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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013

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



The Ascension of the Lord

June 1, 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.



My Dear Parishioners,

The Feast of the Ascension is both an ending and a beginning, something we get a clearer sense of this year as we hear both of Luke's accounts of the Ascension in our First Reading and Gospel Reading. The disciples worship Jesus as Lord, his divine identity finally confirmed through his Resurrection, and his divine authority revealed as he now departs to heaven, taking his proper place at the right hand of the Father. Jesus leads his disciples out of the city towards Bethany, and the word for 'to lead' that is used by Luke here is often used in the Old Testament to describe the Exodus from Egypt. Here we have the completion of Christ's new Exodus which he had been discussing with Moses and Elijah during his Transfiguration (Luke 9:31). The location of the Ascension at Bethany offers a similar sense of closure to the Gospel story, for it was at Bethany that Jesus began his triumphal entry into Jerusalem the week before his Passion (Luke 19:28-44). The beginning of his triumphal entry into Jerusalem becomes the place of his true triumphal entry, as he ascends to heaven. The disciples return to Jerusalem with great joy, where they spent their days in the Temple, blessing God, almost a classic 'happily ever after' ending.

But this feast is also a beginning as the disciples are given their new mission which will begin at Pentecost, the completion of the Lord's Paschal Mystery, as he sends the Holy Spirit upon the apostles in visible form, impelling to their new task. In our First Reading from the beginning of Acts, we have the first hints of this new movement as Jesus tells the apostles that they will be his witnesses 'in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth' (Acts 1:8). The response of the angels, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?' (Acts 1:11) sounds a little like an attempt to cajole them into action: what are you doing standing around? There's work to be done. The Ascension begins that movement from Jerusalem out to the furthest ends of the known world that we have been hearing about day after day as we read the Acts of the Apostles. If the overall structure of Luke's Gospel was Jesus' single-minded march towards Jerusalem, Luke's account of the early Church is a single-minded movement out of Jerusalem to spread the Good News of the Lord's Resurrection. This call to movement and proclamation should be at the front of our minds as we approach Pentecost, with the traditional novena prayer to the Holy Spirit which begins on the Feast of the Ascension.

Ascension does not just mark the beginning of the new story of the newly formed Church, but also another new movement, the movement of the virtue of hope. Our hope of reaching our heavenly homeland is

not something static, for as the Collect of today's Mass tells us, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope. But our following of Christ cannot mean that we are like the men of Galilee standing and looking into heaven. Instead, our hope puts us on a pilgrim journey to heaven. In his Letter to the Ephesians, Paul prays that his readers may perceive the hope to which God has called them, a hope which is beyond any expectation of this life, and which consists in a glorious inheritance among the saints (Ephesians 3:18). Today's feast is a chance to accept Paul's invitation to grasp this truth more deeply, asking God for his help in attaining that heavenly inheritance.

Hope, however, is not just a vague trust in the future, but is a firm conviction that the Lord's power and mercy will bring us to that future ([ST, II-II, 17, 1](#)). It is a trust that no matter how arduous the journey, the Lord's power is able to bring us to that heavenly inheritance. In the Letter to the Hebrews, it is precisely the fact that the Lord has entered into the heavenly sanctuary by his own sacrifice that gives us hope that we too can enter in. 'Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful' (Hebrews 10:23). A similar sentiment is expressed by St Paul in his Letter to the Ephesians where he wants his readers to come to a fuller knowledge of Christ's power, a power which is 'far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come' (Ephesians, 3:21). The Christian community in Ephesus could easily feel powerless in the face of a wider community which could often be a place of hostility. It is in the face of this that Paul wants to remind them of the Lord's power, a power which subjugates all things.

This sense of the Ascension as both an ending and a beginning is found in our everyday experience of the Christian life where Christ's headship over the cosmos is both 'already' and 'not yet.' The Lord's Paschal Mystery has shown his Lordship over all things and has renewed creation. As the exalted Lord, he has been given all power in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:28). Yet the Lord's power is exercised so that his plan may unfold through the preaching of the Gospel and the building up of the Church. We now wait for that day when the Lord will return making all created things subject to his rule, and all things united under his gracious government (Ephesians 1:10). Then he will present to the immensity of the Father's majesty, an eternal and universal kingdom, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

THANK YOU, FR. JARED

Fr. Jared has been appointed the Pastor of St. Patrick's in Chatham, NJ.

On Sunday, June 15th, all are invited to the auditorium after the 12 Noon Mass for a brunch to celebrate him and thank him for his time here at St. Philip's Parish.



Please RSVP by June 10th using the link on our website at www.stphilip.org or by calling Linda in the Parish Office at (973) 779-6200 if you are planning to attend.

CARNIVAL

St Philip's Annual Carnival is coming soon:

St. Philip's Carnival will be 3 days this year,

Thursday, June 19, 6-10 PM

Friday, June 20, 6-11 PM

Saturday, June 21, 6:30-11 PM

Sponsorship Opportunities are available at <https://stphilip.org/carnival/>

Soda/Water Donations

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

Volunteers

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

It's 3 days of fun, laughs, and excitement.

If you would like to Volunteer, please contact Maureen at (973) 773-5161



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

CONSOLATION MINISTRY

Are you able to comfort during times of loss, able to support during funeral liturgies? Perhaps consider joining our consolation ministry.

Contact the Parish office.

FR. ENGLISH CENTER

Father English Needs You!

Summer is approaching and that means a lot of children will be out of school and will be eating more meals at home. Our neighbors in Paterson are already struggling to make ends meet, so please be as generous as you can in our June Food Collection for the Fr. English Food Pantry. The most needed nonperishable food items are: mac and cheese, lentils, peanut butter and jelly, cereals, pasta, tomato sauces, tuna fish, canned chicken, beans and soups. Times are hard for many, so even if you can bring one item to church on June 7th or June 8th, please help. The shelves are bare often. Thank you!

LIFE MINISTRY

Rosary for Life

Conference Call

Every Friday at 4PM



Please join LIFENET
as we pray
15 decades
of the rosary for the
"Protection of the
Babies in the Womb
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SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRIMETIMERS

Our St. Philip's Prime Timers have 3 events coming up this summer.

1 – Our Spring Luncheon – Friday June 6th with sandwiches and salads and fun. Only \$15. Not a Prime Timer? No problem come out and join with your fellows seniors (50 and over) and try us on for size. The more the merrier.

2 – Our River Queen cruise on the Manasquan River on July 30th. This is a wonderful 2-hour cruise including lunch where you can learn the history of some parts of our wonderful Jersey shore communities and see some of the river wetlands from a paddle wheeler. Only \$135 including bus transportation.



3 – Spirit Delaware River Cruise – Aug. 19th cruise. This is an unusual cruise of the Delaware River in the Philadelphia area. This two-hour cruise includes an on-board lunch buffet, narration of local sites and history and entertainment. Comfortable Motor Coach transportation from St. Philip's Drive is also included. Only \$135



All of these are still available to anyone not just Prime timer Members. To add your name to any of these events simply call Mike Cervine at the number below before the end of May.

Money for these trips is due payable to St. Philip's Prime Timers by June 6, 2025. You may bring the money to our June 6th meeting or mail it to St. Philip's Prime Timers 797 Valley Rd. Clifton, 07013. Shortly we will also be announcing our Fall event schedule. Why not come out and join us for some fun and learn what's next coming up for the "Mature Set" at St. Philip's.

Contact Mike Cervine (973)472-7505 (H)
(973)220-3095 (Cell)

michael.cervine@gmail.com

ROSARY SOCIETY

All are welcome to join us for our final Mass and meeting of the year on June 9th.

We recite the Rosary after the 6:30 Mass by Father Monteleone. Come and see us at the flower/plant booth at the Carnival!

PRIMETIMERS

Atlantic City Trip

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Tuesday, June 10. Bus leaves from St. Philip Drive at 9:30 AM. Price is \$50. For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.



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 in the Parish Office and ends July 11.

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

WITH THANKS

COLUMBIETTES

THANK YOU!

A warm thank you to all who helped the Columbiettes during our "Baby Shower" on Saturday, May 17th. Many warm and cuddly donations of baby clothes were received, along with numerous boxes of diapers and various other baby items.

Our thanks go out our parishioners and Columbiettes that generously donated the items and to the St. Philip students and parents who assisted the Columbiettes collecting the items all morning long.



AROUND TOWN

Societa' Franese di Mutuo Soccorso

Presents their annual Festa Frainese

In honor of Santa Maria Mater Domino

Sunday, June 8th at Holy Face Monastery in Clifton.

12:30 PM Mass (outside) Italian and English following procession with the band.

2:00 PM A Variety of tasty Italian foods served in the picnic area

4:30 PM Procession with statue of our own Mater Domini will conclude the religious festivity.

Music – Fun – Friendship – Family

Please bring your own chair

Food will be available for Purchase.

Please note that on Saturday, May 31st there will be a candlelight procession and benediction at 7:30 PM at the Holy Face Monastery.

For any questions, please contact Nick at (973) 778-9328.

DIVINE MERCY TRIP



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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

< KID'S KORNER

Gospel Today

Seventh Sunday of Easter | John 17:20-26

Jesus prays for all who believe in God, His Father, that they will be united in love and share the love of God with the whole world.

Year C

Find and write the missing letters (from A to Z) not found in the heart...



Unscramble the letters and fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below. One letter is used three times.



Jesus prays for all _____.

**That
the world
may know**



**you
have
sent me**

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: MAY 19, 2024	\$ 17,421.00
Sunday Collection: MAY 25, 2025	
Weekly Collection	\$ 8,714.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 5,740.00
TOTAL	\$14, 454.00
SECOND COLLECTION-	\$ 1,972.00

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

EASTER COLLECTION 2024 \$ 49,221.00
EASTER COLLECTION 2025 (YTD) \$ 54,899.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
June 8- Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

Recently Deceased...

Irene Chmura, Ruth Miller

A Time to be Healed...

Marge and Barbara Sikora, Robert Rup, Fran
Kobernick, Rosanna Hampton, Philip Kutzenco,
Angelo Torres, Paula Mutter, Nina Sova, Nicholas
Magrogan



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025

8:00	Logan Joseph Brackenbury Herbert Pugliese- 15 th Anniversary
10:00	Tom Mullin Esperanza Jacot Ed Szerencsits Georgeanna Hall
12:00	Anna Kaczor Joseph and Joey Cortese Joseph Hourihan

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025

9:00 AM	Jessie McCormack Jean Altiero
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TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

9:00 AM	Modesta Flores Amparo Ponce
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

9:00 AM	Maria Guarinello Msgr. Julian Varettoni
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THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025

9:00 AM	Barry David Katz Mildred Scrosia- 9 th Anniversary
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FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025

9:00 AM	Peter Cavalero Billie Kay Romanko
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SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025

9:00 AM	Deceased members of the Sokerka and DiDonna Families Earyn Calvis- Special Intentions
5:30 PM	Don Muller- 8 th Anniversary Aggie Zelazko Edward Szerencsits

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Sr. Jean Agans- Special Intention Matthew McClane Lorenzo Castaldo Tom Mullin
12:00	Irene Sadvary Deceased members of the Kerner Family

CANDLE WEEK OF JUNE 1

In Memory of Logan Joseph
Brackenbury



OFFERTORY WEEK OF JUNE 1

In Memory of Jean and Howard
Brennan



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Parishioner



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