

Companions on the Journey

OUR PARISH LENTEN RETREAT- WEEK II

Throughout the season of Lent and culminating in our Easter celebration we offer a Parish Retreat titled, **Companions on the Journey**. You are invited to join us as we experience the Lord and the love of each other more fully. The Retreat will unfold in the weekend homilies, liturgical music, bulletin reflections/stphilip.org, and workshop.



Our Lenten church banner pictured above displays symbols of the various themes of our parish Lenten retreat.

Our **Journey** begins with God who creates us, accompanies us through life, death and resurrection until we return to God in glory. Our journey is from, "glory to glory." (2Cor.3:18) Along the way we are transformed into the image and likeness of Christ. God holds our hand on the journey and we are invited to hold the hands of our brothers and sisters on every step.

We are **Companions** on the Journey with God and with each other. The **Two Figures** shown form a **Heart Shape** as they companion one another in a bond of divine and human love. The word companion has its origins in two Latin roots; *com*-with and *panis*-bread. We "break bread" and share meals with the ones we love.

The **Host** and **Chalice** remind us of the precious **Sacrament** of the **Eucharist** where we share intimate communion with the Lord, our **Bread of Life**, and with each other.



The **Cross** in the center of the Host is the sign of our belief in the love of our God, Father, and Holy Spirit.

The **Vertical** line of the Cross calls to mind that everything, everyone and even we ourselves come **From God** as free gifts and grace.

The **Horizontal** line of the cross suggests the purpose for our lives which is to share our gifts **For Others**.

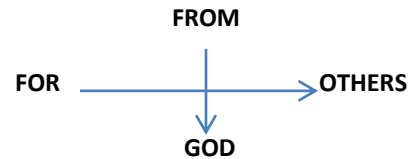
Our Prayer of Grace for Lent – Using Our Hands

Giving thanks before meals is a holy practice which keeps us mindful that all that we have is a gift **From God**.

Making a **Sign of the Cross** as a simple blessing or grace before a meal is a way to reflect our Mission to share our gifts **For Others**.

During this Lent, you are invited to give thanks with a prayer of **grace** before each meal.

Trace the sign of the cross, saying or thinking:



Grace means gift; we acknowledge all that comes **From God** and remember to share what we have and are **For Others**.

Week II

- Abraham takes a risk in trusting God and finds God's blessing and abundance.
- St. Paul reminds us that if God is for us who can be against us? Christ's open arms on the cross are the sign of God's faithfulness which holds us up in every situation.
- The Transfiguration of Christ is a glimpse of the glory that awaits us when we seek, knock and ask for God to transform our hearts and wills for love.

Reflection

Dorothy Day, journalist, social activist and convert to Catholicism was recently named 'Servant of God' on the journey to beatification. She writes in her autobiography, *The Long Loneliness*, (1952) about her longing for God that causes her to seek, knock and ask spiritual questions about the meaning and purpose of life. Day experiences God's mercy for her past life and turns fully to God in gratitude at the time of the birth of her daughter. Recognizing that her daughter was a gift **From God**, Day dedicated her life to service **For Others**.

Dorothy Day shares her prayer that she will continue to be aware of and trust in God's presence and, "**Not brush away the hand that holds me up!**"

She believed that the Eucharist was the most powerful influence in her union with God and others. The word **Eucharist** is the Greek word meaning "**to give thanks.**"

The Liturgy offers us opportunities for reflection and various ways to experience God holding us up.

The Penitential Rite

The Penitential Rite invites us, early in our celebration, to take a close look at the gifts we receive **From God**. We are asked to call to mind the ways that we are using wisely or falling short of our full potential to live our lives in love and service **For Others**. Our sins are the areas of our life that we bring to God with trust for healing and transformation. We pray, **Lord Have Mercy** or **Kyrie eleison**. Mercy is God's compassion and deepest empathy. God laughs and weeps with us with love beyond all telling. We give God thanks in the Eucharist because we will always find, when we seek, God's hand holding us up.

We are **Companions on the Journey** sharing life in the Eucharist of praise.

Questions

1. What part of Dorothy Day's story speaks to you?
2. How do you brush away God's hand/ Hold God's Hand?
3. Who can you "hold up" with love this day?
4. How does saying grace before a meal change your experience of God?

LENTEN HYMN VERSE 1

We will seek and we shall find;
we will knock and the door shall be opened;
we will ask and it shall be given,
in this Eucharist of praise, in this Eucharist of praise.

Refrain

We are companions on the journey,
breaking bread and sharing life;
and in the love we bear is the hope we share
for we believe in the love of our God,
we believe in the love of our God.

Season of Lent Opportunities

- **Grace** before each meals with a sign of the Cross. (See Companion Lenten Prayer above.)
- Participating in weekly or even daily celebration of the **Eucharist** is the most perfect prayer and Lenten observance.
- **WELCOME HOME TO HEALING:** Sacrament of **Reconciliation;** Monday 7 to 8:30 PM Saturday 11 AM to 12 Noon in church
- **Stations of the Cross** Fridays 7:00 PM March 6: Processional

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study sessions on the Gospel of Luke.
Mondays: 11 AM and 7 PM in the Molloy Center.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE SLIDE PRESENTATION II

A slide presentation *"The Life of Jesus from the Immaculate Conception to the Crucifixion from the Eyes of a Scientist"* will be presented by Albert Lossinsky, Ph.D. on Sunday, March 15th in the Molloy Center at 2 PM. Sights & experiences from Bishop Serratelli's April 2013 pilgrimage to Israel will be included.

SPRING ROYALE

Saint Philip the Apostle Parish and Preparatory School Presents



Sunday, March 22nd 2015
2:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Valley Regency
Tickets: \$50 per person

Tickets are sold after mass this weekend and through the School OR Parish Office:

- Includes \$25 Gift of Chips for Gaming Tables
- Butler served hors d'oeuvres, Carving Station
- Complimentary: Beer, Wine, Soda, Coffee, Tea
- Gourmet Desserts, Cash Bar, Piano Music
- Gaming Tables: Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, Wheel of Chance

- Gift Baskets for Casino Winnings, Silent Auction, Super 50/50

AD JOURNAL

HONORING

Monsignor Kevin Flanagan, our distinguished honoree, generously shares God's gifts through faithful ministry. You are invited to express your gratitude and thankfulness for all that Father Kevin has done and continues to do for our Church and School community. Share a special message, prayer or goodhearted wish for Fr. Kevin in our **Spring Royale Ad Journal**.

REMEMBERING

Sister Rene Donohue, FSP served as our dynamic School principal from 1979 to 2001. Sister's commitment to social gatherings, music, theater and the arts is a rich part of our heritage. We honor her memory with the creation of The **Sister Rene Donohue Cultural Arts Legacy** which will be funded by the proceeds of our **Spring Royale**. This year her legacy is continued by providing new lighting and a refurbished sound system for our auditorium. Remember Sister Rene, and contribute to her legacy, by taking an **Ad in our Journal** in loving memory of Sister or in support of God's gifts of fellowship and the Arts.

SPONSORSHIP SUPPORTER

Recognition of Your Gift 3-for-1

- Glossy ad in the printed journal
- Display on the "Big Screen" at the event
- 31 day website PDF

Full-Color Ad Journal

\$100 - Benefactor (Full Page)
\$65 - Patron (Half Page)
\$35 - Sponsor (Qtr. Page/Business Card)
\$25 - Contributor (Name only)

Table Sponsor

\$500 - Leadership Sponsor (Table Sponsorship)

Directions: At stphilip.org, click on the Spring Royale Event, or telephone the Molloy Center (973-779-6200), with your order request.

Seeking donations for Silent Auction: (See Fr. Joe)

Vacation package: home/condo in a vacation destination
Airline Miles
Jewelry
Flat Screen TV
Theatre Tickets
Sporting Event Tickets
iPad
Restaurant Gift Certificates Laptop

YOUTH MINISTRY & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

YOUTH GROUP

Upcoming youth group meetings are:

- Thursday, March 5
- Thursday, March 19

All youth group meetings begin at 7 PM in the Youth Room.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades 1 - 6: 8:00 AM Mass followed by class until 10:30 AM

March 29, April 19, May 17

Grade 7, 8 & CONFIRMATION: 8:00 AM Mass followed by class to 10:30 AM on: March 15, April 26

Confirmation: May 14, 2015 (Practice: May 13)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY/ ST. JOSEPH'S DAY) DINNER DANCE

St. Philip's will host its 5th Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 7, at 7 PM (doors open 6:30 PM) in the school auditorium. Tickets will not be available at the door. Tickets are sold out!!!

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

COLUMBIETTES

FLAPJACK BREAKFAST

The Columbiettes: Flapjack Breakfast on Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 8-10 AM at Applebee's, 375 Route 3 East, Clifton. The cost is \$11. For tickets or information contact Cathie. (973-471-1265) Tickets will be sold at the door.

BLANKET MINISTRY

The Blanket Ministry: Molloy Center Thursday, March 5 and 19, 2015 at 9:45 AM. We make blankets for the hospitalized including children and veterans. If you have questions or a yarn donation, please contact Cathie. (973-471-1265).

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus Communion Breakfast: Sunday, March 15th, 8:00 AM Mass, full breakfast in the Auditorium. The cost is \$10 per person. Our guest speaker, Sr. Ann Marie Paul, SCC, will speak on "The Role of Women in the Church Today". Currently she serves as the Director of the Passaic Neighborhood Center for Women. Please contact SK Jack Paparella for tickets at 201-577-1212.

PRIME TIMERS

St. Philip's Prime Timers will hold this month's meeting on Friday, March 6th at 1:00 PM in the Malloy Center. This meeting will be a light celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP

All parishioners and friends 21 years old and over are invited to join us on our ride to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, March 12, 2015. The cost is \$25.00 with a bonus of \$25.00. Bring a photo I.D. Please call Barbara Rzepecki at 973-278-1566.

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Monday Night Group: March 9th & 23rd at 6:30 PM. The New & Recently Bereaved Group: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

SEPARATED & DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP

The Saint Philip the Apostle Divorce Healing Group meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7 PM in the Molloy Center: March 9th & 23rd.

Pray for

The recently deceased:

Jean Urgo, Morris Russo, Joseph Svec

The sick : Ann Marie Kwiatkowski

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2015

8:00 Rose Cannata; Dec'd memb. Silvestri & Laterza Fam.

10:00 Augusto Mangune
Rita Hogan

Louis Hartdegan

Diane Galka

Paul Gerber

12:00 All the People of the Parish

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015

7:00 Lawrence O'Toole

9:00 Katherine J. West; Theresa Gabler

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015

7:00 Frances Genzano

9:00 Jack Hughes; Toni Marie Ramondini

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015

7:00 Patricia K. Rasmusson

9:00 Loretta Pennella-5th Anniversary; Josefina Bulacan

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015

7:00 Nancy Henry

9:00 John Simone; Gerald Piserchia

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2015

7:00 Frank Genzano

9:00 Gonzalo Ramirez - 2nd Anniversary

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2015

9:00 AM Mary Fiori; Josephine Malitsch

5:30 PM Barbara Scocco
Ann Marie McGowan
Kurian Kailath

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

8:00 Dorothy & Joseph Verones; Rose Cannata

10:00 Janice Hodupski
Eva Serratelli
Edward Mickens
Vincenzo Chiomino
Lorraine Seely

12:00 All the People of the Parish

The Sanctuary Candle In loving memory of
Richard Brophy
From the Brophy Family

PARISH GIVING	
Total Sunday Collection February 23, 2014	\$16,818.00
February 22, 2015 Sunday Collection (<i>Inclement Weather</i>)	
Envelopes	\$10,383.00
Cash	\$ 1,203.00
Online Giving Donations	\$ 1,992.00
Total	\$13,578.00
2 nd Collection: Project Faith	\$ 1,483.00
Ash Wednesday Collection	\$ 3,693.00

PRIESTS' SCHEDULE			
MARCH 7/8, 2015			
5:30 PM	Fr. Jared	8:00 AM	Fr. Joe
10:00 AM	Fr. Kevin	12:00 NOON	Fr. Jared