

St Philip Neri

MORNING PRAYER

Monday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

As we begin the school year, let us reflect upon the Patron of our school, and the founder of the Oratory.

St Philip lived in Rome in the Sixteenth Century, at a time when the city was in a desolate moral and spiritual state.

He worked especially with the young, trying to inspire in them the love of God, and he had great success.

In the Oratory of Saint Philip, young people in particular learnt how to value spiritual things more than the passing attractions of the world, and they made the Oratory their spiritual home.

On one occasion, a certain Roman gentleman, who often went to visit Saint Philip, was amazed at the uproar that some boys were making who were playing beside Philip's room at the Oratory, and asked the Saint how he could possibly bear the noise. Philip answered:

"So long as they do not sin, they can chop firewood on my back!"

PRAYERS

Let us ask Saint Philip to pray for us as we begin a new year at the school. May we find inspiration from his example to grow in the love of God.

Lord, hear us... **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray especially for those who have joined us from other schools. May they learn to think of this school as a spiritual home as well as a place of education.

Lord, hear us... **Lord graciously hear us.**

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

House Saint: **Pray for us.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

St Philip Neri

Tuesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

Saint Philip once was talking to a boy called Francesco.

He said;

“O happy you! For now you are studying: and when you finish your studies you’ll get qualified... and then you’ll begin to make money... and then people will admire you... and then you will be a lawyer... and then some day you may be raised to be a judge...” and so he went on, describing step by step all the honours which the world could give, or had ever passed through the boy’s imagination, finishing off:-

“O happy you! ...And then you will think you have been well rewarded, and will want nothing more from life!”

Francesco was pleased with these words.

But then St Philip came close to him, and whispered in his ear... *“And then?”*

These words remained so deeply impressed upon the boy’s heart, that when he got home he began to say within himself, *“I study in order to get on in the world... ‘and then?’*

He found he could not get those words out of his heart, and he at last resolved to put God first in all his thoughts and plans.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for the gift of wisdom. May we learn to value the things that really matter in life.

Lord, hear us...

We pray for those who work in London, especially our parents. May they avoid the temptations to be dishonourable in their daily lives.

Lord, hear us...

St.Philip: Pray for us.

House Saint: Pray for us.

In the name...

St Philip Neri

Wednesday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

REFLECTION

A very well-dressed youth used to join the others at the Oratory, not for good reasons, but to make fun of those who were there, to laugh at what was being preached, and to encourage people to give up going to the Oratory.

One day, when he was making more noise than ever, the Brothers of the Oratory, unable to bear with him any longer, went to Saint Philip, and begged him to do something about the annoyance.

Philip answered with his usual smile,

“Let him alone! Mark my words - before long, he will be better than you!”

Shortly afterwards the youth was converted and became a religious friar, where he lived in the spirit of strict observance and died a holy death.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for those who are far from God; may they discover the beauty of faith in Christ as Author of Love.

Lord hear us... **Lord graciously hear us.**

Let us pray that we might be given the grace to deepen our faith, by the example of St Philip, our patron.

Lord hear us... **Lord graciously hear us.**

St. Philip: **Pray for us.**

House Saint: **Pray for us.**

In the name.... **Amen.**

St Philip Neri

Thursday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

ROSARY REFLECTION

Today, in the week when we are reflecting on Saint Philip as our patron, who was known for his joyfulness, let us say one of the Joyful Mysteries and offer it up for a joyful year ahead:

FIRST JOYFUL MYSTERY: THE ANNUNCIATION

The Angel said to Mary, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you will name him Jesus.

1x Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. **Give us this day....**

10x *Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and Blessed is the fruit of they womb, Jesus. Holy Mary...*

1x *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was....In the name..*

Friday

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

FRIDAY PRAYER

Remember that you can go to the Chapel for confession this lunchtime, if you wish to receive God's loving forgiveness.

Prayer to Saint Philip.

Most Holy Philip, our patron and guide, we put ourselves in your loving hands.

Teach us to disregard all the vanities of the world
as you did amongst the people of Rome,
and to open our hearts to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, as
you did in the catacombs.

Most gentle of saints, we ask you to pray for us to God our
Father that we may learn the lessons of love
that our Lord and Saviour taught us,
and we ask you to carry our prayers and intentions to his
throne in Heaven.

Amen.