

✠ HIS HOLINESS ✠
POPE LEO XIV



SAINT PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

One of my favorite books is Graham Greene's classic, *The Power and the Glory*, a magnificent story about a troubled priest in persecution era Mexico. I would highly recommend it if you're looking for a summer read! Greene was a Catholic convert, and while his own practice of the Faith sometimes wavered, he had a keen eye for the inner workings of the Lord and the Spirit. One of my favorite moments from Greene came when an interviewer asked him about the drop in priestly vocations. In his response, he suggested that it was not that young men thought the priesthood was too difficult, but that we had perhaps made it sound too easy. Commenting that the Church must be "an organization which has to train for combat, one which demands self-sacrifice," he went on to express that "I'm convinced that the drop in vocations has to do with the fact that we don't put across clearly enough the attraction to be found in a difficult and dangerous calling. One enlists in a venture which is total. People are attracted to the Church where there's danger."

I've always loved Greene's analysis. Perhaps people are not interested in the Church not because it's too demanding, but because it is not demanding enough! Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that we were made not for comfort, but for greatness, and our hearts respond to something that challenges us to be great. The great evangelists of our tradition knew this and leaned into it, not presenting a watered-down version of the Faith but the full and challenging Truth. Paul and Barnabas do just this in our First Reading. It is very clear that they are successful in their preaching, having "made a considerable number of disciples." As they continue, they see the need to strengthen the disciples' spirits, which they do not with platitudes but with a blunt, hard truth: "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God." While this may not be the most immediately comforting message, it is necessary and TRUE. While there will be a time in Heaven where God "will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain," as our Second Reading says, in this life we will assuredly be subject to difficulty and struggle. After all, our Savior died on a Cross, why should my life be devoid of strife?

My former pastor, Msgr. Joe Anginoli, would often say, "You can have control, or you can have growth, but you can't have both." If I want to do things my own way, without hardships, that's fine, but I can never arrive at greatness or become a saint. In

one of his other masterpieces, *The End of the Affair*, Greene uses a quote from Leon Bloy in the epigraph: "Man has places in his heart which do not yet exist, and into them enters suffering in order that they may enter into existence." The implication is that the human heart can expand to contain and give more love, but only through hardship and strife... only through the Cross.

Paul and Barnabas are successful in their missionary journey not because they present life in Christ as a walk in the park, but because they acknowledge the hardship and suffering that comes with the Cross. Where am I soft-peddling the Gospel and the Cross to those in my life when I discuss the Church? Where am I soft-peddling it in my own life? My heart can only grow, and I can only become a Saint, when I let go of control and accept the necessity of suffering and struggle with the Lord who saved me on a Cross.

Peace,
Fr. Monteleone

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

**The Ascension of the Lord
on May 29th is a Holy Day of Obligation**

Mass schedule is as follows:

**Wednesday, May 28th - Vigil Mass at 7 PM
Thursday, May 29th 7 AM and 9 AM**

DIOCESAN NEWS

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>

ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

This week the first, second, and third grade students had a field trip to the Liberty Science Center! They were engaged in hands-on learning science activities.

In addition, the early childhood wing and kindergarten are starting to get ready for their moving up ceremony and graduation! This year sure has flown by so quickly!

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.

VACATION BIBLE FUN

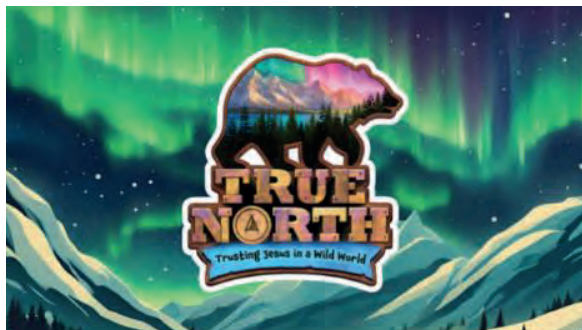
Reserve the date for our Vacation Bible Fun

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.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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 and their Families."



Dial-in Number: (401) 252-0031

Enter Access Code: 759297#



info@lifeneteducation.org
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COLUMBIETTES

COLUMBIETTES FOOD DRIVE



Saturday, May 31st

10am to 2pm

STOP AND SHOP

Broad Street, Clifton

Please support the Columbiettes

Donations will benefit

Father English Center and St. Michael's Food Pantries



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 non perishable 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 out. The shelves are bare more often than not. Thank you!

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

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meetings will be held 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

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 narrated

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

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.

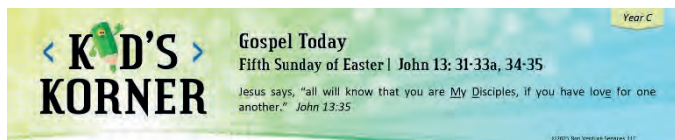


GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Caleb Jack

KIDS KORNER



"Now is the Son of Man glorified."

John 13:31

Fill in the missing letters
underlined in the text.

_____hildren, I will be with you

Love _____ne another

You will look for _____e

Son of _____an

Love one _____nother

I give you a _____ew commandment

You are my _____isciples

_____y disciples have love

LOV _____!

_____ow is the Son of Man glorified

I say it _____o you,

The letters spell which word?

"I give you a new _____."

What does Jesus ask us to do?

What can you do for others today as a disciple of Jesus?

"My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. You will look for me, and as I told the Jews, 'Where I go you cannot come', so now I say it to you. I give you a new commandment: Love One Another."

John 13:33-35

**JESUS
LOVES
ME**

**I LOVE
JESUS**

**GOD
IS LOVE**

PARISH GIVING

Sunday Collection: MAY 5, 2024	\$ 23,813.00
Sunday Collection: MAY 11, 2025	
Weekly Collection	\$ 11,761.00
Online Giving Donation	\$ 6,530.00
TOTAL	\$18, 291.00
SECOND COLLECTION-	\$ 2,474.00

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

EASTER COLLECTION 2024	\$ 49,221.00
EASTER COLLECTION 2024 (YTD)	\$ 54,252.00

Upcoming Second Collections:
May 25- Project Faith

WE PRAY FOR...

Recently Deceased...

Frank Nostrame

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, Nicholas Magrogan



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025

8:00	All the People of the Parish
10:00	Susan Voelkner Martino Santulli Rosanna Hampton Joyce Hilla
12:00	Don Greiner Kris Singh

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

9:00 AM	Juliana Aquinaldo Rosemary Barrett
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TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

9:00 AM	Antoinette Altomare
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

9:00 AM	Margarita Pont Souls in Purgatory
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THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

9:00 AM	Susan Voelkner
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FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2025

9:00 AM	Kathryn Miragliotta Dorothea Anthony
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SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2025

9:00 AM	Lena Rean
5:30 PM	Rocco Carlucci- 40 th Anniversary Elizabeth Russo Louis Aquavella

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025

8:00	Rose Muratore- 1 st Anniversary Rosa Masino
10:00	Dale Cavalero Martino Santulli Beth Dickinson Ed Szerenczits
12:00	All the People of the Parish

CANDLE WEEK OF MAY 18TH

In memory of Maria Caradonna
- Nick and Anna Caradonna





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**VATICAN APPROVED
EXHIBIT**



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JULY 12, 2025 / SATURDAY

\$65 PER PERSON
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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

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