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Mr. James Marrocco
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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

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



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Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 9, 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,

Today the Church begins placing a new theme in front of us, a theme for us to pay attention to for the next several weeks. Remember where we've been. Jesus has arrived on the scene. He has gone around teaching and healing, sent out the disciples, announced that the Kingdom is found not in a political structure but in a relationship with him, and revealed his glory in the Transfiguration. But now the question is: Can we trust this man? Can we entrust our lives to him?

We often take this for granted. We come to church, we "believe in Jesus," and go along with it. But listen to the people in the Gospels. They ask, "Isn't he just the carpenter's son? Didn't we watch this kid grow up?" (cf. Mt 13:55). Jesus doesn't simply ask us to believe certain facts about him or follow better rules so that we're "better people." He asks something much more demanding: to literally place our lives into his hands.

This is the question Matthew's Gospel places before us over these Sundays: Do we trust this man? Do we have faith in him?

An image that has helped me is a story about Charles Blondin, the famous nineteenth-century tightrope walker. He amazed crowds by crossing Niagara Falls. He would even ride a bike across and pushed a wheelbarrow full of rocks across the rope. After one crossing he asked the crowd, "How many of you think I can do it again?" Everyone shouted, "Yes!" Then he asked, "Do you think I could do it with a person in the wheelbarrow?" Again, the crowd cheered. Blondin dumped out the rocks and asked for a volunteer.

No one moved.

The issue was faith. The crowd enjoyed watching Blondin, but they would not participate. He invited someone to entrust his life to him, and no one could.

We often get the order backwards. We say they were afraid, and therefore they didn't trust him. But really, they didn't trust him, and because of that they were afraid.

Research in psychology and neurobiology helps explain this. Dr. Susan Johnson's work on attachment theory shows that when a secure relationship is threatened, the nervous system enters

what she calls a "primal panic," triggering the amygdala—the brain's fear center. Fear is not the cause but the response to an insecure bond.

The opposite is equally fascinating. In dangerous or painful situations, if the person with whom we share a deep bond is present, the amygdala is activated far less—sometimes not at all. **A secure relationship drives out fear.**

All this sheds light on today's Gospel. The disciples had lived with Jesus, heard his teaching, witnessed his miracles, and even seen him calm a storm before (cf. Mt 8:23-27). His arrival should have driven out fear.

Instead, they are terrified. Peter begins walking toward Jesus but, seeing the wind, becomes frightened and starts to sink. Notice what Jesus says. He does not rebuke Peter for being afraid. He asks, "Why did you doubt?" The issue is not fear but faith.

Their fear reveals the real issue: they have not yet entrusted themselves completely to Jesus.

When I felt called to the priesthood, the deepest issue was not the sacrifices involved. The issue was that I did not fully trust Jesus. Deep down, I feared he would not hold up his end of the bargain. Even today, whenever the Lord asks something difficult of me, the fear I sometimes experience reveals that I still have room to grow in entrusting my life to him.

For each of us, this is the great challenge. Not merely believing certain ideas about Jesus or following the teachings of the Church, but asking: Can we trust this man? Can we entrust our lives to him?

It is one thing to go to Mass on Sundays. It is one thing to try to be a good person. But what Jesus desires—and what our hearts truly long for—is that we entrust our lives to him.

In the Gospel, a father brings his possessed son to Jesus. Jesus tells him, "Everything is possible for one who believes." Immediately the man cries out, "I do believe; help my unbelief." Those words can become our own prayer: "I do believe. Help my unbelief."

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

We hope our students are enjoying their summer, exploring the world and making memories with their families and friends. We can't wait to hear all about their adventures.

Summer work and supply lists are available on the school website. www.StPhilipprep.com
Can't wait to see everyone on September 8th for the first day of school.

~

St. Philip Preparatory School is growing—and we couldn't be more grateful!

Thanks to increasing enrollment, we are excited to share that every grade level has been split into two classes—a wonderful milestone for our school community.

We have already welcomed several outstanding new teachers to our school family and are looking forward to an exciting school year ahead.

We are still seeking an Intermediate Social Studies Teacher, a Middle School ELA Teacher, and a Little Kaleidoscope Teacher for our gifted and talented program. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our team, please visit <https://rcdop.org/job-opportunities> to complete an application or contact the school office for more information.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. We look forward to a wonderful year at St. Philip Preparatory School!

~

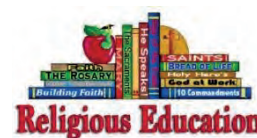
Registration is ongoing through the website www.stphilipprep.com.

Summer Office hours for the month of August are Monday - Friday, 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



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.



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

KNIGHTS OF COLOMBUS

St. Philips the Apostle
Knights of Columbus Council 11671
Presents our
17th Annual Bob Martin Memorial
Golf Outing



Preakness Valley Golf Course
October 12, 2026

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

Register on line at

[https://st-philips-k-of-c-golf-
outing.perfectgolfevent.com/](https://st-philips-k-of-c-golf-outing.perfectgolfevent.com/)

WEDDING BANNS

The following couple will be
exchanging wedding vows:



Daniel Niell & Paulina Walicka

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Luke Ace

BROTHER JUNIPER

BROTHER JUNIPER



KIDS KORNER

< KID'S KORNER > Year A

Gospel Today | 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 14:22-33

When Jesus performed miracles, He got people's attention! When He had their attention He preached the Good Word, and built their faith. Jesus tells us to have faith – do not doubt.

Did you ever see a bug skimming the top of water in a pond, lake or river? They seem to walk or run on top, barely touching! These six-legged insects are sometimes called Jesus bugs or pond skaters. Imagine how Jesus looked to the Apostles as He walked on the water! What would you think if you saw that? Web search the Water Strider and see how this fascinating insect actually walks on water.

Jesus walks on the water...

"You of little faith – why do you doubt?"

start finish

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: August 3, 2025	\$ 19,148.00
Sunday Collection: August 2, 2026	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 11,952.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 7,161.00
TOTAL	\$ 19,113.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
August 16- Missionary Cooperation Plan

WE PRAY FOR...

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, Michelle Garcia

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Guiseppe Carduccio John Pogorelec Norma Rosales Evelyn Kovacs
12:00	Elvira Maldonado Tony Barone

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026

9:00 AM	Maryann Diaz
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026

9:00 AM	Kevin Duff
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026

9:00 AM	George and Margaret Dikdan
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026

9:00 AM	Teresa Pivrotto Peter Paul Sienicki
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026

9:00 AM	Joanne Bizub Green
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9:00 AM	All the People of the Parish
5:30 PM	Joseph Michael Paris John N. Russo, Jr- 10 th Anniversary Deceased members of the Canavan Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

8:00	Ralph Napolitano Juan Manuel Quintero
10:00	Deceased members of the Azario Family Imre Karaszegi, Sr Elisabeth Holzli Ernest J. Scheidemann
12:00	All the People of the Parish



A JOURNEY TO MUSEUMS & CHURCHES IN WASHINGTON D.C.

\$325

- Based on double occupancy
- Single supplement is available for an additional +\$100



October 12-13, 2026 (Mon to Tues)

Package inclusions:

- Transportation:** Round-trip travel via an air-conditioned motor coach.
- Lodging:** Standard hotel accommodation
- Meals:** including 2 breakfasts & 1 dinner
- Guided Tours:** Professionally led tours at the Museum of the Bible, Franciscan Monastery & Saint John Paul II Shrine
- Religious Services:** Mass at the historic Crypt Church
- Entry & Fees:** General admission ticket to the Museum of the Bible, Gift offering to Monastery & SJP II Shrine, Driver & Tour Guide gratuities

Places to visit

- ✓ Museum of the Bible
- ✓ Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
- ✓ Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America
- ✓ St. John Paul II National Shrine

Booking Policy

All payments are strictly non-refundable upon booking. Seats are limited & allocated on a first-paid, first-served basis

Registration Deadline

September 10, 2026

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