

## PASTORAL TEAM

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Ms. Linda Siluk  
*Lay Trustee*

Mr. John Hughes  
*Lay Trustee*



@StPhilipClifton



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# St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013  
www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



## 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2024



### 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 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 THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Once upon a time a boy said to God: “Oh God, when I grow up, I want to live in a huge house with a big front porch and two Great Danes that can play in the backyard. I want to marry a tall woman who is very beautiful and kind, who has long black hair and blue eyes, and who plays the guitar and sings in a high clear voice. I want to have three sons with whom I can play football. One of them will grow up to be a famous scientist, the other a senator, and the third will play quarterback for the Browns in the Super Bowl. I want to be an adventurer and cross over oceans and climb mountains. I want to drive a Ferrari, and I never want to pick up after myself.”

God said, “That’s a beautiful dream, and I want you to be happy.” But a few years later the boy injured his knee playing football, and his life as an adventurer was over. So, he went to college and earned a degree in marketing and founded a medical supply company. In college he met a pretty girl who was loving and kind but was not glamorous. She was no musician, but she was a marvelous cook. He married her, and because of the business they lived in a downtown apartment. Their balcony had to suffice for a big front porch. There was no room for two Great Danes—only one fluffy cat. They had three daughters (not sons), and the loveliest of the three had to use a wheelchair. The man’s business provided comfortably for his family, but he never owned a Ferrari. And because he had three daughters, he spent most of his life picking things up. When he retired, he supported his wife in her long battle with cancer, and when she died, he moved in with one of his daughters.

Then one night he talked to God again. “Oh God,” he said, “Do you remember when I was a small boy and I told you what I wanted in my life?”

“I do,” said God. “That was a beautiful dream.”

“Well, then,” said the man, “Why didn’t you give me what I wanted?”

“I could have,” said God, “but I thought that I would surprise you with things you never dreamed of. And, if I do say so myself, the package I put together for you was one of my best. Do you disagree?”

“Not really,” said the man, “but my life is not what I expected.”

“No, it is not,” said God. “But my job is not to give you what you expect but to give you what is good.”

In today’s gospel Jesus calls four of his disciples: Simon and Andrew, James, and John. We can be sure that all four of these men had dreams and

expectations for their lives. Those expectations probably centered on their families and their fishing business. But the gospel doesn’t say anything about their expectations because it centers on what is most important: the fact that Jesus called them, and they trusted him enough to follow him, to let him lead them into the future. Of course, when they followed Him, many things changed. They were not catching fish anymore, but people. They were traveling with Jesus around Galilee and Judea, listening to his teaching, witnessing his death and resurrection, and becoming his messengers throughout the world for a new creation. Their lives were not what they expected. But the gospel doesn’t say anything about those expectations or about how their lives developed. All it tells us is that Jesus called them and they followed him.

The gospel does this to emphasize what is essential in our lives. It wants us to realize that God is real and is calling us. It wants us to know that our lives will unfold not as we dream them but as God dreams them. The gospel, then, calls us to trust, to open our hearts and allow Christ to make his dream for us a reality. All of us can think of things in our lives we had thought would be different, things in our family, things in our business, things in our relationships. There were successes we never achieved and dangers that we did not avoid. But today’s gospel tells us that all those expectations are secondary. What is primary is that Christ has called us, and we are to follow him. And we should follow him because he is trustworthy. We can place our lives in his hands if we remember that his commitment to us is not to give us what we expect—but to give us what is good.

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone



## ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

We are excited to announce the Middle School Theater production of Willy Wonka Jr. Calling all our middle school thespians! Auditions begin the week of January 22nd and we expect to announce the cast by Friday, February 2nd. Mark your calendars for “Showtime” dates: May 3-4, 2024.



In celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day School school was closed Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, however, Midterm Exams began Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, and continued through the week.

The excitement for Catholic Schools week is building as we prepare to celebrate our Kickoff to Catholic Schools Week Mass at the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, January 28th. Throughout the week we will have various themes and activities to celebrate our Catholic School!

## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### PRIME TIMERS

Fun for Seniors!

Come and be our guest at our next meeting on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 PM in Marian Hall. Coffee and Cake will be served before the meeting. We are going to have entertainment, *“Sing Along with Dorothy.”*

Everyone 50 years and older is welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Jean R. at (973) 253-1619.

If you are unable to make this meeting, we meet the First Friday of every month.



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Saturday, January 27th at 7:00 PM is the Msgr. Peter Doody Scholarship Beefsteak



This all you can eat beefsteak is only \$45 per person. Former pastor and initial sponsor of the St. Philip’s Knights of Columbus Council, Msgr. Peter Doody, will be in attendance.

Bob Holly, a Clifton High School and St. Philip’s alumnus and former pro-quarterback for the Washington, Philadelphia, and Atlanta football teams will be a featured speaker along with St. Philip’s Prep School Principal, Danielle Gonzalez.

Tickets can be purchased on-line at: [Kofc11671.org](http://Kofc11671.org) or by contacting:

Dennis Fitzpatrick (973) 271-9577,

Ray Lill (973) 472-1756 or

Rich Donkersloot (973) 650-3327,

or by using the QR code below.

These special guests will make for a memorable evening so please order your tickets promptly.



## HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

### Calendar Raffles

Calendar Raffles are available for sale. Tickets are \$10 each for 90 chances to win \$10,000 in prizes. Drawings begin February 1<sup>st</sup>. Each date is a different amount to win. Contact the School or Parish office for more information.

**St. Philip Preparatory School**  
Home & School Association - 797 Valley Road, Clifton, New Jersey 07013

No. ###

**2024 CALENDAR SWEEPSTAKES**

Net proceeds will be used for the benefit of the St. Philip student population

February 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        |        |         |           |          | \$500  | \$100    |
| \$100  | \$75   | \$150   | \$25      | \$75     | \$100  | \$50     |
| \$100  | \$75   | \$25    | \$200     | \$75     | \$100  | \$125    |
| \$175  | \$75   | \$125   | \$175     | \$75     | \$100  | \$75     |
| \$100  | \$75   | \$50    | \$75      | \$500    |        |          |

**\$10,000 in Prizes**

**90**

**Chances to Win!**

ALL TICKETS ELIGIBLE TO WIN MORE THAN ONCE

Drawings will start on February 1st, 2024  
Weekly Drawing at St. Philip's School at 3:00PM each Monday during Sweepstakes



## GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



*Ashton and Avery*

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Many of you may know that our pastor, Fr. Monteleone, comes from a long lineage of Knights of Columbus. His Grandfather was a Knight, his father is a Knight, and He is a Knight. Fr. Monteleone on a rainy, wind-swept January 9<sup>th</sup> evening braved the elements and went to St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Parsippany and was dubbed a fourth degree Knight with Fr. Seamus and 3 Deacons. So now our pastor can be called "Sir Knight Fr. Monteleone."  
Sir Knight Father Monteleone has always been a wonderful supporter our council and will now be an added asset to the Msgr. Stein Assembly.

Congratulations to  
Sir Knight Father Monteleone!



## SAVE THE DATE

Our Parish will celebrate our annual  
**St. Patrick, St. Joseph, and St. Lorenzo  
Dinner Party**  
on  
**Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 6:30 - 10:30 PM**



Entertainment by:  
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## DIOCESAN NEWS

### DISCERNMENT RETREAT

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- Holy Mass
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- Retreat talks
- Confession

#### SCAN TO REGISTER



Registration  
required

No fee

Contact: **Father Ed Rama**

(973) 777-8818 x.715

[vocations@patersondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@patersondiocese.org)

[patersonvocations.org](http://patersonvocations.org)

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**MARCH 1 - 3, 2024**

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## PARISH GIVING

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sunday Collection: JANUARY 8, 2023 | \$18,389.00 |
| Sunday Collection: JANUARY 7, 2024 |             |
| Weekly Collection                  | \$ 6,343.00 |
| Online Giving Donation             | \$ 7,127.00 |
| Total                              | \$ 13,470.0 |

*THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY THIS CHRISTMAS!*

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| CHRISTMAS COLLECTION 2022       | \$84,882.00 |
| CHRISTMAS COLLECTION 2023 (YTD) | \$70,377.00 |

**Upcoming Second Collections:**  
January 21 – Beacon  
January 28 – Support Catholic Schools

## WE PRAY FOR...

*For the recently Deceased...*

Stephanie Pitoniak, Jack Magullian


*A Time to be Healed...*

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



## PLEASE NOTE

The book for Mass Intentions is now available for the 7 AM weekday Masses during Lent. Please call the Parish Office to offer Masses for your loved ones living or deceased.

*Reform your lives*   
*believe the Good News*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish  
**10:00** Robert Mancinelli  
Rose Jenkins  
John DeMilia  
Luigi Gioia  
Joseph Payne  
**12:00** For our Nation  
Charles Elbert

### MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

- 9:00** John Anderson

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

- 9:00** Dot Cervine - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024

- 9:00** Rich Lukesh  
Sister Rene Donohue - 12th Anniversary

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024

- 9:00** Francesco Papaiani  
Nelia Reyes

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024

- 9:00** Daniel Mutter  
Anne Schrimpe

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024

- 9:00** Norma Baer Maderazo  
**5:30** Theresa P. Gilligan  
Louise Stolarz  
Elizabeth Ann Fournier

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish  
**10:00** Ann Jasionowicz  
Harry Carline  
Elizabeth "Cooky" Tomczyk  
Gladys Fusiek  
David Kidd  
**12:00** Marlene Chidiac  
Rosella Quintavella

*Guide me  
in your truth*



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