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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

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The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday4:30 PM

HOLY HOUR

Every Friday9:30 to 10:30 AM

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



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

The first reading, from Isaiah, speaks about how light shows us everything. When Jerusalem is filled with light, then the whole earth is filled with light.

This is clearly a reference to the presence of Jesus in Jerusalem—not for the author of this passage of Isaiah, but for those Jewish people who were awaiting the Messiah. They came to believe that these texts referred to the Messiah who would come. For the early Christians, who believed that Jesus was the Messiah, it was easy to see in Isaiah many references to Jesus. This reference from Isaiah can be seen to prophesy that all the earth will come to the Lord. There are many other references in the Old Testament, the Hebrew Scriptures, referring to the Messiah. As soon as one accepts that Jesus is the Messiah, then all those texts are seen as referring to Him.

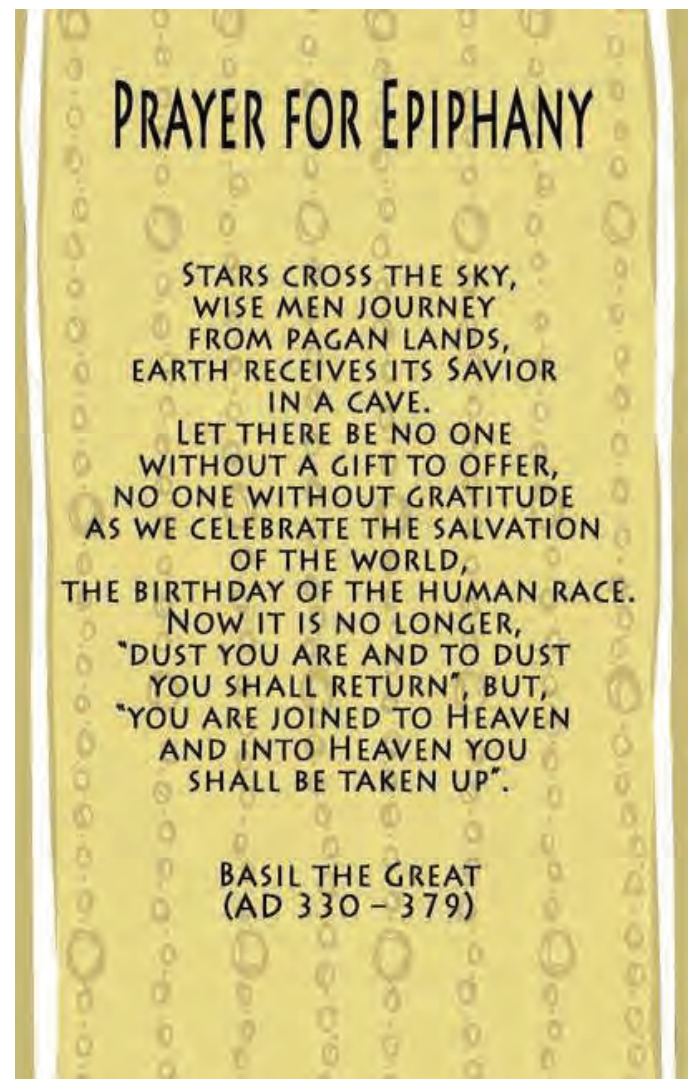
The Epiphany speaks particularly of the revelation of Jesus Christ as Messiah to the Gentiles. It is as though this mystery is so strong that it shines right through all of reality, if we are truly looking at reality with God's word. Among the first of the Gentiles, the non-Jewish people, to perceive divinity in the Lord Jesus were the Magi, the wise men from the east. They can recognize Jesus as Lord of all even in his state as an infant. Today we who follow Christ must be Magi to the non-believers. If we truly witness His presence, our own lives are transformed. Others can see that we live in another reality, not from the reality of this world. This does not reject the present world but accepts it entirely with the hope of transformation into the reality of Jesus Christ.

Saint Paul says in the second reading that it was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. This is a message that still needs to be preached: all are invited to salvation; all are invited to the banquet of the Lord.

Only as we ourselves come to recognize the divine shining through our human condition will we be able to give witness with strength and conviction. We Christians are supposed to recognize Christ present in our world, in every other person and in every situation.

O Lord, give us eyes and ears and hearts of faith.

Peace, Fr. Monteleone



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

With great joy for the celebrations of the birth of Baby Jesus, our school will begin a new year full of dreams and challenges. Bringing joy, hope, and happiness to the less fortunate has been a purpose of our students during this beautiful liturgical time.

The days of rehearsal and practice finally bore fruit in the Christmas Concerts where the children and their families rejoiced with the joy of Christmas. Now we enjoy a well-deserved Christmas and New Year's break.

The activities planned for this week will be:
School resumes after Christmas break on Thursday, January 2, 2025

Celebration of Holy Mass on Friday, January 3, 9:00 AM for grades K-8.

Making Christ present in our school and our community and thus extending him to our families is much more than giving and receiving gifts. The center of Christmas is Christ, God who became man and was born in a poor manger in Bethlehem. Showing the merciful face of God at all times, being a peacemaker, being helpful and generous, is a strong challenge for catholic teachers and families in an increasingly secularized world. Praying for our students and children, transmitting the values of faith to them and being an example is the small grain of sand we can contribute to our children and youth. More than a purpose, this is a mandate from Christ: "Go into all the world and announce the Good News to all creatures" (Mark 16:15-19) and this world begins here in our home, school, and community.

Saint Philip Prep wishes you all a prosperous and blessed New Year. May the joy of the birth of baby Jesus never fade in your hearts.



SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTES

Gloves are truly needed for the folks who wait in line at the Fr. English Food Pantry. Many adults have no gloves. Please, if you can drop off a pair or two, it would be so helpful. Our goal is 500 pairs! We need warm gloves, not the expensive designer fur lined name brands. Many local Dollar Stores sell gloves along with Amazing Savings, Jembro and Odd Lots. Please help us help others! The Glove Collection will be the weekend of January 11th/12th in the Church Vestibule.



LIFE MINISTRY



SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 8, 2025 in the Molloy Center at 9:45am. All crafters are welcome! For information or donations, call Cathie Murtha (973-471-1265). Thanks to all of the faithful who have donated to our cause this past year. We have been able to warm the hearts and souls of the many we serve. God bless you!

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

St Philip Prep Tricky Tray is coming up in March! Our HSA is asking for basket donations. We are looking for all size baskets to use for our prizes at the tricky tray. The baskets can be left in the back of the church or dropped off at our school office. If you have any questions, please call our HSA President at 862-247-3899.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY 2025

Date: September 22 – October 3, 2025

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY DURING THE HOLY YEAR – Jubilee 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

Application Form for Participation in the Pilgrimage is now available in the Parish Office or at the doors of the Church

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY MEETING

There will be a Meeting for those who are still deciding, and those who are interested and/or have questions about the Pilgrimage to Italy. Come and join us for the presentation and discussion! A representative from the travel agency will be flying from Italy to join us.

Two dates and venues are available for the meeting. You can choose any of these:

St. Philip the Apostle Parish, Clifton

Date: January 11, 2025 (Saturday)

Time & Venue: 7:00PM at the Marian Hall

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Oak Ridge

Date: January 12, 2025 (Sunday)

Time & Venue: 12:00PM at the Classrooms





Pope Francis opened the Jubilee Door at Saint Peter's Basilica last December 24th, to begin the celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025

PARISH GIVING

SUNDAY COLLECTION: DECEMBER 17, 2023, \$19,766.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION: DECEMBER 22, 2024
WEEKLY COLLECTION \$ 10,766.00
ONLINE GIVING DONATION \$ 6,297.00
TOTAL \$ 17,057.00

WE PRAY FOR...

A Time to be Healed...

Rita Frank, Kathleen Teresa Fitzpatrick Brown,
 Lou Piatti, Caitlin Buggy, Irene Chmura,
 Edward Honan, Marge and Barbara Sikora,
 Arlene Pompeo, Diane
 Albanesius, Dona Piasiecki,
 Robert Rup



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

8:00 Jose and Teresa Villegas
 Willian and Juliana Ayers
 10:00 Robert Parillo- 15th Anniversary
 Anne and Anthony Lipari
 Rosemarie Kowal
 Michael Robinson
 12:00 Helen Dressel
 Joseph Dressel

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025

9:00AM Bishop Frank Rodimer

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025

9:00 AM Rolando Izar, Jr

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025

9:00 AM Rosemary Barrett
 Luciano and Teofila Rosales

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2025

9:00 Francesco Papaiani

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025

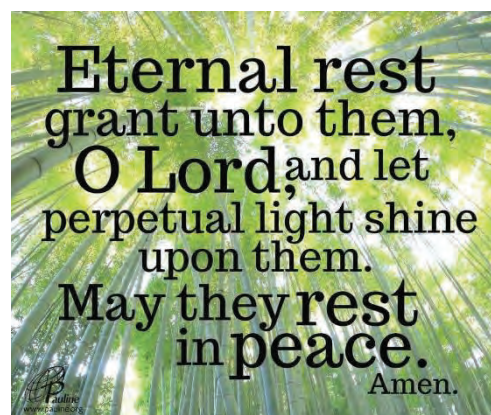
9:00 Nerio Peña

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025

9:00 Ariston and Maria Francisco
 5:30 Frank Lechleiter
 Mary Trella
 John S. Smith, Jr.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

8:00 All the People of the Parish
 10:00 Pedro Ravelo- 7th Anniversary
 Kimberly DeBiao and family
 Fred Wilson
 Leonard Passenti
 12:00 Walter Tarnowski
 Michael Robinson



< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

The Epiphany of the Lord | Matthew 2: 1-12

The Magi followed the star to where Jesus was and offered Him fine, expensive gifts. "And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way." *Matthew 2: 12*

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Follow the Wise Men as they search for baby Jesus.

The three from the East who followed the star were called by different names...

Magi, Kings, Wise Men and Astrologers.



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VISIT OF THE MAGI

Do you know what the gifts were? Unscramble the words to find out...

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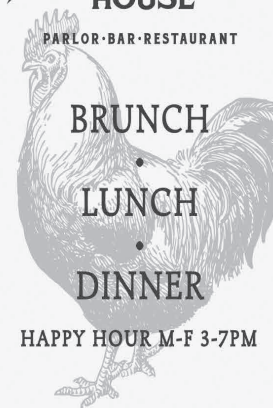
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