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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

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www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph December 31, 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,

It's become commonplace nowadays for people to put together a bucket list. This is a list of things that they wish to experience or accomplish before they die. Even people in their thirties and forties are putting together bucket lists. Each person can choose what will be on his or her list. One person might desire to travel to Europe. Another is to learn how to play the piano. Someone else might decide that they want to read all 37 of Shakespeare's plays. Whatever is on your list, the intent is to check off each item one by one as you can fulfill it.

In today's gospel, Simeon has a bucket list, and there's only one thing on it. He wants to see the Messiah of God before he dies. When Joseph and Mary bring the child Jesus to the temple, his wish is fulfilled. Simeon's bucket list is instructive to us because it includes two characteristics that are important. Simeon wishes big, and Simeon wishes selflessly.

Simeon is not afraid to think big. What he wants is nothing less than to see the Messiah of God with his own eyes. This is the desire that generation after generation wished for without success. People who were much more important than Simeon died without seeing God's anointed. Moses, King David, and Isaiah all went to their graves without a glimpse. But Simeon was not afraid of size. He knew what he wanted, and he dared to ask God for it. The second characteristic of Simeon's approach is selflessness. Simeon's desire is not primarily for himself, but for the entire world. He knows that he will not live long enough to see Jesus teach, heal, and win our salvation. But he takes his joy in knowing that others will benefit from Jesus's ministry and sacrifice.

So, when we look around our lives for what we want, it is important to remember Simeon and to wish for things that are big and selfless. Perhaps you might wish that someone in your family, a grandchild or sibling, might decide to commit themselves to a life of service. The service might be to the church or some international agency addressing world hunger or poverty. That's not a choice that many young people make. But Simeon

would say to us "Don't be afraid to think big. Ask what you want from God. Then place your wish in God's hands." Perhaps we might wish for a country that was healed, a country in which Americans would once again trust one another, where Democrats and Republicans would work together for the common good. Simeon would say, "Well, that's thinking big alright. But go for it. A lot of things would have to change before that could happen. But you might be able to see at least the first steps towards healing." Maybe we would like to see a world-wide commitment to our children, our unborn and the elderly, and the vulnerable. Simeon would say, "That's a work for many generations, but choose it. You might be able to see a beginning."

As we put our bucket lists together, it is important to remember Simeon. We should wish big and selflessly and then place our list in God's hands. If we're lucky, we, like Simeon, might see the fulfillment of our desires. But even if we don't, even if we die before God can give that gift to us, at least we will know that we wished for something significant that will benefit the entire world.

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone



PLEASE NOTE

**In observance of the Solemnity of Mary
on Monday, January 1,
Mass will be celebrated at 9 AM.
The Church will be closed immediately following Mass.
The Parish Office will be closed.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The entire Parish Staff would like to wish you and yours a blessed New Year. May God bless you!



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The St. Philip School community hopes everyone is having a joyous and blessed Christmas season, which we celebrate through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

The students and staff have all had the opportunity to spend this Holiday season with family and loved ones, and are returning to school on January 2nd to continue their 2023-2024 school year. We will be rejuvenated and have a renewed focus on attaining our goals.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year as we ring in 2024.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTES

Columbiettes Food Drive on the second Wednesday of every month. Next Collection will be January 10th. Drop off your non-perishable donations in the church parking lot after the 9 AM Mass. All food is donated to St. Michael's Church in Passaic.



LIFE MINISTRY

**"The future passes through the family.
So protect the family!... be living
examples of love, forgiveness & care...
Be sanctuaries of respect for life,
proclaiming the **sacredness of every
human life** from conception to natural
death." ~ Pope Francis**

Pope Francis image by Vectorportal.com

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRIME-TIMERS

The next meeting of the St. Philip Prime Timers will be **Friday, January 5th at 1:30 PM** in Marian Hall. Coffee and cake will be served before the meeting. We will be playing Bingo. The cards are \$2 and the more that play, the more we pay. Everyone 50 years and older is welcome. Come and join us for fun and socialization. If you have any questions, please call Jean R. (973) 253-1619.



COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meetings of the blanket ministry will be Thursday, January 4 and 18, 2024 at 9:45 AM in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! For more information, call Cathie Martha. (973) 471-1265.

We wish all of you a healthy and peaceful 2024!



WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The next meeting of the Widow and Widowers will be held on Monday, January 8th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Anyone who is experiencing the loss of a significant other is welcome to attend.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Calendar Raffles

Calendar Raffles are now available for sale. Tickets are \$10 each for 90 chances to win \$10,000 in prizes. Drawings begin February 1st. Each date is a different amount to win.

Contact the School or Parish office for more information.

St. Philip Preparatory School
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2024 CALENDAR SWEEPSTAKES
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No. ####

\$10,000 in Prizes
90 Chances to Win!
 ALL TICKETS ELIGIBLE TO WIN MONEY THEM ONCE!

Drawings will start on February 1st, 2024
 Weekly drawing at St. Philip School at 8:00PM each Monday during Sweepstakes

WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED
 Get weekly results by visiting stphilprep.org (calendar results) (Please do not call school or rectory)

DONATION \$10.00
 (No substitution of this amount if you mark the results.)
Not valid for 2023-2024

PLEASE PRINT (No. ####)
 (Winners must be notified if drawing is complete)

NAME: _____
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Cigar and Whiskey Night

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024
 6:30 PM

FRANKLIN STEAKHOUSE
 318 PASSAIC AVE
 FAIRFIELD, NJ

\$65 PER PERSON
 ** Must be 21 years old **

Price includes: Buffet dinner, 2 Cigars and Whiskey Tasting.
 Cash bar also available

Tickets are \$65 per person and include Buffet dinner, 2 cigars and Whiskey Tasting. For tickets or more information, please contact Anton at (862) 247-3899.

GRIEFSHARE 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, January 15, 2024 at 6:30 PM** in the Youth Room of Jubilee Wing Building of the Molloy Center.

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



FOR THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Aurea Liannie

KIDS KORNER

< KID'S >
KORNER

Gospel Today
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph | Luke 2:22-40

Year B

Mary and Joseph took the newborn baby Jesus to the Temple to be presented to God. When Simeon and Anna laid eyes upon Jesus, they proclaimed Him to be the Anointed One.

©2021 Ken Ventres-Seviers, LLC

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



The Holy Family of _____

and _____

Fill in their names, found in bold above. Draw in faces and color the picture.

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.

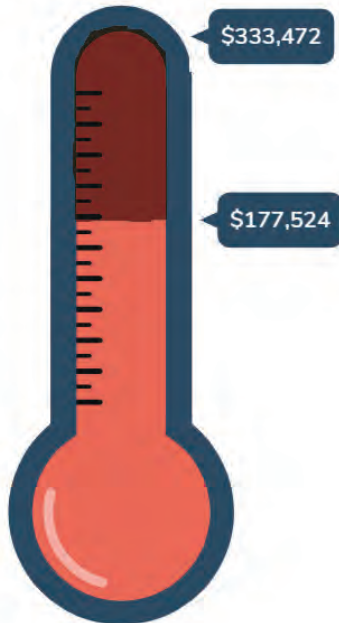
Thank You for Your Support

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!

To date we have raised \$177,524 in contributions collected and we are up to \$333,472 with all our pledges.

GOAL: \$300,000



PARISH GIVING

THE COLLECTION INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING.

Sunday Collection: DECEMBER 18, 2022 \$18,433.00
Sunday Collection: DECEMBER 17, 2023
Weekly Collection \$ 12,852.00
Online Giving Donation \$ 6,914.00
Total \$ 19,766.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
January 15 - Beacon

WE PRAY FOR...

For the recently Deceased...

Andrew Coraci, Joe Besterici

A Time to be Healed...

Joanne Barrett, Manuel Bacani, Bishop Arthur Serratelli,
Joseph Gore, Sikora Sisters, Reverend John Klein,
Philip Kutzenco



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

8:00 All the People of the Parish
10:00 Donald Muller
Connie Pomposelli
12:00 James Elbert
Rita Latona

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

9:00 the 40th Wedding Anniversary of
George and Emelyn Masbang

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

9:00 Louis DeLeon

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

9:00 Rev. Frank Parrinello

WTHURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

9:00 Mafalda Valentini - 30th Anniversary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024

9:00 Robert Parillo
Anna Errico

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

9:00 Victor Napenas
Luciano and Teofila Rosales
5:30 Michael and Pat Zaccario
Anne and Anthony Lipari
Frances Spazian

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

8:00 Robert Mancinelli
Elizabeth Zakopcsan
10:00 Connie Pomposelli
Hulbert Schreiber
David Young
Barbara Bell
Harry Carline
12:00 All the People of the Parish

CANDLE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31st

In loving memory of my parents and my sister, Josef and
Frantiska Krizek and Marie Riegrova
-From Georgeanna Hall



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