



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH
December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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

WEEK OF MAY 30, 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



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

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, MAY 29 — WEEKDAY			
Ascension	8:00am	Albert J. Plouy	Joan & Ed Goyke
Saint Philip	4:00pm (V)	Bill Solt	Solt Family
Ascension	5:30pm (V)	Felix & Ottlee Rodgers	Pat Rodgers
SUNDAY, MAY 30 — THE MOST HOLY TRINITY			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Mary Mondine	Patricia Mondine
Ascension	9:30am	Anna Kasper	Craig Lucot & Family
Saint Philip	11:00am	Colleen & William Bach	Noreen & William DeRose
MONDAY, MAY 31 — THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (MEMORIAL DAY)			
St. Philip	8:00am	Colleen & Ted Miller	Paul Brophy
TUESDAY, JUNE 1 — SAINT JUSTIN, MARTYR (NINTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME)			
Ascension	8:00am	George & Margaret Oleck	Mike Oleck
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2 — WEEKDAY			
St. Philip	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish	
THURSDAY, JUNE 3 — SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS			
Ascension	8:00am	Deceased of the Demma Family	Helen Demma
FRIDAY, JUNE 4 — WEEKDAY			
St. Philip	8:00am	James Brophy	Paul Brophy
SATURDAY, JUNE 5 — SAINT BONIFACE, BISHOP AND MARTYR			
Ascension	8:00am	Living & Deceased of the Waigand Family	Sister Betty
St. Philip	4:00pm (V)	Gary Bader	Paul & Deborah Valenti
Ascension	5:30pm (V)	Metro & Mary Novoselski	Ray & Paula Butter
SUNDAY, JUNE 6 — THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST			
St. Philip	7:00am	Guay Family	John & Eileen Guay
Ascension	9:30am	Bess DeAngelis Mott	DeDe & Sam Palombini
St. Philip	11:00am	Joe & Dorothy Chmiel	Chmiel Family

SUNDAY COLLECTION

The Collection for Sunday, May 23 totaled: \$8,021.00



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



Notes from the Pastor

Greetings once again, and best wishes for a good Memorial Day, a pleasant holiday weekend, and very good summer months ahead!

Holy Trinity Sunday

This Sunday and next Sunday, we celebrate two tremendously important beliefs of our Catholic Christian faith. This Sunday, we proclaim our belief in one Divine God who is a Trinity of Divine Persons. Next Sunday, we will celebrate the Eucharist which is Jesus' sacred and sacramental gift of his own life - his Body and Blood - given to us for our nourishment and our assurance of divine and eternal life.

As you know, the Holy Trinity is an understanding of the Divinity - the source and sustainer of all life - that has been revealed to us by Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus the Christ, Jesus the Lord. Our ancestors among the people of Israel came to believe in one Divinity as their faith unfolded through the centuries. It was the teacher, messiah, and prophet - Jesus - who revealed that the Divinity is first "Our Father". Then Jesus revealed that he is the Son of the Father. Finally, Jesus revealed that the Holy Spirit is the love and life shared between himself and the Father.

The writers of the four Gospels and the writers of the other New Testament books and letters echoed this understanding of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We find this sacred belief throughout the New Testament and in our earliest Creeds.

Of course, it took five centuries for our Christian ancestors (especially the bishops, the writers, and the theologians) to fully expound upon our Christian understanding of God as Trinity. It also took centuries for Church leaders to define our faith in God, our faith in Jesus, our faith in the Holy Spirit, and our complete faith in the Holy Trinity. Their work was not easy in this regard, but the faith which we profess every Sunday is the

amazing and wonderful faith which has been believed and professed by billions of Christians throughout history and throughout the world even today.

As Catholic Christians, we profess our faith in One God who is three Divine Persons: the Father who creates all life, the Son who redeems all life, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies all life. All life and all love originates in a Divine Community which we call God - the "One who is Divine, the One who is Good". Like the life of God, our lives should always be lived in community as we move toward - and look forward to - sharing in the eternal life and love of God who is the Holy Trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. May we live in the Trinity every day. May we share our faith in God with others. May we all be drawn into life and glory of God now and forever!



Honoring our deceased military veterans

This Monday, May 31, our nation celebrates our annual Memorial Day when we remember and pray for the veterans of our nation's military services who died in times of war and who've died in times of peace. The dedication and service of our military personnel to the United States of America have been so exemplary and generous for nearly 250 years.

All of those involved in the military have protected and maintained our freedom, nation, and life since the United States of America's independence. Their sacrifices have been tremendous, and we should be grateful for the service and sacrifice of all military personnel, all veterans, and all their families. This Memorial Day and every day of the year, may we honor all who've died in service to our nation, as well as all our veterans, and all American military personnel. May the good Lord bless them all!

Beginning “Guardian Angel Academy” - our newly merged Catholic school

As you know, the newly merged Catholic elementary school shared and supported by Saint Philip Parish and Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish has been named “Guardian Angel Academy” - a very fine name that has meant so much to the Saint Philip Parish community for more than a century. There are now more than 200 students enrolled for the coming academic year. Our newly merged school is moving forward with energy and enthusiasm. Mr. Robert Munz has been appointed as the Principal, and he is working to select the faculty members and staff for this new Catholic elementary school. The Implementation Committee is enthusiastically preparing for the new academic year 2021-2022, and visits to the Green Tree facility continue to introduce our students to the merged school campus.

I’m very grateful to everyone in our current school community and our parish community who’s 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 two local parishes of Saint Philip and Saint Raphael the Archangel!

Catholic News on the Internet

To keep up with Catholic news from around the world, I recommend that you visit the sites of the Catholic News Service (www.catholicnews.com), the Catholic News agency (www.catholicnewsagency.com), Catholic Answers (www.catholic.com), the National Catholic Register (www.ncregister.com) as well as www.ewtnnews.com and also www.zenit.org and www.cruxnow.com. We are inundated with so much news and information from so many secular sources. It’s also good and important to receive news from the Catholic Church and to understand the world through a worldwide Catholic viewpoint. Don’t forget to also visit the new website for our local Pittsburgh Catholic at www.pittsburghcatholic.org as well as our own parish website www.saintphilipchurch.org. All of these Catholic sites will benefit you and your family!

Invigorate your faith with Dynamic Catholic

One of the most popular resources for Catholic Christians in the United States has been an organization named

Thank you for your generous financial contributions to
SAINT PHILIP PARISH!

—
Your goodness and participation help to keep our parish alive!

Dynamic Catholic. From its headquarters in Cincinnati, this Catholic organization lead by Matthew Kelly has provided inspiration to millions of Catholics in America through its publications, programs, website, and regular emails.

If you’d like support for your faith in the Lord Jesus and for your discipleship in the Church, please visit www.dynamiccatholic.org this week. You’ll find a number of free resources available to you as well as an invitation to register for their regular and free email messages. Dynamic Catholic is supporting many fellow believers in their faith, and they can be very supportive and inspiring to you and your family too!

The Aleteia.org Catholic website

There are numerous and very good Catholic websites available through the Internet. One excellent Catholic website is www.aleteia.org. It’s a website that presents daily Catholic articles and reflections, and it has more than 20 million worldwide visitors each week. You can visit www.aleteia.org to see what’s offered there, and you can even sign up for a free daily newsletter that will support and help grow your faith. Take a look, and enjoy www.aleteia.org!

Best wishes for this Sunday, this week, and June!

Best wishes for a very good Holy Trinity Sunday! Again, 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 Lord Jesus bless you, your family, and our parish community now and always!

Yours,
Father Jim Torquato

Come on down to the St. Philip Parish ANNUAL BBQ

Where: Ascension Church

114 Berry St.



When: Sunday, June 13, 2021 4:00pm-6:00 pm



Menu: Texas Roadhouse will be serving their ribs, chicken, pulled pork, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, and dinner rolls.

RESERVATIONS ONLY– Please fill out form below.

Cost: \$18 per dinner



TAKE OUT ONLY



Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Dinners: _____ Non Refundable Payment due with Reservation: \$ _____

Please check what time you request.

4:00-4:30

4:30-5:00

5:00-5:30

5:30-6:00

Return to Parish Office before June 4, 2021



Parish News

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.

RESERVATIONS 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.

UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Please note: According to CDC, Pennsylvania and Diocese of Pittsburgh Covid-19 guidelines, **if you have been fully vaccinated for at least 2 weeks, you are NO LONGER required to wear a face mask.** Of course, you MAY wear a face mask if you choose to do so.

Those who have **NOT been fully vaccinated for at least 2 weeks ARE still required to wear a face mask.**

We will also continue our social distancing, sanitizing, single entrance and pre-registering practices until further notice. Thank you and please continue to be safe and healthy!

NEXT WEEKEND - MISSION COOPERATION APPEAL

Mission Cooperation Sunday is on June 5th and 6th in 2021. Normally, a missionary comes to visit the parish and speak during homily time at Mass. Because of Covid-19 restrictions this year, there will be no in person talks. Instead, we have asked our mission group, the Diocese of

Gallup, to submit a written appeal that will be read at all parish Masses. The Diocese of Gallup is one of the poorest financially in the country. In fact, the poorest counties in Arizona and New Mexico can be found within the diocese's borders. In addition, there are nearly twenty parishes whose annual Sunday collection income is less than twenty thousand dollars. It is for this reason that the diocese is asking for monetary assistance. The assistance will be used of course, for the spreading of the Gospel, all in the spirit of the New Evangelization. Please realize that while the appeal is not in person the need is greater than ever. The poor have been hit especially hard by the pandemic. So now, more than ever, be as generous as possible. Thank you.

As part of the Mission Cooperation Plan of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, there will be a second collection taken up the weekend of June 5 & 6 on behalf of foreign mission work as well as missionary activity in this country. **The mission group assigned to St. Philip Parish this year is the Diocese of Gallup.** This annual appeal is an opportunity for all to respond to the mission endeavors of our universal Church. We ask your generosity for the missions.

On Monday of this week, we celebrate Memorial Day. We join our family, friends and fellow citizens in commemorating all those men and women who gave their lives in defense of our country. We also wish to express our gratitude to our veterans, still living, and to those currently serving in our armed forces. We pray that God will keep them safe from harm. **Mass on Memorial Day will be celebrated at 8:00am at St. Philip Church. Please join us. In observance of the holiday, the parish offices will be closed.**

BRIDAL COORDINATOR MINISTRY

Would you like to assist our engaged couples as they prepare for their wedding day? Would you like to be an ambassador for our parish and for the Catholic Church? Have you ever considered becoming a parish Bridal Coordinator? We are seeking candidates for this very special volunteer ministry at St. Philip Parish. Training will be provided and coordinators always work together as a team at the Wedding Rehearsal and Wedding Mass/Ceremony. For more information, please contact Maureen at the parish office.

FUNERAL MASS SERVERS

As you are probably aware, St. Philip Parish has a high number of funerals each month. At this time, we could use additional Adult Funeral Mass Servers to assist us at both churches, St. Philip and Ascension. Most funerals are celebrated Monday-Saturday at 10:00am. We will train you and work around your schedule. Please consider helping us in this very important ministry. If you would like to become a Funeral Altar Server or if you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

OUR SAINT PHILIP PARISH ANNUAL RAFFLE

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Please support our parish community by participating in our Annual Parish Raffle! Please return your sold Raffle Tickets to the parish office today or this week, and take your chances on **Sunday, June 13** at winning our three prizes of **\$5,000, \$500, and \$250**. Please contact the parish office (412-922-6300) if you need additional tickets! Thank you all very much!

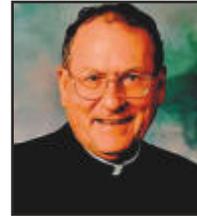
Audrey here, I have a good source telling me "Bingo at Tiffany's" will be on **September 12, 2021. Save the date!!!**

I have my glass of wine & Bingo Marker ready to go!



Rest in Peace

We offer our sympathy to the family of **Thomas M. Wojtasiak** who entered into eternal life. Please keep him in your prayers.



We ask you also to remember in your prayers **Father George A. Wilt** who was called home to the Lord on May 21, 2021 at the age of 89 following complica-

tions from a stroke.

Father Wilt was ordained on May 30, 1959 by Bishop John Wright at St. Paul Cathedral. He served as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Shadyside from June 1959 until March 1968. He was then assigned as parochial vicar at St. Bernard Church in Mt. Lebanon from March 1968 until December 1972. He later served at St. Bernard's as associate administrator from December 1972 until June 1974. He was then named pastor of St. Bernard in June 1974 and served as its pastor until May 2003, nearly three decades. **From 2003 until 2018 he celebrated daily Masses and funeral Masses at St. Philip Church assisting our parish whenever he could.** Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.

Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at **St. Philip** burns

In Loving Memory of Anthony DiMaria

Offered by Ms. Marie

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at **Ascension**

burns *In Loving Memory of the*

Rinkus & McDermott Families

Offered by Helen McDermott



CRAFTON GIANT EAGLE

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



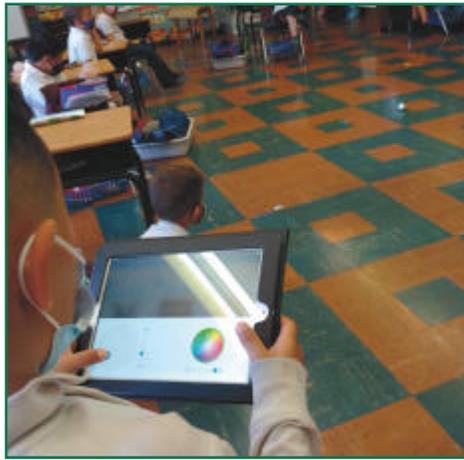
St. Philip School News



THIS WEEK AT SPS

- Third Grade researched a historical person or event that occurred in or around Pittsburgh. They created a Google Slide Show that included a paragraph about their topic and pictures with captions. Some students even visited the historical place they researched and included photographs in their slide show. Some of the topics included: Fallingwater, Fort Pitt, The French and Indian War, Heinz, The Allegheny Arsenal Explosion, The Great Fire of 1845, Alexander McKee (the founder of McKees Rocks), Mister Rogers and Roberto Clemente. Needless to say, we learned a lot about our history!
- Kindergarten expanded its experience with robots by working with the Sphero. Sphero is a robotic ball that the student controls by touching and tilting a smartphone or iPad. Students can drive the robot around, play tabletop games with it, or hold it to use it as a gaming controller. The kindergarteners had so much fun driving these unique Bots.
- Congratulations to all of our First Communicants. They all made beautiful banners as an expression of their joy.
- St. Philip students had their first whole school Children's liturgy last week. They sang the song "10,000 Reasons," and our hearts were warmed to hear their voices all together.






Spotlight on our ALUMNI

More of our SPS alums have been featured in Bishop Canevin's Crusaders in the Courtyard.

Nevan Crossey, President of the Student Body, has been a 3-sport standout excelling in Soccer, Basketball and Baseball. The Canevin Basketball team members were section WPIAL Champs and the Canevin Baseball team is participating in the WPIAL Playoffs. Nevan has been instrumental in implementing the school's COVID-19 plan and in organizing the Prom. With an eye on a future in Finance, Nevan will attend Pitt in the Fall. God Bless!

Best of luck to SPS alumni and Bishop Canevin senior, **Carmen Worrall**. Carmen is a member of the Canevin Volleyball and Football teams as well as working with the technology department. Carmen will study Business at Pitt with a possible double major in Business and Education. God Bless!

Madison Carothers has been Cheer Captain at Bishop Canevin and has her sights set on studying Pre-Med at Kent State. She loves children and hopes to be a pediatrician. God Bless!

CONGRATULATIONS to SPS alum, **Brad Davis** who received his M.S.E.S as a School Psychologist from Miami University.



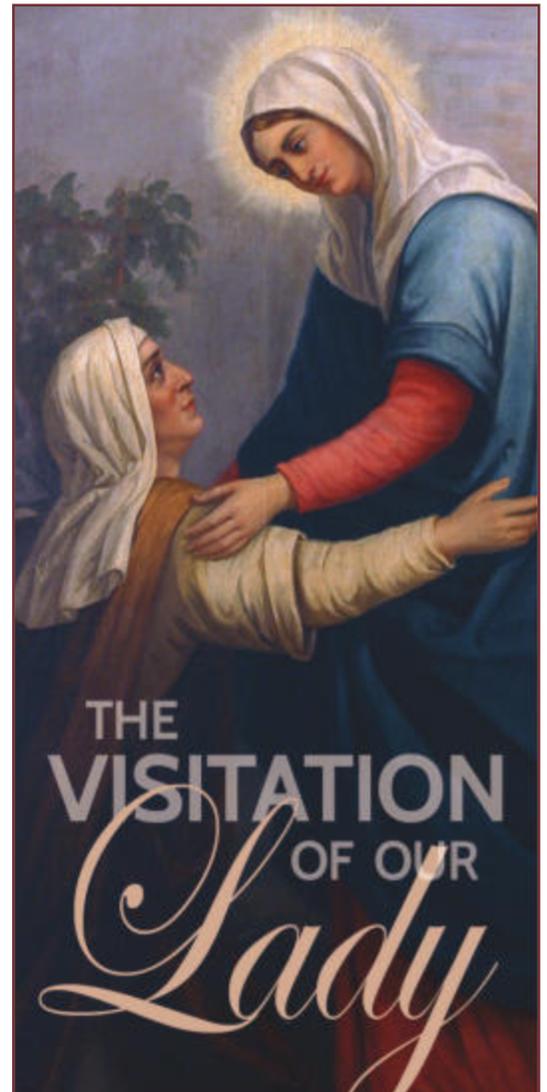


Religious Education

Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Director of Religious Education
412-922-6388 stphilipreligioused@gmail.com

MARYANN'S THOUGHTS: In today's Gospel we hear Jesus say, "All power on heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." In the coming months, we at St. Philip Parish will be discerning these words as we continue our ministry of catechesis and begin Faith Formation in some new and exciting ways. Each of us is called. I share with you the following prayer by Joyce Rupp to guide our way:

O God. I do not need to have good feelings in order to be an instrument of Your love. I do not need to always feel satisfied with what I am attempting to be and to do in order to be a disciple of Yours. It is the intention of my heart that makes a difference. Deep within I long for You and I give myself to Your cause. I am Your messenger, ready to tell of Your enormous kindness and mercy. I will trust in You. Thank You for being present in my life and for calling to me with Your gracious voice of unconditional love. Amen.



FINDING GOD: The Office of Faith Formation is planning the use of a new program for Monday Night Faith Formation. The program for grades Pre-K through 8 uses music, technology, art, activities, crafts, family celebrations and formal instruction to share the Catholic Faith with our children. We are very excited about this new program. Our Pre-K program for 3 & 4 year-old children includes opportunities for shape, color and letter recognition as well as instruction in the faith. **We are in need of a few catechists for our Monday Night Program. If you feel called to this ministry, please call MaryAnn at 412-922-6388.**

ICE-CREAM/MOVIE SOCIAL: Monday, June 14 at 6:30pm in Kelty Hall. Come try a make-your-own ice cream sundae with all the toppings. **All ages are welcome.** Come enjoy an ice-cream social followed by a friendly movie, "A Dog's Purpose."

FAITH FORMATION: SAVE THE DATE! Our Parish Faith Formation Families, Pre-K through 8th Grade, are invited to an evening of dinner, games, talks and activities called "Around the Family Table" on **Monday, August 23 from 6:15pm to 7:45pm** in Ascension Hall and Church. Reservations will begin July 1. Save the date and watch the mail and bulletin for further details. All families are welcome.

BAPTISM REQUESTS: We are currently accepting Baptism requests. If you would like to have you child baptized at St. Philip Parish, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388.



St. Philip Parish Celebrates the Sacrament of Confirmation

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION STUDENTS: We would like to thank all those who helped celebrate the the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Philip Parish on May 19. We thank **Katie Kostishack, Joe Allen** and **Roy Fischer** who helped instruct and prepare the students. In addition, we thank the following individuals: **Linda Bey** for preparing the worship aid; **Frank Bey** for creating pew bow; **Rich and Rose Musser** who served as ushers; **Dave Sammel** who assisted Father Torquato, **Beth Barsch** and music ministry for the beautiful music. **Father Jim Torquato** and **Father Jack Forbidussi** who made the Sacrament of Confirmation a special celebration. We congratulate the following individuals who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Philip Parish:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Kelsey Adamski | Cianna Davis | James Kerns | Austin Naman | Sophia Smith |
| Eadan Balega | Alexandria Essel | Natalie Kirsch | Alise Och | Mia Spezialetti |
| Grace Bannon | Ryan Gamble | Tavon Lane | Henry Olander | Noah Tremba |
| Mason Bannon | Abigail Gossic | Mary Martyn | Ian Robb | Abigail Vanzin |
| Rachel Boehm | Ryan Jameson | Rachael McDevitt | Everett Sargent | Calee West |
| Jayden Cohen | Jacob Kaltz | Sarah Mikush | Marshall Schmid | |





Around the Diocese and Community



TO JESUS, THROUGH MARY — Join the Diocese of Pittsburgh in May, the month dedicated to honoring the Blessed Mother, for *To Jesus, Through Mary*, a month-long focus on deepening devotion to Mary. Follow the diocese @DioceseofPittsburgh on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube for daily Marian inspirations, prayers, devotions, and video reflections. To receive regular Marian texts all month from the diocese and Flocknote, text MARY2021 to 85476.

PREPARE THE WAY VOCATIONS EVENT — Are you heading off to college this fall? Do you want to dedicate 40 hours to preparing yourself to grow in your Catholic faith while you're there? Men who are graduating from high school in 2021 are invited to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Camp and Retreat Center for lots of fun and a deepening of your spiritual life during *Prepare the Way*, held **July 9-11, 2021**. This retreat will be limited to 28 participants, so make sure to secure your spot. All COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed. For more information and to register, visit <https://pghpriest.com/high-school>.

EITC SUPPORTS CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS — For 20 years, the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program or EITC has been a great resource for keeping children in our Catholic Schools. The scholarships come from local businesses that reroute up to 90% of their state income tax. New Businesses can apply through the state website at <https://dced.pa.gov/eitc/> on **July 1**. For more information, email stewardship@diopitt.org.

HOPE FROM HOME — Catholic Charities' biggest annual fundraiser, *Hope from Home*, is a virtual event that is live **May 3 through the end of May**. Catholic Charities serves thousands of people in distress in southwestern Pennsylvania. It prioritizes people's immediate needs, particularly those that have arisen because of COVID-19. Catholic Charities offers: help with basic needs (rent, utilities, food, baby supplies, etc.); counseling; free health care for those who are uninsured or underinsured; housing solutions; pregnancy and parenting support; senior services, and more. These initiatives give relief to thousands and make our communities healthier and safer. For more information or to donate, visit: <https://www.cchopefromhome.org/>.



Ministries & Societies

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

The college years are often viewed as a time for young people to learn, grow and enjoy themselves before the responsibilities of true adulthood are placed on their shoulders. This makes the fact that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded by a 20-year-old college student truly remarkable.

Frederic Ozanam was the fifth of fourteen children born in 1813 in Lyon, France to strong Catholic parents. Despite his interest in languages and the humanities, his father urged him to become a lawyer. He began his studies in 1831 and he experienced an environment that was not favorable to Christian beliefs in the wake of the French Revolution. He wrote many papers aimed at dispelling myths about the Catholic Church and arguing that it should, once again, be the foundation of French culture.

Frederic surrounded himself with like-minded individuals who would meet in order to discuss various topics, including the history of the Church and current events. During one of these meetings of the Conference of History, a member of the group acknowledged that the Catholic Church had served the poor in the past, but challenged Frederic to explain what the Catholic Church was doing for the less fortunate at that time. Frederic realized that the Church was not serving the poor in Paris and it inspired him to start what would become the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

In 1833, Frederic started the Conference of Charity with some of his classmates at the University of Paris. Two years later, the name was changed to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to honor the works of charity that St. Vincent performed during his life in France. The early members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul were mentored by Blessed Rosalie Rendu, a Daughter of Charity, who educated them on works of charity and the importance of visiting the poor in person in order to determine all of their spiritual and corporal needs.

By the time of Frederic's death on September 8, 1853, there were over 17,000 members of the Society of St. Vincent de

Paul throughout Europe and in the United States. The first conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States was started in St. Louis in 1845. Today, there are approximately 800,000 members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 154 countries and territories around the world. The International Society of St. Vincent de Paul estimates that its members have helped 30 million friends in need.

A simple debate among college students sparked an idea that led to an organization that is still in existence almost 200 years later and that has helped millions of people across the globe. The St. Philip Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is proud to continue to serve the poor in the tradition of this great organization. However, it is only with your help that we can continue to do so. We thank you for your continued generosity of prayers and donations as we do our part in our small corner of the world to help our friends in need.

(<https://famvin.org/wiki/Ozanam>, www.ssvpglobal.org/ and www.svdpusa.org/about-us/history)

This week, your generous donations allowed us to provide a hospital bed and a set of sheets to an elderly woman. Thank you for helping to make this possible!

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As always, if you, or someone you know, are in need of assistance, please call or text our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email us at svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com.



This Sunday's Bible Readings

FIRST READING

This is why you must now know, and fix in your heart, that the LORD is God in the heavens above and on earth below, and that there is no other. (Dt 4:39)



PSALM

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. (Ps 33)



SECOND READING

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a Spirit of adoption, through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!" (Rom 8:14-15)



GOSPEL

"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Mt 28:16)

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— LIVE THE LITURGY —

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK
The immensity, scope, intimacy and pervasiveness of God's presence is too intense for the human mind. We often limit God by our expectations of Him and have a hard time just letting God be God. Some people all too easily lose faith because God does not meet their expectations. Worse still, the idea of faith is rejected altogether by others because of polarities and experiences they have that don't square with who they need God to be. The Holy Trinity is one of those teachings that is best encountered rather than dissected. It is only through being present with the Trinity that we can experience both the immensity and otherness of God's presence as well as the intimacy of the God who wants us to call Him "dad." We feel the loving guidance of a God who wants to take us from fear and give us confidence. Our God of yesterday, today and tomorrow is a God of all ages whose Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is much more than any of our expectations if we simply let God be who God is.



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