

TUESDAY MAY 26

ST. PHILIP NERI

St. Philip Neri, *priest (1515-1595)*

The “Apostle of Rome” was born in Florence and educated by the Dominicans.

At age eighteen he left for Rome to live in seclusion and poverty and study theology. He chose to re-evangelize Rome, where Church reform was greatly needed. To help minister to needy pilgrims, he helped found a confraternity of laymen and the Santa Trinità dei Pellegrini hospital. He also founded the Congregation of the Oratory (Oratorians). May we imitate his wisdom, his good humor, and his desire that “I will have no sad spirits in my house. Cheerful people are more easily led to perfection.” ●



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Romans 5:5; cf. 8:11)

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

COLLECT

O God, who never cease to bestow the glory of holiness on the faithful servants you raise up for yourself, graciously grant that the Holy Spirit may kindle in us that fire with which he wonderfully filled the heart of Saint Philip Neri. 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.

Amen.

READING (*Acts 20:17-27*)

From Miletus Paul had the presbyters of the Church at Ephesus summoned. When they came to him, he addressed them, “You know how I lived among you the whole time from the day I first came to the province of Asia. I served the Lord with all humility and with the tears and trials that came to me because of the plots of the Jews, and I did not at all shrink from telling you what was for your benefit, or from teaching you in public or in your homes. I earnestly bore witness for both Jews and Greeks to repentance before God and to faith in our Lord Jesus. But now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem. What will happen to me there I do not know, except that in one city after another the Holy Spirit has been warning me that imprisonment and hardships

await me. Yet I consider life of no importance to me, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to bear witness to the Gospel of God’s grace.

“But now I know that none of you to whom I preached the kingdom during my travels will ever see my face again. And so I solemnly declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, for I did not shrink from proclaiming to you the entire plan of God.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(*Psalm 68:10-11, 20-21*)

**R: Sing to God, O kingdoms
of the earth. OR Alleluia.**

A bountiful rain you
showered down, O God,
upon your inheritance;
you restored the land
when it languished;
Your flock settled in it;
in your goodness, O God,

you provided it
for the needy.

Blessed day by day be the Lord,
who bears our burdens;
God, who is our salvation.
God is a saving God for us;
the LORD, my Lord,
controls the passageways
of death. **R.**

ALLELUIA (*John 14:16*)

Alleluia, alleluia. I will ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL (*John 17:1-11a*)

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and

the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began.

“I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you gave me is from you, because the words you gave to me I have given to them, and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me, because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours and everything of yours is mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I will no longer be

in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you.”

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we offer you the sacrifice of praise, O Lord, we ask that by the example of Saint Philip

we may always give ourselves cheerfully for the glory of your name and the service of our neighbor. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PREFACE (*Holy Pastors, page 40*)

Today's Good News

Jesus is present also through the Church, which he sent to extend his mission. Jesus' last message to his disciples is the mandate to depart: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). It is a clear mandate, not just an option! The Christian community is a community going forth. In fact the Church was born "going forth." And you will say to me: what about cloistered communities? Yes, these too, for they are always "going forth" through prayer, with the heart open to the world, to the horizons of God. And the elderly, the sick? They, too, through prayer and union with the wounds of Jesus. To his missionary disciples Jesus says: "I am with you always, to the close of the age." Alone, without Jesus, we can do nothing! In apostolic work our own strengths, our resources, our structures do not suffice, even if they are necessary. Without the presence of the Lord and the power of his Spirit our work, though it may be well organized, winds up being ineffective. And thus, we go to tell the nations who Jesus is.

POPE FRANCIS (*The Gospel of Matthew: A Spiritual and Pastoral Reading*)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *(John 15:9)*

As the Father loves me, so I also love you; remain in my love, says the Lord, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, that in imitation of Saint Philip we may always long for that food by which we truly live. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Jesus says eternal life is knowing God and Jesus, whom God sent.

● **How has my knowledge of Jesus grown during this Easter season?**

Jesus, help me to know you better by...

WEDNESDAY MAY 27

EASTER WEEKDAY

[**St. Augustine of Canterbury**, *bishop (d.c. 604)*]

In 596, Pope Gregory the Great sent Augustine—then prior of St. Andrew’s monastery in Rome—and about 40 monks to evangelize England. The group was well received and Augustine was soon made bishop and instructed to develop a hierarchy for England and to substitute Christian feasts for pagan celebrations. Apart from the Welsh refusal to accept Augustine and the Roman traditions he proposed, the mission was successful. Augustine established a Benedictine monastery at Canterbury. As the first Archbishop of Canterbury and the “Apostle of the English,” Augustine continued to work for the faith in Britain until his death. Like him, let us bring Christ to those who do not yet know him. ●