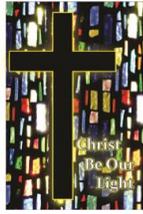


THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Christ Be Our Light

Follow our theme and review past reflections on our website www.stphilip.org

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit Light our Way

The Risen Christ commissioned the disciples and therefore us, to go out into the world and proclaim the Good News! Part of the Good News of Jesus Christ is the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us and among us. We are given all that we need to be the Light of Christ to others in our mission to love and to work for justice and the flourishing of all people.

As we journey through the Easter Season to Pentecost the same Holy Spirit that propelled the disciples to live their mission of *Opus Christi*, *Christ's Work* enlightens us.

Through Baptism and Confirmation we are empowered with spiritual gifts. During this Easter Season we will explore thematically the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and experience them at work in our lives in new ways.

Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Fear of the Lord ("WOW!" Awe, Wonder, Amazement) is awakening to God's blessings freely given: in the beauty of creation, the truth of compassion deep within us, the goodness of loving relationships – recognizing that "All is Gift."

Piety (Reverence) is living gratefully in a graced world with a profound respect for all life and a passion to be faithful stewards of God's bountiful gifts.

Fortitude (Courage) enables us to dream of what is possible with Christ's love. Fortitude emboldens us to take responsibility for that vision and to creatively make it a reality.

Right Counsel helps us to sift and sort in prayer what cannot be changed and needs to be accepted and what can be changed and needs to be accomplished.

Knowledge focuses our priorities and shifts our perspective to think, feel and act with faith, hope and love.

Understanding is seeing, feeling and listening with the "ear of our heart." Understanding and compassion are God's heart.

Wisdom enables us to discern and relish God's presence in all things, to trust in Providence and to therefore live with compassion on the journey.

Week III – Gift of the Holy Spirit – Courage (Fortitude) **BARK OR QUACK – GET IN THE WATER**

When Amy invited her grandfather to live with her at her house on a lake, she wondered how she would keep him entertained during the day since he was wheelchair-bound. Amy had a great idea. She decided to get a Labrador retriever puppy which would be a good companion for her grandfather and offer an excellent life for a dog. She imagined that they could sit on the dock with the grandfather throwing a stick into the water and the dog bringing it back. The puppy and the grandfather hit it off immediately. The only catch was that the dog refused to even go near the water in the lake. So, day after day the grandfather tried to coax the dog into the lake with every trick in the book. Content as they were sitting on the dock together, the grandfather knew that the dog would have more fun once he engaged in his God given gifts to swim and to retrieve. In other words, the dog was missing out on a lot of fun.

One lazy afternoon the grandfather and the dog were awakened by the sound of excited quacking. Turning their heads, they saw a very proud strutting mother duck leading her waddling ducklings right up to the edge of the lake. Into the water they went beginning a swimming zigzag parade across the lake. The next sound that the grandfather heard was a loud splash and his dog joyfully barking as he swam along behind the last duckling.

That afternoon the sounds of barking and quacking echoed across the lake. Amy, the grandfather, the dog and five ducklings were very happy, the mother duck not so much.

The dog in our story could not muster the courage to enter the lake water until he watched the example of the ducks who swam with ease and grace. Love works the same way. We learn to love by hearing loving words and by seeing the example of loving actions. In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us the key that unlocks the full potential in our lives. Jesus teaches us by example to love one another. Our reason for living is to be loved and to love. Jesus shows us that to love means to share our gifts and talents and our lives for the good of other people. He even offered his own life as an example of total giving.

Jesus invites us to love in two ways. One way is giving - the other is receiving. Sometimes we are called to give our love and be an example of love. Like the ducks in our story we teach by being examples of love in action. At other times, like the dog, our task is to receive love from others and learn how to love from them. God knows that we will have more fun once we engage in our God given gifts to give and to receive love. Like the dog, we are invited to get into the waters of love. The important point is to learn how to swim in the spiritual life whether we are giving or receiving love. We follow the example of Jesus, we pray, we worship at Sunday Eucharist, we love other people in word and deed, we receive love from others gratefully and return it by imitating their good example. Giving and receiving love by participating in the spiritual life helps us to realize our full potential, use our gifts and talents and to experience life swimmingly!

Whether we are quacking, as an example of love, or barking, in gratitude for receiving love, we are always swimming in the waters of God's love.

Jesus teaches us to enter the waters of love, so bark or quack but get in the water!

Reflection Questions

1. Quacking: Remember a time when someone gave you a beautiful example of love in action. Pray for that person. How might you thank them or show your appreciation?
2. Barking: What one action can you take to be an example of love for another? How and when will you take this action?

CELEBRATING PENTECOST 2019: JUNE 8 & 9

Multi-language Liturgy

Acts of the Apostles (2:4) reports that on the feast of Pentecost all were "filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim." The multiple languages at Pentecost demonstrate God's desire to be in relation with all people. God speaks to each heart in a unique way. Our celebration of Pentecost will be a multi-language liturgy serving as a symbol of God's ongoing action to renew the face of the earth.

Volunteers are being sought to proclaim the Scripture readings and general intercessions in their native language.

Please contact Donna Scancarella at 973-779-6200 or dscancarella@stphilip.org for more information and to volunteer.

Festive Clothing

On the first Pentecost the Spirit hovered over the disciples like tongues of fire. The manifestation of God's power symbolizes the fire of love that compels the followers of Jesus through spirituality, service and social ministry. Therefore, parishioners are invited to wear **flame colors of red, yellow or orange**. Our multi-colored glow will be a communal affirmation of our commitment to rekindle the fire of God's love and to live our mission working for peace and justice with zeal.

Flag Bearers Needed

Our Pentecost Eucharist procession is led by our flag bearers. We need six volunteers for each Mass on Pentecost weekend as carriers. The flags are more cumbersome than heavy; however moderate upper body strength is a requirement. A sign-up sheet for each Mass time can be found in the Sacristy.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

This collection is a unique opportunity for Catholics in the Diocese and world wide to come together to help alleviate the plight of those who suffer and are marginalized. For example, the collection helped our brothers and sisters in Haiti as they faced difficult challenges from the 2010 earthquake and the destruction caused by Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

SPRING CONCERT

The Adult, Youth and Handbell Choirs of St. Philip the Apostle will present their annual Spring Concert on **Sunday, May 19** at 3:00 PM in church. The concert will feature sacred music. A free-will offering is appreciated. Please join us.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Pray for our children as they receive their 1st Holy Communion and our Confirmation candidates as they prepare to receive the Sacrament on **May 28th**.

Confirmation rehearsal at 7:00 pm on **Thursday, May 23rd** in the Church for all Year 2 Confirmation students, parents, and sponsors. Any questions... contact Vicky

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The students and staff of Saint Philip Prep School had the pleasure of experiencing yet another Multicultural Day event. Our two-day event took place on Thursday and Friday, May 16 & 17. On the first day the students travel from classroom to classroom learning about different countries of the world. The rooms and halls are decorated to represent a particular country. Teachers prepare lessons for each grade from Pre-K through 8th. As the students travel from room to room, they experience the history and culture of these countries. On the second day the principal leads a question and answer session asking the student body questions about each country. This is followed by cultural dances performed by the students exhibiting a dance native to the country their grade represented. Finally, an international luncheon is served to students and faculty by the parent volunteers. Everyone has an opportunity to sample foods native to each country. The students end the two-day excursion by composing essays describing their experiences.

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

ROSARY SOCIETY

- Meeting: **Monday, May 20** beginning with the Rosary at **6:00 pm** in Church; Mass will follow at **6:30 pm**. This is our Induction Meeting, pizza party, and annual group picture! Don't miss it!
- **Social Tea: Sunday, June 2**, beginning at 2:00 pm (doors open at 1:30 pm) in the Auditorium. Call Elaine Vigilante at 973-472-9019 to reserve your seat today Tickets on sale now and still only \$25! Everyone is welcome – Hats a plus and Teacups a must!

WIDOW/WIDOWERS

May meeting has been rescheduled to **Monday, May 20th, 2019** at **6:00 pm** in the Molloy Center. Come for prayer, socialization and meeting new friends.

SPOUSAL BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT & MINISTRY

Next meetings: **Tuesday, May 28th** at **7:00 pm** in the Russo Room. Please contact Thalia Sanchez 862-295-1688.

PRIMER TIMERS

The Prime Timers will be holding their annual luncheon on **June 7** at the Valley Regency in Clifton. Payment of \$15. per person must be left at the church office no later than **May 31**. *No payment will be accepted at the door.*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesday: 8:00 pm VFW Hall - Valley Rd

ST. PHILIP'S 40th ANNUAL CARNIVAL



Thursday June 13 6-10 PM
 Friday June 14 6-11 PM
 Saturday June 15 6:30-11 PM

VALLEY RIDES & AMUSEMENTS
 RIDES GAMES FOOD DRINK

Sponsorship Opportunities

Business Sponsorship - \$50.00
 Family Sponsorship - \$30.00
 Booth and Ride Sponsorship - \$100.00

A **Craft Fair** will be held in the gym during all Carnival hours. More Crafters Welcome!

Information and contract available at stphilip.org
 or call 973-779-6200

CARNIVAL KICK-OFF MEETING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 PM in the Russo Room
 Join us as we plan our 40th Annual Carnival.
 All are welcome!

PRAY FOR

THE SICK: Rose Lucignani, Antony Fernandes,
 Victoria Spadofora, Michael Alban, Sr., Vincent Ramundo,
 Gary J. Arvardy, Judy Post, Mary Siwec

THE DECEASED: Betty Hamersma, Gabrielle Szwec

PARISH GIVING

EASTER COLLECTION 2018	\$58,303.00
EASTER COLLECTION 2019 YTD	\$61,378.00
Sunday Collection, May 6, 2018	\$18,142.00
Sunday Collection: May 5, 2019	
Envelopes	\$12,590.00
Cash	\$
1,721.00 Online giving donation	\$ 6,048.00
TOTAL	\$20,359.00
Second Collection: Project Faith	\$ 2,612.00

PRIESTS' SCHEDULE: MAY 25 & 26, 2019

5:30 PM Fr. Joe 8:00 AM Fr. Joseph
 10:00 AM Fr. Joseph 12:00 N Fr. Joe

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

8:00 All the People of the Parish
10:00 Mark G. Emr
 Mary Journick – 29th Anniversary
 Lizzet Lopez
 Margaret Yobs
12:00 Dorothy Neubert – 12th Anniversary
 Herb & Angela Pugliese

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019

7:00 Judy Serovich
9:00 Marcin Basta

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019

7:00 Carol Ann Dempsey
9:00 Sr. Marjorie Krusky

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

7:00 Hugh & Eleanor DeGhetto
9:00 Rose Martin

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019

7:00 John Strangeway
9:00 Fred Anthony

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019

7:00 Thomas Reiner
9:00 Kyle Terry

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2019

9:00 Maria Palladino
5:30 Rocco Carlucci – 34th Anniversary
 Francisca & Francisco Domingo, Sr.
 Kathryn Miragliotta

SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2019

8:00 All the People of the Parish
10:00 Henry Spohn
 Francesco Fusco
 Monique Tommaro
 Marianne Jordan
 Vincent Blanda
12:00 James Elbert
 Victor Shami

SUMMER SCHEDULE:

**BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 27TH THERE WILL BE ONE DAILY MASS
 AT 9:00 AM UNTIL LABOR DAY**

Summer Mass } St. John Kanty (Clifton): 7 AM
 Alternative } Holy Angels (Little Falls): 7 AM (Chapel)
 Holy Face Monastery (Clifton): 7:30 AM