



# 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

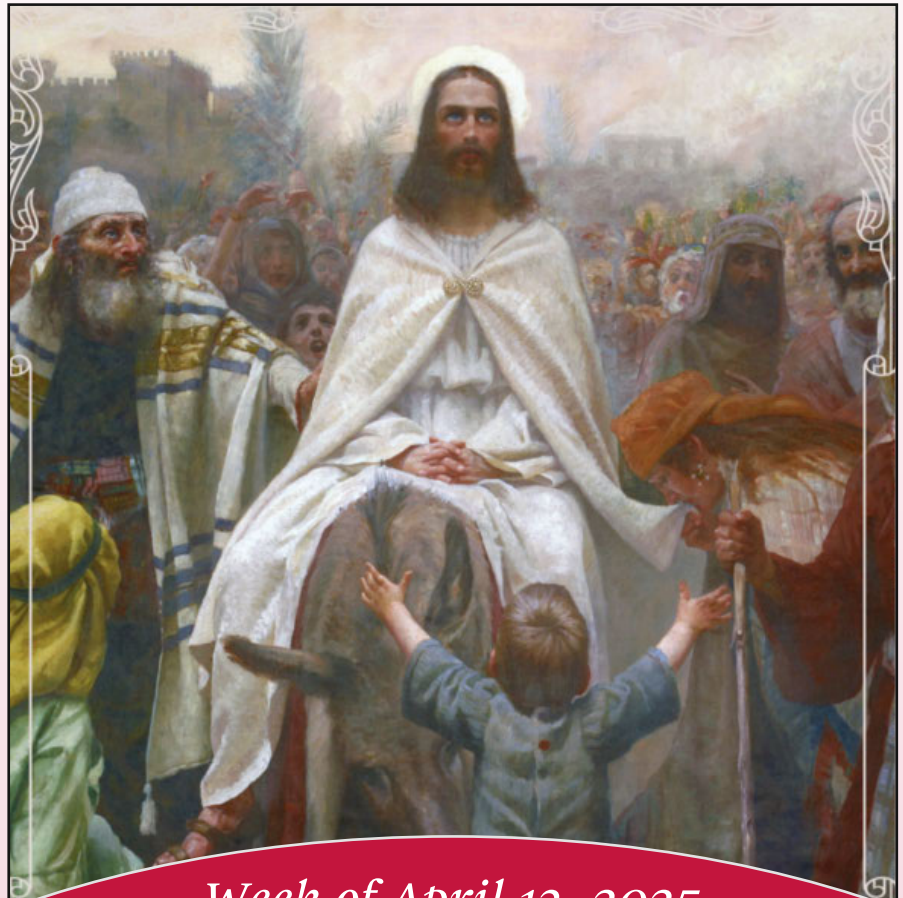
## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205  
 Website: [saintphilipparishpgh.com](http://saintphilipparishpgh.com)  
 Email: [parishoffice@saintphilipparish.com](mailto: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 April 13, 2025*

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

*Forty Days of Journeying to the Cross*

## 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
<b>SATURDAY, APRIL 12 — LENTEN WEEKDAY</b>			
Ascension	8:00am	Jerome & Helen Henkel	Jerome J. Henkel, Jr.
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Cecelia & Ignatius Cheke	Karen & Kevin Dadey
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Mr. & Mrs. Fred J. Askin	Daughter, Mary Ellen Askin
<b>SUNDAY, APRIL 13 — PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Deceased Members of the Phillips Family	Family
Ascension	9:30am	Howard Kelly	Marge Kelly
Saint Philip	11:00am	Patricia Rouguex	Catholic Alumni Club of Pittsburgh
<b>MONDAY, APRIL 14 — MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b>			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Ambrosic Family	Michael & Anne Louise Dailey
<b>TUESDAY, APRIL 15 — TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b>			
Ascension	8:00am	Steve Zamiska	Nancy Canino
<b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16 — WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b>			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of Saint Philip Parish	
<b>THURSDAY, APRIL 17 — HOLY THURSDAY   MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b>			
Saint Philip	7:00pm	Bernadette "Annie" Kersting	Ascension Morning Mass Family
<b>FRIDAY, APRIL 18 — FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD   GOOD FRIDAY</b>			
Saint Philip	12:00pm	Stations of the Cross	
Ascension	1:30pm	Commemoration of the Lord's Passion	
Ascension	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross	
<b>SATURDAY, APRIL 19 — HOLY SATURDAY   EASTER VIGIL</b>			
Ascension	12:00pm	Blessing of Easter Food	
Saint Philip	7:00pm	Living & Deceased Members of Saint Philip Parish (Easter Vigil)	
<b>SUNDAY, APRIL 20 — EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b>			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Michael & Mary Dolansky	Dolansky Family
Saint Philip	9:30am	Patty McDermott	David
Ascension	9:30am	Paul Korol	Wife, Claudia Korol
Saint Philip	11:00am	Arlene Ramolt	Husband, Ron



# Notes from the Pastor

**Welcome to our celebration** of the Lord's Day this Palm Sunday as we begin Holy Week during our Jubilee Holy Year 2025!

## Commemorating Palm Sunday and Holy Week

**For the past 37 days, we've been observing the Holy Season of Lent** during which we've made progress in our life of holiness, penance, prayer, and charity on our individual and community journey toward a deeper life in the Lord Jesus - and toward our eventual sainthood. I truly hope that each of us - and all of us - have benefitted from a good Season of Lent.

**Now, we come to our commemoration of Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion** when we remember Jesus' welcome and entry into the holy city of Jerusalem as well as His arrest, trial, suffering, and death on the cross. This the holiest week of the year because the events of Jesus' Death and Resurrection are at the very heart of our Catholic Christian faith. Jesus' Resurrection on the third day is the event which leads us - along with all of our ancestors and all Christians - to believe that Jesus is the divine Son of God, our Redeemer, our Savior, and our Lord!

**This Sunday, as we recall how the people of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus into the holy city with great joy**, may we too acclaim Jesus in our own words and in our very lives. As we remember Jesus' final days and the events of His suffering and death, may we draw close to Him and remain faithfully at His side. Then next Sunday - and for the 50 joyful days of the Easter

Season - may we celebrate with great gladness that the Father and the Holy Spirit did indeed raise Jesus from the dead. The Resurrection brings us to faith in Jesus as our Risen Lord. The Resurrection is our promise, assurance, and hope that we too will share in the Resurrection to everlasting life that has been promised to all the faithful departed on the last day.

**Please accept my best wishes for a prayerful Holy Week and a joyful Easter Sunday celebration and Easter Season!** Please be sure to join us for the Liturgies and services of this week - as well as for our Liturgies at the great Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday. Also, please consider celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week OR during the coming Easter Season. May God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you, your family, and our parish community with renewed faith - and faithfulness - this Holy Week and throughout the glorious Easter Season!

## Our Confession and Liturgy schedules for this Holy Week and Easter

**Please see our schedules in today's bulletin for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and for the Liturgies and services of Holy Week and Easter Sunday.** All of our members, families, friends, and guests are most welcome to participate in our observances and celebrations during this holiest time of the Christian year!

## Best wishes for a blessed Holy Week and Easter Sunday!

**May Holy Week, Easter Sunday, and this Jubilee Holy Year of 2025** be a blessed time of faith, hope, gratitude, prayer, renewal and reconciliation! May the Lord Jesus fill you and your family members and friends with peace, joy, health, holiness, and divine goodness. God bless!

Yours, Father Jim Torquato

# A PERSONAL EXAMINATION OF *Conscience*



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.**

## ***Lenten Reconciliation Schedule***

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) will be offered here in Saint Philip Parish this Lent during the following hours:

### **MONDAY, APRIL 14**

12:00pm - 1:00pm  
Saint Philip church

6:00pm - 8:00pm  
Ascension church

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 15**

12:00pm - 1:00pm  
Saint Philip church

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16**

12:00pm - 1:00pm  
Saint Philip church

5:00pm - 7:00pm  
Ascension church



The hours for the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter Sunday END on Wednesday, April 16.



### Palm Sunday, April 13

Isaiah 50:4-7;  
Philippians 2:6-11;  
Luke 22:14 - 23:56

### Weekdays

Isaiah 42 - 50;  
John 12-14

### Easter Sunday, April 20

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43;  
Colossians 3:1-4;  
Luke 24:1-35

**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, April 5-6 -- \$12,659.25\*

\* Includes Mail-in donations

Online donations, April 5-6 -- \$3,512.00

Maintenance donations -- \$92.00

Religious Education donations -- \$60.00

Campaign for Human Development -- \$3,163.77

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year -- \$861,064.00

Parish income received since July 1, 2024 -- \$572,186.01

Parish fundraising since July 1, 2024 -- \$40,219.45

Estate gifts received since July 1, 2024 -- \$500.00

General donations since July 1, 2024 -- \$21,781.46

Average weekly staff salary and benefits expenses -- \$5,885.13

Average weekly maintenance/operation expenses -- \$2,434.00

Average weekly utility expenses -- \$2,135.00

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 April 5-6 -- 686

Sunday envelopes used April 5-6 -- 293

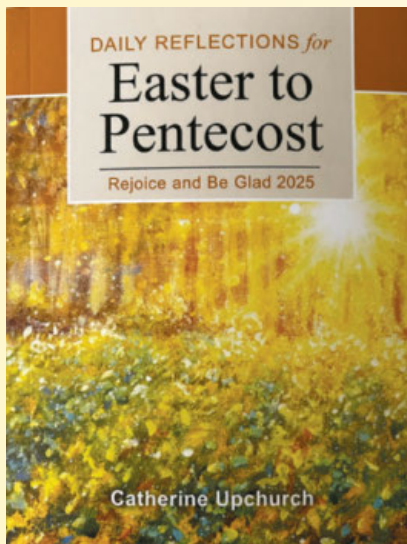
Total households receiving envelopes -- 1,058

2025 Parish Appeal Goal -- \$126,559.50

Parish Appeal received as of April 7 -- \$85,719.00\*

\* Includes online Parish Appeal donations

2025 Parish Appeal Donors -- 168



## Easter Season reflection booklets

As we approach Palm Sunday, Holy Week, the celebration of Easter Sunday, and the 50 days of the joyous Easter Season, NEW Daily Reflection booklets are available NOW at both of our churches for the Easter Season.

Easter is the season for us to celebrate joyfully the wonderful event of the Lord Jesus' Resurrection from the grave. Having become more faithful and holy disciples during Lent, the Season of the Resurrection is our seven weeks to renew our belief in the Resurrection. It is the season when we rejoice in this primary event and belief of Catholic Christianity.

Hopefully, our Easter Season Reflection booklets will benefit our parish community throughout these weeks.



# Saint Philip Parish News

## SOUP, SALAD & SPEAKER SERIES THANKS!

**Thanks so very much** to all our members and friends who participated in this year's *Lenten Soup, Salad and Speaker Series!* Our five evening meals and presentations have been a true blessing each week for nearly 80 parish members, friends, and neighbors as we accompanied Jesus this Lent.

**Once again, many thanks are extended** to all of our participants, to our many generous soup providers, to our Faith Formation staff and our Music Director, and indeed to our guest speakers - Sister Mindy Welding, IHM, Father Rick Thompson, Father Sam Esposito, Sister Carole Blazina, SC, and Deacon Tim Killmeyer who shared their Lenten insights with all those gathered. Blessed with a holy Lent, may all of you soon begin a joyful Easter Season!

## OUR ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

**As you know, every Good Friday**, all parishes and Catholic communities throughout the world take up a Collection for the Holy Land. This important effort provides funding and support to the Catholic parishes and programs located in Israel, the Holy Land of Jesus Christ.

**Your generosity will be greatly appreciated** as we together continue to maintain and support the holy places which honor the life, events, teachings, death, and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Your support will help to keep alive the Catholic Christian communities which continue to make present - in Israel - the Gospel and our Christian faith and life in the coming year. Thank you very much for your generous donation!

## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The disciples followed Jesus' careful instructions for His entry to Jerusalem, even though they did not understand His words. Today, we too, look ahead to His arrival. In obedience, let us prepare the way for the King.

## PRAYER FOR HOLY WEEK

Dear Lord, I open my heart to You, offering every day and night to You in sacred surrender. I pray for the grace to accompany You in a special way this Holy Week, joining and offering the trials I encounter on our shared journey to the cross .... and to a victorious hope.



## Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at  
St. Philip burns *In Honor of*  
*the Living and Deceased Members*  
*of Saint Philip Parish*

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at  
Ascension burns *in Loving Memory of*  
*the Deceased Members*  
*Haberman Family*  
Offered by Elizabeth



## XTREME CAR & TRUCK ACCESSORIES

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

## Saint Philip Catholic Parish LENTEN FISH FRY



**GOOD FRIDAY:**  
**3:00pm to 7:00pm**  
Ascension Church  
Conner Hall

Scan the  
QR code to  
find the  
menu online



## — A Memorial Opportunity —

### NEW shrine candles in Saint Philip church

**This month, in Saint Philip church, our parish will replace the shrine candles** located on the side altars dedicated to the Blessed Mother and to Saint Joseph. Most of the shrine candles on those altars were broken in recent decades, and so, as we continue to refurbish the small items of Saint Philip church, those shrine candles will finally be replaced.

**This purchase of 36 shrine candles presents a new Jubilee Year opportunity** for our parish members to contribute a memorial donation for these NEW shrine candles - and to add an inscription to one or more candles. We are purchasing 24 BLUE shrine candles for the Blessed Mother's altar - and 12 FROSTED shrine candles for the Saint Joseph altar.

**Since each candle base and glass container costs \$200**, a memorial donation of \$200 will fund one candle (*the base and the glass candle container*) on which we will place a printed label (*for example, "In memory of...", "From the \_\_\_\_\_ family...", "In thanksgiving for / from...", etc.*).

**If you would like to fund one or more shrine candles**, please complete the form below, and return the completed form along with your **\$200 per candle donation** (*payable to Saint Philip Parish*) to the parish office this month. The candles placed in each glass container will continue to have a donation of \$4. **Thank you for helping** to beautify the side altars of Saint Philip church - and for honoring and remembering your family and loved ones.

#### ***Request form for a new Shrine Candle at Saint Philip church***

Name of donor _____	Email address _____
Address _____	Telephone _____
Number of candles requested _____ ( <i>\$200 donation requested per candle</i> )	Blessed Mother altar _____ Saint Joseph altar _____
Amount of payment enclosed _____	
Inscription for each requested candle _____ _____	

All donors will be contacted to confirm your request.  
New shrine candles will arrive in the coming weeks!



# Faith Formation

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

**REFLECTIONS FROM MARYANN:** As we begin Holy Week, we take a look at 5 Things with Father Bill, by William Byrne. *“Holy Week is a power punch of grace. Starting with Palm Sunday and moving through Holy Thursday and Good Friday to Easter, each step is filled with signs and symbols that explain how deeply we are loved by God.”* Here are 5 ways to make every week a Holy Week:



- 1. “Hosanna to the Son of David.”** We hear this line from Matthew 21:9 on Palm Sunday. The crowds shout this when Jesus enters Jerusalem. A few days later they turn and we hear, “Crucify Him!” Their fickle nature should ring a bell. How is it that we can sometimes be so kind and other times be petty, jealous, gossipy, and grudge holding? We are made for love, yet often we choose otherwise. Pick the most persistent struggle, the thing you say sorry for the most, and decide to leave it at the foot of the Cross. Then start working to build up the opposite blessing. For example, if you are critical from time to time, start working on noticing and commenting on the good in others.
- 2. Washing of the feet.** On Holy Thursday, Jesus gives His church the priesthood, and He explains to His apostles how they are to lead through service. This model should be the basis for all we do. It’s not just priests who are ordained to serve, but all the baptized are to do so as well. In essence, we have been baptized to be inconvenienced. Go the extra mile: volunteer to help a homebound friend walk her dog, stop and talk to the neighbor even when you are feeling busy. Each inconvenience is a way for us to wash Jesus’ feet this time.
- 3. Take this, all of you.** With these words, Jesus gives us the Eucharist. On the Cross, Jesus offers Himself as a sacrifice for our sins. He gives us the Liturgy so that we can participate in His victory without having to die on the Cross ourselves. Our gifts placed on the altar become His gift to all humanity. He is truly present in body, blood, soul, and divinity. Try extra hard to be conscious of the great mystery and the gift we receive.
- 4. Easter Fire.** The Great Easter Vigil, the first Liturgy of Easter, begins with the lighting of the paschal fire. From it we light the paschal candle. The fire reminds us of God’s generous initiative in creating us and His overwhelming mercy of recreating us after we have sinned. Jesus is the light of the world. This year we should try to shine His light to the world. Light and snarky comments don’t go together. Greet people with a kind smile and avoid commenting to others when they don’t treat you the same way.
- 5. Holy Water.** At the Easter Liturgies we renounce sin, renew our baptismal promises, and are sprinkled with holy water. We recall our Baptism so that we can remember that it is this moment where we

became part of Christ for all eternity. Each time we enter church, we bless ourselves with holy water again. As we make the Sign of the Cross, we usually are looking for our seats while simultaneously checking out who is also at Liturgy. Try to be conscious in that moment that you are renewing your Baptism. Quickly renounce Satan and sin, and with a smile say, "I believe."

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS:** Faith Formation Family Night will be held on **Monday, April 14** at 6:30pm in Kelty Hall. The evening will begin with a spaghetti dinner followed by activities related to Holy Week and Easter.

**There is no Faith Formation on Monday, April 21.** Our next Faith Formation will be Monday April 28 at 6:30pm. Our lessons will focus on Pentecost and Divine Mercy Sunday.

## CONFIRMATION

Our *Confirmation Rehearsal* will take place on **Wednesday, April 23 at 6:30pm** at Saint Philip church. This rehearsal is an important preparation for the joyous celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

You are welcome to join us on **Sunday, April 27, at the 11:00am Liturgy**, as we welcome Bishop David Zubik who will celebrate the *Sacrament of Confirmation* at Saint Philip church. We look forward to sharing this special moment with all of you!

Come join us for the *Saint Philip Parish Family Retreat* on **Saturday, May 17, from 12:00 noon to 4:00pm!** Registration is open for this special afternoon of faith, fellowship, and reflection. The retreat begins with a catered lunch and includes family activities, a speaker for parents, games for children, snacks and an opportunity for family service. The afternoon concludes with Liturgy at 4:00pm. All families are invited to attend. Please call 412-922-6388 to register.

**MAY CROWNING:** You're invited to a special May Crowning ceremony on **Monday, May 5, at 6:30pm** in Saint Philip church. This event honors the Blessed Virgin Mary and unites our community in faith. Following the ceremony, we'll gather for an ice cream social featuring a variety of flavors from Bruster's, including a non-dairy option. **This will be our final Faith Formation session for the year until September, so we hope to see you there!**

**KITCHEN TABLE MINISTRY:** Join us on **Sunday, May 4 after the 9:30am Mass** in Ascension Church Conner Hall. We will have delicious donuts from Better-Maid Donuts, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. It's a great opportunity to meet new friends and renew old friendships. There will be blood pressure screenings, general information on wellness, and table conversations. We hope to see you there!

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK

**Sunday, April 13:** *Palm Sunday*

**Monday, April 14:** *Faith Formation Family Night* on Saint Philip campus from 6:30pm to 7:45pm

**Tuesday, April 15:** *Hooks & Needles* at 9:00am in Ascension's Administration Building

**Thursday, April 17:** *Mass of the Lord's Supper* at 7:00pm in Saint Philip church

**Friday, April 18:** *Stations of the Cross* at 12:00 noon at Saint Philip; *Commemoration of the Passion* at 1:30pm in Ascension; *Stations of the Cross* at 7:00pm in Ascension; *Fish Fry* from 3:00pm to 7:00pm Ascension's Conner Hall

**Saturday, April 19:** *Easter Vigil Rehearsal* at 10:00am in Saint Philip; *Blessing of Easter Foods* at 12:00 noon in Ascension; *The Great Easter Vigil* at 7:00pm in Saint Philip followed by a *Parish Reception* in Kelty Hall

**Sunday, April 20:** *Easter Sunday Liturgies* at 7:00am in Saint Philip; 9:30am in Ascension; 9:30am in Saint Philip; and 11:00am in Saint Philip



To begin the great Easter Vigil each year, we first welcome the new light of the Lord's Resurrection by blessing the Easter Fire and then lighting the Easter Candle (*the Paschal Candle*). Once the Paschal Candle is processed into the sanctuary, the Exsultet (*the Easter Song of Praise*) is then sung either by the clergy or cantors, choir, and assembly. Today, many parishes employ a more modern version of the Exsultet so that everyone can easily participate. However, so that you might read and know this beautiful, traditional Easter Proclamation, we present the complete Exsultet:

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.

Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of His glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

+ + +

Therefore, dearest friends, standing in the awesome glory of this holy light, invoke with me, I ask you, the mercy of God almighty, that He, who has been pleased to number me, though unworthy, among the Levites, may pour into me His light unshadowed, that I may sing this candle's perfect praises.

+ + +

It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and with devoted service of our voice, to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, His Son, His Only Begotten, Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and, pouring out His own dear Blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

+ + +

These, then, are the feasts of Passover, in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

+ + +

This is the night, when once You led our forebears, Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

+ + +

This is the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin. This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace and joining them to His holy ones.

This is the night when Christ broke the prison-bars of death, and rose victorious from the underworld.

O wonder of Your humble care for us!

O love, O charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave You gave away Your Son!

O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!

O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!

This is the night of which it is written: the night shall be as bright as day, dazzling is the night for me, and full of gladness.

+ + +

The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty.

+ + +

On this, Your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of Your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from Your most holy Church.

Therefore, O Lord, we pray You that this candle, hallowed to the honor of Your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven. May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star; the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ Your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed His peaceful light on humanity -- and lives forever and ever. Amen!

+ + +



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

**At the very heart** of our Catholic Christian life is gratitude! In fact, the word Eucharist means “gratitude, thanksgiving” in the Greek language.

**We give thanks to God** the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit quite often in our prayers and in the Liturgy. **It’s also very important** for us to thank one another often – perhaps even every day of the year and every day of our lives.

**Likewise**, it’s very important for our pastor, staff, and parish community to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to all our members and families who participate in and support the life of Saint Philip Parish... and so, “thank you all so very, very much!”

**Our Catholic parish community** (*along with our entire diocesan church*) exists for the benefit of the Lord’s people here in our local area – AND for sharing of the Good News and the building up of the presence of Almighty God – the Kingdom of God in our community.

**To all who participate in our parish life** – and to all who support Saint Philip Catholic Parish through your generosity, contributions, apostolates, ministries, and volunteer service – thank you so very, very much! It is by the divine grace of God – and your own goodness – that our parish continues to be both vital and faithful to the work of the Lord Jesus! God bless!

## SAINT PHILIP PARISH HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



### **Palm Sunday of the Lords’ Passion** **April 12-13**

Our usual weekend schedule

### **Holy Thursday, April 17**

*Mass of the Lord’s Supper*

7:00pm at Saint Philip church

### **Good Friday, April 18**

*Stations of the Cross*

12:00 noon at Saint Philip church

*Commemoration of the Passion*

1:30pm at Ascension church

*Stations of the Cross*

7:00pm at Ascension church

### **Holy Saturday, April 19**

*Blessing of Easter Foods*

12:00 noon at Ascension church

*The Great Easter Vigil*

7:00pm at Saint Philip church

### **Easter Sunday, April 20**

*Easter Sunday Liturgies*

7:00am at Saint Philip church

9:30am at Ascension church

9:30am at Saint Philip church

11:00am at Saint Philip church



## **CHARITY TO THE PASSIONIST SISTERS**

In this Lenten season of charity, our parish members are once again invited to share your kindness with the Passionist Sisters in Carrick who pray each day for us and for all members and parishes of our Diocese. The Sisters also provide for us the communion hosts which are transformed into the Eucharist at every Liturgy. Donation envelopes are located at the main entrances of both Saint Philip and Ascension churches. Thank you for your generous charity!



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all those who donated to our Lenten food drive over the last four weeks. We were once again overwhelmed by the amount of support that the St. Philip parishioners showed to our neighbors in need. This food will allow us to continue to serve the approximately 60 households to which we deliver food each month and the people that we deliver emergency food to on an as-needed basis.

We would also like to thank the students of Guardian Angel Academy for their generous donations to our food pantry from their food drive. Each grade collected a different item. We are very grateful that the students thought of our friends in need during Lent!

This is the last week to have your donations doubled by our anonymous donor, who has offered to match all monetary donations that we receive during Lent up to \$3,500.00. Thank you in advance for helping our friends in need this Lent!

**We are in need of a crib and a toddler bed for a friend in need.** If you have ones that are gently used that you would like to donate, please call or text our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email us at [svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com](mailto:svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com).

Over the past week, your generous donations enabled us to assist a woman with emergency food, a bed, and dressers; and a woman was given \$315 to avoid eviction. Thank you!

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please place your donation in one of the poor boxes, mail it to the parish office (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.

We are currently pausing dropoffs and pickups of furniture and appliances until we are able to distribute some of the items that we have on hand. We will let you know when we are able to accept donations again. If you would like to donate furniture, those donations can be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Central Council of Pittsburgh by calling 412-321-1071 ext. 2.

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 [www.vinnysvaluables.com](http://www.vinnysvaluables.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.

If you or someone you know needs help, contact our hotline at 412-444-8140 or email [svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com](mailto:svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com).

# Saint Philip Parish SPRING FLING BINGO



**SATURDAY  
MAY 10**

Doors open  
at 6:30pm



## OUR VERY FIRST SAINT PHILIP PARISH SPRING FLING BINGO!

On Saturday, May 10, Saint Philip Parish will host our very first Spring Fling Bingo in Conner Hall on the Ascension campus (114 Berry Street). Doors will open at 6:30pm, and the early bird game will be at 7:00pm.

The evening will include ten regular bingo games with cash prizes - as well as three special games, auction baskets, raffles, drawings, door prizes, and refreshments!

Admission and SIX cards will be \$20. Additional cards (*with a maximum of 12 total cards per player*) will be available. Each regular game will have a cash prize of \$100.

There will be a limit of 200 seats, and all tickets must be purchased in advance through the parish office.

**Treat your mother or grandmother** to this Spring Fling Bingo on the evening before Mother's Day!

Full information and registration forms will be made available beginning Saturday evening, April 12, in both Saint Philip church and Ascension church. Be sure to join us!



## MAY 10 BINGO VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED!

As our parish plans our first Spring Fling Bingo on May 10, the help of numerous adult and student volunteers will be needed! We're looking for kitchen volunteers, food service volunteers, and bingo game helpers.

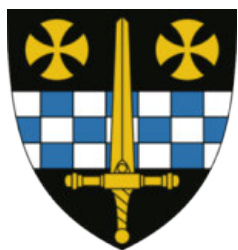
If you're interested and willing to help as a volunteer from 6:30pm until about 10:00pm on May 10, call the parish office (412-922-6300, ext. 5) and leave a message, OR email the office staff ([parishoffice@saintphilipparish.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintphilipparish.com)) this week. Thank you!



## MAY 10 BINGO DONATIONS ARE ALSO WELCOME!

If you and your family and friends would like to donate an Auction Basket or Gift Cards for our May 10 Bingo, call the parish office (412-922-6300, ext. 5) and leave a message for Denise Ball, OR email Denise ([d.ball@saintphilipparish.com](mailto:d.ball@saintphilipparish.com)) to discuss your interest in making a donation. Your support and contribution will be greatly appreciated!





# Around the Diocese and Community

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Join us at Epiphany Church of Divine Mercy Parish on **Sunday, April 13 at 4:00pm** for a free talk by Abby Johnson. After the talk, we will hold a Eucharistic procession to Planned Parenthood, then return to the church for Benediction. Call Nikki at 412-926-9413 or [nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com) for more details.

## LOCAL SCOUTS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST

This **Sunday, April 13, from 8:00am until 12:00 noon**, the local Scout Troop 148 will host a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser at the Crafton Community Center, 140 Bradford Avenue - enter the second floor from the parking lot. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for children under 10. Everyone is welcome!

## A HOLY THURSDAY INVITATION

Every year, on Holy Thursday morning in Saint Paul Cathedral, Fifth Avenue in Oakland, Bishop David Zubik presides at the annual Chrism Mass at 10:00am.

This is the annual Holy Week Liturgy during which all the priests of our Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh renew their ordination vows and recommit themselves to the work of the Lord and the Church. It's also the Liturgy in which the bishop blesses all of the Holy Oils used throughout the year in every parish of the diocese.

All members and families of the Diocese are welcome to attend and participate in the **Holy Thursday Chrism Mass on April 17, at 10:00am**, at Saint Paul Cathedral. You - and our bishop and all gathered - will truly appreciate your presence and participation!

## XANADU MUSICAL AT BISHOP CANEVIN HIGH SCHOOL

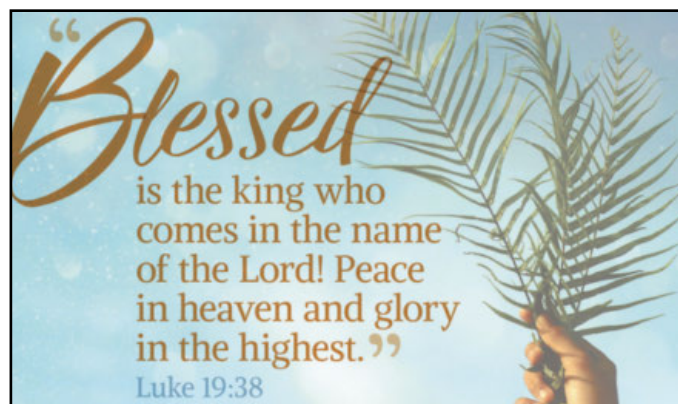
This coming **April 24-26**, Bishop Canevin High School, 2700 Morange Road, will present the hit musical XANADU based on the popular 1980 movie. You're invited to attend this energetic and romantic musical event — complete with roller skating! Contact Bishop Canevin Catholic High School at 412-922-7400 OR [www.bishopcanevin.org](http://www.bishopcanevin.org) for information and tickets!

## A WEEKEND RETREAT FOR HEALING

Rachel's Vineyard is a weekend retreat for women and men who struggle and suffer from the emotional and spiritual wounds of abortion. It will be held **April 25-27**, at The Ark and the Dove near North Park. The retreat begins at 1:00pm on Friday. In a confidential and supportive atmosphere, the retreatant will find the love and acceptance of the retreat team and will experience the healing peace and love of Jesus. To register or for more information, call Toni Jester at 412-352-5348, or email [toniafj1@comcast.net](mailto:toniafj1@comcast.net) or visit [www.rvofpgh.com](http://www.rvofpgh.com).

## FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY CONFERENCES

Franciscan University of Steubenville offers a variety of faith-filled conferences throughout the year, designed to inspire and strengthen the faith of Catholic Christians locally and across the nation. For more information, including details about the upcoming summer conferences, visit [steubenvilleconferences.com](http://steubenvilleconferences.com) and register in the coming weeks.





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