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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



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Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026



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,

Weeds and wheat are everywhere (especially in my dad's tomato garden!). Jesus' first parable in Sunday's Gospel Reading can help you sort through the weeds and wheat. Like the grain of wheat, this parable can bear much fruit.

Saint Augustine of Hippo wrote one of his three greatest works—On the City of God—on this parable's theme. St. Augustine shows how complex and messy the world can be as weeds and wheat grow together in the same field.

St. Augustine's masterpiece is actually a contrast between "the city of God" and "the city of man". This contrast is similar to the parable's consideration of the wheat and the weeds. But it's not that Heaven is the City of God while earth is the City of Man: that would be a contrast that condemns this world in which we live. Nor is the Church the City of God while the state is the City of Man: that would be a contrast that presents the Church as flawless.

In the 21st century, the Church lives in a precarious setting. Not only are foundational moral truths being attacked by Western society, the Church herself is at pains to preach the fullness of Christ's moral teaching. This difficulty stems in part from her credibility being diminished by the scandalous actions of some of her leaders. Mindful of this two-fold attack—from without and from within—we can consider Jesus' parable.

We have to start with a question like the one raised by St. Augustine's masterpiece. Who exactly are the weeds and who are the wheat? At the end of the long form of Sunday's Gospel Reading, Jesus explains the parable: "the good seed" are "the children of the kingdom", while the "weeds are the children of the evil one". But how are we to practically apply this explanation to our own day?

Perhaps another saying from our Lord could help us. "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye" [Luke 6:42]. In other words, in seeking to apply the parable of the weeds and the wheat to our experiences today, each of us ought first to apply the parable to his or her own soul. After we start with the real weeds in our own souls, we can move on to consider the weeds elsewhere: in one's family, parish, country, world, and even the Church.

Short of the Blessed Virgin Mary, there is no disciple without weeds in his soul. In your case as in mine, then, the parable first of all describes the tension within the individual Christian's spiritual life. You are a "child of the kingdom" by the grace of God, beginning on the day of your baptism. Yet you are also a "child of the evil one" by your sins: actions, thoughts, and words, done and left undone.

Between the day of your baptism and the day of your death, you are free to cultivate your spiritual life. We are free to break up the hard soil of our soul through acts of penance and humility. We are free to soak the soil with tears of repentance and the Blood of Christ.

Yet we must also be patient, like the parable's householder, who is God our Father. For we are free also to sin in this life, allowing weeds to proliferate in our soul. God, in His paternal love, does not force anyone to reform his or her life.

Jesus' first parable in Sunday's Gospel passage lets us focus upon three of the times that God, in His providential and merciful love, judges the human person. The first is when we present ourselves for judgment in Confession, the second is at the hour of our death, and the third is at the Last Judgment.

In His loving judgment, God—if you will—sifts the dead similar to the parable's description of sifting. This parable highlights the importance of human free will, and its consequences. In the end, however, even more important is God's free will, by which He offers forgiveness, redemption, and sanctification.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

WITH THANKS

Fr. Monteleone would like to thank everyone for all their thoughts, prayers, cards and well wishes. Everything is greatly appreciated. He is on the road to recovery.

PLEASE NOTE

Throughout the Summer, 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.



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

We hope our students are enjoying their summer, exploring the world and making memories with their families and friends.

Summer work is available on the school website...

Can't wait to see everyone September 8th for the first day of school.



WE ARE HIRING!

Saint Philip Preparatory School is currently accepting resumes from qualified teachers for various grade level positions. Pre- K, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, and Middle School ELA teacher.

Thank you for your support.

For teaching positions, please apply at <https://www.applitrack.com/patersondiocese/onlineapp/>

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.

Send resume to debbie.neglia@stphilipprep.com

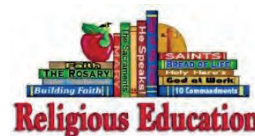
Registration is ongoing through the website www.stphilipprep.com.

Summer hours for the month of July are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 7 am - 2 pm.

If you need assistance with your registration, call Mrs. Neglia at 973-779-4700 ext 2.

FAITH FORMATION

Registration for our Religious Education and Confirmation Programs is now open! If you have a child



in grades 1 through 10, we invite your family to join our program. For details, please visit our Parish website at www.stphilip.org
If you have any questions, please email us at: reled@stphilip.org

Family Faith Formation Grades 1-8

Our parish is committed to forming disciples and supporting families in living out the Catholic faith together. Through our Family Faith Formation program, students in Grades 1–8 grow in faith alongside their parents.

At least one parent is required to remain on-site during Family Formation sessions and participate in classes with their children, creating a shared faith experience that strengthens the entire family. We encourage children to begin Faith Formation in Grade 1.

Preparation for First Holy Communion is a two-year process: Grade 1 builds the foundation of faith, and Grade 2 focuses on the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Please remember that each child must complete the registration in the Religious Education Program or Confirmation Program in order to be admitted into their first class session.

Please register by August 15th.

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 2026.

Let us know if you'll join us:
Call the Parish office or email
lvalenti@stphilip.org



DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

Accompany Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney (Diocese of Paterson, NJ) along with Fr. David Wells (St. Martin of Tours, MD), his brother, Kevin Wells (author of "Priest and Beggar"), and Fr. Ian Wintering (Seaton Catholic Prep., Chandler, AZ) on a 4 day pilgrimage to Mexico City.

This life-changing pilgrimage will take place from Friday, September 18- Monday, September 21, 2026. Experience the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe- the most visited Marian shrine in the world. See the miraculous tilma of St. Juan Diego (an image created by God) and attend a pilgrim Holy Mass with the Bishop at the Basilica. Go to Tepeyac Hill where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego and see so much more. Next, travel to the Sisters of Mary at the World Villages for Children (WVC) Girlstown in Chalco, Mexico, to witness how the Sisters are transforming the lives of impoverished children in the most desperate circumstances through education, faith formation and vocational training.

Act Fast! Limited Space Is Available.

Register online by August 18, 2026 at:

<https://worldvillages.org/events/sweeney-wells>

For tour inquiries email:

pilgrimages@worldvilages.org

or Call: 1-800-662-6316



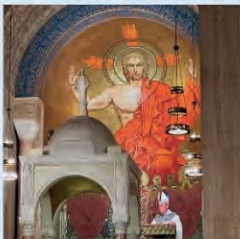
MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

OCTOBER 17, 2026

THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY INCLUDES:

- Tours of the chapels
- Confessions in Crypt Church
- Catechetical Sessions in English and Spanish
- Divine Mercy (multi-lingual)
- 2:30 p.m. Liturgy w/Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney and priests of the Diocese



ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE

- Transportation and Gratuity
- All day activities at the Shrine
- Rest stop going - Meal stop on return
- Depart Washington at 4:15 p.m.
- \$70/person Deadline: Oct. 1, 2026

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE OFFICE

Father Michael Rodak, director
973-827-8030
pilgrimage@patersondiocese.org

OVERNIGHT OPTION - DEPART FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

- Friday visit the Museum of the Bible with lunch
- Accommodations at Westin Hotel
- Friday banquet w/Bishop Sweeney
- Saturday Breakfast at hotel
- Transportation and Gratuity

\$325/dbl. occ. \$395/sgl. occ.
Call Pilgrimage Office to register.
Deadline: Sept. 11, 2026

Register Now



DIOCESAN NEWS

If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's office and the Diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Ken McNiel at (973) 879-1489.

You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response officers: Monsignor T. Mark Condon, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, (973) 777-8818 Ext. 205 or Sister Theresa Lee, FMA, Chancellor/ Delegate for Religious, (973) 777-8818 Ext. 247. At St. Philip's our local coordinator is Pat Pinke, at (973) 779-6200 ext 1.

The entire text of the Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse is available on the diocesan website:

www.patersondiocese.org

10 SIGNS OF A SAFE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

1. **Screening** of staff / volunteers.
2. Adults trained in safe environment strategies and signs of abuse.
3. **Code of conduct** enforced.
4. Open **Communication** between parents and staff / staff and children / children and parents.
5. Parents always **Welcome**.
6. Children educated in right relationships & what to do if a relationship isn't right.
7. All children treated with **Dignity and Respect**.
8. Clear Rules and Expectations. consistent reinforcement / consequences
9. Adequate supervision of youth. team approach—accountability—no 1:1 isolation
10. All **abuse** is reported.



Diocese of Paterson
(973) 777-8818

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

On the weekend of July 25th and 26th, we will be collecting food after each Mass for the food pantry. As you may know, many food pantries are closing in Clifton, and unfortunately, the need is still high for those who need to supplement their food supply. Please know every item you bring is greatly appreciated. Suggested items include all non perishables such as: canned tuna and chicken, soups, pastas, sauces, beans, lentils, Mac and Cheese, peanut butter and jelly, cereals, condiments, and canned veggies. Try to find sale items and stock up!

Remember, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Winston Churchill

WEDDING BANNS

The following couple will be exchanging wedding vows:

**Gregory Bonitatibus and
Catherine Chidiac**



CARNIVAL RESULTS

2026 Carnival results compared to 2025

	2025		
	INCOME	EXPENSES	PROFIT
CARNIVAL RESULTS	\$80,784	\$50,953	\$29,831
SUPER 50/50 RESULTS	\$10,490	\$6,176	\$4,314
GRAND TOTAL	\$91,274	\$57,129	\$34,145
	2026		
	INCOME	EXPENSES	PROFIT
CARNIVAL RESULTS	\$85,855	\$53,065	\$32,790
SUPER 50/50 RESULTS	\$15,870	\$9,686	\$6,184
GRAND TOTAL	\$101,725	\$62,751	\$38,974

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: July 13, 2025	\$ 17,216.00
Sunday Collection: July 12, 2026	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 8,882.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 7,246.00
TOTAL	\$ 16,066.00
SECOND COLL.- PROJECT FAITH	\$ 2,429.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
July 26- PROJECT FAITH

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Miguel Lopez



A Time to be Healed...

Terry Kolenc, Wilson Torres, Arlene Pompeo, Tom Wilkinson, Lee Welch, Maya Hilario, Margaret Sikora, Maria Torres, David A. Ricca, Daisy Troope, Christopher Ivan George, Jack Insinga, Colin Jones, Daniel DiRocco, Kate Doyle, Isabel Pereiras, James Jablonowski

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Emanuel Rodriguez Margaret Potoczak Josephine Pagano Raymond Parysz
12:00	John Holy and Anna Karak Ursula Steves

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026

9:00 AM	Ruthann Anderson Carlos Basurco
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TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

9:00 AM	Evelyn Kovacs
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

9:00 AM	Kevin Duff
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THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2026

9:00 AM	Antonino Campanella
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FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2026

9:00 AM	Giovanna Pizzi- 6 th Anniversary Peter Sienicki
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SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026

9:00 AM	Maria Francisco
5:30 PM	Jack McSweeney Jose Luis Santana Eileen Tuske

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

8:00	Rose Mary Emolo Ralph Scognamillo
10:00	Lloyd Christopher Castillo Thomas DiSanto Norma Rosales Harry Hadinata
12:00	All the People of the Parish

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today | 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 13:24-43

Jesus tells us the Good Word grows within us, as the yeast grows within the dough – quietly and unseen, with great results!

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JESUS' PARABLES SHOW Small beginnings become marvelous expansions

Draw a line from Column A to Column B to match the "Seeds of Faith" to the "Expanded Kingdom."

Column A

The
Good
Word



Mustard
Seeds



Yeast
Cells



Column B

Risen
Breads



Mustard
Tree



Many
Believers



Parent / Child Activity

Watch a seed sprout - Take a clear cup and line it with a wet paper towel. Put a dried, uncooked seed between the paper and cup. Keep wet and in the sun. **Watch what happens!** (try watermelon seeds dried for one week)

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