

PASTORAL TEAM

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Lay Trustee

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



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 30, 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,

Years ago, my brother, Andrew was playing basketball in the driveway with his friends. During the game, he lost one of his contact lenses. He searched up and down the driveway to find it without success. So, he gave up and he went into the house to tell our mom. She undertook the cause and went out to look. In just a few minutes she came in holding the contact lens in her hand. "I don't get it," said Andrew. "I looked everywhere. How did you do that?" "Well," she explained, "we were looking for different things. You were looking for a small piece of plastic. I was looking for \$300."

What we value determines the search. This truth is captured in today's gospel parable of the merchant. In a few words Jesus presents us with this man whose life is dedicated to searching for fine pearls. They are his heart's desire. He is enchanted by their beauty and smitten by their perfection. No effort is too great nor is no distance too far for him to search for them. Others who are not as fond of pearls might believe that his dedication and excitement are excessive. But this merchant knows what he values. He knows what he wants. And when he finds a pearl of great price, he will sell everything to have it.

Now the scandal of this parable is that God is the merchant, and God is searching for us. There is no explaining why God is so determined to find us. God has already given us our lives, our minds, our abilities, our families, and friends. God has already given us his Son and the promise of eternal life. But God wants more. God wants to possess us as his own.

We are the ones who usually pass on this opportunity. We believe in God, and we know that all good things come from God. Yet we pray, "God, thank you for all that I have received—for my life, for my job, for my family and friends—but could you please remain a giver from afar? Why do you have to come so close? I am not really ready to be all in. Can't I just live a moral life and go to church on the weekends? I love you, and I will praise you. But I really don't want to be your possession." Yet despite all our protests that we are too busy, that we are too fearful, that we are too sinful, God keeps coming. **God keeps searching for an opportunity to catch our imagination, to break our routine, to open our hearts so that He can have us.** No effort is too great, no distance is too far to keep God from coming, always hoping that we will be willing to go deeper, that we will be willing to hand ourselves over. Then we would see what satisfaction there is in following the gospel, how much sense it makes to forgive our enemies, what energy we would have to work for justice, and what joy would be ours to be God's own.

We can always say no. We can always resist this deeper relationship. But God does not give up. What God

values determines the search, and to Him we are not a small piece of plastic. We are a pearl of great price. He wants us to be his. And so, in the end it is both sensible and wise to give in. In fact, it is our salvation to let ourselves be found.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone



FAITH FORMATION



Religious Education

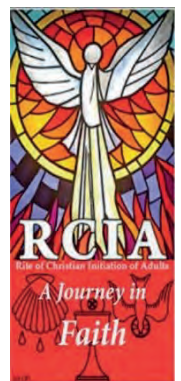
Registration for our Religious Education and Confirmation Programs is now open!
If you have a child in grades 1 through 10, we invite your family to join our program.
For details, please visit our Parish website at www.stphilip.org
If you have any questions, please email us at: reled@stphilip.org

~
**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



THANK YOU!

Thank you to Paula Mutter and the Vacation Bible School team for an amazing journey for our children to Shine Jesus' Light this year at our Stellar Vacation Bible School. The children enjoyed themselves and we can't wait until next year!



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

LIFE MINISTRY

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 4
DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING**



Please join in prayer and fasting on August 4th (First Friday) for Equal Rights for Babies in the Womb in NJ and for an end to abortion. Fasting can be from food, media, etc. as you are able. The goal is to get 500 people praying monthly for the unborn in NJ. Prayer changes things!
Add your name to the tally each month at:
EqualRightsforBabiesintheWomb.com/prayerandfasting/



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 August 15th.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRIMETIMERS

Atlantic City Bus Trip

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, August 24th. Bus leaves from St. Philips Drive at 9:30 AM. Price is \$40.

For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.



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 are all 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



YOUTH CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS

YCP North NJ's FIRST Executive Speaker Series will be held on Wednesday, August 2nd at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Ridgewood, NJ from 7-9 PM.

This is a free event open to the public in which executives share their career and faith journeys with young professionals. Our speaker will be Gene Zannetti, Owner & Founder of Winning Mindset, who has worked with Olympic Teams and professional athletes across the world. Gene will also be a [2024 YCP Conference Speaker](#) along with Harrison Butler, 2X Super Bowl Champion kicker for the Kansas City Chiefs and one of the top kickers in the NFL. Attendees can enjoy complimentary drinks & appetizers and have a chance to network before and after the evening's presentation. Registration is required, please RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/august2ESS>

CATHOLIC CAMP

FATHER AND SON CATHOLIC CAMP

AUGUST 14-18, 2023

- Enjoy the beauty of God's creation
- Spend time with your son(s) along the Delaware River
- Go camping, hiking, swimming, rafting and fishing
- Grow in faith through Mass, priest talks and prayer time
- Attend outdoor Mass with Bishop Sweeney as celebrant

Open to young men ages 13 and older and their fathers. Minors must be accompanied by a male guardian. Campers provide their own tent and sleeping bags. Fee: \$100 per person, includes all meals and fees. Deadline to register: July 31, 2023. Registration required.

Location: Worthington State Forest



Scan to register. Visit patersonvocations.org or call (973) 777-8818 x. 711 for more info.

Sponsored by the Paterson Diocese Office of Vocations

AROUND CLIFTON

The Theater League of Clifton and the Clifton Arts Center will host

"A Toast to Broadway,"

a musical revue and joint fundraiser featuring vocalists:

Dorothy Dobkowski, Mingo Long, Kim Mesiti, Jason Tamashauskys and musical director, Jalmari Vanamo at the Clifton Arts Center, 900 Clifton Ave. on: Aug. 25 and 26 at 7:30 PM and Aug. 27 at 2:00 PM.

Tickets can be purchased online in advance for \$40 at: www.cliftonartscenter.org or for \$45 at the door.

Prosecco and light refreshments included.

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: JULY 24, 2022	\$ 14,249.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: JULY 23, 2023	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 9,084.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 6,290.00
TOTAL	\$ 15,374.00
SECOND COLLECTION-PROJECT FAITH	\$ 1,980.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
August 13 – Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Joyce Thomas, Barbara Ann Wood

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 30, 2023

- 8:00** For all the People of the Parish
10:00 William Regan
George Jeffers
Catie Smith
Todd Barnes
12:00 James Bicksler
Nicolina Scelfo

MONDAY, JULY 31, 2023

- 9:00** John McLaughlin
Msgr. John B. Wehrle - 1st Anniversary

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023

- 9:00** Sam Rizzo

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023

- 9:00** Marino DePasquale

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023

- 9:00** Rizaldy Quintos

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2023

- 9:00** Gloria Attoinese

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023

- 9:00** Rogelio Dela Cruz
5:30 Sr. Eileen Kelly P.B.V.M.
21st Death Anniversary
Marge Sirvidio
Kelsey O'Donnell

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023

- 8:00** Kazimiera Kuras - 4th Anniversary
10:00 Anthony R. Lipari
Gloria Attoinese
Mary Spychaj
Mariana Laya
12:00 For all the People of the Parish

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