

How Do I Know if Something is from God?

Like, is this God? Is that the Holy Spirit? Am I hearing things? Could this just be a bad case of gas, like I ate too much chili? When should I follow this voice that I'm hearing.

Here are three simple truths, three filters to apply, to know whether or not what we're hearing is from the Holy Spirit:

1. Follow the fruit!

In the Bible we're told that the fruit of the Holy Spirit, like the result of the Spirit inside us, are things like love, joy, peace, patience, and goodness (Gal 5:22-23). So if we're wondering whether or not something is from the Holy Spirit, look for things that bring joy, peace, and self-control—not just to yourself, but to others and the world around you.

Are you trying to make a decision, and even though it seems a little crazy you just have this overwhelming peace? It's most likely God. Follow it. Are you feeling like you're supposed to listen to a family member who's hard to listen to? Or there's a friend you know you're supposed to share some hard truth with? That's love and kindness and goodness. Follow them. Maybe you need a boundary in your life. Even if something isn't necessarily wrong, you know it's not good for you. That looks like self-control. Follow it.

Look for things that bring out the Fruit of the Spirit, and if you see that fruit appearing in your life and the lives of others, follow it.

2. Be consistent, not big.

Often when it comes to following God, we wait for "something big" to happen before being used by Him. We want to change the world, not just help one person. Or we say we are waiting for God to give us a clear sign, like a huge rainbow! Or, with my time and my money, I wanna do something big. And so, I'm just going to sit and wait and wait and wait.

To be clear, there's nothing wrong with big, and being used by God to do big things. We have a God who can do abundantly more than we can imagine. But instead of worrying about big when it comes to following and listening to God, just be consistent.

Want to be used by God? Get up each morning and consistently pray: Holy Spirit, God, what do you want me to do today? Where can I join you today? What's your plan, not mine, today? And here's the truth: most big things rarely happen overnight. Instead big things happen when we're consistent. For how long? Years. Do you want to do something big? Just consistently follow Jesus each day. Every week. Each year. And big things will happen.

3. When I don't want to.

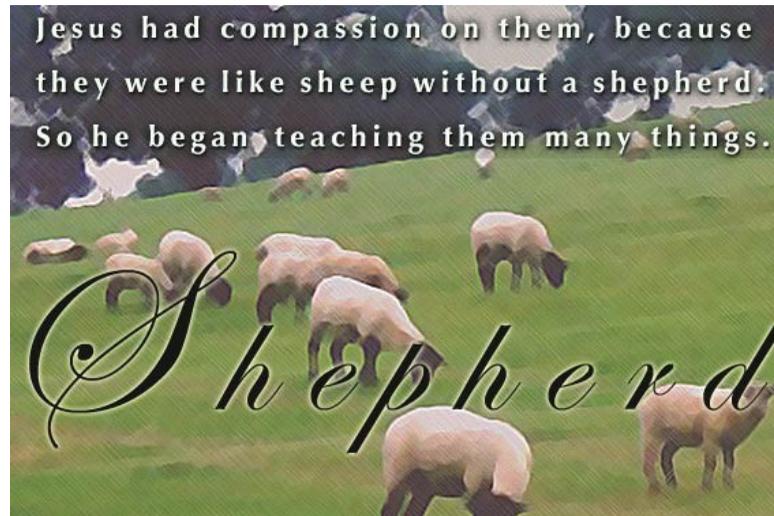
Honestly, in my own life, away from the Bible, one of the clearest filters I have for knowing if the voice inside me is God or not is if what I'm hearing is something that I don't naturally want to do. It's in these moments where things are clearly not from me, because I don't want to! Should I make this phone call? Should I have this hard conversation? I don't want to! Should I help them? Should I apply for this job? Should I tell this person about Jesus? I don't want to! Yet inside of me I just keep hearing this still small voice, I keep hearing God, I keep hearing the Holy Spirit, telling me to follow Him. And it's in these moments when instead of saying I don't want to, we begin to say yes to God. It's in these moments when we begin to pray the words of Jesus, "Not my will, but yours." It's in these moments when we begin to follow Him that God starts to change us from the inside out. Our heart, our actions, and our life. It's in these moments that God begins to transform us in ways we can't imagine.

It's in these moments that God begins to do something big in and through our lives.



From the blog of Adam Weber

St. Philip Neri Catholic Church



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GENERATIONS OF LOVE NFP Week July 22-28 Humanae vitae (1968-2018)

"Generations of Love: Humanae vitae (1968-2018)" is the theme of this year's Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national campaign by the USCCB to celebrate God's design for married love and the gift of life and to raise awareness of Natural Family Planning (NFP) methods. "NFP," as the U.S. bishops have written, is supportive of Catholic beliefs about married love because it "respects the God-given power to love a new human life into being." NFP Week 2018 will highlight the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of Blessed Pope Paul VI's encyclical, Humanae



vitae, in which he articulates the Church's teaching about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. This year's theme, "Generations of Love," joyfully commemorates the 50th anniversary and legacy of Humanae vitae, inviting a reflection on how openness to God's plan for married love and responsible parenthood creates the opportunity for great fruit in the lives of married couples and their families, a legacy of love for generations to come. To learn more about the methods of NFP offered in our parish, contact Dawn Becker.

Confessions: 1/2 hr before every Mass, 1 hour before Saturday Mass, OR by appointment.

Weddings: Contact Fr. Pfeifer at least 6 months prior.

Baptisms: Contact Fr. Pfeifer before Godparents are chosen.

If you or a loved one are hospitalized, please let Father know if you want a visit or to be anointed.

July 22, 2018
Sixteenth Sunday
In Ordinary Time

Mon., Jul 23.....7 PM +Marty Sperle (7/20 65th Wedding Anni) by Ann Sperle & Family
Tue., Jul 24.....7 PM +Walter Riddle by +Agnes Holmes
Wed., Jul 25.....8 AM +Lucy Schloss (Death 7/25) by The Schloss Family
Thurs., Jul 26.....8 AM +Tim Gross by George Weigel
Fri., Jul 27.....8 AM +Loren Moch by Deacon Gary & Jeanne Schumacher
Sat., Jul 28.....8 PM Our Parishioners
Sun., Jul 29.....10 AM +Anton & +Johanna Horner by The Family
Sun., Jul 29 Care Center 8:45 AM +Carolyn Sperle by Family & Friends
Helper: Brenda Weigel

 **Rosary 25 minutes before all weekend & daily masses.**

 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place from 5:30 AM Thursday until midnight Friday.

Stewardship of Treasure
This Week: \$2,489.50

Parish Announcements

Welcome - St. Philip Neri Parish welcomes **Seth Thomas Martin**, son of Lucas and Beka, who was washed in the waters of baptism last weekend. May God shower many blessings upon Seth, his parents, godparents, and grandparents.

St. Philip Neri Parish extends our condolences to the families of **Agnes Holmes** whose funeral was this past Wednesday, and to **Kenny Fettig** whose funeral was this past Friday. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.

Daily Mass Schedule - If a funeral falls on a Wed., Thurs., or Fri., daily Mass those mornings will be canceled. If a funeral is on a Mon. or Tues., regular daily evening Mass will still occur.

Congratulations to Willie and Alvina Piatz who celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, July 21. We will bless their vows and marriage at the 10 AM Sunday Mass on July 22.

The family of **Gladys Marquart** invites you to help celebrate her **90th birthday** on August 5 at 11 AM (following the 10 AM Mass) in the school cafeteria. Refreshments will be served. No gifts please.

Confession One major struggle that can happen during the summer is we let our prayer life fall off the wagon. Even though, I would recommend intensifying our prayer, we need to at least keep up our prayer lives throughout the summer. Part of having a good and healthy prayer life is to avail regularly of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, even when we travel.

Adoration - Looking for a scheduled adorer for 8 AM Fri. (1st 1/2 hour with Mass) & Thursday night Midnight (Friday morning) to 1 AM. Please contact Maria Regner at 754-2474.

The Senior Class of 2018 would like to invite all parishioners to join them as they do a presentation on their recent trip to Rome on Tuesday, July 24th, after the 7 PM daily Mass, in the social hall.

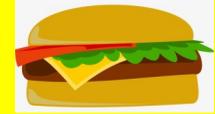
Putt 4 a Purpose Golf Event - Trying to assemble a few teams. Rose Creek Golf Course in Fargo on **Monday, August 6**. Golf, dinner and prizes. fargodiocese.org/puttpurpose. Interested? Contact Fr. Pfeifer.

Steubenville – The youth of St. Philip Neri will be heading to St. Paul, MN next week for the annual Steubenville Conference. They are leaving Napoleon on Friday, July 27th at 6AM, and returning to Napoleon on Sunday, July 29th. Keep our youth in your prayers.

Bulletin help wanted! Are you looking for a way to give your time and talent back to God? We are in need of someone to help with starting the bulletin each week. This process takes about 3 hrs/week and can be done from home. Experience with Publisher would be good but is not necessary. Call the office if interested for more info!



Corn feed tickets are in front entrance of the church this weekend. Those not picked up will be mailed. The Annual St. Philip Neri Church Corn Feed is **Saturday, August 18th** beginning with Mass at 4 PM, followed by the corn feed at the Napoleon City Park from 5:30 PM to 7 PM. Each ticket buys a meal of all you can eat fresh corn on the cob and hamburgers and gives you a chance to win one of eleven prizes including a new Traegar Grill, NBA Dollars, and gift certificates. Ticket money may be dropped off at the parish office or placed in the weekend collection basket. Please return all tickets to the parish office, or drop them in the collection by August 10th. If you need additional tickets, please call or stop by the parish office.



Catechist Day Retreat: Friday, August 24, Maryvale, Valley City or Saturday, August 25, Park River Bible Camp led by Fr. Andrew Jasinski will direct a retreat with a series of talks on Missionary Discipleship. 9 AM to 4 PM. Register by Aug. 15 at fargodiocese.org/catechistretreat. Questions? Call Mary at 701-356-7909.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a group of bicyclists who will be passing through town on Friday night as part of their bike ride from Maine to Washington coast to coast. They will feed them, and the bikers will stay overnight in our parish school classrooms. Thanks for the great example of hospitality.

The **62nd Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Prairies** will be hosted at the Carmel of Mary Monastery, 17765 78th Street SE, Wahpeton, ND, on **Sunday, August 12**, starting at 2 p.m. Guest speaker for this year's pilgrimage is Father Ross Laframboise, pastor of Holy Spirit in Fargo.

CCD teachers for 4th Grade and 5th Grade – One of the duties that is entrusted to each of us at baptism is to hand on and spread the Good News of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. As parents, you are the primary educators in the ways of the faith. Here at St. Philip Neri, we are here to assist you with you duty to pass on the faith to the youth in our parish family. We need your help as we are currently looking to fill two positions: one 4th grade teacher and one 5th grade teacher. If you are willing to teach one of these two classes, please talk to Fr. Pfeifer this week. If it is not filled, Fr. Pfeifer will be starting to call you the parents to assist. You do not need a degree in education to hand on the faith, we are here to support and encourage you. Please save Fr. the time to make the calls and step up today.

Coming in September...Life Teen! This new program is an opportunity for high school students to grow in their relationship with God and to put that relationship into practice with each other, their peers and their mentors. "Life Nights" will take place on Wednesday nights from 7:15 PM until 8:30 PM. More information to come.

 **St. Philip Neri Catholic Church**

Saturday, July 28th

<u>Sacristan</u>	Dawn Becker
<u>Rosary</u>	Rick Regner
<u>Lectors</u>	Zach Howick, Janae Weigel
<u>Ushers/ Gift Bearers</u>	Chuck & Sue Wald; Logan Wald Family
<u>Servers</u>	Peyton Haas, Kaydra Kleppe Zach Howick
<u>EMHC</u>	Paul Haegele, Rick Regner, Zach Howick

Sunday, July 29th

<u>Sacristan</u>	Coleen Piatz
<u>Rosary</u>	Jackie Weigel
<u>Lectors</u>	Brooks Becker, Nick Breidenbach
<u>Ushers/ Gift Bearers</u>	Jerome & Christine S.; T. Grunfelder Family
<u>Servers</u>	Riley Dewald, Logan Feist Dalton Feist, Bryce Schneider, Zach Howick
<u>EMHC</u>	Cheri Glatt, Bridget Piatz, Zach Howick