



# St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church

2308 3rd Street · Huffman TX 77336

## Spirit and Truth Newsletter

November 22, 2020

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*

### Parish Office

Phone: 281-324-1478

Fax: 281-715-5533

parishoffice@stphilip.cc

### Mailing Address

PO Box 2363

Huffman, TX 77336

### Office Location

2308 3rd Street

Huffman, TX 77336

Hours: Monday-Friday

9:30 am-4:00 pm

### Pastor

Rev. Richard Barker

### Mass Times

#### Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 am

#### Daily Mass

Tues & Thurs: Noon

Wed & Fri: 9:00 am

First Sat: 9:00 am

#### Adoration

Friday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm

#### Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 pm

(beginning Nov. 28)

Or by appointment

### Open Sky

My dear parishioners, in a few short days the Year of Grace 2020 comes to a close in the Church. We remember how the liturgical seasons and feast day celebrations unfolded *in spirit and in truth* this past year. Surely, the important things of life have value both on earth and in heaven, chief among them being salvation in Christ and the glory of the eucharistic celebration.



God is the sum and summary of your faith's journey, the path and the destination of your hope. He alone can satisfy the longing of men and women everywhere for life, peace, abundance and friendship. And let us not forget the vindication of our *trust*. When you realize how attentive God is to you personally and providentially, you approach God with the confident assurance that he is *calling you*. The moment you grasp that "God will be everything to everyone" [1 Cor 15:28], you awaken like a bird that stirs restlessly before a long and ancient migration.

So many persons stagger under a backbreaking burden they have no right to carry. Little wonder that countless human beings, overpowered by evil, are driven this way and that, like dried leaves exploding before the cold blast of winter. They look everywhere for a place to rest but cannot see the truth and goodness of God. So they struggle alone in this life, hounded by anxiety and fears. Few things are more fleeting and erratic as man's conflicted nature. He applauds the good while simultaneously romancing evil. He is horrified by the scandal of his own mortality, yet craves solace and comfort in wealth, power, and sensuality as if these could save him. Ironically, the soul that rejects God compulsively desires to fill itself, quickly importing shiny trinkets and novelties, inviting false gods to move in.

In the present generation's way of thinking, reliance on a comfortable life and social empowerment is sufficient. This is not the content of faith but rather an admission of servility. Materialism matters a great deal to people who live without

*(Continued on page 7)*



"MyParish" smartphone app



Facebook.com/stphiliphuffmanTX



www.stphiliphuffmanTX.org

## ***St. Philip Parish Meetings - Protocol***

**October 25, 2020**

The St. Philip campus is now available to all parish ministries and fellowship groups to resume normal meetings. Please continue to observe the well-known public health protocols in place for mitigating the spread of the corona virus.

In addition, each time a ministry or a fellowship group meets, the participants need to:

- 1) Request/reserve your meeting day, time, and room with Kathy Corbett in the parish office,
- 2) Turn in an Attendance Roster after the meeting (include group or ministry name, date/time, room, participant names and phone numbers) to the PARISH OFFICE "mail box" in the CCE workroom (forms available in the workroom and parish office),
- 3) Sanitize your meeting space in the same way we care for our worship area, cry room, and sacristy after each weekend Mass, and,
- 4) Completely avoid sharing of food and beverages while on campus.

Welcome back to our parish campus! If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Corbett (Parish Administrator -Pastoral Associate) at the parish office, (281) 324-1478. +++

### ***Thank You New Altar Servers!***

We give thanks to God for our wonderful parish families and for the support you give to our Altar Servers!



### ***Altar Flowers***



Our Sunday bouquets can be given in honor or celebration of a loved one or event. Parishioners are invited to sponsor a bouquet for their intentions. The donation for a bouquet is \$50.00.

The flower binder can be found on the display case counter next to the main front doors. Please fill in the information for the date you choose. Payment can be made online or mailed to the parish office.





## *The Sacrament of Reconciliation*

**Beginning November 28, we will resume our weekly confession schedule.  
Confession will be held on Saturdays from 3pm-3:30pm.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted the Sacrament of Confession when he breathed on the apostles, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." [Jn 20:22-23]

Every person who comes to sacramental reconciliation has a sense of sin. This alone is enough to make a good beginning. With sensitive and diligent priestly guidance, you can always make a good confession. Through the ministry of reconciliation, you experience the forgiveness of sins through, with, and in Jesus' name in the heart of his Church. Your examination of conscience should include the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. If you're uncertain about the sacrament, convey your concerns when you come into the Confessional. Don't hesitate to ask your priest to guide you through the sacrament.

The habit of confession assures the gentle touch of the "Shepherd and guardian of our souls" [1Pet 2:25] "whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light." [Mt 11:30] You long to encounter God. You want to pour out your heart to him. Go to Confession!



### *Act of Contrition*

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of Heaven and fear the pains of hell, but most of all, because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and worthy of all my love. I firmly intend with the help of Thy grace to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. AMEN



### **CCE Invites you to attend:**

**FAITH** in Action

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 6. Our CCE coordinator, Carlie Richard, will provide a short lesson on how families can put our faith into action by performing the Corporal Works of Mercy.

On December 6, we will introduce our next Work of Mercy: Clothe the Naked. We will also be discussing our Fall service project. All parishioners are invited to attend.



*Works of Mercy* by Pierre Montallier, 1680

## *CCE News and More!*

### *All Saints Day Celebration at St. Philip!*



The elementary CCE students blessed us with a beautiful All Saints Day Celebration on Sunday, November 1.



The CCE Elementary students celebrated All Saints Day by dressing up as a Saint of their choosing. The children enjoyed a fun morning learning about the Saints, playing All Saints Day Bingo, and enjoying some time with Father Barker. We believe our students are “MINT” to be Saints and reminded them with a special treat bag of peppermints at the end of the morning. Thank you to all the students (and their parents) and teachers who dressed up and shared fun facts about their Saint.

Carlie Richard, Elementary CCE Coordinator





## Mary's Blessings Ministry Thanksgiving Food Drive



Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive was a huge success! What a wonderful, giving parish we have!

A bounty of non-perishable foods lined the truck beds of our volunteers during the last two weekends of October. Our friends at the Huffman Food Pantry received this bounty to fill the wonderful Thanksgiving boxes that were distributed on November 14<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please visit their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/HuffmanFoodPantry](http://www.facebook.com/HuffmanFoodPantry).

We appreciate everything you do to you do to assist our families in need!



## St. Philip needs your cheerful support!



Thank you for your faithful generosity to our beloved parish. As we return to Mass, we still need your support! One easy way to give is to simply open your smartphone camera, and point it at the QR code below. It will take you directly to our online giving site where you can

sign up for a recurring donation. Here are some other ways you can support our parish community with your donations:

- Drop your offering into the collection basket during Mass.
- Download the MyParish app, set St. Philip as your Church, and tap the "Giving" button
- Visit our website, [www.stphiliphuffmantx.org](http://www.stphiliphuffmantx.org), and click on the "Online Giving" box
- Download the MyParish app, set St. Philip as your Church, and tap the "Giving" button
- Mail your check to St. Philip the Apostle, PO Box 2363, Huffman, TX 77336
- Set St. Philip the Apostle as a vendor in your bank's online bill pay. Use our mailing address, PO Box 2363, Huffman, TX 77336

*Consider this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

[1 Cor 9:6-7]



## Catholic Schools Parent Survey – 6th Grade and Above

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston is currently developing plans for a technical secondary education option for students by looking at the feasibility of a Catholic Career-Technical High School or CCTHS.



The Development Committee of the CCTHS Advisory Board has planned an initial curriculum offering based on 10-year job projections for high-wage, high-demand careers within the Houston metroplex, as well as throughout the country. Our goal is to provide a truly unique, Catholic-centered, technical high school education to students who may be looking to develop skills that will allow them to enter the workforce directly out of high school or move on to the college experience of their choice.

Your input will help us to better evaluate curriculum offerings and potential attendance in the new high school. Please take a few minutes to complete our Interest Survey by clicking the link below. <https://archgh.cvent.com/CCTHS>

If you are interested in learning more or in being a Corporate Sponsor, please e-mail [CCTHS@archgh.org](mailto:CCTHS@archgh.org)

Thank you! CCTHS Advisory Board

## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Weekday Mass

Dec 22, Tue 12 noon  
Dec 23, Wed 9 am

Dec 29, Tue 12 noon  
Dec 30, Wed 9 am  
Dec 31, Thu NO MASS

Jan 5, Tue 12 noon  
Jan 6, Wed 9 am  
Jan 7, Thu 12 noon  
Jan 8, Fri 9 am

(exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will follow Mass with Benediction at 3 pm)



### Holy Days of Obligation

Dec 24, Thu 4 pm Vigil Nativity of the Lord  
Dec 25, Fri 10 am Nativity of the Lord  
Dec 26, Sat 4 pm Vigil Holy Family  
Dec 27, Sun 8:30 am and 11 am Holy Family

Jan 01, Fri 10 am Mary, Mother of God  
(no exposition or adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

Jan 02, Sat 4 pm Vigil Epiphany  
Jan 03, Sun 8:30 am and 11 am Epiphany

Jan 09, Sat 4 pm Vigil Baptism of the Lord  
Jan 10, Sun 8:30 am and 11 am Baptism of the Lord





# Open Sky

(Continued from page 1)

God. It matters to captured birds as well, but not so much that birds will forsake their true nature. As their unhappy owners will tell you, a bird will aim for the open sky if given a chance. It will forsake a comfortable lodging, toys, food and its attentive warden for the rush of wind, the joy of flight, the splendor of the treetops and, I might add, for an immense encounter with freedom. The human being who denies God cannot do this. His material world is an immense cage from which escape is impossible on his own terms.

Think about it. When have you or anyone prayed to the “scientific method?” When have you prayed to your healthcare provider or investment banker? To your beautiful SUV or boat? When, in great need, does one call out to his or her very own self for help?

“When I was a boy,” recalled the late Monsignor Luigi Giussani of Milan (Milan, Italy), “I got lost in the great forest of Tradate and, seized with panic, I cried out for all of three hours as the sun went down. That experience showed me—afterwards—that man means ‘seeking’: man becomes ‘seeking’ if he cries out, but he only cries out if there is something other. His cry implies the existence of something other. If not, why would he cry out at all?” Dear friends, that “other” is God our Creator!

Understand that human faith, impelled by hope, seeks a *perfect* home for love. Give your all to God on earth, and God will be your all in heaven. “He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” [Mic 6:8] God will be won over by your feeble but persistent spiritual efforts. He will pour out his truth and his grace to prepare you for the *journey*. The time to strengthen your spiritual wings grows short, and you must rise up to heaven, for the “form of this world is passing away.” [1 Cor 7:31] Sincerely in the hearts of Jesus and Mary. Your pastor, Reverend Richard Barker.

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Please add your loved one's name to our Book of Remembrance. It will be located in front of the altar through the month of November.

## St. Philip Ministry Event Schedule

*“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them” [Matt. 18:20]*

Date	Event	Day	Time	Location	More info (pg)
Sundays	Children's Liturgy	Sunday	8:30am Mass	St. Philip	Call office
December 6	Faith in Action Clothe the Naked	Sunday	Immediately following 8:30am Mass	Parish Hall	3
December 9	Journey in the Catholic Faith	Wednesday	7:00pm-8:30pm	Parish Hall	6

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday Masses

**Saturday, November 21**

4:00 pm - For the Catholic Church

**Sunday, November 22**

8:30 am - People of the Parish

11:00 am - +Oliverio Trevino+

### Daily Masses

**Monday, November 23**

No Daily Mass

**Tuesday, November 24**

Noon - For the Catholic Church

**Wednesday, November 25**

9:00 am - +Robert and Frances Prejean+

**Thursday, November 26**

Noon - Fr. Barker

**Friday, November 27**

9:00 am - +Jack Dulan+

### Sunday Masses

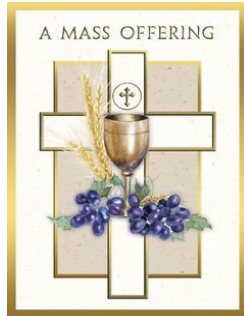
**Saturday, November 28**

4:00 pm - 46<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of  
Janie and Nick Jaramillo

**Sunday, November 29**

8:30 am- People of the Parish

11:00am- +Oliverio Trevino+



## Pray For...

### *Graces, Strength and Healing*

Ron Richardson, Connie Thomas, Jason Metzler,  
Jacel Morgan, Paulette Beviacqua,  
St. Philip Parishioners

### *For the repose of the souls of...*

+Windy McMichael+



## Commemoration of the Week

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**November 22**



Our Catholic liturgical year follows a rhythmic cycle which points us toward beginnings and endings. This Sunday is the last Sunday in the Church year and we celebrate the Feast of the Solemnity of Jesus Christ the Sovereign King.

Our Catholic faith and its Liturgical practices proclaim to a world

hungry for meaning that Jesus Christ is the "Alpha" (the first letter of the Greek alphabet) and the "Omega" (the last letter), the beginning and the end. In Him the whole world is being made new and every end is a beginning.

On this last week of the year, through our readings and liturgical prayer, we are invited to reflect on the "last things"- death, judgment, heaven and hell. We

do so in order to change, to be converted; to enter more fully into the Divine plan. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death." [Rev 21:4]

As we move from one Church year to the next, we also move along in the timeline of the human life allotted to each one of us. We age. The certainty of our own death is meant to illuminate our life and the certainty of the end of all time is meant to illuminate its purpose and culmination in Christ. For both to be experienced by faith we must truly believe in Jesus Christ, the beginning and the end.

Then, let us walk the way of faith into the new Liturgical season, Advent, preparing ourselves and the world of our own time ready for the final coming of Christ the King. On this last week of the Church Year, let us remember that every end is a beginning - because in Christ the King, Thanksgiving and Advent become a way of life.



## Happy THANKSGIVING

*The parish office will be closed  
November 26-27 for the Thanksgiving  
holiday.*

*There will be no Mass offered on  
November 26-27.*

*We will have our usual Vigil and Sunday  
Masses on November 28-29.*

### *Journey in the Catholic Faith*

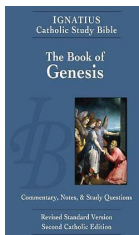
**Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 7-8:30pm,  
in the St. Philip Parish Hall. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday of the month (no meetings Nov. 25, Dec. 23  
due to Holidays).**

We are currently using the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible to study the Book of Genesis. For parents of CCE students, this book will be provided you by the CCE Team. After Thanksgiving break, on December 9, we will study Chapters 23, 24, 25.

We are an interactive group, bringing our past experiences and knowledge to the group with our discussions. You do not have to have extensive knowledge to join us... some sit quietly taking in the discussion, others actively participate.

Please make a New Year plan to join us for a meeting in January!

Contact Deb Kessler: [rdkessler@stphilip.cc](mailto:rdkessler@stphilip.cc)



## *More Resources For Parishioners In Need*

### **Catholic Charities of Galveston-Houston**

continues to serve people in need during the COVID-19 pandemic through all of its programs.

**Food pantries are open** for drive-through food distribution at three locations. For hours and other information, please visit [catholiccharities.org/covidfooddistribution/](https://catholiccharities.org/covidfooddistribution/) or call the COVID Assistance Line at 713-874-6521.

**Counselor Phone Line is available!** Call Catholic Charities' Mental Health Line from 9 am to 4 pm to request a session, and a licensed counselor will call you back within a day:  
713-874-6590



### **2020 Parish Office Holiday Schedule**

The parish office is open Monday– Friday between the hours of 9:30am-4:00pm. The **parish office will be closed** on the following dates.

Thursday-Friday, November 26-27 - Thanksgiving

Tuesday, December 8 - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Thursday - Monday, December 24 (1 pm) through December 28 - Solemnity of Christmas



## **Sacraments**

### **SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

If you have been participating actively *at least six months* after registration in the parish, you may ask for an appointment with the pastor to begin marriage preparation. Marriage preparation requires six months.

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Children age 6 or younger, the following documents **are required** before baptism date may be scheduled: parish registration, birth certificate, and baptism class certifications. Godmother and Godfather must be in good standing as practicing Catholics.

If you have been participating actively at least six months after registration in the parish, you may call the parish office to begin baptismal preparation.

### **FUNERAL SERVICES**

To ensure that parish ministers can assist you, please call the parish office **before** setting dates and times for funeral services. Regarding personal spoken remembrances at funeral liturgies, St. Philip parish adheres to the policies of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

By appointment. Please call our office to make arrangements.

Please call our **Church office at (281) 324-1478** if you are in need of these sacraments.

## Parish Ministries Contact Information

**Pastor** - Rev. Richard E. Barker

**Instituted Acolyte** - John Comeaux (281) 324-2044

**Parish Administrator/Pastoral Associate** - Kathy Corbett  
(281) 324-1478, kcorbett@stphilip.cc

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 2363, Huffman TX 77336

**Parish Phone:** (281) 324-1478

**Parish Fax:** (281) 715-5533

**Parish E-Mail:** parishoffice@stphilip.cc

**Parish Website:** www.stphiliphuffmantx.org

**Bulletin Submissions:** spirit\_truth@stphilip.cc

### LITURGICAL

#### Altar Servers

Father Richard Barker  
pastor@stphilip.cc  
(281) 324-1478

#### Sacramental Ministry

Fr. Barker  
pastor@stphilip.cc  
Kathy Corbett - Pastoral Associate  
kcorbett@stphilip.cc  
John Comeaux, Instituted Acolyte  
(281) 324-1478

#### Children's Liturgy of the Word

Nikki Metzler  
nikkinoelmetzler@yahoo.com  
936-521-9483

#### Communion to the Homebound

Kathy O'Donnell  
John Comeaux, Instituted Acolyte  
(281) 324-1478

#### Adornment of Sanctuary

Disciples of Jesus and Mary  
Bonnie Sulkowski  
(281) 508-5198

#### Music Core Team

Geri Moulds, Director  
gmoulds@stphilip.cc  
(281) 540-4682  
Jan Williams  
jwilliams@stphilip.cc  
(713) 419-8097  
Valerie Sivil  
(713) 202-1310

#### Usher Ministry

Gary Aldrich  
usher@stphilip.cc  
(832) 586-6430

### SOCIAL OUTREACH/CONCERN

#### Mary's Blessings Team

*For financial assistance  
please call (832)-764-9814*

Marie Hohmann  
mhohmann@stphilip.cc  
(281) 360-9032

#### Prime Timers (55+)

Claudia Herron  
cherron@stphilip.cc  
primetimers@stphilip.cc  
(832) 270-3385

#### Rosemont Assisted Living

parishoffice@stphilip.cc  
(281) 324-1478

#### Transitions Ministry

Susie Cleary  
scleary@stphilip.cc  
(765) 490-1369

### SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

#### Disciples of Jesus and Mary

##### Laity Spiritual Formation

Jan Williams  
jwilliams@stphilip.cc  
(713) 419-8097

#### Eucharistic Adoration/Holy Face

##### Prayer Group

Janet Hays  
(281) 852-3444

#### Knights of Columbus

Ray Kessler, Grand Knight  
rkessler@stphilip.cc  
(832) 644-8078

#### Women's Guild

Dianne Truitt  
(713) 823-4948  
dtruitt@stphilip.cc

#### Prayer Ministry

MyParish App - Prayers  
Or email prayer requests to  
parishoffice@stphilip.cc

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### CCE Office

cceoffice@stphilip.cc  
(281) 324-1934

#### CCE Core Team Chairperson Middle/High School Coordinator

Becky Pursell  
bpursell@stphilip.cc  
(713) 516-7376

#### Elementary Coordinator

Carlie Richard  
crichard@stphilip.cc  
(337) 258-4840

#### First Sacrament Coordinator

Suzanne Burch  
sburch@stphilip.cc  
(361) 877-9728

#### Confirmation Coordinator

Becky Pursell  
bpursell@stphilip.cc  
(713) 516-7376

#### CCE Registrar

André Taylor  
ataylor@stphilip.cc  
(832) 233-0829

#### Journey in the Catholic Faith

Ray and Deb Kessler  
rdkessler@stphilip.cc  
(832) 644-8078



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smartphone app: text **APP** to **88202**



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