

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. David Monteleone
Pastor
frmonteleone@stphilip.org

Rev. Nico Quintos
Parochial Vicar
nquintos@stphilip.org

Rev. Jared Brogan
In-Residence

Dcn. Nicholas Veliky
Deacon
nveliky@stphilip.org

Dcn. Robert G. Ayers
Deacon
deaconbob@stphilip.org

Ms. Danielle Gonzalez
Principal
Principalgonzalez@stphilipprep.com

Mrs. Denise Pannullo
Faith Formation
dpanullo@stphilip.org

Ms. Vicky Velasco
Confirmation Program
vvelasco@stphilip.org

Mr. Frank Hydash
Director of Music
frankhydash@rocketmail.com

Mr. Carlos Arias
Maintenance Supervisor
carias@stphilip.org

Ms. Linda Siluk
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



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time November 12, 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

Dear Parishioners,

Many of us are suspicious of the promises that people make to us and sometimes even of the promises that we make to ourselves. It is common to encounter promises that do not turn out to be true. Here is a partial list of untrue promises: "The check is in the mail." "Your money will be cheerfully refunded." "You have already won a valuable prize." "One size fits all." "Your table will be ready in a minute." "This won't hurt a bit." "I'll start a better diet tomorrow." We have all heard or used these statements. They betray a pattern which is gaining acceptance in our society. The pattern is this: **Promise—Fail—Negotiate.**

"Oh, you didn't receive your check? I'll have it to you on Monday." "You're waiting forty-five minutes for your table? I'll look into it, and I'll give you free dessert." "You want your money back? It's not under warranty, but you can have fifty dollars off the repair." "I can't start my diet tomorrow, it's Charlie's birthday. I'll try again after the holidays." **Promise—Fail—Negotiate.**

The frightening thing about today's gospel is that Jesus does not seem willing to negotiate. The foolish bridesmaids have promised to be ready. They failed, and the door was shut. They had some good arguments for a negotiation. They could have said: "The bridegroom didn't show-up until midnight." "If fifty percent of the job is showing up, we showed up." "We intended to do the right thing." "We *did* bring oil, just not enough." But Jesus is unwilling to hear any of these arguments. He says to them, "Truly I tell you; I do not know you." And that's that.

So, what are we to make of this harsh stance by Jesus in the parable? How are we to interpret this passage of the ten bridesmaids? **It is a warning, a warning that the pattern of Promise—Fail—Negotiate does not fit the Kingdom of God.** God has given us everything. God has gifted us with life and opportunity. In accepting God's gifts, we promise to follow Jesus' teaching and to do God's will. This parable tells us that God takes our promises very seriously. It warns us not to come before the Lord with an array of excuses and the expectation that we can renegotiate the contract.

We do not want to be standing before the Judge of the Universe and have to say, "I wanted to spend more time with my family. I intended to be more just with my employees. I planned to reconcile with my brother. But since I did not do those things,

can't we put our heads together and work out some way for me to respond to your salvation?"

We do not want to be standing before the Gates of Heaven and have to say, "I should have been more patient with my mother. I should have been more honest in my business. I should have been more concerned about my prejudices and how I passed them on to others. But since I wasn't, is there anything I can do now for extra credit?"

You don't want to look Jesus in the eye and say, "I should have been more thankful for your gifts. I should have been more public with my faith. I should have been more generous to the poor. But I did give fifty dollars to the tsunami victims. Doesn't that count for something?"

Today's parable is a harsh warning that **Jesus expects us to live up to our promises.** Now of course, no one parable captures the whole truth. I could point to many passages in the scriptures that present our Lord in a much more flexible attitude. I could point to passages that show that Christ would be willing to make allowances, that there would be divine mercy to overcome any of our deficiencies. Those passages of scripture are there, but this parable warns us about presuming too much. This parable reminds us that we know who we are called to be. We know what is expected of us. We know that God will not believe that the check is in the mail. Knowing these things, the wise person does not live life counting on a last-minute negotiation. The wise person chooses to live the gospel today. Let that wise person be you.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

Loved ones are remembered during all Masses celebrated during the month of November and their names will be placed by the statue of Mary in the church.

We invite you to write the names of your beloved, faithful departed relatives, and friends on the paper by the statue of Mary in the church and place your memorial intentions in the vase provided. This will be available throughout the month of November.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass Schedule for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is as follows:

Thursday, December 7th, Vigil Mass at 7PM
Friday, December 8th, 7 AM and 9 AM

LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Please mark your calendars for our Service of Lessons & Carols, which will be held on **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023, at 7:00 PM.** This is a change of date and time from our usual Sunday concert featuring our Adult, Youth and Handbell Choirs and readings from the bible. We hope you can join us for this radiant event on the evening of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception!*

FOR FAMILIES



Saint Philip would like to welcome all families with young children to a **family holy HALF hour** on

Friday, November 17, 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.

FAMILY MASS

Our Youth Choir sang at our monthly Family Mass. We invite all families with young children and youth to our next Family Mass on Sunday, November 26, 2023.



THANKSGIVING DAY

Let us come together to thank the Lord for all His goodness in our lives, both big and small.

Holy Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23, 2023, will be celebrated at 9 AM.

We look forward to seeing you and your family and we pray that your hearts may be filled with joy and gratitude.

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Recently at Saint Philip Preparatory School, we had the Book Fair which, as always, was a hit among the students. We are also rounding out the First Marking period of the year and making sure that report cards are ready to go out and everything is in order. With Thanksgiving coming up in a couple weeks, as well, we are preparing by writing about what and whom we are thankful for.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI

A "Save the Date" poster for the St. Philip Alumni Dinner. The background is dark green with gold accents, including a gold leaf branch and a gold starburst. The text is in gold and white. The main title "St. Philip Alumni Dinner" is in a large, elegant script font. Below it, the date and time are listed: "Saturday, November 25, 2023" and "Time: 6:30 PM". The location is "St. Philip the Apostle Preparatory School, 797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013". A note says "We invite you to attend 5:30 mass prior to dinner". Ticket price is "\$100.00 per person" and includes "dinner, drinks, dancing and memory sharing". A footnote states "*All proceeds will go towards St. Philip tuition assistance".

SAVE THE DATE
Celebrating Cherished Memories
St. Philip Alumni Dinner
Saturday, November 25, 2023
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: St. Philip the Apostle Preparatory School
797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013
We invite you to attend 5:30 mass prior to dinner*
Ticket Price: \$100.00 per person.
(Includes dinner, drinks, dancing and memory sharing.)
*All proceeds will go towards St. Philip tuition assistance

For more details and to purchase tickets please go to <https://stphilipprep.com/alumni-dinner/>

SAVE THE DATE

Save the Date for St. Philip Prep's TREP\$ Christmas Marketplace run by our own student entrepreneurs!

Saturday, December 9, 2023 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, St. Philip Prep Auditorium.

More information to come!

WORK WITH US!

St. Philip Preparatory school is looking to fill two Full-Time Teaching positions: Middle School Social Studies and Middle School ELA.

For inquiries, please email Principal Gonzalez at principalgonzalez@stphilipprep.com

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

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 **November 18th and 19th**, 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.

LIFE MINISTRY

Request a Mass for Life



GOAL: 5000 Masses by 12/31/25
4700+ Masses arranged to date!

Participating in the Mass "is truly living again the redemptive passion and death of Our Lord. It is a visible manifestation: the Lord makes himself present on the altar to be offered to the Father for the salvation of the world"
(Pope Frances Homily 2-10-2014).

Ask your Church Secretary to schedule one or more Masses to be said "For the Protection of Babies in the Womb and their Families." (Sunday Mass is preferred, but any day will do). Make an offering to the Church, typically \$10 per Mass.

Then, email info@lifeneteducation.org with the Church name, and date(s)/time(s) of the Masses and we'll add it to the tally. **That's it!!**

GRIEF SHARE AT SAINT PHILIP'S

Need help dealing with grief?
A prayerful support group can help you move through the grief process.



A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

The next GriefShare session at Saint Philip's is on **Monday, November 13th, 2023 at 7 PM** in the Youth Room of Jubilee Wing Building of the Molloy Center.

For questions, please call the Parish Office at (973) 779 6200.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

SCOUTS

Wreath Sale

Boy Scout Troop 21 is having their Annual Wreath Sale after all Masses the weekends of November 25th & 26th, and December 2nd & 3rd. The scouts will be selling fresh wreaths as well as grave blankets and grave pillows outside of the church.

Call Phil Jakimowicz at (973) 723-6111 for pre-orders or more information.

Please support Boy Scout Troop 21!

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Next meeting of the Widow and Widowers will be on Monday, November 13th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Anyone who is experiencing a loss is most welcome.

ROSARY SOCIETY

All Are Welcome! On November 13th at 6:30 PM in Marian Hall, we will be praying and celebrating Mass for our beloved deceased Rosarians and family members. Please come and join us for the Feast of St. Frances Cabrini, the first US citizen to be canonized!

COLUMBIETTES

Columbiette Blanket Ministry

The next meetings will be held Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 9:45 AM in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome!

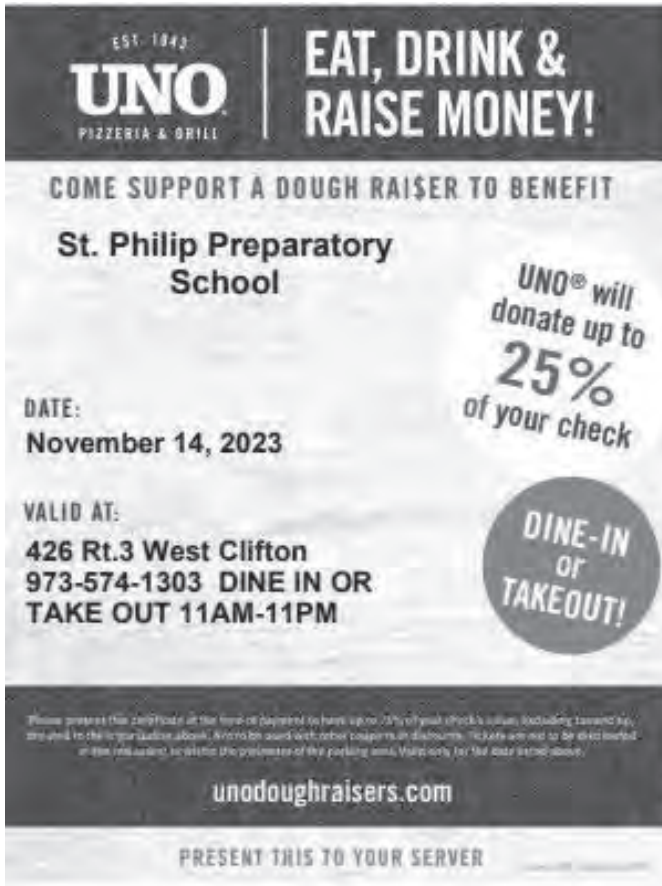
If you have any questions or would like to make a yarn or fabric donation, please call Cathie Murtha at (973) 471-1265

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Family Fun night

On Tuesday, November 14th, the HSA is having a "Doughraiser" at Pizzeria Uno in Clifton. Present the flyer below and up to 25% of your check will be donated back to St. Philip Prep School!

That's a lotta dough!



FOCUS MISSIONARIES AT MSU

Last weekend, the FOCUS missionaries serving at Montclair State University spoke after Mass to invite to join their campaign to bring 50 students to encounter Christ, at their national conference, SEEK. They collected a total of \$3,184 at all the Masses. Alyssa wrote to Fr. Monteleone, "This is incredibly generous! I am so eager to share with you and the rest of the St. Philip's community the fruits of their kindness!"

For more information reach out to Alyssa Siefring at alyssa.siefring@focus.org or scan the QR code below.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

What can we do to restore the quality and beauty of the pews, kneelers, and furnishings of our church? Our "Having a Place at the Banquet of the Lord" capital campaign has begun. Please see the parish website for information about the restoration project and to make an online pledge.

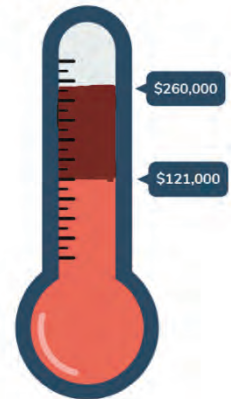
Thank You for Your Support

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit distributes them. — 1 Corinthians 12:4

To all those who have pledged, contributed to, and continue to offer prayers for our "Having a Place at the Banquet of the Lord" capital campaign, a heartfelt thank you. Your kindness and generosity toward this project have gotten us off to a great start. This work could not be done without you!

GOAL: \$300,000

Update: To date we have raised \$121,000 in contributions collected and we are up to \$260,000 with all our pledges.



Please see the pictures below of the sample pew has been restored.



DIOCESAN NEWS

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 1**

St. James, Totowa
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 3**

St. Margaret, Morristown
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Project ANDREW

Join other single, Catholic young men - high school age to young professionals - to learn more about the priesthood by joining Bishop Sweeney and other priests and seminarians from the Diocese of Paterson for an evening of prayer, dinner and conversation.

- Learn about the life of a priest
- Ask what's on your mind
- Listen to witness talks
- Enjoy faith, food and fellowship with Bishop Sweeney and more.

Scan the QR code to register or contact us:



Registration Suggested
No charge

(973) 777-8818 x.711
vocations@patersondiocese.org
patersonvocations.org



"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: NOVEMBER 6, 2022 \$26,080.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION: NOVEMBER 5, 2023

WEEKLY COLLECTION \$ 12,288.00

ONLINE GIVING DONATION \$ 7,201.00

TOTAL \$ 19,489.00

SECOND COLLECTION – PROJECT FAITH \$ 2,154.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

November 26 - Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

For the recently Deceased

Harold Carline

A Time to be Healed...

Claire Chilazi, Asnel Rivero,
Alina Nicastro, Edvie Canavan,
Joanne Barrett, Peggy Nisivoccia,
Harry Carline, Manuel Bacani,
Bishop Arthur Serratelli



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

- 8:00** For all the People of the Parish
10:00 Rosina Gioia
 Mario Santulli
 Dr. Joseph DeStefano
 Linda Pepe
12:00 Rita Latona
 Richard Marranzino

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023

- 9:00** Bonifacio Flores
 Lea Wozniak

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023

- 9:00** Barbara Bell
 Gerard Arellano

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023

- 9:00** Pasqualina Miro
 Cyd Ponce Ozaraga – In Thanksgiving

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

- 9:00** Ralph H. Pennella
 Conchita Bicksler

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023

- 9:00** Zofia Gray
 Sergio and Paula Vega

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023

- 9:00** Anthony M. Petaccio
 Christine Reclusado
5:30 Stasia and Joseph Piechocki
 Sean Hughes
 Kelsey O'Donnell

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

- 8:00** Joseph Gondola
 Manuel Calle
10:00 Erna DeIntinis
 Paul, Marie, and Paul II Konzelman
 Margaret White
 Luz Rodroquez and Luz Soto
12:00 For all the People of the Parish

CANDLE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12th

In memory of deceased members of the
Columbiettes
-from the Columbiettes



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