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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Evening 5:30 PM
Sunday..... 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM (Broadcast) & 12:00 PM
Mondays thru Saturdays..... 9:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday 4:30 to 5:00 PM

Please telephone the Parish Office
if you would like a priest to visit you
or a family member at home
or in the hospital.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

A man who lived a very immoral life died and found himself standing before the gates of heaven. Saint Peter was already looking up his record in the book. "This doesn't look good," said Saint Peter. "You were cruel, unjust, selfish, and manipulative. What is even worse, I can't find a single action of generosity or kindness in your entire life." "Wait a minute, wait a minute," said the man, "I distinctly remember twenty years ago I saw a homeless child on the street, and I gave that child a quarter. Look it up. It should be there." "Ah, you're right," said Saint Peter, "it's here. I missed it because it was in a footnote. But it still it is not very much." "But it's there," the man said, "it has to count for something." "I'm not sure," said Saint Peter. "I'm going to have to take this upstairs. Excuse me for a minute." Saint Peter left to discuss the matter with God. When he returned, the man asked, "What did God say?" "Well," St Peter said, "God told me to give you back your quarter and tell you to go to hell."

The Christian life is not mathematics. It's not about calculating all our good deeds and weighing them against our sins. It is not about measuring ourselves against some perfect performance. This is why we must read the last line of today's gospel, "The measure by which you measure shall be in turn be measured out to you" in light of Jesus' words earlier in the passage. There he tells us to be merciful as our heavenly father is merciful. The Christian life is not about measuring one thing against another. It's about imitating God, about being merciful to others because God is merciful to us. God does not desire to calculate our sins and achievements. God wants to change us so that we can love and show mercy even as God loves and shows mercy.

This after all is the only way that we can make sense out of Jesus' commands in today's gospel. He tells us that we are to love our enemies, that we are to do good to those who hate us, that we are to bless those who curse us. No one of us could follow any of those commands on our own. If we were making a list of our achievements, we could not enter any of these commands in our success column. If we are to love our enemies, God has to change us. God has to give us a new heart, a new way of seeing, a new way of loving.

Therefore, the most practical command that Jesus gives us in today's gospel is: "Pray for those who mistreat you." Pray for your enemies. If we take that step, if we bring the person who has hurt us, our enemy, before God in prayer, we open the possibility not only for God to change our enemy, but for God to change us. So, we should bring the person that we cannot forgive before God in prayer and ask God to show us something, to give us some understanding that can move our heart closer to

forgiveness. We should place the member of our family who has severely disappointed us and hurt us in God's presence and ask that God would give us a new way to love that person. We should take the friend who has betrayed us and spoke evil against us and before God ask that we might find a way to soften our judgement so that we might forgive as God forgives us.

One day we will find ourselves standing before the gates of heaven, and this gospel tells us that God does not expect us to come with a list of good deeds. The only thing we need to do is tell Saint Peter, "I was helpless, but I prayed that God would change me so that I could be merciful as God is merciful." Because of that prayer, the gates of heaven will open wide.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone



SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

MARCH 2, 2022

Masses with Eucharist and distribution of ashes:

7:00 AM and 9:00 AM

Prayer Service with distribution of ashes

4:00 PM and 7:00PM

Last Year's Palms may be placed in the Purple Palm Barrel in the Church Vestibule

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The students of the Confirmation Program are very thankful to the parishioners of St. Philip's for the overwhelming support of the Souper Bowl of Caring! We were able to donate \$ **2,213.77** to Eva's Village.

You continue to serve as an example to our students of our Opus Christi, Christ's Work, what it means to be Love in Action" and help our neighbors in need! *THANK YOU for helping us #TackleHunger!*



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

This week, love was in the air at Saint Philip Prep! The students celebrated Valentine's Day by learning about the history of Saint Valentine, writing, and sharing poetry, and singing songs together.



We also celebrated the 100th and 101st days of school. Students in early childhood used cereal to craft necklaces with 100 pieces and wrote about what they've learned in their first 100 days of school. Primary students celebrated the 101st day with a fun 101 dalmatians theme!



Celebrations such as these helped our students learn math concepts around base ten, counting, and cardinality. Our students had so much fun and learned a ton this week at SPPS!

Applications for New families for the 2022-2023 School year began January 31, 2022.

Applications can be found and submitted at stphilipprep.com under New Student Application.

Completed applications include:

- Standardized Test Scores
- Current Academic Records
- Current ISP/ IEP, if applicable
- References

Academic Records and References need to be uploaded and attached to the application. There is a \$75 non-refundable application fee. Applicants will be contacted regarding the status of the application.

Upon acceptance copies of the child's birth certificate, Baptismal certificate and immunization record will need to be provided.

All detailed information regarding the school can be found on our website stphilipprep.com under **2022-2023 Registration**

Any questions please contact the school at (973) 779-4700

****Registration for each class will be ongoing until the capacity of students has been reached, which is 25. At that time, waiting lists will be generated.**

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRIME-TIMERS

The next meeting of the Prime Timers will be on Friday, March 4th at 1 PM in Marian Hall. Come and socialize with old friends and meet some new ones.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES Cont'd

BOY SCOUTS

The annual Troop 21 Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast will be held in the St Philip the Apostle School Auditorium at 797 Valley Road on Sunday, February 27th from 8am to Noon (last seating at 11:30am).



Adults \$12.00, seniors \$10.00 and children 12 & under \$7.00 Children under 4 eat free with paying adult. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Please come enjoy pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice & coffee, and support Troop 21! Tickets can be purchased at the door. For more information please contact: troop21clifton@gmail.com

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

St. Philip Prep HSA will be hosting "A Hawaiian Luau" Tricky Tray on **Friday, March 11th** in the Auditorium. Doors open at 5:30 PM.



Tickets will be **\$ 25 each**
No one under 18 permitted.
Tickets can be purchased online at <https://stphilip.org/tricky-tray/>
Or by calling Linda Valenti at 201-638-1200

CARNIVAL

Hello St Philips Parishioners!

My name is Anton Meindl, I'm a St. Philip Preparatory School parent, St. Philip School HSA member, and a former St. Philip Youth Group Member.

I'm proud to announce the return of the St. Philip's Carnival this June.

I know there are many people who have worked this event for many years. I'm looking forward to meeting with veteran carnival workers, and any new volunteers who would like to be involved.

This year, we're also opening the volunteering to school parents who would like to get more involved in addition to their HSA commitments.

An introductory Meet and Greet meeting to discuss ideas for new volunteers, and veteran volunteers is set for **Sunday, February 27th at 11 AM** right after the 10 AM Mass in Marian Hall. I'm looking forward to working together and getting input from veteran volunteers and new volunteers!

In the meantime, if anyone would like to reach out with any questions or inquiries, please feel free to call me at (862) 247-3899.



NEWLY BAPTIZED



PLEASE NOTE

SCAM ALERT

It has come to our attention that there are emails as well as text messages going around that say they are from our Parish priests.

Please be advised that Fr. Monteleone, Fr Nico, Fr. Kevin or Fr. Jared will **NEVER** send you emails or texts asking for your immediate attention, some of your time and most importantly they will not ask for money through gift cards.



PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: FEBRUARY 14, 2021 \$16,525.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION: FEBRUARY 13, 2022

Weekly Collection \$ 8,652.00

Online Giving Donation \$ 7,304.00

Total \$15,956.00

Second Collection – Project Faith \$ 1,877.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

February 20 - Eastern Europe

This collection is to restore the Church and build the future. By supporting the church in Central and Eastern Europe.

February 27 - Project Faith

This collection is to provide resources for diocesan ministry, religious education, parish family life and social services.



WE PRAY FOR...

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace...

Marta McKenny, Martha DiGeronimo

A Time to be Healed...

Luca Ataide, Jennifer Rascher,
Susan Stierlen, Jill Festa,
Mary Grace Heyrich, John Riccardi,
Debbie Werthmann, Edward Kovacs,
Sylvia Shami



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022

8:00 All the People of the Parish

10:00 Beverly Maggio
Kenneth Tahan
William Sim

12:00 Lee and Pete Bartolo
Guillermo Navarro

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2022

9:00 Jean Duca

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

9:00 Renald Sugatan- 40th Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022

9:00 Annette Cavallini

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022

9:00 Joseph Zak

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022

9:00 Angeles Cabigao

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022

9:00 Frank and Michael Sabella

5:30 Barbara Christiaens
David Young

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022

8:00 Joyce Frei
Michael Belotti

10:00 Joanne Hunt
Nikki Valle
Marcia A. Puluse

12:00 All the People of the Parish

PRIESTS' SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022

5:30 PM Fr. Jared

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022

8:00 AM Fr. Monteleone

10:00 AM Fr. Kevin

12:00 PM Fr. Monteleone

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