

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



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 27, 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 Saturday4:30 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

A pastor of a west coast parish became frustrated by the number of people in his community who were not coming to church on Sunday, so he formed a committee to investigate it. They eventually sent out this letter.

Dear Parishioner,

*You are registered here in the parish, but we have noticed that you do not come to mass on Sunday. So, we have designated next Sunday as **There Is No Excuse Not To Come To Church Sunday**. We have worked diligently to eliminate any excuse for not joining us for worship.*

Next Sunday cots will be provided for all who feel that Sunday is their only day to sleep in. Coffee and eye drops will be available for those who insist on staying out late on Saturday night. Steel helmets will be provided for those who claim that if they ever walk into a church the roof will fall. Sweaters will be provided for those who feel the church is too cold; fans for those who feel the church is too hot. There will be scorecards available for all who wish to keep track of the hypocrites who come to church on Sunday. We will have gift certificates for area restaurants for those who feel that they must stay home and cook. Finally, we are decorating the sanctuary with Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies for those who have never seen the church without them.

The letter caused a good deal of discussion. But ultimately very few people decided to come back to church on a regular basis. This should not be surprising because you cannot argue, shame, or force people into accepting the value of church community.

Seeing the importance of a faith community is a gift, a gift that is connected to faith in Jesus Christ. This is clear in today's gospel. Peter makes a strong profession of faith in Christ. He says, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God." The very first thing that Jesus reminds Peter is that his faith does not come from flesh and blood, but from the revelation of our Heavenly Father. Peter did not believe in Christ because he was smarter or more observant than other people. He believed because he had been gifted with faith that comes from a God who loved him. The same is true for us. We have faith in Jesus Christ not because we are particularly intelligent or good. We believe because God has loved us and gifted us with faith. There is a mystery here. Why do we believe in Christ and there still are so many good and intelligent people in the world who do not share in that faith. Why is it that people we love, and we would deeply desire to believe, sometimes cannot do so. The only explanation is that we have been given faith and others have not. We should respond to such a gift in humility and in thankfulness. Faith is a gift. It is a gift connected to community. This is also clear in today's gospel. After Peter professes his faith, Jesus establishes the church. He proclaims that it is upon the rock of Peter's

faith and faith like Peter's, that his church will stand. Faith and church community go together. People who say they believe in Christ and yet to not associate themselves with a believing community have an incomplete faith, because the entire witness of Israel and of the scriptures testify that believing and church go together. In choosing Christ we do more than make an individual decision to believe, we also commit ourselves to brothers and sisters who believe the same thing with us. Faith in Christ requires a place where we worship God with others and serve one another in Jesus' name.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone



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.

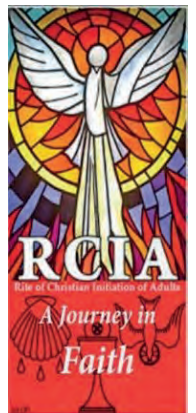
FAITH FORMATION

**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



2024 MASS INTENTION BOOK

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

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.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

MUSIC MINISTRY



Join us in song!

The **Choir of St. Philip** will resume its ministry with our first rehearsal on Monday, September 11th.

Rehearsals are held regularly in church on Monday evenings 7 to 9 PM and the choir sings for the 10AM mass on Sundays throughout the season.

We welcome returning members, as well as new members who are interested in joining this ministry!

If you are interested, please speak with our Director of Music and Organist, Frank Hydash, after Mass with questions or for more information.

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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 9th and 10th**, 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.

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LIFE MINISTRY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING

Please join in prayer and fasting on September 1st (First Friday) for Equal Rights for Babies in the Womb, for an end to abortion and for a favorable pro-life outcome to the 11-7-23 election in N.J. Fasting can be from food, media, etc. as you are able. The goal is to get 500 people praying monthly for the unborn in N.J. Prayer changes things!

Add your name to the Tally each month at: EqualRightsforBabiesintheWomb.com/prayerandfasting/

"Coats for Kids" Drive

We will again be collecting contributions for our annual Coats-for-kids Drive beginning Sunday, August 13th thru Saturday, October 21st. 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

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRIMETIMERS

The St. Philip Prime timers will not be meeting in September due to the first Friday being the start of Labor Day weekend. Hope to see you in October!

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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/>



IN THE AREA...

FOUND ABILITIES 2ND ANNUAL PASTA DINNER Fundraiser

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023 AT 6PM

ADULTS \$30 PER PERSON	DINNER MENU Dinner includes: ZITI & MEATBALLS, SALAD, FRENCH BREAD, SODA, ICED TEA, COFFEE & DESSERT	KIDS \$8 PER PERSON
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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



GOLD and SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 1973 or 1998? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 60+, 50th or 25th 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 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!*

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Christopher & Leiya

WE PRAY FOR...

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 21, 2022	\$ 19,849.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: AUGUST 22, 2023	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$10,259.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 8,184.00
TOTAL	\$ 18,443.00
Second Collection - Missionary Cooperation	\$ 1,797.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
August 27 - Project Faith
September 10 - Project Faith

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023

- 9:00** Deceased members of the McNamara family
Sandy Fecko

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2023

- 9:00** Marlene Chidiac - 1st Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023

- 9:00** Howard Glinkin - 20th Anniversary
Maria Sciancalepore

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2023

- 9:00** Marlene Chidiac
Adelaido S. Cuasay

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

- 9:00** Marlene Chidiac

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

- 9:00** Mabel J. Borja
5:30 For All the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

- 8:00** Deacon Brian Drury
Bob Martin
10:00 Tammy DiSanto
John Strangeway
John Anderson, Jr.
Joan W. Murphy
Albert Pineda - 5th Anniversary
12:00 James Frain
Frances Spazian

CANDLE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 27th

In Memory of Howard Glinkin
-With love from the family



OFFERTORY GIFTS THE WEEK OF AUGUST 27th

In Memory of Walter Arthur Ehlers
-With love from his sister, Kathy Wall, and family

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