

O Holy Night

Christmas 2022



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Holy Spirit & St. Philip Church
The Epiphany of the Lord
January 8, 2023



Saturday, January 7 – Vigil of the Solemnity of the Epiphany

4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Philip – Marguerite Slusser
(Denny & Melary Slusser)

5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Spirit – John Cardinal
(Ed & Judy Bracken)

Sunday, January 8 – Solemnity of the Epiphany

Readings: 20: Is 60:1-6 / Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 /
Mt 2:1-12

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip – Ruth Stelzer
(St. Philip Parish)

**11:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Spirit – For the People of Holy
Spirit & St. Philip Parishes**

Monday, January 9 – The Baptism of the Lord

Readings: 21: Acts 10:34-38 / Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10 / Mt 3:13-17

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip – Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
(Fr. William Arnold)

Tuesday, January 10 – First Week in Ordinary Time

Readings: 306: Heb 2:5-12 / Ps 8:2ab, 5-9 / Mk 1:21-28

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip – Emil & Marie Klein
(Elizabeth Klein)

Wednesday, January 11

Readings: 307: Heb 2:14-18 / Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 / Mk 1:29-39

9:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Spirit – Sr. Joan Popovits, O.P.
(Barb & Ron Scherer)

Thursday, January 12

Readings: 308: Heb 3:7-14 / Ps 95:6-7c, 8-11 / Mk 1:40-45

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip – Harvey Giffin
(St. Philip Parish)

Friday, January 13 – St. Hilary

Readings: 309: Heb 4:1-5, 11 / Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8 / Mk 2:1-12

**8:15 a.m. Mass at Holy Spirit – School Liturgy –
Valerio Canini (Parish Gift Mass)**

Saturday, January 14 – Vigil of the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Philip – Marion Berry (Pat Berry)

5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Spirit – Carmen Angelo
(Karen Maher)

Sunday, January 15 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 64: Is 49:3, 5-6 / Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 / 1 Cor 1:1-3 / Jn 1:29-34

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip – Justin Ruffin (Brian Ruffin)

11:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Spirit – Anthony Iacobone
(Sam & Liliana Pignatelli)

From the Pastor's Desk...

Christmas carols have now stopped playing on the radio, and very soon (if not already on December 26!), discarded Christmas trees lay with the garbage cans, waiting to be recycled. It is amazing how quickly the Christmas season ends for so many people. We are quite aware that for many people (especially for the merchants), the season began early in November, if not last July!

The Church continues the Christmas celebration, however. It is a religious season, not merely a commercial or party season leading up to December 25th. If more people understood the true meaning of the next appearance of the Lord – the Epiphany to the Magi – logically, their observance of the season would continue. Perhaps the reason for the rapid disappearance of Christmas Spirit lies in its strong ties in our culture to consumption and seasonal exhaustion. After all, the pocketbook and body can take only so much.

The Magi do not believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. They were Gentiles, not Jews. Yet, the story of their visit to Bethlehem finds them embracing faith and belief far surpassing that of the Jewish court of Herod. He is disturbed at the news of a rival to his power. According to the story, all Jerusalem was greatly disturbed with him. What does this tell us?

The good news of a Savior's birth is not news embraced by everyone on the same level or in the same way. The Gospel story of Matthew describes Jesus not as a rival political power to Herod, but a threat to those content with what they have and who they are. The Gospel is to be proclaimed to everyone. Salvation is for everyone, even the forgotten, the powerless, and the unbeliever. The Good News, however, must be made visible in lives of individuals beyond the shopping season or the calendar of parties and celebrations. How long did all of you celebrate Christmas?

Have a Good Week!
Fr. Bill Arnold



Information for Holy Spirit Parish

Parish Offertory Summary: December 31/January 1

Offertory Envelopes (38)	\$ 1,820.00
Loose	\$ 167.00
St. Vincent de Paul (7)	\$ 450.00
Propagation of Faith (2)	\$ 110.00
Tuition (4)	\$ 125.00
Catholic Charities (2)	\$ 110.00
Capital Improvement (4)	\$ 215.00
Solemnity of Mary (26)	\$ 835.00
Christmas (11)	\$ 1,792.00
Catholic Times (1)	\$ 17.00
Total	\$ 5,641.00

Thank you! Gratitude and thanks are extended to all Holy Spirit Parishioners who placed their parish Church on their giving list this Christmas Season. The support of Holy Spirit is the task of all parishioners. While some can be and are more generous than others, all of us can sacrifice something to make sure our parish stays financially strong. The parish is here to announce the Gospel to the Whitehall community and to deepen the faith of Catholics who call Holy Spirit their home parish. "Thank You" to all for your generosity.

Please Remember in Your Prayers: Thomas Sapp, age 87, a longtime member of Holy Spirit Parish, who died on January 1, 2023. Calling hours are on Sunday, January 8, from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at Maeder-Quint-Tiberi Funeral Home, 1068 S. High Street. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 9, at Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, 6440 S. High Street, at Saint Joseph Cemetery, where burial will follow. Please remember Tom, his wife, Roseanne, and their family in your prayers. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



A Note of Gratitude from St. Vincent de Paul: Once again, our parishioners have responded with overwhelming generosity to our neighbors in need. Thanks to you, we were able to provide an unforgettable day of great memories for over 125 families at our annual "Christmas Blessings" event! Your prayers, monetary donations, and your willingness to volunteer before, during and after this event made this event an overwhelming success. Those of you who attended undoubtedly witnessed the many smiles from our neighbors, young and old!

Thank you for your assistance with this event AND your continued support of our efforts all year long. Together, we can continue to strive to respond to Jesus' call to love our neighbors. We are so blessed to partner with all of you in this endeavor!

Information for St. Philip the Apostle Parish

Parish Offertory Summary: December 31/January 1

Contributions (37)	\$ 3,416.00
Christmas (20)	\$ 2,805.00
Capital Improvement (2)	\$ 45.00
Christmas Flowers (1)	\$ 20.00
Diocesan Charities (8)	\$ 205.00
Propagation of Faith (2)	\$ 30.00
Food Pantry (8)	\$ 515.00
Total	\$ 7,036.00

Thank you! To all St. Philip Parishioners who donated so generously to the parish over the Christmas holiday season, my thanks and appreciation. I realize that not all of us are able to give equally, but all of us can sacrifice something, so that the support for our parish is as equally distributed as possible. My gratitude is extended to all of you who so generously give to the Parish.

Additional Christmas Flower Memorials For St. Philip Parish



In Loving Memory/Honor of:
Mr. & Mrs. George Hahnert,
Mr. & Mrs. Sylvester Rieser by
Dick & Trudy Rieser

In your prayers... Please remember in your prayers Sue Engle, Trudi Rieser, Sr. Wanda Scherer, and David Spencer, and all the sick, homebound or recovering in our parish. Pray for those in our parish coping with physical and mental health conditions.

Ministry Schedule:

Saturday, January 14, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

Lector: JoAn Dumas

Ministry Schedule:

Sunday, January 15, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Lector: Tom Kitsmiller

Shared Parish Information

The Epiphany of the Lord

O God, who on this day revealed Your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in Your mercy, that we, who know You already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of Your sublime glory, Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



Please Remember in Your Prayers: Rev. Ronald J. Aubry, age 67, died on Wednesday, December 28, 2022, in Millersburg, Ohio. Fr. Aubry was ordained to the Priesthood at Christ the King Church on June 20, 1981, by the Most Reverend Edward J.

Herrmann, Bishop of Columbus. He served at St. Paul Church, Westerville; Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, and St. Catharine. He served as priest moderator of St. Agnes and St. Aloysius, and was pastor of Holy Trinity, Zoar; Sts. Peter and Paul, Glenmont; and St. Peter, Millersburg. He also taught at St. Francis de Sales High School and St. Charles Preparatory School. He retired from active ministry July 12, 2022. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Fr. Aubry on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at St. Peter Church in Millersburg, with interment at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Cemetery, Glenmont. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Christmas Thank-You! Every year, I feel it is important to express gratitude to people here at Holy Spirit and St. Philip who have helped make the holiday season as wonderful and rich as it is.



~ **First, let me thank all of you who support St. Philip and Holy Spirit Parishes** at the holiday season, but also all year long. Your contributions are completely voluntary, and they provide the heat, air-conditioning, maintenance and upkeep, as well as the salaries of all who work here.

~ **The St. Vincent de Paul volunteers at both parishes** do a tremendous job in their respective food pantries. Holiday time is rush time, and both parishes have been busy. Thank you to those who selflessly donate their time and hard work to serve our neighbors.

~ The people of Holy Spirit Parish who donated so generously to the **Whitehall Kid's Christmas** campaign on our Giving Tree.

~ **The musicians at both St. Philip and Holy Spirit** have put in hard work. They prepare weeks in advance to lead you in worship, song, and prayer at Mass. My thanks to all those who work so hard to help make the Christmas Masses as nice as they are.

~ Mass could not be properly celebrated without additional lectors, servers, and Eucharistic ministers. Thanks are extended to so many who step forward to continue our Catholic traditions.

~ **Thanks to everyone who decorated the churches.** They both looked wonderful! Many people expressed compliments and asked me to pass them on to those who decorated.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you and God bless!
Fr. Bill Arnold



Celebrations of Christmas: During the Christmas Season, the Church celebrates three major “appearances,” “revelations,” or “epiphanies” of Jesus Christ. Each represents a revelation of God’s plan in time and history. Each carries a distinct character and purpose, and influences our own celebration of Christmas, especially in duration. Unfortunately, our religious observance of the Christmas season has long ago been overwhelmed by secular forces, primarily the commercial nature of the season. Consider the following:

- Christmas Day marks the beginning of our salvation. We celebrate the Incarnation, the taking on of human flesh by God. The birth of Emmanuel, “God With Us,” signals the beginning of a new relationship between God and all humanity – God as one of us.
- The Epiphany (or the Visit of the Magi) is a special revelation of God in a human body to exotic visitors from a foreign land. The appearance of the “God became Man” is for the salvation of all humanity, Gentile and Jew alike.
- The Baptism of Jesus (celebrated Monday, January 9th) is the revelation by Water, Spirit, and eventually by Fire of the “beloved Son” of the Father. The identity of the Son is confirmed by the Voice of the Father, and through the ritual repentance by the water of Baptism.

The New Year – 2023: So many of us are glad, for a variety of reasons, that 2022 is behind us. With elections, inflation, bad weather – well, some things come around again all the time.



But, let’s not forget that we Christians are optimistic about the future. Avoid listening to predictions of doom and apocalyptic destruction. Some people are hoping for such a disaster and even welcome it.

We believe God is in charge of all time and history. Previous generations have experienced overwhelming crises and prevailed. So shall we. Do not be afraid, the Gospels tell us. Truer today than in Biblical times. God is with us and God loves this world. Happy New Year 2023!

Fr. Bill Arnold

Propagation of the Faith Collection Next Weekend: This collection enables the Church to continue its work among the poorest in more than 1,150 mission dioceses worldwide. Priests, religious brothers and sisters, and lay people rely on this collection, as they minister to young people, refugees, and the sick in hospitals, as they teach children in schools, prepare adults for Baptism, or help those who suffer because of war and natural disasters. Envelopes are in your packets.

Information for Holy Spirit Parish

Holy Spirit School teachers, staff, and students wish all of you a very Happy New Year! Students settled back into their routine this week working hard preparing for their end of the quarter exams and assessments. Students in Grade 7 will be selling Slice the Price pizza cards from Domino's Pizza (\$15) as a fundraiser for their trip to Camp Kern in March. The fundraiser begins January 13th. Please contact the school office (614-861-0475) if you would like to order some cards to help support this trip.

- Miss Kathy Costello, Principal

2022-2023 Annual Campaign for Holy Spirit School:

Holy Spirit School is turning to its parents, friends, and supporters in the 2022-2023 Gift to the Spirit Annual Campaign.

This year, our Parish School celebrates its 71st Anniversary in the Whitehall Community. We are proud of the education we provide. We must, however, always update and modernize our facilities.

Our project for the 2022-2023 academic year is to begin the process of upgrading security in our school building and surrounding property.

We know that you share our great concern for the safety of our students! We would appreciate your prayerful consideration. Envelopes are in the back of Church. Please help us in meeting the challenges ahead! Thank you.

Information for Holy Spirit Parish (Continued)

Ministry Schedule:

Saturday, January 14, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

Lector: Iris Quezada

Servers: Rocío Isabel Pardo, Giselle & Jocelyn Quintana-Rangel

Eucharistic Minister: Michael Biscuso, De Ann Bukowski

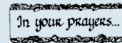
Ministry Schedule:

Sunday, January 15, 2023 – 11:00 a.m.

Lector: Maureen Dodd

Servers: Blake Wyatt, Anthony Mendez

Eucharistic Minister: Lois Baglione, Rick Makowski



Please remember in your prayers all the sick, homebound, or recovering in our parish, especially Ned Braun, Carole Brill, Bernie Comer, Lu & Bob Cudak, Edith J.B. Ingram, Carl Jura, Carl Moore, Steve & Nancy Sagle, Maria Stevenson, and Geri Torr.

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Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light
shine upon him.
May his soul, and the souls
of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen.

REST IN PEACE POPE BENEDICT XVI

Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger
16 April 1927 – 31 December 2022



*"The world offers you comfort.
But you were not made for comfort.
You were made for greatness."*

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