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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



## Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

June 29, 2025



### 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.



My Dear Parishioners,

Peter, whom Jesus in today's Gospel passage entrusts with the care of His Church, was very different than Paul. Peter's personality was rough and impatient. He was poor and uneducated. Now if Jesus had thought as worldly people do, He never would have chosen Peter as the first pope. Instead, he would have chosen someone like Paul, refined and educated.

Regardless of their differences, Peter and Paul came to the same end: martyrdom for the Holy Name of Jesus. In the year 67, Saint Peter was crucified upside-down in the circus of Nero, and buried nearby in an out-of-the-way cemetery on a hill called the Vatican. Saint Paul, after being held a prisoner in Rome for many years, was beheaded just outside the walls of the city.



As with their Lord, these two men came to what seemed to be shameful deaths. Unfortunately, unlike their Lord, there was no report of Peter or Paul rising from the dead. They were simply failures. That's surely how they were sized up by many around them, both in the Roman Empire and perhaps even among some members of the Church. What kind of foundation had they laid for the Church?

Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither was the Roman Church, the church that spread from that city throughout the world. Twenty centuries later, the Church certainly is universal, with more than one billion members across the globe. But are we really any holier than those first members of the Church? Are we willing to put our lives or even our names on the line for Christ?












Our spiritual lives are never a "done deal." They are always under construction. The Mass we share in is a continual source of strength for us, as each week we struggle to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Each day is a building block of faith, in which, by our daily sacrifices, we build up others as well as our own spiritual lives.

Peace,  
Fr. Monteleone


### *Two Saints, One Mission*



Every **June 29**, we celebrate the **Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**—two spiritual giants who helped build the early Church . Though very different, both gave their lives for Christ and remind us that God's grace can work through anyone .

Here are **10 fun & fascinating facts** about these amazing saints:

1.  **Peter was a fisherman**—called by Jesus right from his boat to become a “fisher of men” (Mk 1:17).
2.  **Paul was highly educated**—a Pharisee trained in Jewish law, yet became Christianity's greatest missionary!
3.  **“Peter” means “rock”**—Jesus said, “*On this rock I will build my Church*” (Mt 16:18).
4.  **Paul met Jesus in a flash of light** on the road to Damascus—he went from persecutor to preacher!
5.  **Peter denied Jesus three times**, but Jesus lovingly forgave and restored him (Jn 21:15–17).
6.  **Paul wrote 13 letters** in the New Testament—full of wisdom, theology, and encouragement.
7.  **Peter holds keys** in Christian art, symbolizing his authority and the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven .
8.  **Paul is shown with a sword**, symbolizing the Word of God (Eph 6:17) and his martyrdom.
9.  **Both were martyred in Rome**—Peter was crucified upside down; Paul, a Roman citizen, was beheaded.
10.  **They're honored together** to show unity in the Church—different callings, one mission in Christ!

### **Final Thought**

Peter denied Jesus. Paul attacked His followers. God's grace transformed them into pillars of the Church .

**If God could do that with them... what might He be inviting *you* to become?**  



## PLEASE NOTE



Throughout the Summer, beginning July 11th the Parish Office Schedule is as follows:

**Mondays thru Thursdays  
8 AM to 4:30 PM**

**Fridays 8 AM to 12 Noon**

**Regular office hours will resume after  
Labor Day.**

~

In observance of Independence Day,  
Mass will be celebrated at 9 AM on  
Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Church will be closed immediately following  
Mass.

The Parish Office will be closed.



## ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

If you haven't already registered your child for the 2025-2026 school year, please contact the main office or visit the school website, <https://stphilipprep.com>. We welcome new families with school age children to consider joining our St Philip Prep community, home of the Archangels where students soar to new heights.

Have a safe and wonderful summer vacation.

The School Office will be closed Monday, June 30h through Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>.

The School Office will reopen on Monday, July 14, 2025.

We look forward to seeing you all in September.

## THANK YOU!

Our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped make the 46<sup>th</sup> Saint Philip Carnival a success.

Most especially Anton Meindl, Don DeLuca, Jim Marrocco, Chef Todd Daigneault, Maureen and Tommy Koehler, DJ Chapman, Joe Chidiac, Mark Lotito, Mike Miller and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the event a success.

The Carnival Committee wishes to thank all workers and parishioners who helped at the Carnival.

Especially the Lorenzo and Cuellar Families for their donations of food and drinks.

We are especially grateful for the support of our Sponsors.

## VACATION BIBLE FUN

Reserve the date for our Vacation Bible Fun

Mark your calendar July 28- August 1  
8:45 AM – 12 Noon

This year's theme is

**“True North- Trusting Jesus in a Wild World”**



Songs, skits, snacks, games, crafts, logo t-shirt, free music CD.

Registration began May 1 in the Parish Office and ends July 11.

We invite children in Kindergarten through fifth grade.  
Only \$20.



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

### LIFE MINISTRY

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### CONSOLATION MINISTRY

Are you able to comfort during times of loss, able to support during funeral liturgies? Perhaps consider joining our consolation ministry.

Contact the Parish office.

## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### PRIMETIMERS

#### Atlantic City Trip

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Tuesday, July 22. Bus leaves from St. Philip Drive at 9:30 AM. Price is \$50.

For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.



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## DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

### LOCAL PILGRIMAGES

## Local pilgrimages THIS SUMMER

Ready to gain more **plenary indulgences** for yourself and deceased loved ones?  
Ready to walk, pray, and share fellowship with **Bishop Sweeney** and other faithful?

St. Luke, Long Valley	St. James, Montague	St. Bernard, Wharton
<b>June 29, 2025</b> Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul • 5 p.m. Pilgrimage • 6 p.m. Mass • Light dinner	<b>July 25, 2025</b> Feast of St. James • 9 a.m. Pilgrimage • 10 a.m. Mass • Refreshments	<b>August 17, 2025</b> Feast of St. Bernard • 9:30 a.m. Pilgrimage • 10:30 a.m. Mass • BBQ lunch

Each Pilgrimage Walk is about 1 - 1.5 miles.  
Bring a friend (or many) and your Rosary!

**REGISTER HERE**

<https://insidethewalls.org/jubilee-pilgrimages>



<https://catholicinrecovery.com>

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## CATHOLIC IN RECOVERY MEETINGS, Northern NJ

CIR (Catholics in recovery) is a growing community of Catholics that seek healing from unhealthy attachments to destructive behaviors, compulsions, addictions, and the effects of dysfunctional families.

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Offers many Zoom meetings

CALL or TEXT with any questions:  
Lisa S 908 801-7146

## PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: JUNE 16, 2024 \$ 16,969.00

Sunday Collection: JUNE 22, 2025

Weekly Collection \$ 8,936.00

Online Giving Donation \$ 5,507.00

TOTAL \$14, 443.00

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

EASTER COLLECTION 2024 \$ 49,221.00

EASTER COLLECTION 2025 (YTD) \$ 55,039.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

July 6- Beacon

July 13- Project Faith



## WE PRAY FOR...

### Recently Deceased...

Lelita Gala



### A Time to be Healed...

Marge and Barbara Sikora, Robert Rup, Fran Kobernick, Rosanna Hampton, Philip Kutzenco, Angelo Torres, Paula Mutter, Nina Sova, Nicholas Magrogan, Antonio Bussanich, Doreen Germain

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2025

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Georgeanna Hall Denisa Marone Fr. Robert Holtz Ruth Miller
12:00	Emilia H. Rodriguez Gene Toma

### MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2025

9:00 AM	Joseph Torres- 17 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
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### TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025

9:00 AM	Gerardina Spatola Melvin Banas- 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary
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### WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025

9:00 AM	Antonio Volonnino
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### THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2025

9:00 AM	Lelita Gala
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### FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025

9:00 AM	Ralph Pennella- 26 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tony Voloninno
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### SATURDAY, JULY 5, 2025

9:00 AM	For all the sick and those who care for them
5:30 PM	Garry DeVos Jimmy and Sonia Bozios Michael Thomas Zavala - Special Intention

### SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025

8:00	Sarah Lombardo Rosemarie Kochman
10:00	Francesco Pugliano Yeimy Rendon Rodriguez - 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary Margaret Chambers- 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary Jonas Flores
12:00	All the People of the Parish





# St. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

A U.S. Department of Education  
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June 2025

Dear Families and Community Members,

I'm excited to share some highlights from an incredible year at St. Philip Preparatory School—a year filled with growth, achievement, and community spirit.

## **Congratulations to our Graduates!**

Our 8th graders have earned an impressive \$400,000 in scholarships! This reflects their hard work, resilience, and the unwavering support of our staff and families.

## **New Playground & Facilities**

We've installed outdoor basketball hoops and completed a beautiful new playground with swings and a dedicated gardening space for our Early Childhood students. These additions promote healthy play and social-emotional learning. We are deeply grateful to the donors, volunteers, and staff who made these projects possible.

## **Community Connections**

Students enjoyed friendly basketball games with members of the Clifton Police and Fire Departments, strengthening bonds and building trust with local heroes. We look forward to welcoming them back for more visits in the future!

## **School Video Tour**

Check out our new video tour, showcasing our vibrant classrooms and faith-based learning. View it on our website or social media! This video offers windows into what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

## **Catholic Schools Week**

Students represented SPPS at local parishes on the “kick-off” Sunday. Throughout the week students celebrated with guest speakers, buddy activities, career dress-up day, and a spirited 8th grade Pep Rally.

## **Meet Our New Mascot**

Welcome The Archangels! With a new name, new banners, and new sports like volleyball and track in development, school spirit is soaring. Get ready to cheer louder than ever!

## **Bravo, Little Mermaid Cast & Crew**

Our spring musical was a magical success thanks to our talented students and dedicated team—congratulations!

## **Music & Arts Expansion**

Our music program has grown to 61 students, and we're proud of their performances and confidence. All of our students in grades Kindergarten through 8th learned about famous artists and emulated their work, which adorned our hallways throughout the year.

## **Science & STEM**

Middle schoolers also took on STEM challenges like the annual Genius Hour (Grades 7 & 8) and an Egg Drop was introduced to Grade 6. The Egg Drop even caught the attention of CBS News!

## **Coming Soon: Robotics & Drones**

We're excited to introduce a robotics and drone program for Middle School Fine Arts next year.

## **School Board Re-established**

Our school board has returned to provide long-term vision, transparency, and guidance—helping us grow even stronger as a community.

## **Wishing You a Wonderful Summer**

As we wrap up another successful school year, we wish all our students and families a safe, restful, and joyful summer. We hope you enjoy time with loved ones, explore new interests, and recharge for the year ahead.

With gratitude for your ongoing support,  
Warm regards,  
Ms. Danielle Gonzalez, Principal

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