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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

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



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 11, 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

Dear Parishioners,

I heard this story long ago and feel it should be shared with you. It always brings a smile to my face. I hope it does for you as well.

Sheep Number 98 turned to Sheep Number 99 and said, "They're baaaaack."

Sheep 99 looked up from the grass on which he was munching and saw their shepherd coming towards them. On his shoulders, joyfully placed, was a tattered and somewhat still panicked Sheep Number 100. Sheep 99 shook his head. "It's always the same story. No matter how often Sheep Number 100 gets lost, he never learns, and our shepherd goes searching for him. The problem with Sheep Number 100 is that he doesn't listen. What is the basic rule of our flock?"

All the sheep around him lifted their heads and cried out "Stick together!"

"Right," said Sheep Number 99, "Stick together. That's what our shepherd asks of us. But Sheep 100 never obeys. He simply does what he wants to do."

Sheep Number 98 said, "I'm fed up with this. Let's go talk to the shepherd."

So, the two of them went over to the shepherd. They found him seated still picking thorns and brambles out of the fleece of Sheep Number 100. "We're unhappy," they said.

"Really?" said the shepherd. "What's the problem?"

"You're never around anymore. You're always going looking for Sheep 100. You know he's never going to learn."

"I have my hopes," said the shepherd, placing Sheep 100 back on the grass and giving him a light pat on the rump.

"But what are we supposed to do while you're out on the hills searching for the lost sheep?"

"Do you have food to eat?" asked the shepherd.

"Yes," said the sheep. "But a wolf might come."

"Has a wolf come?" asked the shepherd.

"No, but it could. We just don't understand why you keep going out searching for Sheep 100."

"I love him," said the shepherd.

"Well, what about us?" said Sheep Number 98 and 99.

"I love you too," said the shepherd. "I hope you know that."

But Sheep 98 and 99 would not give up. "It's because you love us and because we love you that we want you here, instead of out on the hills looking for Sheep 100. He has you all the time. What do we have?"

The shepherd sighed. "I haven't forgotten you. I thought the gift that I gave you was obvious. . . . You have one another."

There are times when you and I mess things up, times when we get lost in all kinds of nonsense. On those days we are Sheep Number 100. But on most days, we are among the 99. We try to keep the rules. We try to be attentive to our responsibilities as parents, spouses, and friends. We try to do what is right. So, it can be difficult when God seems to be paying more attention to those who do not try to do what is right. It might be someone we know who is manipulative and self-serving and yet is tremendously

successful, having money and living a lifestyle that we could never hope for. It might be someone who is phony and deceitful and yet has more friends and influence than we have. It might be someone who does not contribute, never pitches in, and yet shows up at work, school, or church for some event and simply benefits off the work that other people have done. Why is it that people who lack integrity, generosity, and charity seem to be doing fine, while we who are trying to do what is right are barely making it? When you are in the 99, it is easy to become jealous of those who break the rules and are still blessed, of those who make poor choices and still claim God's love.



The danger of being in the 99 is that we will resent the love and blessing that God gives to others and forget the love and blessing that God gives to us. The fact that God is caring for those who broke the rules does not mean that God has less love for those who keep the rules. The fact that God is searching for the one who is lost does not mean that God has forgotten those who are faithful.

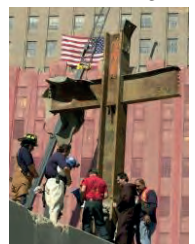
Therefore, the challenge for us is that instead of resenting what God has given to others, we should be thankful for what God has given to us. Our shepherd has provided for us. We have food. We have safety. And, yes, we have one another. Moreover, if we are successful in being people of integrity, generosity, and service, then those are gifts from God as well. When we truly recognize and are thankful for what we have been given, we have no reason to complain.

We will never stop God from going after those who are lost. That simply is who God is. But finding them is not forgetting us. We must remember that God's care and love are infinite. So, there is always enough love for those who wander, and just as much for those who remain.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

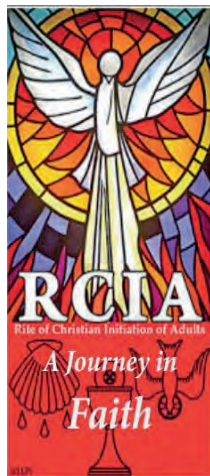
IN PRAYERFUL REMEMBRANCE

Gracious God, our world changed with the 9/11 attacks. We have seen how easily buildings can fall and how quickly lives can end. As we remember 9/11, may it remind us that you are our only true security. Give us your strength to face the memory of this attack and the changes it made in our lives.



FAITH FORMATION

Those who are 18 years and older, who would like to be fully initiated (Full Sacramental initiation means the reception of the 3 Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) or have not received any of these 3 Sacraments, can inquire about the **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**. This ancient sacramental process prepares adults to come into full communion with the Catholic Church. **RCIA** focuses on faith development and maturing one's relationship with God.



Ready to start your journey?

Please call the parish office at (973) 779 6200 RCIA at St. Philip is starting **September 12th, 2022**. We will meet on Mondays from 7 to 8 PM in the Molloy Center.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The Widow and Widowers Group will meet on Monday, September 12th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Join us for prayers, socialization, and meeting new friends. All are welcome!

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The first meeting of the blanket ministry will be Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 9:45 AM in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! You do not have to be a Columbiette to join. We donate hand crafted items to schools, hospitals, homeless shelters, and hospice centers to name a few. If you have any questions or would like to donate fabric or yarn, call Cathie Murtha at (973) 471-1265.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Choir of St. Philip will resume its ministry with our first rehearsal on Monday, **September 12th**. Rehearsals are held regularly in church on Monday evenings 7 to 9 PM and the choir sings for the 10 AM Mass on Sundays throughout the season. We welcome returning members, as well as new members who are interested in joining this ministry! If you are interested, please speak with our Director of Music and Organist, Frank Hydash, after Mass with questions or for more information.



NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE UNBORN AND HEALING

Saturday, **September 17, 2022**, 9 AM Mass followed by Prayer Vigil in Marian Hall

A time to memorialize the unborn and a time for healing
Guest speaker: Cheryl A. Riley, *Director Respect Life Office for the Archdiocese of Newark*

Sponsored by the Columbiettes, Knights of Columbus, and the Ancient Order of Hibernian.

For information, please contact:

Sharon Festa (973) 742-0926

or GK Mike Cervine (973) 220-3095.

DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

PATERSON DIOCESE ALTAR SERVER DAY

St. Paul Inside the Walls

205 Madison Ave., Madison, New Jersey

Saturday, September 17, 2022, 11 AM to 4 PM

Bishop will Celebrate Mass w/ Eucharistic Procession

For more information visit www.patersonvocations.org

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Bishop Sweeney is pleased to announce the premier event of the Diocesan Year of the Eucharist, inviting all parishioners to attend the Eucharistic Congress on September 24 and 25 at the Cathedral in Paterson. Several events in both English and Spanish will feature prayer, community, and talks from **Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization at the Vatican**. For a full schedule of events and to register, visit rcdop.org/year-of-the-eucharist

CATHEDRAL of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Paterson, NJ

The Eucharist: The Source and Summit of the New Evangelization

Friday, September 23rd – Sunday, September 25th

Bishop Sweeney and the Diocese of Paterson welcome **Archbishop Rino Fisichella**, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization to speak on the Eucharist and the New Evangelization.

FRIDAY, September 23 rd	SATURDAY, September 24 th	SUNDAY, September 25 th
7:00 pm Solemn Evening Prayer and Presentation for Priests, Religious, and Deacons	10:00 am Midmorning Prayer and Presentation in English (8:30 am - Refreshments in the Rodimer Center)	3:00 pm Closing Bilingual Mass
	2:00 pm Mid-afternoon Prayer and Presentation in Spanish (1:30 pm - Refreshments in the Rodimer Center)	

All events will take place at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist 381 Grand Street, Paterson, New Jersey

Parking Available in the County Lot across from the Cathedral Offices

Registration is required.
Visit rcdop.org/year-of-the-eucharist for more information and to register or scan the QR code.

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Josephine Alma

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 \$21,435.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION: SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

WEEKLY COLLECTION \$ 9,836.00

ONLINE GIVING DONATION \$ 8,077.00

TOTAL \$17,913.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
September 11 - Project Faith

PRIESTS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

5:30 PM Fr. Nico

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

8:00 AM Fr. Monteleone

10:00 AM Fr. Monteleone

12:00 PM Fr. Kevin

PLEASE NOTE

Fr. Monteleone has made an exception to our parish policy for the Chidiac family to celebrate a repast in honor of ***Mrs. Marlene Chidiac*** on Friday in the Marian Hall. She had served and taught in our school for over 40 years.

Please remember that use of any of our parish and school facilities for a repast is not the norm.

WE PRAY FOR...

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

Marlene Chidiac, Michael Joseph Landers, June Sudol, Pamela Rudy

A Time to be Healed...

Susan Stierlen, Jill Festa, Sylvia Shami, Edward Kovacs, Dominick Cappello, Todd Daigneault, Cheri Albanesius, James Jablonowski, Elmer Rodriguez, Michael Barbetta, John Hughes, Bernadette Menzaco



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

8:00 Phyllis Fiarotta
Anthony & Mary Venditti

10:00 Lorraine Grande
Margaret McEwan
Leona Lamberti Bruno
Vicente A. Moises

12:00 Elena Sanz
Carolina DellaFave

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

9:00 Mary Shashaty
Giuseppe Spatola

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

9:00 Louise Stolarz

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

9:00 Frances and Sal Monteleone
Jack DeMarco

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

9:00 Angela Altmann
Sergio D'Alto

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022

9:00 Daniel Mutter
Deana Piserchia

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

9:00 National Day of Remembrance

5:30 Msgr. Jack Wehrle
Louise Stolarz
Joseph Scatelli

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

8:00 All the People of the Parish

10:00 Primitivo Navarro and Alfredo Beltre
Generosa Spatola
Lois Margaret Crotty Cooke
Stephen Hansen

12:00 Al Mayewski-25th Anniversary
Jim and Sylvia Fariello

CANDLE: WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11th

In memory of Catherine Hughes
-With Love, From Dad



GIFTS: WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 11th

In memory of Salvatore Lo Balbo
-From Mr. & Mrs. Salvatore D'Angelo & Mr. & Mrs. Filadelfo Lenzo



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