



Saint Philip Catholic Parish

The People of God in Pittsburgh, Thornburg, Ingram, and Crafton

WEEK OF MARCH 7, 2021

Download the bulletin at www.parishesonline.com

PASTORAL STAFF

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday Hours vary due to pandemic.

Rev. James R. Torquato, Pastor
Rev. John E. Forbidussi, Parochial Vicar
Dr. Brian Dougherty, Saint Philip School Principal
Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Dir. of Religious Education
Ms. Mary Beth Barsh, Music Director
Ms. Dorothy Mancini, Assistant Organist
Ms. Dorothy Kraemer, Office Manager
Ms. Ursula Eberle, Business Coordinator
Ms. Maureen Takach, Administrative Assistant
& Safe Environment Coordinator
Ms. Linda Bey, Religious Education Secretary
Ms. Michele O'Toole, School Secretary
Ms. Chris Archacki, Maintenance
Mr. Richard Hufnagel, Maintenance
Mr. Brian Cox, Maintenance
Ms. Nancy Mehal, Housekeeping

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Joseph Scheib, Saint Philip Rectory
Rev. Gary Oehmler, Saint Philip Rectory

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Robert Bertocchi, Frank Bey, Judi Cagley,
Patricia Cygrymus, Barbara Hendrick,
Joseph Hoover, Dolores Leone, Martin Matko,
Patricia McDermott (Co-Chair), Katie Phillips,
David Pilarski (Co-Chair), Mary Schubert
and Richard Schubert.

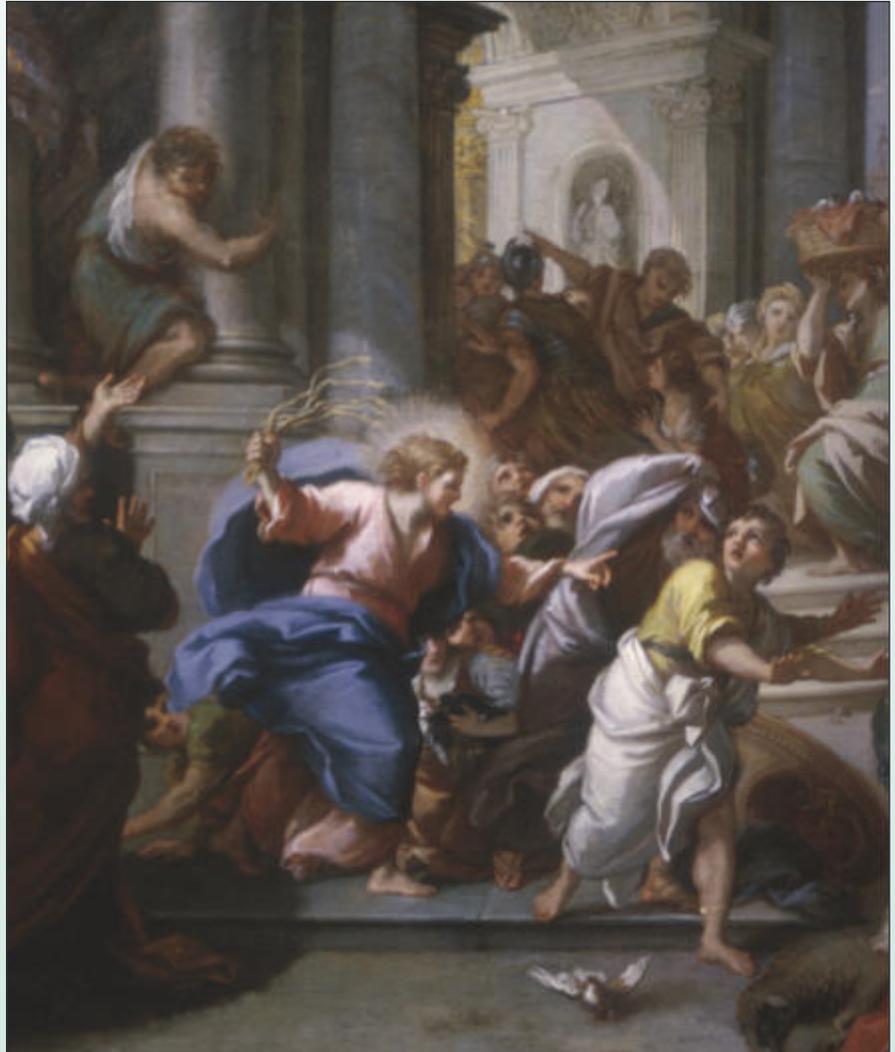
PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Benjamin Bannon, Thomas Hipkiss,
Joseph Hoover, Joseph Rynn, Gary Urbatis

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
parishoffice@saintphilipchurch.org

Saint Philip Office (412) 922-6300
Saint Philip School (412) 928-2742
Saint Philip CCD Office (412) 922-6388
Society of SVdeP (412) 444-8140



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Saint Philip Church
50 West Crafton Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Ascension Church
114 Berry Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Saint Philip School
52 West Crafton Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
www.spsangelway.org

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: Should be submitted to maureen@saintphilipchurch.org
no later than 12:00pm on Friday to be included in the following week's bulletin.





CONFESSION

Offered Saturdays from 12:15pm to 1:15pm at *Ascension Church*.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: A seminar is required for first-time parents. Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month at 12:15pm at *Saint Philip Church* or at the *Ascension Church*. Please call the Religious Education Office at 412-922-6388 for more information.

Matrimony: Priest is to be contacted six months in advance of wedding. Participation in Pre-Cana Program required. Please contact the Parish Priests for more information.

Anointing of the Sick: Following a weekend Mass and on the last Saturday of the month at 8:30am at *Ascension Church*.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Call the Office of Religious Education for more information.

Priesthood/Religious Life: Contact the Parish Priests for more information.

Victim's Assistance Hot-Line: If you are a person who has been hurt by abuse from clergy or others associated with the Church, the Diocese of Pittsburgh offers assistance with counseling, spiritual direction and referrals to other supportive services.

For information, contact our Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 412-456-3093.

Protecting God's Children —
VICTIM HOTLINE: 1-888-808-1235

CHILDLINE: 1-888-932-0313 to report child abuse
Call 911 if a child is in imminent danger.

MASS SCHEDULE

Masses are held at Saint Philip Church and Ascension Church

| LOCATION | TIME | MASS INTENTION | REQUESTED BY |
|---|------------|---|--------------------------|
| SATURDAY, MARCH 6 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Ascension | 8:00am | Maria Robson | Pat Rodgers |
| Saint Philip | 2:00pm | Wedding - Michael P. Shelapinsky and Christina L. Wolbert | |
| Saint Philip | 4:00pm (V) | Joan Crum | Roberta Clayton |
| Ascension | 5:30pm (V) | Anthony & Mary Polus | Family |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 7 — THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT | | | |
| Saint Philip | 7:00am | Deceased of Shields & Englert Families | Mark |
| Ascension | 9:30am | Raymond Best | Terry Best |
| Saint Philip | 11:00am | Joe & Dorothy Chmiel | Chmiel Family |
| MONDAY, MARCH 8 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Saint Philip | 8:00am | Charles & Anne Bowen | Greg & Jeannie Shumovich |
| TUESDAY, MARCH 9 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Ascension | 8:00am | Rosemary Rynn | Mary Ann Geinzer |
| WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Saint Philip | 8:00am | Don Kuten | A Friend |
| THURSDAY, MARCH 11 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Ascension | 8:00am | Nicholas Torquato | Family |
| FRIDAY, MARCH 12 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Saint Philip | 8:00am | Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish | |
| Saint Philip | 8:30am | Stations of the Cross | |
| Ascension | 6:30pm | Stations of the Cross | |
| SATURDAY, MARCH 13 — LENTEN WEEKDAY | | | |
| Ascension | 8:00am | Robert Dalla Piazza | Don & Patty Martin |
| Saint Philip | 4:00pm (V) | Regis A., Mary B. and Dorothy McDonald | McDonald Family |
| Ascension | 5:30pm (V) | Rose & Ed Hendrick | Family |
| SUNDAY, MARCH 14 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT | | | |
| Saint Philip | 7:00am | Lillian Lucot | Craig Lucot & Family |
| Ascension | 9:30am | Al Butter & Margaret Butter | Kathy & Randi Butter |
| Saint Philip | 11:00am | Jerry Lee Guldin | Rita, Dottie, Barb & Bob |
| SUNDAY COLLECTION | | | |
| Last Sunday's Collection totaled: \$11,078.34 | | | |



Saint Philip Parish is on Facebook! Follow us today to learn about upcoming events and happenings.



Notes from the Pastor

[Presenting the Sunday Liturgy on our YouTube Channel](#)

For the past twelve months (since the beginning of this pandemic), Saint Philip Parish has been presenting a Sunday Liturgy on our Facebook page. Many of our members have participated in this Liturgy via the Internet. Our parish thanks go to Mr. Gary Urbatis of our community who provides this broadcast of the 9:30am Sunday Liturgy at Ascension Church each week.

Before Christmas, Gary Urbatis also added this Liturgy to our new Saint Philip Parish channel on YouTube which is easily accessible to everyone connected to the Internet. The name given to the channel is “Saint Philip Crafton”. Simply place this name in your YouTube search function, and you’ll be connected to the channel. Our 9:30am Sunday Liturgy at Ascension Church can be viewed live or anytime after its original broadcast.

This effort will hopefully benefit many of our members and families during this ongoing pandemic, and in the future, I hope it will also contribute to our evangelization efforts here in our community!

[Beginning our newly merged Catholic school](#)

As we begin preparing for and enrolling for the first academic year of our newly merged school, many efforts have already begun. A search committee will interview candidates for the position of principal, and then the new principal will begin selecting the faculty members and staff for this new Catholic elementary school. In these weeks, an implementation committee will also be arranging an Open House and visits to the Green Tree campus. As we enter into the Spring, a new name for our local merged school will also be selected and published.

I’m very grateful to everyone in our current school community and our parish community who are supporting this effort to maintain Catholic elementary education here in our local area. With everyone’s positive help and support, we can together make this newly merged school a success and a true blessing for our young students, their families, and our local parishes!

[An adjustment to our 2021 Parish Share Program assessment](#)

After our initial materials were sent to Our Sunday Visitor for our first parish share mailing, we received a notice from the Diocese that our Parish Share Assess-

Greetings once again, everyone, and best wishes for a good Season of Lent and a healthy week ahead!

[Third Sunday of Lent - A Time for Cleansing](#)

There’s a long-standing custom called “Spring cleaning” that’s been an important practice in family homes (and even churches) for countless generations. As the winter months come to an end, parents and children are known to open the windows and let in the fresh air - and then spend days thoroughly cleaning the interior and exterior of their home.

Spring cleaning is a very good - and even important - practice for good health and for a respectable home and family life. It’s good to set aside all our regular distractions and give our homes and our workplaces a good and thorough cleaning.

Lent is also an important time to conduct a spiritual cleansing in our personal lives and in our family living. Just as Jesus cleansed the Jerusalem Temple of the dishonesty and cheating that was occurring in the outer court, we are now called to examine our own lives and our own souls and then cleanse ourselves spiritually as much as we can. We’re given the task this Lent of removing all the sin and darkness that may exist in our lives and families and homes.

It’s not easy to undertake and complete this spiritual cleansing, but it’s a most important and worthwhile effort in our life as disciples of the Lord Jesus. We all know how better it is to have a clean home. It’s also better to have a healthy life and a clean soul - to cleanse our lives, hearts, and souls of anything and everything that is NOT of God.

May you succeed in your Spring and Lenten cleansing so that, by Easter Sunday of the Resurrection, your life and your family will be filled with holiness, goodness, and the divine life of God!

ment for 2021 is lower than we expected. Rather than a \$90,000 assessment, we are being asked to raise \$77,000 for our contribution to the Diocese this year. The reason for this reduction of our Parish Share goal is that our parish has had declining contributions since our consolidation in 2016. In the Parish Share Program, the Diocese assesses 17.6% of our annual contributions and then asks the parish to raise that amount in the Parish Share Campaign. Because our contributions declined about \$75,000 in 2019, our assessment has been decreased by \$12,000 for this year's Parish Share goal. Yes, it's easier to meet a lower goal, but this also means that our parish continues to decline financially in these years.

As in past years, I encourage all our households to contribute (or pledge) \$250 or more for this important annual effort. Last year, our donors were generous in helping Saint Philip Parish to meet and surpass the parish goal. All funds received above this year's goal will stay with our parish to fund the budget and operations of Saint Philip Parish. Please be generous this year as we begin the very important 2021 Parish Share Campaign!

Finally, as we move into the future following this Covid-19 pandemic, we'll make every effort to generate more participation among our registered Catholic members and families - and to encourage more financial support from you our members for our parish mission and operations so that we can enliven the Church of God here in Pittsburgh, Crafton, Ingram, and Thornburg.

Best wishes for a blessed Season of Lent!

Best wishes for this week and for a holy Season of Lent! I pray this will be a season of renewal, reconciliation, and divine life. As always, thank you very much for your continued goodness and generosity to our parish community, to one another, and to those in need.

Until next Sunday, may you and all in our community receive goodness, health, and divine grace from God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. May the good Lord bless you, your family, and our parish community now and always!

Yours,
Father Jim Torquato

OUR LITURGY ON



You and your family can easily view our **Sunday 9:30am Liturgy each week** on our YouTube channel!

Simply search for **Saint Philip Crafton** on YouTube, and then subscribe to our YouTube channel.

You can watch the Sunday Liturgy at 9:30am
OR at any time thereafter!

Keep in touch with us
VIA EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE



Let us connect with you through **Flocknote!**

If you've **NOT** received our parish bulletin via a Flocknote email in recent weeks, you can easily register your email to do so.

To register, simply contact our parish office,
OR text **stphilippa** to **84576**,
OR visit www.stphilipchurch1.flocknote.com.

Thanks very much!

Please Support
SAINT PHILIP PARISH!

*by including the parish in
your will and estate planning.*

Thank you!

An Examination of Conscience

Before celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession, it's important to conduct a personal examination of conscience in order to offer a complete confession.

“You shall love the Lord with all your heart, all your mind, and all your soul!”

- Is God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit of greatest importance in your life?
- Do you spend time in prayer each day?
- Do you offer thanks and praise to God each day?
- Do you give higher priority to your work, recreation, or possessions?
- Do you speak respectfully of the Lord at all times?
- Do you respect the name of God, and especially of Jesus, at all times?
- Have you missed church worship on any Sunday or any Holy Day?
- Do you keep Sunday as the day of the Lord and a day of prayer?

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

- Are you a person of love as Jesus commands us to be?
- Do you treat your parents, other adults, and all people with respect?
- Do you speak of family members, friends, neighbors, and strangers with charity?
- Have you taken the life of a human person or harmed someone?
- Have you ended or helped to end the life of a pre-born child?
- Have you mistreated or harmed other life?
- Have you broken your marriage commitment or intruded on another's marriage?
- Have you engaged in marital relations before or outside of married life?
- Have you used pharmaceuticals, prophylactics, or surgery to prevent conception?
- Have you made use of pornography or engaged in self-abuse?
- Have you engaged in theft of another's property or money?
- Have you damaged the property of someone else?
- Have you abused or damaged the natural resources of the earth?
- Have you told lies about other people? Have you lied about other matters?
- Have you spoken poorly of others or treated others with little or no respect?
- Have you spoken profanity or curses or sacrilege or blasphemy?
- Are you judgmental or critical of others without cause?
- Do you hold grudges and refuse to forgive family members or others?
- Are you envious and jealous of others, their families, or their possessions?
- Do you appreciate and give thanks for your own blessings?
- Do you share your blessings and possessions with others? With the Church?

An Act of Contrition – Lord God, I am sorry for all my sins. In choosing to do wrong, and failing to do good, I have offended you, whom I should love above all else. With the help of your grace, I promise to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, suffered and died for our sins. In his name, my God, have mercy. **Amen.**



Parish News

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

LECTORS - March 13 & 14

- 4:00pm at St. Philip - Dan Welsh
- 5:30pm at Ascension - Richard Schubert
- 7:00am at St. Philip - John Cherry
- 9:30am at Ascension - Linda Barone
- 11:00am at St. Philip - Katelyn Hoff

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - March 13 & 14

- 4:00pm at St. Philip - Pauline Bodnar-Welsh
- 5:30pm at Ascension - Mary Schubert
- 7:00am at St. Philip - Beth Ayres
- 9:30am at Ascension - Alice McAfee
- 11:00am at St. Philip - Joe Allen

JUST A REMINDER...

Sunday Masses

- 50% Occupancy: 300 (SP) & 200 (A) may gather at each Mass as per the directives of the Diocese.

Attendees at every Mass should:

- Enter church no earlier than 30 minutes before Mass through the Courtyard Door (St. Philip) and Main Doors (Ascension).
- Ushers will moderate entry.
- Use hand sanitizer when entering church.
- Remain 6 feet apart from other individuals (families may sit together).
- Wear a face mask, except for Holy Communion.
- Proceed immediately to vehicles at the end of Mass. (The church will be sanitized after each Mass)

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND MASS

www.Signup.com/go/FGmSpoq

Reservations accepted by phone from those without internet access on Tuesday & Wednesday from 10:00am to 12:00 noon. Call the parish office at 412-922-6300 x 5.

PARISH OFFICES

The Parish Offices are closed until further notice for all in-person business. The offices may be contacted by phone Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

PARISH SUPPORT

We are grateful for your continued support!

If you are unable to attend Mass, you may mail your weekly offering to the Parish Office at 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh 15205 or drop it off in the mail box located outside the main office door. St. Philip Parish also offers the option for ONLINE GIVING.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

Each Wednesday evening during Lent, we will have Adoration at 6:00pm with the opportunity for Confession followed by Benediction at 6:45pm. We will have Evening Prayer with music, witness talks, Scripture and reflections from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Please try to join us as we pray together as a Parish Community.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday during Lent at 8:30am at St. Philip Church and at 6:00pm at Ascension Church. All are invited to join us for this traditional Lenten devotion.

A PRAYER TO ST. CORONA, PATRONESS OF EPIDEMIC VICTIMS

Lord Jesus Christ, You came into this world for our salvation. Look kindly on us now, we pray, that we, and all those who serve You, might be kept safe from this epidemic. Heal those who are sick, comfort the suffering, bring back those who have gone astray, and above all, increase our faith, O Lord.

Give us the grace to follow You and, like the martyr, St. Corona, who gave her life for love of You, to take up our crosses daily without fear or hesitation.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

NEXT WEEKEND-SPECIAL COLLECTION

The second collection taken up next weekend will be the combined collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Home Missions and the National Collection for Black and Indian Missions. This collection provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. Campaign for Human Development grants improve education, support economic development and help communities provide housing in low-income neighborhoods. Please continue to defend human dignity and those living on the margins of society. Consider a generous response to next weekend's collection.



we love

HAVING YOU AS PART OF OUR FLOCK

.....



Keep in touch with us via
email and text!

TEXT
STPHILIPPA 
TO 84576

..... OR



CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:
stphilipchurch1.flocknote.com

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.



Bishop David Zubik and our Saint Philip Parish community are most grateful for your donation to and support of the 2021 Parish Share Campaign. Our Diocesan Church needs the support of all our parish members and families. God bless!

Rest in Peace

We offer our sympathy to the families of **Jane Quasey, Claudia Planinsic** and **Nancy J. Mayhew** who entered into eternal life. Please keep them in your prayers.

✦ NEWLY BAPTIZED ✦

Please welcome into our faith family... **Jaxson Joseph Colella-Bailey**, son of Courtney Louise Colella; **Zoey Sophia Curtis**, daughter of Kara Colella; and **Arthur Michael Dupont**, son of Adam Benjamin and Genevieve Kennedy Evans Dupont, who received the Life of Christ in Baptism in our parish on Sunday, February 21, 2021; and **Jack Benedict Belcastro**, son of Philip Lawrence and Brittany Ann Loftus Belcastro who was baptized last Sunday, February 28, 2021. May they grow in wisdom, age and grace.

DONATE ONLINE 

Make donating easy!

You can send your weekly donations through our *We Share!* internet service at www.saintphilipchurch.weshareonline.org.

Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at **St. Philip** burns
In Loving Memory of Kathy
Offered by Aunt Ev

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at **Ascension**
burns *In Loving Memory of*
Anthony ☺ Mary Polus
Offered by Family

 **ADVERTISER**
of the Week

THORNBURG AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

Thank you for helping to underwrite the production of our weekly Parish Bulletin.



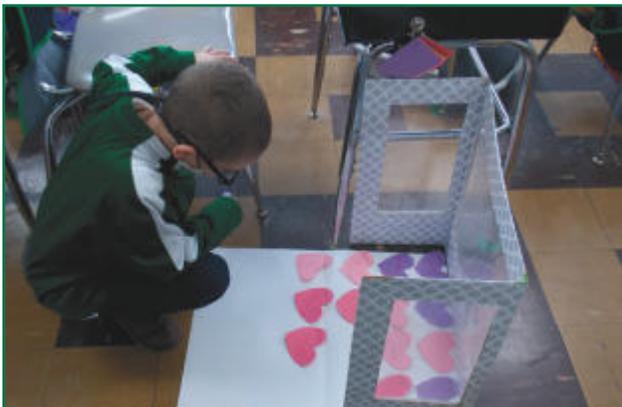
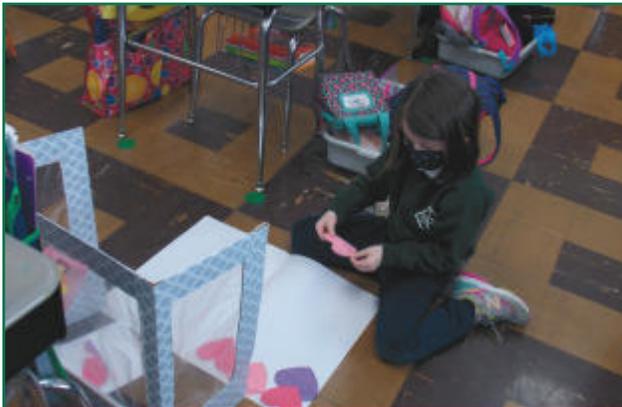
St. Philip School News

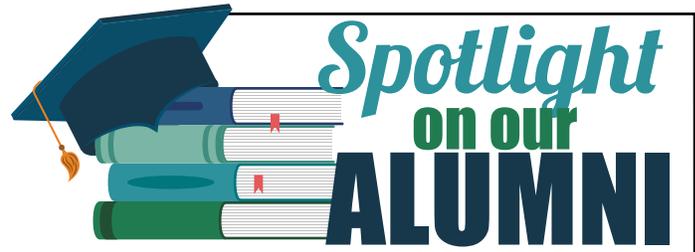
GRACE PROGRAM

Deadline for March/April enrollments is March 10. Requests for enrollment may be made by visiting www.spsangelway.org/support-sps or may be placed in the collection basket or sent to the school office at 52 West Crafton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Any donation is gratefully accepted and directly benefits the school. Thank you to all who support the GRACE Program.

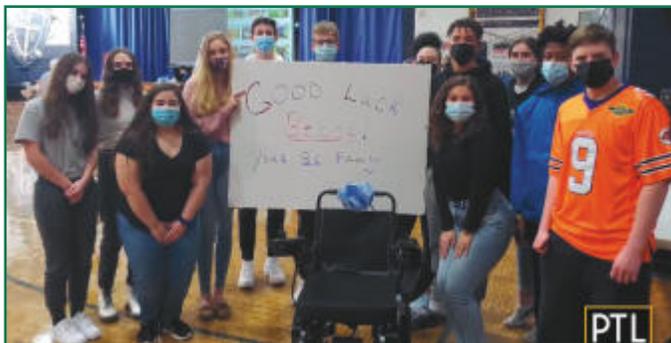
THIS WEEK AT SPS

- Kindergarten made 100 day necklaces, gave a cow 100 spots, took 100 steps and read many books to celebrate.
- Mr. Baker read The Hungry Caterpillar in Spanish and had the children build a caterpillar out of colored pieces of paper.
- First Grade celebrated the first hundred days of school and Valentine's Day.





Spotlight on our ALUMNI



Congratulations to St. Philip alumnus, **Liam Cringle** who has been named a National Merit Finalist!!!



Liam, a senior at Central Catholic High School will be eligible for three types of scholarships:

- National Merit Scholarships provide \$2,500 towards the student's freshman year of college. Even better, winning this scholarship (or being a finalist) is prestigious. Some colleges even boast about the number of "National Merit Scholars" they enroll.
- College-sponsored Merit Scholarships are four-year renewable awards ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 per year if the winner attends the college sponsoring the award.
- Corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarships are four-year renewable awards ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 per year, or single-payment awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Qualifications are set by the company.

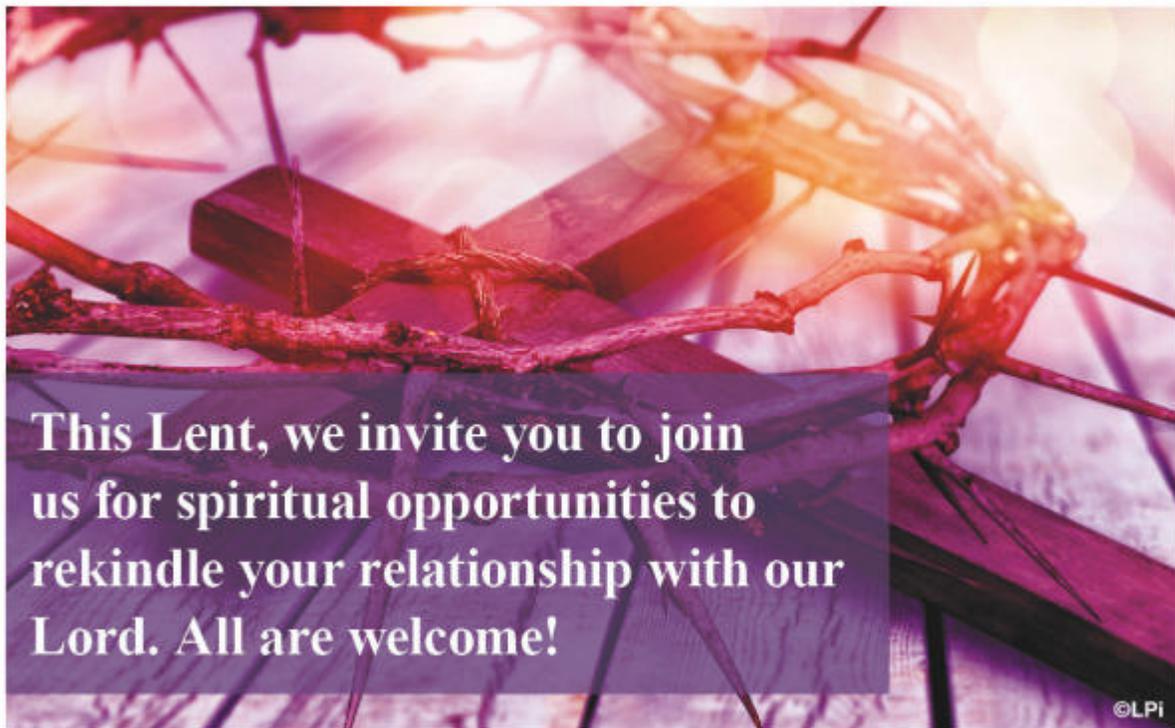
We are very proud of Liam and wish him much success in the future.

BISHOP CANEVIN ON KDKA

Bishop Canevin students were featured on Pittsburgh Today Live for their project to purchase a motorized wheelchair for a Bishop Canevin Alumna who is the Mom of 3 small children and a victim of Lupus. A classmate of the alum informed Bishop Canevin about her plight and the students went to work to earn the money to obtain the chair and free her from being bedfast. Parents joined in and helped the fundraising. Many of our St. Philip grads were involved in spearheading the work of charity. We are so proud of them and thrilled that they are putting their Angelway virtue lessons into practice.

View the segment on the link below or visit the St. Philip website - www.spsangelway.org.

<https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/video/5325748-bishop-canevin-hs-students-help-out-alumna-in-need/>



This Lent, we invite you to join us for spiritual opportunities to rekindle your relationship with our Lord. All are welcome!

St. Philip Parish Lenten Evening Prayer at Ascension Church Wednesday, March 10, 17, 24

6:00pm Quiet Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

6:45pm Benediction

7:00pm Evening Prayer with Music, Reflection, Witness Talks, and Scripture

WOULD YOU LIKE:

- Some quiet time to reflect how God is calling you
- To Hear uplifting, inspiring Talks of Faith
- To be inspired by the Faith Journey of Others
- To Pray for Loved Ones in need
- To join others in praying together for the needs of our Catholic Community

Make this a Special Lenten Journey. Join us each Wednesday during Lent.
Come for part of the evening or the entire Prayer Time.

“Come to Me all you who are weary.”

THIRD WEEK OF LENT

Lenten Reflection

As we begin this third week of Lent, we share Words for the Weary Daily Lenten Reflections by Ann Naffzinger. This will replace our Lenten Devotion Booklets.

MARCH 7: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

What Angers Jesus?

Making a whip of cords, He drove all of them out of the temple. -John 2:15

Whoever said that anger is a sin? It certainly isn't in this passage when Jesus shows His infuriation at the bankers, religious leaders, and the traders who turned religious devotion into a money-making proposition. In Jesus' day, Jewish laws required Jews to offer animal sacrifices as atonement for their sins. Jews also had to offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and dedication. It quickly added up to a heavy burden for poor people. For families who didn't own the required animals called for by the law, they had to buy them at the Temple, most likely at an inflated price.

FOR REFLECTION: When we are at Church, are we truly focused on Jesus?

MARCH 8: MONDAY, THIRD WEEK OF LENT

Who Is Our Leader?

O send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me. -Psalm 43:3

In the ways of peace and justice, we need this Psalm prayer more than ever now. As Christians, our responsibility is to first look to God's light and truth and to how and where God is leading. How will we know if we are following God's truth as opposed to human truth? St. Ignatius taught that following God's voice leads us to experience greater love, peace, strength, and consolation, while the "evil spirit" nurses experiences of hatred, revenge, shame and despair. Similarly, Catholic teaching on interpreting Scripture emphasizes that the goal of Scripture is to know how much we are all loved by God and how we are to love others.

FOR REFLECTION: In what ways is God leading you to live more lovingly?

MARCH 9: TUESDAY, THIRD WEEK OF LENT

A Hard Teaching

"How often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times." -Matthew 18: 21-22

I know a 73 year old woman who decided to give up her grudges for Lent. She said she had nursed a couple of them for decades but realized that she finally wanted to be free of them. She figured Lent was as good a time as any to practice forgiveness. She made that the focus of her Lenten prayer and repeatedly asked God to relieve her from the ill-will, resentment, anger, and bitterness she experienced when she thought of particular people. Come Easter day, she truly felt free from any lingering hurt from the others in her life. She told me she learned the truth of Jesus' point, forgiving someone seven times isn't always enough. It's not a "one-and-done" or even "seven-and-done" deal. She had to practice continually forgiving others until God finished the healing within her.

FOR REFLECTION: What person(s) have you not been able to forgive yet? Spend some time now asking God to give you freedom from the anger or pain you feel. If you can't bring yourself to want to forgive someone, tell God that in honesty, and ask for the desire to have the desire to forgive.

MARCH 10: WEDNESDAY, THIRD WEEK OF LENT

Past Blessings

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life. -Deuteronomy 4:9

In this passage, Moses implores the Israelites always to remember and pass onto their children and their grandchildren stories of the wonderful things God has done for them. This speech comes after

God freed them from slavery in Egypt and sustained them on their 40 year journey in the wilderness. Remembering, and telling others, what God has done for you in the past can strengthen your trust and their trust that God will continue to do great things in the present and future.

FOR REFLECTION: Find a way to share with someone a story of at least one way God has blessed you.

MARCH 11: THURSDAY, THIRD WEEK OF LENT

From Passive to Active

Whoever is not with Me is against Me. -Luke 11:23

This quote asks for an active commitment on our part. According to this version, if we want to be Jesus' disciples, we must actively choose to do good, not just avoid doing evil.

FOR REFLECTION: What action can you do today to demonstrate your commitment to Jesus?

March 12: Friday, Third Week of Lent

Snacks, Anyone?

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. -Mark 12:31

This past year, an Advent calendar suggested, "Make a blanket fort today. Invite in an imaginary enemy and offer them snacks." When a man asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus answered with the story of the Good Samaritan widening the definition to anyone.

FOR REFLECTION: Which "neighbors" are easier for you to love and to extend good-will toward, and which are harder to love? Do an act of goodwill toward a neighbor.



Ministries & Societies

COUPON MINISTRY — For the month of December 2020 we were able to donate \$334.92 RETAIL value of food/toiletries to SVDP. The out of pocket cost was \$217.90. For the year of 2020, we were able to donate \$5,172.07 RETAIL value of food/toiletries with the out of pocket cost coming to \$1,652.91.

Since the inception of the coupon ministry in September of 2011, we have donated \$63,285.46 RETAIL VALUE of food and toiletries to SVDP and Crafton Food Bank. The out-of-pocket cost comes to \$13,632.58.

With the pandemic and the stores making major changes to their coupon policies, I will still collect the coupons but you will not be seeing great savings as in the past. We will continue to look for good deals to support our neighbors in need.

Blessings to you and your families in 2021. Continue to pray and reach out to those in need. I fear it will get worse for many before it gets better. God bless. - Anita O.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

Even though the number of new Covid-19 cases is dropping, the financial impact of the pandemic is still being felt by millions. In order to help those who still find themselves struggling, the federal foreclosure moratorium was recently extended until June 30.

This only applies to federally-guaranteed and federally-insured mortgages. Most federally-backed mortgages are owned by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Both entities have online search tools that allow you to determine if your mortgage is federally-backed. Visit the Fannie Mae search tool at www.knowyouroptions.com/loanlookup and the Freddie Mac search tool at <https://loanlookup.freddiemac.com>.

As of the writing of this post, both the eviction moratorium and the utility shut off moratorium are still set to expire at the end of this month. An estimated 20% of renters nationwide are behind on their rent (www.cnbc.com/2021/01/25/nearly-20percent-of-renters-in-america-are-behind-on-their-payments.html) and about 1 million people in Pennsylvania have fallen behind on their utility bills.

Despite the fact that there are more Pennsylvanians behind on utility bills now than there were a year ago, applications for LIHEAP, which provides grants to low-income individuals

to help pay utility costs, are down 40% from last year. The delinquent balances currently owed by customers is also much higher than it was a year ago. There is a moratorium preventing utility shutoffs for low-income households every winter from December 1 to March 31. By the time the 2019-2020 winter moratorium ended, utility shut offs were prevented due to the pandemic. Therefore, there are people who may not have paid anything toward their utility bills for over a year.

(www.inquirer.com/business/pennsylvania-utilities-shutoff-ban-coronavirus-covid-20210220.html)

These statistics are some of the reasons why we feel confident that when the moratoriums end, we will have a lot of friends in need reaching out to us for monetary assistance, and the amounts they will be requesting will likely be larger than normal. Your monetary donations will be crucial in allowing us to meet the needs of our community. Please consider making a donation by mail, online, or by placing a donation in one of the poor boxes. Any small amount will go a long way to help our friends in need.

This past week, your generous donations allowed us to provide an unemployed man with \$350 for rent; a disabled man was given \$300 for rent; a single mother was given a bed, nightstand and microwave; a disabled man was given various furniture items and a bus pass; and an elderly woman and man were both given beds.

If you would like to make a monetary donation or a donation of \$10 Giant Eagle gift cards, please place your donation in one of the poor boxes, mail them to the parish office at 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, or donate online by visiting <https://saintphilipchurch.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/SaintVincentDePaul>. If you would like to make a donation of furniture or household goods, please call or text our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email us at svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com. If you would like to donate clothing, shoes or accessories, please place your donation in the blue bins in front of the Hope House at St. Philip or in the rear parking lot at Ascension, or you can call, text or email us to arrange a pickup if you are unable to transport them yourself. Please do not place any other items in those bins or leave anything outside of them because they will be thrown away. If you are looking to purchase new or gently-used clothing, housewares or furniture, please shop at the St. Vincent de Paul thrift stores and visit our online store at eshoppittsburgh.com. Also, we are always looking for volunteers! Any donation of your time is extremely valuable to us. If you'd like to join us in helping our friends in need or just want to learn more, please call, text or email us for more information.



— AROUND THE COMMUNITY —

CATHOLIC ALUMNI CLUB

The Catholic Alumni Club is a non-profit organization providing a framework for single Catholics to meet and socialize with other singles. In addition to social activities, the CAC also provides programs of spiritual development and community service for its members.

Softball & tennis players wanted, co-ed: SINGLES, 21 AND OVER. Softball is played in Blawnox and Tennis at Moore Park in Brookline. The Catholic Singles Club of Pittsburgh is looking for players of all abilities. The group also offers dinners, spirituality events, trips, mini golf, hiking, volleyball, cultural and many other great events. For more information or an application, visit: www.cacpittsburgh.org, or email: cac.softball@yahoo.com or contact Gary at Gary.Urbatis@verizon.net or 412-427-8772.

BISHOP CANEVIN BINGO

Until regular bingo resumes, Bishop Canevin offers an **Instant Ticket event every Saturday night from 7:00pm to 9:30pm.** You can sit inside or outside. All CDC recommendations are followed including temperature checks at the door. Also offered is a **ZOOM online bingo every Monday from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.** You can purchase bingo cards at the Saturday night ticket event on Monday from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. Prizes are based on amount sold. For more information, visit our website at bingo-at-bc.com.

SUPPORT BISHOP CANEVIN BASEBALL

The Bishop Canevin baseball team is holding an online 50/50 and basket raffle. For more information, visit <https://go.rallyup.com/bcbaseball>.

ST. PHILIP PARISH



St. Philip Parish is having a fundraiser which follows the 2021 NCAA Men's Division 1 Basketball Tournament — (March Madness).

HOW IT WORKS:

1. You purchase a square on a 10x10 grid for \$50.
2. Once the grid is filled, numbers 0-9 are drawn randomly and placed on the grid's axis.
3. The horizontal axis is labeled the "winning team." The vertical axis is labeled "losing team."
4. Your numbers represent the last digit of the winning team's score and last digit of the losing team's score per each game played throughout the entire tournament. For example, if your numbers are: winning team 1 and losing team 9 and Pitt beats WVU 71-59, you win! Every game played in the tournament (starting with round one) will generate a winner.

Because you keep your numbers throughout the tournament, you have a great chance of winning multiple times per round or in different rounds. You don't have to fill out a bracket or know anything about college basketball. Just know that your odds of winning are great, and the parish greatly appreciates your support.

THE PAYOUT SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

- Round 1**=\$25 Field of 64 - Friday, March 19 & Saturday, March 20
- Round 2**=\$50 Field of 32 - Sunday, March 21 & Monday, March 22
- Round 3**=\$75 Sweet Sixteen - Sat., March 27 & Sun., March 28
- Round 4**=\$100 Elite Eight - Mon., March 29 & Tue., March 30
- Round 5**=\$200 Final Four - Saturday, April 3, 2021
- Round 6**=\$500 Championship - Monday, April 5, 2021

**The two play-in games known as the "first four" are not included in this event.*

When we sell all 100 squares, we will be able to claim a \$1,500 profit. The event pays out a total of \$3,500 in winnings. ***Act quickly because the grid will fill up fast!***

Please make checks payable to St. Philip Church (write March Madness in memo) and send to Parish Office.

Name (Please print)

Phone Number

Email Address



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Gift Cards are \$10

St. Philips School PTG will receive 50% from Bread and Butter sales
and \$1 from every gift card sold — Families get this as FRQ credit

PURCHASE ONLINE ONLY:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/stphilipsptg>

DEADLINE TO ORDER: Thursday, March 18, 2021

**PICK UP YOUR ORDERS: At Texas Roadhouse Bridgeville on March 30th
and March 31st from 11am till 9pm.**

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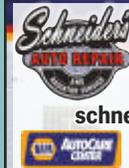


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