

Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9:00am to 3:00pm

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
 Mr. David Pilarski, Business Coordinator
 & Safe Environment Coordinator
 Ms. Maureen Takach, Administrative Assistant
 Ms. Linda Bey, Faith Formation Secretary
 Mr. Richard Hufnagel, Maintenance
 Ms. Chris Archacki, Maintenance
 Mr. Thomas Dembecki, 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,
 Katie Phillips, David Pilarski,
 Mary Schubert and Richard Schubert.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Benjamin Bannon, Joseph Hoover,
 Joseph Rynn and Gary Urbatis

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
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 MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic Community of Saint Philip Parish, united in faith and empowered by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, are firmly committed to promoting full and active participation in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church. We answer the call of the Gospel to bring about the kingdom of justice and peace through worship, education, service, and stewardship.

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



CONFESSION

Available 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.

LITURGY 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
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 — WEEKDAY			
Ascension	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish	
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Ronald Victorelli	Mancini Family
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Donald Scholz	Donna
SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 — TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saint Philip	7:00am	William D. Macklin & Deceased of the Macklin Family	Anita Macklin & Family
Ascension	9:30am	Robert F. Badish, Sr.	Paula Badish
Saint Philip	11:00am	Lynn Julian	Julian Family
MONDAY, AUGUST 28 — SAINT AUGUSTINE, BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish	
TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 — THE PASSION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST			
Ascension	8:00am	Deceased of the Palombini Family	DeDe Palombini
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30 — WEEKDAY			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Samuel M. Palombini	Quinn Family
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 — WEEKDAY			
Ascension	8:00am	Pat Rogers	Pat Hudson
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 — WEEKDAY			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Richard & Dolores Kraemer	Family
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 — WEEKDAY			
Ascension	8:00am	Dolly Wilson	Janine & Mike Wilson
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Edward J. Mattern, Jr.	Mary & Tom Gerlowski
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Raymond Best	Terry Best
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 — TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Edward Spinnenweber	Kathleen Spinnenweber & Family
Ascension	9:30am	Klinkner & Sansoni Families	Mary Klinkner
Saint Philip	11:00am	Paul Valenti	Family
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.			





Notes from the Pastor

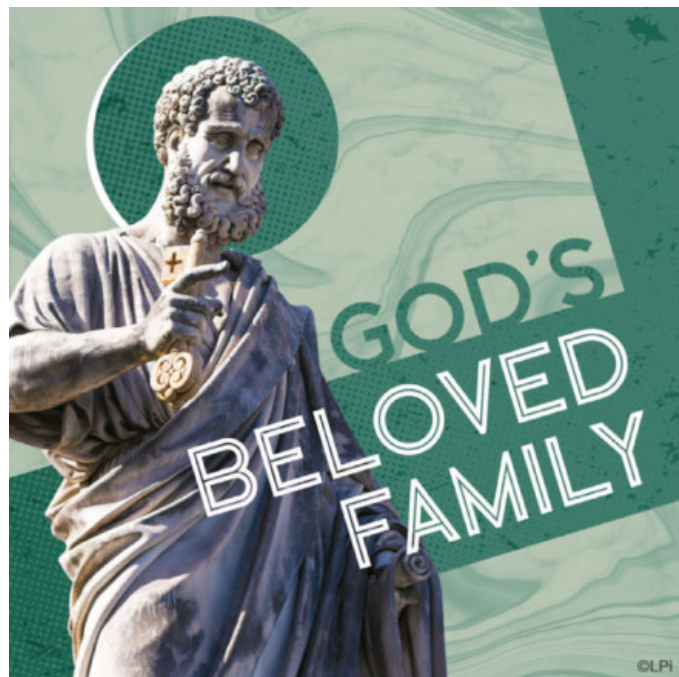
Greetings once again, and best wishes for these final days of August - and for a blessed month of September!

Saint Peter and his successors

There are a number of accounts in the Gospel according to Matthew which are very significant for the life of the Lord's Church. Today's passage from Matthew chapter 16 is one of the most important accounts in the four Gospels as it shares with us Jesus' selection of Saint Peter as the chief shepherd of the Church.

Following Peter's profession of faith in Jesus, the Lord selects and affirms Peter as the primary Apostle - the chief Apostle upon whom Jesus will establish his Church in this world.

This scene with Jesus and Peter may seem simple, but in reality, this exchange between Jesus and Peter - and Jesus' subsequent selection of Peter



- has had extraordinary significance throughout Christian history - as well as a tremendous impact on the history of the world.

With his selection as the leader of the Apostles, Peter began his ministry: 1.) of keeping the Church united in faith and divine life; 2.) of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus to many peoples and nations; 3.) of leading the lowly, downtrodden, outcast and all people to life and salvation; 4.) of guiding those who are lost, bewildered, and fearful toward the truth; and 5.) of teaching and leading all the baptized disciples of the Lord Jesus each day.

This same important role of Saint Peter - and his successors, the Popes - has survived in the Catholic Church and continues with great vitality even in these early decades of the new century. Pope Francis was elected on March 13, 2013 to continue the ministry and work of Saint Peter in our own time.

Leading and guiding more than 1.2 billion Catholic Christians is certainly not an easy task in any era - especially today. May we be grateful that Pope Francis accepted the role and work of Saint Peter more than ten years ago. Let us pray every day for Pope Francis and all our Church leaders asking the Lord to guide and strengthen his many shepherds throughout our worldwide Catholic community of faith.

Just as Saint Peter gave his life to continue the work of Jesus, so too may the Lord bless Peter's successor, Pope Francis, as he now gives his entire life for the continuing spread of the Good News and the growing of the Kingdom of God in every land and nation.

Best wishes for the weeks ahead!

Best wishes to you and all in our Saint Philip Parish community for a safe and enjoyable summer! May the Lord Jesus bless you, your family, and our Saint Philip Catholic Parish community now and always! Amen! Alleluia!

Yours,
Father Jim Torquato



Disciple Maker Index Diocesan-Wide Results

During Lent of 2023, parishioners across the Diocese of Pittsburgh were invited to share their thoughts, reflect on their spiritual growth, and provide parish leadership with invaluable insight regarding their parish's strengths and opportunities through the Disciple Maker Index (DMI).



It is with a joyful heart that I share with you several high-level results of the Disciple Maker Index for the Diocese of Pittsburgh. These results take into account 24,133 surveys completed by members from each of our 61 parishes. It is clear that the parishes of the Diocese of Pittsburgh are truly moving forward through the grace of the Holy Spirit. The information provided in this survey is being utilized by each parish to create pastoral plans focused upon Evangelization, Discipleship, and Mission.

Grateful for our continued efforts together in being On Mission for The Church Alive!, and for our belief that "Nothing is Impossible with God," I am

Your Brother in Christ,
The Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh

FOUR FACTORS OF A THRIVING DIOCESAN PARISH

The DMI Survey collected responses on key areas of parish life that will allow us to continue to work toward becoming a more vibrant, thriving parish:

- **Leadership Indicators** - 75% of respondents strongly agree/agree that they are provided opportunities to serve at the parish
- **Sunday Experience** - 69% of respondents strongly agree/agree that the parish offers vibrant and engaging liturgies
- **Spiritual Practices** - 72% of respondents state that they have personally encountered Jesus Christ and are growing as a disciple and 76% of respondents state that they are growing in their faith and would like to grow more
- **Missionary Impulse** - 96% of parents said that they strongly agree/agree that one of their most important responsibilities is helping their child to grow in faith

COLLECTIVE STRENGTHS OF ALL PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE

The DMI Survey provided us information on what respondents saw as strengths of the parish:

- **Belief** - 91% of respondents strongly agree/agree that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and 92% strongly agree/agree that scripture is the Word of God
- **Community** - 77% of respondents strongly agree/agree that the parish makes them feel welcome and accepted
- **Parish Life** - 83% of respondents strongly agree/agree that they would recommend their parish to others
- **Transparency** - 74% of respondents strongly agree/agree that parish leadership is transparent regarding finances

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

The DMI Survey provided us areas of opportunity for growth:

- **Discipleship** - 65% of respondents strongly agree/agree that the parish is helping to form them as a disciple of Jesus Christ
- **Formation** - 55% of respondents strongly agree/agree that they feel confident that they can share the teachings of the Church with others
- **Liturgy** - 62% of respondents strongly agree/agree that the music offered at Sunday Mass deepens their desire to participate more fully in the liturgy
- **Evangelization** - 37% of respondents strongly agree/agree that they are comfortable sharing their personal witness story

TO VIEW THE FULL DIOCESAN RESULTS, VISIT WWW.DIOPITT.ORG



Sunday, August 27

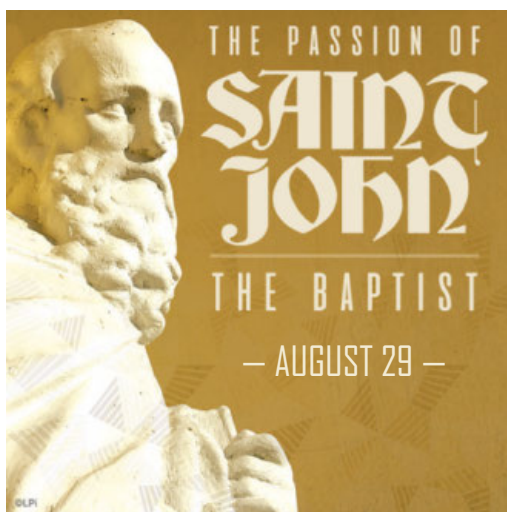
Isaiah 22:19-23;
Romans 11:33-36;
Matthew 16:13-20

Weekdays

1 Thessalonians 1-4; Matthew 23-25

Sunday, September 3

Jeremiah 20:7-9;
Romans 12:1-2;
Matthew 16:21-27



FINANCIAL REPORT OUR SAINT PHILIP PARISH FINANCES

Sunday collections, August 19-20, 2023	-- \$6,242.75
Mail-in donations	-- \$2,385.00
Online donations	-- \$1,395.00
Maintenance donations	-- \$811.00
Religious Education donations	-- \$60.00
Holy Day of Obligation donations	-- \$2,339.00

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year	-- \$850,409.00
Parish income <u>received</u> since July 1, 2023	-- \$96,988.45
Parish fundraising since July 1, 2023	-- \$0.00
Estate gifts received since July 1, 2023	-- \$0.00
General donations since July 1, 2023	-- \$25.00

Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses	-- \$7,640.00
Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses	-- \$2,175.00
Average weekly utility expenses	-- \$2,295.00
Average weekly insurance expenses	-- \$1,186.00
Weekly contributions to Guardian Angel Academy	-- \$1,630.32

Parish members	-- 3,463	Parish families	-- 1,719
Church attendance on August 19-20	-- 632		
Sunday envelopes used August 19-20	-- 302		
Total households receiving envelopes	-- 1,106		

2023 Parish Appeal Goal	-- \$129,011.00
Parish Appeal received as of August 20	-- \$151,729.42*
*Includes online Parish Appeal donations	
2023 Parish Appeal Donors	-- 352



LIFE IN SAINT PHILIP PARISH...

Sharing the Good News and growing the Kingdom of God!

Last week, this new column was begun to remind you - our parish members - just how important and beneficial is your participation in Saint Philip Parish. There is a tremendous amount of Catholic Christian faith, life, prayer, service and ministry in our parish community each and every day thanks to you, our participating and supporting members.

First, your support and participation provide for our community TWO very fine churches for worship and prayer. **Today, we're reminded that within these two churches, we celebrate the Sacraments and our Liturgy every Sunday and every day.** Your goodness and support allow our parish members, families and guests to give fitting worship to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit day after day.

Supporting our parish and our two churches allows our 3400 members and families to enjoy these spiritual homes - and to have them as our places of prayer and worship. Thank you very much for all that you do to make our parish prayer and life possible by your weekly goodness to Saint Philip Parish!



Parish News

LIVE THE LITURGY: INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Who do you say that I am?" Let our whole lives be the answer, given not in words, but in action. If the world looked at your life, your decisions, your words, and your deeds, would they conclude that you are a person who believes Christ is the Son of the living God?

PRAYER - FOR EVERYDAY & EVERYBODY

Prayer for the Church

*Dear Lord,
Guide and direct the Holy Father,
our bishop, our pastor,
and those who minister in your name.
Give us the grace to boldly proclaim,
"You are the Christ!"
Amen.*

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION

The Second Collection taken up at all the Masses this weekend is the annual collection for Catholic University and the Catholic Communications Campaign of the American Catholic Bishops. This collection makes it possible to spread the teachings of Jesus Christ. Your generosity is appreciated.

SAINT PHILIP PARISH ANNUAL MEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

The retreat for the men of Saint Philip Parish will be held **September 22-24** at Saint Paul of the Cross Retreat Center on the South Side. Please call Al Bannon at 412-853-1341 or Joe Hoover at 412-310-6691 for more information.



Interested in Helping?

We continue to seek additional members interested in serving in the Liturgical Ministries of **Communion Minister, Sunday Lector, Weekend Usher, Altar Server, Funeral Server, Church Sacristan, Wedding Coordinator**, or even **Collection Counter**. Additional help is always needed & appreciated. If you feel that you are called to serve our parish in any of the above ministries, please contact the Parish Office at 412-922-6300. Proper training will be provided.



*Thank you for your generous
financial contributions to*

SAINT PHILIP PARISH!



Your goodness and participation
help to keep our parish alive!



A Plenary Indulgence Granted by Papal Decree

Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience™



St. Philip Parish

114 Berry Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Sunday, September
10th 6:30 PM
Ascension Church

- ★ *Receive Lourdes Water*
- ★ *Touch the Grotto Rock*
- ★ *Eucharistic Blessing*
- ★ *Candlelight Rosary*

For information contact:
MaryAnn Garfold
(412) 922-6388



Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality
North American Volunteers
www.LourdesVolunteers.org



Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at
St. Philip burns *In Loving Memory of*
Howard Kelly
Offered by Wife, Marge

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at
Ascension burns *In Loving Memory of*
Thomas Jungling
Offered by Evelyn

ADVERTISER of the Week

GALASSO REAL ESTATE

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

A Final Gift to the Parish

Please support

SAINT PHILIP PARISH

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

Thank you!

Connect with FLOCKNOTE!



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

THANK YOU

TO OUR ADVERTISERS

CATHOLIC INTERNET SITES

Would you like to find good Catholic information, news, and inspiration on the Internet? Then explore these very good sites and sign up for their communications.

www.aleteia.org
www.dynamiccatholic.org
www.vatican.va
www.diopitt.org
www.catholicnews.com
www.catholicnewsagency.com
www.catholic.com
www.ewtnnews.com
www.zenit.org
www.cruxnow.com
www.pittsburghcatholic.org

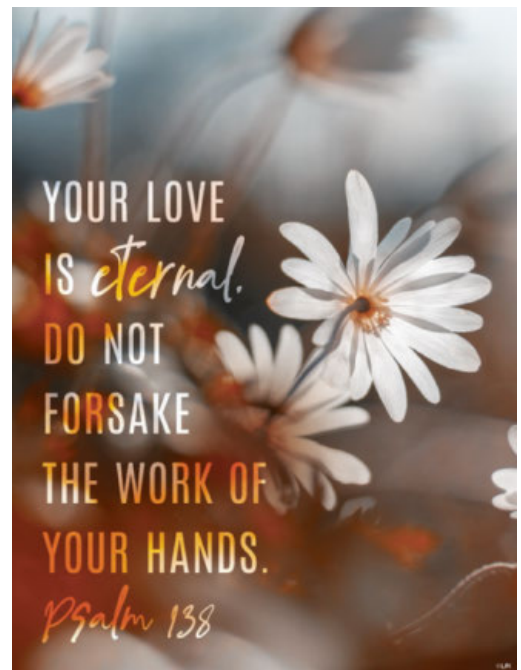


A NOTE FROM MARYANN: Last week I attended a parish festival in the South Hills. I helped sell tickets at one of the booths. As the evening progressed, I noticed something - everyone was smiling. Even if a person had to stand in line for 10 minutes, he was smiling when he got to the booth. I also noticed that everyone was glad to be there and everyone greeted people whom they hadn't seen in a while. I thought, "What a great place to be. No matter how long it has been since you have been in church, people are glad to see you." I also noticed that even if you don't know someone very well, you are happy that they are there and are glad to talk with them. *I thought about how Saint Philip's picnic is like that.* We are all part of the parish family. Even if people have not been to church for a while, we hope they come and share what's been happening in their lives. We also hope to see neighbors and friends. We hope to renew friendships, recall memories, and make new memories.

So, if you haven't decided or made reservations yet, we hope to see you at the picnic. We are a parish family and it wouldn't be quite the same if you weren't there. The picnic has something for all ages - children's games, food, caricature artists, bingo, dessert table and much more. Call 412-922-6388 and let us know you will be coming so we can put an extra burger on the grill.

EXCITING NEWS! Saint Philip Parish is one of three Pittsburgh Diocese parishes invited to host a *Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes*. ***This virtual pilgrimage experience will take place on Sunday, September 10 at 6:30pm in Ascension church.*** This experience re-creates a pilgrimage to Lourdes without ever leaving home. This powerful prayer experience draws pilgrims nearer to God in the company of Our Lady as they are guided through a prayerful visit to the Grotto where they can touch the Grotto Rock, the experience of water, prayer in a candlelight Rosary procession and a Eucharistic blessing. Come for yourself or come pray for a loved one. Save the Date! Tell Your Friends!

This is a beautiful experience of prayer to Our Lady. Come encounter Saint Bernadette; discover the Message of Lourdes; discover the Grotto and enter as a Pilgrim; experience the Lourdes Water; come before the Eucharist; and participate in the candlelight procession. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend some time in prayer. A light dessert table will conclude the evening. Please call 412-922-6388 for more information.




**HELP YOUR CHILDREN
MEET THEIR BEST FRIEND**

ATTENTION FAMILIES: If you have a child entering, pre-school through grade eight, who has not previously attended Religious Education sessions, we invite them to join our **Saint Philip Parish Faith Formation Program which begins September 11.** Sessions are held from 6:30pm to 7:45pm on Saint Philip church campus.

Special free dinners and activities are held once per month. To register, call 412-922-6388.

For new Families or inquiries, there will be an in-person Faith Formation registration night for pre-school (3-years-old) through 8th grade on **Monday, August 28 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm** in the courtyard of Saint Philip church.

"Praise the Lord, for He is good; sing praise to our God, for He is gracious." Our Saint Philip Parish Family is truly blessed. Please note the following events happening in September. All are welcome. For reservations or information, call 412-922-6388. Mark your calendar and try to attend at least one of these events:

- **Sunday, September 10 at 9:30am**, *Children's Liturgy* at Ascension church
- **Sunday, September 10 at 6:30pm**, *Virtual Trip to Lourdes* at Ascension church
- **Monday, September 11 at 6:30pm**, *Faith Formation* begins in Saint Philip courtyard
- **Wednesday, September 13**, *Travel Ministry* to Shrines of Pittsburgh (8:00am at Ascension)
- **Thursday, September 14 at 8:30am**, *Coffee, Tea, Community Breakfast* at Ascension
- **Thursday, September 14 at 6:30pm**, *OCIA (RCIA)* in administrative building
- **Friday, September 15**, *Small Faith Group* meeting in administrative building
- **Sunday, September 17 at 9:30am**, *Catechetical Sunday*
- **Sunday, September 17 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm**, *Parish Picnic* on Ascension church campus
- **Monday, September 18**, *Faith Formation Open House* on Saint Philip campus
- **Thursday, September 21 at 7:00pm**, *Confirmation Parent Meeting* in Saint Philip campus
- **Saturday, September 23 at 9:00am**, *Teen Leadership Corps* meeting on Saint Philip campus
- **Sunday, September 24 at 11:00am Mass**, *Children's Liturgy* at Saint Philip church
- **Monday, September 25**, *Faith Formation 7th & 8th grade ESP* on Saint Philip campus

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: *Good News! Children's Liturgy will now be celebrated at both Ascension and Saint Philip churches.* The first Children's Liturgy for the season at **Ascension will be celebrated at 9:30am Mass on Sunday, September 10.** The first Children's Liturgy for the season at **Saint Philip will be celebrated on Sunday, September 24 at the 11:00am Mass.** Children's Liturgy at Ascension will be the second Sunday of the month. Children's Liturgy at Saint Philip will be the fourth Sunday of the month.

TRAVEL MINISTRY: Last Call! Only a few seats left! Sign up now! Join Saint Philip Parish on **Wednesday, September 13** as we visit the Historic Churches of Pittsburgh. Cost is \$129 which includes transportation, tour guide, gratuities and lunch. Call 412-922-6388 for reservations. Make checks payable to Wendt Touring.

Saint Philip Parish will sponsor a free ***Coffee, Tea and Community Breakfast*** on **Thursday, September 14 from 8:30am to 10:00am** in Ascension Conner Hall. Our theme is *"Charity Towards All"* and our speaker will be from the Pittsburgh Diocese Ladies of Charity. **Both men and women are welcome and encouraged to attend.** This breakfast will also help launch the beginning of the Saint Philip Parish Ladies of Charity. Come enjoy a breakfast buffet, meet old and new friends, enjoy a time of prayer, and hear a great speaker. Registration is recommended. To register, call the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388.

OCIA: If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or would like to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) in the Catholic faith, sessions are beginning now. Please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388 for information.

For any new Families or inquiries, there will be an in-person faith formation registration night for ages pre-school (3-year-olds) through 8th grade on **Monday, August 28 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm** in the courtyard of Saint Philip church.

BAPTISM NEWS: As we welcome families with new babies into our parish and they prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism, we would like to make them feel at home in our parish community. We are looking for individuals or families to welcome the families in their journeys of faith. This would involve welcoming the family and their little one with a card, joining them in a baptism class and keeping in touch throughout the growing years. If you are interested in this new ministry, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388 for more information.

Coffee, Tea and Community Breakfast and Speaker

Thursday, September 14

Ascension Church, Conner Hall

"Charity Towards All"

Speaker: Diocesan Ladies of Charity

Open to Both Men and Women

8:30am: Breakfast

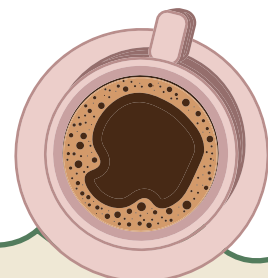
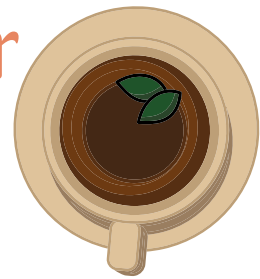
9:00am: Reflection

9:15-10:00am: Speaker

Come enjoy breakfast, meet old and
new friends, share a time of prayer
and listen to a great speaker!

Help us launch the beginning of the
Saint Philip Parish Ladies of Charity!

Registration is recommended by
calling 412-922-6388.



MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIR, SCHOLA...ANYONE?

At any given moment, any one person might “be caught singing,” whether it’s humming or whistling a tune or singing with the radio or TV. People do it in the shower, in the car, while gardening, shopping... in any season... in any weather.

According to an article published in the *Washington Post*, there are several benefits from singing:

- lessened anxiety
- stimulated memory for those with memory issues
- increased lung capacity

Singing in a group provides:

- better social connections
- meaningful friendships
- shared activities

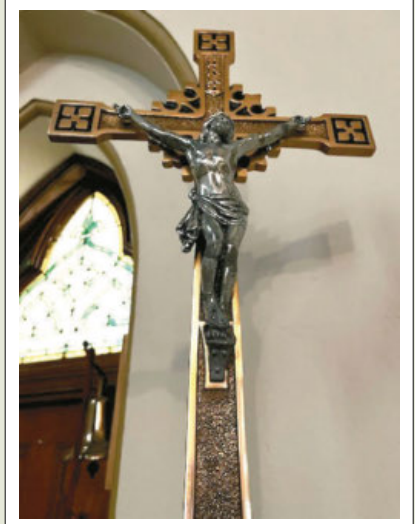
(www.washingtonpost.com/wellness/2023/06/25/singing-with-others-mental-physical-health/)

Our Ascension Schola begins Fall 2023 with rehearsal on **Tuesday, September 5** in Ascension church from 1:30pm to 2:45pm. *The Schola’s first Mass will be 9:30am on Sunday, September 10 at Ascension church.*

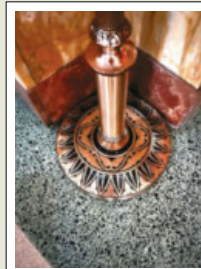
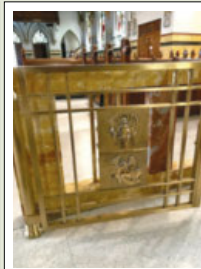
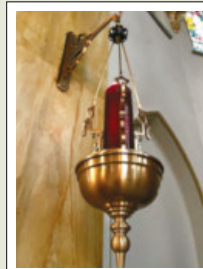
Our Saint Philip Choir begins Fall 2023 with rehearsal on **Thursday, September 7** in Ascension church from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. *The Choir’s first Mass will 11:00am on Sunday, September 10 at St. Philip church.*

The only requirements are a love of God and liturgy, a willingness to learn and a commitment to attend rehearsals. For more information, contact Beth Barsh at 412-489-5823.

Our Two Churches for the Glory of God!



In recent years, significant work was accomplished at Ascension church to make it shine for the glory of the Lord. We’ll continue to maintain Ascension church and keep it in excellent condition. This year at Saint Philip church, we’re also continuing the refurbishing which began prior to the church’s centennial in 2006. It’s good that both of our churches shine for the honor and glory of God!



The refinishing of the Saint Philip church doors is almost complete. In addition, the Vincent Allen Company of Carnegie has been refinishing most of the metal items in the sanctuary - in addition to their having refinished the seating and painting underneath the pews. In these photos, you’ll see how beautiful the tabernacle, the processional cross, candle stands and other items in Saint Philip church now look. Thank you for your contributions in past years which have made this work possible - and thank you for continuing to support our parish and all the good that is accomplished here every day for the Gospel and the Kingdom!



Guardian Angel Academy

One of the South Region Catholic Elementary Schools (SRCES)



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As Guardian Angel Academy prepares to begin a new school year, please consider making a donation to our Guardian Angel Fund. The goal of Guardian Angel Academy is to continue to make a difference in every child who attends our school. With the help of donations from our supporters, we can continue to provide a quality Catholic Education for families who may otherwise not be able to afford it. Your donation will be placed into our Guardian Angel Fund and will assist these families in need. You may also sponsor a child. Our tuition rate for the 2023-2024 school year for one child is \$4,990.00. Your donation is tax-deductible. An acknowledgment letter of your contribution to Guardian Angel Academy will be provided for tax purposes. If you have any questions on how you can sponsor a child or about making a donation to our Guardian Angel Fund, please call me at school at 412-922-4765 or write me via email at rmunz@guardianangelacademy.org. Thanks again for your generous support of Guardian Angel Academy. It is greatly appreciated!

Many Blessings,
Mr. Munz, Principal

SAINT PHILIP PARISH PICNIC



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Ascension Campus	3:00pm - 6:00pm
Food Served	3:30pm - 5:30pm
BINGO	4:30pm
Caricature Artist	4:30pm - 6:00pm

Hot dogs, hamburgers, sides and beverages will be provided at NO cost to you.

Come join in the fun, food, games, crafts, bingo, 50/50 raffle, music and fellowship! Something for everyone!

We ask each family to bring an item for the dessert table.

If you plan on attending our Parish Picnic, please make a reservation either by filling out this form and putting it in the collection basket or calling the Parish Office of Faith Formation at: 412-922-6388. Thank you!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Adults attending: _____

Children attending and ages: _____

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:
Monday, September 11, 2023**



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

These days, having internet service is almost a necessity. Whether it is working remotely, looking for employment online, signing up for benefits, or attending school virtually, the internet isn't just for entertainment. Thankfully, there are resources available for low-income households to make internet service more affordable.

The **Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)** is a federal program that provides discounts of up to \$30/month for internet service through participating providers. If you qualify for SNAP (food stamps), WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), Medicaid, or SSI (Supplemental Security Income), then you qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program. You can also qualify based on household income. For more information or to apply, visit <https://acpbenefit.org>. You can also call your current provider to see if they participate in the program and how they can help you to apply.

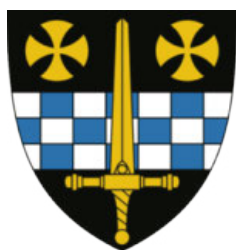
Two major internet service providers in our area participate in the ACP. Comcast/Xfinity is currently offering free internet service through its Internet Essentials program using funds from the ACP (while those funds last). The cost for this service is normally \$9.95 per month. Visit <https://internetessentials.com> or call 1-855-8-INTERNET (1-855-846-8376) for more information or to apply. Verizon Fios is also offering free internet for qualifying households through its Verizon Forward program. For more information, visit www.verizon.com/info/low-income-internet. We urge qualifying households to take advantage of these benefits to stay connected in the most affordable way possible - while freeing up some money that can be used for other necessities.

This week, your generous donations enabled us to assist a previously homeless single mother of two with three beds and other furniture items; a woman was assisted with \$404 to prevent an electric shut off; a single mom of four was given \$500 to prevent an electric shut off; a single mother of five was given three beds, clothing vouchers, a household goods voucher and other furniture items; and a single mother of four was assisted with \$465 to prevent an electric shut off. Thank you so much for supporting our neighbors in need!

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/StVincentdePaul>. 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 homegoods, call/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 Saint Vincent de Paul thrift stores and visit our online store at eshoppittsburgh.com. Also, we are always looking for volunteers! If you'd like to join us in helping our friends in need or just want to learn more, call, text or email us for more information.

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



Around the Diocese and Community

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held at Saint Paul Cathedral on **October 15 at 2:30pm**. This Mass will honor all Catholic couples who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2023.

If your parents or another couple you love is celebrating or has celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year, we would love to honor them at this Mass with a certificate of congratulations.

Please share the following registration link with any couples you know who may want to participate: <https://diopitt.org/gwa23>.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN

Rachel's Vineyard of Pittsburgh will celebrate a memorial service at the Rachel's Garden in Calvary Cemetery on **Saturday, September 9 at 10:30am**.

We invite everyone to join us as we pray and remember. We know that the loss of all children is sad, so we also invite those who have lost a child from miscarriage or stillbirth to join us in prayer. There will be an opportunity to personally remember and call by name all the lost little ones. If you have any questions, call Toni Jester 412-352-5348. We have a memorial stone in our St. Philip Cemetery.

The stone, donated by the Knights of Columbus, is located at the bottom of the hill by the traffic light. Please say a little prayer as you pass by for an end to abortion.

THE PITTSBURGH IRISH FESTIVAL

During the weekend of **Friday, September 8 through Sunday, September 10**, the Annual Pittsburgh Irish Festival will be celebrated at the Carrie Furnace Historic Site in Swissvale. There will be Irish entertainment and displays, food booths and items for sale, as well as genealogy, comedy and

a children's area throughout the Festival - along with an Irish Catholic Mass on Sunday morning. Information is available at www.pghirishfest.org.



Bishop Waltersheid and the Office of Faith Initiatives is working with Corpus Christi Parish and St. Catherine Labouré Parish to bring in Christopher West from the Theology of the Body Institute to present his Made For More event!

This event travels across the world and we're blessed to be able to bring it to Pittsburgh! It's typically \$25 a ticket, but we're offering it as a free event! Everyone from any parish in the diocese and beyond is invited.

Wednesday, August 30 at 7:00pm

PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

Holy Child Church of Corpus Christi Parish
212 Station Street, Bridgeville, 15017

A DOO WOP PICNIC FOR THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

On Sunday afternoon, **September 24, 4:00pm to 7:00pm**, an Oldies Picnic with and for the Little Sisters of the Poor will be held at the Rotary Grove of Clever Park in Robinson Township. The Doo Wop Doctors will provide entertainment. Penny's Delight Catering will have food booths available. There will be raffles and a 50/50 drawing. Admission is \$15. Come for a fun time and an opportunity to support the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor in caring for elderly individuals in our region. Call 412-427-1613 for information and tickets.



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