

St. Philip & St. James

CATHOLIC CHURCH

430 SOUTH MAIN STREET • PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865

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. Alex Carles

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 Jaurides Ext. 405

Escarlen Duran Faith Formation 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. 9am-12:30pm

(Closed for lunch) 1pm to 5pm, Tues.—

Thurs. 9am-12:30pm (Closed for lunch)

1pm-4pm & Friday 9am—1pm

(Asistencia en español durante estas horas.)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME † August 24, 2025



Baptism, Marriage and OCIA

Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 8/24/25 2pm Guadalupe Food Sale in front of the Church

Mon. 8/25/25 7pm Spanish Charismatic Group in the Church

Tues. 8/26/25 8:30– 9:30am Legion of Mary in Conference Room
7pm Cenacles of Life & St. Peregrine Novena in the Chapel

Wed. 8/27/25 10:30am Legion of Mary in Conference Room
7pm Spanish Mass in the Church

Thurs. 8/28/25 7pm Blue Army Prayer Cell in the Chapel

Friday. 8/29/25

Sat. 8/30/25 8:30am Prayers for Life, Liberty, and Marriage in the Church
9am-1pm Soup Kitchen in Mercy Hall

Sunday 8/31/25 10am Overdose Awareness Day in Mercy Hall

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Family!

The readings speak to us of God's salvation being open to the whole world. Many of the world's believers such as Christians, Muslims, Hindus and others want a guarantee from their respective religion that their future is absolutely secure. Fr. Leonard Feeney was condemned by the Holy See for denying salvation to non-Christians because we have a long history and a common belief that 'outside the Church there is no salvation.'

The Catechism describes hell as the "definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed" (CCC 1033). To actually choose heaven, our tastes and desires need to be converted and formed. The Catechism also teaches us that the Gospel is meant for every human being. "God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth, that is, the truth of Christ Jesus. Christ must be proclaimed to all nations and individuals, so that this revelation may reach to the ends of the earth." (CCC 74)

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book 'The Cost of Discipleship' is worth a mention here. He teaches us about 'Cheap Grace' and 'Costly Grace.' He said, "'Cheap grace' seeks all the consolation of the faith without commitment or conversion. And "'Costly Grace' confronts us as a gracious call to follow Jesus."

Entering through the Narrow Door could be interpreted as a spiritual journey walked with love and love alone. This is a mark of a Christian - to love God and neighbor. Broader way or door could be the choice of many as it leads people to hatred, resentment, jealousy, revenge and other vices. So, the primary role of a community has never been saving souls but to proclaim the Good News of love, 'use words if absolutely necessary'.

Diocesan Jubilee Pilgrimage to the National Shrine in Washington, DC, (Sept. 20th). The Bishop will celebrate a special Mass at the Blue Army Shrine on September 13th (maybe those who cannot go to DC might want a more local pilgrimage). September 13th is the 108th anniversary of the 5th Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima.

Pride in Priest Dinner organized by the Knights of Columbus is on September 18, 2025 at 6pm in The Imperia on Easton, 1714 Easton Ave, Somerset, NJ 08873

New Jersey March for Life is on Thursday, September 25, 2025.

150th Anniversary of Catholic Education in Phillipsburg (Sun, Dec 7th at 11am)

As the anniversary approaches near, there are preliminary preparations that need to happen. Please save the date: Sunday, December 7th, the Bishop will celebrate a special mass at 11am to mark the event. All are welcome!

HVAC upgrade to Chapel:

The Chapel has a new HVAC system up and running, thanks to all of you and especially for the donors and the people who worked on this project!

Mercy Hall Building Updates:

We have completed the roof work. New energy-efficient windows are installed in all the 5 classrooms on the top floor. The money we raised for the pastor's appeal is used to cover all these costs. Thank you for your generosity!

Mercy Hall (parish hall) also has new energy efficient lights throughout. A special word of thanks to our Knights of Columbus for their generous donation towards this project. We hope to extend installing energy efficient lights throughout all the classrooms upstairs. Please pray for the completion of this project.

Diocesan Programs in the near future:

Bible study program from September 11th to December 18th. Topic is Prophets. The second part is planned from Jan 15th to Mar 19th on the same topic. **Surviving Divorce** (8 week program organized by the Diocese): This program starts on October 1st and ends on November 19th. **2nd Annual mass for Italian Apostolate** will be held at Newark Cathedral on Oct 4th, 5pm. Jay Donofrio, our **Diocesan Youth Director** is announcing the launch of a new podcast 'No half Saints'. Please check it out in YouTube.

Fr. Antony



SUNDAY, August 24th – TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – For the People

9:00am – Thomas B. Smith Sr. by Marion

11:00am – Samantha Pesaresi by Deacon Larry & Carol

1:00pm – (SP) Sebastian Garcia Castro by Children

5:30pm – Mike Sconza by Hoffman Family

MONDAY, August 25th – Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz; Priest

6:45am – Suzzane & Robert Ritter by Family

12:10pm – Epifanio E. Cuvo by Marianne & Charles Decker

TUESDAY, August 26th

6:45am – *Sp. Int. for Jean Pasquini by Merrie Mulrine

12:10pm – John & Ruth Tolotta by Gloria C. Tolotta

WEDNESDAY, August 27th – Saint Monica

6:45am – *Sp. Int. for Fanny Rios by Espinal Family

12:10pm – Martha Richline by Gwen Fisk

7:00 pm – (SP) – Ada Duran Ruiz by Nieces

THURSDAY, August 28th – Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

6:45am – Charles Young Sr. by Nancy

12:10pm – Dawn Magilton by Dolly Loiacono

FRIDAY, August 29th – The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

6:45am – Nelson Rocha Sandoval by Nieces

12:10pm – Martha Richline by Dolly Loiacono

SATURDAY, August 30th

8:00am – Michael Johnson by Debbie Waldon

4:30pm – *Sp. Int. Jimmy Prichard by Matthew & Deanna Page

SUNDAY, August 31st – TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – For the People

9:00am – Timothy Balas by Family

11:00am – Arthur, Anna, & Arthur Jiorle Jr. by Dave Jiorle

1:00pm – (SP) Shawn David Maturana by Family

5:30pm – Ed Rodriguez by Merrie Mulrine

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

August 30th

| | | |
|--------|----------|-----------------|
| 4:30pm | Acolyte | Gavin Hayes |
| | Lector | Mary O'Sullivan |
| | Minister | Bill Casey |
| | Minister | Beth Dispoto |
| | Server | Alana Palos |
| | Server | Allyssa Palos |

August 31st

| | | |
|--------|---------|----------------|
| 7:00am | Acolyte | - |
| | Lector | Michael Boylan |
| | Server | Oliver McKenna |
| | Server | Julian Mendoza |

| | | |
|--------|----------|-------------------|
| 9:00am | Acolyte | - |
| | Lector | Rob & Jen Anselmo |
| | Minister | Ann Coyle |
| | Minister | - |
| | Server | Andrew Sretenovic |
| | Server | Adam Sretenovic |

| | | |
|---------|----------|-------------------|
| 11:00am | Acolyte | Gabe Sretenovic |
| | Lector | Ronald Rossini |
| | Minister | Carol Bevilacqua |
| | Minister | Robert Hopkins |
| | Server | Chiezimuzo Odemma |
| | Server | Chimbuzo Odemma |

| | | |
|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1:00pm | Lector | Óscar Dilone |
| | Lector | Laura García |
| | Minister | Giovanni Lam |
| | Announcements | Anyelina Rodríguez |
| | Server | Miguel García |
| | Server | Ayeisha Jauridez |
| | Server | Jackie García |

| | | |
|--------|---------|-----------------|
| 5:30pm | Acolyte | Anthony Ventura |
| | Lector | Keith Gallagher |
| | Server | - |
| | Server | - |

Stewardship

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| August 17, 2025 | \$ 7,819.86 |
| On-line Giving | \$ 2,250.00 |
| | \$10,069.86 |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| SPSJ School | \$ 1,036.86 |
| The Assumption | \$ 1,247.00 |



The flowers on the altar for this weekend are in memory of Samantha Pesaresi, donated by Deacon Larry and Carol.

Around the Parish

Faith Formation News



**25-26 SPSJ ONLINE
REGISTRATION FOR THE
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM
IS OPEN Visit:**

<https://www.spsj.org/ccd>

2025-2026 VOLUNTEERS FOR SPSJ FAITH FORMATION

Is God tugging at your heart to do more? Could it be a call to spread His word, to Evangelize? Catechists are at the heart of this mission through Faith Formation. If so, prayerfully consider signing up for the 2025-2026 SPSJ Faith Formation (CCD) program as a Catechist, Classroom Aide, a Sub, or Hall monitor. Are you a parent waiting in the car while your child is in class? Prayerfully consider volunteering. Please reach out to Escarlen Duran (PCL) at 908-454-0112 x 406. (Clearances are required.)



James Tersigni, Jamey Perrone, Lorraine Wonder, Rosa Zevallos, Manuel Venegas, The Pulecio Family, Theresa Adams, Brett Marino, The Quesada-Rocha Family, Janet Duran, Bob Hoesley, Steven Hille, Bill Coyle, Laura Rinaldi,

Richard Dalrymple, Mauricio Castro, Eric Godleski, Grace Epo, Kevin Stannard, Cecilia Malizzi, Paxton John Bowman, Michael Boyle, Jennie Rossetti, Terry LaBar, Al Redondo, Jack Kane, Patti Bisci, Pat Houck, Thomas Sulick, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Caceres Family, & Gustavo Caceres.

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, Bryan Malizzi, Paul C. Hesck, Luis Quizhpi, Jason Erz, Staff Sergeant Kevin Jiorle, Lt. Commander Dominique D'Anthony, Major Joseph Skopowski, Airman Seth Reyes, Private First Class Marine Chad Bruckman, Angelo Luzzetti Army, & PFC. Steven Fulse.



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

SPSJ NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Every 1st, 2nd, & 3rd 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.

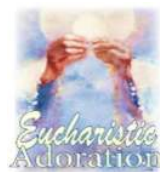
NURSING HOME SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

Lopatcong Nursing Home: 8/24 Magnolia Mateo, 8/31 Ed Socci, & 9/7 Eileen Catalli

Brakeley Nursing Home: 8/24 Michael St. Jacques & Mike Burke, 8/31 Eileen Dean & Michael St. Jacques, & 9/7 Michael St. Jacques & Mike Burke

Phillipsburg Care Center: 8/24 Lisa Spanopolous, 9/7 Lisa Spanopolous, & 9/14 Beth Dispoto

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"



We need adorers for **Noon on Mondays, Noon & 11am on Thursdays, 11am on Wednesdays and 2pm on Fridays.** Call Deacon Enock at **908-310-8990** or Camille at

908-319-2719.



HOLY HOUR

All are welcomed to come together for a Holy Hour on September 5th (First Friday) at 6:00pm in the Church.



A sincere thank you to all who donated to our summer 'Fill Our Freezer' drive. Year to Date we have served **5800 COMPLETE meals** to our neighbors. Your generosity allows us to continue to feed the hungry in our community. The Soup Kitchen is in need of cookies and pudding cups. Any help is appreciated. It can be dropped off Saturday mornings from 9am-12noon. Thank you!

MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK

Aug 24 Sun - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Aug 25 Mon - Optional Memorial of St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Aug 27 Wed - Memorial of St. Monica

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

“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, that 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)

Aug 29 Fri - Memorial of The Passion of St. John the Baptist

“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).

CALLING ALL MEN

Looking for men who want to grow deeper in their faith and relationship with Christ through St. Joseph and some uncommon saints. We will meet on the first and third Wednesdays every month starting on September 3rd, from 7:30-8:30pm in the Adoration Chapel. The first half hour will be in adoration of Jesus, and the last half hour will consist of reflection and prayer to St. Joseph for the first Wednesday and the third Wednesday will be reflection and prayer on saints who have sinned, suffered and struggled on their way to holiness.

If you have any questions, please text or call our diaconate candidate, Rob Anselmo at (917) 626-3907

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.

Fifth Defect: Jesus Knows Nothing About Finances and Economy

The parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16) presents a striking scenario that appears to challenge conventional understanding of fairness and economics. In this story, a landowner hires workers at different times of the day, agreeing to pay them a standard daily wage. When evening comes, he pays all the laborers the same amount—regardless of whether they worked from morning or only for the last hour. Naturally, those who worked all day grumble, expecting more pay, but the landowner responds: "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?" (Matthew 20:13). He then asks, "Am I not free to do what I wish with my own money?" This highlights a radical principle: God's grace and generosity are beyond human notions of fairness and economy.

If Jesus were a manager of a community or an enterprise, his approach might seem financially reckless—paying the same salary to a worker who labored all day and one who worked only an hour. Would he have made a mistake? Did he miscalculate? Certainly not. Jesus's purpose is not to teach us economic efficiency but to reveal the nature of divine grace: unmerited, generous, and sovereign. The question he raises is whether we, as recipients of God's grace, can accept that God's generosity is not bound by human calculations of fairness.

This parable challenges our understanding of justice. It confronts the human tendency to measure worth and reward strictly by effort or time invested. Instead, Jesus presents a worldview in which God's mercy is abundant and free—an invitation to trust in divine generosity rather than human standards. The real "defect" is not in Jesus's understanding of finances, but in our limited perspective that insists on fairness according to human rules.

God's economy operates on grace, love, and freedom—principles that often defy our logic but reflect the heart of divine justice.

In essence, Jesus's teaching reminds us that God's kingdom is not governed by the same rules as worldly finance. Instead of focusing on accumulation and fairness, it emphasizes generosity and grace. The question is: Are we willing to accept God's unmerited kindness? Or are we envious and judgmental when we see others receiving more than we think they deserve? The parable invites us to rejoice in God's generosity and to trust that His grace extends beyond our human understanding of economy and fairness. To be continued.

Remember that Jesus loves you and so do I.

Cheers

Deacon Enock

PRAYERS FOR LIFE, LIBERTY, AND MARRIAGE

Join us on August 30th, after the 8am mass for prayers for life, liberty, and marriage. We will pray specifically for those who are addicted to drugs & alcohol.

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

Overdose Awareness Day is Sunday, August 31st. We will have some information in Mercy Hall from 10 am to 11:30 am. Come & learn how you can prevent overdose in our community. There will be a Prayer Service for those who lost loved ones through Overdose & Suicide on Saturday, November 16th, at 6:00 pm in the church.

LABOR DAY PICNIC

Alone? Without family? Join us on Labor Day, September 1st, at 3:00 pm for our Labor Day Picnic in Mercy Hall. Don't sit home by yourself, come and enjoy the day with us!

OVER 50s CLUB

September is just around the corner and the Over 50's club will be having their first meeting after the summer break on Wednesday, September 3rd 2025. The meeting will start at 1 pm in Mercy Hall at SPSJ church. There will be a meeting, refreshments, bingo and trip sign-ups. New members are welcome. Any questions, please call Dolly Loiacono at 908-454-8067.

SPSJ OVER 50s CLUB BUS TRIPS

The Over 50s club has three (3) booked trips confirmed with some seats still available. Please do not wait to contact us if you are interested as more than likely we will be unable to get additional seats for the following trips...Call NOW!

Friday, October 10th Hunterdon Hills Playhouse: \$88/person which includes tickets and lunch with desserts, gratuity extra, & everyone drives to the Playhouse on their own. Show is FACE to FACE, a tribute to music legends John & Billy Joel. Jeff Scott is Elton John and Elton Lammie as Billy Joel. On stage two pianists battling dressed in dazzling outfits plus a 4-piece band. Songs from Your Song, Crocodile Rock, It's Still Rock and Roll to Me, Just the Way you are, you will be cheering them on! You will walk out saying I am glad I came to this show!

Thursday, November 20, 2025, the Jersey Dreamers "Happy Days", Hanover Manor, Hanover, NJ cost \$106 per person which includes bus transportation (includes bus driver gratuity), luncheon, (gratuity extra) and great entertainment. Cost: \$106/person.

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Sight & Sound Theater, Lancaster, PA, "Joshua" (once again excellent orchestra seats!). Lunch at Bird 'n Hand (full course meal) (gratuity extra). Cost \$186/person.

To make reservations please call Felicia Gretta at 908-859-1612. If you have questions about the trips call Gloria Tolotta at 908-454-2778.

COLUMBIETTES WARREN COUNTY

#474

Dear Parishioners, with your generous support of our fundraisers we were able to donate at our State Convention \$2,800 each to 8 chosen postulants and seminarians. This year our chosen charity was the Augustinian Recollect Nuns. They received from the Stat Columbiettes \$1,900. These are a few good deeds that we support as Columbiettes. Thank you again for all your support! Any practicing catholic women 18 years or older are welcome to join us. Please contact Bev Redondo at 732-239-1759 for SPSJ church or Donna Bevilacqua at 908-239-0960 for St. Mary Church.

HELP IS NEEDED FOR THE CEMETERY



Applications for Cemetery Assistants are now being accepted for the cemetery's main location, and on Filmore Street. This includes mowing lawns, trimming, burial sites (provision for burial and seeding), cleaning of the cemetery, internees in the mausoleum, placing letters on crypts and niches, any necessary repairs to the cemetery, and repair of small engines. This position will start on a part-time basis.

Also included is mowing and trimming of school grounds. Please stop by the office and ask for Nancy for an application on Mondays from 9am to 5pm, Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9am to 4 pm, and Fridays from 9am to 1pm. If you have any questions, please call Nancy at 908-454-0112 ext. 401.

Diocesan News

PARISH BUS TRIPS

To the Basilica in Washington DC

September 20th, 2025

The following parishes have bus trips to the National Basilica in Washington, DC on September 20th.

*Milford – St. Edward the Confessor – Contact Gary Lacey gllacey339@gmail.com (908) 310-0358

*Baptistown – Our Lady of Victories – Contact Gary Lacey gllacey339@gmail.com (908) 310-0358

Flemington – St. Magdalen de Pazzi – Contact Cheryl Manfredonia cmanfredonia@stmagdalen.org (215)

858-3582, & Somerville- Church of the Immaculate Conception – Contact Grace Latosky

gjl317@aol.com (908) 385-5642

*Shared Bus Baptistown and Milford

THE PROPHETS – ADULT ENRICHMENT COURSE

These classes will introduce attendees to the prophetic books of the Old Testament by reading, examining, & contemplating the words and deeds of the prophets of Israel. Thursdays September 4 – December 18, 2025 10:30am-11:30am at St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway. \$20 per person for all 14 classes. Register Online: <https://diometuchen.org/faith-formation> for questions email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call (732) 562-1543

VIRTUAL BOOK STUDY FOR WOMEN

The Diocesan women's group meets on Zoom each Sunday at 2:30pm. Beginning on September 7th, they will meet at their regular time to discuss the book, "A Cardiologist Examines Jesus" by Dr. Franco Serafini. All women are invited to join. Purchase of the book is required to participate.

If interested, please contact Cristina at

cdaverso@diometuchen.org

SURVIVING DIVORCE

Surviving Divorce – For men and women seeking healing from separation or divorce. This 8-week program, while based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm beginning October 1 – November 19, 2025 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ. For more information or to register contact Rachelle Hanna at rachelle.hanna@gmail.com.

MASS FOR LIFE & NJ MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP

Nj Bishops' Mass for Life is thursday, September 25th, 2025 9:30am at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, 151 N. Warren Street, Trenton. The NJ Rally & March for Life will follow at 125 West State Street in Trenton. The Rally is 11:00 am and the March begins at 12:00 noon. The bus trip is \$20 per passenger. The bus will leave the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway at 7:15 am, and Mass will begin at the Cathedral in Trenton at 9:30am. After Mass, everyone will walk a short way to the Rally and March. The bus will depart Trenton at 1:15 pm and will arrive at and will arrive back in Piscataway approximately at 2:45 pm. For more information, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543

SILVER AND GOLD 5 YEAR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

You cordially invited to celebrate your 25th, 50th, 50+, 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 19, 2025 at 3pm. The Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will again 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 it, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or

amarshall@diometuchen.org

Registration will close October 10, 2025. 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

CELEBRATE BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH NOVEMBER 8, 2025

Please join us to celebrate Black Catholic History Month on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane in Piscataway, NJ. The morning begins at 9:00 am with a welcome followed by a 9:30 am Mass celebrated by Reverend Patrick Winbush, O.S.B. which will then be followed by brunch and fellowship. There is no charge for this event, but registration is required. Deadline for registration is October 24th.

Please register at:

<https://diometuchen.org/multiculturalministry>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sr. Miriam Perez at:

mperez@diometuchen.org or 732-529-7933.

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL
DEL ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY
21º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

¡Querida familia!

Las lecturas nos hablan de la salvación de Dios, abierta al mundo entero. Muchos creyentes, como cristianos, musulmanes, hindúes y otros, desean que su religión les garantice un futuro absolutamente seguro. El padre Leonard Feeney fue condenado por la Santa Sede por negar la salvación a los no cristianos, debido a nuestra larga historia y a la creencia común de que «fuera de la Iglesia no hay salvación».

El Catecismo describe el infierno como la «exclusión definitiva de la comunión con Dios y los bienaventurados» (CIC 1033). Para elegir realmente el cielo, nuestros gustos y deseos necesitan ser transformados y formados. El Catecismo también nos enseña que el Evangelio es para todo ser humano. «Dios quiere que todos los hombres se salven y lleguen al conocimiento de la verdad, es decir, la verdad de Cristo Jesús. Cristo debe ser proclamado a todas las naciones e individuos, para que esta revelación llegue hasta los confines de la tierra» (CIC 74).

Merece la pena mencionar el libro de Dietrich Bonhoeffer, «El Costo del Discipulado». Nos enseña sobre la «Gracia Barata» y la «Gracia Costosa». Dijo: «La «gracia barata» busca todo el consuelo de la fe sin compromiso ni conversión. Y la «gracia costosa» nos confronta como un llamado misericordioso a seguir a Jesús».

Entrar por la Puerta Angosta podría interpretarse como un camino espiritual recorrido con amor, y solo con amor. Esta es una señal del cristiano: amar a Dios y al prójimo. El camino o la puerta más amplia podría ser la opción de muchos, ya que lleva a las personas al odio, el resentimiento, los celos, la venganza y otros vicios. Por lo tanto, la función principal de una comunidad nunca ha sido salvar almas, sino proclamar la Buena Nueva del amor, «usando palabras si es absolutamente necesario».

Peregrinación Diocesana del Jubileo al Santuario Nacional en Washington, D.C. (20 de septiembre). El obispo celebrará una misa especial en el Santuario del Ejército Azul el 13 de septiembre (quizás quienes no puedan ir a D.C. deseen una peregrinación más local).

El 13 de septiembre se cumple el 108 aniversario de la 5ª Aparición de Nuestra Señora de Fátima.

La cena “Pride in Priest” organizada por los Caballeros de Colón se llevará a cabo el 18 de septiembre de 2025 a las 6 pm en The Imperia en Easton, 1714 Easton Ave, Somerset, NJ 08873.

La Marcha por la Vida de Nueva Jersey será el **jueves 25 de septiembre de 2025.**

150º Aniversario de la Educación Católica en Phillipsburg (Domingo 7 de diciembre, 11am)

A medida que se acerca el aniversario, es necesario realizar preparativos preliminares. Por favor, reserven la fecha: el domingo 7 de diciembre, el Obispo celebrará una misa especial a las 11:00 am para conmemorar el evento. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Actualización del sistema de climatización (HVAC) en la capilla:

La capilla ya tiene un nuevo sistema de climatización (HVAC) en funcionamiento. ¡Gracias a todos ustedes y, especialmente, a los donantes y a quienes trabajaron en este proyecto!

Actualizaciones del edificio Mercy Hall:

Hemos finalizado las obras del techo. Se instalaron nuevas ventanas de bajo consumo en las cinco aulas del último piso. El dinero recaudado para la campaña del pastor se utiliza para cubrir todos estos costos. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!

El Mercy Hall (salón parroquial) también cuenta con nuevas luces de bajo consumo en todas sus áreas. Agradecemos especialmente a nuestros Caballeros de Colón por su generosa donación para este proyecto. Esperamos ampliar la instalación de luces de bajo consumo en todas las aulas de la planta superior. Por favor, oren por la finalización de este proyecto.

Programas Diocesanos:

El programa de **estudio bíblico** se llevará a cabo del 4 de septiembre al 18 de diciembre, con el tema "Profetas". La segunda parte está prevista del 15 de enero al 19 de marzo, sobre el mismo tema.

Sobreviviendo al Divorcio (programa de 8 semanas organizado por la Diócesis): Este programa está dirigido aquellos que buscan sanar tras una separación o divorcio. Comienza el 1 de octubre y termina el 19 de noviembre. Las sesiones serán solo los miércoles de 6:30pm a 8pm en el Centro Pastoral. La **2.ª misa anual del Apostolado Italiano** se celebrará en la Catedral de Newark el 4 de octubre a las 5:00 pm. Jay Donofrio, nuestro **Director Diocesano de Juventud**, anuncia el lanzamiento de un nuevo podcast, "No Half Saints/No hay medio santos ". Por favor, échale un vistazo en YouTube.

P. Antony

OFERTA DE EMPLEO

Se están aceptando solicitudes para un puesto vacante en el cementerio principal y el que está ubicada en la calle Filmore. Esto incluye cortar el césped, podar, preparar los cementerios (preparación para el entierro y siembra), limpiar el cementerio, los internos en el mausoleo, las letras de criptas y nichos, cualquier reparación necesaria en el cementerio y la reparación de motores pequeños. Este puesto comenzará a tiempo parcial.

También se incluye cortar el césped y podar los terrenos de la escuela. Debe hablar inglés. Por favor, pase por la oficina y pregunte por Nancy para obtener una solicitud los lunes de 9:00 am a 5:00 pm, de martes a jueves de 9:00 am a 4:00 pm y los viernes de 9:00 am a 1:00 pm. Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a Nancy al 908-454-0112, ext. 401.

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



LA INSCRIPCIÓN PARA EL PROGRAMA DE FORMACIÓN EN LA FE DE SPSJ 25-26 HA COMENZADO EL ENLACE ES:

<https://www.spsj.org/ccd>

DATOS IMPORTANTE DEL PROGRAMA FORMACIÓN EN LA FE

Nuestra esperanza es caminar junto con las familias en la formación de sus hijos en la fe católica, que comienza en sus hogares. Nuestro programa de formación en la fe comienza en el primer grado y continúa hasta el octavo grado. Dentro de estos años se celebran los Sacramentos de la Primera Comunión (en el segundo grado) y la Confirmación (en el octavo grado). De acuerdo con los requisitos establecidos por la Diócesis de Metuchen, un niño(a) debe prepararse durante dos años antes de recibir estos sacramentos. La preparación para la Primera Comunión comienza en el primer grado, continúa en el segundo grado y al final del segundo año el niño(a) recibe su Primera Comunión. Lo mismo con la Confirmación los años de preparación son en los grados séptimo y octavo y al final del octavo grado recibe la Confirmación.

Sra. Escarlen Duran (Directora de Catequesis Parroquial)

908-454-0112x 406 - eduran@spsj.org

"¿No pudieron velar una hora conmigo?"



Necesitamos adoradores los lunes al mediodía, los jueves a la 11am y al mediodía, los miércoles a la 11am y los viernes a las 2pm. Si estás interesado habla con el diácono Francisco.

PEREGRINACIÓN DIOCESANA A LA BASÍLICA DEL SANTUARIO NACIONAL DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN EN WASHINGTON D.C.

Acompañemos al Obispo Checchio el 20 de septiembre de 2025 en la peregrinación diocesana y recibamos la indulgencia jubilar. Rezaremos el Ángelus, la oración de la mañana, tendremos confesiones y finalizaremos con la Misa de clausura. Algunas parroquias están facilitando transporte, pregunta en tu oficina parroquial.

Visita <https://diometuchen.org/jubilee-2025> para más información

ENCUENTRO DIOCESANO DE JÓVENES Y JÓVENES ADULTOS HISPANOS (BILINGÜE)



La oficina de Evangelización Hispana y Array of Hope ofrecerán un encuentro diocesano bilingüe de jóvenes y jóvenes adultos Hispanos entre los 14 y los 30 años el **13 de septiembre de 2025** de 9:00 am a 4:00 pm en el Centro

Pastoral St. John Neumann Piscataway, NJ. "Vive la Fe, encontrando y teniendo una relación con Dios", el día incluirá música por AOH Music, charlas, presentaciones multimedia, actividades y Adoración. Para más información y registro visita diometuchen.org/JovenesHispanos

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