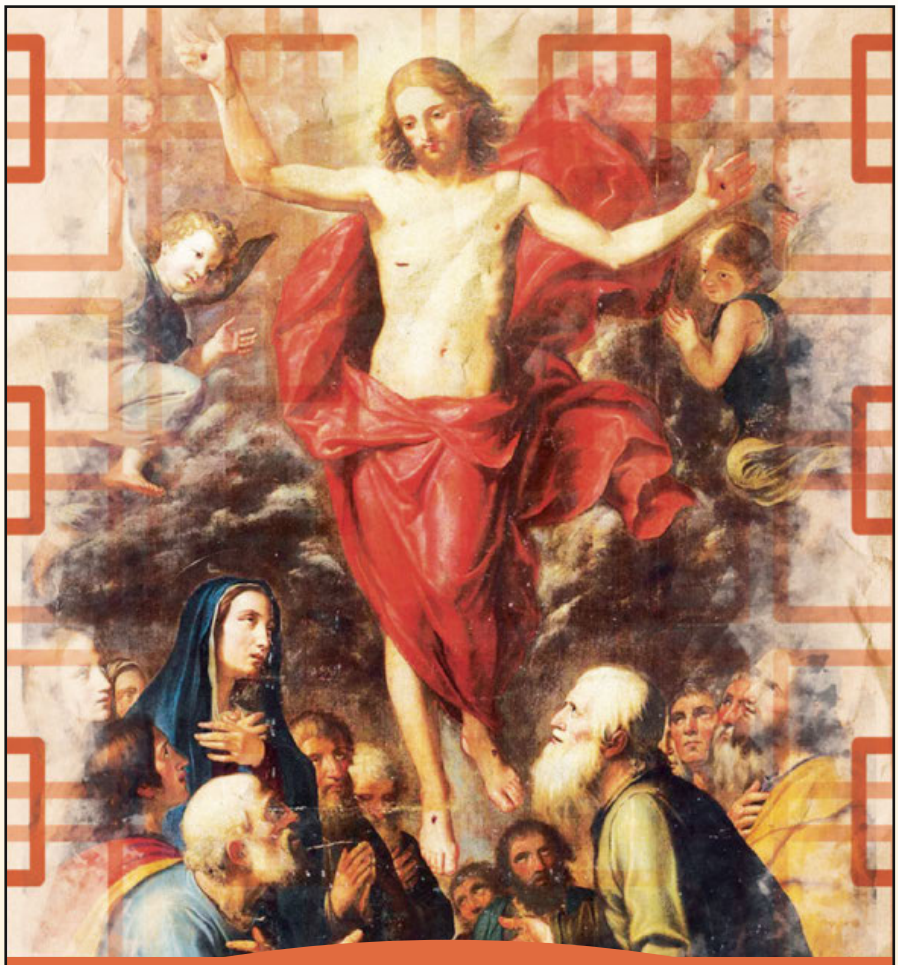
Saint Philip Catholic Parish

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



Week of June 1, 2025

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus ascended to God the Father

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

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, MAY 31 — THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY			
Ascension	8:00am	Mary & Ed Goyke	Janine & Mike Wilson
Saint Philip	4:30pm	Bernard & Helen Bannon	Pat & Al Bannon
Ascension	5:30pm	Felix & Ottley Rodgers	Pat Rodgers
SUNDAY, JUNE 1 — SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Chuck Buzon	A Friend
Ascension	9:30am	Paul Korol	Wife, Claudia Korol
Saint Philip	11:00am	Donald Scholz	Susan Fontana
MONDAY, JUNE 2 — SAINTS MARCELLINUS AND PETER, MARTYRS			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Adam Kinzler	Jeff & Karen Tomcik
TUESDAY, JUNE 3 — SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS			
Ascension	8:00am	Anita L. McNabb	Marge Bradwell
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 — EASTER WEEKDAY			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Francis Schneider, Jr.	Jean H. Schneider
THURSDAY, JUNE 5 — SAINT BONIFACE, BISHOP AND MARTYR			
Ascension	8:00am	Living & Deceased Members of Saint Philip Parish	
FRIDAY, JUNE 6 — SAINT NORBERT, BISHOP			
Saint Philip	8:00am	Greg Wilson	Family
SATURDAY, JUNE 7 — EASTER WEEKDAY			
Ascension	8:00am	Helen Demma	Tom & Family
Saint Philip	4:00pm (Vigil)	Martin & Sweeney Families	Cathy O'Connor
Ascension	5:30pm (Vigil)	Helen Demma	Judy Moskovitz
SUNDAY, JUNE 8 — PENTECOST SUNDAY			
Saint Philip	7:00am	Robert J. Dulick	Jacob & Carly Dulick
Ascension	9:30am	Anna Marie & Peter Mozzetti	Debbie & Frank Dietz
Saint Philip	11:00am	Joe & Dorothy Chmiel	Chmiel Family

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





Notes from the Pastor

In this holy Easter Season, we continue to celebrate the Lord Jesus' Resurrection during this joyous Jubilee Holy Year 2025!

From the Ascension to Pentecost

During these 50 days beginning Easter Sunday to Ascension Thursday to Pentecost Sunday, we hear and read the Acts of the Apostles every Sunday and every weekday of the Easter Season. Compiled as the story of the Church in our earliest years, the Acts of the Apostles are a most inspiring account of the faith and the life of the Apostles – and all who joined them in the earliest years of Christianity!

Saint Luke wrote the Acts of the Apostles as well as the Gospel of Luke to share with believers around the Roman Empire – as well as with subsequent generations – the wonderful story of Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus the Messiah. Saint Luke the Evangelist has also given to us the amazing story of Jesus' followers as he tells us about their faith, evangelization, ministry, charity, and the growth of those first Christian communities.

Today, we may simply take for granted that there are more than 2 billion baptized Christian disciples of Jesus throughout the world. Yes, 1 in every 4 human persons is a baptized disciple of Jesus – with 1.3 billion Catholic Christians, 500 million Eastern Orthodox Christians, and 500 million Christians of the Protestant communities.

Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the disciples of Jesus have become so numerous and so important to all of humanity and to human history. As our ancestors and we have together grown the presence – the Kingdom – of God in these twenty centuries, all of humanity has benefitted from the Gospel of the Lord – and the love of God – that is faith and our way of life!

This amazing reality began with one teacher – Jesus of Nazareth – who initiated the fullness of God's presence and divine love in our world – and by whose death and Resurrection we have been redeemed and given the promise of Eternal Life. From that humble beginning of Jesus' ministry, the world and humanity have been transformed and made better. In turn, the Church of the Lord – the People of God – is been called to the fullness of life and salvation in Christ Jesus. From that humble beginning, we have come to proclaim Jesus as the Son of God, the Lord, and our Savior!

As we arrive at Pentecost Sunday next week on June 8 (the official conclusion of this Easter Season), may we be truly grateful for our Catholic and Christian faith as well as the life and community that is the Church. May we continue to rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus every day of our lives. Finally, may we implore the Holy Spirit to inflame the souls and the lives of all disciples so that we will be renewed in our faith and will share the Good News of the Lord Jesus with all our family members, relatives, friends, and neighbors!

Best wishes for the final days of the Easter Season

May this final week of the holy Easter Season, and Pentecost Sunday, and the entire Jubilee Holy Year of 2025 continue to be a blessed time of faith, hope and thanksgiving!

Yours, Father Jim Torquato

Our New Saint Philip Church Shrine Candles

Thanks to these generous donors, new shrine candles will soon be received from the Root Candle Company and will be placed on the side altars in the Saint Philip church sanctuary. A Memorial note will be permanently attached to each candle. Our sincere and grateful thanks are extended to these parish members and friends:

BLESSED MOTHER'S ALTAR
Donor/s and Memorials

Bonnie & Dick Anton,
In memory of the Bantley Family
Bonnie & Dick Anton,
In memory of the Anton Family
Janet Barekzai,
In memory of the Drozak Family
Jane Beistel,
From the family of Jane Beistel
Lillian Brandimarti,
In memory of Phillip R. Brandimarti

Barb & Tom Bronder,
In loving memory of Amy Naegele from the Bronder Family
Diane Chuckro,
In memory of Frank, Helen & Gloria Chuckro
Eileen Cox,
Living and Deceased members of the Stewart Family
Dennis & Linda Fauth,
Dennis & Linda Fauth
Paul & Kelly Fico,
In memory of the Bird, Fico, Favero, & Morris Families

Paul Kaczmarek,
Anna Kaczmarek
Paul Kaczmarek,
Theresa Kaczmarek
Paul Kaczmarek,
Harry Kaczmarek

✝✝✝

Knights of Columbus,
Living and Deceased members of Knights of Columbus, Chartiers Council #875
Deborah Kostosky,
In loving memory of Anthony & Dorothy Kostosky

Dolores Leone,
In memory of Francis Anthony Leone
B. David McDermott,
Patty Wolbert McDermott
Lilla Mikush,
In memory of the Mikush & Berner Families
Evelyn Moses,
In honor of our wedding, Alexander & Evelyn Moses, 1960
Barbara Pfender,
In memory of Si & Rita Pfender

The Seitz Family,
In memory of Mickey & Bob Seitz
The Solt Family,
In loving memory of Bill & Carol Solt

Gabrielle Yingling,
In memory of Alma & Bill Yingling
Joyce Zamiska,
The Stephen Zamiska Family

✝✝✝

SAINT JOSEPH ALTAR
Donor/s and Memorials

Janet Barekzai,
In memory of the Barekzai Family
Jane Beistel,
From the family of Jane Beistel
Lillian Brandimarti,
In memory of J. Edward Brandimarti
Eileen Cox,
In memory of Edward & Mary Stewart
David G. Dulick,
Living & deceased members of the Dulick Family

Knights of Columbus,
Living & Deceased members of Knights of Columbus, Chartiers Council #875
Nancy & Art Matt,
In memory of Frederick & Grace Meny
Nancy L. McKnight,
In memory of Harry Holmes Jr. (Butch)
Evelyn Moses,
In memory of the wedding of Austin & Mary Denk, May 15, 1934
The Mulkerrin Family,
In memory of Pauline

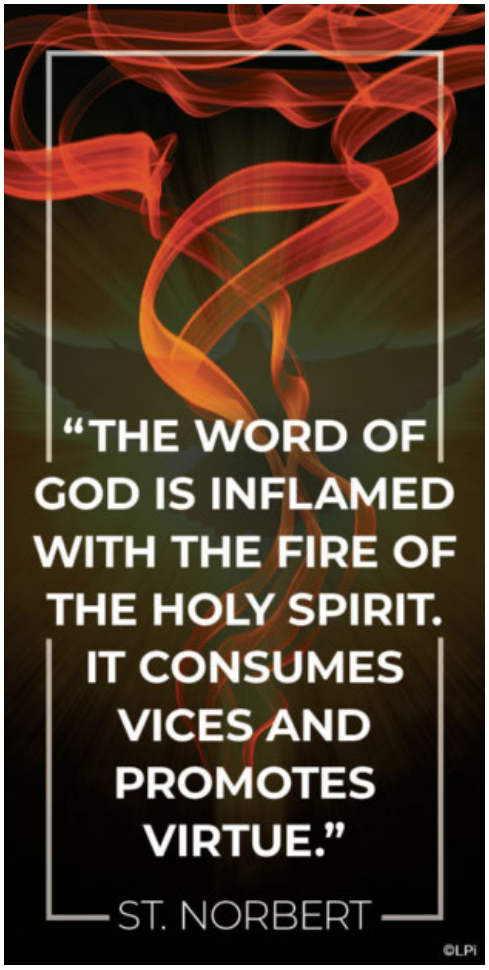
Barbara Pfender,
In memory of Paul Meehan
Valerie Stahurski,
In memory of husband, David Stahurski, from Valerie



Sunday, June 1
Acts of the Apostles 7:55-60;
Revelation 22:12-20;
John 17:20-26

Weekdays
Acts of the Apostles 16-18;
John 15-16

Pentecost Sunday, June 8
cts of the Apostles 2:1-11;
1 Corinthians 12:3-13;
John 20:19-23 OR John 14:15-26



FINANCIAL REPORT — OUR SAINT PHILIP PARISH FINANCES

Sunday collections, **May 24-25**	-- Next bulletin
** Includes Mail-in donations*	
Online donations, May 24-25	-- Next bulletin
Maintenance donations	-- Next bulletin
Religious Education donations	-- Next bulletin

Parish income needed for this Fiscal Year	-- $861,064.00
Parish income received since July 1, 2024	-- $650,125.76
Parish fundraising since July 1, 2024	-- $101,232.89
Estate gifts received since July 1, 2024	-- $500.00
General donations since July 1, 2024	-- $22,181.46

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 May 24-25	-- 681
Sunday envelopes used May 24-25	-- Next bulletin
Total households receiving envelopes	-- 1,058

2025 Parish Appeal Goal	-- $126,559.50
Parish Appeal received as of May 25	-- $104,833.00*
** Includes online Parish Appeal donations*	
2025 Parish Appeal Donors	-- 276

One person each year...

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

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

Parish News

EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION AND ADORATION

This coming Saturday, June 7, from 8:30am until 9:30am at Ascension church, our parish will hold our monthly time of prayer and thanksgiving in the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. 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!



A BELOVED PENTECOST TRADITION SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Each year, as we mark the joyous celebration of Pentecost Sunday—the grand conclusion of the Easter Season—our Church family embraces a special tradition: wearing the color RED as a symbol of the Holy Spirit's presence and power.

As we prepare to celebrate next weekend, may all of God's people rejoice in the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Let us call upon the Spirit daily in our prayers, inviting guidance, strength, and renewal into our lives.

EUCHARISTIC AND MARIAN SERIES

All are invited to our Eucharistic and Marian series beginning **Friday, June 13**. The evening will start at 6:30pm with Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, including a hymn and the rosary. At 7:30pm, we will show a 30-minute DVD about Our Lady's apparition in Champion, Wisconsin—the only approved Marian apparition in the United States.

Join us in this Jubilee Year for a night of prayer and reflection, honoring Our Lord and His Mother. This 5-part series features DVDs from Michael O'Neill's EWTN program, The Miracle Hunter. Sponsored by the Legion of Mary.

KEEPING EVERYONE UP TO DATE

As you know, throughout the past 20 years, the Church in the United States and in many other countries has mandated the Safe Environment Program for the protection of young children and vulnerable adults. This program is required of all clergy members, church and school staff members, and all volunteers who have contact with children and teenagers. *Our Safe Environment Program also complies with the requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

Our parish Safe Environment Coordinator, Mr. Gary Urbatis, is working to help all those enrolled in this most important program with the completion of the program's requirements. *As you also know, some of the Pennsylvania state requirements need to be renewed every 4-5 years.*

When you're contacted regarding any items that are needed from you or a family member, please respond within one week to requests from Gary Urbatis. The Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh maintains a complete database for every parish and school, and each parish and school is regularly reminded of those individuals who need to complete some of their requirements. As such, for the sake of our Saint Philip Parish community, please help us to achieve and maintain full compliance with the Safe Environment Program. Thank you very much!

SAINT PHILIP LADIES OF CHARITY
—TOGETHER, WE NOURISH HOPE—

Every 4th Thursday of the month at 10:00am, the Saint Philip Ladies of Charity gather at the SPS cafeteria with one mission: making 250 sandwiches to help feed those in need. Their efforts support Mercy Hospital's Operation Safety Net, bringing comfort and nourishment to the homeless in our community.

Want to lend a hand? Everyone is welcome to join in! If you'd like to contribute, we also gladly accept individually wrapped snacks or monetary donations during that time. Together, we can make a real difference—one sandwich at a time!





LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Father, they are Your gift to me." This is what Christ says of His disciples. It is what He says of us. "I wish that where I am, they also may be with me." Do we have the courage to be where Christ is? Can we be the gift?

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY

Prayer of Christian Unity

Help us to be one, Lord Jesus, as You prayed to the Father. Gather us all to You, diverse in culture, gift, call, way of life, and perspective. May the love we have for You overflow into the love we have for each other. Amen.

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

Your goodness and participation help to keep our parish alive!

Rest in Peace

We offer our sympathy to the family of **Maria Irene Bey** who entered into eternal life. Please keep her in your prayers

Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at St. Philip burns *in Loving Memory of* ***Harvey & Ivy Valentine***
Offered by: Esie Nagy & Family

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at Ascension burns *in Loving Memory of* ***Francis Schneider***
Offered by Jean H. Schneider

ADVERTISER of the Week

KEVIN SCHMITT CONCRETE

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

DONATE ONLINE

Make donating easy!

Your regular online contributions to Saint Philip Parish are encouraged and always welcome!

You can send your weekly donations through our *We Share!* internet service at **www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/saintphilipchurch**

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
Search "Saint Philip Church"

Faith Formation

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



REFLECTIONS FROM MARYANN: In elementary school we often were asked to write an essay titled, *"What I Did on My Summer Vacation."* It made me think that I would take this opportunity to write, *"What I Learned on My Trip to Washington, D.C., and Emmitsburg."*

1. **The Church is really one big family**. When we were at the Saint John Paul II Museum, I encountered a Sister of Our Lady of Mercy, a member of Sister Faustina's Religious Community founded in Poland. The community was founded to share the news of God's Mercy by helping women whose lives were in need of deep moral conversion and renewal. The sister's love of Christ and her belief in God's Divine Mercy was so evident in her conversation with me. She directed me to the exhibit of Sister Faustina where I discovered that the foundress of Our Lady of Divine Mercy Religious Community came to the United States to study and learn from the Sisters of Charity.

2. **The expression of our faith can be discovered in beautiful artistic representations which invite us to a deeper prayer experience**. The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception has over 80 chapels and oratories. Each of these chapels is different and each invites one to prayer and meditation in a different way. Some use color, some use light, some use water, some use unique materials and some use style with contrast.

3. **God loves each of us as unique and special individuals**. Many people shared their prayer experience and their awareness of God speaking to them through their direct experience at the Shrines. Some were touched in a special way through the Liturgies. Some were touched at the Lourdes Grotto as they recalled their relationship with Mary. Others were touched by the courage and faith of John Paul II's story and Elizabeth Ann Seton's story.

4. **Each of us has a story**. As we traveled together these 2 days, I was touched by the sharing of time together. Some shared how God helped them through a difficult illness. Others shared their experience of God in times of uncertainty. Still others shared their experience of God in times of discovery and joy. All shared the belief that God is with them on the journey. Most of all, I was moved by the kindness and compassion among one another. People shared food, umbrellas, encouragement, physical assistance and laughter.

Thanks to all who joined us on our first two-day trip with Saint Philip Travel Ministry. We invite all to consider joining us in the future. Look for future trips in the bulletin. Why not join us and bring a friend.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS: Our Faith Formation program is growing, and we are in need of catechists for the 2025-2026 year. We are looking for individuals to teach second grade, lead a small fourth-grade class of seven students, and provide faith-based instruction for children with special needs. If you feel called to this ministry, please contact MaryAnn Garfold at 412-922-6388.

Saint Philip Parish also offers faith formation for preschoolers, including a program for ages 3 and 4 and Kindergarten. Classes are held on Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 7:45pm and incorporate engaging activities, faith-based learning through letters, colors, and numbers, and opportunities for young children to develop prayerful practices. Families can enjoy monthly dinners, followed by interactive learning experiences designed for parents and children alike. The program also fosters a sense of community through social events such as festivals, Mardi Gras celebrations, and ice cream socials.

Registration for the 2025-2026 session is now open! If you'd like to enroll your child, please contact the Office of Faith Formation for a registration form. We look forward to welcoming you and your family into our growing community.

FAMILY RETREAT

On Saturday, May 17, Saint Phillip Parish families gathered for a Family Retreat, sharing lunch, faith-filled activities, and a talk by Holly Mohr from the Diocese of Pittsburgh. While parents engaged in discussion, children enjoyed games. The day wrapped up with a service project for the homebound, with heartfelt thanks to the Legion of Mary for delivering gift bags.






Summer break is here! Time to unwind and enjoy the lighter side of Summer. This week, we bring you:



Joe figured out a way to remember his wife's birthday and their wedding anniversary. He opened an account with a florist and told him to send flowers to his wife on those dates, along with a note signed, "Your loving husband." His wife was thrilled by the attention, and all was great until one anniversary. Joe came home, saw the bouquet, kissed his wife, and said, "Nice flowers. Where'd you get them?"

The biggest loser at my weight-loss club was an elderly woman. "How'd you do it?" we asked. "Easy," she said. "Every night I take my teeth out at six o'clock."

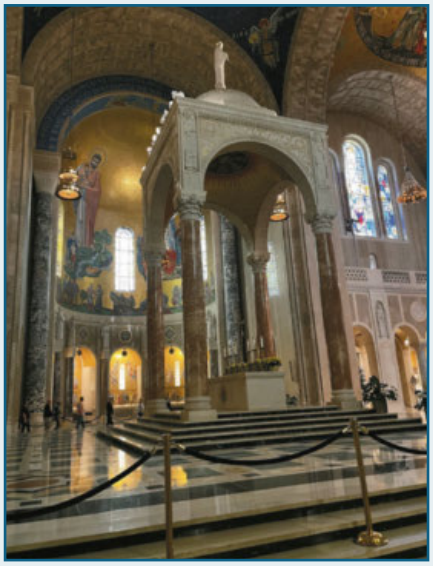
Our Jubilee Holy Year
PILGRIMAGE





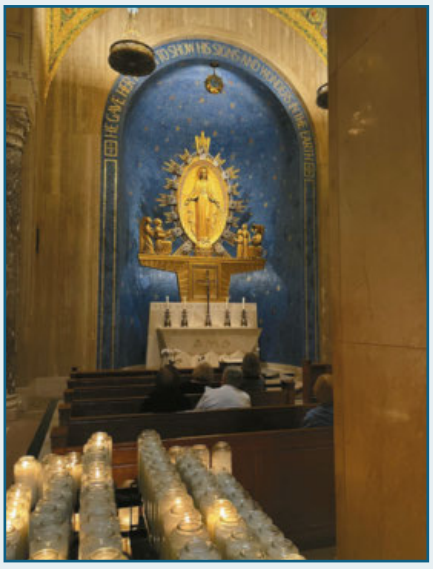
During the days of May 20 and 21, our parish hosted a Holy Year Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., and Emmitsburg conducted by Wendt Touring of Wintersville, Ohio.

Thirty-five pilgrims, including parish staff members and Father Jim Torquato, traveled by motorcoach to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C., as well as the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes and the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg – along with a brief visit to Gettysburg, Pa.



Our excursion as parish pilgrims was inspiring and amazing as we visited and prayed in these important holy places of faith and prayer and worship. Many thanks to all who traveled with this Travel Ministry pilgrimage – as well as to MaryAnn Garfold, Linda Bey, Father Torquato, and David Wendt of Wendt Touring for organizing this wonderful Holy Year adventure!









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PENTECOST SUNDAY

"When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim." Acts of the Apostles 2:1-4

Next Sunday, June 8, we will once again celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Thanks to the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus, the Christian faith and our Catholic Church came to life. Thanks to the divine gift of the Holy Spirit – sent to us by Jesus – our faith and the church have brought the true Kingdom of God into our world.

From the first moment of the amazing Pentecost event, when the power of the Holy Spirit inspired the Apostles and disciples, we have all been blessed by the work of the Spirit throughout these past twenty centuries.

It was the Holy Spirit who inspired the first Apostles to courageously proclaim the life, message, death and Resurrection of Jesus to all who would listen. It was the Holy Spirit who added countless new disciples to the Lord's community in the early years. It was the Holy Spirit who guided and inspired the Apostles as they lead the church in the first years – and as they made truly important decisions in the early church.

It was the Holy Spirit who inspired the writing and compiling of the New Testament Gospels and Letters. It's been the Holy Spirit who has continued to inspire our Christian faith in the hearts of billions of Jesus' disciples. It's always the Holy Spirit who gives to us our Baptism and the Eucharist – and all the Sacraments. It's the Holy Spirit who inspires us even now to courageously proclaim and share our faith with others. Throughout the life of the church, the Spirit has also guided: the development of our Catholic Christian faith, the authoritative teachings of Church councils, and the selection of our shepherds – especially the successor of Saint Peter – the Pope, the Holy Father.

The Holy Spirit has brought the Good News and the presence of God to all lands and to all generations. Likewise, it's the Holy Spirit who comes to us when we ask for the grace, guidance, and strength of God. Grateful for all that the Spirit of God has done for us, may we continue to praise and bless the Holy Spirit, and may we continue to call upon the Holy Spirit of God on Pentecost Sunday and, in fact, every day in our prayer!

Ministries & Societies

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY UPDATE

Recipients of SNAP (also known as food stamps) can ride public transportation in Allegheny County for 50% off! Pittsburgh Regional Transit (formerly PAT) provides the Allegheny GO program, which is designed to make public transit more accessible to low-income Allegheny County residents.

In order to qualify for the 50% off fares, you must live in Allegheny County, be between the ages of 12 and 64, reside in a household that has been receiving SNAP benefits for at least 3 months, and either have the Ready2Ride app downloaded on your smartphone or have a Connect Card. The Ready2Ride app is free and is available for both Apple and Android phones. The 50% discount can be used for 3-hour passes, weekly passes, or monthly passes.

For more information on the Allegheny GO program or to sign up, call 412-255-1381 or visit https://discountedfares.alleghenycounty.us.

We are in need of a crib and toddler bed for a friend in need. If you have one that is gently used that you would like to donate, call or text 412-444-8140 or email us at svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com.

Over the past week, your generous donations enabled us to assist a woman with $473 toward her electric bill; a woman was given $400 toward her security deposit; a woman was given a gas stove and other furniture items; a woman was assisted with $279 to avoid a water shut off; a woman was given a couch and other furniture items; a woman was given a $100 Connect Card to get to work; a man was given $185 to avoid a gas shut off; a woman was assisted with $500 toward her security deposit; and a woman was assisted with $616 toward her mortgage payment. It was a busy week, and we couldn't have done it without your generous support; 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 pick-ups 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. 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.

Need assistance? Call or text 412-444-8140 or email us at svdp.saint.philip@gmail.com.

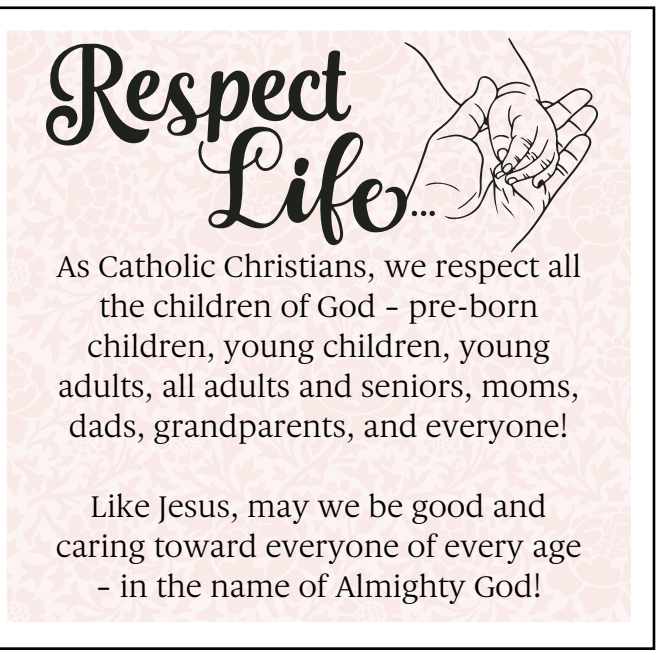
Around the Diocese and Community

GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT CHIMBOTE

On **Monday, June 2**, the annual golf outing to support the Pittsburgh Catholic medical mission in Chimbote, Peru will be held at the South Hills Country Club in Whitehall. Participants will enjoy a full day of golf along with lunch, course beverages, skill prizes, a driving range, and dinner. For more details, or to register, visit www.chimbotefoundation.org.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR COMMUNITY WALK

On **Saturday, June 14**, the Little Sisters of the Poor will host a *"Walk for a Healthy Community"* at Acrisure Stadium as a fund raiser for their ministry. You can support their work by either a 5K walk or a 1 mile walk. Strollers and wheelchairs are also welcome. Registration is at 7:45am, and the walks begin at 9:00am. Visit www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org today to register or to donate.



FORTY HOURS DEVOTION IN CASTLE SHANNON

This coming **June 21-23**, Saint Anne church (400 Hoodridge Drive, 15234) of Saint Paul of the Cross Parish in Castle Shannon will host Forty Hours of Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration. Everyone is welcome to visit for an hour or more of silent prayer in the presence of the Lord found in the Blessed Sacrament. For further information and to register for a specific time, visit www.stpaulofthecross.com this week.

ENCOUNTERING THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

During the days of **July 12-18**, the Little Sisters of the Poor in Brighton Heights will welcome young women of college age to be immersed in the work and prayer and life of their Religious community. The week will include service and ministry, community meals and prayer, and a time for discernment. If you or a young woman you know is interested, please email Serenity@LittleSistersofthePoor.org for full information and an application this week.

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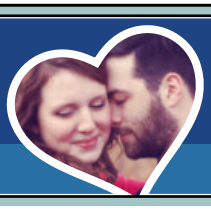

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