

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. David Monteleone
Pastor
frmonteleone@stphilip.org

Rev. Emerson Francisco
Parochial Vicar
efrancisco@stphilip.org

Rev. Frank Lennie
In-Residence

Dcn. Nicholas Veliky
Deacon
nveliky@stphilip.org

Dcn. Robert G. Ayers
Deacon
deaconbob@stphilip.org

Mrs. Barbara Zito
Principal
PrincipalZito
@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

Mrs. Patricia Pinke
Business Office, LYPC
ppinke@stphilip.org

Mrs. Debbie Neglia
School Secretary, LYPC
Debbie.neglia
@stphilipprep.com

Ms. Linda Siluk
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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

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The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14, 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 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

My Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The following is part of a Good Friday homily. I think it is a fitting reflection of this great feast. The cross is our only hope.

Behold the wood of the cross—and behold something more than an instrument of death.

Behold the wood of the cross—and behold how two simple pieces of wood converge. See how those lines intersect. Not just a cross, it almost resembles a destination on a map, a crossroads, a place where points converge.

And in that astonishing convergence, the cross gives us Christ.

The horizontal beam is the earthly life of man of flesh and blood who lived with us, walked with us, struggled with us, ate with us, thirsted with us, suffered with us, wept with us. It spans the length and breadth of the world he knew.

The second beam, the vertical piece of wood, is directed from the earth to the heavens. It is grounded, literally, in the earth, the rock of Calvary. Yet it points up, to the divine—reminding us of the Son of God who forgave sinners, who offered sight to the blind and freedom to the captives and life to those who were dead. The one who was there at the beginning of time and is here with us even now.

I submit to you: in the cross, those two beams of wood, we see in a powerful and tangible way the intersection of the human with the divine. The cross represents all Christ was, all he is, all he will always be.

Here is, quite literally, a crossing point of history.

Here is the Incarnation made manifest. Here is Emmanuel, God with us.

And of course, at the meeting point of the human and divine, where those two pieces of wood connect, in the middle see the bloodied, bruised body of Christ.

Here is our salvation—our brother and our God.

Behold the wood of the cross, on which hung the salvation of the world.

His seven last words stand as his final lesson.

They offer us one final sermon on the mount—not on a hillside, but on an elevation carved from a tree, imparting to a frightened and uncertain world a

lasting message of forgiveness and mercy—and, incredibly, hope.

“I have been with you,” he says. “And you can be with me in Paradise.” There is something more to come.

At the end, Christ cries out that it is finished.

But *what* is finished?

A long chapter in human history...is finished.

Our old way of living...is finished.

Humanity's wait for a savior...is finished.

Christ's earthly life is finished.

But we rejoice in this overwhelming truth:

For all that has finished...the story isn't over.

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone

FAITH FORMATION

Missing Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation?

Want to be a fully initiated Catholic?

We know life gets busy and takes us away from what we intend.

Allow us to help and walk with you on the journey of life in faith!



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF

ADULTS at Saint Philip will meet beginning September 2025. Let us know if you'll join us: Call the Parish office or email lvalenti@stphilip.org

Family Faith Formation Volunteers

Is the Holy Spirit stirring your heart to serve? We are currently seeking Catechists and Classroom Helpers for the 2025–2026 catechetical year. If you feel called to share the faith and help form the hearts of the next generation, we invite you to consider this joyful ministry. Whether you're discerning for the first time or returning to serve, we are here to support you every step of the way. Please contact us at reled@stphilip.org.

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The faculty, staff, and students of SPPS have had a successful first week of school. We are all excited to have Mrs. Zito back navigating our ship through the upcoming school year.

The students are committed to working hard and accomplishing many goals. Our 8th grade is getting to know their kindergarten buddies, who they will accompany to our school First Friday masses and many special activities throughout the year. The autumn air is crisp with anticipation as we thank God for our health, families, and our dedicated school community.

~

Saint Philip Preparatory School is currently accepting resumes from qualified teachers for various grade level positions. In addition, we are in need of people to help with our After Care school program, (Monday – Friday 3PM-6PM.) Anyone interested in either position kindly send your resume or call the school office, 973-779-4700. Thank you for your support.

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

St. Philip the Apostle Parish
Clifton, NJ

APOLOGETICS
Class **WITH FR. EMERSON**

5 SEASONS

LEARN HOW TO DEFEND THE CATHOLIC FAITH

SEASON 1 SCHEDULE:
(WEDNESDAYS)
SEPT. 3 | SEPT. 10 | SEPT. 17
OCT. 8 | OCT. 15
6:00PM IN THE MARIAN HALL

B.Y.O.B. BRING YOUR OWN BIBLE

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO REGISTER

We are still accepting anyone who wants to join the Apologetics Class!

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

LIFE MINISTRY

Rachel's VINEYARD
Healing the pain of abortion - one weekend at a time

RETREAT DATES 2025
MARCH 28-30, 2025*
SEPT. 19-21, 2025*
*ENGLISH & SPANISH

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973-497-4350 (SPANISH OPTION 2)
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Office of the Archdiocese of Newark

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

“Coats for Kids” Drive

We will again be collecting contributions for our annual Coats-for-Kids Drive beginning Sunday Aug. 10 thru Saturday Oct. 25. Last year, through the generosity of everyone we were able to give out over 200 warm winter coats to our less fortunate neighbors right here in Clifton. We'd love to surpass that this year as the need is still great. Coats cost us approximately \$275 per box of 12 but all contributions, great or small, help out tremendously. Please make checks out to K of C Council 11671, note in the memo area Coats 4 Kids and mail them to the address below or drop the envelope into the collection basket.

St. Philips Knights of Columbus “Coats-4-Kids”
797 Valley Rd., Clifton, N.J. 07013



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Widow and Widowers Group will meet on Monday, September 15th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Join us for prayers, socialization, and meeting new friends.

All are welcome!

PRIMETIMERS

Oktoberfest

There's still a little time and a few seats available for the Prime Timers bus trip to The Shore Club Oktoberfest event on Tuesday October 7th. The cost is \$125 per person. If interested call Mike Cervine at (973) 472-7505.

ROSARY SOCIETY

All are welcome to join us on September 15 to commemorate our Lady of Sorrows. Mass begins at 6:30 in Marion Hall, followed by the Rosary, our ice cream social and camaraderie!

St. Philip Rosary Society Annual Communion Brunch



Mary: A Woman of Hope:
a Woman of our Times

Speaker: Sr. Theresa Lee, FMA

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Rosary at 9:30 a.m.

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Brunch following in Marian Hall

Tickets: \$25

COLUMBIETTES

BLANKET MINISTRY

The first meeting of the blanket ministry will be September 17, 2025 at 10am in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! Thank you to Lynne for a very generous donation. If you would like to learn to crochet, come and join us. For questions or donations, please call Cathie At 973-471-1265.



COLUMBIETTES

COLUMBIETTES FUNDRAISER

Outback Steakhouse
191 Berdan Avenue
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\$20.00 per ticket
Valid only on:

Monday, September 29th, to Thursday, October 2nd, 2025

Each ticket includes 1 appetizer per 2 tickets, choice of entrée, salad, choice of side and dessert.

This does not include gratuity.

The back of the flyer/ticket lists the menu options. This flyer/ticket is good for lunch, dinner or take-out. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call Pat at 973-975-7744 or

email pattyscarp@aol.com.

Tickets will be sold after all Masses on September 13/14 and September 20/21.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

GOLF OUTING

St. Philips the Apostle

Knights of Columbus Council 11671

Presents our 16th Annual Bob Martin Memorial
Golf Outing

Preakness Valley Golf Course

October 27, 2025

10 AM Registration & Breakfast. 12:00 PM

Shotgun Start

Tickets \$200.00 per person includes,
Golf

Breakfast In The Morning

Proceeding Golf full Cocktail Hour with Prizes

For more information or to buy tickets, please
contact:

John Szerencsits 973-650-6938

Rob Martin 201-390-3325

Dennis Fitzpatrick 973-271-9577

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Register Online At kofc11671.org/golf



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EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Exaltation: to raise high - to elevate by praise, glorify

In the name
of the Father,

Color the cross and put
it somewhere special.

and of the Holy

Spirit. Amen

We pray
before it

We hope in it

We bless ourselves
in the sign

It is a symbol of love

We are signed in it

What does the
cross mean to you?

We focus on it

We believe in it

We honor it

It gives us strength

It is an
important
part of
our faith

and of the Son,

DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

GOLD and SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



Couples, were you married in 2000, 1975 or 1965? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 60+, 50th or 25th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held:

Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 3:00pm.

Arrangements can be made by contacting your parish office. **The deadline to register is Friday, October 17, 2025.** You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed.

Congratulations on this joyous occasion!

CAR RAFFLE

RAFFLE!



2025 MERCEDES-BENZ

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Drawing on **December 31st, 2025 at 12:00PM**
Winner does not need to be present at drawing

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Contact the Parish office for tickets.

OPEN HOUSE



Immaculate Heart Academy (IHA), Township of Washington, NJ, is hosting its Fall Open Houses on Sunday, October 19, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Thursday, October 23, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Take a tour with knowledgeable and friendly student Eagle Ambassadors, who will guide you through the state-of-the-art building and campus.

Meet teachers, administrators, directors, students, and coaches. Learn about the admissions process, curriculum, financial aid, transportation ... and much more! If you are a young woman searching for a school known for its academic excellence, athletic competition, and creative expression grounded in traditional Catholic values, IHA is the place for you! IHA is located at 500 Van Emburgh Ave., Township of Washington, NJ 07676. Register online at ihanj.com; walk-ins also welcome.

WEDDING BANNS

The following couple will be exchanging wedding
vows:

John Hughes and Danielle Gonzalez



PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: SEPT. 8, 2024	\$20,668.00
Sunday Collection: AUGUST 31, 2025	
Weekly Collection	\$ 10,008.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 7,854.00
TOTAL	\$ 17,862.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
September 28- Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

Recently Deceased...

Joseph A. Giammarella

A Time to be Healed...

Marge Sikora, Robert Rup, Fran Kobernick, Rosanna Hampton, Philip Kutzenko, Angelo Torres, Nina Sova, Nicholas Magrogan, Antonio Bussanich, Rosemarie Carlee, James Jablonowski, Terry Kolenc, Wilson Torres, Jill Festa, Arlene Pompeo, Tom Wilkinson



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

8:00	Vincent J. LoProto, Sr Carlos Ricardo Reyes- 6 th Anniversary
10:00	Ruthann Anderson- 2 nd Anniversary Lina Salvemini Rita Hogan Katuska M. Zapata & Ivan Santiago Gutierrez
12:00	Irene Chmura Joseph and Joey Cortez

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

9:00 AM	Ailen Abrena
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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

9:00 AM	Daniel Mutter
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

9:00 AM	Mary and Francis Kolodziez
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

9:00 AM	Thelmo Misajon
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

9:00 AM	Evelyn Helen Carlstrom
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

9:00 AM	For a Blessed Marriage for John and Danielle Hughes
5:30 PM	Domenic and Ella DeBenedetto Deacon Edward Najjar- 30 th Anniversary Dorothy Esoldi

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Frank and Michael Sabella Generosa Spatola Ronaldo and Rena Trinidad - 40 th Wedding Anniversary Giuseppe Carduccio
12:00	Al Mayewski Esperanza Jacot

CANDLE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

In Memory of Dorothy Esoldi
-From the Kolacia Family



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