PASTORAL TEAM

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Mr. John Hughes Lay Trustee



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St. Philip the Apostle Parish

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Third Sunday of Easter May 4, 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,

In this Sunday's Gospel passage, Simon Peter tells several of the other apostles, "I am going fishing." Peter and at least six other apostles had returned to their home district of Galilee, taking up again, at least part time, their work as fishermen, but also no doubt to ponder all that had taken place in recent days in and around the holy city of Jerusalem. The apostles were perhaps not completely sure what to do after the death of their Master, Jesus. A return to what several of them knew best, fishing, should not be seen as giving up on following Jesus, but more likely part of their contemplating the next phase of their call. I hope my guess in this matter is as good as anyone's, for we simply don't know the answer. Presumably growth in confidence regarding what to do next accompanied the apostles' reflections. The apostles must have hoped to meet the Lord again in their daily lives, as they had first encountered Him, in Galilee, the place where they first were called by Jesus. The setting of the third appearance of Jesus after His resurrection was at the Lake of Tiberius in Galilee (sometimes called the Sea of Galilee), a familiar place to the fishermen apostles. We are told that they caught nothing that night. Jesus appeared on the shore just after daybreak, but the apostles present did not recognize Jesus.

Their Lord first tells them to cast their nets again and they haul in a huge quantity of fish. At that moment John, the beloved disciple, recognizes that it is the Lord on the shore and then Peter, on hearing the good news, leaps into the water, presumably in hopes of getting to shore as quickly as possible to see the risen Lord.

Because the resurrection narratives are mysterious, such as Jesus able to pass through closed doors, some say the disciples only saw a vision of Jesus, and not the Lord truly alive once again. In fact, Jesus went out of His way to give proof to his followers of his having risen, that he was not just a spirit or a ghost, nor the mere physical resuscitation of a dead corpse, but in fact their Lord in his risen and glorified state.

After the miraculous catch of fish, Jesus prepared a breakfast and ate with His apostles, something no ghost would do! Now Peter is confident of who is in his midst. This is a sharp contrast to Peter's previous denial of His Master when Jesus was arrested before his passion and death.

Jesus questions Peter at the Lake of Tiberius three times about love and fidelity. It must have been painful for Peter to be tested thus; an echo of the three times Peter had publicly denied the Lord. Now

purified and matured by the whole ordeal, Peter states he is ready and willing to serve his Master unto death, which in fact he does.

In the process of making Peter the shepherd of the flock, Jesus desired that Peter should follow in the footsteps of the Master, laying down his life for the sheep, as a good shepherd will do. In time Peter will also stretch out his arms for a death like the Lord's. Tradition tells us that it was also by crucifixion, thereby glorifying God through Peter's death as the shepherd of the Crucified Lord.

Christ's own death and resurrection from the dead, though, is assurance to Saint Peter that the sacrifice of his life and death is not in vain, but sealed in the blood of Christ, who has the power to bring eternal life to all who are willing to take up their cross each day and follow their Lord.

We can say as well that Peter was challenged to prefer nothing whatever to Christ, who in fact preferred nothing whatever to Peter, representing the whole human race, loved without measure by God. The Lord calls to each of us, even in our weakness and sin to love our God above all else. We may ask if we willingly run to the Lord like Peter did, even when faced with setbacks, disappointments and trials. We need to keep in mind that the Lord is always ready to renew us in faith and give us fresh hope in all the challenges of life.

Do I recognize that I am being asked to open my heart and mind to receive God's word, to act upon it, and to be Christ's follower for the rest of my life? Are we all ready and willing to do so? Nothing but our own free will can keep us from God's love for us and our loving God in return.

The great gift being offered to us is of infinite value. God loved us first and our love for God is but a response to infinite mercy and grace. So, we might ask in this Paschaltide: do I allow God's love to change my heart? Do I want everything that is unloving, unkind, ungrateful, unholy and not of God's will, to be removed from my life? It won't happen in a day, of course, but we must slowly, each day, work in cooperation with God toward the transformed of our existence, to belonging completely to God without reserve or regret.

Let us pray that God will work that kind of wonder in our lives today and every day. May the Eucharist we celebrate and receive, Christ's Living Word and His own Body and Blood under the form of bread and wine, be essential spiritual nourishment for our journey to God.

Peace, Fr. Monteleone

PAPAL CONCLAVE

As the Papal Conclave convenes on May 7th, let us offer our earnest prayers for the College of Cardinals as they undertake the solemn and sacred responsibility of electing the next Supreme Pontiff, successor to Saint Peter.

Prayer During the Time of Election of a Pope

O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Source: Roman Missal



8 Fun Facts About the Papal Conclave:

- 1. "Conclave" Means "With a Key" \(\bigcap \)

 The word conclave comes from the Latin cum clave, meaning "with a key"—because the cardinals are literally locked in until they choose a new pope!
- 2. Cardinals Swear a Sacred Oath Before the conclave starts, all voting cardinals swear to follow strict secrecy and Church law—or face automatic excommunication.
- 3. No Phones, No Social Media During the conclave, cardinals are cut off from the outside world. No phones, no emails, no WiFi—just prayer, silence, and votes.
- 4. It All Happens in the Sistine Chapel The vote takes place under Michelangelo's stunning ceiling. Yes, cardinals cast votes right beneath *The Last Judgment*!
- 5. Only Cardinals Under 80 Can Vote Any cardinal older than 80 on the day the papacy becomes vacant can't vote. But they can still attend pre-conclave meetings.

- tradition dates back centuries and still grabs worldwide attention.
- 7. The New Pope Enters a Room Called "The Room of Tears"

After election, the new pope enters the "Room of Tears"—a private room next to the Sistine Chapel where he changes into papal white garments. It's called that way because of the overwhelming emotion some popes have felt.

8. The Cardinal Protodeacon will announce to the world the New Pope 🔎 🔔

The Cardinal Protodeacon is the senior Cardinal Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church. He has the important privilege of announcing the newly elected Pope in the *Habemus Papam* announcement from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica. The bells of the Basilica will toll.

Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum; habemus papam:	
Eminentissimum ac reverendissimum Dominum,	
Dominum Sanctæ Romanæ Ecclesiæ	
Cardinalem, qui sibi nomen imposuit	

I announce to you a great joy; we have a pope: The most eminent and most reverend lord, Lord [first name] Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church [surname], who has taken the name [papal name].

Why Do Catholics Believe in the Pope?

Because Jesus did something powerful: He gave one man a unique mission. In *Matthew 16:18*, He said to Peter, "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church." Then in verse 19, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven." In ancient times, keys meant authority—Jesus was giving Peter the leadership role in His Church.

Peter wasn't just a figurehead. In *John 21:17*, Jesus tells him, "**Feed my sheep.**" That means care for and guiding the Church. Peter became the first bishop of Rome—and every pope since is his successor, continuing that same mission of teaching, unity, and service.

The apostles passed on their authority through the laying on of hands (*Acts 1:20; 2 Timothy 2:2*). That's what we call *apostolic succession*—a continuous line from Peter to Pope Francis today.

The Pope isn't a king; he's a servant—just like Christ. And he helps keep the Church united, just as Jesus prayed in *John 17:21*: "That they may all be one."

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

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.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

ST. PHILIP COLUMBIETTES

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM REAR OF OUR CHURCH PARKING LOT





The Columbiettes are collecting donations of new and "almost like new" baby clothes, sizes newborn to size 8, diapers (larger size diapers especially needed) and all baby items.

All contributions will be donated to St. Mary's Hospital Family Center in Passaic.

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meetings will be held Wednesday, May 7 and Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 9:45am in the Molloy Center. All crafters are welcome! To date, we have handmade 1,758 hats and 358 scarves. A huge thank you to Barbara for a generous donation! May we continue to work in the spirit of the risen Christ, love and peace. For information or donations, call Cathie Murtha. (973-471-1265)

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 is available to anyone aged 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!

HSA



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.

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

This week, second graders are preparing for their First Holy Communion. They are very excited to receive the Eucharist. First Grade learned how to create timelines of their lives and present their projects to their classmates. Students are anxiously awaiting for the Little Mermaid Play next week!

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= oddtdtcreator

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

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1279782717559?aff=oddtdtcreator

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.

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: April 21, 2024 \$ 17,095.00 Sunday Collection: APRIL 27, 2025 Weekly Collection \$ 10,466.00 Online Giving Donation \$ 5,748.00 TOTAL \$16, 214.00 2nd Coll.- Project Faith \$ 3,561.00

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY THIS EASTER!

EASTER COLLECTION 2024 \$ 49,221.00 EASTER COLLECTION 2024 (YTD) \$ 51,874.00

Upcoming Second Collections: May 11- Project Faith.

DIVINE MERCY SHRINE TRIP



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MASS 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	

MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

The Gonzalez Family - Special 9:00 AM Intentions

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2025

John Anderson, Jr. - 2nd Anniversary 9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025

Mario Paolo Ozaraga I 9:00 AM

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025

9:00 AM Vincenzo Tullo

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

9:00 AM The repose of the soul of Pope Francis

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

9:00 AM	For the New Pope
5:30 PM	All the People of the Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

Dr. Danile Bolima
Virginia Castiglia
Maryann Spohn
Joseph Scafidi- 20 th Anniversary
Francesco and Angelina Castaldo
Anna Kaczor
Leonard Passenti, Jr.
Andrea DiDomenico

CANDLE WEEK OF MAY 4TH

In memory of Logan Joseph Brackenbury

From the Niedziela Family

WE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased...

Fortunata Sena, Margaret Will, Gloria Corneliess

A Time to be Healed...

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



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