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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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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 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,

Ten centuries before Christ, the son of David became the King of Israel. Solomon was a young man. He recognized his lack of experience and lack of ability to govern Israel. Yet the Lord told Solomon that any gift he asked for would be given to him.

Solomon could have asked for absolute wealth, since with such wealth he could buy off any kingdom that got in his way. Or he could have asked for absolute power, since then he could destroy any opposing kingdom. He could have asked for any number of things. He decided to ask for wisdom.

Wisdom is insight into the ultimate meaning of things. This becomes clearer when we reflect upon the differences among wisdom, intelligence, and what we might call “smarts”. Even computers can be smart in terms of recalling facts and calculating equations. But intelligence transcends smartness, while a computer cannot transcend its programming. Intelligence goes beyond what is known by means of a desire to explore the unknown.

Wisdom, however, transcends intelligence because it ponders the ultimate meaning of things. Wisdom explores the origin, the nature, and the goal of everything that is, culminating in the contemplation of the Most Holy Trinity. Divine wisdom is a gift of God the Holy Spirit.

It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that St. Paul's words in today's Second Reading ring true: “all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose.” We need to recognize this purpose as God the Father's providential will. This divine, providential will converges in Christ. St. Paul explains this as he continues: “those He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He might be the firstborn”.

However, before the advent of this firstborn, the Jewish Scriptures already held seven books called “Wisdom Literature”: the Books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom, Song of Songs, and Sirach. The wisdom expressed in these books of the People of Israel was unlike the wisdom taught by many ancient cultures. It's also unlike the conventional wisdom according to which Western culture operates today.

The wisdom that God revealed to Israel isn't based upon self-interest or self-promotion. It is founded upon nothing and no one other than the Lord God Himself. If God is part of our lives, then even if our life seems a puzzle, we have reason to hope. It doesn't matter if we don't understand every piece of

the puzzle. God teaches us, over time, to move one piece of the puzzle over here, and another piece there. Over time the picture God has had in His Mind all along emerges.

This might make divine wisdom sound rather lofty, other-worldly, and as a consequence, impractical: good for monks and nuns, but not so for the layperson on the street. But wisdom is not some “pie in the sky” virtue. It's eminently practical, especially in our world today.

When individuals live for themselves, discord grows: first in families and then in communities and nations. This is why St. Thomas Aquinas in his Summary of Theology ascribes the seventh beatitude— “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God”—to the Holy Spirit's gift of Wisdom [ST II-II 45,6]. In our world today the teaching of St. Thomas on this point is sorely needed.

He notes first that a peacemaker is one who makes peace either within himself or in others. In either case peace results from setting all matters in due order. The highest form of order can only be seen, however, and therefore set in place, in view of divine wisdom.

Second, the reward of peacemakers is that they become children of God. St. Thomas here quotes from this Sunday's Second Reading. In making peace, one shares in the likeness of God's only begotten Son: or in the words of Saint Paul, one is “conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.” This divine Son is “Wisdom Begotten”, St. Thomas points out. On the Cross, Jesus makes peace between His Father and sinful man. Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of this “Wisdom Begotten”.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

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

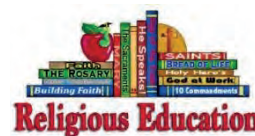
Registration is ongoing through the website www.stphilipprep.com.

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



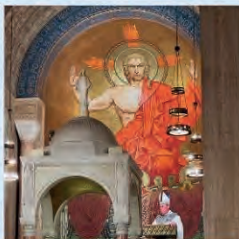
MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

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

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

Register Now



WEDDING BANNs

The following couples will be
exchanging wedding vows:

**Gregory Bonitatibus &
Catherine Chidiac**

~
**Daniel Niell &
Paulina Walicka**



GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Harper Quinn

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY WED



Kevin and Karen

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: July 20, 2025	\$ 15,869.00
Sunday Collection: July 19, 2026	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 9,940.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 7,314.00
TOTAL	\$ 17,254.00
SECOND COLL.	\$ 1,952.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
August 9- PROJECT FAITH

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Robert A. Forte



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 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

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026

9:00 AM	Karmela Stohr Belinda Benito
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TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

9:00 AM	Louise Stolarz
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026

9:00 AM	Peter Paul Sienicki, Jr
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THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026

9:00 AM	Jean Alix Jolly
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FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

9:00 AM	John Anderson Adelaido Cuasay
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

9:00 AM	Jamemark Verzosa- 1 st Anniversary
5:30 PM	All the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026

8:00	Peter Paul Sienicki
10:00	Richard Lindemann, Jr Sal Mauriello Kevin Duff Carmine Sierchhio- 20 th Anniversary
12:00	Jean Tarnowski- 11 st Anniversary Rose Fanelli

< KID'S > KORNER

Year A

Gospel Today

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 13:44-52

The parables tell us God's Kingdom is the greatest treasure and the greatest treasure is **Love**! In finding Jesus we find that treasure.

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There are in the end three things that last: Faith, Hope and Love, and the greatest of these is Love. St. Paul, 1 Corinthians 13:13

We help build the Kingdom of God by being disciples of Jesus.
In this way, we find the greatest treasure - **LOVE**! Write the words from the Word Bank on the heart as a reminder: when we treat others this way, we help build the Kingdom.

Fill in the blank below...



WORD BANK

Be generous
Forgive others
Be kind
Help others
Be loving
Be honest
Share
Be trustworthy



THE KINGDOM OF GOD

THE GREATEST
TREASURE IS

**GOD'S
FOR US
PRICELESS**

**LOVE
IS A
TREASURE**



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