

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. David Monteleone
Pastor
frmonteleone@stphilip.org

Rev. Paul Octubre
Parochial Vicar
pocubre@stphilip.org

Rev. Frank Lennie
In-Residence

Dcn. Robert G. Ayers
Deacon (Retired)
deaconbob@stphilip.org

Mrs. Jennifer Higgins
Principal
Principal.Higgins
@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
Lay Trustee

Mr. James Marrocco
Lay Trustee

St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

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



@StPhilipClifton



@StPhilipClifton



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 20, 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,

One of my favorite poems is "The Great Mercy," by Irish poet Katherine Tynan, which succinctly and beautifully wrestles with the overwhelming mercy available to us from God. It starts simply and profoundly: *Betwixt the saddle and the ground was mercy sought and mercy found*. She imagines the rider of a horse who is suddenly bucked from his saddle, plummeting to his death, not having lived a life in line with God's plan. Damnation seems imminent, until the rider cries out to the Lord for salvation. Even in that split second, God receives his conversion, and the gates of Heaven open for him.

The notion is beautiful, highlighting God's insatiable desire that all souls will join Him in eternity if only they will choose Him. But perhaps there's a part of us that finds this frustrating or unfair. Why do they get to go to Heaven when they joined at the last second. They're bandwagon fans; they don't get to celebrate the championship if they never suffered the crushing losses.

While we would not say this out loud, there may be a part of us that resent late in life conversions or the salvation of a soul at the last minute. Of course, we're happy that they receive the Beatific Vision, but why did we have to do all the hard work of living the Catholic life? I should have just come at the last second! Hopefully this is not our real worldview, but notions like this can creep into our thinking. Catholicism is hard! If I don't have to do the hard stuff and can still get to Heaven, then what's the point?

In our Gospel, we encounter characters who spent varying amounts of time working in the vineyard... some, all day, some, part of the day, some, just the last hour. Yet they all get paid the same. We can empathize with those who worked harder and didn't receive a better payment!

But spiritual life is not one of direct work and reward. Those who work all day complain of having *endured the day's burden and the heat*. For them, the labor is simply a means to an end, a way to get the payment they deserve at the end of the day. So, if someone else can get the same payment with less work, wouldn't that be better?

What this worldview, whether explicit or unspoken, misses, is that life in Christ makes my life better here and now, in addition to granting me eternity. Catholicism does not make my life easier; in fact, it often makes it much more difficult! But it does make my life better! Living out the Catholic life adds burdens, heat, and exhaustion... but it is much richer and energizing than any other way. Once I have fully received Christ into my life, I would rather work all day in the vineyard with Him

than just come in for an hour or so. Catholicism gives meaning and purpose to my life, not just because of the goal at the end, but because it makes my day-to-day life make sense.

The Lord never promises to make our lives easier. But Christ does reveal us to ourselves, so I make more sense the closer I am to Him. One of the great beauties of Catholic life is that heaven is opened for me, but my life here and now is better as well! I'd rather take on the burden and the heat, because life in Christ speaks to the deep parts of my soul.

Can I explain, in three to five minutes, how Jesus has made my life make more sense, not just because heaven is open, but even here and now? Very often people are uninterested in Faith because they think it only deals with my final end. That is primary, of course, but can we show them that it also transforms my life now for the better? Not because I'm more prosperous, financially successful, or comfortable, but because my soul makes more sense.

Many souls do not enter the Faith because they are not convinced that it makes any difference in their current experience, and those of us who practice the Faith are at fault! In my life and in my conversation, do I express that the work in the vineyard is a privilege, not a burden, and that I love Jesus Christ not just because of a payment, but because of the life He gives along the way.

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 2026.

Let us know if you'll join us:

Call the Parish office
or email lvalenti@stphilip.org

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Saint Philip students are settling into their new schedules and routines, and we are off to a great start! This year, students are learning what it means to **SOAR: Service, Ownership, Attitude, and Resilience**, and we are already seeing those ideas connect to what is happening in our classrooms.



Our youngest Eagles are learning about shapes, alike and different, and the lessons we can learn from fables. In Primary, students are talking about the virtues that come with being part of a family, while Intermediate students are taking that idea a little further and learning about what it means to be part of a community. Middle School students are “opening the door” to a new school year and exploring how Service, Ownership, Attitude, and Resilience can guide them throughout the year.

Plenty is happening in our special-area classes too! Art students celebrated International Dot Day and are working together on a collaborative project made up of their individual dots. In PE, students are starting the year with team-building activities and learning how important it is to work together. The first few days have been busy, but it is wonderful to see our students settling in, getting to know their new routines, and beginning another year of learning together!

~

COME WORK WITH US!

We are still seeking a Little Kaleidoscope Teacher for our gifted and talented program which is a part-time position. Teaching 3rd and 4th grade math and reading to our 1st and 2nd graders.

8AM -12 PM Monday- Friday.

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!

8th GRADE FUNDRAISER MUM SALE



Help Support the SPPS Class of 2027

8" MUMS

1 FOR \$12 OR 2 FOR \$20

Choose from pink, red, orange or yellow

ORDER BY SEPTEMBER 24TH

PICK UP OCTOBER 2ND • 12 PM - 1 PM in
the church parking lot

TO PLACE YOUR ORDER:

Please specify the color, quantity for each, your name and your telephone number

Any questions, please contact Maria at
Mhealy08@yahoo.com or [201-220-5112](tel:201-220-5112)

Payment Options:

Check: Payable to St. Philip Prep.

Cash: Exact cash in a sealed envelope with your order.

Venmo: @Maria-Healy-4

**Drop off your order and payment in a sealed envelope ATTN: Maria Healy, Mum Order to the school or parish office no later than September 24th.*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

ROSARY SOCIETY

All Are Welcome!

St Philip Rosary Society welcomes all to our September 21 meeting. We begin at 6:30 with Mass and the Rosary, with our ice cream social to follow. Come once! Come twice! Spend some time with Mary, Queen of the Rosary.

COLUMBIETTES



Welcome back, Columbiette sisters!
It's hard to believe autumn is already here and our auxiliary meetings are resuming.

Our September meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24th. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. We are sure everyone is looking forward to getting together again.



SAVE THE DATE

COLUMBIETTES FUNDRAISER

Outback Steakhouse
191 Berdan Avenue, Wayne,
NJ

\$20.00 per ticket

Valid only on:

Monday, October 5th to Thursday, October 8th 2026

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 also be sold after the Masses on the weekends of September 26/27 and October 3/4.



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/>

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knights of Columbus

2026 "Coats for Kids" Drive

We will again be collecting contributions for our annual Coats-for-kids Drive through Sunday 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 \$285 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

LIFE MINISTRY

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

ARCHDIOCESE of NEWARK
RESPECT LIFE
Office of the Archdiocese of Newark

2026 Retreat Dates

February 13-15, 2026
September 25-27, 2026

For more details, contact Cheryl Riley,
Director of the Respect Life Office by
phone at 201-912-3272 or email at
Cheryl.riley@rcan.org

Hope... Healing... Forgiveness

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DIOCESAN WORKSHOP

Navigating the Annulment Process

Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m.

St. Philip the Apostle Church – Marian Hall (Located along St. Philip's Drive)

Entry: \$10 – Will be returned after the session

Do you have questions about the annulment process?

Presenter: Rev. Marc Mancini, JCL, Judicial Vicar, will lead this session and give step-by-step support for those going through this difficult experience.

Register using this link:

<https://insidethewalls.org/navigating-the-annulment-process>

~

GOLD and SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 2001, 1976 or 1966? 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 1, 2026 at 3:00pm.

Arrangements can be made by contacting your parish office. **The deadline to register is Friday, October 16, 2026.** You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed.

Congratulations on this joyous occasion!



PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: September 14, 2025 \$ 16,845.00

Sunday Collection: September 13, 2026

WEEKLY COLLECTION \$ 8,293.00

ONLINE GIVING DONATION \$ 7,168.00

TOTAL \$ 15,461.00

SECOND COLL.- \$ 1,686.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

September 27-Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Daniel DiRocco



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, Kate Doyle, Isabel Pereiras, James Jablonowski, Michelle Garcia

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Generoso Spatola John Pogorelec, Sr. Eugenia Riggio Esser and Provost Families
12:00	Al Mayewski Ruth Brown

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

9:00 AM	Frank and Michael Sabella Jester Edquilag
---------	--

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

9:00 AM	Jim and Kitty Murtha
---------	----------------------

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

9:00 AM	Filipina R. Bacani Manuel Calle- 26 th Anniversary
---------	--

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

9:00 AM	Edgar De La Torre
---------	-------------------

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

9:00 AM	Elizabeth Barella
---------	-------------------

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

9:00 AM	Frank Meola
5:30 PM	Robert Brennan Mary and Francis Kolodziaj Fran Kobernick

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

8:00	Martin Sudol Grace Alfieri
10:00	Deceased members of the Choir Deceased members of the Provost and Esser Families Denise Papay Evelyn Kovacs
12:00	All the People of the Parish

CANDLE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20

In Memory of Dominic and Elle DeBenedetto
- From Mike and Rosalie Soccol



< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mt 20:1-16a

Jesus makes it clear that the believers will all have an equal share in Heaven.
"The last will be first, and the first will be last."

©2026 Bon Venture Services, LLC

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

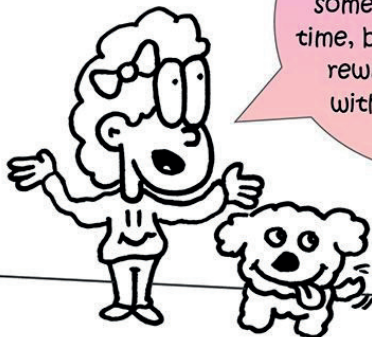
Find all the words... left,
right, up, down or diagonally.



Parable
Jesus
Kingdom
Heaven
Vineyard
Landowner
Hired
Workers
Grumble
Wages
Foreman
Believers
Burden
Equal
Share
Generous
Envy
Grapes
First
Last

S	I	P	S	R	E	K	R	O	W	D
R	E	N	E	H	S	R	G	L	E	Y
E	U	J	G	U	D	E	R	A	H	S
V	H	E	A	V	E	N	A	D	O	M
E	D	S	W	A	R	W	P	K	G	Y
I	J	U	R	W	I	O	E	I	V	B
L	A	S	T	E	H	D	S	N	N	U
E	S	U	O	R	E	N	E	G	E	R
B	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	Q	D
S	G	R	U	M	B	L	E	O	U	E
T	S	R	I	F	O	R	E	M	A	N
I	H	U	R	P	A	R	A	B	L	E

SWEET as HONEY



J.D., some people
worked all day and
some for only a short
time, but the landowner
rewarded everyone
with the same pay.



Yes Honey, and the
last hired were paid first
so everyone would know
the reward is equal.

Just like Heaven,
where the reward of
eternal life is the same for
both long time believers
and new believers.

Chadwick

ALLWOOD FUNERAL HOME

973-773-6666

660-670 ALLWOOD ROAD - CLIFTON, NJ

973-546-4700

Michael E. Porter, Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 3011, Scott D. Porter, N.J. Lic. No. 4070 & Andrew J. Messineo, N.J. Lic. No. 5285, Directors

COMPASS



Ranked #1 Realtor®
in Clifton

m Mahmoud Ijbara
Realtor®

646.764.9599

mahmoud@ijbaragroup.com

www.cliftonsold.com

#1 Most Sold Homes in Clifton

PHILIP SALVATORIELLO
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Residential & Commercial
Fully Insured

ADDITIONS, KITCHENS & BATHROOMS
ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING
TRIM, PAINTING, DECKS & DOORS
WINDOWS, SIDING & ROOFING

973.477.4681

philisal2025@gmail.com

BUYING OR SELLING?

CALL MR. & MRS. REAL ESTATE

A Husband and Wife Team...
Must be a Dream!

Rickey DiMaria

Broker/Owner

973-714-9606

Rickey@RickeyDiMaria.com

Joseph Siano

Licensed NJ Real Estate Agent

973-563-1449

JosephSianoJr@gmail.com



WWW.JKREALTY.COM



973-472-7000

**CHIMNEY &
ROOFING**

**MASONRY
GUTTERS
DECK REPAIR**

**We Find &
Fix Leaks!**



Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200 • Bonded & Insured • 20+ Years

732-589-9967 Serving All of New Jersey

\$1500 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement

20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

Bluejay Pharmacy
& MEDICAL SUPPLY

Pharmacy Services

- Personalized Pharmacy Service
- Blister Pack Medication Preparation
- RX Copay Assistance Programs
- Medication Therapy Management
- Immunization Services
- **FREE RX Pickup and Delivery**

Ask us how we
can help you
**SAVE ON YOUR
PRESCRIPTIONS**

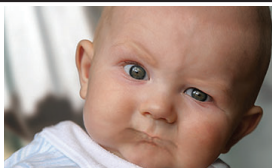
Compounding Services • Veterinary Medications

377 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

Call us at 973-278-8876

www.TheBluejayPharmacy.com

Chirag S. Taylor Pharm D RPh - Owner & Pharmacist-in-Charge



You sure I'm in the
right car seat?

NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat



**SELLING YOUR HOME? LET'S MAKE IT
EASY — AND SENSATIONAL.**

Work with an Award-Winning Real Estate Agent
Who Gets Results.

STUNNING MARKETING & PRO PHOTOS

HASSLE-FREE PROCESS & PAPERWORK

PLATINUM AWARD-WINNING SERVICE

TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR PROPERTY



exp
REALTY

Tanya Bressel

PHONE

C 973 777 4228

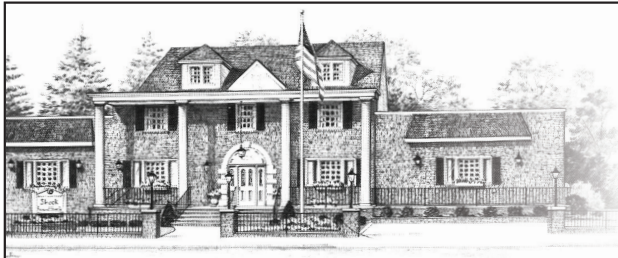
O 866 201 6210 X 1263

EMAIL

tanya.bressel@exprealty.com

Call or text today for your **FREE** home value consultation and let's turn your move into a smart, seamless success.

If You Are Currently Listed With Another Broker, Please Disregard. This Is Not An Attempt To Solicit.



Shook
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

639 Van Houten Avenue | Clifton, New Jersey | 07013

Roy B. Garretson, Manager | NJ Lic. No. 3550

(973) 471-9620 | ShookFuneralHome@gmail.com | www.ShookFH.com

BIZUB- QUINLAN

F U N E R A L H O M E



1313 VAN HOUTEN AVENUE • CLIFTON, NJ 07013

www.bizubquinlan.com

973-546-2000

TIMOTHY J. BIZUB, MANAGER
N.J. Lic. No. 4022

WAYNE P. MARSTON
N.J. Lic. No. 4494

THOMAS J. BIZUB, SR.
N.J. Lic. No. 2732

EDWARD C. RICH
N.J. Lic. No. 3562

JEFFREY POMPEO

Parishioner



DiFrancesco Bateman
ATTORNEY
908-757-7800
jpompeo@newjerseylaw.net
CLIFTON: 1200 ROUTE 46 WEST (AT CORNER OF ST. PHILIP DRIVE)
WARREN: 15 MOUNTAIN BLVD • POINT PLEASANT: 1521 BEAVER DAM ROAD



Compliments Of

**RAY
GRABOWSKI**
**LANDSCAPE
CONTRACTOR**
Clifton • New Jersey

"Light the Way to Catholic Education"

Your tax deductible donation will benefit the:
Monsignor Peter J. Doody Permanent Scholarship Fund
To benefit Catholic Education for the students of St. Philip the Apostle School
Donations can be sent to:
St. Philip's Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund • 797 Valley Rd., Clifton, NJ 07013
Ask your employer about matching gifts!

BARTLETT GREENHOUSES & FLORIST INC.

Cut Flowers, Plants & Floral Designs
Specializing In Funeral Arrangements & Weddings
471-6480
814 GROVE STREET • CLIFTON

FASTSIGNS SECAUCUS

255 Route 3 E. • 201-902-8640
Angelo Masino
angelo.masino@fastsigns.com
fastsigns.com/153

OnePoint BFG
Wealth Partners™

Let's Talk
Scan to Schedule



Monica Pryt, CFP®

Financial Advisor
monica.pryt@onepointbfg.com
973.567.3156

My Services

- ✓ Financial Planning
- ✓ Wealth Management
- ✓ Retirement Income Planning
- ✓ Retirement Distribution
- ✓ Education Planning
- ✓ Estate Planning
- ✓ Multi-Generational Planning
- ✓ Business Succession Planning
- ✓ Risk Management Solutions

300 Kimball Drive, Suite 310, Parsippany, NJ 07054

Investment advisory and financial planning services offered through Bleakley Financial Group, LLC, an SEC registered investment adviser, doing business as OnePoint BFG Wealth Partners.

1650+ HOMES SOLD
\$600+ MILLION
27+ YEARS EXPERTISE

TRUSTED
by
THOUSANDS



PICK PINA GROUP
FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS



JULIAN PINA PETER
NAZARIO

WWW.PICKPINA.COM
#1 Clifton Team*



*Per NJMLS

The Law Offices of ROBERT C. HESS

973-778-9310

840 Van Houten Ave. Clifton, NJ 07013
Parishioner, Lector

THE BARROW HOUSE

PARLOR • BAR • RESTAURANT

BRUNCH
•
LUNCH
•
DINNER

HAPPY HOUR M-F 3-7PM

1296 VAN HOUTEN AVE.
CLIFTON, NJ 07013

THEBARROWHOUSE.COM



FOR ALL YOUR HOME REMODELING NEEDS

**HANDYMAN
IMPROVEMENTS LLC**

John Niejadlik, Owner

Fully Insured, Licensed & Bonded / NJ Lic. #13VH06835100

FREE ESTIMATES!

973.634.1736 • John@hminj.com



FITNESS

THE BEST GYM IN TOWN!

895 PAULISON AVE • 973.553.9470 • CRUNCHCLIFTON.COM CRUNCHCLIFTON

Whether planning ahead or
coping with loss, we provide
guidance rooted in tradition
and compassion, tailored
to your needs and wishes.



**MARROCCO
MEMORIAL CHAPEL**

Serving families with dignity
and faith since 1899.

James J. Marrocco
Owner/Manager
Parishioner • Lic. #3320

Rosa Hernandez
Director • Lic. #4997

470 Colfax Avenue • Clifton, NJ 07013 • 973-249-6111 • marroccos.com