



Saint Philip the Apostle Preparatory School

*A Blue Ribbon
School of Excellence*

The Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 2025



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

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

A Tradition of Excellence • A History of Achievement

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

It is not very often that this Feast of the Presentation of the Lord falls on the Sunday. Nevertheless, it is a Feast that we can all enjoy. It is a Feast of Light. It is a Feast that for many years was considered the real end of the Christmas celebrations. It is a Feast that was for many years thought of as a Feast of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. It is a Feast for old people.

The prophecy of Malachi tells us that suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek, and the messenger of the covenant whom you desire. Those who were waiting for the Lord and for a Savior could never have imagined that it was this baby coming into the temple that fulfilled this prophecy. So often this is the way of our God: a surprise with complete love but a totally unexpected fulfillment of His word.

The Letter to the Hebrews tells us that Jesus had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way. This reflects again this tremendous mystery that God takes on our flesh, God becomes one of us, God the Almighty becomes a child in the womb and is born for us. Today that child is presented in the temple, like any normal child would have been. Jesus is truly human and truly God. Jesus is human in every aspect of His life, just as we are, except that He does not sin.

The Gospel today is from Luke and tells the story of the presentation in the temple. This is where we meet the old people who have stayed in the temple, waiting for a Messiah, waiting for the Lord to send salvation for His people. It is a lesson for us because these old people have been praying and because of their spiritual gifts are able to recognize the Lord in this child.

Simeon knew from a prophecy that the Lord would come to the temple. Surely, he was not expecting this 40-day old child! Yet Simeon is able to recognize in this child, the Savior of the world. This can encourage us to pray and to become old praying. The more we pray, the more we see in the spiritual world.

Anna is another model of old age. She had no prophecy ahead of time but recognizes this child as the Redeemer and gives thanks to God. Once more we are reminded to keep praying and to trust in the Lord. God never abandons His people.

Salvation and Redemption are at work today in our lives and in our world, even when we seem blind to these realities. Not all recognized the Savior and Redeemer in the child Jesus. Not all can see the work of God today. Let us rejoice in the gift of faith.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The faculty, staff and students at St Philip Preparatory enjoyed a full week of special events as they participated in Catholic Schools Week.

The flurry of activities began on Monday with a special 9AM mass celebrated by Bishop Sweeny. All students considered their role as Catholics on Mission Day when they listened to the remarks of a guest speaker from the charitable leaders of Good Counsel Homes.

On Tuesday students came dressed as their future career.

Thursday was a school wide event matching middle school students with primary students on Buddy Day. Big buddies read to their little buddy and the students jointly created a small craft to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

Friday was spirit day capped off by a pep rally starring the eighth grade. Prospective students and their families toured the school throughout the week to witness first hand what makes the St Philips student body and catholic school education so excellent.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

LIFE MINISTRY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

**DAY
OF PRAYER &
FASTING**

LIFENET
invites you to join
us on the first
Friday of each
month to pray and
fast for equal rights
for babies in
the womb and for
an end to abortion.
*The 2022 Supreme
Court decision in
the Dobbs case does
NOT end abortion in
NJ. Sadly, NJ
politicians have
intensified efforts
to make NJ a
"sanctuary state"
for abortion.

<https://equalrightsforbabiesinthewomb.com/prayerandfasting/>



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meetings of the blanket ministry will be Thursday, February 13 & 27, 2025 at 9:45am in the Molloy Center. All crafters are "warmly" welcome! We have just donated blankets and shawls to New Jersey Hospice to be distributed to patients. For more information or donations of fabric or yarn, please call Cathie Murtha. (973-471-1265)

PRIME TIMERS

Prime Timers News

Our next meeting will be on February 7th at 1:30pm (coffee/and at 1pm). At this meeting, the final payment for the March 7th Hunterdon Hills Trip is due. There is no regular meeting on Friday, March 7th.

Camp Hope excursions, \$11, on Tuesday, April 22, 2025. Tuesday, May 6, 2025 and Wednesday, June 11, 2025 are still available.

Hunterdon Hills Excursion

The Prime Timers are going to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Friday March 7th for dinner and show "Bill Haley Jr. and the Comets." This show is very popular, and we still have some tickets available. The cost is \$136.25 pp which includes bus fare from/to St. Philip's, full dinner, the show, and their fabulous all you want dessert bar. A cash bar is also available. The Playhouse also does their own baking and has take-home items for sale and a small shopping boutique. The bus will leave St. Philip's Drive approx. 9am and return before 6pm. This trip is open to anybody. If you're interested, make your checks out to Prime Timers and mail them to St. Philip's Prime Timers, 797 Valley Rd. Clifton, N.J. 07013 and mark envelope "HH Trip." Deadline for tickets is Monday Feb. 10th.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knights of Columbus Council 11671

Fish Fry Fund Raiser - Our annual Fish Fry is a general-purpose fund raiser helping us to run the totally free annual Kids Christmas Party, fund a team at the Tank Pull supporting veterans and combat handicapped, various local sports teams, the free-throw contest, the Keep Christ in Christmas contest and so much more. Please mark your calendars for Sunday March 9th for some excellent fish & fries and some fun socialization. Tickets only \$20. Coffee-Tea, soda and water will be available and feel free to BYO.

Fish Fry Sunday March 9th 1:30pm – 3:30pm
eat—in or & take out

Fish or chicken (Chicken advanced sales only)

Advanced Tickets \$20

Day of Fry (limited, \$25)

Order at: <https://knights-of-columbus-11671.square.site/fishfry>

Or Contact Rich Loftus (973)768-6272

richloftus@aol.com or use QR Code:



HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION TUITION RAFFLE

1st Place - \$6,800 Tuition* for 2025/26 for SPPS
or any Catholic Educational Institution

2nd Place - \$300 Flynn O'Hara Uniform Co.
Gift Card

3rd Place - \$150 St. Philip Prep
Spirit Wear Gift Card

Drawing Date: Friday, March 7, 2025 at 10 p.m.
Tickets are \$50

No substitution of the offered prize may be made,
and no cash will be given in lieu of the prize.

*Tuition payment will be made directly to the
Catholic Educational Institution.

Winner need not be present at the time of drawing.

To purchase a ticket, email: sppshsa@gmail.com

TRICKY TRAY

This year's Tricky Tray "Back to 80's" is coming
March 7, 2025.

Date: March 07, 2025
Time: Doors open 5:30 PM,
Drawings begin 7:00 PM

Get your Tickets online at

<https://stphilip.org/tricky-tray/>

If you would like to donate, below is the QR code
for the Amazon wish list.



If you are interested in a Sponsorship opportunity,
please reach out to Anton Meindl

Ameindl1@gmail.com or 862-247-3899

Family sponsorship-\$80

Business sponsorship-\$250

**Each sponsor will receive a banner in our
auditorium the day of the tricky tray along with
recognition in our tricky tray booklet.

All sponsorships are tax deductible!

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY 2025

Pilgrimage to Italy for Jubilee Year 2025

Fr. Emerson is organizing a pilgrimage to Italy for
the Jubilee Year from

September 22-October 3, 2025.

For more details see the parish website at
www.stphilip.org or email Fr. Emerson at
efrancisco@stphilip.org



WE ARE STILL
ACCEPTING PILGRIMS
who want to join.
Application Forms for
Participation in the
Pilgrimage are available in
the Parish Office.



VACATION BIBLE FUN

Reserve the date for our Vacation Bible Fun
Mark your calendar for the week of July 28th
This year's theme is

"True North- Trusting Jesus in a Wild World"



Children who have completed kindergarten and
through the 5th Grade are invited to Register.

Information will be forthcoming.

This will be a very special week.

Look for the True North Logo in the months ahead
to learn more.

DIOCESAN OPPORTUNITIES

RELATIONSHIP RETREAT

FAITH AND REASON RELATIONSHIP RETREAT



LISTENING IS THE BEGINNING OF LOVE

ST. PAUL INSIDE THE WALLS

FEBRUARY 8, 2025

Relationships don't have to be in crisis before they are nurtured. This retreat is designed for couples who are seriously dating, engaged, or married and wish to deepen their connection with each other and with Christ, using sound psychology through a faithful, Catholic perspective.

Presented by:
Jack Beers
Certified Catholic
Mentor and Coach

For more details and to register, scan the QR code below or visit insidethewalls.org/relationship-retreat



OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE
INSIDETHEWALLS.ORG



PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: JANUARY 20, 2024 \$16,788.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: JANUARY 26, 2025
WEEKLY COLLECTION \$13,010.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION \$6,175.00
TOTAL \$19,185.00

CHRISTMAS 2023 \$74,362.00
CHRISTMAS 2024 (YTD) \$83,466.00

WE PRAY FOR...

A Time to be Healed...

Lou Piatti, Caitlin Buggy, Irene Chmura,
 Edward Honan, Marge and Barbara Sikora,
 Arlene Pompeo, Diane Albanesius, Robert Rup,
 Fran Kobernick, Rosanna Hampton,
 Philip Kutzenko



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025

8:00 All the People of Parish
 10:00 Janet Debiak
 Albin M. Rybolwik- 13th Anniversary
 Bruce Cirelli
 Josephine Kimberly
 12:00 Michael Robinson
 Roman Chrusky

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2025

9:00AM Sharon Ann Tarinelli

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2025

9:00 AM Brian James Lipari
 Dermot O'Connell

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

9:00 AM John Staudinger

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025

9:00

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025

9:00 Claudia Pugliese

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2025

9:00 Ed Kovacs- 2nd Anniversary
 5:30 Betty and Al Christiaens
 Frank Lechleiter
 Fred Wilson

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

8:00 Richie Jedrzej- 3rd Anniversary
 Estanislao Llames- 26th Anniversary
 10:00 Harry Hadinata
 Logan Brackenbury
 Lee Covert
 Josephine Kimberley
 12:00 All the People of Parish

CANDLE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2, 2025

In Memory of Logan Joseph Brackenbury



The Presentation of the Lord / Luke 2:22-40

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-Luke 2:28

Find all the words... left, right, up, down or diagonally.

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