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Lay Trustee

Mr. John Hughes
Lay Trustee



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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

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



3rd Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022



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

My Dear Parishioners,

There is a powerful lesson in today's Gospel. But it is difficult to spot because of the English translation of the Greek text of the scriptures. In English we use one word, "love," for a number of different circumstances. But in Greek there are different words for distinct kinds of love. The Greek word *agape* describes the highest kind of love, a self-giving love, a creative love, a love that is similar to the love of God. But Greek has another word, *philia*, to describe ordinary human love, the kind of love that we give to one another. Now there is nothing wrong with *philia*. Human love is a good thing. But it does not compare to the exalted status of *agape*.

Three times in today's Gospel Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" And three times Peter responds, "Lord you know I love you." But what we cannot hear in our English translation is that two different words are being used here for love. Basically, what Jesus is asking of Peter is the highest form of love, *agape*. But what Peter is offering in return is ordinary human love, *philia*. If I was going to push this translation to catch this nuance it would go something like this. Jesus asks, "Simon, son of John, do you love me with the highest form of love?" And Peter responds, "Lord, I love you with ordinary love." Disappointed Jesus tries a second time. "Simon, son of John, do you love me with the highest form of love. Peter responds again, "Lord, I love you with ordinary love." By this time, it has become clear to Jesus that although he is asking the highest form of love from Peter what Peter is offering in return is only ordinary love. This sets the context for the important lesson that is present in this Gospel. Jesus asks a third time, and this time he does not use the word *agape*. This time he uses Peter's word for love. A third time Jesus says, "Simon, son of John, so you love me with ordinary love?" And Peter says, "Lord you know all things, you know that's the way I love you." Then Jesus says, "Feed my sheep."

Now the lesson that emerges from this interplay of Greek vocabulary is that Peter falls short of Jesus' expectation. But Jesus accepts Peter anyway and makes him the shepherd of the sheep. Jesus wanted the highest form of love from Peter, but Peter could only offer a lesser kind of love. But Jesus settles for second best. He still commissions Peter to be the leader of the early church. Of course, Jesus is showing us the way that God loves us. God always calls us to more, always calls us to a higher level. But when we fall short, when we cannot reach that highest level, God accepts us anyway. God still commissions us to be disciples.

This is a very comforting message to us as we look at our own inadequacies. But from another perspective it is

a challenging message because the greatest commandment of the fourth Gospel is that we are to love one another as Christ has loved us. And if Christ has loved us even when we do not rise to the highest level of his expectation, then Jesus is asking us to love one another in that same way.

How much frustration do we have in our life because the people in our life are not the people, we want them to be. We want our leaders in the church and in government to be wise and to anticipate problems and to solve them before those problems hurt us. But very frequently those leaders fall short. They get behind the curve and they appear confused or inadequate. We want our spouse to be understanding and attentive. But many times, we experience him or her as harsh or preoccupied. We want our boss to be creative and flexible. But many times, all that is asked of us is attention to routine detail. If only our children would be more motivated; if only our parents could be less stubborn; if only our friends would be on time. In matters large and small the people in our life often fall short of who we want them to be. And the message that comes to us from Jesus' action with Peter is that we are still to accept them as the people that they are. We are to love them for the goodness that they offer us rather than criticize them for the goodness that they lack.

Now this does not mean that Jesus asks us to put up with anything, or that we should not hold people accountable, or that we should not challenge people to grow. But it does tell us is that when people love us, there is wisdom in accepting that love even if it is second best.

There is a line from an old film, *Sunday Bloody Sunday*, where one lover tells another: "I know I'm not giving you what you want, but I'm giving you what I have." In a way, that is what Peter says to Jesus in today's Gospel. "I'm not giving you the love you want but I'm giving you the love I have." Jesus accepts that love and commissions Peter to feed his sheep. Jesus does that because that is the way Jesus loves us. That also is the way he wants us to love one another.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone



SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

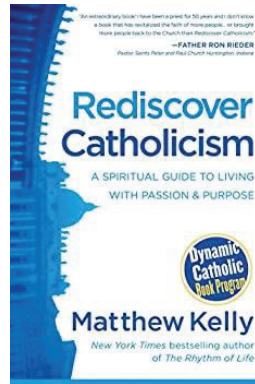
FR. NICO'S BOOK NOOK

Join Fr. Nico in a Book Discussion on Matthew Kelly's
Rediscover Catholicism

Meetings will be in the Youth Room of the Molly Center on the following dates:

Thursday, May 12, 7 to 8 PM
Thursday, May 26, 7 to 8 PM
Thursday, June 2, 7 to 8 PM
Saturday, June 4, 10 to 11 AM

To register and receive a free copy of the book, please call Linda at (973) 779-6200 before Friday, May 4th.



PRIESTS' SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

5:30 PM Fr. Nico

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

8:00 AM Fr. Jared

10:00 AM Fr. Monteleone

12:00 PM Fr. Kevin

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Our St. Philip students returned to class this week after their Easter break. They are refreshed and ready for the challenges of the last quarter of the year!

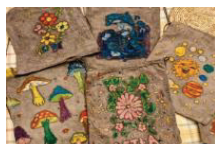


Our Second Graders have completed the First Communion interviews and are excited about receiving Jesus for the first-time next week.

Intermediate School students in Grade Four are beginning to learn about the Midwest Region of the United States, while the Fifth Graders are studying Lewis and Clark's Expedition.



Our after-school Art Clubs continue to exhibit their creative talents!



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRIME TIMERS

A meeting of the Prime Timers will be held on Friday, May 6th at 1 PM in Marian Hall, at which time we will be holding a Tricky Tray. Details for the June luncheon will also be discussed.

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Widow and Widowers Group will meet on Monday, March 14th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Join us for prayers, socialization, and meeting new friends. All are welcome!

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The HSA is hosting a Paint and Sip night on Friday, May 6th in the Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 PM and Painting begins at 7 PM. Must be 21 years of age to attend. This is a BYOB event.



We will be painting Palm Beach Paradise as shown.

Tickets are \$45 a person and can be purchased at

<https://stphilipprep.com/paintnite/>

COLUMBIETTES

Blanket Ministry

The next meetings of the blanket ministry are Thursday, May 5th and 19th, 2022 at 9:45 AM in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! For more information, yarn and fabric donations, call Cathie Murtha at (973) 471-1265.

Drive-by Baby Shower



The St. Philip Columbiettes are hosting a

Drive-By Baby/Children's Shower

on Saturday, May 14th from 9:40 to 11:00 AM in the parking lot. This will benefit St. Mary's Family Service in Passaic. Items needed: diapers, wipes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, new and "gently used" clothing in sizes newborn to age 12 for boys and girls.

To volunteer please contact Sharon at (973) 742-0926.

ST. PHILIP'S ANNUAL CARNIVAL



Thursday June 16 6-10 PM
Friday June 17 6-11 PM
Saturday June 18 6:30-11 PM

VALLEY RIDES & AMUSEMENTS

RIDES GAMES FOOD DRINK

Sponsorship Opportunities are available at
stphilip.org/carnival

Or in the Molloy Center

Soda/Water Donations

Name brand soda and bottled water for the Soda & Water
Booth can be left at the school kitchen door.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

OPEN HOUSE



MORRIS CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

Morris Catholic High School is accepting applications for the
Class of 2026 and for transfer students for this upcoming
academic year. Learn more about Morris Catholic through our
Admissions events!

Our Open House date is:

Wednesday, May 11th from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

You can sign up for these events at

www.morriscatholic.org/openhouse/

We are also offering shadow days and in-person campus tours. Contact
admissions@morriscatholic.org to schedule one of these visits or for
more information about our application process!

You can also visit www.morriscatholic.org to learn more about all of
our athletic, academic, and extracurricular programs.

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Mila Juliana



Madeline Mary

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: APRIL 25, 2021	\$ 15,381.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: APRIL 24, 2022	
WEEKLY COLLECTION	\$ 10,134.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION	\$ 6,503.00
TOTAL	\$ 16,637.00
Easter 2021	\$ 61,952.00
Easter 2022 YTD	\$ 50,169.00

Upcoming Second Collections:

May 8th - Project Faith

This collection is to provide resources for diocesan ministry,
religious education, parish family life and social services.

WE PRAY FOR...

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace...

Jack Cannon, Elvira Maldonado, Rev. Richard J. Hadyka

A Time to be Healed...

Susan Stierlen, Jill Festa,
Debbie Werthmann, Sylvia Shami,
Edward Kovacs, Dominick Cappello,
Raymond Fitzpatrick, Todd Daigneault,
Cheri Albanesius, George Heyrich,
James Jablonowski, Elmer Rodriguez,
Michele Bellisano, Michael Barbetta



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022

- 8:00** John Michal
Johnny Rios
10:00 Marlene Ruvo
Elaine and Jerome Cipolla
Eleanor Kasenchar
Ricardo C Reyes, Jr.
12:00 All the People of the Parish

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

- 9:00** Justin Ramos

TUESDAY, May 3, 2022

- 9:00** Betty Kuhn - 1st Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, May 4, 2022

- 9:00** Magna Jumao-as
Nicholas Storms

THURSDAY, May 5, 2022

- 9:00** Antoinette Altomare

FRIDAY, May 6, 2022

- 9:00** Hattie and Frank Roszkiewicz

SATURDAY, May 7, 2022

- 9:00** Dr. Danilo Bolina
5:30 All the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

- 8:00** Virginia Castiglia and Rosa Masino
Nick Bissell
10:00 MaryAnne Spohn
Robert Drozdowski
Anna Mari and Nicola Pansini
Ilda Frazao
12:00 Lisa Ann Kamm
Elinor Schroeder

There will be a Memorial Mass on Thursday, May 5th at
11:30 AM for Phyllis Hassen and Marie Marrocco.

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