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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



## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 20, 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 Friday .....9:30 to 10:30 AM

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



## FROM FATHER NICO'S DESK

Last week, I shared with you my visit to Montréal, a beautiful city once a center of Catholicism in North America. However, the tides of secularization have washed over Montréal, leaving the city's massive, intricately decorated, and once-vibrant places of worship nearly deserted.

The emptiness of our sacred spaces reminds us of the challenges we face in passing on the faith to future generations.

Below I offer some suggestions on how we can reach out and share the joy of the Catholic faith, inviting everyone to know, love, and serve Jesus.

**Foster a Culture of Prayer:** Prayer is the foundation of spiritual life. Prayer can bring transformation and a deeper relationship with Jesus.

**Embrace the Joy of the Faith:** The first step is to embrace and live out the joy of the Catholic faith ourselves. People are drawn to joy and genuine happiness; when they see it in us, they may become curious about its source. Embodying the teachings of Christ in our daily lives can have a powerful impact on those around us.

**Cultivate Authentic Relationships:** Building authentic relationships with others is essential for effective evangelization. Take the time to listen to people's stories, concerns, and struggles, showing empathy and understanding. By creating a space for dialogue, we can open doors for discussions about faith and spirituality.

**Engage with the Community:** Be active in the local community within and outside the church. Participate in community events, volunteer activities, and outreach programs. This involvement can help break down barriers and demonstrate the relevance of faith in contemporary life.

**Offer Welcoming Spaces:** Make sure everyone feels welcome regardless of their background or struggles. By fostering a sense of belonging, we can encourage people to explore their faith journey more deeply and get to know Jesus.

**Evangelize through Service:** Show the love of Christ through acts of service and charity. Engage in outreach to the marginalized, the poor, and those in need. These actions exemplify the Gospel message in a tangible way and can inspire others to seek the source of our compassion.

**Be Open to Questions and Doubts:** Recognize that people may have questions and doubts about faith. Be open to engaging in honest and respectful discussions about these matters. Addressing doubts with empathy and understanding can help individuals on their faith journey.

**Trust in the Holy Spirit:** Finally, remember that the work of evangelization ultimately relies on the Holy Spirit. Trust in God's guidance and pray for the Spirit's presence to touch the hearts of those we encounter. We are not the ones who can transform people's hearts. Only God can do that.

In this challenging context, I proposed that we, the church, must first renew our commitment to God and respond to our neighbor with compassion, understanding, and renewed evangelization efforts. Rather than lamenting the decline, there is an opportunity to reach out to those who have drifted away and offer them the love and hope found in the teachings of Christ. Remaining steadfast in the Gospel values, we are called to provide relevant guidance and support for the spiritual journey of all.

On a different note, I know many of our parishioners are struggling with losing a loved one, and the grieving process has not been easy. You are not alone, and you are in my prayers. In the fall, we will begin a grief group in the parish. Through a parishioner, I found this excellent program that I believe would be helpful for us. Stay tuned for more announcements.

God bless!  
*Father Nico*

## SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

### FAMILY HOLY HALF HOUR

Saint Philip would like to welcome all families with young children to a **family holy HALF hour** on **Friday, September 8, 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.



## 2024 MASS INTENTION BOOK

The 2024 Mass Intention book will open at 9 AM on Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

To accommodate everyone, please be mindful that we limit Mass Intentions to five (5) per family. You can always offer more Masses during the year.

Recommended donation for Mass Intention/Card and Weekly Vigil Candle dedication and sponsorship are \$20.

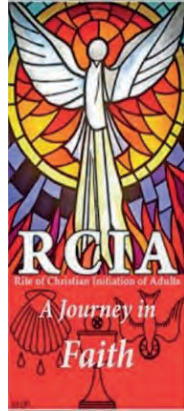
## FAITH FORMATION

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](mailto:lvalenti@stphilip.org)



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### FATHER ENGLISH FOOD PANTRY

The Father English Food Pantry is in 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. Let us help them by bringing only NON-PERISHABLE food items with you the weekend of **September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**, when you come to Mass.

Please consider the following donations:

Canned food, lentils, peanut butter, and dry cereals.

Thank you and please leave your donations in a box or bag in the back of the church as you enter. All items will be picked up by 10 AM on the Monday after collection.

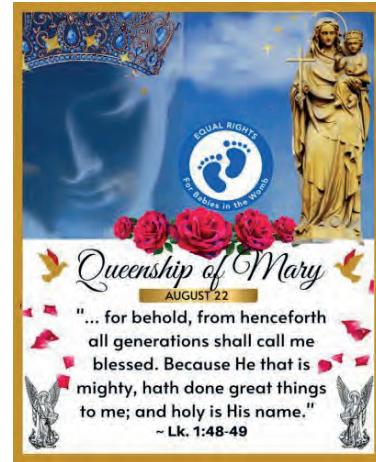
### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our parish wants to thank all who continue so generously to donate food for the Father English Food Pantry, but now we need Volunteers to help package and distribute the food to the hundreds who come daily to the Center.

If interested, come to the Center to determine if this would be a good fit for you. If you can spare an hour or a morning, please come to visit and see what the Food Pantry is all about.

The address is: 435 Main St., Paterson, NJ.  
Carlos is the director.

## LIFE MINISTRY



## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### PRIMETIMERS

#### Atlantic City Bus Trip

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. 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. 21<sup>st</sup> 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/>



### "Coats for Kids" Drive

We will again be collecting contributions for our annual Coats-for-kids Drive beginning Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Last year, through the generosity of everyone we were able to give our 220 warm winter coats to our less fortunate neighbors right here in Clifton.

We'd love to surpass that this year as the need is still great.

Coats cost us approximately \$275 per box of 12 but all contributions, great or small, help tremendously. Please make checks out to K of C Council 11671, note in the memo area Coats 4 Kids and mail them to the address below or drop the envelope into the collection basket.

St. Philips Knights of Columbus  
Coats-4-Kids  
797 Valley Rd.  
Clifton, N.J. 07013



## IN THE AREA...

**The Little Sisters of the Poor  
St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly  
Giant Rummage Sale**  
Friday and Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 AM- 4:00 PM  
Free Admission

**Front Entrance and Parking on Cumberland Ave. only**  
St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly  
140 Shepherd Lane, Totowa NJ 07512  
(973) 942-0300

## 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](mailto:lvalenti@stphilip.org)**

## GOLD and SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 1973 or 1998?  
The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 60+,  
50<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary during a special Mass to  
be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in  
Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant  
on this joyful occasion to be held:

**Sunday, November 12, 2023, at 3:00 PM**

Arrangements can be made by contacting your parish  
office. **The deadline to register is Wednesday, October  
11, 2023.** You will receive additional information from the  
Office of Family Life once your registration has been  
processed. *Congratulations on this joyous occasion!*

## WE PRAY FOR...

### *For the Recently Deceased...*

Loretta Kollet, Michelina DiFabrizio, Anthony Scalia,  
Susan Ludwig, Rosemary Barrett

### *A Time to be Healed...*

Jobo Valentin, Maria Tommaro, Claire Chilazi, Asnel Rivero,  
Alina Nicastro, Edvie Canavan, Joanne Barrett, Maya Hilario

## PARISH GIVING

|                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| SUNDAY COLLECTION: AUGUST 14, 2022 | \$ 20,292.00        |
| SUNDAY COLLECTION: AUGUST 13, 2023 |                     |
| WEEKLY COLLECTION                  | \$10,095.00         |
| ONLINE GIVING DONATION             | \$ 7,672.00         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                       | <b>\$ 17,767.00</b> |
| Second Collection- Project Faith   | \$ 2,277.00         |

**Upcoming Second Collections:**  
**August 20 - Missionary Cooperation**  
**August 27 - Project Faith**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023

- 8:00** For All the People of the Parish  
**10:00** Deceased Members of the Azario Family  
John Anderson, Jr.  
Mariano Laya, Jr.  
Michelina Santorelli  
**12:00** For the protection of human life  
from conception to natural death  
Ambrosia Cruz - 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

### MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

- 9:00** Nancy Carroll - 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Bob Martin

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023

- 9:00** Robert E. Bennetti

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023

- 9:00** Pantaleo Amato

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023

- 9:00** Gloria Peterson - 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2023

- 9:00** Sean Hughes

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023

- 9:00** For the deceased members of  
the O'Brien and Rogers families  
Abi Mael Marrero  
**5:30** Marge Sirvidio  
For the protection of human life  
from conception to natural death  
Louise Stolarz

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023

- 8:00** Vincenzo Mazzara - 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Bob Martin  
**10:00** Marlene Chidiac  
James Fernandez, JR  
Sam Rizzo  
George Barboza  
**12:00** For All the People of the Parish

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