

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Family!

The word for fish in Greek is Ichthus which is a symbolic word used by the early Christians. It can be read as an ACROSTIC, a word formed from the 1<sup>st</sup> letters of many words. Ichthus has the meaning of Jesus Christ, Son of God, the Savior. They could not openly practice their religion as the persecutions were on. Ichthus was their secret sacred symbol used to recognize another believer. Fish is another word for Jesus.

It is God himself teaching us where to find him and how to find him. Put out into deep waters! This catch is not for a hobby or business. This is for life. I am motivated to fish because I am hungry, and I am driven by the force in me that I want to live. This is the force in every Christian that we look for God because we want to live. We are called to find God in our spirituality, from our dinner table, from our responsibilities as parents and children; we are called to find God in each other. Though the phrase ‘fishers of men’ is traditionally used for vocation to priesthood and religious life, it teaches us the simple wisdom that ‘Once you fish for God, you are qualified to fish for people.’ The first lesson for the disciples is fishing or finding God. This is the foundation to fishing for or finding people. The object of finding or fishing for people is to share God with them. Every kind act of charity is sharing God with others.

Isaiah (the First Reading), Paul (the Second Reading) and Peter (The Gospel) felt unworthy to do God’s work. What helps us to deal with any sense of unworthiness what we may feel? Most Catholics have a deep resistance to ‘catching others’ for Christ. How can we help each other to overcome this resistance?

### **Diocesan programs for parishes in Feb and Mar:**

The **Jubilee Mass Series for Hispanic Youth and Young Adults** (the last Friday of each month), the **OCIA Formation Event for Ministry Leaders** (Feb. 12), the **Adaptive Teacher Workshop** (Feb. 22), the **Parish Ministry for Seniors Roundtable** (Mar. 1), the **Rite of Election** (Mar. 9), the **Christian Anthropology Workshop** (Mar. 20) and the **Choices Matter Conference** (Mar. 29). Virtual Workshop for Marriage-Minded Catholic Singles – February 22, 2025. Building Forever – A course for marriage-minded Catholic singles to discover healthy habits, build virtue, avoid common mistakes and so much more! February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am on Zoom. Visit: <https://diometuchen.org/events?page=1> For more information.

### **National Marriage Week (Feb 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Feb 9<sup>th</sup>):**

This is a great opportunity for all of us to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and family.

The theme chosen for 2025 to celebrate this National Marriage week is “Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal, Pursue a Lasting Love!”. Let us pray for all the married couples of our parish; especially those who are struggling in their marriages and children facing the challenges of the struggles of their parents.

### **The annual “New York Encounter” & International Day of Prayer & Awareness Against Human**

**Trafficking:** This annual event for the Communion and Liberation Movement will take place the weekend of Feb 14<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>. For more information visit:

[www.newyorkencounter.org](http://www.newyorkencounter.org).

Saint Josephine Bakhita is the patroness of victims of human trafficking. Let us pray with Sister Bakhita to open our eyes and ears to see those who go unseen and to hear those who have no voice, to acknowledge the dignity of each person and to fight trafficking and all forms of exploitation.

### **World Day of the Sick (February 11)**

Please see an excerpt from the Pope’s message for the world day of the sick on the last page.

### **Jubilee Year 2025: (Jubilees in February 2025)**

In the month of February, we have three important Jubilees: on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> we have the Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police, & Security; from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, we have the Jubilee for Artists and from the 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> we have the Jubilee of the Deacons. The Pope encouraged all Catholic members of the military to let their faith inform their service. He said, “The world needs you, especially at this dark moment in our history. We need men and women of faith who are capable of putting weapons at the service of peace and brotherhood.” We are grateful for all artists who bring to life the beauty of our parish church in statues and paintings and more. We are grateful for all our deacons Enock, Larry, Rob and Francisco and the Deacon Candidates Rob and Oscar.

### **Pastor’s Appeal:**

I am forever grateful to all of you for your generosity. The roof repair has begun in the Mercy Hall Building. As promised we have completed initial repairs to the roof. We will restart the permanent renovation in the Spring. In the meantime, we will be acquiring all the restroom and flooring materials for the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. I ask you to prayerfully consider helping us with the Pastor’s Appeal this year so that our planned ideas could be implemented in time for our children and for our parish.

Fr. Antony

## Mass Intentions

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup> – FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – For the People  
 9:00 – Jeffery Rattner by Steve Cagnassola  
 11:00 – Curtis & Betty Zellner by Nancy Zellner  
 1:00pm (SP) – \*Sp. Int. Anthony & Johana Sinchi by Louisa  
 5:30pm – \*Sp. Int. Thom Flurchik by Hoffman Family

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup> – St. Scholastica

6:45am – Valerie Chemidlin by Eucharistic Adoration Committee  
 12:10pm – Trudy Bacho by Merrie Mulrine

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>th</sup> – *Our Lady of Lourdes*

6:45am – Ricardo Duran by Family  
 12:10pm – Gary Bacho by Mr. & Mrs. Clifford

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>

6:45am – Joseph Fulse by Family  
 12:10pm – Helen Lilly by Peg Lilly  
 7pm (SP) – Nelson Rocha by Family

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>

6:45am – Donna Rossini (A) by Ron Rossini  
 12:10pm – Margaret R. Janci by Janci Family

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup> – Sts. Cyril & Methodius

6:45am – Luis Jiménez by Family  
 12:10pm – Joseph F. Tolotta by Gloria C. Tolotta

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup>

8:00am – Virginia Woolf Miller by PCHS Class of '67  
 4:30pm – William Opdyke by Elaine & Vance Opdyke

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup> – SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – For the People  
 9:00 – Carmen & Mary Angelozzi by Granddaughter Lisa  
 11:00 – Francis Flynn, Jr. by Family  
 1:00pm (SP) – \*Sp. Int. Anthony & Johana Sinchi by Louisa  
 5:30pm – Rosaria Sara Modafferi by Jeannie Riotto

## Liturgical Ministry Schedule

February 15 <sup>th</sup>		
4:30pm	Acolyte	Anthony Ventura
	Lector	Ronald Rossini
	Minister	Frances Ludwig
	Minister	Melody Talpas
	Server	Chimbuzo Odimma
	Server	Mark Talpas
February 16 <sup>th</sup>		
7:00am	Acolyte	Oliver McKenna
	Lector	Susan Gerhardt
	Server	Anthony Stefano
	Server	-
9:00am	Acolyte	Brett Bruckman
	Lector	Lisa De Gerolamo
	Minister	Michael Duffy
	Minister	Julie Duffy
	Server	Gavin Hayes
	Server	Luke Sretenovic
11:00am	Acolyte	Joseph Cruz
	Lector	Rachel Lazier
	Minister	Eileen Catalli
	Minister	Marion Smith
	Server	Gabriel Sretenovic
	Server	-
1:00pm	Lector	Iván Lam
	Lector	Anyelina Rodríguez
	Minister	Martha Lam
	Announcements	Maria Rossenouff
	Server	-
	Server	Ayeisha Jauridez
	Server	José Jauridez
5:30pm	Acolyte	-
	Lector	R. Craig Ellis
	Server	-
	Server	-

## Stewardship

**February 2, 2025**

	<b>\$9,260.00</b>
<b>Online Giving:</b>	<b>2,400.00</b>
	<b>\$11,660.00</b>
<b>Repairs &amp; Renovations:</b>	<b>\$1,784.00</b>
<b>Various Collections:</b>	<b>\$95.00</b>

### 2024 PASTOR'S APPEAL

<b>Goal:</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Total Received:</b>	<b>\$44,801.00</b>

Let's keep the momentum going in order to meet our goal of \$150,000.00!  
 Thank you for your generosity.

# Around the Parish

## Faith Formation News



**Faith Formation Classes at the SSPJ School at  
137 Roseberry St, Phillipsburg NJ.  
Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> – 4:30pm  
Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – 4:30pm**

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

### **HOLY HOUR**



All are welcomed to come together for a Holy Hour on March 7, 2025 (First Friday) at 6:00 pm in the Church. 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, Shirley Emery, Theresa Adams, Brett Marino, The Quesada-Rocha Family, Janet Duran, Bob Hoesley, Steven Hille, Bill Coyle, Laura Rinaldi, Richard Dalrymple, Mauricio Castro, Eric Godleski, Martha Richline, Owen McCaffery, Grace Epo, Rich Dantine, Kevin Stannard, Cecilia Malizzi, Paxton John Bowman & John Carrig.*

### **Pray for our Military** ☆☆☆

*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, & Airman Seth Reyes.*



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

### **CEMETERY CLEANUP**

The cleaning of the Cemetery will begin on February 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any items that you want to keep please take them off the grave or mausoleum. If you have any questions please call the church office at 908-454-0112.

### **SPSJ NURSING HOME MINISTRY**

Every 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, we hold Mass at the following nursing homes, starting at 10am: First Tuesday at Complete Care also known as Brakeley Care Center, Second Tuesday at Lopatcong nursing home, and the Third Tuesday at Phillipsburg nursing home. During this time sacraments of Confession and Anointing of the Sick are available to the Catholic residents who desire them. In addition, Holy Communion is distributed to the Catholic residents of these facilities every Sunday. If you would like to participate in the ministry and pray with our elderly residents, please contact the Legion of Mary or Deacon Enock.

### **NURSING HOME SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS**



**Lopatcong Nursing Home:** 2/16 Magnolia Mateo, 2/23 Ron Rossini & 3/2 Ed Socci

**Brakeley Nursing Home:** 2/16 Eileen Dean & Michael St. Jacques, 2/23 Deacon Francisco, & 3/2 Eileen Dean & Mike Burke

**Phillipsburg Care Center:** 3/2 Lisa Spanopolous & 3/9 Beth Dispoto

### **SOUP KITCHEN NEWS**



The dedicated volunteers of the St. Philip & St. James Soup Kitchen handed out 189 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. Please drop off your donation on Saturdays from 9am to 11am in Mercy Hall.

### **OVER 50'S BUS TRIP**

The Over 50's Club is sponsoring a bus trip to see the show Noah at the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA on April 29, 2025. Noah has not been seen at the theatre in about thirty years. The trip cost is \$180 per person, which includes the bus show with orchestra seats, and a smorgasbord at the Bird in Hand. If interested, please contact Gloria Tolotta at 908-454-2778 or Felicia Gretta at 908-859-1612.

### **"THE BLUES" GROUP**

Grieving, depressed, need support? Come & join us on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM in Mercy Hall. We will give you the support you need to get through this difficult time.

## **DEACON'S CORNER**

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

### **A better understanding of the ministry of deacons**

In contemporary times, the role of deacons has evolved significantly, yet remains deeply rooted in the tradition and mission of the Church. Historically, deacons served as the bishop's eyes and ears, acting as his principal assistants and playing a crucial role in the administration of the local church. The title of "archdeacon" emerged, signifying a deacon who often bore heavy responsibilities, particularly in financial management and the distribution of resources to those in need.

During the first millennium of Christianity, deacons undertook a variety of functions that today are typically carried out by priests, including those of vicar general, judicial vicar, and finance officer. This overlap highlighted the essential role deacons played in church governance and community support, even as their functions became largely the domain of priests under current canon law.

Interestingly, three deacons ascended to the papacy between 432 and 684 A.D., showcasing the high regard in which their ministry was held during that period. However, beginning in the fifth century there was a gradual decline in the permanent diaconate. Some deacons wielded considerable power, leading to tensions with presbyters (priests), who often felt overshadowed. St. Jerome famously questioned the authority of deacons, arguing that since they could not preside over the Eucharist, they should not hold such significant power. This perception contributed to a view of the diaconate as merely a transitional stage on the path to priesthood.

The turning point for the diaconate came during the Second Vatican Council in 1963, which called for the restoration of the diaconate as a permanent order within the Church. In June 1967, Pope Paul VI enacted this renewal through the Apostolic letter *\*Diaconatus Ordinem\**, re-establishing the permanent diaconate. The Council's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *\*Lumen Gentium\**, reaffirmed the diaconate's foundational roots, emphasizing its scriptural and historical significance.

Today, the ministry of deacons encompasses a wide array of responsibilities. According to *\*Lumen Gentium\**, deacons are tasked with administering baptism, serving as custodians of the Eucharist, assisting at and blessing marriages, bringing Viaticum to the dying, reading Sacred Scriptures, instructing and exhorting the faithful, presiding over worship, and officiating at funerals. Their commitment to charity and community service is top priority. ... To be continued.

Remember that Jesus loves you and so do I.

Cheers

Deacon Enock

## **MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK**

**February 9 Sun - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 10 Mon - Memorial of St. Scholastica, Virgin**

“All religious are under an obligation, in accordance with the particular vocation of each, to work zealously and diligently for the building up and growth of the whole mystical body of Christ and for the good of the particular churches. It is their duty to foster these objectives primarily by means of prayer, works of penance, and by the example of their own lives” (Vatican II, *Decree on the Pastoral Office of Bishops*, 33, Austin Flannery translation).

*February 11 Tue - Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes*

**February 11 Tue - World Day of the Sick (Pope Francis on Feb 11, 2025)**

“We are celebrating the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Day of the Sick in the Jubilee Year 2025, in which the Church invites us to become “pilgrims of hope”. The word of God accompanies us and offers us, in the words of Saint Paul, an encouraging message: “Hope does not disappoint” (Rom 5:5); indeed, it strengthens us in times of trial.

These are comforting words, but they can also prove perplexing, especially for those who are suffering. How can we be strong, for example, when our bodies are prey to severe, debilitating illnesses that require costly treatment that we may not be able to afford? How can we show strength when, in addition to our own sufferings, we see those of our loved ones who support us yet feel powerless to help us? In these situations, we sense our need for a strength greater than our own.

We realize that we need God's help, his grace, his Providence, and the strength that is the gift of his Spirit (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1808).

Let us stop for a moment to reflect on how God remains close to those who are suffering in three particular ways: through encounter, gift and sharing. Sickness, then, becomes an occasion for a transformative encounter, the discovery of a solid rock to which we can hold fast amid the tempests of life, an experience that, even at great cost, makes us all the stronger because it teaches us that we are not alone. Suffering always brings with it a mysterious promise of salvation, for it makes us experience the closeness and reality of God's consoling presence. In this way, we come to know "the fullness of the Gospel with all its promise and life" (SAINT JOHN PAUL II, Address to Young People, New Orleans, 12 September 1987)."

### **February 14 Fri - Memorial of Sts. Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishops**

"Methodius had the merit of ensuring that the work begun by his brother was not suddenly interrupted. While Cyril, the "Philosopher", was more inclined to contemplation, Methodius on the other hand had a leaning for the active life. Pope Pius XI in his Apostolic Letter Quod Sanctum Cyrillum, in which he described the two Brothers: "Sons of the East, with a Byzantine homeland, of Greek origin, for the Roman missions to reap Slav apostolic fruit" (AAS 19 [1927] 93-96). The historic role they played was later officially proclaimed by Pope John Paul II who, with his Apostolic Letter Egregiae Virtutis, declared them Co-Patrons of Europe, together with St Benedict (General Audience by Pope Benedict XVI on June 17, 2009)



The Warren Council Columbiettes #474 would like to thank all our parishioners for their generous donations to our Postulants and Seminarians. With our help this will allow them to continue on their journey to do God's work.

### **COLUMBIETTES BREAD SALE**

The Warren Council Columbiettes #474 will be having our famous bread sale on February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> after all masses at SPSJ church. Come enjoy our baked goods with your coffee or tea. All our fundraisers help the charities in our community.

### **INVESTING IN THE FAITH OF OUR CHILDREN**

In introducing the Jubilee Year 2025 as the Year of Hope, Pope Francis talked about the young people, our children in the following words: "Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, the young. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm. It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike, and people are in need. Yet it is sad to see young people who are without hope.... For this reason, the Jubilee should inspire the Church to make greater efforts to reach out to them. With renewed passion, let us demonstrate care and concern for adolescents, students and young couples, the rising generation. Let us draw close to the young, for they are the joy and hope of the Church and of the world!

Our action plan for this year is to get our roof repaired and renovate all the 5 classrooms on the top floor of Mercy Hall. This includes brand new restrooms also. Please continue to pray for this important project. Thank you!

### **Diocesan News**

#### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2025-2026 TUITION ASSISTANCE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN**

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) no later than March 31, 2025.

A signed Parish Verification Form is also required by the Diocese, and should be signed by your Pastor, and submitted to the school or schools your children attend.

Eligibility requirements, instructions and forms can be found at <https://diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance>. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

## **RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKEND RETREAT**

Come to our Healing Weekend Retreat February 21-23, 2025 at the National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Washington NJ. Rachel's Vineyard is a sanctuary of hope and healing for those carrying the heavy burden of loss, whether through abortion or miscarriage. It is a place where hearts broken by pain can be mended, and where the mercy and love of God can soothe even the deepest wounds. Through our confidential and non-judgmental weekend retreats, you will find a safe space to grieve, to release the weight of guilt, shame, or anger, and to begin the journey toward renewal and peace. These retreats are not just about healing; they are about reclaiming your voice, finding forgiveness, and embracing the profound truth that you are loved beyond measure. No matter how much time has passed, you deserve this healing. Whether you're a mother, father, grandparent, sibling, or someone touched by abortion in any way, Rachel's Vineyard welcomes you with open arms. Let this be the moment you step out of the shadows and into the light of restoration and hope. To register, or for more information, please contact Leah at [leah@soulfilledbygrace.co.site](mailto:leah@soulfilledbygrace.co.site) or Ana at [ana@soulfilledbygrace.co.site](mailto:ana@soulfilledbygrace.co.site). Visit [www.RachelsVineyard.org](http://www.RachelsVineyard.org) for more information on retreat dates and locations. Healing is waiting for you, and you are not alone.

## **BEREAVEMENT FACILITATOR TRAINING COURSE**

Registration for the Bereavement Facilitator Training Course is now open. This six-session course will be held Wednesday evenings from 7pm-9pm on Zoom/Teams starting February 12 to March 26, 2025 (No class on March 5, Ash Wednesday). This program is designed for individuals who want to become facilitators for existing parish bereavement support groups or who wish to start a bereavement support ministry at their parish or online. It can also benefit anyone who ministers to the bereaved in parishes in different capacities.

For more information or to register visit:

<https://archdioceseofnewark.regfox.com/loss-transition-2025>

## **MINISTRY FOR SENIORS**

If you are part of or would like to start a Parish Ministry for Seniors Citizens you are invited to the Ministry for Seniors Roundtable on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway from 10am to 12pm. Parish Outreach may include Wellness & Exercise, Prayer Companions, Field Trips, Workshops & Seminars, Home Visits & Meals, and Social Time. This is a free event. To register visit:

<https://diometuchen.org/events/ministry-for-seniors-roundtable>. For more information contact [jruggiero@diometuchen.org](mailto:jruggiero@diometuchen.org) or call 732-243-4574.

## **NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL DEL ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY QUINTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

¡Querida familia!

La palabra griega para pez es Ichthus, que es una palabra simbólica utilizada por los primeros cristianos. Puede leerse como un ACRÓSTICO, una palabra formada a partir de las primeras letras de muchas palabras. Ichthus tiene el significado de Jesucristo, Hijo de Dios, el Salvador. No podían practicar abiertamente su religión porque las persecuciones estaban en curso. Ichthus era su símbolo sagrado secreto que utilizaban para reconocer a otro creyente. Pez es otra palabra para Jesús.

Es Dios mismo el que nos enseña dónde encontrarlo y cómo encontrarlo. ¡Rema mar adentro! Esta pesca no es para un hobby o un negocio. Es para toda la vida. Estoy motivado a pescar porque tengo hambre, y estoy impulsado por la fuerza en mí que quiere vivir. Esta es la fuerza en cada cristiano que busca a Dios porque quiere vivir. Estamos llamados a encontrar a Dios en nuestra espiritualidad, desde nuestra mesa, desde nuestras responsabilidades como padres e hijos; estamos llamados a encontrar a Dios en los demás. Aunque la frase “pescadores de hombres” se usa tradicionalmente para la vocación al sacerdocio y a la vida religiosa, nos enseña la sencilla sabiduría de que “una vez que pescas a Dios, estás calificado para pescar personas”. La primera lección para los discípulos es pescar o encontrar a Dios. Este es el fundamento para pescar o encontrar personas. El objetivo de encontrar o pescar personas es compartir a Dios con ellas. Todo acto de caridad es compartir a Dios con los demás.

Isaías (primera lectura), Pablo (segunda lectura) y Pedro (evangelio) se sintieron indignos de hacer la obra de Dios. ¿Qué nos ayuda a afrontar la sensación de indignidad que podamos sentir? La mayoría de los católicos tienen una profunda resistencia a “capturar a otros” para Cristo. ¿Cómo podemos ayudarnos unos a otros a superar esta resistencia?

**Programas diocesanos para parroquias en febrero y marzo:**

La serie de misas del Jubileo para jóvenes y adultos jóvenes hispanos (último viernes de cada mes), el evento de formación de OCIA para líderes ministeriales (12 de febrero), el taller de maestros adaptables (22 de febrero), la mesa redonda del ministerio parroquial para personas mayores (1 de marzo), el rito de elección (9 de marzo), el taller de antropología cristiana (20 de marzo) y la conferencia “Choices Matter” (29 de marzo). Taller virtual para solteros católicos con intenciones de casarse: 22 de febrero de 2025.

“Building Forever”: un curso para solteros católicos con intenciones de casarse para descubrir hábitos saludables, desarrollar la virtud, evitar errores comunes y mucho más, el 22 de febrero de 2025 a las 10:00 am en Zoom. Visite: <https://diometuchen.org/events?page=1> para obtener más información.

### **Semana Nacional del Matrimonio (del 7 al 14 de febrero) y Día Mundial del Matrimonio (9 de febrero):**

Esta es una gran oportunidad para que todos nos concentremos en construir una cultura de vida y amor que comience con el apoyo y la promoción del matrimonio y la familia. El tema elegido para 2025 para celebrar esta Semana Nacional del Matrimonio es “Matrimonio: fuente de esperanza, fuente de renovación, ¡busquemos un amor duradero!”. Oremos por todas las parejas casadas de nuestra parroquia; especialmente por aquellos que están luchando en sus matrimonios y por los hijos que enfrentan los desafíos de las luchas de sus padres.

### **El “Encuentro anual de Nueva York” y el Día Internacional de Oración y Concienciación contra la Trata de Personas:**

Este evento anual del Movimiento de Comunión y Liberación se llevará a cabo el fin de semana del 14 al 16 de febrero. Para obtener más información visite: [www.newyorkencounter.org](http://www.newyorkencounter.org)

Santa Josefina Bakhita es la patrona de las víctimas de la trata de personas. Oremos con la Hermana Bakhita para abrir nuestros ojos y oídos para ver a quienes pasan desapercibidos y escuchar a quienes no tienen voz, para reconocer la dignidad de cada persona y para luchar contra la trata y todas las formas de explotación.

### **Jornada Mundial del Enfermo (11 de febrero)**

En la última página, se puede leer un extracto del mensaje del Papa para la Jornada Mundial del Enfermo.

### **Año Jubilar 2025: (Jubileos en febrero de 2025)**

En el mes de febrero, tenemos tres Jubileos importantes: el 8 y el 9 tenemos el Jubileo de las Fuerzas Armadas, la Policía y la Seguridad; del 15 al 18, tenemos el Jubileo de los Artistas y del 21 al 23 tenemos el Jubileo de los Diáconos. El Papa animó a todos los miembros católicos de las fuerzas armadas a dejar que su fe informe su servicio. Dijo: “El mundo los necesita, especialmente en este momento oscuro de nuestra historia. Necesitamos hombres y mujeres de fe capaces de poner las armas al servicio de la paz y la fraternidad” (64ª Peregrinación Militar Internacional a Lourdes). Estamos agradecidos por todos los artistas que dan vida a la belleza de nuestra iglesia parroquial en estatuas, pinturas y más. Estamos agradecidos por todos nuestros diáconos Enock, Larry, Rob y Francisco y los candidatos a diáconos Rob y Oscar.

### **Apelación del Pastor:**

Estoy eternamente agradecido a todos ustedes por su generosidad. La reparación del techo ha comenzado en el edificio Mercy Hall.

Como prometimos, hemos completado las reparaciones iniciales del techo. Reiniciaremos la renovación permanente en la primavera. Mientras tanto, adquiriremos todos los materiales para los baños y el piso del tercer piso. Les pido que consideren en oración ayudarnos con la Campaña del Pastor este año para que nuestras ideas planificadas puedan implementarse a tiempo para nuestros niños y para nuestra parroquia.

P. Antony

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



**Martes 11 de febrero – 4:30 pm en la escuela  
Martes 18 de febrero – 4:30 pm en la escuela  
137 Roseberry St.**

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

### **HORA SANTA**

Todos son bienvenidos a reunirse para la Hora Santa el 7 de marzo del 2025 (primer viernes del mes) a las 6:00 pm en la iglesia. Pasemos una hora con nuestro Señor como comunidad.

### **APELACIÓN DEL PASTOR 2024**

Hasta ahora, la Apelación del Pastor ha recaudado \$44,801.00. ¡Mantengamos el impulso para alcanzar nuestra meta de \$150,000.00! Gracias por su generosidad.

### **ASISTENCIA PARA LA MATRÍCULA EN LAS ESCUELAS CATÓLICAS 2025-2026 EL PROCESO DE SOLICITUD EN LÍNEA ESTÁ ABIERTO**

Las familias interesadas en solicitar ayuda en la matrícula para asistir a una escuela primaria o secundaria elegible de la Diócesis de Metuchen pueden presentar su solicitud en línea ahora, a través de la Evaluación de subvenciones y ayuda de FACTS en <https://online.factsmtg.com/aid>. Las solicitudes en línea deben completarse (incluida toda la documentación requerida) a más tardar el 31 de **marzo de 2025**. La Diócesis también exige un **Formulario de Verificación parroquial, que debe estar firmado por su Párroco y presentarse en la escuela o escuelas a las que asisten sus hijos. Los requisitos de elegibilidad, las instrucciones y los formularios se pueden encontrar en <https://diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance>**. Las solicitudes están disponibles en inglés y español. Las familias que necesiten ayuda para completar la solicitud en línea o que necesiten acceso a una computadora para presentar la solicitud deben comunicarse con su escuela.



Please join us for dinner, drinks, and the chance to renew old friendships, as alumni and friends of  
Saints Philip and James School and Parish to honor

➤ **Rev. John Barbella and**  
➤ **Margie Markus, PCHS class of 1969**

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

at: Mainline (formerly Flynn's on the Hill), 341 Pursel Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey

Cocktail Reception at 5:30 P.M.

Dinner at 6:15 P.M.

Please RSVP no later than March 23 2025, to:

Saints Philip and James Faith and Service Committee

137 Roseberry Street, Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865

Email contact: [billcasey2@yahoo.com](mailto:billcasey2@yahoo.com) Phone: 610-704-7429

**Dinner Ticket \$70. Children under 10 \$35. – Hot dinner buffet includes two entrees**

➤ ***SPONSOR A TEACHER FOR ONLY \$55. Please advise teacher(s) names***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or phone contact: (Please include contact info for everyone in your group – can be added to back of form)

**Please list any food allergies or special dietary requirements on your dinner reservations.**

We would like to accommodate your preference for seating and can reserve tables of eight, and limited tables of 9 or 10 guests. Please indicate the guests for your table on the back of this form.

If you would like to include a congratulatory message or ad for the dinner program, please indicate the type of message and include *Camera Ready Artwork* or forward a digital representation to: [billcasey2@yahoo.com](mailto:billcasey2@yahoo.com)

\_\_\_\_\_ Full Page - \$200      \_\_\_\_\_ HALF Page - \$100      \_\_\_\_\_ QUARTER Page - \$50

\_\_\_\_\_ **I regret that I cannot attend but please accept my donation of** \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SSPJ School - All proceeds support 2025- 2026 SSPJ Education & Scholarship Fund





CALLING  
ALL SSPJ  
GRANDPARENTS!



# OPEN HOUSE

TIME: 1PM - 3PM

You are invited to an Open House at Saints Philip & James School. It's a great chance to tour the school, stop by the Book Fair, and see just how great it is to be a Saint!



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22



Questions? Contact  
[schooloffice@spsj.org](mailto:schooloffice@spsj.org)



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KAYDEN, GR. 8

# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today

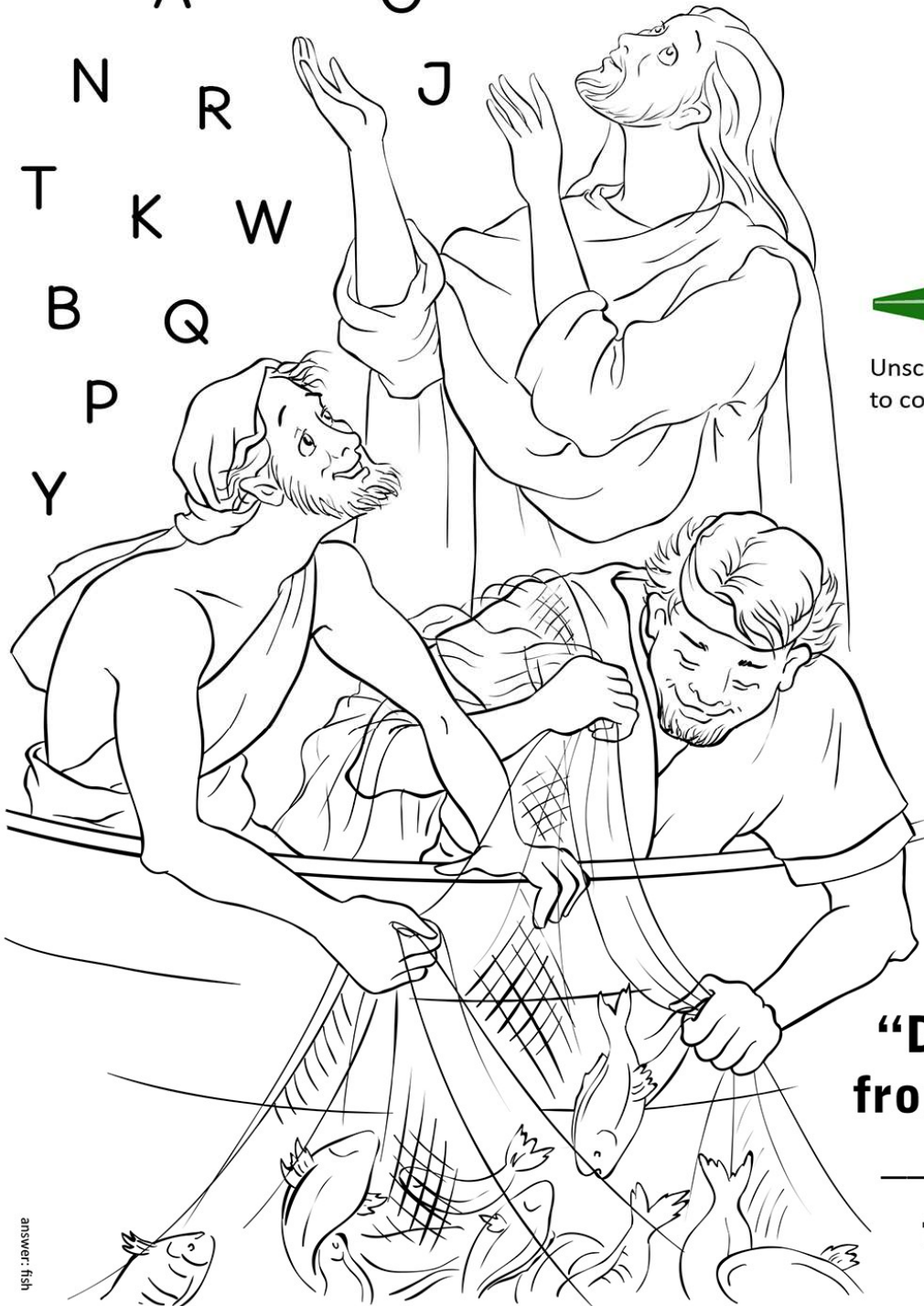
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Luke 5:1-11

Simon-Peter, James and John were uncertain about another attempt at fishing, since they were out all night and caught nothing. They faithfully obeyed Jesus' command and filled their nets overflowing. With belief and trust in Jesus, they left everything and followed Him.

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U L M V E X  
 G A D O Z C  
 N R J  
 T K W  
 B Q  
 P  
 Y

Find and write the missing letters (from A to Z) NOT listed.



Unscramble the letters and fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below.

**“Don’t be afraid;  
from now on you will**

\_\_\_\_\_ **for people.”**

LUKE 5:10