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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson

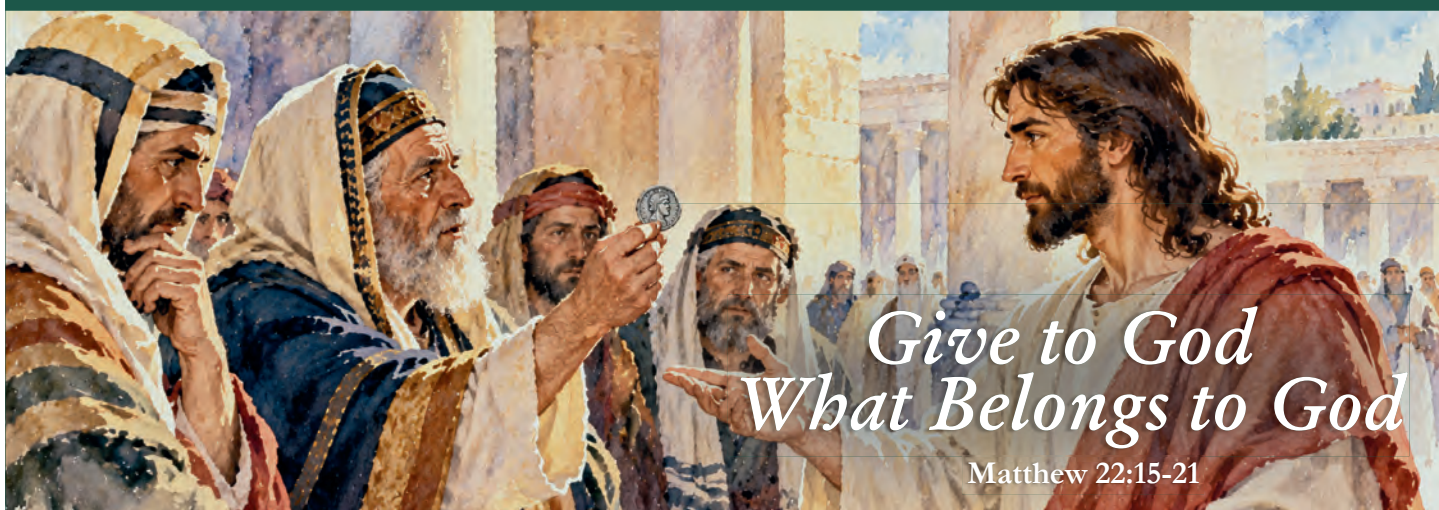
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October 18, 2026

The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Give to God
What Belongs to God*

Matthew 22:15-21

“

What does Jesus want from us?
Not simply our money.
Not merely an hour on Sunday.
He wants what belongs to God: you.
Your life. Your heart. Your decisions.
Your priorities. Jesus calls us to
metanoia—a change of mind, a new
way of seeing—and to faith: to
entrust ourselves completely to him.

READ MORE



From the Pastor's Desk

”

THIS WEEK...

OCT
19

Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions

Martyrs

Saints John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, and their companions were Jesuit missionaries who proclaimed the Gospel among the Indigenous peoples of North America in the 17th century. Despite hardships and persecution, they remained steadfast in their mission, ultimately giving their lives for Christ. Their courage and sacrifice remind us to remain faithful to God and courageous in sharing our faith.



SCHEDULE OF LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

MASS | Daily - 9:00 AM

Saturday (Vigil) - 5:30 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM

10:00 AM (Broadcast)

12:00 PM

HOLY HOUR | Every Friday - 9:30 to 10:30 AM

CONFESSION | Every Saturday - 4:30

For Communion Visit and/or Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish Office.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

When you think about your growth as a Christian, what is the goal? How do you know you're getting there? We might say: going to Mass, knowing the faith, praying more, being a good person. And all of those things matter. But what are they ultimately preparing us for?

A wise bishop put it this way: "In imitation of Christ, martyrdom is the pattern for fulfillment as a disciple of Jesus, and so preparation for this heroic witness is the measure for Christian formation."

Martyrdom comes from a Greek word meaning "to give witness." We usually think of martyrdom as someone being killed for the faith—and that certainly is martyrdom. But every Christian is called to give heroic witness to Christ. We are being formed not simply to be nicer people or to know more about our faith, but to give our lives to Jesus Christ.

This is what we see in the Christians of Thessalonica in our second reading. Paul arrived there and preached that Jesus was the Messiah, the true Lord of the world. Some people believed, and within weeks they were already facing persecution. In Acts 17, we are told that their opponents make the accusation that these Christians of Thessalonica are "turning the world upside down."

Why? Because they were saying that Jesus is Lord.

That is the heart of what we hear in the Gospel today. The Pharisees and Herodians ask Jesus whether it is lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar. Jesus asks for a coin, points out Caesar's image, and says, "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." This is about much more than taxes. Caesar claimed to be lord. Caesar claimed the title "son of god." And Christians were proclaiming something radically different: Jesus is Lord. Jesus is the true Son of God.

So, what does Jesus want from us? Not simply our money. Not merely an hour on Sunday. He wants what belongs to God: you. Your life. Your heart. Your decisions. Your priorities. Jesus calls us to metanoia—a change of mind, a new way of seeing—and to faith: to entrust ourselves completely to him.

That is what happened in Thessalonica. These Christians came to believe that Jesus was truly Lord, and therefore their lives could no longer be organized around the values of the world—power, status, wealth, comfort, or approval. Their lives belonged to Christ. And that kind of faith turned the world upside down.

The same question comes to us: Have I really given my life to Christ? It is possible to be Catholic for years without ever really making that response. We can go to Mass, know our prayers, practice our religion, and yet still have our lives fundamentally organized around something else. But the Christian life is not simply

about becoming a slightly better version of ourselves. It is about giving ourselves to Jesus Christ.

And when we actually do that, people notice. We may begin to make different choices. We may refuse things that everyone else considers normal. We may prioritize prayer, family, sacrifice, generosity, chastity, forgiveness, or Sunday worship when those things come at a cost. And sometimes people will not understand. We should not be surprised.

The Thessalonians were persecuted because their faith actually changed the way they lived. The martyrs gave their lives because their faith actually meant something. Their witness was powerful precisely because it cost them something. That is what Christian formation is ultimately preparing us for: not merely to know about Christ, but to belong to Christ so completely that our lives become a witness to him.

And notice how Paul describes the Thessalonians at the beginning of his letter. He speaks of their "work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope." Faith, love, hope. That is the Christian life.

So perhaps the question is not simply, "Am I a good Christian?" The deeper question is: If following Jesus cost me something, would I still follow him? Because Jesus does not ask for part of your life. He says, "Repay to God what belongs to God." And what belongs to God? You. Your whole life.

At every Mass, we are reminded of this. We are the ones who have been called to the Supper of the Lamb. God has called us, invited us, chosen us. And our response to that call is meant to be more than words. It is meant to be our whole life.

And when we give our life to Christ, we become witnesses—people whose faith is not merely something they profess, but something they live. And that kind of witness still has the power to turn the world upside down.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

PRAYERS FOR POPE LEO XIV

Let us pray for Pope Leo for a speedy recovery. Let us entrust him to the loving care of our Blessed Mother and ask the Lord to sustain him during this time.



COME WORK WITH US

St. Philip Preparatory School is 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. 8 AM -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.

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Our Eagles had another busy week of learning! In PreK4, students practiced the letter S and began learning the letter A, while Kindergarten worked on numbers, letters, and the Guardian Angel prayer. Second graders explored subjects and predicates, and third grade enjoyed camp week with STEM activities, camp stories, and writing assignments. Fourth graders practiced sentence structure and began reading a class novel, while fifth grade worked on estimating sums and differences with numbers into the billions!

Our older Eagles were busy as well! Sixth grade worked on science reports, seventh grade studied the mysteries of the Rosary, and eighth grade explored short stories and poetry. In Math, students wrote equations to solve real-world problems, while fifth-grade readers explored themes of racism, division, and friendship through *Maniac Magee*. In Art, students created leaf prints and Aboriginal-inspired designs, while PE classes practiced hand-eye coordination and learned the rules of baseball.

It was another wonderful week of learning, creativity, and discovery at St. Philip!

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. David Monteleone - Pastor

FrMonteleone@stphilip.org

Rev. Paul Octubre - Parochial Vicar

POctubre@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

DPannullo@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

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTES

COLUMBIETTES MONTHLY MEETING

Our next Columbiettes meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22nd. A new-member initiation ceremony will begin at 6:00 PM. We warmly welcome our new sister Columbiettes. Our social time refreshments will be served at 6:30 PM followed by our regular meeting at 7:00 PM.



Thank you to all that supported our Outback Fundraiser, which was a HUGE success!!

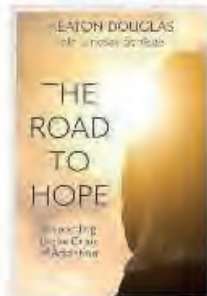
COLLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at 10 AM in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! We will be partnering with the Knights' coat distribution and making hats and scarves to warm our dear Clifton school children. For more information or yarn and new fabric donations, please call Cathie Murtha: 973-471-1265

ROSARY SOCIETY

All Are Welcome! St Philip Rosary Society welcomes all to our **October 19th** meeting. We begin at 6:30 PM with Mass and the Rosary. Come once! Come twice! Spend some time with Mary, Queen of the Rosary!

ROSARY SOCIETY Annual Communion Brunch



Speaker: Keaton Douglas

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Rosary at 9:30 a.m.

Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Brunch following in Marian Hall

Tickets: \$28

Call Elaine Vigilante at 973-931-2383

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Autumn DINNER DANCE Party

NOVEMBER 7, 2026 (SAT)
6:30 - 10:00 PM
ST. PHILIP SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
797 VALLEY ROAD, CLIFTON, NJ

TICKETS \$ 50 per person

For more information, contact:
Raquel - (973) 563-6924
Lourdes - (201) 396-3149
Mathilda - (862) 232-1640

ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH FIL-AM GROUP

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

BIBLE STUDY



The people who walked in
DARKNESS
have seen a great
LIGHT

ISAIAH AND ADVENT:
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

A Biblical and Spiritual Journey
through the Prophecies of Isaiah

Journey through the prophecies of Isaiah and discover the deeper meaning of Advent. This four-session Bible study explores God's promise of the Messiah, the hope of salvation, and the call to prepare our hearts for Christ. Through Scripture, we will come to appreciate Advent not simply as a preparation for Christmas, but as a season of faith, conversion, and joyful hope as we await the coming of our Savior.

To be facilitated by Fr. Paul Octubre

November 5 and 12, 2026
December 3 and 10, 2026
7:00 PM at the Marian Hall

Please register at the Parish Office,
call 973-779-6200 or email Lvalenti@stphilip.org

FROM THE DIOCESE/ From Bishop Sweeney's desk

You may have already heard that the New Jersey Catholic Conference has issued an "Action Alert" – see:

<https://www.votervoices.net/NJCC/Campaigns/139845/Respond> encouraging NJ Voters to contact Governor Sherrill's Office, asking her to "Opt NJ Into the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit".

As you are aware, if the Governor "opts in" there could be very significant scholarship funds available that would allow many more parents and families to choose to send their children to our Catholic schools. You can find additional information and resources on our Diocesan Website at:

<https://rcdop.org/federal-education-tax-credit>.

You might also be aware that, on this past Friday, Oct. 9th, Governor Kathy Hochul (officially) confirmed that New York will "opt in" on the Tax Credit program. Archbishop Hicks and the bishops of New York offered the following statement through the NY Catholic Conference:

<https://www.nyscatholic.org/posts/empowering-new-york-families-nys-bishops-statement-governor-hochul-opting-federal-scholarship-tax-credit>.

GOD BLESS THE NEWLYWED



Peter and Nikaela



Mark and Theresa

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Olivia Maya

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Seton Hall Preparatory School- New Jersey's oldest Catholic prep school- will be hosting its annual Open House for 7th and 8th grade boys and their families on Sunday, October 25 (registration required at www.shp.org/openhouse). Visitors will tour campus and our 44- acre Kelly Athletic Complex, our state-of-the-art John J. Murphy '52 Science Center, learn about the application process, and have the opportunity to meet with teachers, coaches, parents, and current students. For more information, please contact Michael T? Zinsmeister, Director of Admission, at (973) 325-6640 or visit www.shp.org. Hazard Zet Forwad!

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: October 12, 2025	\$15,7211.00
Sunday Collection: October 11, 2026	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 9,264.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 10,366.00
TOTAL	\$ 19,630.00
2ND COLL- PROJECT FAITH	\$ 2,256.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
October 25-Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...

Theodore Cherry, Michael Restifo

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, Pierre Celestin

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

8:00	Claire Chidiac- 10 th Anniversary Grace Alfieri
10:00	Edward Kovacs Luigi Gioia Josephine Kimberley John Strangeway Deceased members of the Rosary Society
12:00	All the People of the Parish

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

9:00 AM	Pantaleo Palermo
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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

9:00 AM	Ed Kovacs
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

9:00 AM	Marie Steiner Giulio Librizzi
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026

9:00 AM	Teresita Pacturan Herminio Solon
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

9:00 AM	Rolando Roque- 16 th Anniversary Phyllis Soto
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

9:00 AM	Jose Luis Santana Victorino Patawal
5:30 PM	All the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026

8:00	Kimberly Glinkin Mildred Scrosia
10:00	Donna DeMartino Deceased members of the Esser and Provost Families Evelyn Kovacs Marid Carmen Torres
12:00	Donald Muller Connie Andolino

FLOWERS WEEK OF OCTOBER 18TH

Special Intentions for the Sipin Family



ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
goes to

SACRED SPACES AND YULETIDE PLACES



December 02, 2026

TRIP SCHEDULE:

7:30 AM Bus leaves from St Philip The Apostle Parish
(St. Philip Drive) at lower parking lot
9:30 AM Arrival at the National Shrine of Our lady of Czestochowa
10:00 AM Tour of the Shrine with 15 minute Video Presentation
11:30 AM Concelebrated Mass at the Shrine Chapel (lower Church)
12:30 PM Bus leaves to Peddler's Village
1:00 PM Arrival at Peddler's Village – Lunch on your own
---- Christmas Market ----
6:30 PM Return to St. Philip the Apostle (Arrival 8:30 PM)

Places to visit

- ✓ The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa
- ✓ Christmas Market at Peddler's Village

Booking Policy

All payments are strictly non-refundable upon booking.

Reserve your bus seat ticket. Seat assigned upon payment, on first come first serve basis.

Bus departs at 7:30am sharp. St. Philip lower parking lot (please arrive 15mins early)

Contact Us St. Philip Parish Office (973) 779-6200 – Virginia Sipin (973) 760-8484

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