

## SUNDAY GOSPEL

As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means Sent —. So, he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So, then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So, some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So, they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.

--John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

A man who was blind from birth receives his sight in the first few verses of today's gospel. But that is not the end of his story. The gospel goes on to recount his conversations with neighbors, the Pharisees, and Jesus himself. This is because today's gospel is not about seeing. **It is about seeing more.** You and I can see. We see trees, our computer screens, and the members of our families. But that does not mean that we see all that is necessary. This is why we are called to follow the example of the man born blind, living our lives with eyes open, seeing more and more until we finally see Jesus face to face. But all too often, we take the stance that the Pharisees adopt at the end of today's gospel. "We see," we say, "and what we see today is enough." Jesus warns us that whenever proudly we say, "we see," we are only revealing our own blindness. It is only by our willingness to see more that we will be able to arrive at the place where God wants us to be.

You and I confidently say that we see ourselves, that we know who we are, that we recognize our own abilities, relationships, and potential. But then we experience divorce, sickness, doubt, or depression, and we need to see more. We need to see how it is still possible to have a life that is positive and fulfilling, even when who we have changed. We need to see how we can continue to have hope, even when our relationships are shattered, our health is threatened, or we must deal with the difficulties of growing older.

You and I can say that we see what our Catholic faith entails. We go to church. We say our prayers. We help people who are in need. Then someone like Pope Francis says that our faith is more than just having a relationship with God and helping those in need. Our faith is about changing our society. Again, we need to see more. **We need to see how being Catholic is not limited to doing things here in this church or in our homes but is meant to perfect the society in which we live.** We need to see that following Jesus means that we are willing to become involved into the messy areas of media, culture, and politics and work to change the structures in society that threaten life and keep millions of people impoverished and powerless.

We confidently say that we see who God is. We read of God's love in the Scriptures. We study God's power in our catechisms. And then tragedy strikes, and we have to face the reality of evil. We begin to doubt. How can a good and loving God allow the innocent to suffer and violence to reign? How could God allow this bad thing to happen to me? Once again, we need to see more. We need to see that the image of God that we formed in grade school is too small, **that our God is a God of mystery** who we cannot completely comprehend. We need an adult faith that is more about trusting than explaining.

**We can only grow if we are willing to see more.** That is why we can never say that what we see today is complete. But it is good news that our God is willing to lead us in the journey to greater sight. Our God is willing to use our abilities and our experiences, as He used the abilities and experiences of the man born blind, to lead us to a deeper truth. Our stance then must be one of humility and trust. We pray, "Lord, I can see, but help me to see more. I place my life in your hands." Seeing begins with trust. That is why before we can open our eyes, we must be willing to open our hearts.

Peace,  
Fr. Monteleone

## WELCOME HOME TO HEALING

**CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE EVERY  
SATURDAY FROM 4:30 PM TO 5 PM  
& EVERY MONDAY OF LENT  
FROM 7 PM to 8:30 PM IN THE CHURCH  
(March 20)**

**THE PARISH LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE  
WILL BE ON MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM.  
THERE WILL BE GUEST PRIESTS AVAILABLE  
FOR CONFESSIONS.**

**THERE IS A 7 AM MASS  
EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT  
(March 24, and 31)**

Please note there is no STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.  
It resumes on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.

## ANTICIPATING HOLY WEEK

### *Palm Sunday*

**Saturday, April 1**

4:30 PM Confessions

5:30 PM Mass – Fr. Kevin

### **Sunday, April 2**

8 AM Mass – Fr. Monteleone

10 AM Mass (Broadcast) – Fr. Monteleone

12 PM Mass – Fr. Nico

### *Holy Monday*

**April 3**

9 AM Mass

### *Holy Tuesday*

**April 4**

9 AM Mass

### *Holy Wednesday*

**April 5**

9 AM Mass

### *Holy Thursday*

**April 6**

7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

(Broadcast) – Fr. Nico

8:30 PM to 10 PM Eucharistic Adoration

in the Auditorium

### *Good Friday*

**April 7**

3 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

(Broadcast) – Fr. Monteleone

7 PM Stations of the Cross – Fr. Nico

### *Holy Saturday*

**April 8**

1 PM Easter Food Blessing – Fr. Nico

8 PM Easter Vigil – Fr. Monteleone

Please note:

There is NO 5:30 PM Mass on Holy Saturday.

Regular confessions at 4:30 PM will NOT be heard.

Saturday confessions will resume on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### *Easter Sunday*

**April 9**

8 AM Mass – Fr. Kevin

10 AM Mass (Broadcast) – Fr. Nico

12 PM Mass – Fr. Nico

## BIBLE STUDY

Join us on **Mondays of Lent at 11 AM**

(March 20 & 27)

in the Jubilee Wing Room of the Molloy Center.

Fr. Monteleone leads the discussion on the

Gospel of John concentrating on the

Bread of Life Discourse.

## ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The students at St. Philip Preparatory School have been very busy!

We had our annual tricky tray on March 10<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success and fun was had by all that attended!

This week the second graders saw the play Mary Poppins presented by the students at Mary Help of Christians Academy. They had a wonderful time! Our own middle schoolers have been very busy getting ready for our play, Moana!

Everyone enjoyed a wonderful St. Patrick's Day, here

at SPPS! Students had a special tag

day and participated in some fun

activities. The third graders had a

STEM challenge to create a rainbow that would hold a "pot of gold".



## SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Saint Philip would like to welcome all families with young children to a **family holy HALF hour on Friday, April 21st, at 5:30 PM in Marian Hall** in the Molloy Center. A Holy Hour is where we are in the presence of Jesus in the

Eucharist, exposed in front of us, on the altar. It is a beautiful experience that families often miss out on due to fear of their children's inability to sit still for long durations. This format is geared towards kids by shortening the time to a half hour and having music and activities that will help your children and you, as parents, understand the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. We encourage you to come and spend time with Jesus as a family.

If you have any questions, please speak with Fr. Nico, or call the Parish Office at (973) 779 6200.



### *No Greater Love*

*A passion play for the Lenten season*

*presented by the Xavier Company*

**Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**

**Saint Philip the Apostle Church**

Please Note:

This performance will be presented in lieu of Friday Stations of the Cross

WRITTEN BY: JANEEN STEVENS  
DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY:  
CAROL FERRONE  
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY: GERARD DeMAN, jr.  
ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY BY:  
RHONDA DENISE REID

FEATURING: Pasqualino Beltempo (in the role of Jesus), Nikki Casseri (as Mary), our very own, Dorothy Dobkowski, Benjamin Culpepper, Leo Grinberg, Annie Lewis, Brandon Schraml, Rebekah Rawhouser and Tony Bartoli on percussion

*No Greater Love*, a vibrant musical drama that celebrates the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, will be performed in the sanctuary of churches throughout the tri-state area during the 2023 Lenten and Easter Seasons. Don't miss this captivating performance of *No Greater Love* that brings to life the timeless and sacred story of the passion of Jesus Christ.

The Xavier Company, under the direction of Dr. Carol Ferrone and musical direction by Gerard DeMan, is a unique group of performing artists in residence at St. Francis Xavier Church in New York City. These professionally trained actors, singers and dancers perform original works focused on themes of faith and social justice. Founded in 1982, The Xavier Company is celebrating its forty first anniversary of performing arts ministry in the tri-state area. The Xavier Company is



renowned for performances that display both spiritual content and artistic excellence.

Tickets are not required. A free will offering will be taken.

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES


### FR. ENGLISH CENTER FOOD COLLECTION

The Father English Food Pantry is in desperate need of food donations. The pantry feeds the working poor and about 20,000 families are served monthly with more than 1,000 food bags distributed daily. Most clients work but cannot afford to feed their families. Let us help them by bringing only **NON-PERISHABLE** food items with you the weekend of **April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>**, when you come to Mass. Please consider the following donations: **canned tuna, canned chicken, rice, beans, pasta, pasta sauce (plastic bottles) lentils, peanut butter, and dry cereals.** Thank you and please leave your donations in a box or bag in the back of the church as you enter. All items will be picked up by 10 AM on the Monday after collection.


### LIFE MINISTRY

**Rosary for Life**  
Conference Call


**Every Friday at 4PM**



Please join LIFENET as we pray 15 decades of the rosary for the "Protection of the Babies in the Womb and their Families."



**Dial-in Number: (401) 252-0031**  
**Enter Access Code: 759297#**



info@lifeneteducation.org  
975-497-4500  
PO Box 1500, Montclair, NJ 07042

## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### BOY SCOUTS

#### Palm Cross Fundraiser

Boy Scout Troop 21 will be selling palm crosses before and after masses on the weekend of March 25-26 and April 1-2. The palm cross price is \$14 and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo. For pre-orders, please call Phil Jakimowicz at (973) 723-6111.



### HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The HSA would like to thank everyone who came to our Tricky Tray. It was a huge success. We hope to see you all again next year!



### Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

ST. PHILIP PREP HSA

**BREAKFAST WITH THE**

*Easter Bunny*

**Saturday, April 1st**

**9 AM- 12 PM**

**St. Philip Prep Auditorium**



Enjoy a Hot and Cold Breakfast Buffet, Professional Photographer, Games, Crafts and a Special Visitor

Tickets: \$20 per person

Each Child's Ticket receives an 5"x7" print  
Additional prints and packages available for an additional charge

Contact the Parish office for ticket information.



## AROUND CLIFTON

St. Clare Parish in Clifton will be hosting **The Way of the Cross A Franciscan Mystery Play** on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8 PM.

The Way of the Cross is written by Franciscan Father Francis Pompei and is not a play in the common sense but a prayerful experience that uses special lighting, stirring soundtrack, pantomime actions and inspirational narration to portray the Stations of the Cross.

## KIDS KORNER

KID'S  
KORNER

Year A

Gospel Today

Fourth Sunday of Lent | John 9:1-41 A man, born blind, was healed by Jesus. The blind beggar's eyes were opened to our world but also, more importantly to Jesus - the Light of the World. When the townspeople did not believe Jesus healed the blind man, Jesus asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" John 9:35 The man replied, "I do believe, Lord", and he worshiped Him. John 9:39

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# Believe...

Jesus is the light of the world

### BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words... left, right, up, down or diagonally.



Life	Importantly
Heart	Jesus
Lent	Born
Love	Worshiped
Darkness	World
Believe	People
Man	Town
Light	Healed
Shine	Blind
Eyes	Lord

He shines the light of His love on us so we don't live in darkness or sin.

J E S U S H E A R T B E S  
B D H E B E E L P H O L S  
E V O L O L Y S R G R W E  
L R A W P L M E B I N O N  
I M P O R T A N T L Y E K  
E S E R L M N I D E I P R  
V P S L Y O U H E F L N A  
E E R D W O R S H I P E D  
T R H E A L E D L L E N T

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery -  
The Carrying of the Cross

Think about how Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross.

The blind man is no longer living in the dark - he has new eyesight and in his heart a new life in Jesus, he says, "I do \_\_\_\_\_, Lord".



Some people call struggles or difficult life situations a "cross to bear". Believe that Jesus, the Light of the World, will help you like he helped & healed the blind man. How can you be like Jesus & help others?

This week: Say an Our Father and color the large bead - say 10 Hail Mary's and color each small bead. End with Glory Be to the Father.

## PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: MARCH 13, 2022	\$15,267.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: MARCH 12, 2023	
Weekly Collection	\$ 9,007.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 8,281.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,288.00</b>
SECOND COLLECTION- PROJECT FAITH	\$ 2,212.00

**Upcoming Second Collections:**  
**March 19 - Campaign for Human Development**  
**March 26 - Project Faith**

## PRIESTS' SCHEDULE

**Saturday, March 25**  
**5:30 PM – Fr. Monteleone**

**Sunday, March 26**  
**8 AM – Fr. Nico**  
**10 AM – Fr. Nico**  
**12 PM – Fr. Kevin**

## WE PRAY FOR...

*May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace...*  
 Brendan Charles O'Reilly

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

Barbara Tolvay, Lorraine DeBellis, Sebastian Centinaro, Pauline Jelken, The Sikora sisters, Patricia Canavan Petrowski, Jobo Valentin, Maria Tommaro, Pete Malone, Arlene Bayuex

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023

- 8:00** Elaine Cipolla - 2nd Anniversary  
Matthew Debiak
- 10:00** Frantiska and Josef Krizek  
Stanley J. Makowski  
Pietro and Felicia Mannarino  
Michael "Joe" Landers  
Virginia and Joseph Reilly  
- 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
- 12:00** Anne A. Lipari  
Salvatore Capriglione

### MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023

- 9:00** John Reyes

### TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023

- 9:00** Rogelio Delacruz

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

- 9:00** Joe Sorce

### THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

- 9:00** Rizaldy Quintos

### FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023

- 7:00** Corazon Nunag
- 9:00** Jack McSweeney

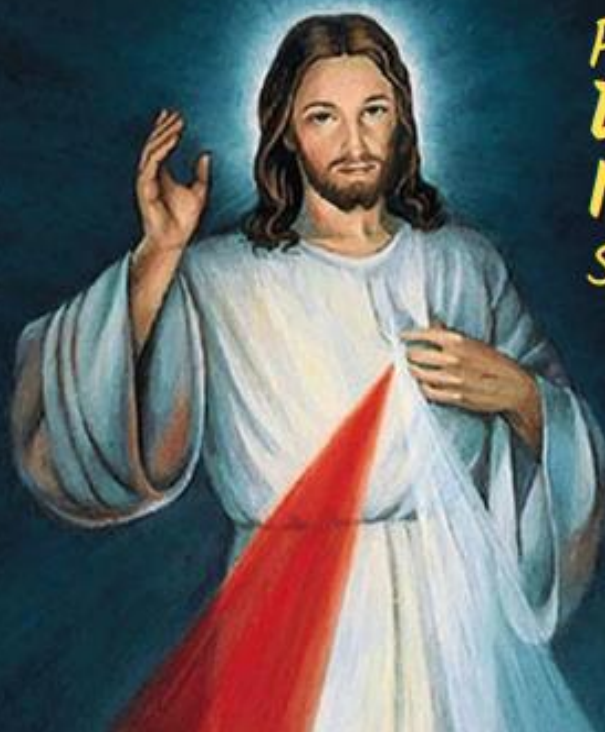
### SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023

- 9:00** Thomas Spohn  
Elena and Carmine Monzo
- 5:30** Nancy Markey  
Gloria Attoinese  
Gina LoConte

### SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish
- 10:00** Andrew Chambers  
Joseph Belli  
Gloria Attoinese  
Giuseppe Esposito
- 12:00** Mr. and Mrs. Michael N. Corradino  
Eileen Pigut

# ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



## PILGRIMAGE TO DIVINE MERCY NATIONAL SHRINE STOCKBRIDGE, MA



**MAY 6, 2023 SATURDAY**

**Bus Departs: 7:00am sharp – St Philip lower parking lot  
(please arrive 15 minutes early)**

### Shrine Schedule:

11:00 am Explaining the Faith Talk  
1:00–2:00pm Confession, Adoration, and Rosary  
2:00 pm Mass  
3:00 pm The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy & Benediction

**Bus Departs: 4:00 pm – Divine Mercy National Shrine**

**Reserve  
your seat**

**\$55pp**  
non-refundable

Make check payable to:  
St Philip the Apostle

Seats assigned upon payment on a first come, first serve basis.



**BYO LUNCH**

**For more information, please contact any of the following:**

St Philip Parish Office 973-779-6200 | Raquel Nael-Marrero 973-563-6924 | Virginia Sipin 973-760-8484