayes; Bob & Jeanne Hermley; Bob & Maureen Piccone and Smith Family.

In memory of **Edward Lampart**; requested by: Pete and Linda Frank; James and Mary R. Giambrone; and Kitty Heebner.

We also have Living Memorials for those special occasions in life.

## **PARISH BREAKFAST**

Our breakfast was held on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> with 331 people in attendance. Be sure to save the date as our next breakfast is March 11<sup>th</sup>!

## **SAINT PHILIP NERI CHURCH**

### **All-You-Can-Eat Buffet Breakfast!**

**Sunday - March 11, 2018**

**8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Menu: Scrambled eggs. Bacon. Sausage.  
Scrapple. Chipped beef.  
Home fried potatoes. French toast.  
Cereal. Toast  
Milk. Coffee. Hot tea. 3 juices.**

**Omelette Station:** prepared to order - always with a minimum of four (4) different ingredients.

### **Make your own Waffles:**

Fix'n Bar: Yogurt, Granola and Fresh Fruit

### **Homemade Egg Rolls for sale!**

**For every 100 sold breakfasts, one FREE will be given away!**

<b>Seniors (60 &amp; up):</b>	<b>\$ 8.00</b>
<b>Adults (11 - 60)</b>	<b>\$ 9.00</b>
<b>Ages: 4 - 11</b>	<b>\$ 5.00</b>
<b>4 &amp; under:</b>	<b>\$ 1.00</b>

**Checks, major credit cards accepted.**

## **BREAKFAST** (continued)

There were three (3) winners to receive a FREE Breakfast; they are:

Ken Martin, Phil McMahon & Donna Rehak.

## **SPN CHURCH HOAGIE SALE**

Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

CHEESE, HAM, ITALIAN or TURKEY

12:00 NOON – 6:00 PM

Orders are to be placed by March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Call Rita: 215.679.7009

## **SPN CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE CENTER**



### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

(Registration required for all Events/Programs)

Monday, Feb. 19 – Holocaust Survivor David Tuck – CFLC – **PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM.** Cost is \$5.

**Tuesday, Feb. 20** – Our House Ministries and Calix – CFLC – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Cost is free.

**Friday, Feb. 23** – Home Staging Series – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Cost is free.

**Friday, Feb. 23** – Insurance 101 Series – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Cost is free.

**Friday, Feb. 23** – Criminal Justice Series – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Cost \$20/4 sessions or \$5/each session.

**Friday, Feb. 23** – Family Bowling at Earl Bowl, Quakertown – **6:30 pm – 8:30 pm** - \$5/person includes shoe rental and refreshments!

**Wednesday, March 7** – Philadelphia Flower Show – Philadelphia Convention Center

This year's theme is "Wonder of Water"! Wander around an amazing world of great gardening/design dating back to 1829! Cost is \$52 (includes ticket and transportation). 9:00 am – 3:30 pm. Registration due Feb. 21.

**Saturday, March 10** – "Cross & Light" – St. John Bosco's, Hatboro, PA - This is an international, critically acclaimed musical and video surround experience on the Passion and Resurrection of Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit! Cost: \$40 (includes ticket and transportation). 11:45 am – 3:30 pm. Registration due Feb. 24.

**Saturday, April 14** – Museum of the Bible – Washington, DC - Enjoy an immersive and personalized experience as you explore one of the world's largest assemblies of biblical artifacts and texts in the world!

Cost: \$57 (includes tickets and transportation). Lunch and dinner are not included. 7:00 am – 6:00 pm. Registration due Mar. 30.

**NOTE: SOLD OUT – WARREN COUNTY SPRING WINERY TRAIN TRIP for Saturday, May 12.**

**JOYFUL HEART LOUNGE AND LIBRARY** – All DVD Blu-Ray movies shown on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons are available to rent out for free! Also check out our periodicals and magazines; e.g., *Our Sunday Visitor*, *Catholic Digest*, *Good News*, *Reminisce*, *America*, and *Town & Country!* Hours are Tues/Wed/Thurs 8:30 am – 2:00 pm and Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

### **SPN SENIOR CLUB CALENDAR 2018**

February 28:

Luncheon – Celebrate MARDI GRAS

Speaker: Roseanne Strang from TransNet

March 28:

Third Anniversary Luncheon:

Wearin' of the Green

April 9:

Bus Trip to Atlantic City Casino

April 25:

Luncheon

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Eiss on Aging Eyes

May 23:

Luncheon

Mother's & Father's Day Celebration

June 27:

Lunch

Maintaining Physical Balance – David Brewer

July 10:  
Bus Trip to Atlantic City Casino

August 20:  
Bus Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse –  
“Nun sense”

August 22:  
Luncheon  
Speaker: Kevin Crilley – Green Lane Park:  
“Then and Now”

September 26:  
Luncheon  
“Navigating the Government Systems for  
Senior Services”

October 11:  
Bus trip to Penn’s Peak:  
“An afternoon with Dolly & Kenny”

October 24:  
Luncheon/Halloween Party

November 14:  
\*Luncheon:  
Honoring our Veterans – Missing Man

November 30:  
Bus Trip to American Music Theatre:  
“The First Noel”

December 19:  
\*Luncheon:  
St. Mary’s School/Children’s Choir

### **ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS** **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? The annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul at the 5:15 PM Vigil Mass with Archbishop Charles Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., presiding. This mass is to pray for and with all married couples who are newlyweds or who have been married 25 years or more or 50 years and more. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to attend. Registration required.

#### **March 3<sup>rd</sup>: 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM**

Event: Man-Up Spirituality Conference “Christ Crucified”, the Power and Wisdom of God. This year, we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Man-Up Spirituality Conference in the Archdiocese. Location is at the Mirinda Center – Neumann University in Aston. To learn more: [manupphilly.com](http://manupphilly.com).

### **AREA NEWS**

#### **METANOIA (metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com)**

Tuesday, February 20:  
Theology on Tap @ Appalachian Brewing Co.,  
Collegeville. Doors open at 7PM; talk starts 7:30PM.  
Speaker is: Megan Mastroianni

Tuesday, February 27:  
Holy Hour @ Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish,  
North Wales at 7:30 PM

#### **March 2018:**

Tuesday, March 13:  
Bible Study @ St. Rose of Lima – N.Wales – 7:30PM

Sunday, March 18:  
Service Project at Manna on Main Street – Saint  
Stanislaus at 9:00 AM

Tuesday, March 20:  
Theology on Tap at Appalachian Brewing Company in  
Collegeville. Doors open 7:00PM; talks at 7:30PM

Tuesday, March 27:  
Holy Hour @ Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish  
in North Wales at 7:30 PM.

### **Upper Perkiomen Middle School Play:** **PRINCESS WHO**

Performances are Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM and Saturday,  
February 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.  
Cost for admission is \$5.00. Tickets may be  
pre-ordered, but, are also selling at the  
door. There is also a FREE Senior Citizen  
Show on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from  
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM.



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

#### **Sunday, Feb 18, 2018**

#### **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

#### **Get outside your comfort zone this Lent**

The desert’s a great place to encounter the Holy, as a  
long tradition of desert fathers and mothers attests.

But the desert's a traditional place to make intimate acquaintance with your demons as well—which is another reason Jesus, and generations of his followers, made friends with cacti. It's also why we symbolically enter the Lenten desert each year, fasting, praying, and giving alms. We allow the normal lifestyle padding to wear a little thinner and feel our vulnerable spots with more clarity. Make a commitment this Lent to explore your limits. Bring an extra supply of humility!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15 (23). "The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained [there] . . . tempted by Satan."*

### Monday, Feb 19, 2018

#### LENTEN WEEKDAY

##### Root yourself in solidarity

Jesus' core message—that we are one—is surely one of the great mysteries of existence. This truth is so hard to accept because our senses tell a different story: We are separate, different, and alone. We need an image to help us realize what our senses cannot. Picture the giant redwood trees of California: Did you know they only grow in groves? Moreover, each tree's roots extend and grasp the roots of the surrounding trees, forming a strong, interconnecting network that serves to nourish and sustain all of them equally. The next time you are tempted to think of someone as "the other," remember the redwood trees and their invisible, interlocking roots.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224). "Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me."*

### Tuesday, Feb 20, 2018

#### LENTEN WEEKDAY

##### Turn it over

One of the many advantages of memorized prayers such as the "Our Father" is that we can say them when we have no words of our own; we don't have to

think. That's also one of their disadvantages: We don't have to think. In fact, we may have forgotten exactly what we are saying when we pray the "Our Father." For example, do we really mean, "Thy will be done?" or are there unspoken conditions attached: "Thy will be done—as long as it doesn't interfere with my carefully laid plans for my life"? To turn everything over to God is truly the only way to live without fear. It's what Jesus did; it's what we are called to do as well.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). "This is how you are to pray: 'Our Father who art in heaven.'"*

### Wednesday, Feb 21, 2018

#### MEMORIAL OF PETER DAMIEN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

##### Stick with what is priceless

Peter Damien (1007-72) was a generous giver. But simony—the practice of buying spiritual offices or spiritual authority—was one kind of giving he detested. The activity was widespread in the medieval church and did great damage to the church's moral standing, so much so that Dante condemned those who practiced simony to the eighth circle of hell. Perhaps the venue largely has shifted from church to state—where we find corporate lobbyists and other influence-peddlers with lots of cash—but the sin remains the same. Damien would not be amused to see simony persist in any form, and neither should we.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). "Just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so will the Son of Man be to this generation."*

### Thursday, Feb 22, 2018

#### FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF PETER THE APOSTLE

##### Pull up a seat

The Latin word for "chair" is *cathedra*, and a *cathedra*—you see where this is going—is the "seat" of a bishop, thus making the bishop's church a

*cathedral*. Today's feast, however, commemorates a particular "chair": that of Saint Peter and the authority Jesus gave him to be the primary leader of the early church. Peter was martyred in Rome, and so the "see" (*sedes*—"a place to sit") of Peter became the Holy See, the seat of the pope as the first among bishops and the leader of the Roman Catholic Church. As the Liturgy of the Hours says, the Feast of the Chair of Peter the Apostle is a day to celebrate the "unity of the church founded upon that apostle."

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19 (535)*. "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church."

### Friday, Feb 23, 2018

#### MEMORIAL OF POLYCARP, BISHOP AND MARTYR; DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

##### Be fruitful in faith

Polycarp died around the year 155 at the age of 87, so he was a very early Christian who lived while some of the original apostles were still alive. The apostle John appointed Polycarp bishop of the city of Smyrna (now Izmir in Turkey), where Polycarp faced many challenges during his long years in office. Christians were a persecuted minority, while most of the population still worshipped the Roman gods. During one persecution, Polycarp was captured and, even though very advanced in age, sentenced to be burned at the stake. But tradition has it that the flames would not burn him, so he was stabbed to death. His remains are entombed with honor in the church of St. Ambrose in Rome, and his long life of service to the early church is remembered each year on this day. The name Polycarp means "many fruits." May all of our lives be as fruitful!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228)*. "Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court."

### Saturday, Feb 24, 2018

#### LENTEN WEEKDAY

##### Less is more

The phrase "less is more" catches our attention because at first glance it seems illogical. How can less be more? They're opposites, and of the two, "more" is often regarded as better. But taken in a different light, the phrase makes good sense. Maybe we exercise restraint during a tense meeting with a co-worker, saying only what is needed instead of saying something further in order to "win" an argument. Maybe we forgive someone who has hurt us with a lie instead of reminding them over and over that our pain is their fault. With less, we become more—more peaceful, more caring, more Christ-like.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229)*. "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."





## **SPN SENIOR CLUB LUNCHEON**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018  
11:30 AM - PARISH HALL

Our speaker will be Roseanne Strang, from:  
**TRANSNET**

**Reservations are a must!**

Call Rita Latshaw at 215.679.7009

**Reservation deadline is February 23, 2018**

**Suggested lunch offering is \$5.00 pp**

*Please donate loose change to the jar!*



**PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW –  
 “WONDER OF WATER”  
 CONVENTION CENTER, PHILADELPHIA, PA  
 WEDNESDAY - MARCH 7, 2018  
 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM  
 (please arrive 15 minutes prior to departure)**



Join us for a bus ride to Philadelphia for this year’s “WONDER OF WATER” theme! Enjoy Designer’s Studio where florists from around the world compete! Wander through Hamilton Horticult to view and learn about container-grown plants. The Gardener’s Studio is the perfect place to take a break and hear about new ideas for your garden. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the food kiosks at the show, the cafeteria on the second level, or across the street at the Reading Terminal Market!

**!!! REGISTRATION REQUIRED !!! - DEADLINE FEBRUARY 21**

**Cost: \$52.00 – includes tickets and transportation (does not include lunch).**

**REGISTER: [www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com](http://www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com); or  
 mail form with check payable to SPN CFLC to:**

**SPN Catholic Family Life Center, 26 East 6<sup>th</sup> St., East Greenville, PA 18041; or phone 215-679-2237.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\*Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\*Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Required for notification of change or cancellation**