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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



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 16, 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,

Is the parable of the sower a positive or a negative parable? Is it a comedy or a tragedy? Like many of Jesus' parables, this parable can be read in different ways. Therefore, it is up to us to decide which way to read it. Some would conclude that it is a tragic parable because much, if not most, of the seed does not grow. It is eaten by the birds of the air, choked by the thorns, or scorched by the sun. But others would see it as a positive parable of growth, because the seed that falls on the good soil produces a bountiful harvest of a hundred, sixty, and thirty-fold.

I believe that Jesus is calling us to hear the parable positively, to see it as a parable of growth. **The parable is carefully shaped to fit the contours of our lives.** After all, the parable is not about agriculture, but about human existence. It is not about seeds, but the Kingdom of God.

What this parable tells us about our life is this: **We will never succeed in all of our projects and goals. We will never fulfill all of our hopes and dreams. We will never remain connected to all of the people who we love.** Some of our hopes and dreams will not grow and will disappear as quickly as the seed that was eaten by the birds. Some of our projects and goals will start to grow, but then become scorched and wither away because of lack of root. Some of the people that we love will not love us in return. Others will form a relationship with us for a while but will not be able to adjust to new circumstances. In time our relationship with them will suffocate, like the seed that is choked by the thorns. Either because of our own mistakes or because of other circumstances, many of the hopes and dreams that we have will not come to fruition. Much of what we desire will be lost like seed that does not grow.

But this parable also includes a harvest—a rich harvest. For all the seed that does not grow, there is other seed that produces a hundred, sixty, and thirty-fold. I believe Jesus is calling us to focus on the harvest. For all the goals, for all the relationships, for all the dreams that were never fulfilled, this parable calls us to remember all of those realities that did grow, that did bless us and sustain us still. **We must not focus on the parts of our lives that have failed or live our lives in guilt and self-pity. We cannot base our lives on all the what ifs.** What if – I tried harder? What if – circumstances were different? What if – I made another decision? All of these what-ifs have no future. Attaching our lives to them is as useless as crying over spilled milk or over seeds that never grew.

Instead of lamenting about all the things in our life that did not happen, **this parable calls us to rejoice in the things that did happen**—in the goals we were able to achieve, in the hopes that we were able to realize, in the relationships that still support us to this day. They are God's gifts to us. There might be many of our hopes and dreams that did not materialize, but the ones that did are enough to provide a bountiful harvest, a rich life.

So, is the Parable of the Sower a comedy or a tragedy? It all depends on how you read it. The same is true of our lives. We can choose to focus on all of our dead dreams and wrap ourselves in despair. Or we can choose to accept the harvest that has been given us with thankfulness and joy. How do you choose to live your life? What do you choose to see—a triumph or a tragedy? Only you can decide. Let those who have ears to hear, listen.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone



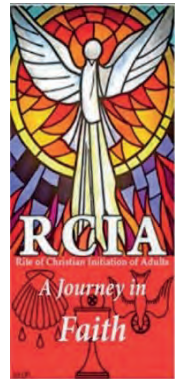
FAITH FORMATION

**Missing Baptism, First Communion,
or Confirmation?
Want to be a fully initiated Catholic?**

*We know life gets busy and takes us away
from what we intend.
Allow us to help and walk with you on the
journey of a life in faith!*

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF
ADULTS at Saint Philip
will meet beginning September 2023.

Let us know if you'll join us:
lvalenti@stphilip.org



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 is ongoing through the Parish office.
There are still spots available!

THANK YOU!

Our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped at the 44th Saint Philip Carnival!

Most especially Anton Meindl, Don DeLuca, Chef Todd Daigneault, Mark Lotito, Joe Chidiac, and all volunteers, workers, and parishioners who helped.

We are also very grateful for the support of our Sponsors:

Michael and Rosalie Soccol
Jane Beck
Mayor Ray Grabowski
Catherine Chidiac
Trevor Desiato
John Sadvary and Georgeanna Hall
Tony Meindl
Anton and Carol Meindl
The Lill Family
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Maureen and Louis DeStefano
John M. Liparai
Pina Nazario- Pick Pina Group
The Allwood Diner
The Ancient Order of Hibernians
Bartlett's Greenhouses
Cuellar Family Markets - ShopRite of Passaic
Joe and John Lorenzo & Family
York Street Market

RESULTS

Despite the rainy weather this year, we are thankful for what we have raised.

	2023		
	INCOME	EXPENSES	PROFIT
CARNIVAL RESULTS	\$72,500	\$37,732	\$34,768
SUPER 50/50 RESULTS	\$12,125	\$6,900	\$5,225
GRAND TOTAL	\$84,625	\$44,632	\$39,993

	2022		
	INCOME	EXPENSES	PROFIT
CARNIVAL RESULTS	\$106,469	\$62,351	\$44,118
SUPER 50/50 RESULTS	\$15,555	\$9,270	\$6,284
GRAND TOTAL	\$122,024	\$71,622	\$50,402

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



St. Philip is recruiting ALTAR SERVERS!

All students in grades 4 to 8, who have made their First Holy Communion are invited to become part of this ministry.

If interested, please call the Parish Office at (973) 779 6200 or email Linda at lvalenti@stphilip.org by July 31.

LIFE MINISTRY



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Golf Outing Sept. 21st Knolls Country Club
 Enjoy a day of golf with lunch, cocktail reception, gifts, prizes, raffles, and much more.

Win a new car or a new motorcycle!
 Individual golfers, foursomes, sponsors all are welcome.

To register or information go to:
<https://st-philips-kofc-golf-outing.perfectgolfevent.com/>



DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

St. Philip, with Father Nico, will join Bishop Kevin Sweeney for a One-Day Marian Pilgrimage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, on October 14, 2023.

The One-Day Pilgrimage includes:
All-day activities at Shrine
Transportation and Gratuity
Rest Stop going and Meal Stop on return
Bus will depart St. Philip's lower lot at 6 AM
Depart Washington at 4:15 PM
\$65 per person

Please register for the pilgrimage
by calling the Parish Office at
(973) 779 6200

or by emailing Linda at lvalenti@stphilip.org



GOD BLESS THE NEWLYWED

Nick and Nicole Gerst



PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: JULY 10, 2022	\$ 17,161.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: JULY 9, 2023	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 11,455.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 7,300.00
TOTAL	\$ 18,755.00
SECOND COLLECTION-PROJECT FAITH	\$ 2,466.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
July 16 - Communications/Indian &
Black/Lepers/Catholic University
July 23 - Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Donna Micholajczyk, Mariano Laya, George Heffran

A Time to be Healed...

Arlene Bayuex, Jobo Valentin,
Maria Tommaro, Claire Chilazi,
Asnel Rivero, Alina Nicastro,
Edvie Canavan, Joanne Barrett



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

- 8:00 Francis, Miriam, and Kevin O'Brien
Joseph Latorto
10:00 For living and deceased members of
Lang Family
Martha Sirvidio
Wendy Hack
Judith Yarotsky
12:00 For all the People of the Parish

MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023

- 9:00 Malcolm D. Hall

TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023

- 9:00 Josephine Pagano
Michael Nael

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023

- 9:00 Deceased members of the
Sadvary & Furesz Families
Emanuel Calon Rodriguez

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

- 9:00 Susan Cinek

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023

- 9:00 Eugenio Zamora Delacruz III

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

- 9:00 Mariano Laya
5:30 For all the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023

- 8:00 Angela Coffaro
10:00 Giovanna Pizzi - 3rd Anniversary
Marge Sirvidio
Nurse Maria Santiago
John Anderson, Jr
12:00 John Holy
John R. Reid III



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