# PASTORAL TEAM

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Ms. Linda Siluk Lay Trustee

Mr. John Hughes Lay Trustee



# St. Philip the Apostle Parish

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



# 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 11, 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,

There is little doubt that the leper in today's gospel had a deep respect for Jesus. Who would not honor someone who healed them of leprosy? But if this is the case, how do we explain the obvious disobedience of the leper to Jesus' command? Jesus says, "See to it that you tell no one anything." Yet this man immediately goes out and publicizes everything that had happened, speaking to everyone. How do we explain that this man ignored Jesus' desire to keep things quiet?

The simplest explanation is that there are some secrets that cannot be kept. There are some blessings too wonderful to hold in. In other words, this story of the leper is a story of the power of joy.

When the man sees that his leprosy is removed, when he realizes that he is again made whole, the joy of his healing consumes him. He cannot do anything but proclaim it to everyone he meets—regardless of what Jesus has commanded him. His proclamation has a tremendous effect. Hundreds of people start coming to Jesus so that Jesus can no longer enter into the towns openly. People are persuaded that what this former leper said was true not simply by the argumentation of his words, but by the authority of his joy. They could see in the brightness of his eye, in the enthusiasm of his presence, the promise that if they too went to Jesus, they too could encounter the love of God.

So, the leper in today's gospel is a model for us. All too often, our lives lack the power of joy. We know our faith. We can recite the creed. We come to mass. We believe in God's existence. Yet how many people can see in us the joy of God's presence or the enthusiasm of belonging to Christ? Do people see in our lives the energy of the good news, or do we appear much like everyone else, including those who do not believe in God at all.

The power of joy is important because it has the authority to change the human heart. The possession of that joy is not only important for the sake of others—so they can see Christ in us—it is also important for us. We need joy in order to claim the blessings that God has given us.

There is an ancient rabbinic teaching that describes the last judgment at the end of time. According to this rabbinic teaching, every person will stand before God, the judge. In that moment God will lay before each person all of the blessings that he or she has received and then say, "How many of

these blessings did you enjoy, and how many did you ignore?" According to this ancient rabbinic wisdom, our very salvation depends upon our openness to enjoy the blessings that God has given us.

You know that this is true. We all know people who have everything, who are blessed in every way, and yet they are not happy. They cannot connect their lives to the power of joy. These people do not need to wait for the judgment on the last day—they are already condemned. Already, they are lost.

So, the example of the leper in today's gospel is an example we should follow. He was so filled with of the joy of what God did for him that he could not keep silent. It is unlikely that there is anyone here who has been cured of leprosy, but every one of us has blessings in which we can rejoice. All of us have life, some of us have health, and some of us have the love and respect of family and friends. Some of us have jobs that we enjoy, accomplishments that we can be proud of, and financial resources that give us options which many other people do not have.

What is important here is not simply to have these blessings, but to find joy in them. Joy gives us power. When we are people of joy, we have the power to be generous, the power to forgive, the power to serve, and the power to live. But, if we lack the power of joy, what will be speechless before God on the last day. Without joy, our faith is empty—not only as a witness to others but even for ourselves.

Peace, Fr. Monteleone



#### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

Fr. Monteleone will be leading the Bible Study on the Book of Isaiah during Mondays at 10 AM during Lent in the Youth Room of the Jubilee Wing.

Mark the Dates: February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### **LENT 2024**

# **ASH WEDNESDAY** FEBRUARY 14, 2024

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

7 AM Mass - Fr. Nico
9 AM Mass - Fr. Jared
4 PM Prayer Service - Fr. Monteleone
7 PM Prayer Service - Fr. Nico

Ashes will only be distributed at the listed Masses and Prayer Services.

#### 7 AM MASS DURING LENT

Beginning February 15<sup>th</sup>, 7 AM Mass will be celebrated, Monday through Friday.

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

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays during Lent at 7 PM beginning Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> through Good Friday, on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### **COLUMBIETTES**



## ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Greetings in Christ Jesus

Last week was an extraordinary week for our school. We celebrate the Catholic Schools Week with great joy. Each day we dedicate it to a different topic. "Celebrate our Community", "Celebrate our School", "Celebrate our Vocations", "Celebrate our Students" (Buddy Day) and "Celebrate our Church". It was very fun to see the expression of the joy of the kids when they saw the middle school students singing, dancing, and playing musical instruments for them. The admiration of the kids for their middle school friends was the maximum expression.

Middle school students are a great inspiration for kids. And I have been able to see how the kids receive from their friends very good examples to follow in terms of the cooperative nature and healthy relationships that our school offers.

This week we continue with this sense of cooperation and study as the NEWA exams begin. It is another opportunity to continue showing our Catholic values.

We wish our students the best and that they do their best to obtain excellent results in their exams.

Remember that: "Effort is the key to success"

May God bless you all and much success in the NEWA exams.

# **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**LIFE MINISTRY** 



#### **COLUMBIETTES**

Columbiettes Food Drive on the second Wednesday of every month. Next Collection will be February 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## **SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **ROSARY**

The Rosary Society will be attending the 9 AM Mass on Saturday, February 17, celebrating the Feast Day of St. Alexis Falconieri, one of the first Servants of Mary (Servites). Please join us for recitation of the Rosary at 8:45 as we honor Our Blessed Virgin.

All are welcome!

#### **COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY**

The next meetings of the blanket ministry will be Thursday, February 15 at 9:45 AM in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! We never receive money for the blankets we donate. The members are not only generous with their time and talent but with questions, information, or donations, call Cathie Murtha at (973) 471-1265.

#### **PRIMETIMERS**

Fun for Seniors!

Come and be our guest at our next meeting on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 PM in Marion 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! If you have any questions, please contact Jean R. at (973) 253-1619.

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

#### **WIDOW AND WIDOWERS**

The Next meeting of the Widow and Widowers will be on Monday, February 12 at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Anyone who is experiencing a loss is most welcome.

#### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

#### **Fish Fry Dinner**

Fish Fry Fund Raiser - Our annual Fish Fry is a generalpurpose fund raiser helping us to run the totally free the annual Kids Christmas Party, fund a team at the Tank Pull supporting veterans and combat handicapped, various local sports teams, the free-throw contest, the Keep Christ in Christmas contest and so much more. Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM to 3 PM** for some excellent fish & fries and some fun socialization. Coffee-Tea, soda and water will be available and feel free to BYO. Eat in or take out Fish or chicken (Chicken advanced sales only). Advanced Tickets \$20, Day of Fry (limited, \$20), Order on-line credit card purchases at Home | Knights of Columbus 11671 (square.site)

Contact Mike Cervine (973) 220-3095 or (973) 472-7505 or use QR Code:

# HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION TUITION RAFFLE

1st Place- \$6,800 Tuition 2024/25 for SPPS or any
Catholic Educational Institution\*
2nd Place - \$300 Flynn O'Hara Uniform Co. Gift Card
3rd Place - \$150 St. Philip Prep Spirit Wear Gift Card
Drawing on Friday, March 8, 2024, 10 PM
Tickets are \$50
Contact the School Office for more information.

#### TRICKY TRAY



#### **VACATION BIBLE FUN**

Reserve the date for our Vacation Bible Fun Mark your calendar for the week of July 29<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Scuba- Diving into Friendship with God"



Children who have completed kindergarten and through the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are invited to Register. Information will be

forthcoming.

We also invite children in Grades 6 and 7 to volunteer as Crew Leaders.

This will be a very special week. Look for the Scuba Logo in the months ahead to learn more.

#### KIDS KORNER





It is a tradition to eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Shrove comes from the word "shrive", meaning to confess, or tell God we are sorry for our sins. Pancakes use up food items that were not permitted during Lent in the Middle Ages - milk, eggs, fat, butter and meat. Lent begins tomorrow - Let's eat pancakes today!



The ashes on my forehead say, "I have sinned, I am sorry. Please God, help me change, make me a new person."

#### Homemade Pancakes



SIFT	MIX IN
1 1/4 cup flour	1 beaten egg
3 teaspoons baking powder	1 cup milk
2 tablespoons sugar	2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/2 teaspoon salt	

Cook on greased, hot skillet. Flip when bubbles appear and pop. Makes 8, 4" pancakes — Serving with butter, syrup, fruit or meat is optional.

#### **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, February 12, 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.

#### ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER DANCE



Tickets now available online at <a href="https://stphilip.org/dinner-dance/">https://stphilip.org/dinner-dance/</a>
Or Contact the Parish Office at 973-779-6200

### **DIOCESAN NEWS**

#### DISCERNMENT RETREAT



#### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## 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. This work could not be done without you!

To date we have raised \$220,005 in contributions collected and we are up to \$367,112 with all our pledges.

#### GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



# **Emily Nicole PARISH GIVING**

Sunday Collection: FEBRUARY 5, 2023 \$21,027.00

Sunday Collection: FEBRUARY 4, 2024

**Weekly Collection** \$ 10,584.00 **Online Giving Donation** \$ 6,971.00

**Total** \$ 17,555.00

**Upcoming Second Collections:** February 11 - Project Faith February 18 - Eastern Europe

#### **WE PRAY FOR...**

For the recently Deceased... **Dolores Burns** 

A Time to be Healed...

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



#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

8:00 All the People of the Parish Emanuel Calon Rodriguez - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

10:00 Ruth Ann Anderson Joann Murray Stephen Salerno Filipina Rojas Bacani

12:00 Giuseppe Scelfo Angelina Aconfore

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

7:00 Michelle Monteleone

9:00 Harry Hadinata

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

7:00 Rogelio Dela Cruz

9:00 Emanuel Calon Rodriguez - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

7:00 All the People of the Parish

9:00 John Anderson, Jr Anna Errico

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024

7:00 Corazon Nunag

9:00 Dot Cervine – 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

7:00 Rizaldy Quintos

9:00 Annette C. Russo - 1st Anniversary Andrew Basile

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

9:00 Dorothea Anthony - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

5:30 Malcolm Hall - 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary The Hughes Family Elizabeth Ann Fournier

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024

8:00 Albert Pogorelec, Sr.

Alice Casey John Tomesco

10:00 Mark Medina

Diane Levy

Alice Nancarrow

Ana and Manuel Santana - 25th and 10th Anniversary

12:00 All the People of the Parish

CANDLE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11th In memory of Malcolm Hall - 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

-With love from Georgeanna

OFFERTORY FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11th In memory of Emanual Calon Rodriguez - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

-With love, from Mom



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