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Mr. John Hughes
Lay Trustee

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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013
www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



6th Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday 4:30 to 5:00 PM

HOLY HOUR

Every Friday9:30 to 10:30 AM

For a Communion visit and/or
Anointing of the Sick,
please contact the Parish office.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

I heard this joke a long time ago & it has always stuck with me.

A college student landed a summer job working in the street department of a small rural community in Indiana. The department was not too technologically advanced. So, they gave the young man the job of painting the yellow line down the center of the county highway, and he had to do it by hand. After three days of this work his supervisor called him in and said, "I have some bad news for you. The first day on the job, you did great. You painted three miles of that yellow line. The second day was OK. You painted two more miles. But today was terrible. Today you only painted one mile. Each day your productivity has gone down, and this is unacceptable. You're fired." As the young man left the office, he looked back and he said, "You know it's not entirely my fault. Each day I got farther away from the paint can."

Sometimes I think we imagine God as paint can, as a presence outside of ourselves. We see God as a presence we can be closer to or farther away from, depending on where we stand. We think we are closer to God when we pray or when we do what is good. We locate God as being present in other places and people. We see God being present in the church or in the beauty of nature. We imagine God being present in saintly people like Mother Theresa or in church leaders like Pope Benedict. And of course, God is present in all these people and places. But prior to any of these presences, God is present in you. **God is not some paint can exterior to yourself. God is in your heart.**



Now this is the message that comes to us from today's gospel, because in the gospel, Jesus promises us the spirit of God. He tells us that this Spirit is the spirit of truth, and the spirit will be with us forever. **Now forever is a long time. Forever is always.**

Jesus wants us to know that God's presence and God's spirit is present to us always. God is closer to us than we are to ourselves. Now I know that this is not news to any of you. You would agree, "God is with me, God is in my heart." Yet today I want that truth to sink in. The enormity of that truth has tremendous power to shape the way that we live.

God is with us always. God is with us even when we sin. God is with us neither judging us nor rejecting us but patiently waiting. God waits for us to see the wastefulness of our selfishness, the destructiveness of our anger, the foolishness of our prejudice. God is waiting and calling us to change.

God is with us when we succeed, when we love generously and serve faithfully. God is with us rejoicing in our goodness and calling us to more, inviting us to love even more deeply, to serve even more completely, to give more generously. **God knows that the more generous we are, the happier we will be.**

God is with us when we suffer—when our world falls apart, when the people we love leave us, when sickness and death surround us. God is with us, affirming us and calling us to patience and to courage.

God is with us forever. God is closer to us than we are to ourselves. It is only when we know this truth that we can be people of hope. For what is hope? Hope is to

believe that there is something beyond our strength and our cleverness and our abilities. Even though we are always called to use our strength and cleverness and abilities, when they fail us, hope can continue. There is something beyond ourselves which is close to us: the presence of God. Because of that presence, we can hope even when we lose our job, even when we discover that our son is abusing drugs, even when our marriage fails, even when we are handed a frightening diagnosis from the doctor, even when we hurt someone we love, even when death is on the horizon.

There is a beautiful line in today's second reading. It says, "Always be prepared to give your defense to anyone who wants an explanation of the hope that is within you." Always be ready to explain why we are people of hope. **We are people of hope because God is with us.** God is with us now and always. God is with us forever. We are not alone. God is not some paint bucket we can leave behind. God is in our hearts and that presence is with us now. So let us live in God's spirit. Let us claim God's dwelling within us. Let us give voice to the hope that is the sure sign that now and always we are children of God.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Dear mothers, on this special day, we want to express our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for all that you do. Your unwavering faith, love, selflessness, and dedication to your families is truly inspiring. We are so blessed to have you in our lives, and we thank you for all the sacrifices you have made to help us become who we are today.

Happy Mother's Day from all of us here at St. Philip!

PLEASE NOTE

It has come to our attention that emails are being sent out with requests to manage something discreetly and ultimately asking for money.

Fr. Monteleone nor Fr. Nico would NOT send out emails for anything important, they would call you from an office number if they wanted to discuss something. Also, all staff have St. Philip email addresses not generic ones.

Beware. Thank you!

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Spring is finally under way with sunny skies and warmer temperatures. This happy season is infectious, and our students and staff are as busy as bees with final projects and activities. Our SPPS students have enjoyed an educational Multicultural Day experience. They traveled to several classrooms learning about other countries, cultures, and traditions.

Our Middle Schoolers beautifully performed the play Moana, Jr. for the school, families, and friends.

Congratulations on a job well done!!

Our eighth graders are anxiously entering their last few weeks here at SPPS. We pray for them as they prepare for their final exams, their first step towards graduation.

The SPPS family prays that all our moms have an amazingly Happy Mother's Day!!

Come join us on Saturday, May 20th, for our TREP\$ Marketplace from 10:00 - 11:30 AM in the St. Philip Prep Auditorium. This is a student run event that highlights their creative ideas and products. We are so proud of our young entrepreneurs, ages 9 - 14. This is a cash only event and we ask that you bring your own shopping bags. Thank you!



What happens when you take today's kids and challenge them to become business people for a day?

Come shop at the TREP\$ Marketplace to be amazed by the 45 tables of innovative products and services

- all developed, marketed and sold by young entrepreneurs, ages 9-14.

Saturday, May 20
10:00 - 11:30 AM

St. Philip Prep School
797 Valley Road - Clifton, NJ

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Join Fr. Monteleone and the Knights at the Annual Mass for the Disabled on Saturday, May 20th at 9 AM. Everyone who has a disability, physical, cognitive, Emotional, etc. is encouraged to attend. This is not a healing Mass, that is, there will not be anointing but is another opportunity to ask God's assistance to those of us in our community with extra challenges.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTES & LIFE MINISTRY



Columbiettes & Ministry in Support of Life



In honor of our Blessed Mother, we are having our Annual Parish Drive By Baby Shower on **Saturday, May 20th**, from **9:30 AM to 11:00 AM** in the Main Parking Lot.

We are collecting new or gently used items in sizes Newborn to Size 6 Children, for St Mary's Hospital Family Center.

Many Thanks!

LIFE MINISTRY



Happy Mother's Day!

"When a woman is in labor, she is in anguish,... but when she has given birth to a child, she no longer remembers the pain because of her joy that a child has been born into the world."

Jn. 16:21



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The last meeting for this season is **Thursday, May 18th at 9:45 AM** in the Molloy Center. A big thank you to Jackie and Georgeanna for your generous monetary donations. We were able to fill our yarn bags! We will celebrate our 11th anniversary on May 10, 2023. Our last big projects are baby blanket and hat sets to be donated to St. Mary's Hospital and shawls and blankets for NJ Hospice. Thank you for your support over the years! For more information, call Cathie Murtha at (973) 471-1265.

ROSARY SOCIETY

All are welcome to join us in honoring Our Blessed Mother at our **May 22 meeting**. Our annual induction begins with Mass at **6:30 PM** in **Marian Hall**. Please join us as we recite the Rosary during this special month of Mary. Refreshments and camaraderie to follow!

PRIME TIMERS

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on **Tuesday, June 20th**. Bus leaves from St. Philips Drive at **9:30 AM**. Price is \$40. For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.



HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Channel your inner Picasso with step-by-step instructions from a professional artist to paint your own masterpiece called Paris Reflections. Join us for an evening of painting, drinking and lots of laughter.

Friday, May 19th, from 7 to 9 PM
SPP Auditorium

Doors open at 6:30pm

Tickets are \$50 and can only be purchased online at:

<https://stphilipprep.com/paintnite/>

Spaces are limited.

This is a BYOB event.

All attendees must be at least 21 Years old.

No children will be allowed.



COLUMBIETTES

International Buffet Dinner

St. Philip Columbiettes

Mary Elle Valentin

International Buffet Dinner

Sunday, June 4, 2023

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Menu: Pierogies, Harvest Salad, Vegetable Pancit noodles,
Broccoli Cavatelli, Pork Carnitas,

Yellow Rice, Lemon Chicken, Assorted breads, and butter
Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Cold Beverage

ADVANCED TICKET PURCHASE ONLY

Adults \$25 & Children \$10 (Age 6-10)

Tickets ca Barbara Ann 201-906-1372

Email barblissi@comcast.net or

columbiettes11671@gmail.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year our parish is jumping with excitement as we are having STELLAR, a special Vacation Bible School (VBS) program created especially for Catholic children.

Our program will provide fun, and memorable scripture-based activities, games, snacks, and interactive Bible adventures.

Children will collect Bible

Memory-Buddies and

People of Faith Cards and create fun crafts to take home. STELLAR is an exciting way for kids to learn more about their faith. Each day concludes at STELLAR Finale, a sendoff that celebrates that day. We hope STELLAR will give our children a wonderful experience of fun and faith this summer.

STELLAR begins on July 24th at 9 AM – 12 Noon and continues through July 28th.

Registration will be June 3rd and 4th before and after Masses. Cost for the week is \$25
Spaces are limited.



GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Cristina Teresa



Carson Michael

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

John J. Anderson, Jr., Msgr. Lawrence Deno. Fr. Albert L. Roca, Fr. Timothy J. Murphy

A Time to be Healed...

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

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: MAY 8, 2022	\$ 20,202.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: MAY 7, 2023	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 12,808.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 6,907.00
TOTAL	\$19,715.00
EASTER 2022	\$52,844.00
EASTER 2023 YTD	\$44,644.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

May 14 - Project Faith

May 21 - Peter's Pence (for the charity of the Holy Father)

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

- 8:00** Leandro Salme
Kathleen Altilio
- 10:00** Maryann Spohn
Estanislao and Rosario Llamas
Sherry Gayle Keene
Marlene Chidiac
- 12:00** All the People of the Parish

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

- 9:00** Louise Stolarz
Frank and Elizabeth Muller

TUESDAY, May 16, 2023

- 9:00** Crisanto Gentolia

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

- 9:00** Marge Sirvidio

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023

- 9:00** For all the People of the Parish

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023

- 9:00** John J. Anderson, Jr.

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023

- 9:00** Mass for the Disabled
- 5:30** For all the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

- 8:00** Joan Knorr
JoAnn Monaco-Nouri
- 10:00** Susan Voelkner - 1st Anniversary
Ed Kovacs
John McEwan
Salvatore LoBalbo
- 12:00** Deceased members of the Festa and Novaco Families
Raymond Fitzpatrick - 1st Anniversary

CANDLE THE WEEK OF MAY 14TH

In Memory of Julia McNamara

OFFERTORY GIFTS THE WEEK OF MAY 14TH

In Memory of Sean Hughes

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