



GOD IS LOVE: WEEK II

During the next weeks we are exploring our theme “**God Is Love**”. Bulletin articles, homilies, music, reflection questions and prayer practices will enable us to grow spiritually and to live our mission to do Christ’s Work as love in action. Follow our journey at www.stphilip.org.

Banner Symbols

At the center of love’s heart is the cross, the symbol of God’s unconditional acceptance of us. The joined hands remind us that we love God by being love in action for one another. The hands reflect our Dalle de Verre stained-glass windows which represent the diversity of God’s gifts in us and in our Church as a community.

God is Love 1 John: 7 – 21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love has its source in God...No one has seen God, yet as we love each other God dwells in us and God’s love is perfected in us... We love because God first loved us...God is love.

“To love another person is to see the face of God.”

Victor Hugo was a French poet, novelist and dramatist 1802 – 1885. He is the author of the famous work *Les Miserables* immortalized on stage and on film from which the quote above is taken. All of love is relationship and connection to God, self and others. We are made in the image and likeness of God so to love another person is to see the face of God. Our love manifests God’s providence and reflects God’s Divine nature at work within us. Our mission to do *Opus Christi*, *Christ’s Work* is to turn our face to God. We turn our faces in prayer so that we may be empowered and perfected to reflect God’s image through our own faces, words and works of love in action. During our theme “**God Is Love**” we will explore ways to more fully experience God’s unconditional love for us, through prayer and practices, by turning our minds and hearts to be love in action.

Our Theme Prayer:

Lord, turn my face with grace to love.

Reflection

In 1902 a recently graduated journalist student is being interviewed for his first job by a newspaper editor. The editor notices that the student’s hands are smooth, they are not working hands. He asks, “Did you go to school on scholarship?” “No.” “Did your father pay your way?” “No, my father died when I was an infant. My mother washes clothes to fund my education.” The editor says, “For the second part of your interview, go home and wash your mother’s hands.” The student is surprised but agrees. Upon returning the next day the student shares his experience of washing his mother’s hands. “My mother was confused by your request but let me wash her hands. I never really looked at my mother’s hands before, they are calloused, cracked and bleed in places. I was very gentle with her. I even helped her with her afternoon loads of wash.” The student stops talking as tears run down his face. He stammers, “I have no words for my mother’s love. I did not know. I did not see until I really turned my face to see her hands and then I saw her love.” The editor replies, “Now you have a heart that can turn and see another person. Words can only express what the heart sees. Your heart has turned to really see your mother. Now you know to look for love – you’ve got the job.”

In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus challenges us to really look at people, situations and possessions to assess them wisely for their value and worth. St. Paul urges Philemon to see a former slave in new ways, not only as a brother but as Paul’s own son. God’s love is always present when we know how to look and how to see with our hearts. God is love. When we see love in our own hearts or in the hearts of another, we see God’s reflection or to express the idea more poetically - the face of God.

Prayer Practice

To look for and to see love is a spiritual work that enables us to share and to do Christ’s Work which is to be love in action. Our Theme Hymn instructs and inspires us to turn our face toward love. Prayerfully reflect on each verse and ask God to help you to turn your face with grace to love by seeing love in yourself, others and in everyday situations. After reflection, what action will you take to reveal the face of God?

LORD, TURN MY FACE WITH GRACE TO LOVE

Lord, turn my face with grace to love,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love the way you love
And do what you would do.

Lord, turn my face with grace to love,
Until my heart is pure;
Until my fear is healed by faith,
Whose power will endure.

Lord, turn my face with grace to love,
May false attachments cease;
Through prayer and works, may I accept
The gift you grant of peace.

Lord, turn my face with grace to love,
Grant empathy Divine,
Until cooperation turns
Each face I see to Thine.

Original Text: Edwin Hatch, Tune: ST. COLUMBA, CM; Irish Melody
Freely Adapted: GoodNewsThemes.com 19082131

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

If you would like to register your child for either Program, please contact us to set up an appointment. We can be reached by phone (973-779-1439) or email reled@stphilip.org.

Class schedule for September:

Sunday, 9/15 - Grades 1 to 6

Sunday, 9/22 - Grades 2, 7 to 10

Families are encouraged to attend the 8:00 am Mass on class dates. Class will start immediately after Mass.

A meeting for all parents of Confirmation students will be held on **Sunday, September 15th** at 9 am in the Auditorium.

Journey with Us Open Your Heart to God Discover the Keys to the Kingdom RCIA

Are you interested in exploring your spiritual life?
Do you want to discover the abundance of God's love and peace?
Would you like to have greater motivation for service?
Do you want to know more about the Catholic Faith?
Did you ever think about becoming a Catholic?
Are you a Baptized Catholic and have never made your First Communion and/or Confirmation?
Are you baptized in another faith and have a desire to become Catholic?
Have you never been baptized in any faith but wonder?

Journey with Us!

Through the process of the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** or **RCIA**, we explore all these questions and discover the keys to the kingdom. We invite you to be our companion on the journey. We gather on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM in the Russo Room. If you would like more information about **RCIA**, please call Donna Scancarella at 973-779-6200.

2019 VIVERE CHRISTUS AWARD RECIPIENTS ED & EVELYN KOVACS

Ed & Evelyn Kovacs will be presented with The Annual *VIVERE CHRISTUS AWARD* this **Sunday, September 8th** - 3:30 pm at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Paterson. Please keep Ed and Evelyn in your grateful prayer and all are welcome to join us at the award ceremony.

Saint Philip Women's Cornerstone Retreat

November 15 & 16, 2019

Go Light Your World

Cornerstone is a beautiful retreat experience, a time to revitalize your relationship with God, renew your own spirit and bond with other women of our parish through a combination of quiet reflection and prayer, and the sharing of one's faith journey with others. Please consider joining us for this two-day retreat.

Retreat Times:

Friday, 6:30PM to 10:30PM

Saturday, 8:30AM to 6:30PM

Registration Donation: \$50

Registration opens online [September 14, 2019](http://StPhilip.org) at StPhilip.org

Please email any questions

to Cornerstone@StPhilip.org or call

The Molloy Center (973)779-6200.

Hear testimonials and have your questions answered after all masses the weekend of **September 14th & 15th**.

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

ROSARY SOCIETY

Monday, September 9th is the date for our first Rosary Society meeting of the year. It will begin at 6:00 pm in Church followed by the Rosary. This meeting is our annual Ice Cream Party. Please join us – ALL ARE WELCOME!

WIDOW/WIDOWERS

Monday, September 9th and 23rd at **6:00 pm** in the Molloy Center. Come for prayer, socialization and meeting new friends.

SPOUSAL BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT & MINISTRY

Next meeting **Monday, September 9th and Wednesday September 25th** at **7:00 pm** in the Russo Room. Please contact Thalia Sanchez 862-295-1688

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE UNBORN

Saturday, September 14, 2019

9:00 am Mass followed by Prayer Vigil in the Auditorium

A time to memorialize the unborn and a time for healing

Guest speaker is our own Msg. Kevin Flanagan

Sponsored by the Columbiettes, Knights of Columbus and the Ancient Order of Hibernians. For information please contact Sharon Festa 973 742-0926 or GK Jack Houston 201 452-3817.

SUPPORT NJ RIGHT TO LIFE

Take a chance to win a 2020 Volvo XC40 SUV valued at \$42,000. Other prizes include Shop Rite Gift Cards valued at \$500, \$750 & \$1,000. This is the only fundraiser of the year to benefit NJ Right to Life. Tickets are \$10.00 each and will be sold next weekend, **September 14 & 15** in the vestibule after all masses.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

September 18: Regular Meeting- VFW - Valley Rd - 8:00 pm

12th Annual Golf Outing

The Knoll West Golf Course - Parsippany

Thursday, September 19, 2019 11:00 AM

For information and reservations,
call Brian Kulesa at 973-418-0285

COLUMBIETTES BLANKET MINISTRY

The blanket ministry will meet **Thursday, September 19, 2019** at 9:45 am in the Molloy Center. This ministry donates blankets to hospitalized children, nursing homes, and the home bound to name a few. We also make hats and scarves for children in our community. We need all types of crafters. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information, call Cathie Murtha at 973-471-1265. We gladly accept yarn donations!

ST. PHILIP'S CHOIR

Adult Choir – Can you match pitch? Every voice part welcome!

Rehearsals: Mondays 7:00 – 9:00pm

First Rehearsal: **Monday, September 9, 2019**

*Sings every Sunday at the 10:00AM Liturgy + Holy Days and 2 concerts/year. **NEW CHOIR MEMBERS WELCOME***

Handbells – Non-singers with any music background or interest.

Rehearsals: Mondays 6:00pm – 6:45pm

First Rehearsal: **Monday, October 7, 2019**

Plays only at seasonal masses (Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday and 2 concerts/year)

ST. PHILIP'S PLAYERS RETURN TO THE STAGE!

November 1 & 2: *Love Can Build A Bridge*, an original musical revue. Saturday includes dinner catered by the Brownstone. Friday's dessert show is sponsored by Maple Valley Diner. Presale tickets coming soon. Info, volunteers, performers: contact JSchreck1475@gmail.com for an immediate response

PRAY FOR

THE NEWLY MARRIED:

Matthew William Kehoe and Marissa Anne Valle

THE SICK: Rose Lucignani, Antony Fernandes, Victoria Spadofora, Michael Alban, Sr., Gary J. Arvary, Judy Post, Marya Columbia, Kyle Rodrigues, John Kassai, Fred VanDuyne, Patricia Giuditta, Roberto Domingo, Evelyn Domingo, Dan Cotto

THE DECEASED: Robert Gleason, Carmela Meindl

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection, September 2, 2018	\$17,199.00
Sunday Collection: September 1, 2019	
Envelopes	\$12,458.00
Cash	\$ 1,522.00
Online giving donation	\$ 5,330.00
TOTAL	\$19,310.00

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wis 9:13-18b; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

- 8:00** Peter Kenny
Joseph A. Murray
- 10:00** Don Muller
C. Mildred Petaccio
Michael Hreha
Kathryn Miragliotta
- 12:00** All the People of the Parish

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

- 7:00** Robin Hughes
- 9:00** Special Intention: Father Marcel Szabo

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

- 7:00** Josefino Cabrera
- 9:00** Italo & Filomena Gonnella

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

- 7:00** Sr. Rene Donohue
- 9:00** Giuseppe Spatola

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

- 7:00** Mary Shashaty – 1st Anniversary
- 9:00** Cait Hughes

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

- 7:00** Necitas Enaguas
- 9:00** Edward Grady

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019

- 9:00** Safeguarding All Human Life
- 5:30** Joseph & Theresa Raia
Felice Masino
Special Int: Jim & Cathie Murtha-50th Wedding Annv.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish
- 10:00** Mildred Lechleiter
Robert Bowden
Edward Yobs – 8th Anniversary
Michael Konopka
- 12:00** Antonio B. Garcia – 8th Anniversary
Al Mayewski

PRIESTS' SCHEDULE: SEPTEMBER 14 & 15, 2019

5:30 PM Fr. Matt 8:00 AM Fr. Joe
10:00 AM Fr. Joseph 12:00 N Fr. Kevin
Fr. Joe preaching at all Masses

2020 MASS INTENTIONS

The 2020 Mass Book will open on **Thursday, September 19**. The donation for one Mass, the Sanctuary Candle, or Offertory Gift is \$20.00