

ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

430 SOUTH MAIN STREET · PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER · MAY 10, 2020

Fr. John J. Barbella----- Pastor / ext. 407

Fr. Wojciech Kusek ---Parochial Vicar / ext. 403

Deacon John Flynn

Deacon Enock Berluche

Deacon Larry Bevilacqua

Deacon Rob Fisher

Nancy Ensley -----Parish Secretary

Maria DeSapio -----Bookkeeper

Mr. Paul Kucinski-----Sacred Music

Mr. Michael Clark-----Parish Cemetery
Superintendent

Phone: 908-454-0112

Fax: 908-454-0125

Website: spsj.org

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 8:00 am -
4:00 pm (closed for lunch
from 12:00 - 1:15 pm)

Also, Monday, 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Saints Philip & James School

908-859-1244

Mrs. Donna Kucinski, Principal

Religious Education (CCD)

908-859-1244, option 9

Mrs. Jo-Ann Scott, Director

HOLY MASS

Every Catholic who is able has a serious obligation to worship God at Mass on Sunday or Saturday evening.

Saturday Evening

4:30 pm (fulfills Sunday obligation)

Sunday

7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am; 1:00 pm (Spanish)
& 5:30 pm

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday: 6:45, 8:00 am &
12:10 pm in the Church

Serra Club Mass: 1st & 3rd Tuesday at
6:00 pm

Tuesday: 7:00 pm (Spanish) in the Church
(2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month)

Saturday: 8:00 am in the Church

BAPTISM

Infants should be Baptized as soon as possible. Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

CONFESSION

Pope Saint John Paul II, of blessed memory, said: "Anyone who goes frequently to Communion, must also go frequently to Confession." Saturdays, **9:00 - 9:30 am** and from **3:15 - 4:15 pm** or by appointment with one of the priests.

FOR MARRIAGE & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

Please call the Church Office.

DEVOTIONS

Adoration: Monday - Saturday, 8:30 am-11:00 pm; Sunday, 12:00 pm-11:00 pm (Chapel)

Novena (Miraculous Medal): Monday at 7:00 pm (Chapel)

Divine Mercy Prayer Group: Wednesday at 7:00 pm (Parish Meeting Room)

Legion of Mary: Tuesday at 9:00 am & 6:30 pm (Mercy Hall)

Alimenta de Vida RCC: Tuesdays at 7:00 pm (Church)

Blue Army Prayer Group: Thursday at 7:00 pm (Chapel)

Cenacles of Life: Tuesday at 7:00 pm and Saturday at 11:00 am in the Chapel

RCIA

Anyone interested in becoming Catholic should contact the Parish Office about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults—a process which helps adults and older teens learn and ultimately enter the Catholic Church. Fr. John directs this process in our Parish and will be happy to help you in this regard.

IMMIGRATION SERVICES, CATHOLIC CHARITIES - DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

Office has relocated to 700 Sayre Avenue, Phillipsburg, NJ. Hours are Mondays only from 1:30 - 7:00 pm. Services are provided in English and Spanish. For information, please call 908-777-3730.

May 9 – 10, 2020 Happy Mother’s Day

I want to begin by wishing a very Happy Mother’s Day to all the mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and special women of our parish. Everyone who reads my words in the bulletin knows how much my mother means to me. I’m sure that’s true for all of us. There is a place in our lives that only a mother can fill.

As Catholics, we believe that’s true not only for us as individuals, but as a Church as well. The Acts of the Apostles – the book of the Bible that tells us about the very first days and years of the Church after Jesus ascended to Heaven – makes a point of saying that, when the disciples gathered at prayer, “among them was Mary, the Mother of Jesus” (Acts 1:14). Mary’s presence was important to the Church from the beginning!

That said, this will indeed be an unusual Mother’s Day for many of us. Concerns about health – especially for those whose mothers are elderly – will preclude many people from being with their mothers this Mother’s Day. I’m sure everyone will find a way to speak to mom on the phone – or whatever works for your family. Let’s also take time this Mother’s Day to pray to our Blessed Mother asking her to intercede with her Divine Son for our dear mothers, living and deceased. While we’re at it, let’s ask her to strengthen our faith and lift our spirits until things get back to normal.

On the good news front, I’m happy to report that we reached the goal of \$30,000 for our Easter collection this year. A very generous donor matched that amount by donating \$30,000 to that collection – which is just wonderful. Please say a prayer for him today, if you will.

I’m sure I don’t have to tell you how helpful a gift like that is at this time. I want to thank not only the generous donor who matched the rest of the collection - but everyone who gave any amount at all. Every gift – large and small – helped us reach our goal. Thanks – and God bless you!

Some more good news – although not surprising to you and I – is something I read the other day. The Pew Center for Research – which does a lot of research about religious issues and topics in America – found that faith is helping people cope with the current pandemic. Eighty eight percent of those who go to Church regularly said that their faith is helping them stay positive and maintain their hope at this time. They even found that the more regularly people attended Church – the more their faith has helped them at this time!

Another interesting finding in the research is that among US Catholics, only 2% reported their faith weakening during the pandemic – while 27% said their faith has been strengthened. 63% said their faith was essentially unchanged. Again, the research found that the more

regularly people attended Mass and prayed before the pandemic, the more likely they were to find their faith strengthened when the crisis hit.

This, of course, does not surprise us. We who practice our faith know that – like our mothers – Jesus Christ fills a place in our lives that no one else can. He gives us a kind of strength that we find no place else. He – especially by His Resurrection – gives us hope in the midst of every Cross that comes our way. For this, may we always be thankful.

Like always, please pray a Hail Mary for me today and every day. Pray also for our moms, for the sick, and for an end to this pandemic.

Have a great week!

Fr. John

MASS INTENTIONS:

The priests are offering Masses privately for all the Mass Intentions that are scheduled thru May 31st.

PART TIME HELP NEEDED

We are currently seeking part time janitorial help. Please call 908-454-0112 and speak to Cindy DePillo (ext. 406) or Bill Casey (ext. 402) for more information

WE ARE CHECKING OUR RECORDS!

Do we have your most recent contact information?
Please provide your family last name:

Name of each person living in your home who is also a parishioner and their date of birth. (Include his/her last name if it is different than the family last name):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Use a separate paper for additional family members.

Current address: _____

Email: _____

Main Phone Number: _____

Mail this form to the church at 430 S. Main St., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 or drop it off at the Church office during business hours.

Thank you!



St. Philip & St. James School
137 Roseberry Street
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 (908) 859-1244 – <http://sspjnj.org/>
Follow us at:
facebook.com/sspjschool

SAINTS UPDATE:

Enrolling now! Sts. Philip & James School educates students as young as 2, 3, and 4 years old through grade 8. We pride ourselves on providing a safe learning environment where your student receives individualized attention from certified teachers. We have a special education program for students who need extra assistance in reading and/or math. We stay up to date with the latest technology by using Google Classroom and STREAM programming. Come discover why it is GREAT to be a Saint.

Referral Incentive

We are thrilled to announce we will once again be offering a referral incentive for our current families. How does it work? Refer a family, and if that family enrolls and completes the 2020-2021 school year, your family will receive \$500 off your tuition in May of 2021. Please note only one family may receive credit for each new enrolling family. This is a great way to defer the cost.

Thank you!

We would like to thank all of our teachers and staff for the hard work they have been putting in to assist with our transition to online learning. We would also like to thank our exceptional parents who have been doing everything possible to assist with this transition for their students. We are so thankful to have such a wonderful community.

Position available:

Junior High Language Arts and Religion Teacher (This is for 2020-2021 school year). Please contact Mrs. Kucinski at Kucinski.donna@spsj.org to apply.

Showcasing our First Responders, Healthcare Professionals, & Essential Workers

Thank God for First Responders, Healthcare Professionals, & Essential Workers! We would like to showcase pictures of all of these great individuals that are working on the front line every day to help us through this pandemic. If you would like to share a picture of any of these outstanding people from our SSPJ school family, please send a photo to Sierra Fenton at fenton.sierra@spsj.org so that we can share them on social media and on our website. We applaud them & pray that they stay safe!

Save the Date!

We are excited to announce that our Saints Sprint 5K run, walk, and children's fun run will take place Saturday, October 3rd. Registration is now open on Pretzel City Sports. We will also be hosting a FREE fun run for the kids following the 5K run/walk. Following the morning's activities, we will be hosting a day long festival complete with performances by Billy Bauer Band, Jimmy and the Parrots, and more.

50/50 Raffle

We were able to extend the cash raffle until October 3, 2020 (at the Saints Sprint and Octoberfest). Raffle tickets may be purchased and returned until that day! Please email Mrs. Kucinski if more raffle tickets are needed.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

"A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor." (Proverbs 22:9. Remember – "Food for the Needy" Collection - First Sunday of each month.

LEGION OF MARY LIBRARY

May is the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Legion of Mary Library has a wonderful selection of books & videos for the entire family to choose from. Although the library is currently not opened, please see information on formed.org below where similar resources can be found.

FORMED...A GREAT WAY TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH!

FORMED is a collection of Catholic Bible studies, talks, movies, and other programs for people who want to learn more about their Catholic Faith. Anyone in our parish can access it by following three simple steps: (1) Google formed.org. (2) Scroll down to where it asks if your parish already subscribes and indicate yes. It will ask you to enter your parish code, which is GMKZ4Q (all capitals). (3) You will then be asked to set up your own account by establishing your own password.

COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with JESUS in the BLESSED SACRAMENT..." St. Padre Pio.
Eucharistic Adoration hours currently in need: Mondays at 2pm, 3pm, & 5pm; Tuesdays at 3pm, 5pm & 10pm; Wednesdays at noon; Thursdays at 4pm & 6pm. Fridays at noon, 2pm, & 10pm; Saturdays at 8am, 9am, 10am, 3pm & 6pm; and Sundays at 1pm, 2pm, 3pm & 4pm...or an hour of your choice and/or on our substitute list. Phone Camille at 908-319-2719.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." (1 Peter 2:7)
Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called "charisms" and they are used to build God's Kingdom on earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember – no gift is too small or insignificant in God's salvation plan.

24 HOUR PRAYER LINE

Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a 24 hour prayer line for those who desire prayer for special needs. If you, a family member, or friend would like to be remembered in prayer for a temporary or permanent illness, please call us and leave a detailed message at 732-765-6431 or send an email to our office:
catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com

THE PRAYER CORNER

FOR THE BUSINESS OWNER

Lord, my business was booming just a few weeks ago, and now there are no customers walking through the door. I'm feeling the weight of having to make decisions that will affect my family and employees. I may have to lay off some of my workers. They all have families and bills to pay. I feel so helpless. Please give me wisdom as I make these tough decisions. Please give me compassion as I have these tough conversations with my employees. Help me to be an example to them, to show them that I trust you to provide for us even in these dark times. I don't know what that will look like, but I believe it to be true. Father give us courage as we face uncertainties and above all, I pray I glorify you in my response to this crisis. Amen

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the safety and health of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

NURSING HOME TEAMS

All Care Centers are currently under quarantine. No services will be held.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY/CATHOLIC CHARITIES

The monthly Food for the Needy Collection will continue to be held the first weekend of every month. However, **please consider giving as often and as generously as you are able as the need continues to grow. Sadly, the pantry shelves are quite empty, and the need for food and personal care items is at an all-time high.**

Catholic Charities is asking everyone who donates food during this pandemic to please bring his or her donations directly to the back door of the donation center. This is located on Spruce Alley between So. Main St. and Sitgreaves Street between Stockton and Jersey Streets. Once there, you will see a white garage door with number 387 on it. To the left of the garage door there is a doorbell; ring the bell and someone will open the garage for you to leave your donation inside the garage. **Due to health department regulations, no donations are to be left at the front door of Catholic Charities at this time.**

Donations can be dropped off during Catholic Charities business hours. Please indicate that you are from St. Philip & St. James.

Also, we were asked to notify everyone that the thrift store is closed at this time and **the only donations being accepted are food and personal care items.**

If you have any questions, or to verify hours of operation, please call Catholic Charities at 908-859-5447.

Thank you for your continued generosity! God Bless.

MOTHER'S DAY

Please find in the church "A Book of Mother's Prayer" and a bookmarker entitled "A Mother's Day Blessing". Please feel free to pick one up and pass it along to your mom, grandmother, godmother, or a friend. Along with these will be the Mother's Day Church Envelopes for your use. If you have any questions please call the church office at 908-454-0112.

WARREN COUNTY RESIDENTS, WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

The Food Pantry is Open & Curbside Pick-up is Available

387 South Main Street, Phillipsburg
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10am - 3pm
Friday 1pm - 3pm

Please call 908-859-5447

Before You Plan to Arrive

+ MASSES FOR THE WEEK +

SUNDAY, MAY 10

7:00 – Julia Mudden by Family
9:00 – Angelo & Helen Nicolosi by Ann Nicolosi-Foose
11:00 – Mother’s Day Novena
1:00 (SP) – For the People
5:30pm – Ann Nehila by Mr. & Mrs. Edward Hassick, Sr. & Judith Hassick

MONDAY, MAY 11

6:45 – Mother’s Day Novena
8:00 – Richard Chidsey (A) by Wife & Family
12:10 – Anne Harrison by Paul J. Lanning
7:00pm – Mass Association Intentions

TUESDAY, MAY 12

6:45 – (Sp Int.) Nelly Espinal by Family
8:00 – Mother’s Day Novena
12:10pm – Greg Sharkey by SSPJ School

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

6:45 – Mother’s Day Novena
8:00 – Donna Fleming by Mom & Sisters
12:10 – Susan Allanson by Paul Lanning

THURSDAY, MAY 14

6:45 – Carmella Fisher by Richard & Kathleen Hoag
8:00 – Mother’s Day Novena
12:10 – John J. Natisin, Sr. by wife

FRIDAY, MAY 15

6:45 – Mother’s Day Novena
8:00 – Robert Fleming by Wife & Daughters
12:10 – Claudio Pengue by Graziosi Family

SATURDAY, MAY 16

8:00 – Mother’s Day Novena
4:30 – Anna Marie Cervasi (A) by John Cervasi

SUNDAY, MAY 17

7:00 – Mother’s Day Novena
9:00 – Mary Finegan by Family
11:00 – Virginia Rossnagle by Patrick Rossnagle & Son
1:00 (SP) – For the People
5:30 – Frances Flynn, Jr. by Yola & Enzo Marinelli

+ MASS ASSOCIATION INTENTIONS +

MONDAY, MAY 11 7:00pm

Richard Mantoni by Rosalie & John Spiller
Jean Imre by Staff of Phillipsburg Pharmacy
Herman Boos by Debbie & Joe Stefano
Betty & Bob Gentrack by Debbie & Joe Stefano
Charlene Patterson by Debbie & Joe Stefano
Millri & Joe Stefano by Debbie & Joe Stefano
Anthony Vangeli by Mary Greller
John Callery by Lorraine Loundenberg
William Weaver by Sister, Phyllis & Family
Eileen Volk by Donna & Paul Kucinski
Kenneth Dugan by Volk Family

**St. Philip & St. James Church
Prayer Intentions**

Prayer is needed now more than ever. Let us know how we can pray for you today. Your intentions will be lifted up in prayer by our religious as we face these uncertain times.

Please submit your prayer intention(s) in a few brief sentences and email them to secretary@spsj.org or mail them to St. Philip & St. James Church, 430 So. Main St., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 and mark the envelope as “Prayer Intentions.”

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6

Stewardship of Treasure

May 3, 2020: \$6,570.00
Easter 2020: \$27,210.00
Mother’s Day: \$885.00

March Online Contributions: \$12,056.50

Parish Capital Campaign

Total Pledged as of 4/3/2020 \$1,522,370.90
Total Collected as of 4/3/2020: \$1,096,299.57

Have you considered online giving?

*If interested in signing up for online giving, please go to:
<https://spsj.churchgiving.com>*

TECHNOLOGY SCAMS

The COVID-19 situation continues to result in the suspension of Masses, services and gatherings at our parishes. Gratefully we are beginning to review possible protocols for re-opening; whenever those civil executive orders are provided. In the meantime, one major innovative approach to remain engaged with our people has been an increase in virtual and digital communication to our parish communities.

Pope John Paul II prophetically described the advances in technology to present the Church a “new Areopagus” for the mission of evangelization. Yet, with these efforts, there unfortunately continues to be issues where scammers are increasingly attempting to take advantage, especially with the rapid technology learning curve created by this pandemic situation to steal personal information and money. The issue of scamming should neither deter nor prevent digital or virtual communication to our parishioners. Rather, I write to share with you information about scammers so that you remain aware and implement the necessary protocols to either prevent an incident and/or a parishioner falling victim to a scam.

Gratefully, our Office of Communications and Office of Information Systems have issued correspondence in recent weeks about how to prevent scammers taking advantage, tactics they are using and examples of where it has taken place. However, it is important to continue sharing this information with you in the hopes that you also find means to communicate it to you parish communities. Below you can find further information in this regard.

We must remain prudent in our efforts and continue to be a source of confidence and care during these times. Please call or email the Office of Information Systems for assistance in any of these matters or for further detail on prevention tactics. Bishop is grateful for all of your efforts to guide and protect your communities and to be a source of inspiration and evangelical zeal.

Here are a few tips that can help prevent the scammers from taking advantage of you:

- Be careful handling sensitive Information. Many people are working from home, and it’s crucial to maintain a high level of security with any sensitive information such as social security numbers, address information, legal documents, etc.
- Never share your personal and/or financial information on the phone or through email and/or text messages
- The government will never call you to ask for money

In addition, here are some examples of scare tactics scammers are using:

- Scammers may attempt to contact you regarding: ”free test kits to be delivered to your home” and warn you about “protecting your loved ones from the coronavirus”
- Scammers may offer help to pay student loans
- Scammers may attempt to make you believe they are from your local health department and scare you into believing you have come into contact with someone who has the coronavirus
- Scammers may use phishing emails that appear to be from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or the World Health Organization (WHO)
- Websites on the internet offering vaccine kits for a small shipping fee
- Scammers may attempt to go door to door requiring you to take a fake coronavirus test

The NJCCIC encourages recipients who discover signs of malicious cyber activity to contact the NJCCIC via the cyber incident report form at <http://www.cyber.nj.gov/report>

Helpful Reminders

- Beware of fake websites; it has been reported that a similar version of Johns Hopkins University’s Coronavirus Dashboard was created to spread malware and steal sensitive information.
- Beware of fake emails from fake medical experts claiming they have a cure you can purchase or spreading false information. **You may also receive emails from someone spoofing your workplace email (such as your HR department) that targets employees at our organization.**

As you are probably aware, anyone can spoof a link to be redirected somewhere else. Example: <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>

Scammers are very good at spoofing sender email addresses and create similar false websites to direct the unsuspected donors to donate.

Please see the below incidents in the diocese of Venice, Florida, and others:

<https://dioceseofvenice.org/warning-text-email-scam-alert-in-the-diocese/>

https://www.episcopalswfl.org/dfc/newsdetail_2/3196873

<https://stmarycharlevoix.com/email-scam-hitting-all-churches/>

<https://thecatholicspirit.com/featured/online-scam-targets-priests-parishioners/>

COVID-19 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES WARREN COUNTY:

Please consider informing your parishioners via your website/social media/email and/or other

Don't fall for it! Here's what to know and do:

- First, your pastor or associate pastor will never contact a parishioner directly with an emergency request for cash or gift cards. Messages asking parishioners to help fulfill a need would come through the parish's or the diocese's official communication channels or be accomplished through a collection approved by the diocese. If you're not sure about a text or email you've received, do not engage or respond and call your parish office right away to notify a staff member. In addition, please note that neither your parish nor the diocese will ever sell or give away parishioners' personal information.
- Often times with text messages, a scam can be identified by looking at the phone number.
- If you are contacted by a scammer, report it to your parish. If you can, capture screen shots of the correspondence on your phone or laptop and email those to the parish. File a report through the Federal Trade Commission's Complaint Assistant, which helps the FTC detect patterns of fraud and abuse.
- If you suspect that your Facebook account has been hacked, CBS News offers these [tips on how to tell if your account's been hacked and what to do about it](#), and Facebook offers these action steps for [hacked and fake accounts](#).

Other resources for reporting fraud and scams

[How to report things on Facebook](#)

[Scams and Safety \(FBI\)](#)

Father Timothy A. Christy,
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

Integrated Services

- Community CareLinks for case management support and linkage to Warren County resources (medical, mental health, food, housing, etc.) at 908-441-1561

Mental Health

- Family Guidance Center of Warren County for mental health/addictions at 908-689-1000; 24/7 Mobile Crisis Screening, call 908-454-5141.
- NAMI of Warren County at 908-619-9619 for family members seeking support for loved ones with mental illness.

Substance Use/Addictions

- Center for Addiction Recovery Education and Success (CARES) telephone recovery support services at 908-835-1800 or 908-319-8589.
- Parent to Parent for support and assistance accessing treatment services: 908-223-1951

NJMENTALHEALTHCARES

If you're concerned about your mental health or the mental health of someone you love, NJMENTALHEALTHCARES can help. The **free hotline** offers telephone counseling, information and referral and assistance to get behavioral health services. Call 866-202-HELP (4357); TTY: 877-294-4356 Monday through Friday 8am – 8pm. Deaf & Hard of Hearing please call 973-870-0677, Monday through Friday 9am -5pm.

HOTLINES

- REACH NJ connecting people to treatment for those with substance use disorder (regardless of insurance status) 24/7 at 1-844-732-2465 or www.reachnj.gov.
- NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE for prevention and crisis 24/7 at 1-800-273-8255
- COVID-19 QUESTIONS? Available 24/7:
 - Call 2-1-1 for general questions
 - Call 1-800-962-1253 for medical questions Text NJCOVID TO 898-211
 - Visit covid19.nj.gov

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