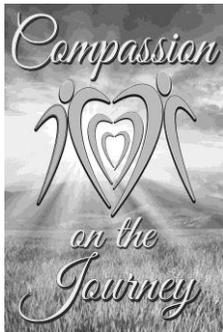


## COMPASSION ON THE JOURNEY

**Compassion on the Journey** is our participation in Our Holy Father's invitation for the Church to celebrate a Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Compassion is the heart of Mercy.

You are invited to join us as we experience God's compassion and learn to be more compassionate and of fuller service to one another.



The church banner pictured above displays our Easter Theme symbols. Our journey begins with God who creates us, accompanies us through life, death and resurrection until we return to God in glory. Our journey is from "glory to glory" (2Cor.3:18). Along the way we are transformed into the image and likeness of the Risen Christ. God is our compassionate companion on the journey and invites us to offer compassionate service to one another.

The **Two Figures** shown form a **Heart Shape** as they symbolize human and divine love. The word **compassion** has its origins in two Latin roots; *com*-with and *passion*-to suffer/intense force. The meaning of **compassion** is a union of love that motivates beyond sympathy and empathy, 'to be one with' and, therefore, compels with a commitment to action physically, emotionally or spiritually as needed.



The image above is of Rembrandt's Portrait of Christ's Head 1650, oil on wood, State Museum Berlin – Dahlem. (For a clear view/see website)

Our focus is on ways to reflect and pray with the masterpiece. Appreciate the expression of Christ captured by the artist. Notice the exposed ear which suggests that Jesus listens with compassion.

St. Benedict of Nursia encouraged compassionate listening with the challenge,

"Listen with the ear of your heart."

Compassion is listening with the ear of your heart and acting on what you hear.

## Easter Prayer:

Resurrected Glory – guide our hearts to serve  
*Dona nobis pacem, Grant us Peace.*

## REFLECTION

### O The Bliss of Perfect Compassion

*The following reflection on the fifth beatitude is (freely adapted) from William Barclay's, The Daily Study Bible Series, The Gospel of Matthew, 1975 Volume 1.*

***Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.***

*Matthew 5:7*

As one of the beatitudes this is a great saying. The Greek word for merciful is *eleemon*. But, as we have repeatedly seen, the Greek of the New Testament as we possess it goes back to the original Hebrew and Aramaic. The Hebrew word for mercy is *chesedh*, *mercy*, means the ability to get right inside the other person's skin until we can see things with his eyes, think things with her mind, and feel things with his feelings.

Clearly this is much more than an emotional wave of pity; clearly this demands a quiet deliberate effort of the mind and of the will. It denotes a sympathy which is not given, as it were, from outside, but which comes from a deliberate identification with the other person, until we see all things as she sees them, and feels things as she feels them. This is *sympathy* in the literal sense of the word. *Sympathy* is derived from two Greek words, *syn* which means *together with* and *paschein* which means *to experience* or *to suffer*. Sympathy means experiencing things together with the other person, literally going through what she is going through.

Cultivating sympathy, compassion and mercy enables understanding and forgiveness. There is one principal in life we sometimes forget – there is always a reason why a person thinks and acts as one does, and if we knew that reason, it would be so much easier to understand and to sympathize and to forgive. If a person thinks, as we see it, mistakenly, he may have come through experiences; he may have a heritage which has made him think as he does. If a person is irritable and discourteous, she may be worried or she may be in pain. If a person treats us badly, it may be because there is some idea in his mind which is quite mistaken. Truly, as the French proverb has it, "To know all is to forgive all," but we will never know all until we make a deliberate attempt to get inside the other person's mind and heart. In the last analysis, is not that what God did in Jesus Christ? In Jesus Christ, in the most literal sense, God got inside the skin of people. He came as a person; he came seeing things with our eyes, feeling things with our feelings, thinking things with our minds. God knows what life is like, because God came right inside life.

## Compassion Fit For A Queen

Queen Victoria was a close friend of Principal and Mrs. Tulloch of St. Andrews. Prince Albert died and Victoria was left alone. Just at the same time, Principal Tulloch died and Mrs. Tulloch was left alone. Unannounced, Queen Victoria came to call on Mrs. Tulloch while she was resting on a couch in her room. When the Queen was announced, Mrs. Tulloch struggled to rise quickly from the couch and to curtsy, as was the custom. The Queen stepped forward: "My dear," she said, "don't rise. I am not coming to you today as the Queen to a subject, but as one woman who has lost her husband to another."

This is just what God did; he came to us, not as the remote, detached, isolated, majestic God; but as a person. The supreme instance of *Mercy, chesedh*, is the coming of God in Jesus Christ.

So the translation of the fifth beatitude might read:

**O the bliss of those who get right inside other people, until seeing with their eyes, thinking with their thoughts, feeling with their feelings they will find that others do the same, and will come to know that that is what God in Jesus Christ has done!**

### Activity

What action is God inviting you to take to be an instrument of God's mercy and compassion for another?

### PRAYER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!" You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

## RCIA

### *Resurrected Glory, guide our hearts to serve.*

God bless our newly baptized, *Kim Ellis* and *Kelly Misol* and all our Candidates who received sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Our prayer is with them as they continue their journey with the Lord. The next session of the RCIA is this Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Russo Room. Our topic is Social Justice. All are invited.

## CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development supports many anti-poverty education programs and grants, such as DART (*Direct Action & Research Training*). They work with schools & law enforcement officials to decrease the number of school-based arrests & promote alternative, constructive interventions that give children a second chance at the future. This collection is a primary source of funding for CCHD.'s programs.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

We are having our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade SEARCH retreat on April 29-May 1. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please contact Andrew Scalone at [ascalone@stphilip.org](mailto:ascalone@stphilip.org) for more information.

The next Youth ministry meetings will be on April 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM in the youth room. Please follow us on Twitter and Instagram: @stphilipyouthnj.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES SCHEDULE

**Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6:** April 10, May 15

**Grade 2:** April 10

**Grades 7, 8:** April 17, May 1

**Confirmation Grade 9, 10:** April 17, May 1

## MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

### COLUMBIETTES

Our annual Spiritual workshop, open to all parishioners age 16+, will be Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> after the 9:00 AM Mass in Marian Hall from 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Fr. Julio will be our guest speaker. The topic is "Living & Practicing Mercy after Easter." Cost is \$5.00. Call Deb Sirvidio at 201-220-1875. (Leave a message)

### WIDOW/WIDOWERS

THE MONDAY NIGHT GROUP: April 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

THE NEW & RECENTLY BEREAVED GROUP: Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

### PRIME TIMERS

#### ATLANTIC CITY CASINO BUS RIDE

All parishioners and friends 21 years old and over are invited to join us on our monthly trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Please make your reservations early to avoid a cancellation. Price is \$25.00 with a casino bonus of \$25.00. Call Barbara Rzepecki at 973-278-1566 after **11 AM**.

**MEMBERS OF ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE SCHOOL CLASS OF 1966**

We are planning a 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion celebration. Please submit your name or any classmate you are in touch with, contact information, email, etc. Please inform us of deceased classmates. Any photos and memorabilia would be greatly appreciated!

Contact any of us for further information:

- Bob Calcagno 973-472-9818/[chaddyb171@aol.com](mailto:chaddyb171@aol.com)
- Dom DiDomenico 973-495-2152/[DiDomenico9@hotmail.com](mailto:DiDomenico9@hotmail.com)
- Chuck Marcel 862-217-1026/[CMarcell97@gmail.com](mailto:CMarcell97@gmail.com)

**PRAY FOR**

**THE SICK:** Ann Marie Kwiatkowski, Derrick Medeiros, Joan Hughes, Mildred Nerone, Silvia Berardo, Lara Buell, Margaret Schweighardt, Ryan G. Micale, Emma Wyman, Jane Hughes, Philomena DiStefano, Allison Llanos, Jayce Mazza, Patsy Sinisi, Barbara Sikora, Margaret Sikora, Steve Kuchta, Joseph Buhler, Sister Beverly Aiazzino, Andrzej Zarebczan, Simon Edward Fairhurst, Linda Brady, Josephine Basile, Annette Cavalini, Norman J. Dollbaum, Gus Perez, Patricia Giuditta, Osmania Levanti, Joseph Villano, Marie Nattvo, Barbara Patierno, Jossephine Basile, Jennie Marto, Kathy Miragliotta, Victor Nacheff, Baby Adrian Gennaro Laidlaw

**THE RECENTLY DECEASED:** Anthony Maffei, Julia Klics



**Sunday, April 17, 2016**  
**2:00 to 6:00 PM**  
**The Valley Regency**  
**Tickets: \$65 per person**

- Includes \$25 Gift of Chips for Gaming Tables
- Butler served hors d'oeuvres, Carving Station
- Complimentary: Beer, Wine, Soda, Coffee, Tea
- Gourmet Desserts, Cash Bar, Piano Music
- Gaming Tables: Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, Wheel of Chance
- Gift Baskets for Casino Winnings, Silent Auction, Super 50/50

Tickets available on our website: [www.stphilip.org](http://www.stphilip.org)  
 and at our School & Parish Offices

**SPRING ROYALE AD JOURNAL HONORS OUR WOMEN OF SERVICE**

Say thank you, offer congratulations or add a prayer intention while honoring our three women's service and ministry organizations:

***The Rosary Society (71st Year), The Legion of Mary and The Columbiettes***

•*St. Philip the Apostle Rosary Society*, founded in 1944, is committed to fostering love and devotion to the Blessed Mother through the recitation of the Rosary, visiting the sick, and supporting various charitable activities in the parish and in our community. Msgr. Flanagan serves as chaplain.

•Our *Legion of Mary* participate in daily prayer devotions, spiritual programs, made 80 hospital and nursing home visits, and performed over 300 service hours in this last year alone.

•*St. Philip's Columbiettes* Auxiliary members are dedicated to the mission of faith and perform charitable and religious works. Working together with the Knights of Columbus they are tireless in their goodwill, prayer and outreach.

**PARISH GIVING**

Total Easter Sunday Collection 2015	\$56,846.00
Holy Thursday Collection	\$ 3,939.00
Good Friday – Holy Land	\$ 3,684.00
Easter 2016 <i>to Date</i>	\$51,253.00
Online Giving Donations	\$ 3,740.00
<b>Total to Date</b>	<b>\$54,993.00</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection: Project Faith	\$ 2,217.00

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER/DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Acts 5:12-16; Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

**SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2016**

- 8:00** Virginia & Lewis Castiglia, Sr. & Jr.
- 10:00** Mauro D'Alto- 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Daniel Bauer  
Molly & Joe Belbruno
- 12:00** Kathleen & Eric Awramko

**MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016**

- 7:00** Angelina Passantino
- 9:00** Vincent Napolitano

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016**

- 7:00** Special Intention
- 9:00** C. Mildred Petaccio

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016**

- 7:00** The Schoberl Family
- 9:00** Howard Glinkin

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016**

- 7:00** The Valentino Family
- 9:00** Jay Jacobowitz

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016**

- 7:00** The Di Canio Family
- 9:00** Priscilla D. Caparaz

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016**

- 9:00** Nellie Fleming
- 5:30** Ann Sullivan  
Joseph Hopper – 3rd Anniversary  
Francis Sunday & Betty Huzing

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016**

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish
- 10:00** Dec'd members of the DeBiasi & Kimberley Families  
Angel A. Flores
- 12:00** Jean & Howard Brennan

The Sanctuary Candle: In Memory of Mauro D'Alto  
 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
 From his wife, Anna

**PRIESTS' SCHEDULE: APRIL 9/10, 2016**

5:30 PM Fr. Joe	10:00 AM Fr. Julio
8:00 AM Fr. Miguel	12:00 Noon Fr. Kevin