

OFFICE HOURS

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

PARISH STAFF

Rev. James R. Torquato, Pastor

Mr. Frank Bey, Office Coordinator

Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Faith Formation Director

Ms. Mary Beth Barsh, Music Director

Ms. Dorothy Mancini, Assistant Organist

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, 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

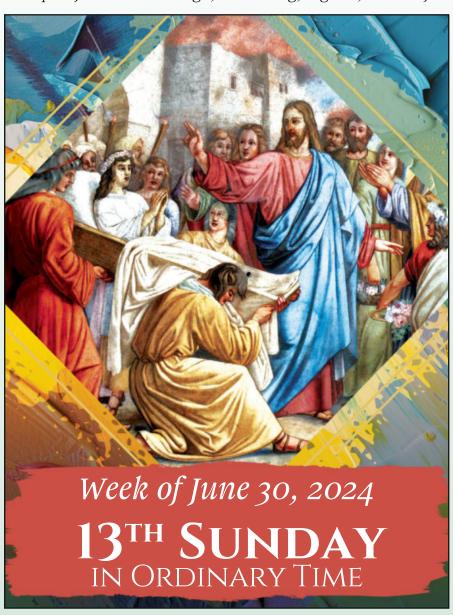
Saint Philip Office (412) 922-6300 Faith Formation Office (412) 922-6388 Society of St. Vincent dePaul (412) 444-8140 Guardian Angel Academy (412) 922-4765

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 REOUESTED BY

SATURDAY, JUNE 29 — SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

Ascension 8:ooam Musser & Bartnik Rose & Rick Musser

Families

Saint Philip 4:00pm (Vigil) Bob Bates Gabrielle Yingling

5:30pm (Vigil) Anthony Scotti Ascension Scotti Family

SUNDAY, JUNE 30 — THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint Philip Fred Mondine Sister 7:00am

Mom & Dad Ascension Ruth Ann Holzapfel 9:30am Saint Philip Keeley & Gehring Pat Keeley 11:00am

Families

MONDAY, JULY 1 — SAINT JUNIPERO SERRA, PRIEST

Alfred Schneider Wife & Children Saint Philip 8:ooam

TUESDAY, JULY 2 — WEEKDAY

Ascension 8:ooam Patty McDermott Rose

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3 - SAINT THOMAS, APOSTLE

Saint Philip 8:00am Santo Rea Silvia Rea & Family

THURSDAY, JULY 4 — WEEKDAY | INDEPENDENCE DAY

Ascension Living & Deceased Members of St. Philip Parish 9:00am

FRIDAY, JULY 5 — SAINT ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL

Saint Philip 8:00am Helen Bloom Sheaffer Bloom Family

SATURDAY, JULY 6 — SAINT MARIA GORETTI, VIRGIN AND MARTYR

8:00am Felix Rodgers Pat Rodgers Ascension

4:00pm (Vigil) Phillip Brandimarti Lillian Brandimarti Saint Philip

Ascension 5:30pm (Vigil) Elie J. Berard Wife

SUNDAY, JULY 7 — FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Deceased of the Shields Family Saint Philip 7:00am

Shields & Englert Families

Ascension Tom & Anne Moneck Daughter 9:30am

and Family

Saint Philip Mildred Hutchison Witkowsky Family 11:00am

& Peter Witkowsky

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: Should be submitted to m.takach@saintphilipparish.com no later than 12:00pm on Friday to be included in the following week's bulletin.





Notes from the **Pastor**

Best wishes for our nation's Independence Day and for these summer months! I hope this is a time of celebration, rest, relaxation, and recreation.

To your health!

For many years, I vowed that as my life progressed - and as I entered into my middle years - I would do my best NOT to make my health and medical status a regular topic of conversation. Of course, having reached the age of sixty last October - and even before that milestone event - my health and medical status has indeed been a regular topic of conversation!

That's probably true for all of us over the age of 40. We visit our doctor/s. We're diagnosed with one condition or another. We're prescribed medications. We're told to exercise and to refrain from any unhealthy habits or addictions like tobacco and alcohol. We have medical procedures - and sometimes we even have surgeries.

Then we begin sharing our health news with family, friends, and neighbors. Except for those who are perfectly healthy, this seems to be the pattern for almost every human person here and around the world - and our conversations are often filled with griping and complaints.

To keep this tendency in perspective, however, it's important for us to realize that, today, we usually live many more years than any of our ancestors. For most of human history, a life of 30-40 years was considered a blessed life. Just 80 years ago, to reach the age of 50 was an accomplishment - and then to reach 60 or 65+ was usually considered to be remarkable!

We all know that life in this world is NOT everlasting. Our days and years - just like past generations and all of our ancestors - will come to an end. As Catholic Christians, we sincerely believe that, thanks to the death and Resurrection of Jesus, all of us who are His faithful disciples will indeed be raised to new and eternal life and goodness when Jesus completes His final Kingdom. This life will and must come to an end so that our soul - and one day, our glorified body - might enter into the eternal existence of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

As we make our own journey through this lifetime, may we be grateful for this Good News, for this Christian belief, and for the Lord's promise that we will share eternity with Him.

While we endure the trials of our human and physical condition and the struggles of these years, may we remember that - as we hear in today's reading from the Gospel according to Mark - the Lord Jesus came to bring us healing, health, and eternal salvation. May we also be grateful that Almighty God has inspired so many people in the medical sciences and services to provide healing for us and to prolong our years of living.

Yes, as the years pass, we will all undoubtedly have much to say and to share regarding our health and our condition. At the same time, may we be thankful that our years and our health continue to be more and more blessed by those who bring us healing in imitation of the Lord Jesus. And finally, may we truly look forward to the everlasting health and salvation that only Jesus offers and promises all of us - and that only the Lord Jesus can and will give to us.

Best wishes for Independence Day and the summer!

May all of you - our parish members and families - enjoy a very good Fourth of July Independence Day and a good summer. May the Lord keep you and your family members and friends healthy and safe. May this also be a time of rest, renewal, faith, and the love of God for you and all your neighbors, friends, and loved ones. God bless!

Yours, Father Jim Torquato

The Great Jubilee of 2025

In keeping with an ancient Catholic practice, Pope Francis has declared next year to be a Jubilee Celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus. Pilgrims from around the world are being encouraged to visit Rome and its four major basilicas to renew their faith and to receive divine graces during their pilgrimage.

As we speed toward 2025, be sure to look for the many pilgrimage trips to Rome if you'd like to join them. Also, information will be shared in the coming months about other celebrations of our Catholic Christian faith and of the Lord's birth as our Redeemer and Savior.

The overall theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year is *Pilgrims of Hope*. May 2025 be a blessed year of faith, hope, and charity for all of the Lord's holy people!

JUST WHAT IS CHIMBOTE?





Chimbote (pronounced "chim-bo-tay") is a city on the northwest coast of Peru (directly south of Pittsburgh) where a Catholic maternity hospital and medical clinic have been funded by Catholics of Pittsburgh for nearly 60 years. In 1965, Bishop John Wright sent several Pittsburgh priests to South America to locate a poor community that our Diocese could adopt as a sister church. The priests landed in the fishing town of Chimbote, Peru, and the mission began then and has flourished for nearly 60 years.

In these six decades, supported by Catholics of our Diocese, the maternity hospital has delivered 100,000+ babies. Moms, dads, and infants have been given excellent care. The medical clinic gives free treatment to thousands of needy residents each week. Also, a medical outreach program provides in-home visits and care for many poor families living in the barrios of Chimbote.

The generosity of Pittsburgh Catholics to the poor and needy of Chimbote, Peru has benefitted and saved the lives of many, many residents. If you'd like to help, please send a donation to:

The Chimbote Foundation

Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh 2900 Noblestown Road Pittsburgh, Pa 15205



Sunday, June 30

Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

Weekdays

Amos 2-9; Matthew 8-9

Sunday, July 7

Ezekiel 2: 2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6a



Thank you for your generous financial contributions to

SAINT PHILIP



Your goodness and participation help to keep our parish alive!

FINANCIAL POUR SAINT PHILIP PARISH FINANCES

Sunday collections, June 22-23	\$9,263.50*
* Includes Mail-in donations	
Online donations, June 22-23	\$1,899.50
Maintenance donations	\$76.00
Religious Education donations	\$101.00

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year -- \$790,368.00 Parish income received since July 1, 2023 -- \$696,293.49 Parish fundraising since July 1, 2023 -- \$73,199.38 Estate gifts received since July 1, 2023 -- \$1,500.00 General donations since July 1, 2023 -- \$12,090.46

Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses -- \$7,640.00 Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses -- \$1,584.91 Average weekly utility expenses -- \$2,297.84 Average weekly insurance expenses -- \$1,100.00 Weekly contributions to Guardian Angel Academy -- \$1,397.92

Parish members -- 2,456 Parish families -- 1,287 Church attendance on June 22-23 -- 664 Sunday envelopes used June 22-23 -- 266 Total households receiving envelopes -- 1,058

2024 Parish Appeal Goal -- \$128,119.00 Parish Appeal received as of June 23 -- \$121,769.04* *Includes online Parish Appeal donations 2024 Parish Appeal Donors -- 249

One person each year...

At the heart of our Catholic Christian faith is Jesus' commission to the Apostles and all His disciples to "go out and preach the Good News." We are all called by our Baptism and our Confirmation to share the Lord with others and to grow the Kingdom - the Presence - of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit with our family and with others.

This year and every year, it will be good for each of us to focus our encouragement and prayers on one chosen person each *year* - doing our best to lead them to (or back to) the Lord Jesus and his Church. If we lead one person (family member or friend) to the Lord Jesus each year - instead of making some unfocused effort - then we're more likely to actually bring many others in the years ahead to life and salvation in the Lord!





All members of our parish community - as well as your friends and neighbors - are invited and most welcome to join us this Thursday, July 9:00am, at Ascension church for an Independence Day Liturgy to celebrate the United States of America - and to render thanks to God for the freedom and blessings which have been ours for nearly 250 years!

Please mark your calendar and pray with us in the 9:00am Liturgy at Ascension as we begin our Independence Day holiday and celebration!

THIS WEEKEND - SPECIAL COLLECTION

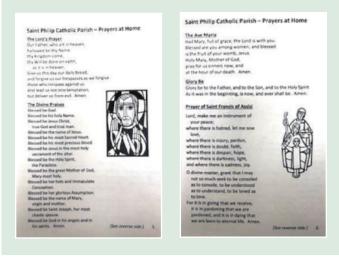
The annual Peter's Pence Collection will be taken up this weekend, June 29 & 30. This collection enables our Holy Father, Pope Francis to respond with emergency financial assistance to those throughout the world who suffer the effects of war, oppression, disease and natural disasters.

It is a powerful way for Catholics throughout the world to assist those most in need. Please pray for the world's suffering and be generous as you can.

NEW PRAYER CARDS FOR YOUR HOME

Quite often, parents and grandparents don't know where to begin when it comes to sharing our faith with children and grandchildren. That's why a new simple, starter prayer card has been assembled here at Saint Philip Parish for such a purpose. Take a few prayer cards home with you, and invite your children and grandchildren to join you in praying these basic prayers.

Then, when you're ready to go even farther, call our parish office and request a basic catechism of the Christian faith, and we'll share that with you as well. Best wishes for your ministry of sharing our holy faith with your youngest family members.



LIVE THE LITURGY: INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Talitha koum. Girl, arise! Jesus said this to the dead daughter of the synagogue official, and she obeyed. Listen for His voice when you are weighed down, burdened with doubt or misery, for He says it to you, too. Arise

PRAYER FOR EVERYDAY & EVERYBODY

Prayer for Our Government

Dear Lord, guide and direct those who serve this country in positions of leadership and power. Give them Your wisdom and clarity as they make decisions for our nation. Amen.

A Jubilee Year Reflection

In preparation for the upcoming 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis is encouraging all Catholic Christians to nurture our faith by studying and reflecting on the Lord's Prayer - the "Our Father." To assist with this study and reflection, a recent book has now been reprinted for those who'd appreciate good spiritual reading.

The book is titled, On Earth as it is by Canadian Catholic in Heaven Professor. Josephine Lombardi. Bishop Zubik shared this book with all Diocesan clergy on Holy Thursday of this year, and the book is available to you for about \$20 through vour favorite internet bookseller. You'll find Professor Lombardi's study and reflections to truly be inspiring and worth your reading time as we reflect on the Lord's Prayer before the start of

the 2025 Jubilee Year!



Eucharistic Revival



Rest in Peace

We offer our sympathy to the families of Lucille MacIvor and Eve St. Clair, who entered into eternal life. Please keep them in your prayers.

Sanctuary of Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at St. Philip burns In Loving Memory of Arthur A. Chiconella Offered by Wife, Joan

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at Ascension burns In Loving Memory of Sister Mary Dolores Fauth, CDP and Sister Audrey Sagan, CDP Offered by Ruth Rittler



GOOD ORTHODONTICS

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

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.

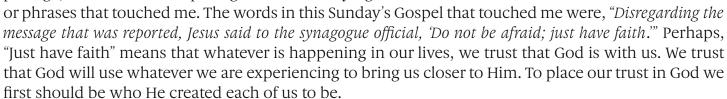


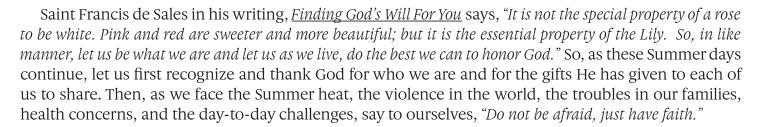


Ms. MaryAnn Garfold, Director of Religious Education m.garfold@saintphilipparish.com 412-922-6388

A NOTE FROM MARYANN: Mark's Gospel for this Sunday, June 30 is one of my favorite Scripture passages. It speaks to me of the times when I felt all was lost and came to our Lord in prayer.

While I was on retreat we were asked to read a Scripture passage, then re-read the passage while identifying the words

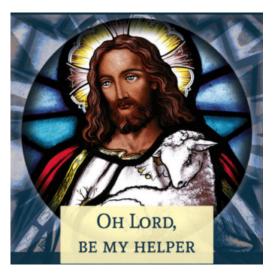






As we approach the Fourth of July holiday, we take a look at the writing of Father William Byrne in 5 Things with Father Bill. Catholicism is neither red nor blue. Regardless of how we might vote, we must unite in prayer for our nation.

- 1. For Life. We witness so much violence each day when we pick up the newspaper or watch television. Lord give us the courage to stand up for life.
- 2. For the Poor. Lord, help our leaders think beyond immediate solutions for the poor, and guide them to seek sound and long-range resolutions.
- 3. For Families. Lord, guide couples to know that You are the source of their love. May they always be open to the life You give and may the Lord see in their love how much You dearly love us all.
- 4. For Verterans. Lord help me to remember the men and women who sacrifice much. Help me to reach out with arms of gratitude and welcome to those who have served. Let our nation not forget its obligation to those who have fought for freedom.
- **5. For Religious Freedom.** Lord, You have given us the gift of freedom: the choice to worship You or not, to serve You or to walk away. Please grant our nation a deep respect for the conscience of all men and women.



HELP WANTED

The Office of Faith Formation Monday Evening Session from 6:30pm to 7:45pm is in need of the following:

- An aide for Kindergarten session
- A catechist for 3 children with special needs
- An aide for 3 children with special needs
- Parents interested in ministry for high school with monthly activities

NEW BEGINNINGS

Faith Formation is beginning a catechetical ministry for children with special needs. If you have a child who would benefit from special education faith formation, please contact the Office of Faith Formation. This program would primarily take place on Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 7:45pm. Individual needs and schedules could also be addressed according to a child and family's needs. Contact MaryAnn Garfold in the Office of Faith Formation for more information.

Beginning in September 2024, Saint Philip Faith Formation Monday Evening Program will offer the following:

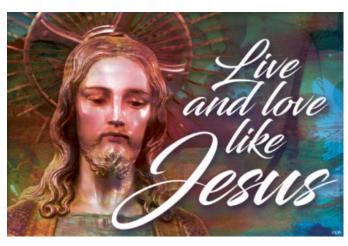
- Monthly speakers on topics of interest to parents
- Sessions for children with special needs
- Teaching lesson on the Mass
- Opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration
- Special Events for children and families
- Continued family sessions once per month with dinner
- Opportunities for family service
- Continued retreats and sessions for First Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Family retreat in Spring of 2025

The program meets on Monday from 6:30pm to 7:45pm on the Saint Philip campus. Call 412-922-6388 to request a registration form to enroll your child and family in Saint Philip Faith Formation Program.



Saint Philip Fall Faith Formation offerings are as follows:

- Dinner with the Saints on **September 4** beginning at 6:15pm with dinner with Saint Vincent de Paul followed by a speaker. Other dinners are September 25, November 6 and December 4.
- A video discussion series sponsored by the Mental Health and Wellness Ministry titled, "Anxious for Nothing" beginning September 10 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm at Ascension church
- Salvation History small faith group beginning September 10 at 7:00pm in the Administration Building
- A Eucharistic Revival video study group beginning **September 23** from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in Ascension Church Conner Hall.
- Small faith groups once per month on Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings.
- Christian Men's Fellowship weekly meetings



SAINT PHILIP PARISH

Faith Formation Preschool Program







Ages 3, 4, and 5 Highlights

- Uses Loyola Press, All About Me and All About the World
- Uses the alphabet, colors, shapes and numbers in instruction
- Helps young children learn prayerful practices
- Provides the opportunity for family dinner and learning activities
- Uses music, art and storytelling activities
- Engages in group sharing and activities
- Provides topics of interest to parents
- Taught by an experienced teacher of young children
- Two adults to every 5 children
- Provides the opportunity for parents to share with one another
- Includes family activities once per month

Saint Philip Preschool Faith Formation meets on Monday nights from 6:30pm to 7:45pm on Saint Philip church campus. For information or to receive a registration application, call the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388.



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- Various Extracurricular Clubs & Activities
- Instructional & Competitive Sports

Guardian Angel Academy 915 Alice Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15220



Guardian Angel Academy.org Call us to schedule a tour! 412-922-4765



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

Recently, we told you about the Allegheny GO program, which provides 50% discounted Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) fares to those ages 12 through 64 who live in a household that receives SNAP (also known as food stamp) information. benefits - for more https://discountedfares.alleghenycounty.us or call 412-442-2000. This week, we will talk about discounted fare programs for those under the age of 12 and over the age of 64.

Adults can have up to four children ages 5 and under ride with them for free. Additional children ages 5 and under will be charged half-priced fares. Children ages 6-11 can apply for a Kid's ConnectCard, which entitles them to half-priced fares. You can apply online for a Kid's ConnectCard by visiting www.rideprt.org/fares-and-passes/discounted-fare s/kidcard-application or you can go to the Downtown Service Center at 623 Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, which is open Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 5:00pm.

Seniors 65 years of age and older can sign up for a Senior Citizen ConnectCard and ride for free! You can obtain a Senior Citizen ConnectCard by visiting the Downtown Service Center or by visiting vour local state senator representative's office. You can sign up for a Senior Citizen ConnectCard at Senator Wayne Fontana's office at 524 Pine Hollow Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136 by appointment by calling 412-331-1208. You can also sign up for a Senior Citizen ConnectCard at Representative Dan Deasy's office at 1074 Greentree Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Please call the office at 412-928-9514 for availability.

Just a quick reminder that we have two anonymous donors who are matching all monetary donations that are made in June up to a maximum of \$6,000. Please take advantage of this matching pool to double the amount of assistance that your donation can provide to our friends in need!

Our thanks go out to all of you who have donated new twin and full sheet sets! We are still in need of some more new twin and full sheet sets, as well as couches and loveseats for our friends in need. We also still desperately need volunteers for our furniture mission. If you would like to donate or to get more information about volunteering, call or text our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email us at svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com. Thank you!

This week, your generous donations enabled us to give window air conditioners to three neighbors in need; a man was assisted with \$445 toward his electric; a man was given a clothing voucher, a kitchen table, living room and bedroom furniture; a woman was assisted with \$554 toward rent; a woman was assisted with \$400 toward rent; a single mother was given various furniture items; and a woman was given \$200 toward her electric bill to avoid shutoff. Thank you for allowing us to help our neighbors in need!

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 (to the attention of SVdP) at 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, or donate online at 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.

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





CATHOLIC KENNYWOOD DAY

Join us Monday, July 15 for a day of fun, rides, and activities for kids in Pavilion 5, as well as community devotions, a shared meal, and Mass celebrated by Bishop Zubik. To purchase your discounted tickets visit pghpriest.com. For more information, contact Tracy Hodanich thodanich@diopitt.org or 412-456-3095.

THE ANNUAL SLOVAK DAY AT **KENNYWOOD**

On Thursday, July 18, the Slovak community of this region will also gather at Kennywood Park for the 101st Annual Slovak Day. Beginning at 12:30pm, in the pavilions behind the Jack Rabbit coaster, there will be Slovak food, music and entertainment throughout the day. 4:00pm, a Liturgy will be celebrated with the Slovak community.

Discounted tickets exclusively for July 18th are \$33. Other tickets which can be used any day through September 14 will be \$40. Please make your check payable to "W. Pa. Slovak Day," and mail it to Ms. Sue Ondrejco, 234 Ilion Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15207. For further information, call 412-953-4853. Enjoy!



SRCES: ENROLL FOR 2024-2025

Experience the impact of Catholic education at South Regional Catholic Elementary Schools. Enroll for 2024-2025 now. Use the QR code to begin!



BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

The Beginning Experience© Pittsburgh Lay Apostolate will host a one-day Saturday seminar, Coping with Life Alone - In the Beginning Program, intended to help widowed, divorced, or separated men and women work through their grief and begin to move forward with hope on their life journey. Join us Saturday July 13, from 8:45am to 4:00pm at Martina Spiritual Renewal Center, 5244 Clarwin Ave., West View, PA 15229. The fee is \$30.00 (lunch included). Register at www.BeginningExperiencePittsburgh.com or make a condential call to Kim at 412-352-2653



A PERSONAL EXAMINATIO



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

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

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

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

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

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





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