

# St. Philip the Apostle

488 Saddle River Road, Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663  
201 843 1888 • [www.stphilipsb.org](http://www.stphilipsb.org)



## Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

## A Note from the Pastor

As I write this (Monday, Nov 28) we are preparing for the Mass of Christian Burial for our organist, Basil Pizzuto. Basil was a lifelong parishioner at St Philip's and was involved in building maintenance and the music ministry from an early age. He was hired as full-time organist in 1992, a job at which he excelled for thirty years, mentoring a number of other church musicians along the way. His sudden death comes as a shock to us all and reminds us that life is a gift and so we should cherish every day that we are given. Please pray for his wife, Adriana and his two sons, Owen and Aiden and his extended family in this time of tremendous loss.

Basil's contributions to our parish family are a part of his many ways of touching lives. As a longtime volunteer firefighter he served our community, no doubt saving lives along the way. And in his job at Ridgewood High School, as teacher and then administrator, he touched the lives of thousands. Over the past few days I have heard many tributes to him and I invite you to join me in thanking God for Basil's involvement at our parish. Soon we will announce a way to honor Basil as a parish, once the parish staff and leadership meet. But he will live in our hearts and every time we gather as a community to pray, our singing will remind us of the good work he did here at St Philip's. I believe that singing well will be a wonderful tribute to this great man.

Our music department is working on arranging substitutes for the future and we will be organizing a search committee to seek a new organist. Please pray that we find someone who can build on Basil's thirty years of good work.

Since Basil's death we have received some complaints that it was not acknowledged immediately in the bulletin. As Basil often reminded me, you can never make everyone happy. But this omission was not deliberate. It was because we are required to submit our bulletin copy for publishing about two weeks in advance in light of the holiday season. Sadly, our office workers were faced with several phone calls about this that were not in the Christian spirit. I ask your patience with us as we are "a work in progress". Only Jesus didn't make mistakes. And people complained about him too.

During the hustle and bustle of this pre-Christmas season, people's nerves often get frayed. Let us all try to practice patience and charity these days as a way of remembering that Christ came into the world to show us the way to the Kingdom.

I once again encourage you to make this Advent a season of blessing by spending some time in prayer, spiritual reading and works of charity. These are the things that help us to experience the joy of Christmas as we open our hearts to Christ and strive to live his command of love.

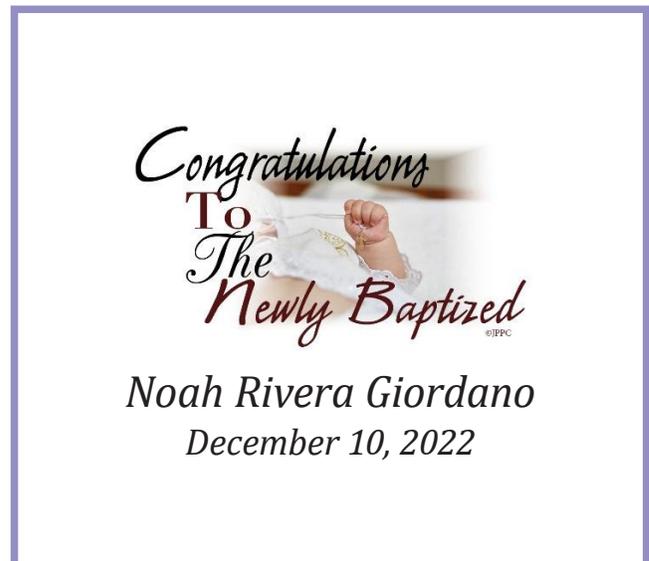
In the Lord's Love,  
Fr Bruce

### Collections of the Week



	2022	2021
November 27th, 2022	\$3,813.00	\$3,747.00
Faith Direct Avg. Weekly	\$2,434.25	\$2,038.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>\$6,247.25</b>	<b>\$5,785.00</b>
Christmas Flowers	\$764.00	
<b>Total Christmas Flowers</b>	<b>\$764.00</b>	
Buildings & Grounds	\$505.00	\$306.50

*Thank you for the continued support of our church.*



## Mass Intentions for the Week

- **Saturday December 10th**  
7:00 am † Basil Pizzuto  
8:30 am † God's Blessings for the Foran Family  
5:30 pm For the People
- **Sunday December 11th**  
7:00 am † Steven A. Alaimo  
8:30 am † Michael Tulipano - 1st Anniversary  
10:00 am † Lee Deedmeyer, Jr  
12:00 pm † Maria Calderone
- **Monday December 12th**  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
7:00 am Jodi Ratajczak  
8:30 am † Carol Ann Altamura
- **Tuesday December 13th**  
**St. Lucy of Syracuse**  
7:00 am † Beverly Kunz  
8:30 am † Norbert Small
- **Wednesday December 14th**  
**St. John of the Cross**  
7:00 am † Richard Ardito - 2nd Anniversary  
8:30 am † Anthony Karcich- 17th Anniversary
- **Thursday December 15th**  
7:00 am † Christy Collichio  
8:30 am † Louis DeGhetto
- **Friday December 16th**  
7:00 am † Margret Borsella  
8:30 am † Jacquelyn Glantschnig
- **Saturday December 17th**  
7:00 am † Stanley Joseph Valenick  
8:30 am † Zenobia Faryno  
5:30 pm Sansano Grandchildren
- **Sunday December 18th**  
7:00 am † Donald Vogt  
8:30 am † Michael Del Casale  
10:00 am Living & Deceased Members of  
the Yanni & Schulte Families  
12:00 pm Living & Deceased Members of  
the Calderone & Gross Family

## Memorials for December

- St. Therese** † Living & Deceased Members of  
the Sestanovich & DiFeo Families  
by Mary Sestanovich & family
- Holy Family  
Candle** † Gara & Soden Families  
by Nancy Gara & Family
- Sanctuary  
Candle** † Norbert & Michael Small  
by Nancy Small
- St. Jude** † Jennifer & William Duffy  
by the Stichauner Family
- Hosts** Special Intention  
by Pat & Bill Major
- Wine** † Richard Ardito  
by Louise Ardito

## Readings for the Week

- Monday** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,  
10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or  
Lk 1:39-47
- Tuesday** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18,  
19 and 23; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday** Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab and  
10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18B-23
- Thursday** Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a  
and 13b; Lk 7:24-30
- Friday** Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8;  
Jn 5:33-36
- Saturday** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8,  
17; Mt 1:1-17
- Sunday** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;  
Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



Betty Agnello, Ross Alfieri, Eric Angeles, Jacob Berard, Georgine Brancato, Pat Cullen, Joann Diangelis, Patty H., Wanda Kozloski, Nancy Lyden, Marilyn McPartland, Don Price, Pamela Swenson, Henry Wortche.

(This list will be updated monthly please call the rectory if names need to be added or removed)

## Advent Wreath Year A

**IF YOU** are setting up an Advent wreath in your home this year, here are some prayers you could say while you light its candles. You may say these before or after a meal, when waking up, before going to bed, or whenever you and the members of your household gather for prayer. Before you say the prayer, read and talk over the Gospel reading you heard at Sunday Mass that week.

**Week 1:** O God, who invite us to stay awake because we do not know the day the Lord will come, let this candle signify the dawn of the day when your Son will come again. Help us to avoid doing things we want to hide and to live always as children of the light. Through Christ our Lord.

**Week 2:** O God, who sent John the Baptist to tell us to prepare the way of the Lord, let these two candles light the way for us. Help us to walk now and always in a straight path to you. May love of God and love of neighbor light our way. Through Christ our Lord.

**Week 3:** O God, who promised that the least one born into the Kingdom of God is greater than John the Baptist, fill us with joy as we light the rose candle. Make us happy when we serve you, and let us see the light of your glory. Through Christ our Lord.

**Week 4:** O God, who sent an angel to comfort Joseph in his dream, comfort us when we are afraid. Turn our darkness into light. Let these four candles warm our hearts as we await the coming of Emmanuel, God-with-us. Through Christ our Lord.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Devotions and Customs  
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### *Please Pray for the Deceased*

*Anthony F. Odovardi  
Louis Morrone*



First Reading  
Second Reading  
Gospel

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11

Today's reading from Isaiah continues the message of renewal and hope we heard last week. "The wilderness and the parched land will exult," (35:1) the prophet says. He speaks words of hope and comfort, possibly to those exiled in Babylon. They are weak but he speaks words of strength and encouragement to them, "Be strong, do not fear!" (v.4) Their God comes to deliver them. "The ransomed of the Lord shall return, and enter Zion singing" (v.10). These words provide hope for a broken people. Returning to Jerusalem they will rebuild their city and its temple and once again "see the glory of the Lord" (v.2).

Over the years the early church came to realize that Jesus wasn't coming back as soon as they anticipated. James writes to encourage them to be patient. Things happen in God's time, not ours. While we wait we are called to persevere in faith, knowing that just as planting seeds leads to a harvest so too our faith will eventually be rewarded. James reminds them of the prophets who suffered patiently and never lost faith in God.

In today's gospel we hear that John the Baptist, while in prison, sends his disciples to question Jesus about his identity, "Are you the one who is to come?" (11:3). Jesus' response invites them to report back to John "what you hear and see" (v.4). Jesus' ministry to the blind, the lame, lepers, the deaf and the dead is an indication that he is God's servant, spoken of by the prophets. He has also come to announce the good news of the gospel. John had earlier proclaimed that, "the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (3:2), with the ministry of Jesus it starts to be realized.

*For Reflection:* Do I draw strength from God's promises? How can my life contribute to continuing Jesus' ministry to others?

## Respect Life Ministries

### St Vincent de Paul



In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that the good news can be seen, touched felt and heard through the lives of God's people. We are now charged to take up the ministry of Jesus', but we can't just ask people to take our word for it; our actions must speak for us.



Since Christmas is a time of love and gift giving, please share in Jesus ministry by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who are poor can know the good news of Jesus.

### COAT AND OUTERWEAR DRIVE

"USED" AS WELL AS NEW



The Knights of Columbus # 2842 Rochelle Park/ Saddle Brook is conducting their annual Coat and Outerwear Drive for the less fortunate. Please check your closets, attics and basements for **adult men's and women's COATS AND OUTERWEAR**, help keep someone in need warm this winter.

We will be collecting these items until Friday, December 23rd. This YEAR the CLOTHING WILL BE DONATED TO ST. LUCY'S SHELTER IN JERSEY CITY. (ST LUCY'S PROVIDES FOOD, CLOTHING AND HOUSING FOR THOSE IN NEED)



Thanks to all who contributed to our annual Giving Tree. Once the numbers are totaled we will publish a report. The tree will remain in place through the Christmas Season. Each tag on the tree represents a gift received. Bless you for decorating the holidays of the needy in our area.

### Food Pantry



Next weekend is our monthly food drive to support the Helping Hands food pantry at Sacred Heart Parish. Paper bags with a list of items currently needed are available in the rear of the church. Please take one and return it with your food donation next weekend. Last month we were able to donate 31 bags of food to help those in need. Thank you all who have helped!

### OUR BETHANY MINISTRY



is seeking volunteers to assist at funeral Masses. Their valuable work offers comfort to the bereaved in a time of loss. If you would like to help, please contact the Main Office.

### OREMUS Ministry: Let Us Pray



St Philip's Oremus Ministry consists of parishioners who volunteer to pray for individuals with acute needs such as serious illness or death. The word "Oremus" is the Latin word that means "let us pray." Our "PRAYERS" are contacted by e-mail when we receive a prayer request. If you know of someone who needs prayer or if you would like to take part in this ministry, please e-mail: [prayers@stphilipsb.org](mailto:prayers@stphilipsb.org)

## Stewardship

### Stewardship Reflection

*"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." JAMES 5:8*

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

*The Gift You Have Received, Give As Gift*

## Nurture Your Faith



**ADVENT BIBLE STUDIES** continue. Contact the Main Office for Information.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The tone of Advent "is of anticipation, expectation, yearning."

*The New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship*

**SUGGESTED READING:** Raymond Brown's **A Coming Christ at Christmas.**

Available from Amazon and other book sellers. It is an excellent short introduction to the stories surrounding the birth of Jesus.



God's Special Children, a religious education program for children with special needs, is currently accepting registrations for their 2022-2023 year. The program is designed to address the unique learning needs of children with Autism Spectrum disorder, learning disabilities, anxiety, ADD/ADHD, Oppositional Defiance Disorder and others. If you have any questions regarding this program, kindly call or text the program director, Monica Maniscalco at 917-992-7904.

### This Weekend's Second Collection



...is the annual national collection for Retired Religious. This collection provides aid to the various religious communities of sisters, brothers and priests who have served the Church in various ministries. Traditionally it is the largest of our second collections, which is attribute to the good work done by the religious over the years. Please be generous in your support.

RCIA—Four letters that stand for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. It is a process where non-Catholics explore our faith and are invited to become members of the Catholic Church. Are you someone who...

- Has expressed an interest in being baptized?
- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child but has not completed the sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation?

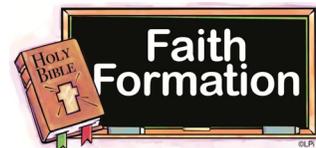
We gather for 10am Mass & meet afterwards. If you, or anyone you know would be interested in joining us, please contact the Religious Formation office with your name & phone number. We are excited to journey with you as we explore the Catholic faith together. Call 201-843-2240.



### Classes have started!

Have you registered yet with Faith Formation for the 22-23 school year? Those who were registered for 21-22

received a link to re-register for the 22-23 school year. If you have a child in 1st through 8th grade & would like to enroll in our Faith Formation classes, please visit our website <https://stphilipsb.org/registration-form> or contact the office at 201-843-2240.



***We are looking for Catechists willing to teach young children and help them to grow in the Catholic faith. We will guide you as to how you can join our dedicated team of wonderful Catechists. Thank you.***

*Lord, I Believe, Increase My Faith!*



The 50/50 Cash Prize will be drawn immediately following the 12pm Mass Today Sunday, December 11th.

The current jackpot is \$4,875.00\*

What a wonderful Christmas present winning would be!

\*as of 11/29/2022

Oplatek Sale



We will be selling Oplatek after the Masses. An oplatek is Christmas Bread or Christmas Wafer. It reminds us of a beautiful old custom of Polish Catholics who share it on Christmas Eve before supper as a symbol of love, unity and fraternity, expressing their mutual best wishes.

Christmas Mass Schedule

As you, make plans for celebrating Christmas we wanted to inform you of the schedule of Masses.

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 10:00 pm

Christmas Day

7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon

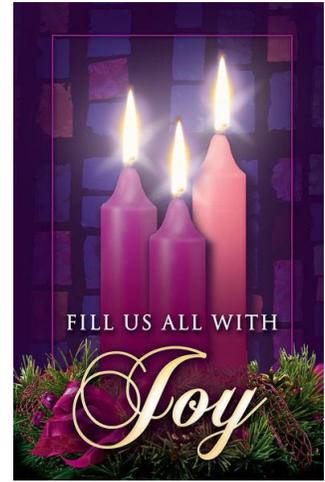
A copy of the schedule will be mailed to all registered parishioners.



Prayer for Advent Week 3

Lord Jesus, thank you for coming into the world to pay the price for our sins. We do not always appreciate how high a cost you paid, and how your birth made good on promises that God the Father had made. Thank you for your great love, for your sacrifice and victory against evil. Thank you that while we know hard times

may come, your kingdom has come. Thank you that while battles may come, the war against evil is effectively finished. Help us to never grow tired of that truth, to discover it anew and see how great it is that we can know it. Show us how to have joy every day, how to rejoice in your love and provision time and time again. We ask these things in your name, Amen.



Weekly Offertory Envelopes

Weekly Offertory Books for all parishioners who contribute to the parish using envelopes are in the bride's room in the back of the Church. Please stop by at the end of Mass & pick up your offertory envelopes. A member of our hospitality team will be glad to assist you.

Take ADVENTage: Advent/Christmas Opportunities

Welcoming Christ at Christmas

In the coming weeks, many more people than usual will be coming through our church doors for the Christmas holidays. Many of these people are searching for a place—a community—where they can express their faith. Please remember that just as we have sung in the past and will sing again, "All Are Welcome". We have the opportunity not to judge but to be Christ-like; warm and welcoming to ALL this Christmas. Remember, we cannot complain that more Catholics do not come to Mass and then give them a reason not to come back by the way we treat them when they show up at Christmas.

## Parish News & Activities

### The Love of God

No matter how long it has been, the Love of God knows no time. We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday at 4:30pm before the 5:30pm Mass or you may schedule private by calling the rectory 201-843-1888.

### BINGO FRIDAY NIGHT

Doors open at 6:00pm  
Early Bird game 7:15pm  
Regular schedule 7:30pm



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

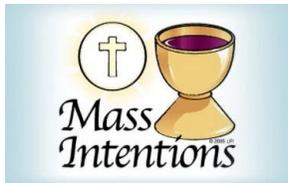
Call Rectory: 201-843-1888

## How many gifts will you unwrap this Christmas?



Most gifts will bring you a deep sense of joy on many levels – joy from the actual item you received and joy in knowing that someone thought about you. Catholic Charities reaches out to those who may not receive one gift and who may have very few if anyone to think about them. Help Catholic Charities by contributing to the Donation Bin(s). Thank you.

### We Now Accept Credit Cards!



Now when you want to have a Mass Intention or Memorial for someone you are able to pay by credit card. Please stop by or call the rectory and we will be able to help with this.

### Our Website!



Check out our Parish Website [stphilipsb.org](http://stphilipsb.org)

YouTube Channel at YouTube.com  
[Saint Philip the Apostle Saddle Brook](#)

for PARISH VIDEOS and other important news and information.

### Text to Give



To securely make a gift to St. Philip the Apostle, text a dollar amount to (201) 733-4101. You will be asked to complete a one-time registration page with your billing and contact information. After this registration, you can give any time by texting a dollar amount to our phone number.

Do you wish to make life easier by donating electronically to St. Philips? Consider an online enrollment at Faith Direct. No envelopes!



### Quotable Quotes



"Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern."

**Mother Teresa of Calcutta**



## Parish News & Activities

### Mass Schedule



#### Sunday Mass Schedule

5:30 PM (Saturday Evening)  
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

#### Weekdays & Saturdays

7:00 AM & 8:30 AM

#### Holy Days

5:30 PM (Eve), 12:10 PM & 7:00 PM



**Baptism.** Celebrated on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Call the rectory office to schedule your child's baptism.

**Marriages.** To be scheduled at least 12 months in advance. To plan the Sacrament of Marriage, please contact one of the parish priests.

**Anointing of the Sick.** If you would like to invite one of our priests to visit and pray with you or a loved one please call the rectory.

**Reconciliation.** Every Saturday at 4:30 PM before Mass. Private Reconciliation by appointment, call the rectory.

**Devotions.** Recitation of Rosary is daily after 8:30 AM Mass. Miraculous Medal Novena on Saturdays after 8:30 AM Mass.

## Parish Contact Information

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Bruce Janiga

#### **Parochial Vicar**

Rev. Marek Bokota

#### **Rectory Office**

Eileen Green, Office Manager  
201 843 1888  
201 368 9161 (Fax)  
ourparish@stphilipsb.org  
www.stphilipsb.org

#### **Music Ministry**

Basil Pizzuto, Director  
201 615 5299  
Francesca Kubian, Adult Choir  
Barbara Weiner, Children's Choir

#### **Religious Education & RCLA**

Peter K O'Brien M. Div., Director  
Elaine Mogerman, Secretary  
201 843 2240  
reled@stphilipsb.org

#### **God's Special Children Rel. Ed**

Monica Maniscalco, M. Ed, Dir.  
917 992 7904  
Instruction for Special Needs Children

#### **Trustees**

Dr. Richard Filipek  
Camille Tritto



# The Gifts that Jesus Brings

The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Matthew 11:5 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Matthew 11:2-11 (NIV).

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

BLIND	LAME	HEARD	DEAF	HEAR
GOOD	PREACHED	POOR	CHRIST	DEAD
RAISED	SEE	LEPROSY	PRISON	JOHN
NEWS	CURED	SIGHT	WALK	HEAR