

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

*"You are my beloved child;
with you I am well pleased"*

Luke 3:22

In today's Gospel God celebrates with delight in Jesus who begins his public mission. God delights in us as sons and daughters, a privilege that we receive through our Baptism.

St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) reflects on God's love for us.

CREATED FOR LOVE

"If we know ourselves, we find God's love. Why, because we see our own nothingness (seeing ourselves as beloved creations of God) that our very existence is ours by grace and not because we have a right to it, and every grace beyond our existence as well – it is all given to us with boundless love. Then we discover so much of God's goodness poured out on us that words cannot describe it. And once we see ourselves so loved by God, we cannot help loving him. And within ourselves we love God and our own rationality, and hate the distractions that would take inordinate attention in the world.

Some people delight in wealth or status, or would rather please creatures than the Creator. These build their foundation in only worldly appearance, pleasure and enjoyment.

I want you to love God's goodness within yourself, and his immeasurable charity, which you will find in the heart of self-knowledge. In this heart you will find God. For just as God holds within himself everything that shares in being, so you will find within yourself memory, which holds and is well-suited to hold the treasure of God's blessing. There too you will find understanding, which makes us sharers in the wisdom of God's Son by understanding and knowing his will, a will that wants nothing but that we be made holy. When we see this, we cannot despair, no matter what happens, for we know that everything is done with God's providence and tremendous love."

Excerpt from: *The Letters of Catherine of Siena*

Journey with Us Open Your Heart to God Discover the Keys to the Kingdom RCIA

Are you interested in exploring your spiritual life?
Do you want to discover the abundance of God's love and peace?
Would you like to have greater motivation for service?
Do you want to know more about the Catholic Faith?
Did you ever think about becoming a Catholic?
Are you a Baptized Catholic and have never made your First Communion and/or Confirmation?
Are you baptized in another faith and have a desire to become Catholic?
Have you never been baptized in any faith but wonder?

Journey with Us!

Through the process of the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** or **RCIA**, we explore all these questions and discover the keys to the kingdom. **RCIA** is a restoration of the ancient practice of initiation into the Church. Through a process of discernment, spiritual development and ritualizing stages of conversion, you are guided to sacramental initiation. These Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist which are celebrated at the Easter Vigil open your hearts and empower you to lives of service, charity and justice as witnesses to our mission of *OPUS CHRISTI*, Christ's work. **RCIA** is not a program but a sacramental process. **RCIA** reflects a sacramental attitude that is at the heart of all Christian living: *CONVERSION*, turning your heart to God.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US!

We will meet this Sunday, January 10 at 11:00 AM and Monday evening, January 11, 2016 from 7:00-8:30 PM in the Russo Room. Make-up sessions will be available.

We invite you to be our companion on the journey and discover the keys to the kingdom. If you would like more information about **RCIA**, please call Donna Scancarella at 973-779-6200.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES SCHEDULE

Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6: January 24, February 28

Grade 2: January 10 & 24, February 7 & 28

Grades 7, 8: January 10, February 7

Confirmation Grade 9, 10: January 10, February 7

YOUTH MINISTRY

Our Youth Ministry is a dynamic influence in the life of our young people averaging 30-35 in attendance at meetings. The next youth ministry meeting will be on January 14TH at 7PM in the youth room. Please follow us on Twitter and Instagram: @stphilipyouthnj for the most up to date information regarding youth ministry activities.

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

THE MONDAY NIGHT GROUP: January 11th and 25th at 6:30 PM. There is no need to sign up in advance. If you have had a loss in your life please join us.

THE NEW & RECENTLY BEREAVED GROUP: Wednesday, January 13th and 27th at 7:00 PM

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Poker Night: January 16, 2016. Come on out and play Texas Holdem with your neighbors and friends.

Msgr. Peter Doody Scholarship Beefsteak Dinner: January 30, 2016 helps provide scholarships to our grammar school children who want to further their Catholic education by going to one of our great Catholic High Schools. Catered by Nightingales.

Both events are held in the St. Philip's auditorium at 7:00 PM. Please contact Rich Donkersloot 973-650-3327 for additional information and to make reservations.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 21 BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2016

7:30 AM – 1:30 PM

ST. PHILIP'S AUDITORIUM

CONTACT COMMUNITY BLOOD SERVICE FOR AN APPOINTMENT:
201-251-3703

WALK INS ALWAYS WELCOME

FREE CHOLESTEROL AND GLUCOSE SCREENINGS

WEIGHT: AT LEAST 110 LBS. --- BRING ID WITH SIGNATURE

ST. PHILIP'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SAINT PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL STUDENT REFLECTIONS ON THE EPIPHANY:

On January 6th, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the time when the three Wise Men came to worship the Baby Jesus. They knew He was someone very special. So do we. We know that Jesus is "the light of the world." Jesus gives us the opportunity to turn on the light in what sometimes can be a dark world. Following Jesus' light will help us to "see better." If we are able to open our hearts and minds with the strength of this light, we will *really see* the needs of others. What can we do, what can I do, to help others as Jesus did? I can participate in food drives, collect clothes and blankets for the homeless, volunteer my services to the elderly, be more generous with my time to my family, and make time to build a more personal relationship with Jesus. Unlike the Magi, we do not need to offer gold, frankincense, or myrrh – HE has given us so many blessings, in return, let each of us joyfully be HIS light in this world.





New Jersey Catholic Conference Action Alert

S382, a bill authorizing assisted suicide, could be voted on in the State Senate on January 11 or 12, 2016.

This bill would allow a person who has a “terminal disease” to request a prescription from a physician for lethal drugs that would end their life. The Bill has many problems.

Please send an email to your State Senator asking them to vote “**NO**” on **S382**.

Pray for

THE SICK: Ann Marie Kwiatkowski, Derrick Medeiros, Tressa Bandel Domboski, Joan Hughes, Mildred Nerone, Silvia Berardo, Lara Buell, John Timochko, Margaret Schweighardt, Ryan G. Micale, Emma Wyman, Jane Hughes, Philomena DiStefano, Allison Llanos, Stanislaw Sudol, Frank Flanagan, Jayce Mazza, Patsy Sinisi, Barbara Sikora, Margaret Sikora, Steve Kuchta, Joseph Buhler, Sister Beverly Aiazzino

FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Edward Looney, Sr., Irene F. Wright, Daniel Calligaro, Johanna Nieczer, Judith Correale

THE NEWLY MARRIED:

Matthew C. Zinn and Michelle C. Lipari

PRIESTS’ SCHEDULE: JANUARY 16/17, 2016

5:30 PM	Fr. Joe	10:00 AM	Fr. Julio
8:00 AM	Msgr. Kevin	12:00 N:	Fr. Julio

PARISH GIVING

Solemnity of Mary – January 1, 2015	\$ 4,365.00
Total Sunday collection: January 4, 2015	\$14,214.00

Solemnity of Mary – January 1, 2016	\$ 4,404.00
January 3, 2016	
Envelopes	\$11,108 .00
Cash	\$ 1,404.00
Online Giving donations	\$ 3,576.00
Total	\$16,088.00

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or
Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2016

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish
- 10:00** Felicia & Pietro Mannarino
Francis McBride
John Brennan
Ann Lambro
- 12:00** Ann Hennig
Evelyn Shaughnessey

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016

- 7:00** Eva Serratelli
- 9:00** Julio A. Barrios, Sr.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

- 7:00** The Flanagan Family
- 9:00** Caroline Distasio

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016

- 7:00** The Lynch Family
- 9:00** Fred Anthony – 4th Anniversary

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016

- 7:00** Deceased members of the McNamara Family
- 9:00** The Valentino Family

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016

- 7:00** The Tosi Family
- 9:00** Mary Fiori

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016

- 9:00 AM** Dan Calligaro
- 5:30 PM** Howard Glinkin
Charles Elbert – 1st Anniversary
Gene Musto – 25th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2016

- 8:00** Sylvia Bettio
Albert Levendusky
- 10:00** Robert Buell – 30th Anniversary
Ananias & Esperanza De La Cruz
- 12:00** All the People of the Parish

Sanctuary Candle: Rosemarie Fritzsch
From the Fritzsch Family

