

**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

#### PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Joseph Scheib, Saint Philip Rectory Rev. Philip Farrell, Ascension Rectory

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Patricia Cygrymus, Barbara Hendrick, Joseph Hoover, Martin Matko, Richard Musser, Katie Phillips, David Sammel and Mary Schubert

#### PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Benjamin Bannon, Robert Bertocchi, Joseph Hoover, Joseph Rynn, Richard Schubert 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

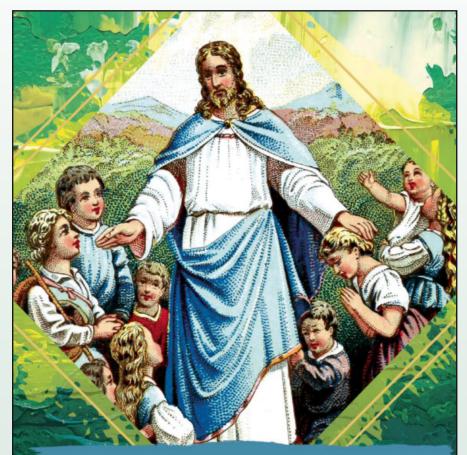
 Guardian Angel Academy
 (412) 922-4765

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

24-Hour LifelineDial 988Resolve Crisis Network1-888-796-8226

# Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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



Week of September 22, 2024 **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY** IN ORDINARY TIME

#### 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.

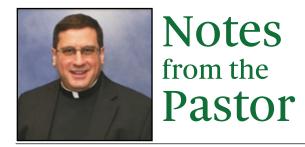
Protecting God's Children — VICTIM HOTLINE: 1-888-808-1235

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	
SATURDAY, SE	PTEMBER 21 —	SAINT MATTHEW, APC	SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST	
Ascension	8:00am	Special Intentions	Edward & Mary Connell	
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Frank P. & Helen Demma	Family	
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Audrey & Valentino Nania	Valarie & Richard Nania	
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 — TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saint Philip	7:00am	Mary & Charles Jacob		
Ascension	9:30am	John P. Morris	John & Anna Gallagher	
Saint Philip	11:00am	,	ry of Robert & Deborah	
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 – SAINT PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST				
Saint Philip	8:00am	Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Fisher	McCoy Family	
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 – WEEKDAY				
Ascension	8:00am	Frances Priselac	Linda Priselac	
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – WEEKDAY				
Saint Philip	8:00am	John "Jack" Jakubowski	Patrick Kelly	
THURSDAY, SE	PTEMBER 26 —	SAINTS COSMAS AND I	DAMIAN, MARTYRS	
Ascension	8:00am	John Rogers, Sr.	Daughter	
FRIDAY, SEPTE	EMBER 27 — SAI	NT VINCENT DE PAUL, I	PRIEST	
Saint Philip	8:00am		nbers of the Saint Philip Vincent de Paul Society	
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 — SAINT WENCESLAUS, MARTYR				
Ascension	8:ooam	Karen & Nicholas Torquato	Family	
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Patricia McDermott	David McDermott	
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Mary Ellen & Francis Leon	Barbara & Louis Wentz	
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 — TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
Saint Philip	7:00am	Daniel & Rosemarie Brannen	Brannen Family	
Ascension	9:30am	Deceased of the Palombini Family	DeDe & Family	
Saint Philip	11:00am	Mary M. Badish	Paula Badish	



**Best wishes for this month of September!** As we enter the Autumn and look forward to all the coming holidays, I hope you'll take time for prayer, rest, and your family!

#### Humility and the Seven Holy Virtues

What a wonderful society and world we would have if all Catholic Christians (*and in fact, all people*) would pursue the Seven Holy Virtues in our daily living!

We don't hear about the virtues (and leading a virtuous life) as often as we need to hear about them.

**As a reminder**, the Seven Holy Virtues are: Humility, Generosity, Kindness, Patience, Chastity, Temperance, Diligence.

The virtues give us a truly holy and Christian way of life which is the opposite of the ways of darkness, sin, and death known as the Seven Deadly Sins: Pride, Greed, Wrath, Envy, Gluttony, Lust, and Sloth.

Virtues are the good habits which lead to a good life; vices are the bad habits which lead to darkness, sadness, and destruction.

All of the holy virtues are important in our Christian discipleship and living, and today in the Gospel according to Mark, Jesus gives clear emphasis to the virtue of humility.

The word "humility" comes from the Latin root word "humus" which is the ancient word for "soil" or "dirt." Since ancient days, to be "humble" has meant to be "close to the ground," to be "lowly." To be "humble" still means the opposite of being inflated (*by ourselves or by others*) or being conceited or being self-important.

As Catholic Christians, we give all honor and glory to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We don't claim glory and honor for ourselves. Rather, faithful Christians seek to live in the Lord and serve the Lord without any fanfare or public notice. Again, all glory and all honor should be given only to God!

This was an important lesson taught by Jesus to the twelve apostles in today's Gospel account. It's also a lesson which all of us do well to learn and to make a constant priority in our lives.

When we're young, we look for recognition and affirmation. Being noticed and commended as youngsters gives us a sense of identity, importance, and self-worth. Hopefully, by the time we're adults, we're secure in our sense of self - and of our goodness. Hopefully, as adults, we aren't insecure and in need of attention and adulation.

May our personal self-esteem and security come from knowing that the Lord has chosen us to be His people – and that the Lord loves us and promises us eternal life. In response, may we give all glory and honor to the Lord, and may we be men and women who live in the humility to which Jesus calls us all!

Best wishes for these autumn months!

May everyone - all of our parish members and families - enjoy very good days and weeks as we com to the months of autumn. May this continue to be a good time of service, celebration, prayer, and renewal. Finally, may the Lord Jesus keep you and your family members and friends healthy, holy, and always at peace. God bless!

Yours, Father Jim Torquato

# **Catholic Canton**

Featuring: Rhoda Wise House & Grotto Saint Rapheal Center Mother Angelica Museum Lourdes Grotto & Rosary Garden

> Presented by St. Philip Parish Wednesday, October 23, 2024



Depart Ascension Church at 7:00AM aboard a highway coach for Canton, Ohio. A breakfast stop will be made en route. Later this morning arrive at Saint Raphael Center & Mother Angelica Museum. In 1981, Mother Angelica, a cloistered Franciscan nun, launched what has become the largest religious media network in the world; Eternal Word Television Network. EWTN now reaches 264 million homes in 145 countries and over 700 million homes with AM, FM, shortwave radio and internet. It all began in 1923 in a small home in the southeast end of Canton, Ohio. Born Rita A. Rizzo, the future Mother Angelica, grew up in a working-class neighborhood during the Roaring Twenties a block away from her parish church. Young Rita had a difficult childhood. Her father abandoned the family before Rita was five years old. Divorce soon followed. Life was a struggle for Rita and her mother. Rita's years of trial were compounded by a debilitating stomach ailment until she was healed by Jesus through a woman named Rhoda Wise. That healing set her life on a course that would ultimately change the world. Come and see where it all began. Our visit will include a guided tour of the complex followed by the celebration of Mass in Mary, Ark of the Covenant Chapel. Enjoy a delicious catered lunch followed by free time to explore the Lourdes Grotto, Rosary Garden and Gift Store. This afternoon visit the Rhoda Wise House & Grotto. Born in 1888 in Cadiz, Ohio and raised in Wheeling, WV, Rhoda converted to the Catholic Church while in Mercy Hospital. Over time she developed a strong devotion to the Rosary and St. Therese the Little Flower. Rhoda Wise would later experience apparitions of Our Lord and St. Therese. On October 7, 2016, Rhoda Wise's Cause for Canonization opened in the Diocese of Youngstown. Enjoy time here to visit the home and pray at the grotto. A special "sweet stop" will be made before we embark on our journey home. Arrive back home approximately 8:00PM. A brief dinner stop will be made en route home.

#### TRIP INCLUDES

- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- ➤ Group luncheon
- All admissions & shrine donations
- ➤ Mass & prayer
- Pilgrimage Coordinator



**TOUR FARE:** \$119.00 per person is due to secure your reservation. Make checks payable to: Wendt Touring and send to St. Philip Parish, 114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15205. For more information call Mary Ann Garfold at 412-922-6388. Full payment is required to hold a seat. Space is limited!

Travel Arrangements made by Wendt Touring 613 Canton Road, Wintersville, OH 43953 Phone: 740-282-5790 www.WendtTouring.com



Sunday, September 22 Wisdom 2:12-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

#### Weekdays

Proverbs & Ecclesiastes; Luke 8-9

#### Sunday, September 29

Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-48

#### WE SHOULD SPEND AS MUCH TIME In thanking god for his benefits As we dd in Asking for them.



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

Your goodness and participation help to keep our parish alive!

#### **FINANCIAL** REPORT **OUR SAINT PHILIP** PARISH FINANCES

Sunday collections, <b>September 14-15</b> * Includes Mail-in donations	\$9,027.00*
Online donations, September 14-15	\$1,909.50
Maintenance donations	\$230.00
Religious Education donations	\$982.00
Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year	\$861,064.00
Parish income <u>received</u> since July 1, 2024	\$146,063.03
Parish fundraising since July 1, 2024	\$217.00
Estate gifts received since July 1, 2024	\$O
General donations since July 1, 2024	\$1,610.00
Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses Average weekly utility expenses Average weekly insurance expenses Weekly contributions to Guardian Angel Academy	\$1,543.97 \$2,259.50 \$1,102.17
Parish members 2,456 Parish families	1,287
Church attendance on September 14-15	636
Sunday envelopes used September 14-15	261
Total households receiving envelopes	1,058
2024 Parish Appeal Goal	\$128,119.00
Parish Appeal received as of September 15	\$128,119.00 \$143,849.76*
*Includes online Parish Appeal donations	\$143,049.70
2024 Parish Appeal Donors	249
1 11	12

#### BUS TRANSPORTATION TO **7** THE DEACON ORDINATION

TION 2000

On Saturday, October 5, at 10:00am in Saint Paul Cathedral, our parish member, Mr. Joseph Allen, will be ordained a Deacon of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh.

**To make participation in this ordination event a possibility for members** of Saint Philip Parish, we're arranging bus transportation to and from the Cathedral on October 5. To register for this FREE bus transportation to the Ordination, contact our parish office (parishoffice@ saintphilipparish.com <u>OR</u> 412-922-6300) before this Monday, September 23.

**Congratulations to Mr. Joseph Allen** – and thanks to our parish community for supporting Joe during his years of deacon formation!



#### LIVE THE LITURGY: INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The apostles argue, each one claiming to be the greatest of Christ's followers. But Christ shows them who is truly the greatest — a child, one who has no thought of his own importance, one who has no ambition. Let's seek to be like that child.

#### PRAYER FOR EVERYDAY & EVERYBODY

Prayer for Children

Dear Jesus,

Wrap the young members of our family in your love.

They know how to love BIG, even though they are still small.

Their trust can inspire, their faith can change hearts.

Help them to know you, now and always. Amen.



#### THIS WEEK AT SAINT PHILIP PARISH:

Monday:Faith Formation Open House on the<br/>Saint Philip campus at 6:30pmTuesday:Hooks (\*) Needles at 9:00am in the<br/>Administration Building, upper

floor Anxious for Nothing at 7:00pm in Ascension Church Conner Hall

- Wednesday: *Dinner with Saints Francis* (t) *Clare* at 6:15pm in Ascension church
- Thursday: *Legion of Mary* at 6:30pm in the Ascension Rectory *Christian Men's Fellowship* at 7:00pm in the Administration Building *Order of Christian Initiation* at 6:00pm in Saint Philip library

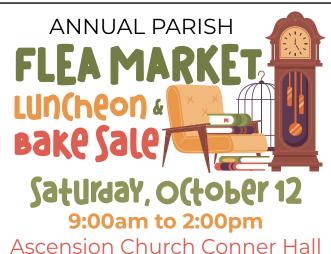


Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Parish Raffle! Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated. Special thanks are also extended to Mr. Richard Olechowicz, owner of the Schepner-McDermott Funeral home, for generously providing this year's raffle tickets!

The prize winners this year – drawn during the September 15 Parish Picnic – are:

- \$ 2,500 Carol Solt
- \$ 500 Kim Rotellini
- \$ 400 Joanne McCamey
- \$ 250 Dorothy Webb
- \$ 100 Rachel Richardson

Congratulations to our winners, and many thanks to all of our participants!



We are happy to announce that our popular *Flea Market, Luncheon, and Bake Sale* is back this Fall.

Drop-Off Dates and Times: September 30, October 1, 3, 7, 8 and 11 from 9:00am to 10:00am and from 5:30pm to 7:00pm.

This is a great opportunity to de-clutter your home of unwanted "Treasures." We're sorry but we are unable to accept clothing, bedding, encyclopedias, TVs, large appliances, furniture, stuffed animals, or anything with freon. We're looking forward to seeing you!

# SAINT PHILIP PARISH **PICNIC**



More than 200 parish members of all ages filled Conner Hall on the Ascension campus last Sunday, September 15, for our annual Saint Philip Parish Picnic. A delicious cookout dinner – along with many desserts from parish members – was enjoyed by everyone. Along with dinner and dance music, participants enjoyed time in fellowship, many games of bingo, corn hole games, face painting and games for the youngsters, and even the Steelers game on a wide screen television.

Special thanks go to our picnic and raffle coordinators, Linda and Frank Bey, as well as to Rick Hufnagel - and to all of our volunteer helpers - who made this year's picnic a special and memorable event for our community! Thanks, too, to everyone who supported this year's Parish Raffle! See Page 6 of this bulletin for prize winners. The parish had a successful raffle fundraiser - as well as a most enjoyable afternoon together!





We offer our sympathy to the families of **Donna J. Studeny** and **Joseph McNerney** who entered into eternal life. Please keep them in your prayers.

Sanctuary 🔥 Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at St. Philip burns *In Loving Memory of Anna* (+) *Theresa Kaczmarek* Offered by Paul Kaczmarek

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at Ascension burns *In Loving Memory of Frank P. (*) *Helen Demma* Offered by Family



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SAINT PHILIP CONFERENCE

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



#### 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.wesharegiving.org/ap p/giving/saintphilipchurch



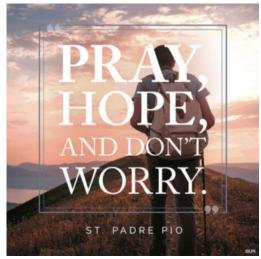


**REFLECTIONS FROM MARYANN:** In the Gospel for this Sunday we hear Jesus tell us, "Whoever receives one child such as this in My name, receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but the One who sent Me." We are blessed at Saint Philip Parish to have a variety of opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus with our children.

We have our Faith Formation Program which provides catechesis with each family's schedule in mind. We have our Faith Formation Family Program once per month. We have Children's Liturgy in both churches once per month. We are also currently planning a family retreat in May. We welcome all children and families to participate in Saint Philip Family Ministry.

Saint Philip Family Ministry is just one ministry as part of the New Evangelization taking place in the Church. We invite and encourage you to be a part of sharing the Good News. If you have not become involved in the past, now may be the time. As we begin the Fall season the following opportunities are currently available. Contact the Office of Faith Formation for further information.

- Adult Education *Dinner with the Saints* on **September 25** (Saints Francis & Clare), **November 13** (Mother Cabrini) and **December 4** (Mary).
- Hooks & Needles Sewing, Crochet and Knitting on Tuesdays at 9:00am.
- *Salvation History* on the **second and fourth Tuesday** of each month in Administration Building at 7:00pm.
- *Christian Men's Fellowship* **each Thursday** in the Administration Building at 7:00pm.
- *Ladies of Charity*, please call 412-922-6388 for information.
- *Legion of Mary* **each Thursday** in the Ascension Rectory.
- *Saint Vincent de Paul Society* **each Tuesday**, call the Parish Office for information.
- *Bereavement Ministry* is the **third Thursday** each month at 2:00pm in Ascension Church Conner Hall.





FRANCIS AND CLARE

Wednesday, September 25 from 6:15pm to 8:00pm



**ONLY 15 SEATS LEFT!** 





Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Welcome to **Marcus Lipinski** and his children, **Adam** and **Emma** to the period of Evangelization and Precatechumenate. This is a time where we as a parish proclaim the Good News and share the message of the Gospel with them.

We also welcome 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student **Angela Joseph** to the Precatechumenate in preparation for baptism.

We welcome **Ariel Ball** who will participate in the Rite of Acceptance on Sunday, October 20 at the 11:00am Mass in Saint Philip church. Arial has studied and reflected on the Catholic Faith throughout the past year and anticipates the Sacrament of Baptism at the Easter Vigil in the Spring of 2025 as she continues her preparation.

Please welcome and pray for those in the OCIA process and for our catechists, Fran Sullen, Debby Sullen, Bill Eberle, Ursula Eberle and Adam Mishkin.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in participating in the OCIA process, please call 412-922-6388. **FAITH FORMATION NEWS:** Faith Formation will hold an Open House on **Monday, September 23**. Parents will meet with the Director, MaryAnn Garfold, from 6:30pm to 7:10pm in Kelty Hall below the church. Parents will then visit their child's session room to meet the catechist and participate in a lesson. The evening will conclude with an ice cream social in the cafeteria. We welcome all children to our Faith Formation Program. For information, call MaryAnn at 412-922-6388.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** If you would like to register your child for Faith Formation, please register as soon as possible. You do not have to wait until other activities are over. Please call the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388.

**BAPTISM:** Sessions for new parents will be held once per month. Our next baptism class will be held on **Thursday, October 17 at 6:30pm** in the Administration Building. If you anticipate having your child baptized in October or November and this is your first child, please contact the Office of Faith Formation to register at 412-922-6388.

**KITCHEN TABLE MINISTRY:** Our next Drop-In Sunday is **October 6** in the Saint Philip cafeteria after the 7:00am Mass. Enjoy donuts and coffee, receive a blood pressure screening, get general wellness information, and have a friendly chat. Plan to stop by for a few minutes after Mass or before heading off to your Sunday plans







Our Saint Philip Ladies of Charity met on Thursday, October 12, 2023. At the meeting, officers from the National Board and Diocesan Ladies of Charity shared some history of the Ladies of Charity in the United States and information regarding establishing a Ladies of Charity at Saint Philip Parish. After some discussion a nominating committee was formed to suggest officers for the Saint Philip Ladies of Charity Association.



The Ladies of Charity are part of the Vincentian Family which has served Saint Philip Parish for over 100 years. The family story begins with a Sunday sermon in 1617 given by St. Vincent de Paul (1591-1660), a priest at the small parish of Chatillon-les-Dombes in the Diocese of Lyons, France. Fifty women were so moved by the dire needs of their neighbor and by Vincent's stirring words that, after church together, they provided for the family in need. Afterward Vincent said, "These good people are exercising great charity, but it is not well regulated. This poor family will have too many provisions at one time and some of them will be spoiled and wasted; in a short time these persons will be reduced to their former state of need. Would it not be possible to convince these good women to give themselves to God to serve the poor permanently?" These ladies living in the 17th century said, "Yes," to the call of St. Vincent de Paul. Following the women's collective "magnificat," Vincent dePaul was nominated for sainthood, and the Ladies of Charity began their 400 years of service to the needy.

During this past year of their formation, the Saint Philip Ladies of Charity made gift bags for the Little Sisters of the Poor residents, helped with the First Eucharist Retreat, provided a reception for the Candidates to the Permanent Diaconte, and assisted with efforts of Saint Vincent de Paul and the needs of our parish community.

The Ladies of Charity of Saint Philip Parish will meet on **Thursday, October 10 at 7:00pm** in Ascension Church Conner Hall. Please consider joining them and growing the seeds planted by the Seton Hill Sisters of Charity in Saint Philip Parish community over 100 years ago. Help us to bring Christ to others in our Parish and in our community. All are Welcome. For information, call 412-922-6388.

## **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 day.

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. You'll find them among our bulletin advertisers. We're also fortunate to have numerous Catholic and community cemeteries whose staff members are very helpful. In addition, the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh also offers the Catholic Funeral Plan (CFP, telephone 1-877-886-PLAN) in conjunction with the Catholic Cemeteries Association of Pittsburgh ((CCA) and trustworthy insurance providers to create funding arrangements now so that all your plans can be set and funded long in advance of being needed.

For our part, how can Saint Philip Parish's staff help you? In response to requests from parish members, we're willing to send our Funeral Planning Booklet and Funeral Selection Forms to any parish members who request them in advance.

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!



#### VISITING OUR FAMILY MEMBERS AT THEIR PLACES OF REST

A very traditional Catholic Christian practice is to regularly visit the graves of our grandparents, parents, family members and friends throughout each year – and especially during this month of November.

These are our loved ones who gave life to us - and who shared life with us for years. They are truly important to each one of us!

As Christian disciples, we firmly believe that they – and all of us – live on eternally in the Lord. We retain their remains in cemeteries in anticipation of the Day of Resurrection when Jesus will raise them – and us – to a new and everlasting life in a restored and glorified body.

In this time of waiting for our final reunion, we do well to visit the resting places of our deceased loved ones and to pray for their eternal rest, and peace, and salvation!

Week of September 22, 2024 | 11

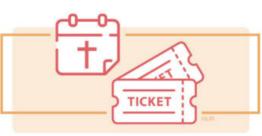


volunteers to assist our food pantry once per month (but if you only speak English, that's OK too!) If you would like to volunteer or to get more information, please call or text our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email us at svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com. Thank you!

Over the past week, your generous donations enabled us to assist a single mother

#### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

It is time again for our annual *Help Thy Neighbor Walk and Raffle*, which is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Vincentians will be selling raffle tickets before and after all Masses this weekend, **September 21 and 22**, and next weekend, **September 28 and 29**. Each ticket is \$5, and



Help Thy Neighbor Walk and Raffle

for every four tickets that you purchase, you will get a fifth ticket for free. One person in the diocese will win the grand prize of \$5,000!

Again this year, we are blessed to have an anonymous donor who is willing to match up to \$5,000 of our Saint Philip Conference ticket sales. Please allow us to maximize those matching funds by helping us to sell \$5,000 in tickets!

You can also purchase tickets online at <u>https://form.jotform.com/201684852232151</u>. Be sure to specify that you want your ticket proceeds to go to the St. Philip Conference. 100% of the proceeds from both in-person and online ticket sales stay with our Conference and go to help our friends in need. The winner will be drawn on October 6. Thank you in advance for your support of this annual fundraiser that is much needed in order to continue to assist our friends in need with their financial requests, which are many!

We still desperately need volunteers for our furniture mission, as well as Spanish-speaking

with \$133 for water; a single mother was assisted with the repair or replacement of her dryer and was given a washer; a woman was given a bed; and a couple was assisted with \$408 toward their electric bill. Thank you for making this assistance possible!

If you would like to make a

donation of furniture or household goods, please call or text our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email us at <u>svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com</u>. If you would like to donate clothing, shoes or accessories, please place your donation in the blue bins in front of the Hope House at St. Philip or in the rear parking lot at Ascension, or you can call, text or email us to arrange a pickup if you are unable to transport them yourself. Please do not place any other items in those bins or leave anything outside of them because they will be thrown away. If you are looking to purchase new or gently-used clothing, housewares or furniture, please shop at the St. Vincent de Paul thrift stores and visit our online store at eshoppittsburgh.com. Also, we are always looking for volunteers! Any donation of your time is extremely valuable to us. If you'd like to join us in helping our friends in need or just want to learn more, please call, text or email us for more information.

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



One of the South Region Catholic Elementary Schools (SRCES)



As Guardian Angel Academy kicks off the new school, we are preparing for our in-school student events and fundraisers, both critical initiatives for our school community. The in-school activities allow our kiddos to come together and celebrate holidays, cherish holy days, and have fun as kids. Our fundraisers support the operations of the school and help to ease the financial burden on families. We are asking for your help as our parish communities for any of the following items to directly support these initiatives.

#### **In-school Activity Requests:**

- New toys and games
- Art supplies
- Bulk snacks
- Kid friendly gift cards
- Grocery store gift cards

#### **Fundraising Requests:**

- Gift cards
- Lottery tickets
- Business donations
- Themed baskets or stuffers
- Sponsorships

Donations can be dropped off at the office during school hours or other arrangements can be made. Any questions, contact Kerri Lozano at klozano@guardianangelacademy.org.



#### SAINT JOSEPH HOUSE FOR MEN

For nearly 60 years, the Saint Joseph House of Hospitality near the former Civic Arena has been a Catholic residence for men who need assistance and a place to live for a time. Founded by the Sisters of Charity and our Catholic Diocese, more than 50 men are in residence throughout the year – some are short term residents, some are long term.

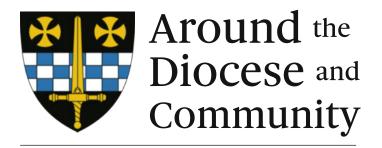
Overseen now by Catholic Charities of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, the Saint Joseph House of Hospitality supports these men thanks to your generosity. If you'd like to help, you may send a donation at any time of the year. Please make your check payable to Catholic Charities with *Saint Joseph House in the memo* and mail it to:

> Saint Joseph House c/o Catholic Charities 212 Ninth Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222

#### **OUR DIOCESAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES**

Every year, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh assists thousands of our neighbors in need. Whether providing for individuals or families, Catholic Charities lends a helping hand to many women, men, and children throughout our six county Diocese of Pittsburgh. You can see their programs and the fine work that's done by visiting their internet site at www.ccpgh.org. If you'd like to help others in need by supporting the work of Catholic Charities, you may send a donation (*payable to Catholic Charities*) at any time of the year to:

> Catholic Charities 212 Ninth Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222



#### PRAYER SERVICE FOR NATIONAL UNITY

This **Tuesday, September 24, at 7:00pm**, a local prayer service for national unity will be hosted by the Ingram United Presbyterian Church on West Prospect Avenue (adjacent to the Ingram municipal building). When our nation finds itself divided by partisanship, it's important for the people of God to come together in peace and in prayer. All are welcome!

#### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

*Kick-off Mass at Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church* on **Tuesday, September 24 at 6:30pm**, followed by a Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood. Father Chris Donley will preside at the Liturgy. All Christians are welcome to participate in this free event! Please visit <u>www.40DaysforLife.com/Pittsburgh</u> or call 412-926-9413 for more information.

#### RENEWING THE LIFE AND JOY OF YOUR MARRIAGE

In 2015, a new local Catholic initiative was created to strengthen marriages here in our diocesan church. This effort was named, *"Renew the 'I Do'!,"* and the organizers host multiple events for married couples around Allegheny County. There are liturgies, socials, concerts, pilgrimages, comedy nights, bowling, holiday events, and other events throughout the year.

All married couples of our parish – and of every diocesan parish – are invited and welcome to participate. Full information is available at <u>www.renewtheido.org</u>. Join in, and renew the joy of your marriage!



### MAGNIFICAT GATHERING OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

On Saturday morning, **October 5**, at the Marriott North in Cranberry Township, 9:00am to 12:00pm, the diocesan chapter of Magnificat will hold a breakfast gathering and presentation for all women of our diocese. The speaker will be Nikki Kingsley, a nationally known author and speaker who entered the Catholic Church following her upbringing in the Islamic faith. Tickets are \$35. Please register before Friday, September 27 at www.magnificatpittsburgh.org, or by calling Donna 412-874-7471.

#### MOTORCOACH TRIP TO LANCASTER THEATERS

Enjoy a weekend trip to Lancaster from **November 13-15**, featuring shows "Daniel" and "Joy to the World," plus lodging, meals, a train ride, a local tour, and shopping. Cost: \$588 per person (double), \$737 (single). Sponsored by Ohio Valley Nurses Alumni Association. Contact: Evelyn Moses at 412-921-6388.



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

