

#### **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

#### PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Joseph Scheib, Saint Philip Rectory

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Robert Bertocchi, Frank Bey, Patricia Cygrymus, Barbara Hendrick, Joseph Hoover, Martin Matko, Katie Phillips, 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 Website: www.saintphilipparishpgh.com Email: parishoffice@saintphilipparish.com

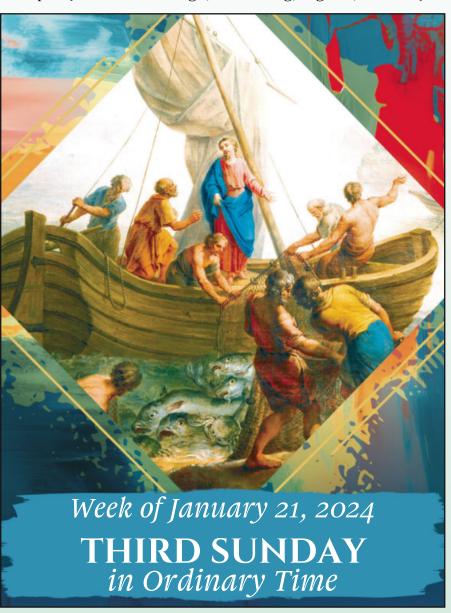
Saint Philip Office (412) 922-6300 Faith Formation Office (412) 922-6388 Society of St. Vincent dePaul (412) 444-8140 Guardian Angel Academy (412) 922-4765

#### **CRISIS SUPPORT/SUICIDE PREVENTION**

24-Hour Lifeline Dial 988 Resolve Crisis Network 1-888-796-8226

## Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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



#### 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.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA): 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	PRIEST'S INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
	UARY 20 — WEEK		
Ascension	8:00am	Nicholas & Rita	Family
		Torquato	·
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)		Carol Solt
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Bill McNabb	McNabb Family
SUNDAY, JANI	JARY 21 – THIRI	SUNDAY IN ORDINAR	Y TIME
Saint Philip	7:00am	John P. & Ellen R. O'Toole	O'Toole Family
Ascension	9:30am	Cynthia Killmeyer Laughlin	Julia
Saint Philip	11:00am	George Oleck	Michael Oleck
MONDAY, JAN	UARY 22 — DAY	OF PRAYER FOR THE L	EGAL PROTECTION OF
PRE-BORN CH	ILDREN		
Saint Philip	8:ooam	For All Pre-Born Children	A Parish Member
	IIIADV 27 WEI	EKDAY	
TUESDAY, JAN	IUART 23 - WEI		
Ascension		Edward Potanko Family	Mr. & Mrs James Potanko
Ascension WEDNESDAY,	8:00am JANUARY 24 —	Edward Potanko Family	Mr. & Mrs James Potanko
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN	8:00am  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR	Edward Potanko Family SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL	.ES, BISHOP, RELIGIOUS
Ascension WEDNESDAY,	8:00am  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR	Edward Potanko Family	.ES, BISHOP, RELIGIOUS
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN  Saint Philip	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 — ID DOCTOR  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL	<b>LES, BISHOP, RELIGIOUS</b> Mary Ann Daily
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN  Saint Philip	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 — ID DOCTOR  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler	<b>LES, BISHOP, RELIGIOUS</b> Mary Ann Daily
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  IE CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino	Mary Ann Daily  NT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  IE CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania	Mary Ann Daily  NT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip	8:00am  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:00am  NUARY 25 — TH  8:00am	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  E CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT TO  Gerry Clark	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily  NT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania  FITUS, BISHOPS  Rosemary & Regina
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam  ARY 26 — SAINT  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  IE CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT TO  Gerry Clark  DAY	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily  NT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania  FITUS, BISHOPS  Rosemary & Regina
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam  ARY 26 — SAINT  8:ooam  UARY 27 — WEEK  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  IE CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT TO  Gerry Clark  DAY	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily  NT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania  FITUS, BISHOPS  Rosemary & Regina McDonald
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip  SATURDAY, JAN Ascension	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam  ARY 26 — SAINT  8:ooam  UARY 27 — WEEK  8:ooam	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  E CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT  Gerry Clark  DAY  Living & Deceased Men	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily  NT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania  FITUS, BISHOPS  Rosemary & Regina McDonald
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip  SATURDAY, JAN Ascension Saint Philip Ascension	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam  ARY 26 — SAINT  8:ooam  UARY 27 — WEEK  8:ooam  4:oopm (Vigil)  5:3opm (Vigil)	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  BE CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT  Gerry Clark  DAY  Living & Deceased Men Bill Solt Family Fettig & Marshall Families	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily  MT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania  FITUS, BISHOPS  Rosemary & Regina  McDonald  Theres of St. Philip Parish  Eileen Fettig
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JAN Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip  SATURDAY, JAN Ascension Saint Philip Ascension Saint Philip Ascension	8:00am  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:00am  NUARY 25 — TH  8:00am  ARY 26 — SAINT  8:00am  UARY 27 — WEEK  8:00am  4:00pm (Vigil)  5:30pm (Vigil)	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  E CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT Gerry Clark  DAY  Living & Deceased Men Bill Solt Family Fettig & Marshall Families  RTH SUNDAY IN ORDINA	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily
Ascension  WEDNESDAY, FOUNDER, AN Saint Philip  THURSDAY, JA Ascension  FRIDAY, JANU Saint Philip  SATURDAY, JAN Ascension Saint Philip Ascension	8:ooam  JANUARY 24 —  ID DOCTOR  8:ooam  NUARY 25 — TH  8:ooam  ARY 26 — SAINT  8:ooam  UARY 27 — WEEK  8:ooam  4:oopm (Vigil)  5:3opm (Vigil)	Edward Potanko Family  SAINT FRANCIS DE SAL  Bob & Von Reinstadtler  BE CONVERSION OF SAL  Audrey & Valentino Nania  TIMOTHY AND SAINT  Gerry Clark  DAY  Living & Deceased Men Bill Solt Family Fettig & Marshall Families	Mary Ann Daily  Mary Ann Daily  MT PAUL, APOSTLE  Valarie & Richard Nania  FITUS, BISHOPS  Rosemary & Regina  McDonald  Theres of St. Philip Parish  Eileen Fettig



## **Notes** from the **Pastor**

Greetings once again, and best wishes for a good month of January!

Becoming true and dedicated disciples of Jesus

In today's passage from the Gospel according to Mark, we hear of Jesus' personal invitation to Peter and Andrew, and James and John to become His first disciples - and eventually His apostles. It's a wonderful account from the first days of Jesus' public ministry. It's also the type of personal invitation from Jesus that all of us would probably like to receive in our own lives!

In reality, it was our parents who brought us to Jesus and who asked the Lord to accept us and baptize us as His disciples, companions, and friends. Almost all of us were infants when our parents, grandparents, godparents, and family members brought us to our parish church for the Baptism celebration. It was that Baptism ceremony which cleansed us of the darkness of this world, which filled us with divine life and grace for the very first time, and which identified us as disciples of Jesus and members of His holy Catholic Church.

Throughout our early years, we accepted the Catholic Christian faith that our parents shared with each of us and all of us. That's what children and young people do - we listen to our parents (hopefully) and accept the good things that they tell us about life and about God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

From the moment of our Baptism, we have been disciples of the Lord Jesus. We've followed Jesus in the company of our parents, family members, and parish members.

Yet as adults, it's truly important that we ourselves accept our Catholic Christian faith for ourselves. Most of us accepted the faith of our parents, grandparents, and ancestors. Yet for us to remain disciples of the Lord and people of the faith, it's absolutely essential that each of us and all of us come to accept the Good News and our faith for ourselves. It's essential that we truly accept Jesus, His teaching, His life, and His promise for ourselves. It's absolutely necessary for us to come to the Lord like the first Apostles and profess our faith in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

How do we go about this - coming to an adult, mature faith in the Lord Jesus? To start, it's important to read the words and life of Jesus in the Four Gospels of the New Testament. The Good News of the Lord is as important to us today as it was to His listeners 2000 years ago. Then read the other writings of the New Testament. Next, spend time in quiet and prayer - asking the Holy Spirit of God to stir up faith within your heart and soul. Participate in our Liturgy every weekend so that the faith of our community can inspire your personal faith. Become involved in the life of our parish especially all our charitable ministry - so that doing the Lord's work will deepen your faith and discipleship.

Jesus calls all of us and each of us to be adult, dedicated disciples. He calls us to believe in Almighty God, in Him, and in His Good News. He wants to be a most important person in our lives every day so that we may receive the life, goodness, salvation, and eternal life of God now and forever!

Continued on page 4

**Draw near to Jesus every day.** Profess your faith and hope in Him. Walk closely each day with our Good Shepherd. Accept, receive, and rejoice in the goodness, the divine love, and the fullness of life that Jesus came to share with you and with all His disciples and friends!

#### Best wishes for a blessed 2024!

Best wishes to you and to all in our Saint Philip Parish community for a very good 2024 as we continue our life in the Lord Jesus. May the Son of God bless you, your family, and our Saint Philip Catholic Parish community throughout this year. Amen!

Yours, Father Jim Torquato

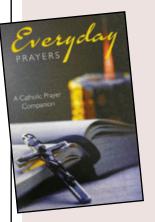


## Revitalizing our Hospitality

As we enhance the life of our parish community following the 2020-2022 Pandemic, we'd like to increase our hospitality at our weekend Liturgies. Yes, we greet each other before the Opening Song. Now, some of our members would like to invite our families and individuals to welcome all who enter our churches for the Liturgy in the spirit of Christian hospitality.

Moving forward, it's important to greet everyone who enters the church so that each person is welcomed with a smile and a greeting. Both families and individuals are invited to join our Parish Welcoming Teams. Please contact Katie Phillips (412-983-4541) this week if you'd like to be a member of this important ministry!

## Daily Reading at Home





In recent months, the Favorite Catholic Prayers booklet and the Beautiful Eucharist book were shared with you and all of our parish members.

During these cold and dreary winter months - and during the coming Season of Lent - you're invited to take the time at home to read these favorite prayers and spiritual writings. Daily prayer at home and this spiritual reading will be of true benefit to you, your spiritual life, and your family!

Please turn OFF vour television and the internet, and spend time with the Lord each day. You, your family, and our parish community will all greatly benefit from daily time in prayer about and in reading **Eucharist!** 



#### Sunday, January 21

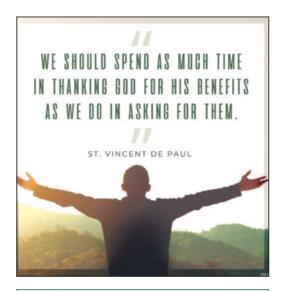
Jonah 3:1-10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

#### Weekdays

2 Samuel 5-12; Mark 3-4

#### Sunday, January 28

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28



Thank you for your generous financial contributions to

#### **SAINT PHILIP** PARISH!

Your goodness and participation help to keep

our parish alive!

## FINANCIAL POUR SAINT PHILIP PARISH FINANCES PARISH FINANCES

Sunday collections, January 6-7 & 13-14 -- \$18,951.69\* \* Includes Mail-in donations Online donations -- \$6,640.00 Maintenance donations -- \$361.00 Religious Education donations -- \$833.00 -- \$220.00 January 1 Holy Day donations

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year -- \$850,409.00 Parish income <u>received</u> since July 1, 2023 -- \$390,621.71 Parish fundraising since July 1, 2023 -- \$9,715.64 Estate gifts received since July 1, 2023 -- \$0.00 General donations since July 1, 2023 -- \$4,920.00

Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses -- \$7,640.00 Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses -- \$1,723.43 Average weekly utility expenses -- \$2,204.45 Average weekly insurance expenses -- \$1,186.00 Weekly contributions to Guardian Angel Academy -- \$1,630.32

Parish families -- 1,202 Parish members -- 2,286 Church attendance on January 13-14 -- 502 Sunday envelopes used January 13-14 -- 203 Total households receiving envelopes -- 1,090

2023 Parish Appeal Goal -- \$129,011.00 Parish Appeal received as of January 14 -- \$219,074.68\* \*Includes online Parish Appeal donations 2023 Parish Appeal Donors -- 352

#### **Grateful for your increased support!**

During our 2023 Forward in Faith! Appeal, many of our parish families pledged a commitment to increase your weekly and monthly financial support for our parish community! Thank you for your dedication to Saint Philip Parish now and in the next generation.

Your increased contributions will soon be seen in our weekly collection totals and in the total parish income for this fiscal year. Should anyone need a reminder of the amount that you pledged, please contact our parish during weekly office hours.

Once again, thank you all for your support of our Catholic parish community - and for your dedication to and support of Saint Philip Parish today and in the years ahead.



#### **OUR LENTEN PARISH FISH FRY**

Our parish community is getting ready now for the 2024 Parish Fish Fry! Our coordinators are putting all the details into place so that we'll be ready for an excellent launch with our first Fish Fry evening on Ash Wednesday, February 14.

Please mark your calendars for this year's Lenten Fish Fry evenings, and be sure to invite all of your family members, relatives, and friends to join us on February 14 and the seven Fridays of Lent.



Our veteran volunteers are most welcome to join us once again this year. If you'd like to become a **NEW** Fish Fry volunteer, please leave a message at our parish office (412-922-6300) this week. We'll provide a purple Fish Fry shirt for you to be worn during our Fish Fry evenings. Our volunteers always enjoy these evenings of community service, and our many guests truly appreciate the service and goodness of our many Fish Fry volunteers!











#### **OUR LENTEN CRAB CAKE PRODUCTION**

THIS Sunday, January 21, beginning at 10:30am in Conner Hall, your help will be appreciated as our Fish Fry Team produces thousands of Crab Cakes for our 2024 Saint Philip Parish Lenten Fish Fry. Come for an hour or two and learn how to make these delicious items for our Fish Fry menu. All help is welcome!

#### THIS WEEKEND - SECOND COLLECTION

The Diocese of Pittsburgh is home to two nationally recognized educational programs for children with special needs: St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech (formerly known as DePaul Institute).

DePaul School for Hearing and Speech teaches children who are deaf or hard of hearing to listen, speak, and learn. St. Anthony School Programs provide inclusive education to children with Down Syndrome, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and other special needs. Together, DePaul School and St. Anthony's empower their students to become active members of their communities.

Through our donations, we can also support the spiritual and academic growth of these students. Proceeds from this collection will be credited to our 2023 Parish Share assessment. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Please welcome into our faith family... James Allen Healey, Jr., Jesse Rae Healey, and Josie Mae Healey, the children of James Allen Healey, Sr. and Jamie Lynn Bond, who received the Life of Christ in Baptism in our parish on Sunday, January 14, 2024. May they grow in wisdom, age, and grace.

## **ADVANCE PLANNING**

We're all encouraged, as Catholic Christians, to make advance plans for our departure from this present life when we begin our journey home to the Lord. Like our parents, grandparents, and many generations before us, it's good to make our personal and family plans for our funeral and burial in a cemetery. Yes, of course, this can be unnerving when we begin the process, but it's a true kindness to our family members if and when we put all of our plans, requests, finances and estate in order long before our final dav.

Thankfully, we have very fine attorneys, funeral directors, and other professionals in our local community who are more than willing to guide you through the planning process. We're also fortunate to have numerous Catholic and community cemeteries whose staff members are very helpful. Also, the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh also offers the Catholic Funeral Plan (CFP, 1-877-886-PLAN) in conjunction with the Catholic Cemeteries Association of Pittsburgh (CCA) and the Loyal Christian Benefits Association (LCBA) to create funding arrangements now so that all your plans can be set and funded long in advance of being needed.

And so, for our part, how can Saint Philip Parish's staff help you? In response to recent requests from some parish members, we're willing to send our Funeral Planning Booklet and Funeral Selection Forms to any parish members who request them in advance of the time of need.

If you're making Advanced Funeral Plans now or in the coming years, there's no need to wait until later to plan a Funeral Liturgy. You're welcome to request these funeral planning items and then include your selections in your planning file - keeping one copy with your family and giving one copy to your chosen funeral director.

Again, to request funeral planning materials at any time, please contact our parish office by email or by telephone. May the good Lord bless you now - and as you prepare for your journey home to the Lord. God bless!



We offer our sympathy to the families of Mary K. Jaconetta, Thomas Knight, and Christine Ovesney, who entered into eternal life. Please keep them in your prayers.



This week's Sanctuary Lamp at St. Philip burns *In Loving Memory of* Santo Rea Offered by Sylvia Rea

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at **Ascension** burns *In Loving Memory of* Marie Rogers Offered by Daughter, Pat



XTREME CAR AND TRUCK Accessories

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!





Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Director of Religious Education m.garfold@saintphilipparish.com

A NOTE FROM MARYANN: "Repent and believe in the Gospel." Wow. It is not quite Lent and already the readings for this weekend call us to turn from our old ways and follow Jesus. In order to repent and turn toward God, perhaps we need some time to enter into that way of thinking. There is a television commercial that speaks of the three Ps to consider when buying life insurance. I recently heard a talk by Father Charles Speicher that asks us to consider three Ps when following Jesus.

The first "P" is to Prepare. Perhaps we prepare by examining our daily routine and how much time we give to God each day. We may also prepare by having some time of silence and quiet in our day.

**The second "P" is to Pray**. Do we have a set time for prayer each day. Can we add a few minutes to that prayer time? Can we add an additional prayer practice to that time.

The third "P" is Practice. Do we "practice our faith" and if so, how do we "practice our faith?" Can we make a conscious effort to bring Christ to others. Can we make a conscious effort to see Christ in others? Let us in the coming days toward Lent consider the three Ps as we get ready to make this Lent and the days leading up to Lent a very special time.

#### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS:**

Faith Formation for children and families will begin the second semester on January 22. If your child has participated in past years and has not been enrolled to date, you are welcome to register at this time. Should you have conflicts with school activities, we can accommodate you. We welcome all children and families. Please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388 for more information. There approximately two years of instruction prior to participating in the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

There will be no Faith Formation Sessions on MONDAY, JANUARY 29 due to mandated Catechist Training on that date.





Saint Philip Parish Mental Health Ministry would like to offer a special evening to remember in prayer those whose names were placed on our Mental Health Remembrance Board in December and January.

This evening will take place on Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30pm with a light dinner followed by a candlelight prayer service for all the names on the prayer board of those with mental health challenges as well as those we have lost. Personal intentions will also be remembered. The evening will conclude at 7:45pm with a cookie table social.

All are welcome! You do not need to be Catholic or belong to Saint Philip Parish to attend.



MARDI GRAS **CELEBRATION:** Monday, February 12 Saint Philip Parish will host our annual Mardi Gras celebration. There will be a pancake dinner, Disc Jockey, table games, dessert, Kings' Cake as well as time to greet old and new friends. All members and ages of the Parish are welcome. Please call 412-922-6388 if you would like to attend.

**AROUND THE LENTEN CIRCLE:** As we begin to think about Lent, which begins on February 14, the opportunity to gather with others and reflect upon the Scriptures will be available each Thursday afternoon and evening. If you are interested in joining this small faith sharing group, call 412-922-6388.

#### -LOOKING AHEAD-

Monday, January 22 - Faith Formation Family Night at 6:30pm on Saint Philip campus

Tuesday, January 23 - Hooks (+) Needles at 9:00am in the Admin. Building

Tuesday, January 23 - Salvation History at 7:00pm in the Admin. Building

Wednesday, January 24 - Men's Fellowship at 7:00pm in the Admin. Building

Wednesday, January 24 - Small Faith Group at 7:00pm in Ascension Hall

Thursday, January 25 - Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) at 6:30pm in the Admin. Building

#### SAINT PHILIP PARISH MINISTRIES

If you would like to volunteer for any Parish Ministry or function, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388.

#### Faith Formation for Children and Families

Call: MaryAnn Garfold at 412-922-6388

#### **Adult Education/Lenten Series**

Call: MaryAnn Garfold at 412-922-6388

#### **Bereavement Ministry**

Call: Parish Office at 412-922-6300

#### Christian Men's Fellowship

Call: Parish Office at 412-922-6300

#### Hooks & Needles Sewing, Crochet, **Knitting**

Call: Parish Office at 412-922-6300

#### **Ladies of Charity**

Call: Faith Formation Office at 412-922-6388

#### **Legion of Mary**

Call: Parish Office at 412-922-6300

#### **Lenten Fish Fry**

Call: Parish Office at 412-922-6300

#### **Salvation History Adult Education**

Call: Fran & Debby Sullen at 412-922-6388

#### Saint Vincent de Paul

Call: Hotline at 412-444-8140

#### Saint Philip Music Ministry

Call: Parish Office at 412-922-6300

#### **Mental Health Ministry**

Call: Faith Formation Office at 412-922-6388

## St. Philip Parish

Celebrates



Monday, February 12, 2024 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Ascension Conner Hall: 114 Berry Street

Free Pancake Supper, Music, Games, Desserts & Kings Cake. Come join us for family fun. All ages welcome!

For reservations, either call the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388, or complete the form below and return it to the Parish Office.

	Name:
	Talanhana
	Telephone:
	Email:
No. of Adults:	
No of Children	



As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live ST. JOHN PAUL II Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Preborn Children



+++

#### SAINT PHILIP PARISH



The Saint Philip Ladies of Charity met on Thursday, January 11 in Ascension Hall to prepare bags for the Lenten Parish food collection and make homemade soup to give to parish members when needed. The next meeting is Thursday, February 8 at 1:00pm in Ascension Hall.

The Ladies of Charity are collecting items for gift bags to give to the Little Sisters of the Poor. Items needed include: pocket size Kleenex, travel size Shampoo, travel size lotions, notecards, mesh shower puffs, and unopened bags Chapstick. There will be a collection box at the entrance to each church until February 3 and 4.

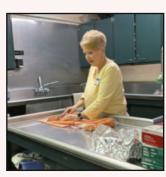
The Ladies of Charity have chicken noodle soup available for any parishioner who may be in need due to illness or personal concerns. Contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388 if you have such a need.













# The Blessings

Baptism has been a sacred religious ceremony for thousands of years, and for all Catholic Christians, it remains a sacred religious ceremony today as well. As we see in the ministry of Saint John the Baptist, *Baptism* was practiced among the people of Israel, and as we see in the Gospels and the early Church, Baptism is the first Ritual of Initiation for all those who called to be disciples of Jesus and members of His holy Church.

As you know, *Baptism* (and the divine grace that it shares with us) lasts a lifetime. In fact, we believe that Baptisms marks us as God's people for all eternity, and in our prayers, we ask the Lord to renew and revitalize our Baptismal Grace throughout our lifetime.

#### There are three most important gifts which we receive in our Baptism. These gifts are:

- 1.) Our being cleansed from the sin of this world (Original Sin);
- 2.) Our receiving divine life (grace) in our souls and in our lives for the first time; and
- 3.) Our membership among the People of God in the Catholic Church.

All of these gifts are very important to our Christian faith, life, and discipleship - and to our sharing in the eternal life and goodness of God.

May we always appreciate and give thanks for the gift of our Baptism! May we live in the life of the Lord every day. May the divine within us be renewed in the Eucharist and all the Sacraments - as well as in our prayer, Liturgy, service, and daily discipleship!



#### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

We recently have been receiving an influx of requests for assistance from friends in need that lack permanent housing and are staying in local motels. They are reaching out to us because staying at a motel while looking for permanent housing is usually not affordable. We do our best to help by providing some monetary assistance, when appropriate, and by providing referrals to other resources. Some people do not have the money to pay for a hotel and find themselves on the streets, but this is not necessary, because help is available.

Anyone seeking emergency housing or other housing assistance can contact Allegheny Link Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm, by phone at 1-866-730-2368 or in person by visiting the Human Services Building, One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm. You can also call, text or live chat with someone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by dialing 211 or visiting pa211sw.org. Allegheny Link can also provide referrals to other public assistance, including utility assistance.

For those looking for an immediate place to lay their heads, the closest shelters for single males are Light of Life and Pleasant Valley, both located in the Northside. You can call Light of Life at 412-803-4120 any time in order to inquire about vacancies. The address is 234 Voeghtly Street, Pittsburgh 15212. Walk-ins are also permitted. In order to inquire about vacancies at Pleasant Valley, you must call 412-321-4272 from 10:00am to 11:00am Monday through Friday. The address for the shelter is 1601 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh 15212.

The closest shelter for single females is Bethlehem Haven, which is located at 905 Watson Street, Pittsburgh 15219 in the Uptown section of the city. You are strongly encouraged to call 412-398-9702 in order to inquire about vacancies, but walk-ins are permitted. Light of Life also offers a shelter for women and children. The phone number for the women and children's shelter is 412-258-6134.

If you, or someone you know, is homeless, at risk of being homeless, or is living in an unsafe situation, such as a domestic violence situation, please do not hesitate to reach out to Allegheny Link or St. Vincent de Paul. Even if we cannot solve your entire problem, we are happy to suggest some other resources that can help you find safe, stable housing.

This week, your generous donations enabled us to assist a couple with furnace repairs; a single mother was assisted with \$200 toward rent and her household was placed on our monthly food delivery list; a single mother was given \$450 toward her rent; and a family was given emergency food and a week's motel stay. Thank you!

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please place your donation in one of the poor boxes, mail it to the parish office (attention SVdP) at 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, or donate online by visiting https://saintphilipchurch.weshareonline.org/w s/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.

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

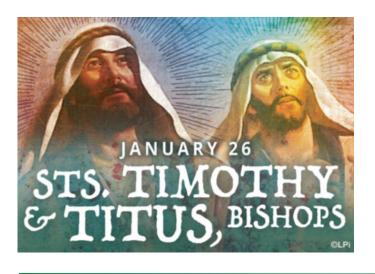


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### SAINT PHILIP PARISH



We don't know who will play in this year's Super Bowl yet, but we do know the game is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024 between the AFC and the NFC. We are having a Super Bowl Pool. The cost is \$50 per block. There are 100 blocks in the pool. We will have 4 payouts:

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter score - **\$375** 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter score - \$750 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter score - \$375 Final score - \$1,000

The names and numbers will be randomly drawn in advance. You will receive a copy of the completed pool prior to the Super Bowl.

Don't wait to long, this always sells out!!!

Purchase a block for yourself or partner with a friend. Please fill out the form below and return to the parish office. Thank you.

#### SAINT PHILIP SUPER BOWL POOL

Square(s) @ \$50 each
Total enclosed
I would like to name my block(s)
Name
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## **Our New** Evangelization

Twenty five years ago, when preparing the Church for the New Millennium, Pope Saint John Paul II called all Catholic Christians to begin a New Evangelization to share the Good News - the Gospel - once again with both Christian disciples and non-believers in the new 21st century. Most Catholics are NOT aware of this effort to evangelize the world once again (similar to the first evangelization of the world which was begun by Jesus 2000 years ago).

Now is the time for all Church members to participate in the New Evangelization so that the Kingdom of God might continue to grow even in this modern world.

It is very good to share the Good News with those who have forgotten Jesus' message and promise. It is also very important that we ourselves believe Jesus' message and live His way.

Our first suggestion is to deepen your own faith in the Lord. Pray the Lord's Prayer often, recite the Apostles' Creed every day, and pray the Rosary often to remain close to Jesus. Grow your own faith and your life of prayer. Then make the effort to share the Good News of the Lord with those whose ears and hearts are open and ready to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



#### **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.

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