

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



Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 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 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,

Jesus is trying to do a difficult thing in today's gospel. He is trying to promote a positive dimension to death. Jesus describes his own death as his moment of glory, as the time when he will draw all people to himself. But it is difficult for us to hear, to take in this positive dimension of death, because when we think of death, our first response is fear. In fact, most of us spend our lives in denial over the inevitability of death. Think about it. When we hear of someone, we know who has passed away, don't we ask, "How old was that person?" Consciously or unconsciously that question is a way of measuring our own fate. If the person is much older than us, we breathe a sigh of relief. There is still time. It is not yet my turn. But if that person is our age or younger, we feel tense. Such a realization breaks through the denial and reminds us that death is a reality. It will come to us as well.

Now Jesus knows the danger of living in denial about death. He knows there can be a positive way to experience death, but only if we begin to prepare for death today. We cannot prepare for something we are trying to avoid. We cannot prepare for something that we are denying is an inevitable part of our future. So how can we prepare for death? Jesus gives us a direction through the image in today's gospel. "Unless the grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain. But if it dies, it produces much fruit." Now how does this image apply to us? The next line explains: If we let go of our lives, we can keep our lives to life eternal. To put this in other words, the only things that we will be able to hold in our hands at the moment of our death are those things that we have given away.

A man in his eighties realizing that death was near developed a strong desire to return to the place where he grew up. It was a primitive cabin in the back woods of Georgia. He had not been to the place in over seventy years, and by now it had long been abandoned. As he approached the cabin, he was impressed by the large row of walnut trees that lined the pathway. He then remembered that shortly before he left this place as a child, he took a bag of walnuts and planted them along the side of this path. Over the years they had grown up and now they were flourishing. He also remembered that as a child he had decided to take a handful of those walnuts from that bag to keep for himself to

eat. He had hidden them in a niche in the attic. He wondered if they were still there, so he searched the now abandoned attic. He found them. They were covered with decades of dust and were completely dried up. It struck the man that these walnuts provided helpful parallel to his own life. The things he had let go of the things that he had planted, would live on and continue to flourish long after he had died. The things that he had tried to keep for himself were dead already.

You and I prepare for a positive death each time that we plant some of our time, some of our energy, some of our wisdom in the lives of other people. Parents should realize this. The time you spend with your children, telling them stories, teaching them simple things, passing on your values, that time and effort will continue to live on long after you're gone. Just last week, as I was tying my shoes, I remembered the hours that my mom spent teaching how to tie my shoes before I went to kindergarten. I was not good at it. For days she kept showing me how to make the loop and tie the knot. The knowledge and wisdom we pass on to our children, to our friends, to our co-workers, will continue to enlighten others for years to come. Now sometimes, I tie my mom's sneakers when she has trouble doing it! The broken relationships that we heal will start a trajectory of love and peace which will be passed on from person to person, from generation to generation. Generosity is never wasted. The things we give away are larger than us and they continue to live and flourish long after we are gone.

Now of course, as Christians we believe that after death we will have eternal joy with Christ in heaven. But that good news does not in itself dispel the fear of dying. What can give us comfort and peace is to realize that we have lived well. At our moment of death, we will not find comfort in the things that we kept for ourselves. Those things will be dying with us. Where we will find comfort and strength is in the time, in the energy, in the wisdom that we passed on to others. For when we can see the life we have planted in our children, in our friends, even in the stranger that we helped along the way, that life will be our glory. In that glory we can close our eyes in peace, praying the prayer of every faithful Christian: "Lord I do not come to you empty handed. I bring with me all the seeds that I have planted, all the things that I gave away."

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone

LENT 2024

7 AM MASS DURING LENT

From Monday through Friday of Lent at 7 AM.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Monday of Lent in the church at 7 PM
and every Saturday at 4:30 PM.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday of Lent at 7 PM.

HOLY WEEK 2024

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 23

4:30 PM Confessions

5:30 PM Mass

Sunday, March 24

8 AM, 10 AM (Broadcast), 12 PM

Holy Monday

March 25

9 AM Mass

Holy Tuesday

March 26

9 AM Mass

Holy Wednesday

March 27

9 AM Mass

Holy Thursday

March 28

7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper (Broadcast)

8:30 PM to 10 PM Eucharistic Adoration in the
Auditorium

Good Friday

March 29

3 PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Broadcast)

7 PM Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday

March 30

1 PM Easter Food Blessing

Please note that there is NO 5:30 PM Mass.

Regular confessions at 4:30 PM will NOT be heard.

*Saturday confessions at 4:30 PM will resume
on April 6.*

8 PM Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday

March 31

8 AM, 10 AM (Broadcast), 12 PM

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

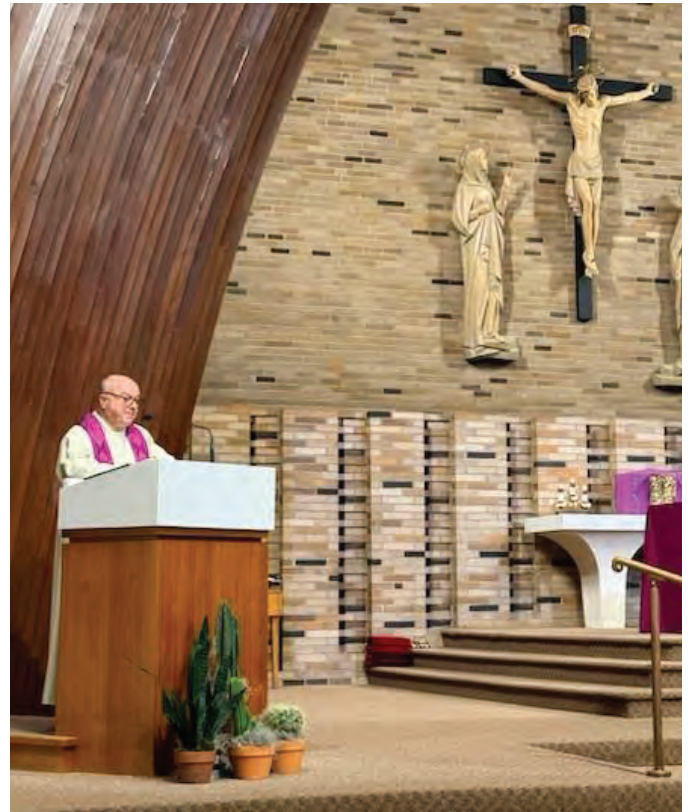
Mondays at 10 AM in the Youth Room
of the Jubilee Wing.

March 18th and 25th

SPECIAL THANKS

We thank Msgr. Bob Meyer for leading us in prayer
and sharing reflections with us during our Parish
Lenten Mission 2024.

Thank you, Monsignor!



SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITY

Whom Shall I Send

a musical drama depicting the call of the disciples and
God's call in our own lives, through drama, music and
dance, presented by the Xavier Company

Friday, March 22nd at 7 PM

Saint Philip the Apostle Church

Please Note: This performance will be presented in
lieu of Friday Stations of the Cross.

MONUMENT DEDICATION

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Knights of Columbus,
Columbiettes, and Junior High Students of the
Preparatory School
Invite You
To Attend the 10 AM Mass
On Sunday, April 7th
And
Immediately following the Mass
Join Fellow Parishioners
In the Peace Garden,
Adjacent to the Front of the Church
For The Blessing of the Memorial Stone
To the 65 million Aborted Babies

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

LIFE MINISTRY

Come to "Building a Culture of Life in NJ" seminar on Saturday, March 23rd from 9:30 AM to 1 PM at Holy Family Church (St. Joseph Center). Hear NJ pro-life leaders cover topics including New Jersey after Roe; Post abortion healing/Mercy House; How to graciously answer pro-abortion rhetoric, legislative updates and more! Refreshments & Networking. Space is limited; pre-registration is required: Event is free. Love offering taken.

Building a Culture of Life in New Jersey

a pro-life seminar



Sat. March 23, 2024
9:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Register at:
lifeneteducation.org/life

Holy Family
Church
St. Joseph Center
28 Brookline Ave.
Nutley, NJ 07110

Come hear pro-life
leaders and get
updated on recent
news related to the
NJ pro-life
movement.

Refreshments &
Networking too!

Space is limited!

Pre-registration is
required.

Event is free.
Love offering taken.



973-497-4520
info@lifeneteducation.org

FOOD COLLECTION

As Easter approaches, please remember our working poor in Paterson who depend on food donations from the Father English Food Pantry. If this is your first time donating, please consider the following items: canned tuna, canned chicken, pasta, sauce, dry cereals, lentils, beans, Mac and Cheese, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, soups, and any other non-perishable food items. All donations must be in bag or a carton and left in the church as you enter from the front door. We are collecting the weekend of March 23/24. Many thanks for all the faithful donors and your most generous donations as they make a huge impact at the Center. If you are interested in volunteering at the pantry, please contact Mary Ann at 973-809-7120.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

BOY SCOUTS

Palm Cross Fundraiser

Boy Scout Troop 21 will be selling palm crosses before and after masses this weekend and next weekend-March 23rd-24th. The palm cross price is \$14 and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo. For pre-orders, please call Phil Jakimowicz at (973)723-6111 or email: troop21clifton@gmail.com.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Annual St. Philip the Apostle Knights of Columbus Good Friday Blood Drive will be held in the GYM on Friday, March 29th from 8 AM to 1 PM. Although walk-ins are welcome, we strongly suggest you make an appointment to avoid potentially long delays. The last appointment will be 12:30 PM. You can make an appointment at https://donorchsblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/56540 or Call Mike Cervine at (973) 472-7505 or use your smart camera with the below QR code.



Congratulations to SPPS Student Adriana Macalintal for winning 1st Place in the Knights of Columbus Annual Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. 2023 was the first year our SPS Students participated in this contest and Adriana won 1st Place in her age/grade category at the Council Level, she also won at the District Level and finally at the State Level. This is a great accomplishment and another star for our SPPS students. Thank you to Knight DJ Chapman for coordinating this program and a special thank you to Principal Gonzalez for all the support she continuously gives to our K of C programs for our SPPS students.



HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

ST. PHILIP PREP HSA
BREAKFAST WITH THE Easter Bunny

Saturday, March 23rd
9 AM- 12 PM
St. Philip Prep Auditorium



Enjoy a Hot and Cold Breakfast Buffet, Professional Photographer, Games, Crafts and a Special Visitor

Tickets: \$20 per person
Each Child's Ticket receives an 5"x7" print
Additional prints and packages available for an additional charge

Contact the Parish office to register.

KIDS KORNER

Cycle B

< KID'S KORNER >
Gospel Today
Fifth Sunday of Lent | John 12:20-33
In His final days, Jesus reminds us to follow Him. Jesus says, "My Father will honor the one who serves Me". John 12: 26

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds". John 12: 23-24

Give us New Life, O Lord.

My plan for Lent, one week at a time...

This week I will pray for _____

This week I will give up/do without _____

This week I will do this act of love/good deed _____
(Sundays optional)

Lent is almost over - next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.

SWEET as HONEY

J.D., what does it mean when Jesus talks about a kernel of wheat?

Honey, wheat is a seed, and when it is dried and planted it springs forth new life, and produces many more seeds.

Jesus is the seed of love. By dying and rising to new life, His love will blossom for everyone who serves Him.

VACATION BIBLE FUN

Mark your calendars:
July 29 - August 2
8:30 AM to Noon



Songs, skits, snacks, games, crafts, logo t-shirt

Registration begins May 25th

We invite Children in Kindergarten through Fifth grade.

Students want 30 Community Service Hours?
Sign up to be Junior Leaders.

Don't miss out on the fun!

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Juliana Rae



Luca Ryan



Brielle Princess

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: MARCH 12, 2023	\$17,288.00
Sunday Collection: MARCH 10, 2024	
Weekly Collection	\$ 10,546.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 7,082.00
Total	\$ 17,628.00
Second Collection-Project Faith	\$ 2,235.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
 March 17 - Campaign for Human Development
 March 24 - Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Mr. Philip J. Tangorra

A Time to be Healed...

Manuel Bacani, Bishop Arthur Serratelli, Joseph Gore,
 Sikora Sisters, Reverend John Klein,
 Philip Kutzenko, Carol Saam, Sr. Pauline Piechocki

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

- 8:00 Denise Cleary
Rey Cabanilla
- 10:00 Deceased members of the Hughes and
McDonald families
John Anderson, Fr
Sam Jarkesy
Pietro and Felicia Mannarino
- 12:00 Giuseppe Esposito
Linda Hilario

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

- 7:00 Mr. Philip J. Tangorra
- 9:00 Anne A. Lipari
Lourdes Lam

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

- 7:00 Christine Kessler - Special Intentions
- 9:00 Frantiska and Josef Krizek

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

- 7:00 Florence Campanella - 80th Birthday
Intentions
- 9:00 Maria Rosario Lattugo

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024

- 7:00 Corazon Nunag
- 9:00 Deanna Rose Ordiales
Eric Angeles, Sr.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024

- 7:00 Rogelio Dela Cruz
- 9:00 Pilar Reyes
Ricardo Reyes, Jr

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

- 9:00 Gary Guarino
- 5:30 Frances Spazian
Nancy Markey
Isabella Paparella

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

- 8:00 All the People of the Parish
- 10:00 Stanley J. Makowski
Mary Giacobbe
Richard Berdnik
Felicia and Pietro Mannarino
- 12:00 Kenneth Amendola
Joseph Cortese

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