



WELL DONE,
GOOD AND
faithful
SERVANT.



MATTHEW 25:23

THANK YOU,
YOUR HOLINESS
GRAZIE SANTITÀ



POPE FRANCIS

1936 - 2025

SAINT PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

Many of you have visited – or at least seen pictures of – Niagara Falls. The beauty of the falls comes from the height and sheer volume of water that rushes over – some 700,000 gallons per second. Over the centuries, people have attempted death-defying stunts, such as going over the falls locked inside a barrel. One person even tried – unsuccessfully – to swim across them.

Then there was the daredevil known as the “Great Blondin,” who crossed the falls on a highwire multiple times. In one of his attempts, he planned on pushing a wheelbarrow across the falls, balancing on a wire only several inches thick. Before starting his long and delicate journey, a voice cried out from the crowd, “You’ll never make it! Goodbye!”

But the “Great Blondin” confidently pushed the wheelbarrow from one end of the falls to the other, then turned around and made his way back. “Now do you believe I can do it?” He said to the skeptic. “Yes,” the man conceded. “Now I believe.” “Do you believe I can do it again?” Blondin asked. “Of course. A hundred times!” “If you really believe,” Blondin said, “then get into the wheelbarrow!”

Like the skeptic bystander, Thomas refuses to believe that Jesus is raised from the dead. “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe,” he says. For his lack of faith, Thomas is often referred to as, “Doubting Thomas.” But that harsh nickname seems a bit unfair to me. It isn’t that Thomas is unwilling to believe; he just has more questions; he’s skeptical; he needs his own proof. Thomas is soul searching. He reminds us just how hard it can be to grasp the truth of the resurrection.

Isn’t there at least a bit of a “Doubting Thomas” within all of us? It’s that skeptical unbelieving voice within that pokes at the soft spots of our faith. Thomas shows up when our children ask us a question about God, and we don’t how to respond. He shows up when we’re standing at the graveside of a loved one, weeping. Our inner Thomas shows up when we’re faced with temptation, an uncertain future, or when an important prayer goes unanswered. And Thomas shows up when we hear those words within, “If you really believe, then get into the wheelbarrow.” It’s no coincidence that John includes this story about

Doubting Thomas right after Jesus rises from the dead. John gives us permission to be like Thomas. To doubt; to question; to ponder; to search our souls.

It can be hard to believe in the goodness of God – and the truth of his resurrection from the dead – when we’re faced with a constant barrage of sickness, violence, and death. Belief is meant to be a journey.

Perhaps this is why the earliest Christians referred to themselves as followers of “The Way.” The seed is planted when someone tells us about the empty tomb. Then that seed needs time to grow and take root within us. Faith needs to be nourished, even tested, before it becomes the solid foundation of our lives. Like Thomas, it’s important to ask ourselves *why* we believe, and to question our faith, but always with a heart seeking **the Truth**; a heart open to Christ. Amen

Peace,

Fr. Monteleone

POPE FRANCIS

With the passing of Pope Francis, let us pray for the eternal repose of his soul and for the College of Cardinals as they embark on their sacred duty to elect Pope Francis’ successor.

Prayer for a Deceased Pope

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis, whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: Roman Missal

DIVINE MERCY

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Join us on
Sunday, April 27th
at 3 PM

in the church for Holy Hour
and recitation of the Chaplet of
the Divine Mercy.



ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

This past week 8th Graders hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for their Kindergarten buddies. They had lunch and enjoyed coloring together. Living Stations were presented by the Middle School Students. This is a beautiful annual tradition during Holy Week. First Grade started learning all about the classification of animals. They were very engaged in the lessons and couldn't wait to learn more about what group their favorite animals were in.

ST. PHILIP PREP MIDDLE SCHOOL

Presents



TICKETS on Sale

Tickets for the Middle School production of *The Little Mermaid* go on sale Monday, March 31, 2025. Click on the links provided to purchase tickets.

- Performance 1: Friday, May 9, 2025 at 7:00 PM

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1279746429019?aff=oddtcreator>

- Performance 2: Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1279782717559?aff=oddtcreator>

There will be a special daytime performance for Senior Citizens (\$5) and Veterans (Free with proof of ID card) on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM. Tickets are not sold in advance for this performance. Pay at the door.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTES

Please Note Date and Time Change! The next Columbiette meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 29th. Our Social time refreshments will begin at 7:00 pm followed by our regular meeting at 7:30 pm.

If you are interested in becoming a Columbiette or would like more information, please contact Pat Scarpone at 973-881-7977 or Sharon Festa at 973-742-0926. You must be 18 years old and a Catholic female.



COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meetings will be Wednesday May 7 and Thursday May 22, 2025 at 9:45am in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! We welcomed one new member at the last meeting. To date we have handmade 1,820 blankets since May 10, 2012. This is possible due to our generous volunteers! For information or donations, please call Cathie. (973-474-1265)

PRIMETIMERS

The next Prime Timers meeting is Friday, May 2 at 1:30 PM in Marian Hall. Coffee and cake will be served before the meeting. We will have our annual Tricky Tray at this meeting. We ask everyone to bring at least one new unwrapped item to the meeting. Tickets will be 8 for \$5 and you could win a nice prize. Everyone 55 years or older is welcome. Come and join us. Please come a little early at 1 o'clock so we can set up our Tricky Tray tables. For more information call Jean R. at (973) 253-1619.

PRIMETIMERS Atlantic City Trip

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Tuesday, May 13. Bus leaves from St. Philip Drive at 9:30 AM. Price is \$50.

For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.

PRIMETIMERS River Queen Lunch Cruise

Our St. Philip's Prime Timers are planning a 2 hour cruise, Wednesday July 30, 2025.

This trip includes lunch on the River Queen on the Manasquan River. The cost of the trip is \$135 per person which includes bus transportation from St. Philip's Drive, and lunch cruise. The bus will leave St. Philip's Drive at 9:30am and return about 3:30pm. This cruise is for any Prime Timer and available to anyone age 50 or older. To sign up, call Mike Cervine (973)472-7505. Only 35 tickets are available, and reservations must be made by Wed. April 30th.

ROSARY SOCIETY

Come join the St Philip's Rosary Society on Monday, May 12 for our induction meeting. All are welcome to attend Mass in Marian Hall at 6:30.

After the Rosary refreshments are served as we welcome our new members!

SOCIAL TEA

HOLD ON TO YOUR HATS!

All are welcome to join the Rosary Society Social Tea on Sunday, May 4 in Marian Hall at 1:00.

Delicious food, 50/50 and over 40 tricky tray baskets. \$35.00. Contact Elaine at 973-931-2383 by April 27th. Have fun and wear your hat!

HSA

SPPS HSA PRESENTS
Paint Night
FRIDAY, MAY 16
7-9 PM
SPPS AUDITORIUM
DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM
\$50 PER PERSON
BYOB!
MUST BE 21+ TO ATTEND
NO CHILDREN ALLOWED
Space is limited!
Register online today
RSVP BY MAY 9
TROPICAL WATERFALL
Questions? Contact sppshsa@gmail.com
bit.ly/sppspaintnight

VACATION BIBLE FUN

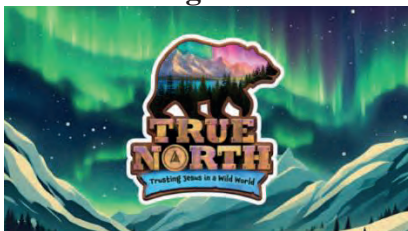
Reserve the date for our Vacation Bible Fun

Mark your calendar July 28- August 1

8:45 AM – 12 Noon

This year's theme is

"True North- Trusting Jesus in a Wild World"



Songs, skits, snacks, games, crafts, logo t-shirt, free music CD.

Registration begins May 1 and ends July 11.

We invite children in Kindergarten through fifth grade. Only \$20.

CARNIVAL

St Philip's Annual Carnival is coming soon:

This year's carnival will be held on June 19, 20, and 21st. We are starting to collect water and soda donations. Which can be left by the auditorium doors.

If you are a returning volunteer or new, please contact Maureen at 973-773-5161. We will be having a quick intro volunteer meeting Monday April 28th at 7 pm in the auditorium. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

DIOCESAN SCHOOLS JOB FAIR



Diocese of Paterson Catholic Schools Job Fairs

**Wednesday,
April 30**

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

*The Molloy Center at
St. Philip the Apostle Parish
797 Valley Rd.,
Clifton, N.J. 07013*

**Wednesday,
May 7**

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

*Holy Spirit School
330 Newark-
Pompton Tpk.,
Pequannock, N.J. 07440*

**Scan the QR Code
to Register.**



DIOCESAN NEWS

NJ Catholic Youth Rally: Jubilee of Teenagers

Sunday, May 18, from 9 am – 8 pm – Six Flags Great Adventure

(1 Six Flags Blvd., Jackson Township, New Jersey)

Calling all teens for a day of fun, adventure, and fellowship! Join the Diocese of Paterson and dioceses across New Jersey for the NJ Catholic Youth Rally! This is a day-long event held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, New Jersey.

For more information, visit

<https://insidethewalls.org/six-flags-great-adventure>

Jubilee Family Fest

Saturday, May 31, from 12 - 1:30 pm (Pilgrimage)
1:30 - 5 pm (Family Fest) – Shrine of St. Joseph
(1050 Long Hill Rd., Stirling, New Jersey)
Can't make it to the pilgrimage in Rome? Join
Bishop Sweeney and the faithful of the Diocese for
an exciting day celebrating the joy and gift of
families. Families will have the opportunity to go
on a pilgrimage and receive a plenary indulgence,
while creating lasting memories. Gather the kids,
grandparents, and friends for a day filled with faith,
fun and family time! The first 50 families to register
get a free Jubilee Family Fest tote bag!

For more information, visit

<https://insidethewalls.org/jubilee-family-fest>

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FILIPINO-AMERICAN GROUP



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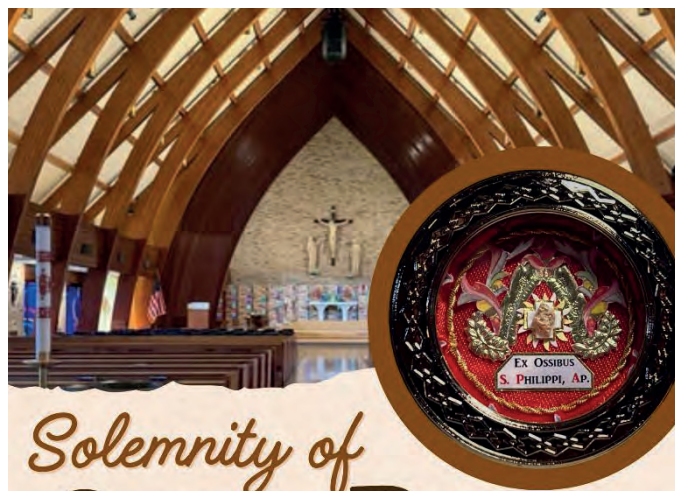
VENUE: THE MARIAN HALL AT ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
797 VALLEY ROAD, CLIFTON, NJ 07013

SAINT CARLO ACUTIS



The *Canonization* of **Blessed Carlo Acutis** has been postponed upon the death of Pope Francis. Saint Philip's Thanksgiving Mass for Blessed Carlo's Canonization will be scheduled at a later date.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE SOLEMNITY



Solemnity of **SAINT PHILIP** the Apostle

Saturday **May 3, 2025** 9:00AM Mass

**The First-Class Relic (from the bones)
of Saint Philip the Apostle will be
exposed for public veneration
throughout the day and the following
day, Sunday, at all the Masses.**

WHAT IS A RELIC? A **relic** is a fragment of the body or physical possession of a Blessed or Saint. Relics are divided into 3 classifications: A 1st class relic is a body part of a saint, such as hair, bone, blood, or flesh. 2nd class relics are possessions that a saint owned, and 3rd class relics are objects that have been touched to a 1st or 2nd class relic.

Relics have biblical foundations: See **The Cloak of Christ** (Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43:48; Matthew 9:20-22); **Saint Paul's Linens** (Acts 19:12); **Elijah's Mantle** (2 Kings 2:11-14); **Elisha's Bones** (2 Kings 13:20-22); **The Shadow of St. Peter** (Acts 5:12-16).

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: April 14, 2024	\$ 17,019.00
Sunday Collection: APRIL 20, 2025	
Online Giving Donation	\$ 520.00

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY THIS
EASTER!**

EASTER COLLECTION 2024	\$ 49,221.00
EASTER COLLECTION 2024 (YTD)	\$ 43,854.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
May 11- Project Faith.

DIVINE MERCY SHRINE TRIP



**ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE**



**VATICAN APPROVED
EXHIBIT**



**PILGRIMAGE TO THE
NATIONAL SHRINE
OF DIVINE MERCY**
Stockbridge, MA
JULY 12, 2025 / SATURDAY

\$65 PER PERSON
non-refundable
Bus departs at 7AM sharp.
St Philip lower parking lot.
(Please arrive 15mins early)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:
ST PHILIP PARISH OFFICE - (973) 779-6200
RAQUEL NAEL-MARRERO - (973) 563-6924
VIRGINIA SIPIN - (973) 760-8484

KIDS KORNER



Gospel Today
 Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy) | John 20:19-31
When Jesus appeared to His disciples the first and second times following His Resurrection, He was merciful. He offered them peace, kindness, love and forgiveness.

Year C

The Second Sunday of Easter (the week after Easter) is always Divine Mercy Sunday as requested by Jesus to St. Faustina. Today's gospel message introduces the Sacrament of Penance and forgiveness.

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

Appearance	M	E	S	S	I	A	H	B	T	I	F	G	E	S	A
Evening	S	E	E	I	N	G	S	H	O	W	I	N	G	P	P
First	M	O	C	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	R	I	R	I	P
Week	A	D	O	U	B	T	I	N	G	E	S	H	B	R	E
Rabbouni	N	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	A	N	T	C	R	I	A
Said	Y	H	D	E	V	E	I	L	E	B	S	U	E	T	R
Peace	G	O	V	U	P	O	N	H	O	L	Y	O	A	N	A
Father	N	M	W	J	E	W	U	N	W	R	I	T	T	E	N
Sent	I	A	P	E	R	F	O	R	M	E	D	H	H	S	C
Breathed	N	S	G	S	E	P	B	U	F	A	T	H	E	R	E
Upon	E	L	U	U	T	K	B	C	N	S	A	I	D	D	I
Receive	V	T	I	S	I	V	A	G	N	D	E	C	A	E	P
Holy	E	V	I	E	C	E	R	O	T	E	S	I	N	S	E
Spirit															
Forgive															
Sins															
Second															
Visit															
Doubting															
Thomas															
Present															
Seeing															
Touching															
Wounds															
Believed															
Many															
Unwritten															
Signs															
Performed															
Showing															
Jesus															
Messiah															



forgiveness kindness love peace

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025, DIVINE MERCY

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Sirvidio Family John Michal Laurice Younes Martino Santulli
12:00	Gail Lockhart Alton Becker

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025

9:00 AM	Salvatore Scafidi- 11 th Anniversary Jack McSweeney
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TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025

9:00 AM	Pope Francis
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

9:00 AM	Mary Matteo- 25 th Anniversary
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THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

9:00 AM	Rita Dube
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FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025

9:00 AM	Peter Calvalero
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SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025

9:00 AM	Georgeanna Hall
5:30 PM	Lou Salto Chris Pappas Margaret Potorzak - Special Intentions

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	John Anderson, Jr Magna Jumao-as Anna Maria and Nicolo Pansini Vittoria and Antonio Masucci
12:00	Robert Drozdowski David D'Arco

CANDLE WEEK OF APRIL 27TH

In memory of Sirvidio Family
- From Debbie



WE PRAY FOR...

Recently Deceased...

Michael L. Grabler

A Time to be Healed...

Irene Chmura, Marge and Barbara Sikora,
Robert Rup, Fran Kobernick, Rosanna Hampton,
Philip Kutzenko, Angelo Torres, Paula Mutter,
Nina Sova, Margaret Potoczak



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