### PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. David Monteleone *Pastor* frmonteleone@stphilip.org

Rev. Nico Quintos Parochial Vicar nquintos@stphilip.org

Rev. Jared Brogan In-Residence

Dcn. Nicholas Veliky *Deacon* nveliky@stphilip.org

Dcn. Robert G. Ayers

Deacon

deaconbob@stphilip.org

Ms. Danielle Gonzalez Principal Principalgonzalez @stphilipprep.com

Mrs. Denise Pannullo Faith Formation dpanullo@stphilip.org

Ms. Vicky Velasco

Confirmation Program

vvelasco@stphilip.org

Mr. Frank Hydash

Director of Music
frankhydash@rocketmail.com

Mr. Carlos Arias

Maintenance Supervisor
carias@stphilip.org

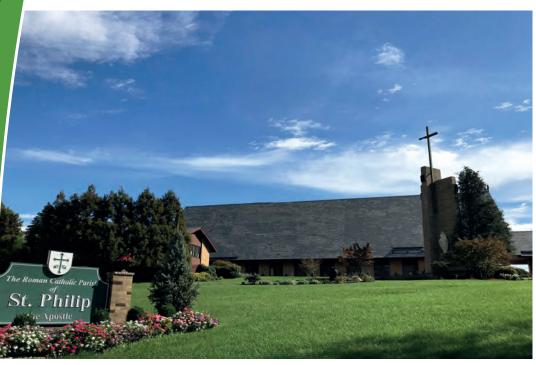
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Mr. John Hughes Lay Trustee



# St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013 www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



## Ascension of the Lord May 21, 2023



#### **CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

Saturday Evening	5:30 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM, 10:00 AM (Broadcast) & 12:00 PM
•	9:00 AM

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

### **HOLY HOUR**

Every Friday ......9:30 to 10:30 AM

For a Communion visit and/or Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish office.



#### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

"I could never forgive him after what he did to me." "You want me to do what? Forgive her? No way!" "I'm supposed to just let them get away with treating me like that? Not going to happen!"

As a priest for almost 10 years, I have heard people say things like this countless times. My response is always the same: "Holding on to hurts is more toxic to your heart and soul than to the one who hurt you." Forgiving someone who hurt you is never easy, but working through the process removes a major obstacle on the path of wellness.

Some people who seek counseling from me are often surprised when I ask if they have forgiven someone who hurt them. They fail to see the link between their mental distress and unresolved conflict with others. But my experience has erased all doubt that hanging on to offenses and emotional wounds is an effective (and unfortunate) way to punish yourself.

Forgiveness can be a loaded word for many people. It carries conflicting religious overtones or hints of pop culture sentimentalism many of us have learned to distrust.

The sticking point for most people is a burning desire for justice. They can't bear to let someone "get away with" a hurtful offense. But ignoring or overlooking someone's misdeeds is not the essence of forgiveness at all. Rather, it's about your own experience of life's inevitable conflicts and whether you will go on reliving the pain they caused or let go and move on. In short, forgiveness brings freedom for you.

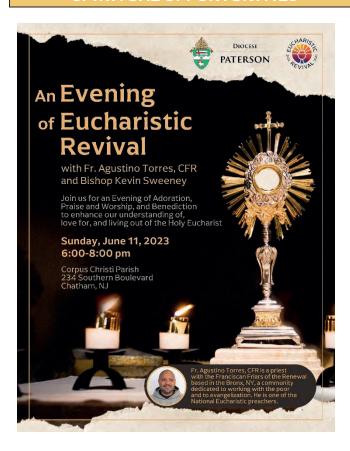
Forgiveness isn't about letting someone off the hook. This misunderstanding lies in the belief that forgiving someone is the same thing as excusing the offense. It isn't. The purpose of forgiveness is not to deliver anything at all to the one who caused us harm, but to benefit ourselves by letting go of toxic attachment to the past. Forgiveness is not a sign of weakness, it is a sign of strength---you will not let a past hurt or person control you.

Forgiveness is a detox for the heart & soul. Forgiveness is a powerful way to cleanse ourselves of harmful emotions that would otherwise impede our healing & wellness. Forgiveness is a choice, not a feeling. It is a deliberate response to pain and injury--- that can be acted on even if you don't feel like it. The ability to forgive can be learned. The power can be yours! Lastly, forgiveness is a pathway towards peacefulness. Learning to forgive helps lighten our emotional load, brighten our outlook on life & shorten our recovery time.

I hope this letter is helpful. So often in life we carry past hurts and grudges. When we let go and forgive, we become better people, but also follow Christ more closely.

Peace, Fr. Monteleone

#### SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES





May is a busy month here at SPPS! The annual Walkathon fundraiser was held on Friday 5/19 and enjoyed by all. Our first TREP\$ Marketplace in several years took place on Saturday 5/20.

Congratulations to all our young entrepreneurs! Our 8th graders are getting ready for final exams this week--good luck and God Bless.

Please look forward to news on upcoming field trips, field day, Genius Hour, and the 8th Grade's final days here at St. Philip.

#### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

#### FR. ENGLISH CENTER FOOD COLLECTION

The Father English Food Pantry is in desperate need of food donations. The pantry feeds the working poor and about 20,000 families are served monthly with more than 1,000 food bags distributed daily. Most clients work but cannot afford to feed their families. Please help them by bringing only NON-PERISHABLE food items with you June 10th and 11th when you come to Mass. Please consider the following donations: canned tuna, canned chicken, rice, beans, pasta, pasta sauce (plastic bottles) lentils, peanut butter and dry cereals.

All donations can be brought in a box or bag. Thank you and please leave your donations in the back of the church as you enter. All items will be picked up by 10 AM on the Monday after collection.

#### **LIFE MINISTRY**

#### Jesus Loves the Little Children





him, and placed the child among them. And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. Mt. 18:24

#### SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### **ROSARY SOCIETY**

All are welcome to join us in honoring Our Blessed Mother at our May 22 meeting. Our annual induction begins with Mass at **6:30 PM** in **Marian Hall**. Please join us as we recite the Rosary during this special month of Mary. Refreshments and camaraderie to follow!

#### WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The next meeting of the widow and widowers will be on Monday, June 12th at 2 PM in the Molloy Center.

#### PRIME TIMERS

The annual luncheon of the Prime Timers will be on Friday, June 9th at 1 PM at Bella Napoli restaurant on Broad St, Bloomfield. The cost is \$50 per person. For reservations, please contact Stasia at (973) 473-2068 or Grace at (973) 684-1955.

#### ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Tuesday, June 20th. Bus leaves from St. Philips Drive at 9:30 AM. Price is \$40. For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.



#### **COLUMBIETTES**



#### **CARNIVAL**

St. Philips Carnival will be 4 days this year, Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 6 - 11 PM Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 6 -11 PM Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30 - 11 PM Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> 2 - 8 PM



We are looking for new volunteers to join all of our veterans volunteers.

It's 4 days of fun, laughs, and excitement. If you would like to Volunteer, please contact Maureen at (973) 773-5161.

#### **Soda/Water Donations**

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

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

This year our parish is jumping with excitement as we are having STELLAR, a special Vacation Bible School (VBS) program created especially for Catholic children.

Our program will provide fun, and memorable scripture-

based activities, games, snacks, and interactive Bible adventures.

Children will collect Bible Memory-Buddies and



People of Faith Cards and create fun crafts to take home. STELLAR is an exciting way for kids to learn more about their faith. Each day concludes at STELLAR Finale, a sendoff that celebrates that day. We hope STELLAR will give our children a wonderful experience of fun and faith this summer.

# STELLAR begins on July 24<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM – 12 Noon and continues through July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Registration will be June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> before and after Masses. Cost for the week is \$25
Spaces are limited.

### **CARE OF CREATION RAFFLE**



#### WF PRAY FOR...

For the Recently Deceased...
Susan Cinek, Rev. Joseph E. Murphy

#### A Time to be Healed...

Lorraine DeBellis, Sebastian Centinaro, Pauline Jelken, The Sikora sisters, Arlene Bayuex, Jobo Valentin, Maria Tommaro

#### PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: MAY 15, 2022 \$ 17,731.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION: MAY 14, 2023

WEEKLY COLLECTION \$10,216.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION \$6,265.00
TOTAL \$16,481.00
SECOND COLLECTION-PROJECT FAITH \$2,121.00

EASTER 2022 \$52,844.00 EASTER 2023 YTD \$44,694.00

**Upcoming Second Collections:** 

May 21 - Peter's Pence (for the charity of the Holy Father)

May 28 - Project Faith

#### MASS INTENTIONS

#### **ASCENSION SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023**

8:00 Joan Knorr

JoAnn Monaco-Nouri

**10:00** Susan Voelkner - 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

Ed Kovacs

John McEwan

Salvatore LoBalbo

12:00 Deceased members of the Festa and Novaco

Families

Raymond Fitzpatrick - 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

#### MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023

9:00 Joseph Dewland

### **TUESDAY, May 23, 2023**

**9:00** Dorothea Anthony

Kathryn Miragliotta - 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023

9:00 Martha "Marge" Sirvidio

#### **THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023**

**9:00** Rocco Carlucci - 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Francisco and Francisca Domingo

#### FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023

9:00 James Elbert

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023**

**9:00** Emily Sokerka - 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Kimberly Glinkin

**5:30** Jessie McCormack

Ed Kovacs

Stefan Glaser

#### PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023

**8:00** For all the People of the Parish

10:00 Julius and Evelyn Stoehr

Harry Hadinata

Manuel and Mila Amador

Camille Pirrello

12:00 John Gatti

Anita Dellar

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