



Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

PARISH STAFF

Rev. James R. Torquato, Pastor
Deacon Joe Allen, Parish Deacon
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
Mr. Gary Urbatis, Safe Environment Staff
Ms. Maureen Takach, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Linda Bey, Faith Formation Secretary
Ms. Denise Ball, Faith Formation Staff
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: 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



Week of February 23, 2025

**SEVENTH 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, FEBRUARY 22 — THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE			
Ascension	8:00am	Doris & Al Plouy	Janine & Mike Wilson
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Mildred & Leonard Gerlowski	Mary & Tom Gerlowski
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Zunic Family	Jane Beistel
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 — SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Special Intention of Marshall Hubert	Family
Ascension	9:30am	Frances & Owen Downs and Joanne Taraborrelli	Family
Saint Philip	11:00am	Maureen McMahan	Caren Surlow
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24 — WEEKDAY			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Amanda Louise Ogden	Audra Ogden
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 — WEEKDAY			
Ascension	8:00am	Lois A. Robbins	Lillian Brandimarti
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 — WEEKDAY			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of Saint Philip Parish	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 — SAINT GREGORY NAREK, ABBOT AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH			
Ascension	8:00am	Bob & Mary Dalla Piazza	Family
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 — WEEKDAY			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Don Kuten	A Friend
SATURDAY, MARCH 1 — BLESSED VIRGIN MARY			
Ascension	8:00am	Mycah Shaw	Pat Keeley
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Robert & Mary Phillips	Pat & Al Bannon
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	John R. Francis	Elaine Francis & Family
SUNDAY, MARCH 2 — EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Shumovich Family	Greg & Jeannie Shumovich
Ascension	9:30am	Raymond Best	Terry Best
Saint Philip	11:00am	Tim Ignatz (Former Choir Director)	Saint Philip Choir



Notes from the Pastor

Welcome to our celebration of the Lord's Day this Sunday as we continue our Jubilee Holy Year 2025!

We're all about mercy and forgiveness

In ten days, on Ash Wednesday, March 5, we will begin our annual Season of Forgiveness and Reconciliation - the Holy Season of Lent!

As you know, Lent is the old English word which indicates that the daylight is "lengthening" as we approach the new life of Spring. In other languages, the Holy Season before Easter is referred to as the "Forty Days." Even though our ancestors in the English language did things in their own way, the practice and the purpose of the Season of Lent are still the same for all of us. It's the time to prepare for our celebration of the Lord's Resurrection by observing a Season of Forgiveness.

Today's Reading from the Gospel according to Luke is an inspiring message from Jesus recorded in Luke's "Sermon on the Plain" (*see Luke 6:20-49*). In twelve verses today, Jesus gives us the wonderful message that He will share divine forgiveness with us. That is a promise that may not mean much to many people today. However, for many of Jesus' disciples still participating in the Church today, the promise and the gift of forgiveness are extremely important in their discipleship and daily living - both sacramentally and personally.

At the same time, Jesus calls each of us and all of us to imitate the forgiveness of God the

Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in our own lives, families, relationships, and communities. We are called as Catholic Christians to forgive if we ourselves ask the Lord's forgiveness.

Years ago, a veteran priest told me that many people make holding grudges their favorite pastime. All too many of the Lord's disciples brood over injuries and offenses done to them. Too many Christians remain angry toward family members and neighbors and refuse to be forgiving. Sadly, this leads to hardening of a person's heart and a great deal of unfortunate anger and sadness. Instead, we're called to forgive as we ourselves are forgiven by the Lord!

One reminder that I like to share is that, if the Lord has and continues to forgive all our sins and faults which we confess, then the least that we can do is forgive others as Jesus forgives us. Each of us sins and hurts others. That's true of others, and it's true of each one of us as well. Hurting and offending others is an unfortunate element of our imperfect, sinful human condition. As such, if we expect to be forgiven, then as Catholic Christians, we should truly be forgiving ourselves.

In ten days, we begin the Lenten Season of Forgiveness. Be sure to call upon the Lord's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and be sure to forgive your family members, relatives, friends, and neighbors (*and all people*) as Jesus calls us to do every day!

Best wishes for this Holy Year 2025!

May this Jubilee Holy Year of 2025 be a blessed time of hope, gratitude, service, prayer, and reading the Word of God in the Bible! May the Lord Jesus fill you and your family members and friends with peace, health, holiness, and divine goodness. God bless!

Yours, Father Jim Torquato

Our Parish Appeal Program 2025 will begin in one week

As all of our members and parishes have done for 50 years, we will soon begin this year's Parish Appeal Program to contribute our required funding for the operations of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh in 2025. The Parish Appeal allows Bishop David Zubik and his staff to continue and oversee and all the offices and programs of our Diocesan Church.

Many of you, our parish members and families, have been supportive of this important program since its beginning. Some parish members are even very, very generous! All the donations received above and beyond our annual goal are retained by Saint Philip Parish for the benefit and operations of our own Catholic community!

Every year, each parish is asked to raise an extra 11% of its income received during the previous year. This extra 11% is our annual Parish Appeal Goal.

For 2025, our Parish Appeal Goal for Saint Philip Parish is \$126,559 - slightly lower than our 2024 goal.

Once again, I invite every household in our parish to again contribute or pledge at least \$250 to the Parish Appeal Program this year. If you can contribute \$500, or \$1000, or \$2500 or more, your generosity will be greatly appreciated. Contribution and pledge cards will be sent in the postal mail to each of our households near the end of February.

As always, I thank you very much for your participation in our parish community and Liturgy, and I thank you for your financial contributions and support for the benefit and operation of our Diocesan Church of Pittsburgh and our Saint Philip Parish. Your generosity and donations help to keep our parish alive - and help to continue and to grow the Kingdom of God here in our community and region!

***"Come...and you
will see." – John 1:39***

Come & See



Join Us in Our Mission!

Your generous support of the Annual Parish Appeal 2025 enables us to continue our mission of evangelization, service, and pastoral care. Here's how you can contribute:

VISIT YOUR PARISH WEBSITE

for more information on giving electronically



MAIL YOUR SEALED DONATION to your home parish



SCAN THIS QR CODE to locate your parish on the diocesan website and access contribution options at:
www.diopitt.org/help





BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 23

1 Samuel 26:2-23;
1 Corinthians 15:45-49;
Luke 6:27-38

Weekdays

Sirach 1-6;
Mark 9-10

Sunday, March 2

Sirach 27:4-7;
1 Corinthians 15:54-58;
Luke 6:39-45



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, February 15-16	-- \$8,878.00*
<i>* Includes Mail-in donations</i>	
Online donations, February 15-16	-- \$2,115.00
Maintenance collection	-- \$56.00
Religious Education collection	-- \$839.50

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year	-- \$861,064.00
Parish income <u>received</u> since July 1, 2024	-- \$478,932.56
Parish fundraising since July 1, 2024	-- \$25,755.55
Estate gifts received since July 1, 2024	-- \$500.00
General donations since July 1, 2024	-- \$19,881.46

Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses	-- \$5,885.13
Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses	-- \$2,179.94
Average weekly utility expenses	-- \$2,030.82
Average weekly insurance expenses	-- \$1,102.17
Weekly contributions to Guardian Angel Academy	-- \$1,397.92

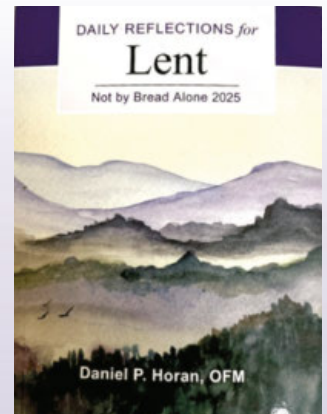
Parish members	-- 2,456	Parish families	-- 1,287
Church attendance on February 15-16	-- 627		
Sunday envelopes used February 15-16	-- 268		
Total households receiving envelopes	-- 1,058		

Our Annual Parish Appeal — our 2024 Parish Appeal goal of \$128,119 has been reached and exceeded thanks to our 249 contributors. Many thanks are gratefully extended to all who contributed! Our 2025 Parish Appeal goal is \$126,559, and the 2025 Parish Appeal will begin in early March.

Reflection booklets

This weekend, new Reflection Booklets are available at the entrances of both Saint Philip and Ascension churches. Published by Liturgical Press, these daily reflections have become a favorite item for more than 500 parish members and families.

We have one booklet for each family this weekend, and then next weekend, the remaining booklets will be available to whomever would like them for personal use or to share with family and friends. Best wishes for your spiritual growth in the Lord during the coming Season of Lent!





Parish News

THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS MARCH 5

In ten days, on Ash Wednesday, March 5, we'll begin our annual Season of penance, sacrifice, and forgiveness - the Holy Season of Lent! As you know, Lent is the old English word which indicates that the daylight is "lengthening" as we approach the new life of Spring. In other languages, the Holy Season before Easter is referred to as the "Forty Days." Even though our ancestors in the English language did things in their own way, the practice and the purpose of the Season of Lent are still the same. It is the time to prepare for the Lord's Resurrection by observing a Season of penance, sacrifice, and forgiveness.

The Season of Lent will begin, as always, on Ash Wednesday and then continue until Holy Thursday. It is our annual season of conversion, reconciliation, fasting, penance and prayer. Now is the time for all of us prepare for Lent and how we will observe this holy time.

At Saint Philip Parish, this Season of Lent will once again include our Ash Wednesday services, our Sunday and weekday Liturgies, new Lent reflection booklets, our *Soup, Salad, and Speaker series* each Wednesday evening, our Stations of the Cross every Friday, and many opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Make your preparations for Lent in these February days so that these holy Forty Days will be of great benefit to you and to your personal and our community journey to sainthood!

You
Are
Invited!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Monday, February 24: *Faith Formation*
6:30pm on the Saint Philip campus

Tuesday, February 25: *Hooks & Needles* at
9:00am in the Ascension Administration
Building

Tuesday, February 25: *ChristLife Reunion
Dinner* at 6:30pm Ascension church

Tuesday, February 25: *Salvation History*
7:00pm in the Ascension Administration
Building

Thursday, February 27: *OCIA* at 6:00pm
on the Saint Philip campus

Thursday, February 27: *Choir Rehearsal* at
7:00pm in Ascension church

Thursday, February 27: *Legion of Mary* at
6:30pm in the Ascension Rectory

Sunday, March 2: *Drop-In Sunday* at
10:30am in Ascension Church Conner Hall

Monday, March 3: *Mardi Gras* from 5:30pm
to 7:45pm in Ascension Church Conner
Hall

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus' message today is one of radical generosity and abundant mercy, and it scandalized the people of His time. It shook them to their core. It should do the same for us. Are we ready to live as Jesus lived? Are we ready to offer love in the face of hate?



OCIA

Order of
Christian
Initiation of
Adults

Saint Philip Parish congratulates Arial Ball and Cameron Gallagher as they prepare to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation this Easter. Arial and Cameron will participate in the Rite of Election with Bishop David Zubik at Saint Paul Cathedral on March 9. Please keep Arial and Cameron in your prayers.



SAINT PHILIP PARISH ANNUAL CALENDAR PARTY LUNCHEON

Join us for our 23rd *Annual Calendar Party Luncheon* on **Sunday, March 9** at Bishop Canevin High School gymnasium. Doors open at 11:30am, and lunch is served at 1:00pm. The event concludes at 3:30pm. Admission is \$25, and reservations are required. For reservations, to host a table, to volunteer or donate, contact Regina McDonald at 412-771-0667 or Barb Hendrick at 412-608-7752.

EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION AND ADORATION

This coming Saturday, March 1, from 8:30am until 9:30am, our parish will hold our monthly time of prayer and thanksgiving in the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament in Ascension church. All are welcome to attend and to participate in this time of prayer, silence, and adoration in order to give honor and thanks to Jesus. This is also a time to deepen your love for and your closeness to Jesus present in the Eucharist!



We offer our sympathy to the families of **Bernadette “Annie” Kersting, Anna Marie Zarod, Sundi Stein, and John Acciaroli, Jr.** 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 Regis, Mary B. & Dorothy McDonald*
Offered by McDonald Family

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at Ascension burns *In Loving Memory of Mary & Rudy Jaconetta*
Offered by James Jaconetta



CRAFTON GIANT EAGLE

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

A Final Gift to the Parish

Please support

SAINT PHILIP PARISH
by including the community in your will and estate planning.

Thank you!

Connect with **FLOCKNOTE!**



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



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

REFLECTIONS FROM MARYANN: We continue to reflect on our journey of Pilgrimage. As we continue to be open to the Holy Spirit, we are invited this Year of Jubilee to journey with Travel Ministry to the Shrines of Washington, D.C., Emmitsburg and Gettysburg. As pilgrims we are open to God's call to renew our hearts and spirits. Accepting this invitation we will experience the following:

- Visit and tour of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
- Celebration of Mass at the Basilica
- Visit to the National Shrine Museum of Saint John Paul II
- Visit to the National Shrine, Basilica, and Gardens of Elizabeth Ann Seton on the 50th anniversary year of her canonization
- Visit to the Shrine, Gardens with Mysteries of the Rosary and Gift Shop of the Grotto of Lourdes
- Celebration of Mass at the Basilica of Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Driving Tour of Gettysburg
- Two Delicious Meals (Breakfast and Dinner)
- Welcome reception the first evening.

We invite all who are able to join us as we journey with an open spirit and trusting heart as pilgrims during this Jubilee Year. For more information or to register see the flyer in the bulletin or call 412-922-6388 to register.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Children's Liturgy is an opportunity for children to hear the Scriptures at a child's level of understanding. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to attend Mass together. Why not have your family join us at Mass. There will be a Children's Liturgy each week on the First and Second Sunday at the 9:30am Mass in Ascension church; and also on the Third and Fourth Sunday at the 11:00am Mass in Saint Philip church.

WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATIONS: Listen to KDKA or WPXI, or check their websites.

SAINT PHILIP PARISH *Women's* **RETREAT**

Saint Paul Retreat Center
South Side

APRIL 11-13

Featuring: talks, opportunity for the Sacraments, quiet prayer experiences, delicious food, workshops, Liturgy

Contact Diana Miller or call 412-922-6388 for information.

Soup, Salad and Speaker Series



IT'S ALMOST HERE!

Saint Philip Parish *Lenten Soup, Salad and Speaker Series* begins

Wednesday, March 12

How you can help!

If you're interested in making a crockpot of homemade soup, please call 412-922-6388.

Your contribution will make this event extra delicious.

CHRISTLIFE REUNION: There will be a *ChristLife Reunion Dinner* on **Tuesday, February 25 at 6:30pm** in Ascension Church Conner Hall. The evening will include a chicken dinner, video reflection, reflection on small faith groups, discussion and dessert. All are welcome! Please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 412-922-6388 if you would like to attend.

KITCHEN TABLE MINISTRY: Come join us on **Sunday, March 2** after the 9:30am Mass. We will have:

- Delicious donuts from Better-Maid Donuts
- Coffee, tea and hot chocolate
- An opportunity to meet new friends and renew old friendships
- Blood pressure screenings
- General information on wellness
- Table conversation

Children's CHOIR



Saint Philip Parish Children's Choir led the congregation in singing at the 9:30am Liturgy on February 9. If any child is interested in joining the choir, please call Beth Barsh at 412-922-6300.



Family NIGHT

Faith Formation enjoyed Family Game Night. Team Pre-K, K, 1st and 2nd were the winners of the Candy Trophy. Each team answered questions about our faith while cheering on their peers. Our next gathering will be Mardi Gras on March 3.

Shrines & Sights of
Washington, D.C.
Emmitsburg, MD
& Gettysburg, PA



Presented by Saint Philip Parish
May 20-21, 2025

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
National Shrine of St. John Paul II ~ Gettysburg Battlefield
National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton ~ Shrine Grotto of Lourdes

JOURNEY INCLUDES:

- *Motorcoach transportation
- *One night lodging
- *Two meals – 1B & 1D
- *Sightseeing & shrine donations
- *Daily Mass & prayer
- *Pilgrimage Coordinator



PILGRIM FARE:

\$349.00 per person double
\$429.00 per person single
\$339.00 per person triple

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





Monday, March 3, 2025
5:30pm to 7:45pm
Ascension Church Conner Hall
114 Berry Street

Free Pancake Supper, Music,
 Games, Desserts & Kings Cake.
 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: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

No. of Adults: _____

No. of Children: _____

OUR 2025 PARISH FISH FRIES



One of our parish community's favorite social events is coming very soon! On **Ash Wednesday, March 5, 4:00pm to 7:00pm**, Saint Philip Parish will begin our annual Fish Fry events during Lent.

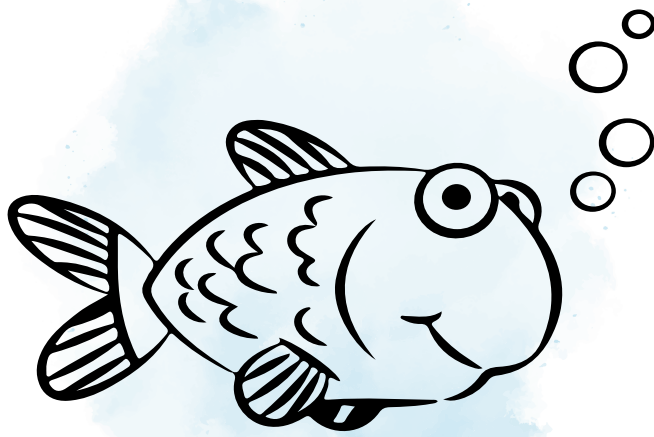
Our Fish Fry crew provides to our parish and our local community one of the very best Fish Fry dinners in the Diocese and in Allegheny County. We know you'll agree!

Please plan to join us in Conner Hall on the Ascension campus on Ash Wednesday and every Friday of Lent - including Good Friday.

Also, please consider joining our Fish Fry crew this year! Your help will be much appreciated and very helpful to this important fundraising effort. Let our parish office (412-922-6300) know that you'll be a new (or returning) Fish Fry volunteer, and we'll be sure to order a volunteer shirt for your use during the preparation and the dinners.



This year's Lenten Fish Fry dinners promise to be yet another excellent, delicious, and successful event for Saint Philip Parish! Thank you for sharing in these dinner gatherings!



**Saint Philip
Catholic Parish**
at Ascension Church
114 Berry Street, 15205

2025 FISH FRY MENU

Eat in or Take out

4:00-7:00 pm

**Ash Wednesday &
Fridays of Lent**

+++

**Good Friday
3:00-7:00 pm**



*Assorted desserts are available
in our bakery section!*

Attention customers with food allergies:
please be aware that our food may contain
or come into contact with common allergens –
such as dairy, eggs, wheat, soybeans, tree nuts,
sesame, peanuts, fish, shellfish or wheat.



JUMBO FISH SANDWICH	-----	\$10.00
FISH DINNER	-----	\$12.00
<i>Jumbo Fish sandwich, fries, coleslaw</i>		
BAKED FISH DINNER	-----	\$13.00
<i>Cod baked in OJ, fries, coleslaw, roll</i>		
JUMBO SHRIMP DINNER	-----	\$13.00
<i>5 Shrimp, fries, coleslaw, roll</i>		
CRABCAKE DINNER	-----	\$13.00
<i>3 Homemade Crabcakes, fries, coleslaw, roll</i>		
SEAFOOD PLATTER	-----	\$13.00
<i>Fish, 2 Shrimp, Crabcake, fries, coleslaw, roll</i>		
MACARONI & CHEESE	Small ----	\$4.00
	Large ----	\$7.00
HALUSKI	Small -----	\$4.00
	Large -----	\$7.00
SOUP OF THE WEEK	Small -----	\$3.00
	Large (to go, cold) -	\$7.00
GRILLED CHEESE	-----	\$3.00
FRENCH FRIES	-----	\$3.00
BEVERAGES	-----	\$1.00



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

We often report (including today) that a friend in need received a clothing voucher and/or a household goods voucher, but what are those things and where do the items come from?

Many of you know that the St. Vincent de Paul Central Council of Pittsburgh operates thrift stores, and you may have even donated by placing items in their blue bins (in front of the Hope House and behind the Ascension worship site) or by dropping donations off at one of the thrift stores. There are stores in Coraopolis, Castle Shannon, Monroeville, Penn Hills and Butler. These stores not only provide employment opportunities and low-cost items for sale, but they also supply our friends in need with free items!

When we meet new friends in need, we often find that they are lacking in clothing and/or basic household goods like pots, pans, silverware, towels or sheets. We are able to fulfill these needs by ordering a clothing voucher and a household goods voucher. A clothing voucher entitles the recipient, and everyone in their household, to obtain three free outfits from a St. Vincent de Paul thrift store. There is no cost to the conference for a clothing voucher.

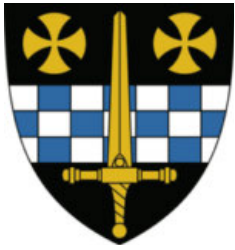
A household goods voucher allows a friend in need to obtain a certain dollar amount (usually \$50) of items from one of the thrift stores for free. The referring conference pays for the value of the goods that the friend in need “purchases,” but our money goes much further by allowing the friend in need to purchase

gently used items from our thrift stores than it would if we had to purchase new items.

In order to help the thrift stores to be able to continue the clothing and household goods voucher programs, you can shop at one of the thrift stores or make a donation of new or gently used clothing or household goods. Clothing, shoes and accessories (purses, scarves, etc.) can be placed in the blue bins in front of the Hope House and behind the Ascension worship site, or donated directly to one of the thrift stores. If the blue bins are full, please do not place your donations on the sidewalk or in the parking lot, as any donations left outside of the blue bins must be thrown away regardless of their condition. Household goods like pots, pans, lamps and towels must be donated at one of the thrift stores (they cannot go in the blue bins). To view store locations and hours, please visit <https://svdppitt.org/stores/store-locations-directions>. The stores are currently in need of donations of household goods! Thank you in advance for helping the needy in our diocese by supporting the Council of Pittsburgh, and for your constant support of the St. Philip Conference!

We still desperately need volunteers for our furniture mission, as well as donations of couches and loveseats. If you are getting new furniture and your couch or loveseat still has some life in it, please consider donating it to our friends in need. We are also once again in need of new full-sized sheet sets to give out when we give a friend in need a new bed. If you would like to volunteer or to schedule a pickup or drop off of your donation, 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 woman with \$120 toward her electric bill; a woman was given a \$50 household goods voucher; and a woman was given \$500 toward her rent. Thank you!



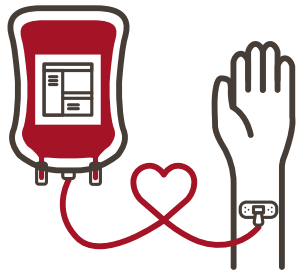
Around the Diocese and Community

ARCHANGEL GABRIEL PARISH BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, March 9, from 8:00am to 12:00pm in Weirauch Hall of St. Malachy Church, 343 Forest Grove Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108. To schedule an appointment to donate:

- Go to vitalent.org and search with Account Code UG0010059.
- Call 1-877-25VITAL.

Donate in March and be entered for a chance to win a \$5,000 gift card.



“INVITE ONE BACK” TRAINING

On **Saturday, March 15, from 8:00am until 4:00pm**, our Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh will offer a free, full day seminar to help active Catholic Christians “Invite One Back” to life in their parish and in the Church. Members of the organization Saint Paul Street Evangelization will give the presentations. This seminar will be held at Saint Bonaventure church of Saint Matthew Parish, 2001 Mount Royal Boulevard, Glenshaw, 15116. To register today, please visit stpaulse.com/IOB-Pittsburgh.

This FREE seminar includes presentations, materials, lunch, and morning hospitality. All are welcome!

CENTRAL CATHOLIC CREW'S IRISH NIGHT

You're welcome to attend a special fundraiser on **Tuesday, March 18 at 6:00pm** at Central Catholic High School. With great anticipation and gratitude, we invite you and your families to join us for a lively performance at our annual Irish Night-Row on for Brendan.

This evening, filled with Irish music and dance, is a tribute to Brendan Foley, who rowed for the school, and left this world a better place for his 15-and-a-half years of life. We are indebted to Brendan's family and friends for supporting the Central Catholic Crew program. The program has provided young men an opportunity to learn and compete in a demanding sport and represent Central Catholic on the national rowing stage. To purchase tickets, visit: www.irishnight.net/tickets.

BISHOP CANEVIN OPEN HOUSE

Bishop Canevin High School will open its doors on **Wednesday, February 26, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm** for prospective families to meet with faculty, staff, students, and parents. Experience first-hand how our students develop academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. The event is drop-in style and online registration is recommended.

For more information or to register, visit www.bishopcanevin.org/open-house.





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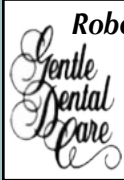
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