

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

... Father ... Son ... Holy Spirit ...



SAINT PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
Clifton, New Jersey

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Today's gospel begins with love and ends with judgment. We are all attracted to the love: "God so loved the world that He gave his only son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." This is the gospel, the good news. God loved us so much that he saved us in Christ. But the judgment that takes place at the end of the passage is more difficult to swallow: "Whoever does not believe is already condemned for not believing in the name of the only Son of God."

What this passage seems to be saying is that God loved us so much that he gave us Jesus. But if we do not accept Jesus, God does not love us anymore. In fact, this is very close to the interpretation that many Evangelical Christians make of this passage. They believe that the only way to God is through Jesus and anyone who does not accept Jesus as the Lord of his or her life cannot be saved. I think this would be troubling to many of us here today. It means that the kind Jewish couple who lives next door, who are the best of neighbors, who water our plants when we go on vacation, are going to hell. It means that the kind Moslem doctor who always takes a little bit of extra time with grandma when she comes in for her appointment and, even when she is in pain, finds a way to make her smile is excluded from God's love.

Most of the people in the world are not Christian. Yet, they love their families, serve their communities, and many work for peace. Are we required to believe that these people who do not believe in Jesus will never find eternal life? Catholic theology says that we are not. Our Catholic tradition has always believed that people of good will, who try to do what is right, even if they do not accept Jesus, are still loved by God and are still saved by God. At the same time, **Catholic theology assumes that Jesus is the way to salvation, the only way to salvation, and that we, as followers of Christ, should spread the word so that others might believe in him.** Yet if people do not accept our message, we still claim that it is still possible for God to save them.

Evangelical Christians call foul. They say you cannot have it both ways. If Jesus is the only way to salvation, then Jesus is the only way to salvation. Those who do not believe in Jesus are out. Their argument is not without its logic. How, then, can we respond to it? I would suggest to you that today's Feast of the Trinity is helpful. At the heart of our faith, we believe in one God who is three divine persons: Father, Son, and Spirit. How can God be one and three at the same time? **We do not know. We cannot explain it. We say that it is a mystery, that God is greater than us and different from us.** We understand that we cannot understand the very being of God, and yet, we believe. I would suggest to you that we can move some of this mystery into our understanding of salvation. Jesus is the only way to the Father, a unique gift given to us. Yet we also know that the gift of Jesus cannot exhaust who God is or how God loves. God is greater than us and different from us. So, we should never use the gift of Jesus to claim

that a Jew, a Moslem, a Hindu, or an atheist is not loved by God and cannot be saved by God.

God is both one and three. How can God be both? We do not know, but we believe. Jesus is both the only way to salvation and those who do not believe in Jesus can still be saved. How can these two things be possible? We do not know. But again, it is something that we believe is true.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

October 14th is the diocesan Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. It has been 6 years due to the pandemic since our last pilgrimage. Call your parish this June to sign up for this spiritual day.



An Evening of Eucharistic Revival
with Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR
and Bishop Kevin Sweeney
Sunday, June 11, 2023
6:00-8:00 pm
Corpus Christi Parish
234 Southern Boulevard
Chatham, NJ

The poster features a large, ornate monstrance (Eucharistic vessel) on the right side. The background is dark with gold and white text. The Diocese of Paterson logo is in the bottom left corner.

1-DAY RETREAT FOR YOUNG MEN

Join us for a **free 1-day retreat** to help young men of high school age consider their vocation and path in life. Sports and games. Mass with Bishop Sweeney. Three meals provided, including barbecue lunch by the Knights of Columbus.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Zip-lining
- Swimming (indoor pool)
- Rock climbing
- Archery
- Outdoor Mass and more.



THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2023
9AM TO 8 PM

Camp Shiloh

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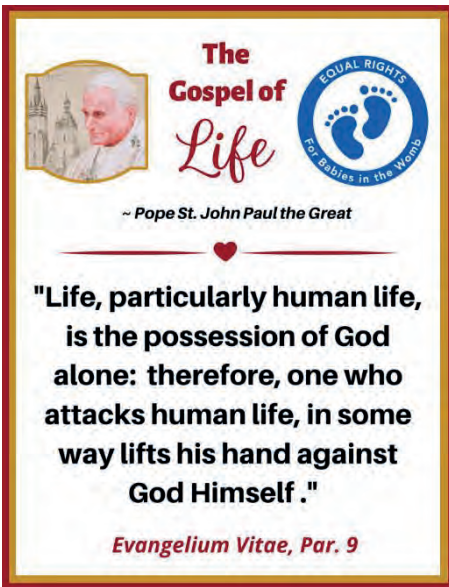
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☎ 973-777-8818 X.711
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Meet us at Camp Shiloh!

LIFE MINISTRY



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Middle School Genius Convention was held this week. Students in 7th and 8th grade had worked on their projects throughout the year. The exhibits ranged from cosmetics made from slug slime, to engineering an anteater feeder for the Bergen County Zoo. Over 80 projects were on display.

Congratulations to all the students for another year of genius work.

Students in Pre-K through grade 8 participated in a successful field day. Activities included Potato Sack Race, 3 Leg Race, Egg-N-Spoon, Crab Walk Ring/Bean Bag Toss and so much more. Fun was had by all!

This Friday, our Eighth Graders celebrated their Baccalaureate Mass and Awards Ceremony. We congratulate the students of the Class of 2023 who earned service and academic awards and received scholarships.

We congratulate our 8th grade Class of 2023 for making their commitments to the high schools they will be attending this Fall.

*Clifton High School
DePaul Catholic High School
Don Bosco Prep
Immaculate Heart Academy
Mary Help of Christians Academy
Marymount School of New York
Passaic County Technical Institute
Ramapo High School
Saint Peter's Prep
Seton Hall Prep*

We wish them lots of success as they soon embark on their next academic adventure! But until then, we are excited to celebrate their achievements and time at St. Philip Prep with our upcoming Baccalaureate Graduation!

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. Please help them by bringing only **NON-PERISHABLE** food items with you Next weekend **June 10th and 11th** 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.** All donations can be brought in a box or bag. Please leave your donations in the back of the church as you enter. All items will be picked up by 10 AM on the Monday after collection.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The next meeting of the widow and widowers will be on Monday, June 12th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center.

PRIME TIMERS

The annual luncheon of the Prime Timers will be on Friday, June 9th at 1 PM at Bella Napoli restaurant on Broad St, Bloomfield. The cost is \$50 per person. For reservations, please contact Stasia at (973) 473-2068 or Grace at (973) 684-1955.

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.



CARNIVAL



St. Philips Carnival will be 4 days this year,
Thursday, June 22nd 6 - 10 PM
Friday, June 23rd 6 - 11 PM
Saturday, June 24th 6:30 - 11 PM
Sunday, June 25th 2 - 8 PM

We are looking for new volunteers to join all our veteran volunteers.

It's 4 days of fun, laughs, and excitement.

If you would like to Volunteer, please contact Maureen at (973) 773-5161.

Soda/Water Donations

Name brand soda and bottled water for the Soda & Water Booth can be left at the school kitchen door.

COLUMBIETTES AND LIFE MINISTRY

The Columbiettes and Life Ministry would like to thank each and every person who came out to support our .Drive-by Baby Shower on May 20th.
We had such a great turn out.

AROUND TOWN...

Societa' Franese di Mutuo Soccorso

Presents their annual Festa Frainese

In honor of Santa Maria Mater Domino

Sunday, June 11th at Holy Face Monastery in Clifton.

12:30 PM Mass (outside) Italian and English following procession with the band.

4:30 PM Procession with statue of our own Mater Domini will conclude the religious festivity.

Music – Fun – Friendship – Family

Please bring your own chair

Food will be available for Purchase.

Please note that on Wednesday, May 31st there will be a candlelight procession and benediction at 7:30 PM at the Holy Face Monastery.

For any questions, please contact Nick at (973) 778-9328.

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY WED



Aaron and Antoinette

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Rev. George R. Winne, Rev. James W. Dolan,
Msgr. George Dudak

A Time to be Healed...

Sebastian Centinaro, Pauline Jelken, The Sikora sisters,
Arlene Bayuex, Jobo Valentin, Maria Tommaro

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: MAY 29, 2022	\$ 15,109.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: MAY 28, 2023	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 9,673.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 6,771.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,444.00
SECOND COLLECTION- PROJECT FAITH	\$ 2,011.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

June 4 - South and Latin American Missions and Overseas Relief

June 11- Project Faith

MASS INTENTIONS

TRINITY SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023

- 8:00** Mary Spychaj
Benjamin Silverio
- 10:00** Marie D'Angelo
Deceased members of the Kerner Family
Maria Guarniello
Jessie DiDonna
- 12:00** For all the People of the Parish

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023

- 9:00** Eileen L. Cipollone
Mildred Scrosia - 7th Anniversary
Rogelio Delacruz

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023

- 9:00** Barbara L. Moyer
Margaret Nelson

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2023

- 9:00** Donald Muller - 6th Anniversary
Margaret Nelson

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023

- 9:00** Irene Sadvary
Josephine Marinaro

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023

- 9:00** Hilda Carlucci - 29th Anniversary

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023

- 9:00** Dot Cervine
- 5:30** For all the People of the Parish
Marge Sirvidio

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

- 8:00** Manuel and Mila Amador
Joseph Paz
- 10:00** Special Intention of Sister Jeanne Agans
Herman Voelkner - 3rd Anniversary
Leandro Salmo - 1st Anniversary
Sean Hughes
- 12:00** Jerry Jaucian
Anita Garbarino

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and sent us Jesus.

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