



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

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday: 10:00am to 2:00pm

#### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. James R. Torquato, Pastor  
Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Faith Formation Director  
Ms. Mary Beth Barsh, Music Director  
Ms. Dorothy Mancini, Assistant Organist  
Ms. Dorothy Kraemer, Office Manager  
Ms. Ursula Eberle, Business Coordinator & Safe Environment Coordinator  
Ms. Maureen Takach, Administrative Assistant  
Ms. Linda Bey, Faith Formation Secretary  
Mr. Richard Hufnagel, Maintenance  
Mr. Brian Cox, Maintenance  
Ms. Chris Archacki, Maintenance

#### PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Joseph Scheib, Saint Philip Rectory  
Rev. Lawrence Adams, Ascension Rectory

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Robert Bertocchi, Frank Bey,  
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

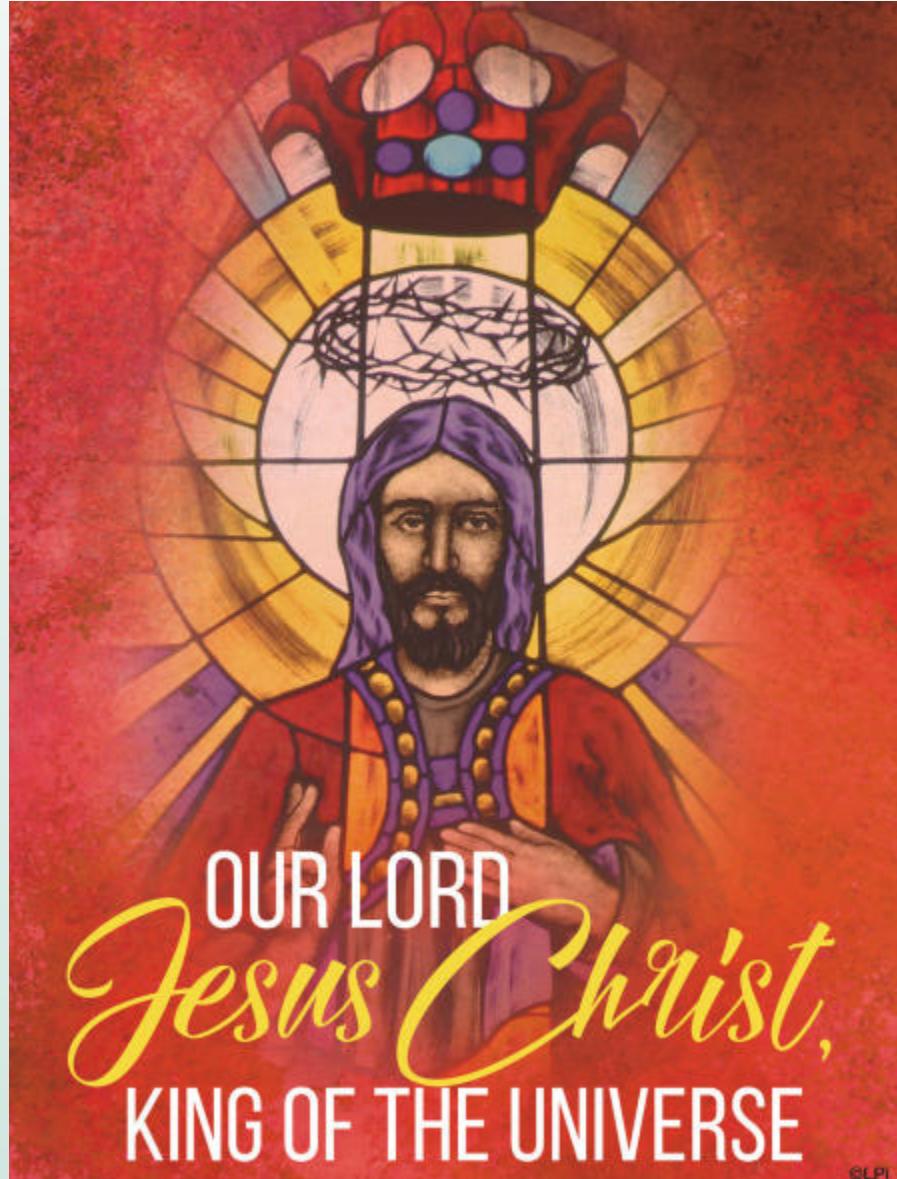
114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205  
[parishoffice@saintphilipchurch.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintphilipchurch.org)  
Saint Philip Office (412) 922-6300  
Faith Formation Office (412) 922-6388  
Society of SVdP (412) 444-8140  
Guardian Angel Academy (412) 922-4765

# Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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

## WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Download the bulletin at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



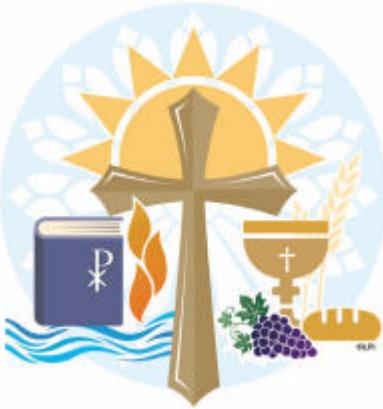
Saint Philip Church  
50 West Crafton Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Ascension Church  
114 Berry Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Guardian Angel Academy  
915 Alice Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
Mr. Robert Munz, Principal

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





## CONFSSION

Offered Saturdays from 12:00pm to 1:00pm 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 *Ascension Church*. Call the Faith Formation Office at 412-922-6388 for more information.

**Matrimony:** The Pastor is to be contacted 6-18 months in advance of the requested wedding date. Participation in a Pre-Marriage Program is required. Please contact the Parish Office 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 Faith Formation Office at 412-922-6388 for more information.

**Priesthood/Religious Life:** Contact the Pastor 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

Our Liturgies are celebrated at both *Saint Philip Church*, 50 West Crafton Avenue, Crafton, and *Ascension Church*, 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh

LOCATION	TIME	MASS INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
<b>SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20 — WEEKDAY</b>			
Ascension	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish	
Saint Philip	4:00pm (V)	Sue Mucha Family	
Ascension	5:30pm (V)	Mr. & Mrs. Fred J. Askin Daughters	
<b>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21 — OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE</b>			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Fred & Dorothy Wisniewski	Mary & Jerry Luxbacher
Ascension	9:30am	Bernice Sigh	Pat Hudson
Saint Philip	11:00am	Knights of Columbus Council #875 and Father Denys Baron	PGK Jacob Dulick & Knights Assembly #0939 Memorial Liturgy
<b>MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22 — ST. CECILIA, VIRGIN &amp; MARTYR</b>			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Gary M. Goyke	Janine & Mike Wilson
<b>TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 — WEEKDAY</b>			
Ascension	8:00am	Dolores Cavic	Linda Organist
<b>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 — ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC, THE VIETNAMESE MARTYRS</b>			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Ed Moskovitz	Katie Phillips
<b>THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 — THANKSGIVING DAY</b>			
Ascension	9:00am	Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish	
<b>FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 — WEEKDAY</b>			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Theresa Sirera	Karen Beitler
<b>SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 — WEEKDAY</b>			
Ascension	8:00am	Maria Robson	Pat Rodgers
Saint Philip	4:00pm (V)	Anthony DiMaria	Ms. Marie
Ascension	5:30pm (V)	Antoin Rodgers	John Rodgers Family
<b>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 — FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Helen Lang	Carol & Michael Anderson
Ascension	9:30am	Lynn Julian	Family
Saint Philip	11:00am	Aida M. Junsay	Family

## DID YOU KNOW?



*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 very good week and a blessed Thanksgiving Day holiday and weekend!

## The Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

We have now come to the final Sunday of the 2021 Church Year - a Sunday which is entitled the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. We celebrate this holy Solemnity because of the belief that is at the heart of our Catholic Christian faith - the belief that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, the Redeemer, the Savior, the Son of God!

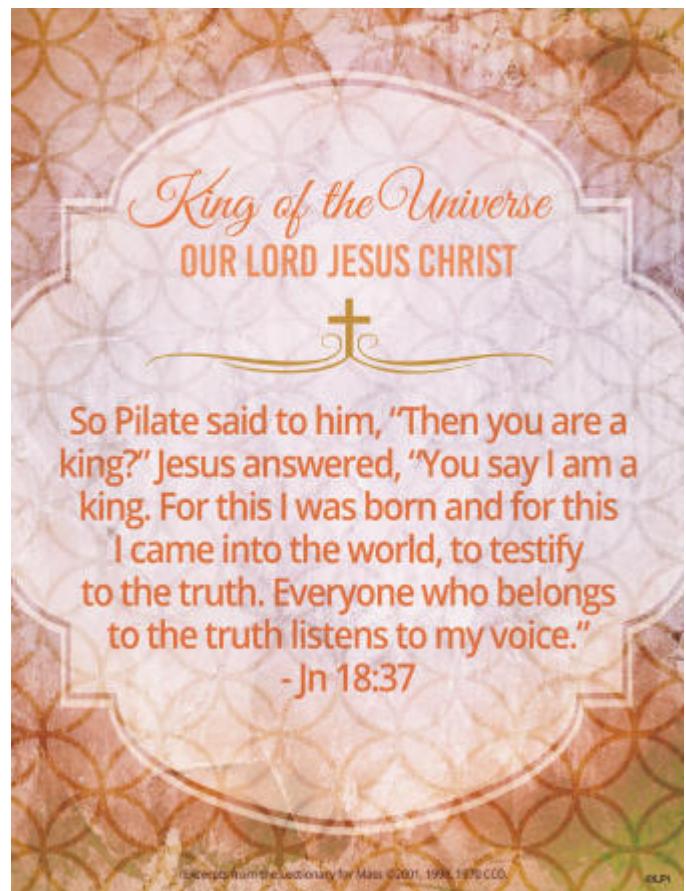
I've noted in previous bulletins that the central beliefs of our faith are: our belief in the Divine Trinity, the Incarnation of the Son of God as a human person, and Jesus' Death on the Cross and his Resurrection from the tomb. We can truly say that Jesus and his teaching are at the heart of our faith, our way of life, and our hope for everlasting life. All of Catholic Christianity - everything about the Church - comes from Jesus himself, and that's absolutely remarkable, wonderful, amazing!

Since Jesus is most important to everything about our faith, then it is certainly right and good that we give our praise and honor to Jesus at the end of the Church Year! Everything about the Christian Year centers on Jesus and his tremendous importance to us and to our faith. Given his importance, this weekend - and throughout the year - we proclaim Jesus as our Lord, our Savior, our King!

Before we begin the NEW Church Year with the First Sunday of Advent next Sunday, may we all take time this Sunday to remember how important Jesus is to us and our family, to our parish community and our neighbors, and to our nation and world. Yes, Jesus is

most important, and this weekend, we should honor him as such before we look forward to Jesus' return in glory - and to the celebration of his birth at Christmas.

**Today, may you have a blessed Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe!** May you also keep in mind how important Jesus is to the world, to humanity, to the Church, to all people, to your family and our parish, and to you as well - today, always, and forever! God bless!



Best wishes for this Thanksgiving Day holiday!

This coming Thursday, our nation will once again celebrate the wonderful holiday of Thanksgiving Day - a holiday that is only celebrated by a few nations in our world.

It's a holiday that has been a part of America for centuries and which was officially instituted by President Abraham Lincoln in gratitude for the end of the War between the States (also known as the Civil War).

**Thanksgiving Day is also a holiday which acknowledges a Divine Creator** and professes our faith in God as the One who provides for the world, who guides the world, and who is the final goal of all humanity and all creation.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving Day this coming Thursday, November 25, at our 9:00am Liturgy at Ascension Church, may you consider how blessed by the Lord your life and your family have been. May you give thanks to God on Thanksgiving Day, and may you continue to be blessed and thankful throughout your lifetime!

Please also know you're welcome to join us this Thursday morning for our 9:00am Liturgy at Ascension.



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

Your goodness and participation help to keep our parish alive!



Remembering and praying for our family members and friends

**It is good for us to remember and pray for our deceased parents, grandparents, spouses, and family members.** They're still connected to us through the Holy Spirit of God, and we trust that one day we will be reunited with them in the heavenly Kingdom.

**Also, we place the bodies and remains of our beloved deceased in our Catholic cemeteries** because we believe that, one day, Jesus will raise our mortal remains in the final Resurrection. With this in mind, we visit the resting places of our deceased loved ones in order to remember them and to pray for them. These are very good practices throughout the year.

**May the Lord Jesus bless us in this month** as we remember and pray for our deceased family members and loved ones - and as we spend time with them at their places of rest!

Best wishes for this Sunday and for a joyful Thanksgiving Day holiday!

**Best wishes for a very good Sunday and for a blessed Thanksgiving Day!** Again, thank you very much for your continued faith, discipleship, dedication, goodness, and generosity - to our parish community, to one another, and to those in need.

Until next Sunday and the beginning of the Advent Season, 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



## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, November 21:

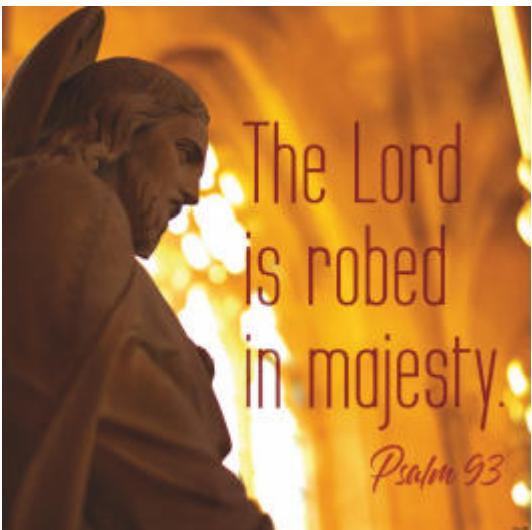
Daniel 7:13-14;  
Revelation 1:5-8;  
John 18:33-37

### This week:

Daniel 1-7; Luke 21

### Sunday, November 28:

Jeremiah 33:14-16;  
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2;  
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36



## FINANCIAL REPORT



## OUR SAINT PHILIP PARISH FINANCES

Due to the early bulletin deadline, the weekly financial report totals for **November 13 & 14** are unavailable at this time.

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year	-- \$724,000.00
Parish income <u>received</u> since July 1, 2021	-- \$190,532.78
Parish fundraising since July 1, 2021	-- \$13,049.52
Estate gifts received since July 1, 2021	-- \$0.00

Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses	-- \$7,208.00
Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses	-- \$ 973.00
Average weekly utility expenses	-- \$1,539.00
Average weekly insurance expenses	-- \$1,251.00
Weekly contributions to Guardian Angel Academy	-- \$1,400.00

Parish members -- 3,463	Parish families -- 1,719
Church attendance on <b>November 13-14</b>	-- Not Available
Sunday envelopes used	-- Not Available
Online contributions this week	-- Not Available
Total households receiving envelopes	-- 1,151



**OUR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY MASS** will be celebrated this **Thursday, November 25**, at **9:00am** in Ascension Church. Please consider joining us for this beautiful liturgy! Also, the **Parish Offices will be closed November 25-26** for the Thanksgiving holiday and will reopen on Monday, November 29.

### THANKSGIVING TABLE PRAYER

O Gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and especially for this feast today. Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please help those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ, your Son. Amen.



# Parish News

## TODAY'S SPECIAL COLLECTION

**Retirement Fund for Religious - Support for a Lifetime of Service.** A lifetime of prayer and service unites thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Generations of Catholics gratefully remember their ministry in schools, hospitals, parishes, and more. Most older religious served for little pay, resulting in a shortage of retirement savings. This appeal helps hundreds of U.S. religious communities to care for their aging members and their long-term retirement needs. Retired religious now outnumber wage-earning members resulting in declining income and rising health care costs. Your gift to this week's special collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.



Once again you are invited to take part in our annual *Giving Tree*... The annual *Christmas Giving Tree* is up. All are invited to take a name tag from the Tree which is located at both St. Philip and Ascension Churches. **We ask that all gifts be returned by Monday, December 6. Gifts must be in a gift bag with tag attached.**

The *Giving Tree* is a wonderful opportunity for us to help families in need to provide Christmas presents for their children and for us to give a little Christmas joy to the elderly and homebound. Some of the agencies which will benefit from your generosity are: the Crafton Food Bank, our sister parish in Tunnelton, WV, Catholic Charities, F.O.R. (McKees Rocks), Back Pack for Kids (Sheraden), and last but not least, our Parish's shut-ins and residents in nursing homes. We thank you in advance for your Christmas charity.



## Christmas Flower Memorials

We invite you to remember your loved ones this Christmas through your contribution for Christmas Memorials. Donations can also be made in thanksgiving for favors received. Your donation of \$10.00 per intention will help defray the cost of altar flowers and decorations which will beautify St. Philip and Ascension Churches during the Christmas Season. **A special envelope was included in your November envelope packet for the Floral Memorials. We ask you to please get your intentions to us by Monday, December 6.**

## SAVE THE DATE: CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

The joyful Christmas season is quickly approaching and we are pleased to announce that St. Philip will once again be holding its annual *Christmas Cookie Sale* on **December 11 & 12** (please see page 14 for details).

## COOKIE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are giving all parishioners, parents and children the opportunity to share their favorite homemade cookies. **Cookies and goodies can be dropped off at Conner Hall on Saturday, December 11 between 9:00am and 11:00am.** Volunteers are also needed to help sort, tray and wrap cookies. Please contact Katie Phillips at 412-983-4541.

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THANKSGIVING DAY COLLECTION

Our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society will be collecting non-perishable food items, personal care items, \$10 Giant Eagle gift cards, and monetary donations for its food bank at the **church entrance at Ascension Church prior to the Thanksgiving Day Mass**. If you are unable to attend Mass on Thanksgiving Day, you can also donate this weekend or the weekend after Thanksgiving (see page 12 for more information). Thank you for your generosity!

## SALVATION HISTORY

The BYOB (Bring your own Bible) Salvation History will meet on **Tuesday, November 23 at 7:00pm** in the meeting room of the Administration Building on the Ascension Church campus. We will look at the Genesis account of Abraham, the first of the Patriarchs. All are welcome.

## THANK YOU

We wish to thank all who baked, worked, and patronized the November 2 Election Day Bake Sale and Luncheon. Through your efforts, we were able to raise **\$219.00 (proceeds from the Bake Sale)** and **\$236.00 (proceeds from the luncheon)**. We are grateful for your continued support of our parish's fundraisers.

## OPLATKI: *Christmas Wafer*

"Oplatki" is the traditional Christmas Wafer, sometimes referred to as the "Bread of Angels." The Christ Child was born in Bethlehem which means "House of Bread," and Jesus is "The Bread of Life."

The custom began in Poland, Slovakia and Lithuania millennia ago. By breaking and sharing "Oplatki" on Christmas Eve our prayers for health and happiness are offered for the family. It unites heaven and earth and reminds us of the "Unseen Guest," Jesus Christ. Some families set an extra place at the table as a reminder of the Christ Child Who was born in a manger to save us all. "Oplatki" will be available the first weekend in December. To place an order, please call the parish office. Donation is \$3.00.



## GUARDIAN ANGEL ACADEMY SANTA SHOPPE

Attention Crafters! We are looking for handmade items to sell at the Santa Shoppe at Guardian Angel Academy. In the past we have sold scarves, heating pads, hand-painted Christmas tree ornaments, and hand towels. **The Santa Shoppe sale will be held just after Thanksgiving.** If you are willing to donate your special items for the sale, please contact Jen Ford at [jbxbs36@yahoo.com](mailto:jbxbs36@yahoo.com) as soon as possible. Thank you.

## SUPPORT GUARDIAN ANGEL ACADEMY - ORDER SARRIS CANDY!

Order your Sarris holiday candy online at [SarrisCandiesFundraising.com](http://SarrisCandiesFundraising.com) using GAA group number 10-0784. Orders are shipped directly to your home! Packaging and handling is only \$5 and can be shipped around the country. **Online orders are open until December 19.** Make sure to credit your favorite school family to earn a percentage of your order toward their fundraising goal. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Cerchiaro at [jesscheerios@gmail.com](mailto:jesscheerios@gmail.com).



## Rest in Peace

We offer our sympathy to the family of **Charles Lococo** and **Anne Wolbert** who entered into eternal life. Please keep him in your prayers.

## Connect with FLOCKNOTE!



To register, contact our parish office, OR text **stphilippa** to **84576**, OR visit [www.stphilipchurch1.flocknote.com](http://www.stphilipchurch1.flocknote.com).

## DONATE ONLINE

### Make donating easy!

Your regular online contributions to Saint Philip Parish are encouraged and always welcome!

You can send your weekly donations through our **We Share!** internet service at [www.saintphilipchurch.weshareonline.org](http://www.saintphilipchurch.weshareonline.org).

## Sanctuary Lamp

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

*In Loving Memory of Edward C. Dulick &*

*Fannie Carson*

Offered by David Dulick

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

*In Loving Memory of Maria Robson*

Offered by Pat Rodgers

## ADVERTISER of the Week

### MURPHY'S FAMILY DENTISTRY

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



# Religious Education

Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Director of Religious Education  
412-922-6388 [stphilipreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipreligioused@gmail.com)

**MARYANN'S THOUGHTS:** A blessed Thanksgiving Week to you and your families. As we celebrate this special day, we look to the saints for inspiration. From St. Teresa of Calcutta we hear, "*The best way to show my gratitude is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy.*" From St. Therese of Lisieux we hear, "*Jesus does not expect great things from us simply surrender and gratitude.*" St. Ambrose tells us, "*In all created things discern the providence and wisdom of God and in all things give Him thanks.*" Finally, I heard from a woman in a prayer group who said, "*Each month as I turn the calendar page, I make a list on the calendar of all the things for which I can give thanks from the previous month.*" Let us remember each day to give thanks for all God's blessings.

**THE NEW YEAR:** As Advent is upon us, we look to the future of St. Philip Parish. The following are planned happenings for 2021- 2022. Save the dates. Come and see what love can do.

- **Gather for Advent** on December 9
- **Night in Bethlehem** on December 13
- **Coffee, Tea and Community** Advent Breakfast Dec. 16, Jan. 13, Feb. 10
- **Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner** Celebration February 28, 2022
- **Lenten Fish Fry**
- **Soup, Salad and Speaker** Lenten Series
- **Parish Mission with Father Joe Freedy** the week of April 24, 2022
- **ChristLife** Parish Evangelization Program

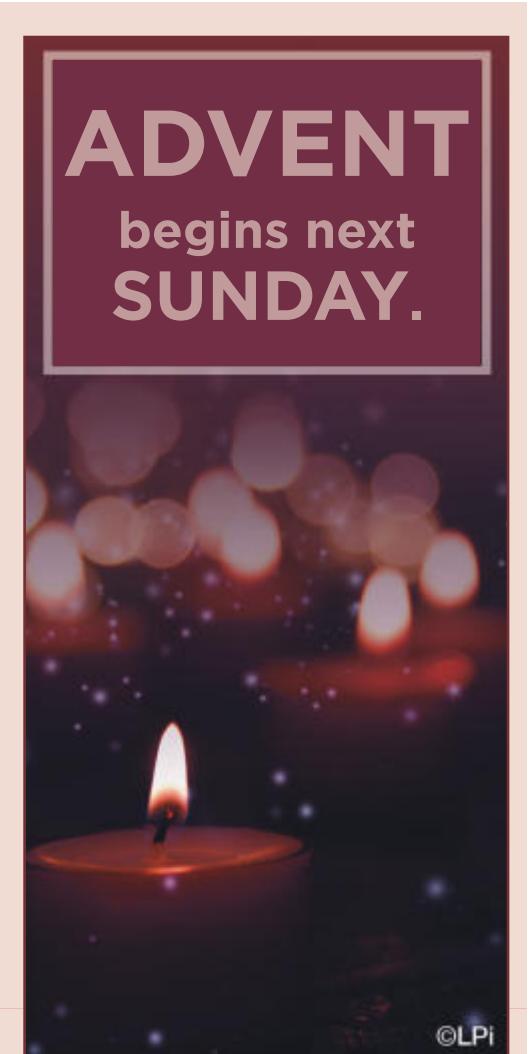
**FAITH FORMATION:** Each of our Monday Night Faith Formation families will receive Advent Booklets for Children on November 22. Please look for these in the children's folder. These will also be mailed to our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students at Guardian Angel Academy.

Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Monday, November 22**. This will be in conjunction with the Middle School EDGE program.

Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are studying and reflecting on Scripture in a special way this year. Our students from Guardian Angels Academy each received a Bible at the school liturgy on November 5. **Our Faith Formation Students will receive a Bible of their own to use for reflection and study on Monday, November 22 at 7:00pm in church.**

A reminder that there is no Faith Formation Session on **Monday, November 29** due to the Thanksgiving Break.

**COME AND JOIN US!** Advent begins on November 28. Our parish celebration of Advent will begin with the event, **Gather for Advent on Thursday, December 9 from 6:15pm to 8:00pm** in Ascension Conner Hall. We will begin with a free homemade soup, salad, bread and dessert supper followed by reflections, readings, and carols in church. We will even have a special visit by St. Nicholas. So mark your calendar and plan to join us for this intergenerational event.



*Come, Lord Jesus!*

Reservations suggested. Call 412-922-6388. Space may be limited so call early. Social distancing will be observed.

On **Monday, December 13**, Faith Formation will sponsor “*A Night in Bethlehem*” for all parish families in Ascension Conner Hall. It begins at **6:15pm** with a pizza supper. The evening will include dinner (pizza for all or mac & cheese), a variety of hot chocolate flavors to taste, seasonal pastries, snack bags, crafts, and activities. Each child will receive a book and a small gift. The evening will conclude with the Story of the First Christmas and a Prayer Service. If your family would like to attend and you are not registered in our Monday Night Faith Formation Program, please call the Faith Formation Office at 412-922-6388.

**HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CORE:** We are interested in having high school students as part of our ***Leadership Core***. These students would receive credit toward a collage application, service hours, the opportunity to help others in need, and a chance to plan and take a leadership role in High School Faith Formation. Time commitment would be 4 hours per month. If your son or daughter would like to volunteer, please contact MaryAnn at 412-922-6388.



## *St. Philip Parish Presents* **GATHER FOR ADVENT**

**Who:** *Adults, Children and Families*

**What:** *6:15pm - Free Soup, Salad, Dessert Dinner*

*7:00pm - Stories, Scripture, Advent Carols*

**When:** *Thursday, December 9 (6:15pm to 8:00pm)*

**Where:** *Ascension Conner Hall*

*Join the St. Philip Parish Community as we Gather to Prepare our Hearts for Christmas. Reservations are requested. Call 412-922-6388 for reservations.*

**All are Welcome.**

# YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Whenever St. Teresa of Avila thought of the holy family, she saw herself as part of it. Her response came naturally. Her mother died when Teresa was eleven, and the girl turned to Mary as her mother.

Joseph came into her life in a special way when she was twenty-one and suffering from a mysterious, debilitating illness. She attributed her healing to his intercession: St. Joseph, “*being who he is, brought it about that I could rise and walk and not be crippled,*” she explains in her autobiography.

Teresa rediscovered “*the incarnation of the Infant Jesus, of Mary, of Joseph, as living human beings, with whom one could speak on familiar terms, who answered you, who were interested in you.*” She wanted everyone to know they could experience that too.

The Holy Family is hospitable. It’s not closed in on itself. It invites the weary traveler in to learn, to rest, to be fed, and to receive strength and support for the journey.

## **PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY**

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love. To you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division.*

*May all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness of the family and its beauty in God’s plan. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph graciously hear our prayer.*

- Pope Francis



# Around the Diocese and Community

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND** — Walk in the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land, **January 14-24, 2022**, guided by Bishop William Waltersheid. Sail the Sea of Galilee, visit Bethlehem, walk the Via Dolorosa. \$3899 includes airfare, hotel, all transit and most meals. Optional extension to Jordan. Book online at [www.bit.ly/Bishop2022](http://www.bit.ly/Bishop2022) or call Belinda at 724-679-7450 or email her at [belinda@unitours.com](mailto:belinda@unitours.com). Other destinations are available in 2022-2023.

**FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER** — A Free Thanksgiving Dinner for those suffering from Substance Abuse Disorders will be held **Thursday, November 25 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm in the St. Francis Social Hall**, 2599 Freeport Road, Harmar, PA 15238. This community outreach is sponsored by Addiction Recovery Ministry.

In addition, Addiction Recovery Ministry will hold a Trivia Night fundraiser on Saturday, November 27 starting at 7:00pm in the church hall at St. Francis, 2599 Freeport Road. The registration fee is \$10 per person and teams consist of up to 4 people. Contact: 412-378-9290 or email [mwdarm@gmail.com](mailto:mwdarm@gmail.com), [rhaasarm@gmail.com](mailto:rhaasarm@gmail.com). Facebook: Addiction Recovery Ministry Pittsburgh Website: [addictionrecoveryministrypittsburgh.org](http://addictionrecoveryministrypittsburgh.org)

**BIRTHRIGHT: HOW WE CAN HELP** — If you think you might be pregnant, we at Birthright of Pittsburgh want to provide help and hope. We care about you and your baby and are here to give encouragement and practical assistance.

**Services include:** Guidance, free pregnancy tests, emotional support, infant clothing, diapers & wipes, advocacy, practical resources (bus passes, Uber cards, grocery gift cards), and other emergency assistance. **We also provide:** Information about pregnancy/fetal development, adoption, insurance assistance, childcare, continuing education, employment, housing/shelter, community resources and prenatal care. For information, please call 412-621-1988.

**PATHWAY TO CARE & RECOVERY** — If you or someone you know needs information, support or help with a drug or alcohol problem, call 412-325-7550 or PA Get Help Now at 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

**Services include:** information, peer support, case management, connection to other human services, mobile response teams, and more. Located at: 326 Third Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, call or walk in — 365/24/7. Here you will find care, no judgment.



## This Sunday's Bible Readings

### FIRST READING:

*His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, his kingship shall not be destroyed. (Dn 7:14)*



### PSALM:

*The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty. (Ps 93)*



### SECOND READING:

*To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever. (Rv 1:5-6)*



### GOSPEL:

*So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king." (Jn 18:37)*

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# Why Choose the Knights of Columbus?

You're going to need life insurance. You probably already have some. You're going to need to have a retirement plan. You may already be formulating one. You're going to want to invest your money. You probably already have.

Why not partner with a company that gives you the service, the strength, the products, the prices and the options that you expect from a major life insurer, but also uses its business to help those most in need, help support the Church and help support each other?

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you and your family have exclusive access to our full range of products, which can help you:



Provide for your family after you're gone with permanent life insurance or temporary life insurance.



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# Ministries & Societies

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE:** As we approach Thanksgiving, it is a great time to reflect on all that we at the St. Philip Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul have to be thankful for this year.

The easing of the pandemic allowed us to resume weekly, in-person meetings in June. We really missed getting to see people who are not only our fellow Vincentians, but also our friends, each week. We have been blessed with new members whose enthusiasm for helping our friends in need is contagious. We are thankful for the new friends in need that we have met and the chance to continue relationships with those that we have helped in the past or continue to help on a regular basis through our food pantry.

Our second annual drive-through food drive in August was a big success, as was our *Help Thy Neighbor* raffle. Someone from our parish was even one of the raffle winners! We are thankful that, even though the fire at the Knights of Columbus resulted in the loss of our stock of donated furniture and our storage space, no one was injured in that fire and we are very fortunate to be close to finalizing the details on a new storage space that will allow us to resume our furniture ministry. Stay tuned to future bulletin posts for more information.

Last, but not least, we are extremely grateful for everyone who supports us. Whether you pray for us and/or our friends in need, volunteer with us, or donate to us, you are a huge part of the reason why we are able to continue to help so many. We are also very thankful for the support that we get from Father Torquato and the entire parish staff. We are so blessed to be part of a parish community that really embraces us and our mission. May God bless you and your family as much as He has our Vincentian family! And should you want to join our family, we would love to welcome you!

Speaking of Thanksgiving, once again this year, our parish St. Vincent de Paul volunteers will be collecting non-perishable food items, personal care items, \$10 Giant

Eagle gift cards, and monetary donations for its food bank at the Ascension Church entrance prior to the Thanksgiving Day Mass. **If you are unable to attend Mass on Thanksgiving Day, you can also donate the weekend before (November 20 & 21) or after Thanksgiving (November 27 & 28) by placing your donation in the bins inside the church entrances.** Thank you in advance for your generosity!

This week, your generous donations enabled us to assist a disabled woman with \$600 for rent; another disabled woman was given \$456 for a security deposit, as well as clothing and household goods vouchers, a bed, couch and other basic furniture items; a single mother was given two beds and dressers; another single mother was given beds; a family was given clothing vouchers; and a woman raising her grandchildren was given a bed.

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, or mail them to the parish office at 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Monetary donations made to our conference are used only to assist friends in need and to pay our operational expenses. No money is given to any other organizations.

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](mailto:svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com). If you have items that you would like to donate to us, we ask that you hold onto those items until we are either able to deliver them directly to a friend in need or have new storage space. 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](http://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.

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](mailto:svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com).



# Guardian Angel Academy

**CLASSROOM CHRONICLES:** Each week we will highlight the amazing things that are going on in our classrooms here at Guardian Angel Academy.

## MRS. ROBIN SANDERS - 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASSROOM

Math class for us has been busy. We spent the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter practicing our addition and subtraction facts and processes. We are now transitioning into multiplication; in which we will cover the basic facts to the more complex operations of multiplication. In our Reading class, we wrapped up our first novel, "Frindle." The students enjoyed reading about the war of words between the Frindle Fighters led by Nick Allen and the champion of order and authority, Mrs. Granger, Nick's Language Arts teacher. The students got a chance to experience identifying elements of a story as well as figurative language. We had fun playing "teacher" and "student" when discovering points of view on a given subject and discussing why teachers do what they do. In Social Studies, we finished learning about the Eastern Region of the United States and will continue our trek across our country. In Science, we spent time on the formation of our land because of earthquakes and volcanoes. We will be looking into how fossils help us understand our past.

## MISS CATHERINE RODGERS - 3<sup>RD</sup> (B) GRADE CLASSROOM

3B is learning a lot this year! In reading class, we are talking about what it takes to solve a problem. We have been reading books with different genres such as expository text, folktales, and historical fiction to help us think about how problems are solved. We have also started to do book reports on the chapter books we have been reading. In math we are starting to multiply and divide by looking at equal groups. We will soon be trying to master our facts. In religion, we are learning about the Church and how it began. We have also talked about the Church Year in particular Ordinary time and all the wonderful things Jesus did in his life. We are getting ready soon to celebrate Advent in the upcoming weeks. In science class, we are learning about how animals grow and change and what they need to survive. One of the life cycles we used was the frog's life cycle and we did a song and dance to help us memorize what animals need to survive.



## **SRCES - SOUTH REGIONAL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS GIVING TUESDAY**

**Giving Tuesday** is right around the corner, **November 30, 2021**, and this day of generosity not only helps us financially but also allows us to spread the news and goodness that comes from our schools. (Guardian Angel Academy, Archangel Gabriel School, Ave Maria Academy, John F. Kennedy Catholic, Madonna Catholic, Mother of Mercy Academy, St. Louise de Marillac).

Last year we had a goal of reaching 500 Donors, which our amazing communities surpassed! Our prayer is that we reach the same donors and reach the financial target of \$32,000 and establish our Regional Angel Fund - RAF.

**WHAT IS AN ANGELFUND?** Angel Funds are reserved funds that can only be attributed to those families that wish to experience a Catholic Education but cannot always afford the cost of tuition. Donations to RAF cannot be used for any other purpose than tuition assistance. With the help of our community, our goal is to have an established fund of \$30,000 to assist families for the 2022-23 school year.

**HOW CAN I HELP/GET INVOLVED?** Without the dedication of our families, Catholic Education would not be possible. With parent encouragement and community support, we can show the surpassing value of a passionate Catholic Education. Our schools will remain strong with your continued commitment, and our region's image will grow and be a shining light. Consider doing the following to support our region:

- Spread the word about our region by following us on **Instagram** and **Facebook** - [@SRCESpgh](#). By keeping up with us on social media, you will be informed of what is happening in our region and get updates on all the fantastic things our students are doing.
- Participate and encourage others to participate in the region's *Giving Tuesday* and visit: [srcespgh.org/give](#).

Proceeds directly support our schools and allow the region to continue to promote Catholic Elementary Education.

- If you would like to volunteer for the region in general fundraising, image recognition, and community outreach, email us at [info@srcespgh.org](mailto:info@srcespgh.org).
- We also ask for your prayers as we build and support our community.

With Prayers, SRCES Administration



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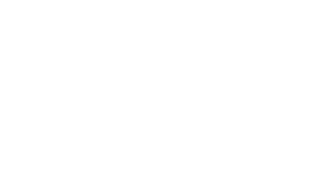
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