

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

“As Lent is the time for greater love, listen  
to Jesus’ thirst... ‘Repent and believe.’”

BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA



Giving – Fasting – Praying  
Repenting – Forgiving

## Saint Philip the Apostle Parish

CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

God is doing whatever it takes to bring us home. God is even willing to use the tragedies and mistakes of our life, to bless us and to lead us to growth.

There is an African story about a local tribal king, who had an incredibly good friend from boyhood. The two would regularly go out hunting together. The king's friend was resolute in his conviction that no matter what happened, good things would come from it. Despite many doubts to the contrary, he continued to believe that all things worked for the good. One day when the king and his friend were out hunting, the king's gun jammed, and it blew off his thumb. It was a tragedy. The king was deeply shaken. But his friend in typical style said, "Don't worry, good will come from this." Now this so angered the king, that in a rage he sent his friend to prison. A couple of months later the king was out hunting again in some rather dangerous territory. He was seized by a group of cannibals, who tied him and prepared to eat him. But just before they began, they noticed that his thumb was missing. Being superstitious, they believed that they should never eat anyone who was less than whole. So, they untied the king and set him free.



Realizing what had happened, the king repented that he had treated his friend so poorly. The loss of his thumb had indeed saved his life. So, the king went to the prison and apologized to his friend. "You were right," he said, "I should never have put you into prison, that was a terrible and unjust decision." The friend, in typical fashion, said, "Yes it was, but good came from it." "Good?" the king said, "what possible good could come from my decision to put my friend in prison?" "Well," said the friend, "had you not put me in prison, I would have been out hunting with you and the cannibals would have eaten me!"

Even our greatest disappointments can lead to blessings. Even our most foolish decisions can lead to growth. This is what we as Christians believe. We do not believe that is the way the world is. We believe that is the way God is. God is doing whatever it takes to bring us home. That is why for a Christian, despair is never a final option. Even if we have rejected our father, squandered our inheritance, and find ourselves feeding slop to hogs. Even if the person we love the most has been taken from us.

Even if we have lost our health or our reputation. Even if we have made disastrous decisions and sinned so grievously that, like the prodigal son, we feel that we are no longer worthy to be God's child. Even then, God is doing whatever it takes to bring us home.

Therefore, the next time you have to face evil in the eye, the next time that you realize what a mess you have made of your life, the next time you know that the pigs are eating better than you are—do not despair. Turn around and start going home. The way back may be crooked and difficult, but it is a road that has been prepared for you. Do not forget that when you come to the end of that road, you will not face rejection but welcome. You will not encounter a cold shoulder, but a loving embrace.

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone

## LENTEN SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

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

**There is an added 7 AM Mass on Fridays of Lent.**

**Holy Hour is every Friday following 9 AM Mass.**

**Stations of the Cross is every Friday of Lent  
at 7 PM in Church.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation is available every  
Saturday from 4:30 to 5:00 PM and every Monday of  
Lent from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Church.**

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2022

*Palm Sunday*

**Saturday, April 9**

4:30 PM Confessions

5:30 PM Mass

**Sunday, April 10**

8 AM, 10 AM (Broadcast), 12 PM

*Holy Monday*

**April 11**

9 AM Mass

*Holy Tuesday*

**April 12**

9 AM Mass

*Holy Wednesday*

**April 13**

9 AM Mass

## LENTEN SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES Cont'd

### TRIDUUM 2022

#### *Holy Thursday* **April 14**

7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper (Broadcast)  
8:30 PM to MIDNIGHT Eucharistic Adoration in the Auditorium

#### *Good Friday* **April 15**

3 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
7 PM Stations of the Cross

#### *Holy Saturday* **April 16**

1 PM Easter Food Blessing  
8 PM Easter Vigil

#### *Easter Sunday* **April 17**

8 AM, 10 AM (Broadcast), 12 PM

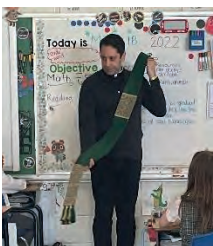
### BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study sessions take place on Mondays of Lent in the Jubilee Wing Room of the Molloy Center at 11 AM. Fr. Monteleone leads the discussion on the variations of the Passion of Christ in the gospels.

## ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Spring has sprung! Here at SPPS students are very excited about the nice weather. They have all been enjoying more time outside at recess!

First grade learned about St. Patrick and St. Joseph. They also made their own traps to try and catch a leprechaun. No such luck finding the gold though!



Fr. Monteleone came to the second-grade classes to discuss the parts of Mass. Students will be making their communion and are learning about the importance of Mass. They were very excited to have him come in and speak to them.

In third grade the students just finished their unit on the solar system. They each had a report to present about their planet. They also created their own papier Mache planet. They were so proud to see it hanging in the hallway!



## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### PRIME-TIMERS

The next meeting of the Prime Timers will be on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1 PM in Marian Hall. Entertainment will be by vocalist Cindy Strom. Come and socialize with old friends and meet some new ones!

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Msgr. Doody Scholarship Beefsteak** will be on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM in the Auditorium.

You may order online by visiting [www.kofc11671.org](http://www.kofc11671.org). Click on Beefsteak button or Scan QR code below on your cell phone camera or call: Don DeLuca (973) 779-6200 Ext. 303 | No take-out | \$40



### BOY SCOUTS

#### **Palm Cross Fundraiser**

Boy Scout Troop 21 will be selling Palm Crosses before and after Masses the weekend of April 2-3 & 9-10, 2022. The Palm Cross price is \$14 and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo. For pre-orders or more information please call Phil Jakimowicz at (973) 723-6111.



### COLUMBIETTES

#### **Columbiettes Membership Drive**

If you are interested in becoming a Columbiette, there will be an Initiation Ceremony very soon. Membership is open to women 18 years of age and older who are practicing Catholics. If you are interested in learning more about us, please call Cathie Murtha (973) 471-1265 or Sharon Festa (973) 742-0926.

#### **Morning of Reflection**

The Columbiettes will be hosting a Morning of Reflection on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The morning begins at 9 AM Mass in the Church followed by a continental breakfast in Marian Hall. Rev. Jared Brogan, Director of the Office of Worship, will be speaking on the Holy Eucharist. Tickets are \$10. Reservations can be made by calling (973) 471-1265. All are welcome!

## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES Cont'd

### CARNIVAL

Our next Carnival meeting will be Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. A follow up email to the first meeting will be sent in the coming days with some updates and notes for the next meeting. We will be finalizing chairpersons on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please try to attend if you are going to be involved or plan on volunteering.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

### MORRIS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Morris Catholic High School in Denville, NJ is accepting applications for the Class of 2026 and for transfer students for this upcoming academic year. Learn more about Morris Catholic through our Admissions events! Our two spring Open House dates are:

**Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

**Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

You can sign up for these events at

[www.morriscatholic.org/openhouse/](http://www.morriscatholic.org/openhouse/) You can also visit [www.morriscatholic.org](http://www.morriscatholic.org) to learn more about all of our athletic, academic, and extracurricular programs.

## PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: MARCH 21, 2021	\$ 14,326.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: MARCH 20, 2022	
Weekly Collection	\$ 10,978.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 7,201.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 18,179.00</b>
Second Collection   Campaign Human Dev.	\$ 2,345.00

### Upcoming Second Collections:

#### March 27 - Project Faith

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

#### April 3 - Beacon

This collection helps to offset the paper to the Parish

### DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL

Thank you to our parishioners for their generosity. We have surpassed our 2021 Diocesan Ministries Appeal. This surplus allows us to receive a rebate back from the Diocese.

<b>2021 DMA Goal</b>	<b>\$48,125.00</b>
<b>Cash Received as of 3-7-22</b>	<b>\$65,888.00</b>
<b>Amount over Goal</b>	<b>\$16,763.00</b>
<b>Rebate</b>	<b>\$ 8,381.50</b>

Please know that your generosity in your Appeal gift not only helps those in the diocesan ministries but also our own Parish.

## PRIESTS' SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022

5:30 PM Fr. Monteleone

### SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

8:00 AM Fr. Nico

10:00 AM Fr. Kevin

12:00 PM Fr. Jared

## WE PRAY FOR...

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

Anne Eodice, Irene Muzyczyn

### *A Time to be Healed...*

Susan Stierlen, Jill Festa, Debbie Werthmann, Sylvia Shami, Edward Kovacs, Dominick Cappello, Raymond Fitzpartick, Todd Daigneault, Cheri Albanesius, George Heyrich, James Jablonowski

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022

**8:00** All the People of the Parish

**10:00** Pasquale DeBiasi

Rosina Gioia

Eva Guzman Gabriel

Marie D'Angelo

**12:00** Oksana Hrubec

### MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022

**9:00** Deceased Members of the Landers Family

### TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022

**9:00** Dolores Rando

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

**9:00** Richard DeMarco

### THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022

**9:00** Joseph & Ann Jasionowicz

### FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022

**7:00** Fred Schweighardt

**9:00** Jan Pannullo

### SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022

**9:00** Joyce Drevenak

Christina Apostadero

**5:30** Joseph Senior, Ceil, and Joseph Junior Hopper

Charles Salzer

Sean Hughes

### SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

**8:00** All the People of the Parish

**10:00** Kimberley/DeBiasi Families

Mauro D'Alto - 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

William Sim

Josephine Madronal

**12:00** For all the Unborn and their Families



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