

Church of Saint Philip Neri
Pennsburg, PA 18073
December 17, 2017



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:

Rectory	215.679.9275
Youth Ministry	267.733.2572
Religious Education/PREP	215.679.7839
Catholic Family Life Center	215.679.2237
Parish Hall	215.679.8116

Fax Numbers:

Rectory	215.679.0386
Religious Education/PREP	215.679.8370
Catholic Family Life Center	215.679.8370

Church & Rectory Address:

1325 Klinerd Rd; Pennsburg 18073

Hours: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Email Address: ofcmgr@spnparish.org
Website Address: 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

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
Website Address: 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

ROSARY: Prayed in the Chapel

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION in St. Anne Chapel

Monday:
9:00 am - 5:00 PM
Tuesday - Friday:
9:00 am - 7:00 PM
Saturday:
10:00 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 - 5:00 PM
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

2nd Sunday Baptisms are held **at** the 10 AM Mass
3rd Sunday Baptisms are held at 11:30 AM

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

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.

Serving at Mass Extraordinary Ministers

5:00 pm – Lisa Edleman
Mike Edleman
Priest
Deacon
Dawn Ellis
Bob Ellis

7:30 am – Anthony Pongia
Joan Pongia
Priest
Deacon
Maureen Moser
Paul Moser

10:00 am – Karen Garland
Mary Goodfellow
Priest
Deacon
Joshua Hewitt
Lillian Hewitt
Judy Horvath
Matt Horvath
Christine Kemp
Theresa Walker
Ken Mayer
Marilynn Mayer

Second Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

Monday, December 18
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Adoration in the Chapel
5:00 pm – Pauline & Frank Bozzelli,
(Bozzelli family)

Tuesday, December 19
8:00 am – First Anniversary, Connie Marks
9:00 AM - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 20
8:00 am – Irwin Yerger, (Joe & Lee Johnson)
9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

Thursday, December 21, St. Peter Cansius
8:00 am – Claude Balduzzi,
(Joan Mullaney)
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM - Adoration in the Chapel

Friday, December 22
8:00 am – Gerald Mullaney, (Family)
9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel

Saturday, December 23
10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Adoration in the Chapel
5:00 pm – Living and Deceased Members
of the Parish.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 24, 2017

7:30 am – Andrew & Anna Kotch, (Joanna Stauffer)
10:00 am – First Anniversary, Joe Verna
(Mary Verna)
5:00 pm – Christmas Eve Mass
8:00 pm – Christmas Eve Mass
10:00 pm – Christmas Eve Mass

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:

Pat D'Amico; Philip Myers; Cody Moore; Joan Pongia; Michael Quigley.

For those who have died, grant them eternal rest and peace.

PARISH NEWS

SPN AT LARGE PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS -
Welcome any questions or comments you may have.

Tony Bauer: ajbauer337@gmail.com

Ray Carr: bigdaddy2530@gmail.com

Kevin Charlton: mpcharlton@comcast.net

Matthew Fuhs: matthew.fuhs@comcast.net

Karen Katrinak: karenkat1@verizon.net

Theresa Walker: cheg1978@comcast.net

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

December 11, 2016	December 10, 2017
Envelopes: \$ 4,670.00	\$ 4,080.00
Online: 2,261.00	2,071.00
Loose: 663.00	651.00
Children's: 15.00	35.00
Total: \$ 7,609.00	\$ 6,837.00
Holy Day: \$ 1,318.00	\$ 1,358.00
Puerto Rico:	\$ 600.00

SAINT PHILIP NERI CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Christmas Eve, December 24th:

5:00 PM

8:00 PM

10:00 PM

Christmas Day, December 25th:

9:00 AM

January 1st:

New Year's Day:

9:00 AM

**We wish you a Blessed Christmas
and a Holy New Year!**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, December 20th:

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM in Church

Saturday, December 23rd:

3:30 PM – 4:45 PM in Church

DECORATING the CHURCH for CHRISTMAS

We will decorate the Church for Christmas on Friday, December 22nd at 6:00 PM. Pizza will be provided.

Everyone is welcome to come out and join in on the fun; so mark your calendar and save the date!

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

Please put checks in separate envelopes.

PARISH IMPROVEMENTS:
Special Collections Report

Starting Balance:

\$ 5,754.00

Church Roof:

July – November 2017

\$ 5,170.00

Church Organ:

July – November 2017

\$ 300.00

Parking Lot:

July – November 2017

\$ 250.00

Church A.C. System:

July – November 2017

\$ 0.00

Unspecified:

July – November 2017

\$ 1,030.00

Total:

\$12,504.00

HOUSE BLESSINGS

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

SPN PARISH BREAKFAST

Breakfast w/Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus was held on Sunday, December 10th with 446 people attending!

There were four winners for a FREE breakfast: Lillian Hess; Lauren McKellar; Rachael Robinson & Cheryl Seip.

Children's Basket winner: Aiden Thaderay
Adult Basket winner: Nina Guzman

Our next breakfast is Sunday, January 14th from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Save the date!

Note that beginning in January, Breakfast hours are going to be 8AM – 12PM with the exception of Mother's Day and Christmas, it will continue to be 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

SPN CHURCH BREAKFAST HELP

Wanted: person/s to wash, sort, cook potatoes. Start at 8:00 AM on Thursday.
Person/s to peel potatoes.

Start at 10:00 AM Thursday prior to monthly Breakfasts.

Contact Bill Robinson: 215.896.5949 or email: wcrobinson2@hotmail.com.

CLEANING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We are going to be cleaning the Church for Christmas on Tuesday, December 19th at 9:00 AM.

If you would like to assist, call Shirley at the Rectory Office between 10AM & 4PM or email to: ofcmgr@spnparish.org by Monday, December 18th.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: LENTEN FISH FRY

Our next committee meeting will be on Thursday, January 4, 2018 in the Parish Hall Meeting Rooms.

Anyone wishing to be part of the planning, call or come and join us at the meeting. Contact Bill Robinson: 215.896.5949 or email to: wcrobinson2@hotmail.com.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: 2017

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

FREE THROW CONTEST

Sponsored by: KOC 6614

St. Philip Neri Parish Hall

Monday - January 15, 2018

Registrations begin at 6:30 PM

This contest is for boys and girls ages nine thru fourteen years old. Any questions, call Steve at: 610.675.5633.

COME-N-GO BINGO

SPN PARISH HALL

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday - January 20, 2018

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Games begin at 6:30 PM

Cost: .25/game

50/50 cash pots and special bonus and gift prize pots.

Menu: hot/cold foods & drinks

If you bring a non-perishable item to benefit Open Link, you play two free games of Bingo!

Sponsored by: KOC 6614

Call Ray at: 215.679.6405 for more information.

SPN SENIOR CLUB

The Senior Club held their monthly gathering on Wednesday, November 15th with 115 people attending!

We celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional turkey dinner and lots of desserts! Along with the holiday celebration, we also honored our living and deceased veterans. Many of our members brought pictures of family and a Table of Honor displayed the photos of the Service Men and Women. The PA National Guard from Southampton Road in Philadelphia provided a Color Guard for this beautiful and moving tribute. Also, Alyssa McQuirns from the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center gave a presentation of 'The Poppy - Symbol of Remembrance.'

Kim Jacobs was our November birthday winner and Theresa Gilmore was the 50/50 drawing.

SPN CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE CENTER

The 2018 Spring Catalog will be mailed to homes in January – many new programs for the entire family to enjoy!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesdays, Jan. 9, Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 13 – Catholicism: the Pivotal Players (Bishop Barron Series)

Hear about the lives and works of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Catherine of Siena, Bl. John Henry Newman, G.K. Chesterton, and Michelangelo in this series. Cost: \$25.00 covers the cost of the study guide.

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the CFLC.

PRE-REGISTER:

www.catholicfamilylifecenter.com or call 215-679-2237.

Joyful Heart Lounge and Library – open Tuesdays/Thursdays/Fridays/ 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Other days/times by appointment only.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

COMING IN LENT 2018!

The Cross and the Light Passion Play

Encounter Christ anew through The Cross and the Light Passion Play in Lent 2018. This is an international, critically acclaimed musical and video surround experience of the greatest love story of all time. “The Cross and the Light opens the floodgates of God’s mercy and love . . . You can’t deliver the Good News of Jesus in a more dynamic and sensational way in our present time! All ages will be drawn to Jesus and His unconditional love for each and every person.”

Don’t miss this opportunity to experience the joy of the Good News of Jesus Christ. To watch videos, see performance schedule and to purchase tickets online, go to: www.crossandlight.com/stjohnbosco

Lent 2018 (continued)

Performance Schedule:

St. John Bosco in Hatboro, PA

March 8, 2018 at 10AM

March 8, 2018 at 7PM

March 9, 2018 at 10AM

March 9, 2018 at 7PM

March 10, 2018 at 1PM

March 10, 2018 at 7PM

Were you born at Misericordia Hospital?

Mercy Philadelphia Hospital, formally Misericordia, is celebrating 100 years of service.

We invite those born at Misericordia to discover their birthplace and our proud heritage. Join us on Sunday – January 28, 2018, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM for an Open House Tour and reception, including cake and a birthday toast to celebrate our Centennial. RSVP is required. Call Mercy Philadelphia Hospital Administration at: 215.748.9300 by January 21, 2018.

Free parking is available in our parking garage located at 501 S. 54th Street.

AREA SCHOOL NEWS

Saint Philip Neri, East Greenville

Students excel at:

Pope John Paul II High School

Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our High School Students on the First Quarter Report.

We are particularly proud of those who demonstrated academic excellence.

Students who received First Honors include:

Thomas Heibeck '19 and
Veronica Souder '21.

AREA NEWS

METANOIA

(metanoiayoungadults@gmail.com)

Tuesday, December 19 - Christmas Party at Appalachian Brewing Co. Doors open at 7PM; Talk begins at 7:30 PM

**No Holy Hour in December

January 2018:

Saturday, January 6:

Rock Climbing at Philadelphia Rock Gym in Oaks, PA.

Cost is \$10/person arriving at 11:45 AM

Tuesday, January 9:

Bible Study at St. Rose of Lima in North Wales

Tuesday, January 16:

Theology on Tap at Appalachian Brewing Company in Colledgeville. Doors open at 7PM, talk starts at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, January 23:

Holy Hour at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish, North Wales.

MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE

Events: Flame of Love Retreat: December 15-17 directed by Fr. James Blount. This retreat will focus on Why Shop Until You Drop When You Can Purchase the Pearl of Great Price? Call or visit our website which is referenced above.

RETREAT FOR HEALING ABUSE

Grief to Grace - Healing the Wounds of Abuse. Our upcoming Philadelphia area Program Retreat will be held February 18th-23rd.

This is a fully integrated spiritual and psychological program for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse.

Healing Abuse (continued)

Offered in the privacy of a Christian retreat setting, the 5 day program offers a very unique process for helping survivors of abuse to grieve the past and discover healing and transformation. This retreat is helpful to people of every religious background and practice, as well as those who have lost their faith in God because of the betrayal of abuse. Call Jeanne at info@griegtorgrace.org or 610.203.2002.



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

Sunday, Dec 17, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Silver and gold

If the seasons had a beauty contest, Advent would take most of the prizes. In the darkest hours of the year, we adorn every corner with silver and gold, tinsel and lights. Merry music flows into the streets, and plates are heaped with sweetness. It's as if misery is officially banished from view for the final month of the year. Truth tellers pick up the cheery beat: Isaiah brings glad tidings, Paul shouts "Rejoice!" and John the Baptist testifies to the light. Share the beauty and the joy of Advent with someone who may still be in the dark.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28 (8)*. “For [God] has clothed me . . . like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels.”

Monday, Dec 18, 2017

ADVENT WEEKDAY

The Lord be with you

Life can seem chaotic. This is true in the mad rush to Christmas, but also in the everyday challenges that make us wonder if life makes sense. In response to this human need for order and meaning we pray that the Lord, the one who holds all things together, will be with us: “O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: Come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.” Be mindful throughout your day that the Lord is with you in all that you do.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25 (194)*. “*They shall name him Emmanuel, which means, ‘God is with us.’*”

Tuesday, Dec 19, 2017

ADVENT WEEKDAY

God is full of surprises

Any child will tell you that part of the magic as Christmas approaches is anticipating the surprise that will come from opening a wrapped gift or digging into a stocking and finding what is hidden inside. Mary’s cousin

Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist, must have felt an enormous wave of surprise when she discovered “what was hidden inside”—that she was pregnant at an advanced age. Surprise was followed by gratitude for the gift that had been given to her. We might pause for a moment today to unwrap the many surprising gifts with which God already has graced our lives.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25 (195)*. “*This is what the Lord has done for me.*”

Wednesday, Dec 20, 2017

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Find your calling joyfully

Many people believe God has a special plan just for them—if only they could figure out what it is! From this point of view, discovering what God wants for a person is like a search for a missing key: Find it, and you can get in; don’t, and you’re locked out. Discerning what God may be calling you to, though, may be as simple as seeing where—in the words of campus minister Sally Willitzer in the 2011 issue of *VISION Vocation Guide*—you “can best be an instrument of love in the world,” and that means not only discovering where you can most effectively help others but also what makes you happy.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38 (196)*. “*Do not be afraid . . . for you have found favor with God.*”

Thursday, Dec 21, 2017

**MEMORIAL OF PETER CANISIUS,
PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Light that candle**

Here's a quote suitable to toast the winter solstice, the waning year's longest night: "Let the world indulge its madness. Let it wear itself out, for it cannot endure and passes like a shadow. But we, buried deep in the wounds of Christ, why should we be dismayed?" This comes to us courtesy of Peter Canisius (1521-97), Jesuit theologian and defender of the church during the Protestant Reformation. Often we cannot ignore the world's madness and must vigorously oppose it. But sometimes our candle lit against the darkness is all the opposition that's required.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45 (197). "The Lord, your God, is in your midst."*

Friday, Dec 22, 2017

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Try a little kindness

If we focus only on our own well-being and interests, we are likely to end up with a head full of confused and scattered thoughts. There is a remedy, however, to the trap of becoming self-absorbed. This is the time of year to get outside of our own circular thoughts and extend a hand to another. An act of charity or kindness, no matter how minor it may appear to be, is likely to warm our

hearts and melt away our troubled thoughts.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). "He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts."*

Saturday, Dec 23, 2017

**MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF KANTY,
PRIEST**

Greater love would be hard to find

If John of Kanty in 15th-century Poland could have known he would one day be venerated as a saint, he would have been astonished. Although he was a brilliant scripture scholar, he was also a humble parish priest. Even when treated unfairly for years, he could accept unjust blame and criticism without flinching because he believed that he could protect his parishioners and defeat the power of evil by absorbing it into himself. In a culture of blame like our own, the ability to defuse violence and anger is a rare gift but one we should cultivate instead of seeking revenge or proving ourselves right when wronged.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66 (199). "See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me."*

Bishop Robert Barron's
CATHOLICISM
THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS
VOLUME I



Bishop Robert Barron continues his journey around the world to explore a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church, but changed the course of western civilization.

CATHOLICISM: *The Pivotal Players* features six people who responded to the grace of God to make a difference.

ST. FRANCIS of ASSISI: *The Reformer*
radically and literally lived as Jesus commanded to transform the Church.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS: *The Theologian*
demonstrated that faith and reason are not at odds, as they come from the same source.

ST. CATHERINE of SIENA: *The Mystic*
gave testimony to the reality of the spiritual dimension here and beyond.

BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN: *The Convert*
left a prestigious career to seek and preach the apostolic faith.

G. K. CHESTERTON: *The Evangelist*
publicly, humbly, and humorously announced the paradoxes and truth of Christianity.

MICHELANGELO: *The Artist*
dramatically demonstrated that beauty and creativity are a primary route of access to God.



www.WordOnFire.org ✦ www.PivotalPlayers.com

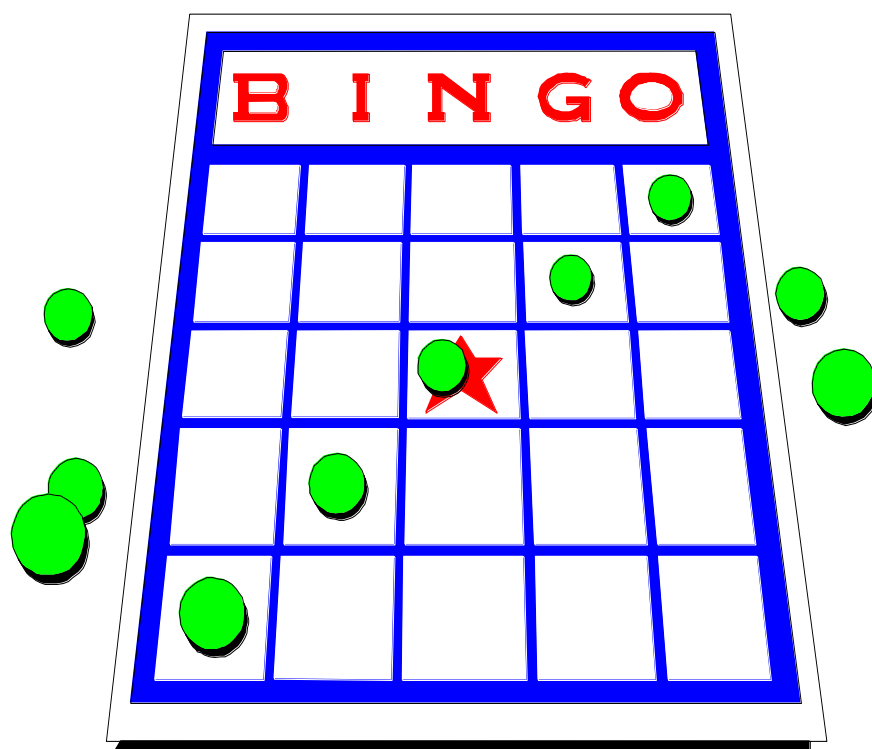
TUESDAY EVENINGS AT THE CFLC FROM 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM:

JANUARY 9, JANUARY 16, JANUARY 23, JANUARY 30, 2018

FEBRUARY 6, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.CATHOLICFAMILYLIFECENTER.COM OR PHONE 215-679-2237

SPN SUNDAY BINGO



January 7, 2018

Working Team #1

Bingo begins at 1PM -

Doors open at 12 NOON

Parish Hall: 215.679.8116

All Regular Games Prize is \$50

Final Cover All-Special - Prize is \$500

Great food available!!