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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

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28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 10, 2021



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Evening 5:30 PM
Sunday..... 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM (Broadcast) & 12:00 PM
Mondays thru Saturdays..... 9:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday 4:30 to 5:00 PM

Please telephone the Parish Office
if you would like a priest to visit you
or a family member at home
or in the hospital.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

A priest was giving a homily on heaven and hell. At one point, he asked the people: "Is there anybody here who wants to go to heaven? Please stand." As expected, everybody in the church stood up. Then he asked again: "Who would like to go to hell? Will you please stand?" Nobody moved. But after a short while, the priest's sacristan, seated in front, very slowly and with much struggle and trepidation, stood up. The priest was surprised: "Abdul, do you want to go to hell?" The sacristan answered, "No, Father." "Then why did you stand?" the priest asked. He answered, "Father, I can see you are standing alone. Being your sacristan, I have to go wherever you go."

Everybody wants to go to heaven. The rich young man asked Jesus: "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mk 10:17). He, too, wanted to go to heaven. But in the end, he went away sad. This could be the same case with many of us. Everybody wants to go to heaven, but many may end up like the rich young man – disappointed and sad.

The young man replied to Jesus: "All of these I have observed from my youth." This is to say that by local standard he was a very religious person. He must have been observing every letter of the law, strictly adhering to the commandments and was meticulous in following all rituals and rubrics of his religion. He was contented with this narrow and shallow understanding of religion. Jesus wasted no time to diagnose his spiritual disease. His ailment: an obsession with the love of the law and deficiency of the law of love. Unfortunately, He was not aware of the ultimate demand of the law of love, which is to give nothing less than everything. Jesus looked at him with love and was brutally frank with him and gave him this tough prescription: "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come follow me." He was totally unhappy about what Jesus demanded of him and so he walked away sad, because he had many possessions – properties, money, industries, etc.

He went away sad because he was unwilling to tow the new path, the perfect way of happiness which Jesus was pointing to him. He was so self-sufficient and self-reliant and was reluctant to empty himself and get rid of the weight of wealth. He appeared to be a man who was deeply immersed in piety and orthodoxy but deficient in radical spirituality. His understanding of religion did not include one essential element, which is the spirit of self-sacrifice. He identified himself with his wealth to the extent he could neither sacrifice his life to the service of others, nor renounce his wealth for the benefit of the needy.

The Gospel portrays him as a rich man surrounded by opulence but lacking in the wealth of wisdom.

Invariably, he missed the gift of salvation Christ was offering him. After the rich man walked away, Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God... It is easier for a Camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." The disciples were shell shocked to hear these words from Jesus and they said among themselves, "Then who can be saved?" Was Jesus totally condemning all wealthy people? Not at all! He was sending a serious warning to those who believe more in their wealth more than they believe in God. He was sounding a note of warning about the false sense of security that money gives.

In the world today, the volume of people's wealth determines their worth of people. For example, we read and hear about someone who is worth 1 million dollars and another who is worth 10 billion dollars. This false measurement of the worth of the human person tends to say that "We are what we have." Jesus denounces the idea of obsession with possessions. The message of the Gospel is this, perhaps: **In this world, it is not what we take up, but what we give up that makes us rich.** Jesus was aware of the common sins associated with the rich, which include stinginess, extravagance, ruthlessness, oppression, pride, greed, debauchery, exploitation, insensitivity, and the tendency to attach their self-worth to their wealth. The world tells us get rich and happiness is all yours, but Jesus on the contrary teaches that material affluence does not necessarily translate into happiness. Being wealthy does not equate to being happy.

The rich young man considered gold more than God. He could not set his priorities right. The book of wisdom provides us with a hierarchy of values where it places wisdom as a gift that is over and above material wealth and political power (see Wisdom 7:7-11). The Psalmist prays to God to teach us the shortness of our life so that we can be wise (Psalm 90). In the book of Hebrews (4:12-13) we discover that wisdom is not necessarily found in wealth but in the Word of God, which is alive and active. It is God's Word that reveals to us the truth about ourselves, it is the Word that helps us to discern the difference between true and false happiness and it is the Word that penetrates the innermost core of the human person, which is the soul. The rich young man is present in each one of us each time we find it difficult to detach ourselves from what we possess and each time we become obsessed with our possessions.

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study sessions will resume on Monday, October 18th in the Jubilee Wing Room of the Molloy Center at 11 AM. We will study the Gospel of St. John and reflect on the words and actions of Jesus and more especially in Chapter 6, where Jesus promises us the Holy Eucharist.

This is most appropriate as we prepare for "The Year of the Eucharist" which begins in January of next year, emphasizing the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

READERS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

On Saturday, November 13th at 9:30 AM we will have a mandatory refresher course in the church.

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Saint Philip Preparatory School Students Enjoy the Changing Season

As the days grow colder and the leaves begin to change color, students at Saint Philip Preparatory School are learning about and getting a first-hand look at the beauty of God's Creation around them. Along with the change of seasons, comes the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi on

October 4, who is remembered for his generosity to the poor and love of animals and nature. Additionally, since October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary, students have been learning about the significance of this powerful devotion to Our Blessed Mother, Mary.

~

Saint Philip Preparatory School is searching for full time certified teachers. Qualified candidates please send your resume to: barbara.zito@stphilipprep.com

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

COLUMBIETTES

International Dinner and Tricky Tray

Everyone is invited! Mary Ellen Valentin International Dinner and Tricky Tray Sunday, October 17, 2021. Serving in the Auditorium at 1 PM. Tickets are \$25 Adults, \$10 Children 10 and under. Tickets will be sold after selected Masses or call 973-881-7977.

Columbiette Membership Drive

If you are interested in becoming a Columbiette, there will be an Initiation Ceremony soon. Membership is open to women, 17 years of age and older who are practicing Catholics. If you are interested in joining and would like more information, please call Cathie Murtha (973-471-1265) or Sharon Festa (973-742-0926).

Columbiettes Blanket Ministry

The next meeting of the blanket ministry will be Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 9:45am in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome. For more information call Cathie Murtha. (973-471-1265)

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Widow and Widowers group will meet on Monday, October 18th at 2 PM in Cerullo Hall in the Molloy Center. Counting on you to join us for prayers, socialization and meeting new friends. Everyone is welcome!

ROSARY SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Rosary Society will be held on Monday, **October 18th in Marian Hall**. The meeting will begin with Mass and the Rosary at 6:30 pm. All are welcome!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knight's Coats for Kid's Drive

Our Council is greatly appreciative for generosity of our parishioners in the Coats for Kids drive. We'll be ordering our coats at the end of October. Thus far, we will be purchasing 14 boxes with 12 coats to a box and distributing them around Thanksgiving to needy children here in Clifton. If you want to help mail checks to K of C Council 11671 c/o Mike Cervine 5 Fair Hill Rd., Clifton, 07013

Upcoming Knight's Events

Oct. 23-24	Recruiting Weekend
Nov. 6	Mass for the Disabled
Dec. 11	"Needy" Kids Christmas
Dec. 19	Blood Drive
Jan. 29	Kids Free Throw Contest.

DIOCESAN NEWS

3K ROSARY FOR LIFE

**Our Lady of Fatima "3K Rosary for Life" on Wed.
Oct. 13th at 7:00 PM:**

Join the virtual **"3K Rosary for Life Conference Call"**
on **Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 PM**
which is being organized by LIFENET in partnership
with Array of Hope.

Join Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli and priests from
throughout NJ to pray for the Protection of Babies in the
Womb and in reparation for the sin of abortion.

Our Lady wants us to pray the rosary!

For more info: 973-497-4500.

To view on-line, register at:

watch.arrayofhope.net/pages/3krosaryforlife

To join via conference call, register at:

lifeneteducation.org/3krosaryforlife

Conference Call Number: 425-436-6277;

Code: 759297#

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

"If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."

—St. Francis of Assisi

We enjoyed seeing your cute pets last Saturday!



.Fr. Kevin blesses Banjo

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Declan Sullivan

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: OCTOBER 4, 2020	\$ 20,544.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: OCTOBER 3, 2021	
Weekly Collection	\$ 10,347.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 8,335.00
Total	\$ 18,682.00

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021

- 8:00** All the People of the Parish
10:00 Mary and John Gallagher
 Jack McSweeney
 Francesca Pugliano
 Tadeusz Golaszewski
12:00 Genevieve "Jean" Tarnowski
 Nancy Lupi

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2021

- 9:00** John Cerullo
 Jerry and Millie Scrosia

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021

- 9:00** Robert and Catherine Frank

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

- 9:00** Catherine Baker

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

- 9:00** Richard and Dorothy Piechocki
 Ralph Wescott

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021

- 9:00** Jack McSweeney
 Kathleen Criscuolo

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021

- 9:00** Patrick Jeffrey
5:30 All the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021

- 8:00** Nicholas Storms
 Margot Segarra- 4th Anniversary
10:00 John Strangeway- 5th Anniversary
 Deceased members of the McNamara Family
 Tom Tromellen- 2nd Anniversary
 Vincenzo Corallo
12:00 John Satkowski
 Jack McSweeney

WE PRAY FOR...

THE DECEASED: Raymond Dhondt, Jr, Violet Carisi

THE SICK: Christine Kessler, Luca Ataide, Larry Pedroza

PRIESTS' SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 16, 2021

5:30 PM Fr. Kevin

OCTOBER 17, 2021

8:00 AM Fr. Nico
 10:00 AM Fr. Monteleone
 12:00 PM Fr. Monteleone

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