

CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Peace be with you—I just lost my job. Peace be with you—I worry about my daughter's relationship with an abusive boyfriend. Peace be with you—my spouse and I do not even talk; we lead parallel lives. Peace be with you—I'm flunking English. Peace be with you—I'm not feeling well and I'm beginning to worry.

Three times in today's Gospel, Jesus addresses his disciples with the greeting, "Peace be with you." It is a way of promising life, healing, and joy. We desire these gifts. But very frequently Jesus' greeting of peace is at odds with the worries and the troubles of our lives. As these worries and troubles press in around us, it is understandable why we might question: Can we believe in Jesus' greeting? Is there reason to hope in the promise of peace?

Now, this is a very serious question. Many people who criticize religion would suggest that faith is only a denial or an illusion—a way of pretending that things are fine when they really are not. From this perspective, Jesus' greeting might come across as a string of empty words. But there are more than words in today's Gospel.

Immediately after Jesus greets his disciples, he follows it with an action. He says, "Peace be with you," and then he shows them his hands and his side. There is not even a breath space between the greeting and the scars. **Jesus unites peace with woundedness**. He does this to show us that woundedness is not to be hidden but to be shared. When we share our woundedness, it leads to compassion which, in turn, leads to peace.

Now, Jesus is not telling us that we should go around dumping our pain on everyone who we meet. We all know someone who uses their misery as a way of manipulation. But Jesus is telling us is that in relationships of friendship and love, we can sometimes serve the other person not only with strength but also with weakness. When someone we care for is worried, fearful, or in pain, our immediate response is to fix the problem. But in so many circumstances, that ability is not given to us. We cannot always take away that which threatens the one we love.

What we can do—and what Jesus invites us to do is to display our weakness, to let the person whom we love to know that we too have fears, worries, and pain. When we share our weakness, we say to the one we love, "You are not alone. I understand. I will be with you."

All of us are wounded. All of us have fear, pain, and worry. Today's Gospel tells us that our woundedness is not to be hidden but to be shared. Our struggles are not to be denied but used to bring healing to others. For when we share our weakness, it leads to compassion, which in turn leads to peace.

The risen Jesus still bears the scars of his passion. He uses his woundedness to bring Thomas to faith, to bring the disciples to joy. **He does this as an example for us**. We should never be ashamed of sharing our woundedness with those who we love. In doing so they can see in the truth and honesty of our weakness someone who stands with them. That sharing of weakness opens the door to the peace and joy of the risen Christ.

Peace, Fr. Monteleone

PARISH SCHEDULE

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday4:30 PM

Please call the Parish Office if you would like a priest to visit you or a sick/homebound family member at home or in the hospital. (973) 779-6200 www.stphilip.org

MSGR. KEVIN'S ADDRESS & EMAIL

Rev. Msgr. Kevin Flanagan 67 Lakeview Dr., Hamburg, NJ 07419 Email: flan44@embarqmail.com

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES



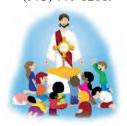
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Join us on Sunday, April 16th at 3 PM in the church for Holy Hour and recitation of the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

FAMILY HOLY HALF HOUR

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.



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Students have a lot to celebrate this month. Intermediate school has been buzzing with activity. Students in science have been learning about the human body. We have made model arms, nerve necklaces, and brain hats in fourth grade. The fifth graders just finished child-sized diagrams of the various body systems for the main bulletin board. We are now moving onto ecosystems and biomes - fourth graders will be creating inventamals. They will be randomly assigned a biome and will create a new species that has special adaptations to survive in that biome. Fifth graders will be collaborating to construct

biome cubes.

The entire school is busy researching their grade's country for Multicultural Day. This year's event will be on a smaller scale but that hasn't stopped the students from creating amazing displays for their classrooms.

Students are very excited for its return! The middle school students are working hard on preparing for their production of Disney's Moana Jr. Ticket Information is below.

Hope to see you there!



Friday, May 5th, 7 PM First Performance <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-philip-preparatory-school-moana-may-5-2023-tickets-597001927837</u>

Saturday, May 6th, 7 PM Second Performance <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-philip-</u> preparatory-school-moana-may-6-2023-<u>tickets-597019731087</u>



Save the Date for St. Philip Prep's TREP\$ Marketplace run by our own student entrepreneurs! Saturday, May 20th from 10:00 - 11:30 AM. More information to follow.

ERVICE OPPORTUNITIES





SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

ROSARY SOCIETY

Come and join us on **Monday, April 17th** with Mass, and Rosary at **6:30 PM** in **Marian Hall**.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Next meeting of the Widow and Widowers will be on **Monday, April 17th at 2 PM** in the **Molloy Center**. Anyone who is experiencing a loss is most welcome.

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meet will be **Thursday, April 20** at **9:45 AM** in the **Molly Center**. Our latest donation was to the American Red Cross located at McGuire Air Force Base. If you would like additional information or like to donate fabric or yarn, please call Cathie Murtha (973) 471-1265.

COLUMBIETTES

Make A Difference Today!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Scholarship Beefsteak dinner Saturday, April 29th at 7 PM in Auditorium. Tickets are only \$45. Chicken alternative also available Credit card purchases at Knights website:

https://knights-of-columbus-11671.square.site/beefsteak

or call Ray Lill (973) 472-1756 or Dennis Fitzpatrick (973) 271-9577

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout Troop 97032 will be selling cookies after all Masses on April 29th and 30th.

If you would like to Pre-Order, please



PRIME TIMERS

use the QR Code.

The Next Meeting of the Prime Timers will be Friday, May 5th at 1 PM in Marian Hall. We hope to see you all in May!

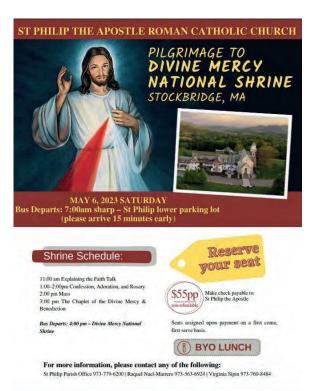
HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Join us for a Paint and Sip Night!



Thursday, June 22 - Sunday, June 25. We are looking for new volunteers to join all of our veterans volunteers. It's 4 days of fun, laughs, and excitement! We all have a great time working together and helping make our church and school better. Email DJ Chapman: <u>dchapman90@gmail.com</u>

PARISH PILGRIMAGE



PARISH GIVING

COLLECTION INFORMATION NOT RECEIVED IN TIME FOR BULLETIN PRINTING

Upcoming Second Collections: May 14 - Project Faith

E PRAY FOR

For the Recently Deceased... Margaret Calligaro, Carlie A. Peterson

A Time to be Healed...

Lorraine DeBellis, Sebastian Centinaro, Pauline Jelken, The Sikora sisters, Arlene Bayuex, Jobo Valentin, Pete Malone, Maria Tommaro, Marge Sirvidio, Susan Cinek



MASS INTENTIONS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023

- 8:00 For All the People of the Parish
 10:00 Leandro Salme

 Rosina Gioia
 Angela Pugliese
 Michael Angelo Murdolo

 12:00 Ann Albright
 - Elvira Maldonado

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023

9:00 Joseph Dewland

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

9:00 Robert Baran

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023

9:00 Charles Elbert

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023

9:00 Charles Salzer

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023

9:00 Judith Rodriguez Alfredo Valle

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023

9:00 Justin Lee Harol Thomas
5:30 Anna, Martha and Michael Piechocki Marie L. Fasone - 20th Anniversary Anita Garbarino

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2023

8:00	Regino De Dios
	Salvatore LoBalbo
10:00	Edward Kovacs
	Esther Disla
	Anita Garbarino
	Michael Lamotta

12:00 For All the People of the Parish



FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION CALL: 800-364-0684 BON VENTURE SERVICES, LLC • P.O. Box 850, Flanders, N.J. 07836 inside

