

Canonical Administer: Fr. Loc Trinh
Director of Faith Formation: Beth Dake
Administrative Assistant: Deb Vlaming
E-Mail: pneri831@stphilipanne.org
Prayer Chain: (231) 832-4938

Parish Office: 831 S. Chestnut Street
Reed City, Michigan 49677
Office Hours: 8 AM to 3 PM Mon, Tues, Thurs
8AM to 2 PM Friday
Phone: (231) 832-5544

Sunday, January 21

Third Sunday Ordinary Time

Jonah 3:1-5,10;

1 Corinthians 7:29:31; Mark 1:14-20

11:00 – 12:30 Faith Formation 7-12

Monday, January 22

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
Of Unborn Children**

2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30

1:00 PM- Al Anon

Tuesday, January 23

St. Vincent, St. Marianne Cope

2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mark 3:31-35

1:00 PM – Bible Study – Pius Room

1:00 PM – Parish Life Meeting – Parish Room

Wednesday, January 24

St. Francis de Sales

2 Samuel 7:4-17; Mark 4:1-20

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Faith Formation K-6
Office Closed

Thursday, January 25

The Conversion of St. Paul

Acts 22:3-16; Mark 16:15-18

Friday, January 26

Sts. Timothy and Titus

2 Timothy 1:1-8; Mark 4:26-34

No Daily Mass

Saturday, January 27

St. Angela Merici

2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41

3:00 PM Reconciliation at St. Philip Neri

4:00 PM Mass at St. Philip Neri

†Carl Yost by Betty Yost

Faith Formation News

This weekend in the Gospel reading from St Mark we hear the call to several of the disciples. As I read this Gospel reading, I was captured by the immediate response and surrender of Simon, Andrew, James, and John to Jesus' call to follow him. The disciples did not hesitate. They did not have to post it to Facebook and see whatever one else thought about following Jesus or how many "likes" they would get. No! They left everything and followed Jesus. The four men did not give a reason why they could not follow Jesus right now. They did not make excuses that they were too busy or something else was more important.

I wonder someday: Am I following Jesus? Do I hear his voice in my life? Do I follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit within me? There are days, I know, that I just don't feel like doing that one more thing that the Lord is asking me to do. To reach out one more time to someone in need, someone hurting. Those are the moments that my faith in Jesus and knowing that he is my Lord and Savoir must overshadow my feelings. That I must follow him. Those are the moments that remembering how blessed I am motivates me to move forward. To put my feelings aside and do what the Lord is asking me to do: to follow him. To completely surrender my will to the will of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To trust that Jesus knows better than I do.

I heard on a podcast lately that a person asked Mother Theresa to pray for them. That she would pray for clarity for them, that they would know God's will for them in a decision they were making. She answered "No" she would not pray for that. He said to her you have had clarity from God for your life. She answered him: No, I have never had clarity from God, I have always trusted God. Clarity is something you need to let go of and trust in God. That my friends is total surrender, total trust in God.

What is our answer to Jesus' call in our lives today? When you hear Jesus calling you "come follow me." What will your answer be? Will you leave what you are doing and follow Jesus? Will our relationship with Jesus take top priority in our lives? As we move through this cold grey time of year may our pray be to follow Jesus with our whole heart, mind, and soul.

In peace, Beth Dake Director of Faith Formation

Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Each year on January 22, all dioceses in the United States are called to observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. January 22 is the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decisions that legalized abortion throughout our nation. Since then, over 60 million lives have been lost. That's more than the size of Italy's population. On June 24, 2022, the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision overturned Roe v. Wade. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, right now state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to preborn children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed. This coming Monday, we set aside a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. It is also a day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. We are each called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms. The act of abortion rejects God's gift of life. Abortion destroys the life of a child, lovingly knit together in his or her mother's womb, and for someone who has participated in abortion, the loss of a child can form a hole in their heart so deep that sometimes it seems nothing can fill the emptiness. As a human and Christian family, we grieve the loss of so many lives. And yet, even in our grief, we know there is hope. Christ came for the very purpose of redeeming our sins, offering us His forgiveness, and giving us His peace. Jesus comes to free us from the bonds of sin. And there is no sin that is beyond God's mercy. It is never too late to seek the Lord's mercy and healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. His greatest desire is to forgive us, pouring out His infinite mercy upon us so that we may be healed. If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. You can find out more information about the Church's ministry for healing after abortion by visiting hopeafterabortion.com. (That website is listed in this week's bulletin.) We are all sinners. But with the grace of God, we can become saints. We can be lights to the nations, sharing the truth about the irrevocable dignity of the human person. Where sin abounds, God's grace abounds all the more. Therefore, let us take courage and offer prayer and penance, that all human life would be welcomed in love and protected in law.

Collection Report **January 13, 2024**

<u>St. Philip Neri</u>		
Envelopes	(37)	\$3,023.00
Loose		\$162.00
Total		\$3,185.00
Wkly. Budget		\$3,100.00
O/ (U) Budget		\$85.00
YTD Budget		\$89,900.00
YTD Collection		\$84,980.59
		(\$4,919.41)

Schedule of Ministers **January 27, 2024 4:00 PM**

Eucharist:	Dawn Montague
Eucharist:	Irene Balowski
Eucharist:	Joe Strube
Word:	Sandy Forgue
Hospitality:	Steve Leporowski
Hospitality:	Richard Karns
Hospitality:	Ed Suckow
Hospitality:	Kay Suckow

Senior Citizens of St. Philip Neri & St. Anne

You are invited to attend the Annual Senior Citizens Dinner. Come for an afternoon of good food, fun and fellowship on Sunday, February 4, 2024 downstairs at St. Philip Neri Church. The festivities will begin at 12:00 pm (noon). There is no cost to attend.

Reservations are a must and can be made by using the sign-up sheet in the back of St. Philip Neri Church or by calling the Parish Office at 231-832-5544. This MONDAY, January 22, 2024 is your last opportunity to make your reservation.

