

St. Philip & St. James CATHOLIC CHURCH

430 SOUTH MAIN STREET • PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME † AUGUST 25, 2024

Mission Statement

To love God and neighbor by sharing our belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior through prayerful celebration of His Sacraments, ministering to all in need, protecting life, and welcoming all who come to us.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 8:00 am

Saturday & Sunday

4:30 pm, 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am; 1:00 pm (*Spanish*) & 5:30 pm

Weekday Masses: Monday - Friday:

6:45 am & 12:10 pm

Confessions: Saturdays 10:00 am & 3:15 pm

Adoration: Monday - Friday:

7:30 am—8 pm in the Chapel

Fr. Antony Arockiadoss *Pastor*

Nancy Ensley *Parish Sec./Bookkeeper ext. 401*

Fr. John Fredy Triana Beltran

Parochial Vicar ext. 403

Fr. Patrick Boyle *ext. 404*

Dn. Enock Berluche *Ext. 405*

Dn. Larry Bevilacqua *Ext. 405*

Dn. Rob Fisher *Ext. 405*

Dn. Francisco Jauridez *Ext. 405*

Escarlen Duran *Religious Ed. ext. 406*

Lisa Sforza *Sacred Music*

Sara Siano *School Principal*

Phone: 908-454-0112

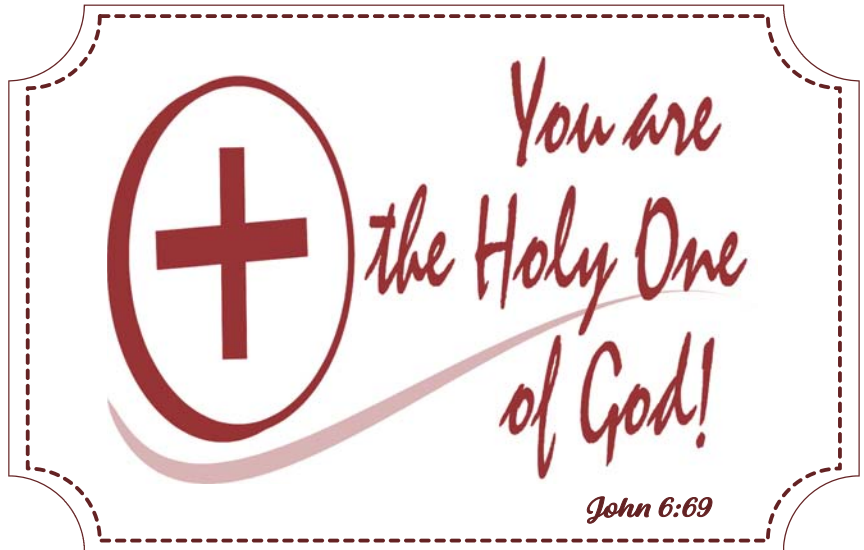
Fax: 908-454-0125

Website: www.spsj.org

Office Hours Mon.—Fri. 9am-12:30pm
(Closed for lunch) 1:00pm-4:00pm

Mondays & Fridays 3-5pm

(Para asistencia en español)



Baptism, Marriage and RCIA

Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 8/25/24

1pm Legion of Mary Curia Meeting in Mercy Hall & 2pm Empanada Sale in Front of the Church.

Mon. 8/26/24

7pm Spanish Charismatic Group "Aliento de Vida" in the Church. (Mass in Spanish 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.)

Tues. 8/27/24

9am Legion of Mary in Mercy Hall, 6pm Legion of Mary in Conf. Room, & 7pm Cenacles of Life & St. Peregrine Novena in the Chapel.

Wed. 8/28/24

Thurs. 8/29/24

7pm Blue Army Prayer Cell in the Chapel.

Friday 8/30/24

Sat. 8/31/24

7am-8am Men's Fellowship Group in PMR, 8:30am Prayers for Life, Liberty, & Marriage, & 9am-1pm Soup Kitchen in Mercy Hall.

Sunday 9/1/24

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Family!

We are concluding the final reflection on Jesus' teaching about the Bread of Life in the sixth chapter of John. In the Gospel, this Sunday we learn that hard teachings are often rejected and ignored by the majority of our society. Our faith is the answer to the evils of society. Peter showed his faith in Jesus when 'many of the disciples' left Jesus. This differentiates Peter from the mob culture. Peter would validate his faith in Jesus further by saying, 'Even if all these people leave you, I will not.'

The people of God are called to life. All were given freedom to choose between life and death. Every time we sin, we choose death and every time we do good we choose life. Jesus, when asking the disciples, "Do you also want to leave?" makes it clear that we all have freedom, and nothing is imposed. It is the way God created us. Life is choices. Love, anger, fear and courage are all life-choices. "Sometimes we choose the best-version-of-ourselves, and sometimes, we choose a –second-rate-version-of-ourselves. Our choices echo throughout our lives, and into history and on and on into eternity." (Matthew Kelly, *The Rhythm of Life*, p 4).

Is it easy to answer the question of Jesus, "Do you also want to leave?" We all have answered and said, "No we don't want to leave, we will stay." Now we have to be clear in answering this question. We stay with Jesus for a purpose. Now that we are sure who we serve, we ask, "Are we ready to serve God with all our hearts, our minds and souls?" How?

National March for Life in New Jersey & other important events:

For the first time the **National March for Life** organization is working with Pro-Life groups across New Jersey which will be hosting the New Jersey State March for Life on Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 11am. Please call the office for more information. The National Eucharistic Revival moves into missionary phase with the Walk With One campaign. This website <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/year-of-mission> explains this phase and provides the Playbook which is available online in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Thank you Fundraising Committee:

Our Fundraising Committee raised over \$2,500 last Sunday by hosting the Multi-cultural food event in our parish. Thank you all for supporting it. It was a big success! I thank Lissette Herrera, Magnolia Mateo and all the volunteers in helping them to make this event a success. All proceeds will go towards Catholic Education.

Pastor's Appeal:

I am forever grateful to all of you for your generosity. You are running this parish with all your heart and with great sacrifice! With your generosity two years ago, we raised over \$90,000 and you provided the much needed security alarm system for the school and also the much needed repairs to bring Mercy Hall to code with the installation of the fire doors. With the support of the Finance Council, I bring before you this year's Pastor's Appeal. The theme for this appeal is centered around our children. We want the best for our children and their future. With the Eucharistic Renewal this year, it would be a great mission and ministry to invest in our children. Please support this important appeal as letters were sent to all parishioners! I thank all of you for your generosity!

Welcoming and Praying for the New School Year!

The first day of school is Thursday, August 29th. Please visit the School Website for more information. Let us pray for all our teachers, staff and children.

Bishop's Appeal:

My sincere thanks to all of you for supporting our Bishop's annual appeal 2024. So far we have pledged \$64,846 which is 83% of our goal (\$78,000). Thank you for your generosity. I strongly encourage you to support our Bishop and all the people who are going to be benefitting from this appeal.

Fr. Antony

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th - TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – Alice Mauren by Mary Lilly
 9:00 – Michael A. D’Anthony by Notaroberto Family
 11:00 – Samatha Pesaresi by Deacon Larry & Carol Bevilacqua
 1:00pm (SP) – Sebastian Garcia-Castro by Children
 5:30pm – *Sp. Int. Blanca Peña & Family by Nolasco Family

MONDAY, AUGUST 26th

6:45am – Irene Benatti by Benatti Family
 12:10pm – Scott Reda by Volk Family
 7:00pm – For the People

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27th - St. Monica

6:45am – Mahoney Family by Dieu Mahoney
 12:10pm – Vera & Jack Kane by Family

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th - St. Augustine

6:45am – Charles Young Sr. by Children
 12:10pm – Rose & Andrew McCluskey, Sr. by Marcella Snyder & Family

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29th - The Passion of St. John the Baptist

6:45am – Arleen Pelletier Heuess by Tina Holly
 12:10pm – Epifanio Cuvo by Charles & Maryann Decker

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30th -

6:45am – Deceased Members of the Kirby, Mulholland, & Verdon Families by Family
 12:10pm – Christine Conkey by Kathy Clemente

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31st -

8:00am – Mr. & Mrs. James Franceschino by Family
 4:30pm – Timothy Balas by Family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st - TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – Mahoney Family by Dieu Mahoney
 9:00 – Margret A. Pavkovic by Pam & Keith Pensabene
 11:00 – Kimberlee Pisarek by Breann & Emilee Pisarek
 1:00pm (SP) – *Sp. Int. Hayley Narvaez by Jessica Kemmerer
 5:30pm – Ania Niedbala Gut by Marie Chisman


Stewardship

August 18, 2024	9,173.72
Online Giving:	<u>2,648.00</u>
	11,821.72
The Assumption:	2,101.00
Saints Philip & James School:	1,066.00
Various Collections:	35.00

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

August 31 st		
4:30pm	Acolyte	Josh Romero
	Lector	Mary O’Sullivan
	Minister	Thomas Casey
	Minister	-
	Server	Chimbuzo Odimma
	Server	Chiezimuzo Odimma
September 1 st		
7:00am	Acolyte	Dominic Russo
	Lector	Lisa De Gerolamo
	Server	Brett Bruckman
	Server	Anthony Stefano
9:00am	Acolyte	-
	Lector	Susan Gerhardt
	Minister	Anne Coyle
	Minister	Maria Gural
	Server	-
	Server	-
11:00am	Acolyte	Joseph Cruz
	Lector	-
	Minister	Eileen Catalli
	Minister	Pat James
	Server	Gabriel Sretenovic
	Server	Luke Sretenovic
1:00pm	Lector	Anyelina Rodríguez
	Lector	Oscar Dilone
	Minister	Martha Lam
	Announcements	Giovanni Lam
	Server	-
	Server	Ayeisha Jauridez
	Server	José Jauridez
5:30pm	Acolyte	Anthony Ventura
	Lector	R. Craig Ellis
	Server	-
	Server	-

NURSING HOME ASSIGNMENTS



Lopatcong Nursing Home: 8/25 Magnolia Mateo.
Brakeley Nursing Home: 8/25 Deacon Francisco.
Phillipsburg Care Center:

2024 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal:	\$78,000.00
Total Pledged :	\$64,846.25
Total Received:	\$64,162.50
Over/under Goal:	(\$13,153.75)
Percent of Goal Pledged:	83.14%
Percent of Goal Received:	82.26%
Avg. Gift Amt.:	\$310.27

Around the Parish

Faith Formation News

Registration for the 24-25 SPSJ Faith Formation Year is open. Please visit our website at spsj.org to register as soon as possible.

Classes begin September 10th

Contact Mrs. Escarlen Duran (PCL) at 908-454-0112 x406, if you have any questions.

COME JOIN THE SPSJ YOUTH CHOIR AND SING, SING, SING!



Our Youth Choir sings once a month at the 9:00am Sunday Mass of every month starting on October 6th. Weekly practice will begin on Sunday, September 8th from 10:00am to 10:20am! Please sign up by calling Lisa Sforza 908-310-3495!

SPSJ ADULT CHOIR



Adult Choir Practice will begin August 29th on Thursday evening from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at the church. We will sing at Mass starting on Sunday, September 8th at the 11:00am Mass. If you are interested in joining the choir, please call Lisa Sforza at 908-310-3495, or email me at: elisasforza1625@gmail.com

WELCOME TO THE PARISH FAMILY



Last weekend we welcomed to the Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism, Wyatt Josephine Duaiame daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William Duaiame.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are donated by Deacon Larry & Carol in Memory of Samatha Pesaresi.



HOLY HOUR



All are welcomed to come together for a Holy Hour on September 6, 2024 (First Friday) at 6:00pm in the **Chapel**. Let's spend an hour with our Lord as a community.

Pray for the Sick

James Tersigni, Jamey Perrone, Lorraine Wonder, Rosa Zevallos, Manuel Venegas, The Pulecio Family, Charlotte Meglic, Shirley Emery, Theresa Adams, Brett Marino, The Quesada-Rocha Family, Janet Duran, Bob Hoesley, Steven Hille, Frances Fulse, Bill Coyle, Laura Rinaldi, Richard Dalrymple, Mauricio Castro, Eric Godleski, Jaxson Rand, Martha Richline, Owen McCaffery, Grace Epo, & Rich Dantine.

Pray for our Military

Christian Finizio, Jack Pike, Michael Vega, Gianni Luzzetti, Lt. Colonel Abigail Gage, James B. Collins, Spec. Theodore Bill, Billy Erz, Andrew N. Zellers, Seth Reyes, Bryan Malizzi, Paul C. Hesch, Luis Quizhpi, Jason Erz, Staff Sargent Kevin Jiorle, Lt. Commander Dominique D'Anthony, & Major Joseph Skopowski.



Please help us keep both prayer lists up to date, contact the parish office when changes occur. Thank you & God Bless.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS



The dedicated volunteers of the St. Philip & St. James Soup Kitchen handed out 181 meals to individuals in our community this past weekend. Thank you to all that help feed those in need and all who donate, we truly appreciate it! We are in need of store bought cookies, pudding cups, as well as peanut butter and jelly. Please drop off your donation on Saturdays from 9am to 11am in Mercy Hall.

DEACON'S CORNER

If you haven't had the chance to read the articles on this subject from the last 3 weeks, I recommend accessing them first before proceeding. You can find the articles online on our website's bulletin section. Reading the articles will provide you with important background information to better understand the content that follows.

Heaven: Our Ultimate Destination

Heaven is the final article of the "Four last things," and it prompts a profound question: "When you die, where will you be going?" Many people might respond with uncertainty, saying, "I am not sure" or "I hope to go to heaven." However, the positive and right answer should be, "I am going to heaven." But how can one be so sure of this promise?

First and foremost, it is essential to recognize that God wills our eternal happiness. As Scripture teaches us, "We were created to love God, serve Him, and be with Him for all eternity." This divine intention underscores that heaven is not just a possibility, but also a purpose woven into our very existence.

Furthermore, God desires our presence in heaven so profoundly that He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to ensure our salvation. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus shows us the way to eternal life. He paid the ultimate price for our sins by shedding His blood on the cross, offering us a path to redemption.

To guide us on this journey, God has given us the Holy Spirit. The Spirit leads, empowers, and strengthens us, helping us navigate the challenges of life. Additionally, the sacraments play a crucial role in our spiritual journey, particularly the sacrament of reconciliation. This sacrament allows us to return to grace after we have stumbled, reaffirming our commitment to the path toward heaven.

Ultimately, the only barriers to our entry into heaven are our own choices. We must strive to live a holy life, making decisions that align with God's will. The Holy Trinity desires our salvation, and deep down, we share that desire. This truth settles the matter: our final destination is heaven, where God, the Blessed Mother, all the angels and saints, and our holy beloved departed ones await us.

Let us earnestly ask for the grace to reach heaven directly. It is my heartfelt prayer that we will all be reunited in that glorious place, where there is no pain or suffering, but only peace, joy, and love in the presence of God.

Remember that Jesus loves you and so do I.

Cheers...Deacon Enock

MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK

August 25 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 27 - St. Monica – Memorial

August 28 - St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church - Memorial

"I would like to return to the meditations on the Fathers of the Church and speak today of the greatest Father of the Latin Church, St Augustine. This man of passion and faith, of the highest intelligence and tireless in his pastoral care, a great Saint and Doctor of the Church is often known, at least by hearsay, even by those who ignore Christianity or who are not familiar with it, because he left a very deep mark on the cultural life of the West and on the whole world. Because of his special importance St Augustine's influence was widespread. It could be said on the one hand that all the roads of Latin Christian literature led to Hippo (today Annaba, on the coast of Algeria), the place where he was Bishop from 395 to his death in 430, and, on the other, that from this city of Roman Africa, many other roads of later Christianity and of Western culture itself branched out."

"Today, we shall focus on his life, which is easy to reconstruct from his writings, in particular the Confessions, his extraordinary spiritual autobiography written in praise of God. This is his most famous work; and rightly so, since it is precisely Augustine's Confessions, with their focus on interiority and psychology, which constitute a unique model in Western (and not only Western) literature—including non-religious literature—up to modern times. This attention to the spiritual life, to the mystery of the "I", to the mystery of God who is concealed in the "I", is something quite extraordinary, without precedent, and remains forever, as it were, a spiritual "peak"." (Excerpts from the General Audience of Pope Benedict XVI on Wednesday, 9th January, 2008)

August 29 - Passion of St. John the Baptist - Memorial

"Everything about him surpasses human speech, and the only-begotten Son of God witnessed to him and honored him, and he has no need of any tribute from us. But this does not mean that we should keep silent and fail to honor with our words, as best we can, the one whom the Scriptures refer to as "the voice" of the sublime Word (Mt 3:3; cf. Is 40:3).

On the contrary, the fact that he was proclaimed to be so great and witnessed to by Christ, the Lord of all, should move every tongue to sing his praises as much as it can. Not that we can add to his glory in any way – how could we?- but in order to pay our debt individually and together by recounting the wonders surrounding him and celebrating them in song.

“The whole life of the greatest man born of woman was a supreme miracle. John was a prophet and much more than a prophet (Lk 7:26), even before he was born; and not only did his entire life transcend all wonders, but so did everything concerning him, both long before his lifetime and afterwards. The divine predictions of seers inspired by God described him as an angel rather than a man (Mt 11:10, cf. Ex 23:20, Mal 3:1), as a lampstand for the light (Jn 5:35, cf. Ps 132:17), a divinely radiant star bringing in the morning (cf. Jn 1:8; 5:35), for he went before the Sun of righteousness (Mal 4:2), and was “the voice” of God’s Word (Mt 3:3, cf. Is 40:3). What could be closer or more akin to God the Word than God’s voice?” (St. Gregory Palamas, +1359 A.D., a monk and archbishop of Thessalonica).

NOW HIRING!

The St. Philip and St. James School has the following positions available:

Substitute School Nurses

Please call the School Office at 908-859-1244 and ask for Mrs. Sara Siano.

UPCOMING BUS TRIPS

- ❖ Wednesday, October 16th – St. Jude National Shrine & Baltimore Inner Harbor. The cost is \$75, departing at 7:30am and returning around 8pm.
- ❖ Friday, December 6th – Joy to the World Christmas Show at American Music Theatre. The cost is \$95 per Adult and \$75 per Child, departing at 10am and returning around 7pm.

Please contact Camille at 908-319-2719 for more information and/or to make reservations.

PRAYERS FOR LIFE, LIBERTY, & MARRIAGE

Join us on Saturday, August 31st, after the 8am mass for prayers for life, liberty & marriage. Let us pray for those who are addicted or suicidal on this Overdose Awareness Day.

MANDATORY ALTAR SERVER MEETING



There will be a mandatory meeting for all SPSJ altar servers after the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, September 8, 2024 in the church. If you are planning to serve on the altar this year, or earn Christian charity hours, you must attend in person to register so your name is not dropped from rotation. **PLAN AHEAD.** Let’s put God first. There will still be plenty of time to attend sports or extracurricular events after the meeting. We will discuss proper liturgical procedures, attendance, dress code, absences, individualized training and plans for altar server outings. At least one parent is required to be present. Any new servers (must have done First Communion) should attend this training. All questions or extenuating circumstances can be directed to Deacon Rob at rfisher@spsj.com.

Diocesan News

NEW JERSEY MARCH FOR LIFE

Bus Trip: NEW JERSEY MARCH for LIFE Thursday, September 26, 2024. Bus leaving St. John Vianney, 420 Inman Ave. Colonia at 7:15am – to allow attendance at 9:30am Mass at Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, Trenton, 11 am Rally, and 12pm March to follow

Visit: NJ.MARCHFORLIFE.ORG

dioceseoftrenton.org/nj-march-for-life

For SJV bus info call/text Carolyn @973-349-4626 or contact the St. John Vianney rectory @732-574-0150

SILVER & GOLD & 5 YEAR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th or 5th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 3:00 PM. **This year the Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will include couples celebrating 5 years of marriage.** Registration is required. Please register online at:

<https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>.

If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or amarshall@diometuchen.org. Registration will close on October 11, 2024. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or calling 732-562-1543.

On Wednesday, September 11, 2024, LocalShare with the collaboration of Warren County Hunger Coalition will be set up in the Mercy Hall parking lot from 4pm-5:30pm. Please share with those you may know that will benefit from this charitable gesture.

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

DEL ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY **VIGÉSIMO PRIMER DOMINGO DEL** **TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

Querida Familia!

Estamos concluyendo la reflexión final sobre la enseñanza de Jesús sobre el Pan de Vida en el capítulo seis del evangelio de Juan. En el evangelio de este domingo aprendemos que la mayoría de nuestra sociedad a menudo rechaza e ignora las duras enseñanzas. Nuestra fe es la respuesta a los males de la sociedad. Pedro mostró su fe en Jesús cuando “muchos de los discípulos” lo abandonaron. Esto diferencia a Peter de la cultura mafiosa. Pedro validaría aún más su fe en Jesús diciendo: “Aunque toda esta gente os deje, yo no lo haré”.

El pueblo de Dios está llamado a la vida. A todos se les dio libertad para elegir entre la vida y la muerte. Cada vez que pecamos, elegimos la muerte y cada vez que hacemos el bien, elegimos la vida. Jesús, al preguntar a los discípulos: “¿También vosotros queréis irnos?” deja claro que todos tenemos libertad y nada se impone. Así es como Dios nos creó. La vida son elecciones. El amor, la ira, el miedo y el coraje son opciones de vida. “A veces elegimos la mejor versión de nosotros mismos y, a veces, elegimos una versión de segunda categoría de nosotros mismos. Nuestras decisiones resuenan a lo largo de nuestras vidas, y en la historia y así sucesivamente hasta la eternidad”. (Matthew Kelly, El ritmo de la vida, pág. 4).

¿Es fácil responder a la pregunta de Jesús: “¿Tú también quieres irte?” Todos hemos respondido y hemos dicho: “No, no queremos irnos, nos quedaremos”. Ahora tenemos que ser claros al responder esta pregunta. Nos quedamos con Jesús con un propósito. Ahora que estamos seguros de a quién servimos, nos preguntamos: “¿Estamos listos para servir a Dios con todo nuestro corazón, mente y alma?” ¿Cómo?

Marcha Nacional por la Vida en Nueva Jersey y otros eventos importantes:

Por primera vez, la organización Marcha Nacional por la Vida está trabajando con grupos Pro-Vida en toda Nueva Jersey, juntos organizarán la Marcha Estatal por la Vida de Nueva Jersey el jueves 26 de septiembre de 2024 a las 11 am. Llame a la oficina para obtener más información.

El Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional pasa a la etapa misionera con la campaña Camina Con Alguien.

Esta página web:

<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/year-of-mission> explica esta etapa y está disponible en inglés, español y vietnamita.

Gracias al Comité de Recaudación de Fondos:

Nuestro Comité de Recaudación de Fondos recaudó más de \$2,500 el domingo pasado en el Festival Gastronómico Multicultural en nuestra parroquia. Gracias a todos por apoyarlo. ¡Fue un gran éxito! Agradezco a Lissette Herrera, Magnolia Mateo y a todos los voluntarios por ayudarlos a hacer de este evento un éxito. Todos los ingresos se destinarán a la educación católica.

Apelación del Pastor:

Estaré eternamente agradecido a todos ustedes por su generosidad. ¡Estás dirigiendo esta parroquia con todo tu corazón y con gran sacrificio! Con su generosidad hace dos años, recaudamos más de \$90,000 y usted proporcionó el muy necesario sistema de alarma de seguridad para la escuela y también las reparaciones muy necesarias para que Mercy Hall cumpliera con el código con la instalación de las puertas contra incendios. Con el apoyo del Consejo de Finanzas, les presento la Campaña Pastoral de este año. El tema de este llamamiento se centra en nuestros niños. Queremos lo mejor para nuestros hijos y su futuro. Con la Renovación Eucarística de este año, sería una gran misión y ministerio invertir en nuestros niños. ¡Por favor apoye este importante llamamiento ya que se enviaron cartas a todos los feligreses! ¡Les agradezco a todos por su generosidad!

¡Oración por el nuevo año escolar!

El primer día de clases es el jueves 29 de agosto. Visite la página web de la escuela para obtener más información. Oremos por todos nuestros maestros, el personal y los niños.

Apelación del obispo:

Mi más sincero agradecimiento a todos ustedes por apoyar la campaña anual de nuestro Obispo para 2024. Hasta ahora hemos prometido \$64,846, que es el 83% de nuestra meta (\$78,000). Gracias por tu generosidad. Les recomiendo encarecidamente que apoyen a nuestro Obispo y a todas las personas que se beneficiarán de este llamamiento.

Padre Antony

INFORMACIÓN DEL PROGRAMA DE FORMACIÓN EN LA FE DE ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES

La inscripción para el Año de Formación de Fe SPSJ 24-25 está abierta.

Visite nuestro sitio web en spsj.org para registrarse lo antes posible.

Las clases comienzan el 10 de septiembre

**Comuníquese con la Sra. Escarlen Duran
(Directora de Catequesis Parroquial)
al 908-454-0112 x406,
sí tiene alguna pregunta.**

PRÓXIMOS VIAJES EN AUTOBÚS

- ❖ Miércoles 16 de octubre: Santuario Nacional de San Judas y puerto interior de Baltimore. El costo es de \$75, con salida a las 7:30am y regreso alrededor de las 8pm.
- ❖ Viernes 6 de diciembre: Espectáculo navideño "Joy to the World" en el Teatro "American Music". El costo es de \$95 por adulto y \$75 por niño, con salida a las 10am y regreso alrededor de las 7pm.

Comuníquese con Camille al 908-319-2719 para obtener más información o para hacer reservas.

RESERVE LA FECHA!!

Escuela Bíblica Hispana

Curso Apocalipsis

Lunes 26 de agosto de 2024, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Curso Cartas Paulinas I

Lunes 26 agosto de 2024, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Curso Sapienciales

Jueves 29 de agosto de 2024, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Curso Libros Históricos:

Jueves 29 de agosto de 2024, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Para información sobre la Escuela Bíblica Hispana, escribe a Lescobar@diometuchen.org o comunícate al 732-243-4573.

Misa de la Herencia Hispana

11 de Octubre de 2024 a las 7pm en la Catedral San Francisco de Asís en Metuchen.

HORA SANTA

Todos son bienvenidos a reunirse para la Hora Santa el 6 de septiembre de 2024 (primer viernes) a las 6:00 pm en la **capilla**. Pasemos una hora con nuestro Señor como comunidad.

MERCADO DE VERDURAS GRATIS



El miércoles 11 de septiembre de 2024, el LocalShare con la colaboración de la Coalición contra el Hambre del Condado de Warren se instalará en el estacionamiento del Mercy Hall de 4pm a 5:30pm. Por favor, compártelo con aquellos que conozcan que se beneficiarán de este gesto caritativo.

2024 SPSJ
Multicultural Food Festival



Festival Gastronómico Multicultural



Panera
FUNDRAISING



Help support us!

Saints Philip & James School

25%
OF SALES
WILL BE
DONATED

September 17, 2024
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm EDT
1196 US Highway 22, Phillipsburg, NJ

Use code FUND4U at online checkout, in the Panera App,
or at the kiosk in-café.*

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St Philip & St James CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 2024

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Family!

When I came to our parish two years ago, your support of the Pastors appeal was tremendous. I continue to thank you for all your generosity - your kindness, acceptance, encouragement, support and prayers! With your help in the last pastor's appeal, we installed all the fire doors in Mercy Hall (Old Parochial School) installed brand new external church office doors, a new entry camera for the front doors and a camera on the side entrance doors to Mercy Hall and other improvements to our building security. We modernized the fire alarm system at the elementary school to ensure the safety of our children and our teachers. I am forever grateful for your sacrifices in providing for these important needs of the parish.

As I continue to prayerfully delve deeper into recognizing the most important needs of our parish, I am more and more convinced that investing in our children's future and their spiritual life stands out above all. Our children are our future and the future of the Church, the future of our parish community and the future of the Kingdom of God.

The Mercy Hall Building (Old Parochial School) has not been in use for a substantial period of time and it is our priority



to update the building and start using it for the good of the parish. Currently we are using the main floor for our offices and the Main Hall to host events which we will continue to improve on and expand. Faith formation will take place on the second and third floor of the building. (See reverse

It all begins with a new roof!

A new roof will build upon the investments that our prior pastors made in improving the church offices, the major refinishing of Mercy Hall (2014) and the construction of the handicapped bathroom in Mercy Hall. As we begin this Appeal, I request your prayers and support! I also request for you to prayerfully consider helping our children to get necessary spiritual nourishment from all of us as a faith-filled community.

The Appeal goal is \$150,000. I am always grateful for your generosity! My sincere thank you to all the families who have built up this community and continue to provide for it!



My Gift to Our Parish

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Your Gift is an Investment in Our Future

July 2024

Challenges:

- Given our number of registered parishioners, we have (2300 families), our Faith Formation enrollment has been very challenging in recent years, averaging 130 - 140 children.
- Many families find it difficult to get their children to Faith Formation on Roseberry Street.
- Many parents wait in the parking lot for an hour to take their children back home.
- Lack of Adult Faith Formation
- Lack of knowledge in learning prayers, availing confessions etc.

Responses:

- Faith Formation needs to start with an Opening Mass and end with a Thanksgiving Mass.
- Having Faith Formation next to the church, will inspire the children to participate in other aspects of the Mass such as Youth Ministry, Altar Server etc.
- While the children are in class the parents can come into Mercy Hall for an Adult Formation Class.



In order to improve the present situation, we need to begin repairing Mercy Hall and move Faith Formation next to the Church for better access for confession and teaching of the church.

We would plan to have a Faith Formation Parent Association to work with our staff in improving enrollment.

We would organize monthly Adult Faith Formation sessions at Mercy Hall for parents, when the children are in their classes. More participation from families who find it hard to get a ride to school would be achieved. Monthly confessions for our parents and children can be scheduled.

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