



St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church

2308 3rd Street · Huffman TX 77336

Spirit and Truth Newsletter

April 4, 2021

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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

Wed: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 pm

Or by appointment

Glorious Light

My dear parishioners, I give you the joy of our savior's resurrection from the dead! In each of our lives, there comes a time when we meet God unexpectedly. We encounter him in an entirely new way. An experience like this is unusual because of its intensity, its simplicity, its compression of human past, present and future into an exalted present moment.

Meeting God in a life-changing way invariably confers upon us a measure of divine knowledge quite outside the norm of human social interaction. We come away from such an encounter with a new understanding of grace, a new depth of conviction. We are blessed with a peace and serenity that only God can give. And very often we, like the Blessed Virgin Mary, reserve all these things to prayerful contemplation, pondering them privately in our hearts.

Indeed, the resplendent celebration of Easter is itself a singular intervention in the Church's liturgical year, a glorious radiant light shining in a darkened world. Humanity is delivered from slavery to sin and dread of the future. By the mystery of Our Lord's resurrection, mankind's hope is renewed, and trust springs forth from humanity's withered root. [cf. Isa 11:1]

Jesus Christ the *Morning Star* is the wellspring of grace. [cf. Rev 2:28] On the day of his resurrection, our savior gave to humankind a very dear possession, a *fountain of life-giving water welling up to eternal life*. [cf. Jn 4:14] Therefore, we who are called Christians baptize our children and prepare the next generation to receive the Good News of Jesus Christ. We bathe ourselves in life-giving waters of

(Continued on page 7)



"MyParish" smartphone app



Facebook.com/stphiliphuffmantx



www.stphiliphuffmantx.org

AN EASTER PROCLAMATION

The hosts of heaven exult and sing aloud in mighty triumph!
Let the earth be glad as glory alights and night reigns no more.
Let the Church rejoice at the victory of her Lord and Master,
Who paid the debt of Adam,
Who frees those doomed to die,
Who heals the broken-hearted and bind up their wounds,
Who forgives the sinner and raises up the lowly,
Who destroys death forever,
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.
God our Father, eternal is your love for us!
Christ the Son, in victory you reign!
Holy Spirit, set the Easter fire ablaze in our hearts.
Together you live and reign and ransom your people,
one God forever and ever.
Amen.



Rebuilding our Liturgical Ministry Team: Lay Readers and Eucharistic Ministers Needed

To give your “YES,” please fill out the application in the Sacristy, speak with Fr. Barker after Mass, or call the parish office.

Even if you have previously enrolled in our Ministry Scheduler Pro online, St. Philip needs you to recommit in order to “re-start” this very important devotion to the Mass, serving our parish families.

Note: We will be scheduling our Holy Week liturgies and Sunday Mass ministers “offline” for several more weeks, and will only be assigning those who have applied for lay ministry since our “post-pandemic-lockdown” return to St. Philip. So please, renew your “YES” now. Thanks to all who have already submitted your new lay ministry application.



Journey in the Catholic Faith

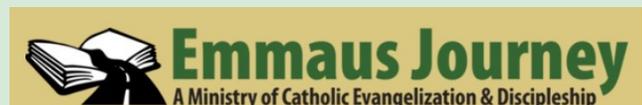
We had a wonderful turnout for our Lenten Bible Study! We were very happy to see some new faces and have new voices share in our journey.

JCF will resume our regular meeting schedule of meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, beginning on April 14 with emmausjourney.org, NAB version.

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 accept this invitation to ALL. We would love to have you join us!**

Upcoming dates: April 14 (print the readings for April 18) and April 28 (print the readings for May 2)

For more information, contact Ray & Deb at 719-660-8880 or rdkessler@stphilip.cc.



ST. PHILIP FIRST ANNUAL BABY BOTTLES FOR LIFE

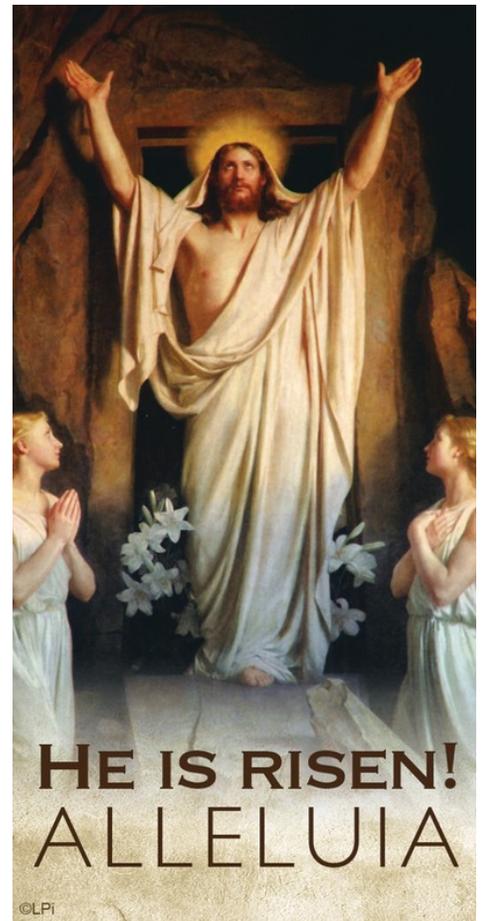
Monetary donations will be accepted after all Masses
April 24 - 25 and May 1 - 2
(Visit the information table in the foyer)
Check or Cash (no coins please)

Make check to: St. Philip Women's Guild
Please write "Baby Bottles for Life" in the memo on your check.



These proceeds will be given to Birthright of Humble, a volunteer crisis pregnancy counseling center. Your gift, combined with those of other churches, means Birthright of Humble will be there to help mothers make the right choice.

Your gift is appreciated and any amount will help!

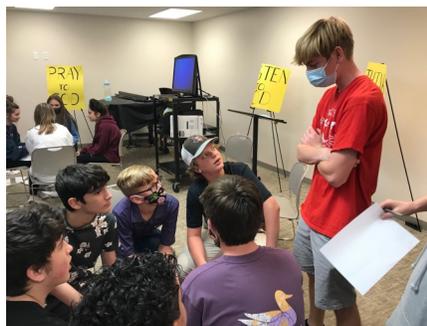


Confirmation Retreat—2021



"And His mother kept all these things in her heart" [cf. Luke 2:51] was the theme of our first year Confirmation retreat this past Saturday, February 27. Our patron saint, Mary, mother of God, had, and continues to have, a unique position in the work of Jesus Christ. Through a day of prayer, talks, praise and worship songs, reflection and sacraments, Mary's singular role in the life of the Church was explored.

In the first talk of the day, the difference between Zechariah's doubt at the Angel Gabriel's announcement of the birth of John the Baptist vs Mary's Fiat at the Annunciation, announcing the coming of Christ were explored. Like Mary, the confirmandi were encouraged to trust in God's holy will in their lives and to enter into silence as Mary chose to do and as Zechariah was forced to do, to hear God's voice.



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In the second talk, Mary's active work as a disciple in Jesus' ministry was looked at as she encourages him at the Wedding at Cana. Mary's role in her Son's life changes as he transitions from his private life to his public ministry. Mary's fiat, her "Yes" to God, and her part in it, comes into play again as she encourages the servers, as well as all of the faithful throughout the ages, to "do whatever he tells you." [John 2:5] The servants could never understand what Jesus was about to do, but Mary was asking them and us to trust in Him.

Rounding out the night's activities, the final talk was on the Crucifixion, a weighty subject at the end of a long day for our teens. While standing at the foot of the cross, Mary surely felt the same overwhelming grief that all of us do at the loss of a loved one, but her sorrow was tempered by the knowledge that this was her son's mission. It was why He had come – to pay the price and save us from our sins. Mary was not all-knowing.

She could not have known everything that would be required of her as the mother of the Messiah, but she trusted God. In her perfection, Christ gave her to us from his cross as our mother too, so that she could help us all on our earthly journey toward eternal life in heaven.



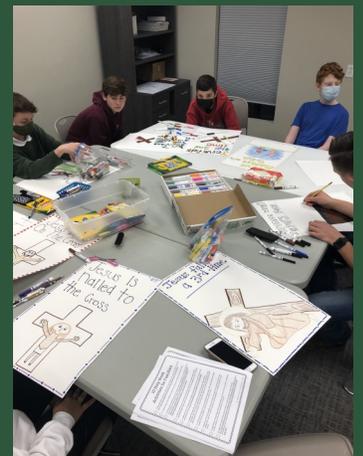
A huge thank you to the retreat team who made the retreat possible: retreat team lead Megan Pursell, additional speakers Hunter Boyd and Faith Hebert, team

member Robby Taylor, and Father Barker who encouraged the retreatants to reflect and to pray to God, listening always for his voice and opening their minds and hearts to his call.

CCE Happenings



3rd Graders made their own Stations of the Cross booklets.



8th graders illustrated the Stations of the Cross.

While learning about and praying the Rosary, the 1st Grade Class continues to make progress on their Rosary Cross journey by adding roses every week.



The Confirmation class welcomed Fr. Barker. They learned how the parts of the Mass could be found throughout the Bible.





Join the Knights of Columbus Council 9794

*The KCs enable good men to become better Catholics,
in service to the Parish, Church, and community.*

St. Philip invites all Catholic men over the age of 18,
and in good standing with the Catholic Church to join.

Easy online membership is here through June 30th!

- ◆ Sign up at kofc.org/join
- ◆ Enter promo code MCGIVNEY2020 and get 12 months of *free online* membership.
- ◆ Enter "9794" in the Preferred Local Council field.

We are Catholic gentlemen committed to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. We are brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and our neighbor.

Contact **Grand Knight Ray Kessler**

at rkessler@stphilip.cc or **832-644-8078** for more information. Or talk to any of our Knights who can be found serving our parish as ushers, lectors, EOMs, and choir members.

Winter Coat Drive You can help NOW

(Sponsored by Journey in the Catholic Faith
and St. Philip Knights of Columbus)



Coming October 2021

When doing your spring-cleaning, save your gently-used coats, windbreakers, fleece & hoodies for donation!

Also, retail stores have winter-closeout sales going on right now, so we thought this would be a good time to be on the "look-out" for some great buys. As you are shopping, keep your eyes peeled for some super purchases to donate for this *Winter Coat Drive*.

Contact Ray or Deb Kessler at 832-644-8078.

The Women's Guild

The Women's Guild assists other parish ministries by providing receptions and decorating the parish hall. Upon request, we host funeral receptions in the parish hall or deliver food dishes to the deceased's family home. We support charities outside of St. Philip.

The group is about parish women enjoying life in Christ together. Our members celebrate the warmth, talents, experiences and feelings of one another as we work and pray together. We are open to having others in our lives, and we hope our new members will include *you!* **We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is April 13 at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall.**

CCE : Save the Date

"Parade Around the 'Our Father'" Catholic VBS

Monday June 14 – Friday June 18

9:30am – 12:30pm

Games – Music – Crafts – Bible – Snacks
And lots more fun

In-coming Kindergarten – Out-going 5th Grade
Pre-school/Nursery for volunteers' children and
additional 3 & 4-year-olds as space permits



**Tons of Fun Under the Big
Top Coming this Summer!**

St. Philip Ministry Event Schedule

“And he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him.” [Mk 1: 13]

Date	Event	Day	Time	Location	More info (pg)
Sundays	Children’s Liturgy	Sunday	8:30am Mass	St. Philip	Call office
April 13, 2021	Women’s Guild	Tuesday	10:30 am	Parish Hall	5
April 14, 2021	Journey in the Catholic Faith (JCF)	Wednesday	7:00 pm—8:30 pm	Parish Hall	2
April 24-25 May 1-2	Baby Bottles for Life	Weekend Masses	After all Masses	Narthex	3
June 14-18, 2021	CCE Bible School	Mon. thru Fri.	9:30am-12:30pm	Upcoming	5

Ways to Give to St. Philip



Scan QR code.



Place in the collection basket at Mass.

Mail your check to:

St. Philip the Apostle
PO Box 2363
Huffman, TX 77336

Use our mailing address to set St. Philip the Apostle as a vendor in your bank’s online bill pay.



Download the MyParish app, set St. Philip as your Church, and tap the “Giving”



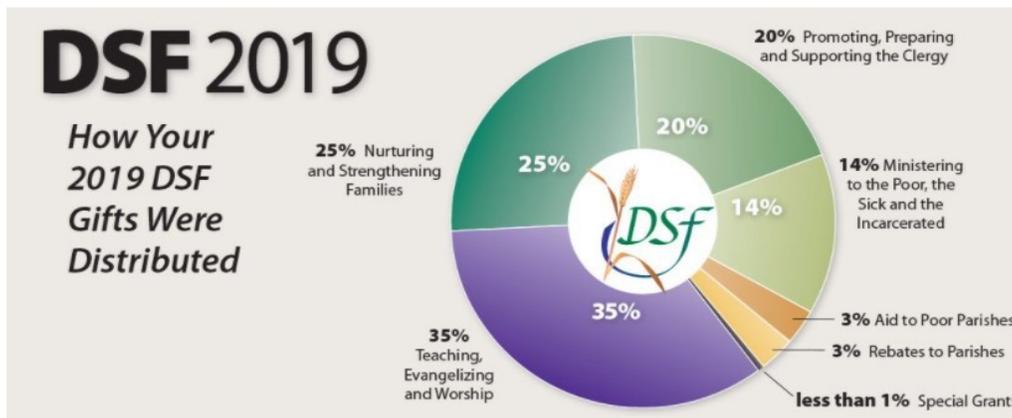
Please consider donating to the Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) to allow them to

Our St. Philip DSF Goal for 2021 is \$30,000.

Your support is very much appreciated!

Please visit <https://www.archgh.org/ways-to-give/diocesan-services-fund-dsf/> to learn

Together we accomplish so much...



Glorious Light

(Continued from page 1)

the Sacrament of Reconciliation as often as we can. It is never too late to purify your mind and heart to receive Christ, the “living bread which comes down from heaven”. [Jn 6:51] Believe in the name of Christ! Hide yourself in the sacred heart of Jesus! Let his glory, his beatitude, his holiness embrace your wounded soul.

Ask for the very first grace to accept Jesus Christ as your redeemer and high priest who, in the breaking of bread, is worthy to be entrusted with your broken heart, your wounded spirit, your fragile dreams, and your most cherished hopes. The unexpected altar may be anything, but this much is certain: you will discover it on the arduous path that leads to God or on the broad highway you take running away from him. Pray for the strength to humble yourself. Kneel down and bow your head in silent wonder.

As Roman Catholics, we highly value the virtue of meeting God in the ordinary events of prayer, worship and Christian fellowship in the midst of our faith community. Remarkably, as well, God has willed to give us the extraordinary sacraments to be used in our ordinary lives. One can go anywhere in the world for something to eat, but only to the Church can a person go to be fed with the living Body and Blood of the Lord.

Cultivate the virtue of perseverance to assist our good intentions. Encounter God in the simple but noble ways of religious practice and devotions. “God, You have shown us the paths of life; you fill us with joy in your presence.” [Acts 2:28] “Are not our hearts burning inside us?” [Luke 24:32] Sincerely in the hearts of Jesus and Mary. Your pastor, Reverend Richard Barker

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Become an Active Member in a Parish Ministry

We are happy to have all of you as part of our St. Philip family. We are a small but mighty Parish. All parishioners play vital and active roles in the life of our Parish. If you or your family has not yet found a ministry to take part in, use the beginning of this new year as a chance to do so.

All of our ministries are reaching out for you to join them in fellowship, while serving our Church and community. Enjoy the featured articles about the many active ministries at St. Philip. Read about their goals and projects for the year, then decide which ministry your time and talent can serve best. There is a need and place for all to serve.

God calls everyone to serve the Church first and always. Then our Lord Jesus calls you to serve the poor in spirit, meek, the sorrowing, those hungry for justice, the merciful, the clean of heart, the peacemakers and finally those who suffer persecution because they bear the name of Jesus. [cf. Mt 5:3-10]

Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance. God won't let you down. Open your mind and heart to his call to serve and participate. Ask God to inspire you, to give you compassion and to give you determination. You are called to a mighty work in Christ! There's always room in God's kingdom for something special! It begins with you.

Contact information for each ministry can be found on p. 10 of the Spirit and Truth Newsletter. Our ministry heads would love to hear from you and help you get involved.

Liturgical
Ministries

Women's Guild

Mary's
Blessings

Knights of
Columbus

CCE

Journey in the
Catholic Faith

Mass Intentions

Sunday Masses

Saturday, April 3

4:00 pm - Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 4

8:30 am - Easter Sunday

11:00 am - Easter Sunday

Daily Masses

Monday, April 5

No Daily Mass

Tuesday, April 6

Noon - Megan Pursell (int)

Wednesday, April 7

9:00 am - Gloria Barnett (int)

Thursday, April 8

Noon - Fr. Barker

Friday, April 9

9:00 am - Fr. Barker

Sunday Masses

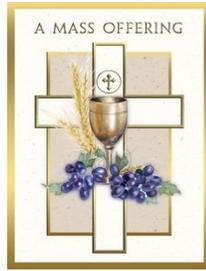
Saturday, April 10

4:00 pm - + Russell and Jeanne Fink +

Sunday, April 11

8:30 am - People of the Parish

11:00am - + Randall Sagstetter +



Pray For...

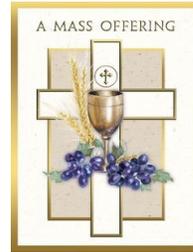
Graces, Strength and Healing

St. Philip Parishioners

For the repose of the souls of . . .

+Thomas Pitchford+

Mass Intentions



The greatest and most powerful prayer we possess is the Mass. The fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. This is why our Church encourages the faithful to have Mass offered for loved ones, both living and deceased. It is a worthy and ancient Catholic devotional practice.

To have a Mass offered, please call our St. Philip parish office at (281) 324-1478. We will let you know what Masses are available in the liturgical calendar. Mass intentions may be requested for most weekday and weekend Masses.

Stop by the office or give us a call. We will help you!

Mass Schedule Note: Whenever a First Friday or First Saturday is superseded by a liturgical or official holiday, it will be suppressed for that month and no longer moved to the following week.

Request a Prayer

Did you know that you can request prayers for a loved one or for any special intention by using our parish app? Simply open the myParish app and choose the **PRAYERS** button. At the bottom of the screen, choose **PRAYER REQUEST**. Fill out the form and your prayer request will be sent to our Prayer Warriors group. We will also add your loved one to our prayer list which is always found on p. 8 of our Spirit and Truth Newsletter. You are always welcome to call or email the parish office with any prayer requests.



(This is not for Mass Intentions. If you'd like to offer a Mass for someone, please call the parish office.)

Altar Flowers Given



All are invited to sponsor a bouquet in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a joyous occasion. The donation for a bouquet is \$50.

Available dates to sponsor a bouquet can be found in the "Altar Flowers" binder on the display case next to the main front doors. Please fill in the information for the date you choose, and using one of the "Altar Flowers" envelopes found in the back of the binder, please drop your donation in the collection basket during Mass.



Q&A Series: Easter

Question:

Why is the Easter season so long? And should we be doing something special for it?

Answer:

You've probably noticed the priest continuing to wear white vestments at the Sunday liturgy. While we celebrated Christ's resurrection several weeks ago, the Easter season extends fifty days — just over seven weeks — from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. For most of that time — about six weeks — Jesus is still with the disciples, teaching and encouraging them. The Easter season isn't just a celebration of when Jesus is with us. At the Last Supper, Jesus promised to send an "advocate" or "counselor" when he left. At the Ascension, he directs the disciples to await "power from on high" — the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Ascension completes the Paschal Mystery, beginning with Jesus' suffering and death and continuing in the resurrection. But the Holy Spirit ushers in a new era for the Church.

After spending weeks in prayer, fasting, and service during Lent, it may seem odd that we don't widely have similar practices for Easter. That doesn't mean you can't embrace the season! Commit to taking moments of little joy throughout the weeks, like random acts of kindness towards others. Consider reading the Acts of the Apostles to learn more about the early Church or picking up an Easter devotional to pray with. He is still risen indeed!

©LPi

Catholic Literary Arts announces its second annual Sacred Poetry Contest

The contest is ongoing and closes at midnight, April 30, 2021.



Please visit our website for guidelines and submission information.

Catholicliteraryarts.org/poetry-contest-2021

Margherita Gallucci is the artist of the image "Sacred Heart of Jesus."

Sacred Heart Catholic School

SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



CROSBY, TX
EST. 1948

2021-2022 Enrollment

Enrollment has begun. New students may access the application by clicking on Admissions > Enrollment.

Currently enrolled families enroll through FACTS SIS.

Prospective families are invited to call the school at 281-328-6561 to schedule a tour.

Openings for PreK3 - 8th Grade for 2021-2022 School Year

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 or pastoral associate 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

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word

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

Communion to the Homebound

Kathy O'Donnell

Adornment of Sanctuary

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

Music Core Team

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
sclarey@stphilip.cc
(765) 490-1369

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Disciples of Jesus and Mary

Laitly 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



Get our "MyParish"
smartphone app: text **APP** to



Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/



Explore Parish website
www.stphiliphuffmantx.o