

Saints Philip and James Parish

Exton, PA

August 27, 2023



Sunday Mass Schedule

Vigil: 4:00 pm

8:30, 10:30AM, 12N & 5:30PM

Monday through Saturday

Holy Mass 8:30AM

Saints Philip & James Rectory

107 North Ship Road Exton, PA 19341

Phone: 610 363 6536 • www.sspj.net

Rectory Hours Monday thru Thursday 9AM—5PM

Closed 12N - 1PM

Sunday 9 AM—1 PM

Parish Clergy

Rev. Joseph C. Dieckhaus, J.C.L., Pastor

Rev. James W. Cassidy, O.S.A., *in residence*

Weekend Assistance

Rev. Christopher J. Drennen, O.S.A. *Malvern Prep*

Saints Philip & James School

Pre-K, K, Grades 1–8: 610 363 6530

Sister Teresa Ballisty, IHM, *Principal*

Parish Religious Education

Sister Marie Garman, IHM, *Director*

Office: 610 363 1307

Parish Staff

Mrs. Barbara A. Doyle

Parish Office Manager

Mr. Michael McCafferty

Business Manager

Mrs. Carmel Kropp

Office of Liturgy Planning

Christian Initiation (formerly RCIA)

Mrs. Marie Romano

610-363 6530 X 152

CYO Information

cyo.sspj.net

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Listen, Lord, and answer me. Save your servant who trusts in you. I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord..

COMMUNION: The Lord says: The man who eats my flesh and drinks my blood will live for ever; I shall raise him to life on the last day.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday August 26, 2023

4:00 PM Rosemarie D'Elia

Sunday August 27, 2023

8:30 AM Robert Whipple

10:30 AM Kathryn Fenstermaker

12:00 PM George Siegl

5:30 PM William Desciak

Monday August 28, 2023

8:30 AM Sister Marie Peter Conboy, IHM

Tuesday August 29, 2023

8:30 AM Teresa Holman

Wednesday August 30, 2023

8:30 AM Sister Mary Shaun Conroy, IHM

Thursday August 31, 2023

8:30 AM Ashley Stetcher

Friday September 1, 2023

8:30 AM John Berta

Saturday September 2, 2023

8:30 AM John C. Wilson

4:00 PM Margaret Judge

Sunday September 3, 2023

8:30 AM Bill Davis

10:30 AM Lorraine Ruggeri

12:00 PM Eric March

5:30 PM Eugene McGough



Amplification for hearing—set your transistor radio to 105.7 AM in church



St. Mary's Chapel CLOSED

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Monday 7 PM to 8PM, Saturday 3PM to 4PM
Sunday 8 AM—8:30AM

August 27, 2023
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Please
pray for
the sick*

Thomas Melvin, Baby Calvin, Cathy Motznik, Richard Brane, Edward Gaudreau, Martin Flaherty, Mary Dennison, Linda, Lily Walker, Joseph McCormick, MaryAnn Harkins, Tracy Peacock, John Ganski, John Coyne, Bridget Dougherty, Debbie Blazeywski, Sherri Lane, Bill Oxenford, Mason Ellingsworth, Lori Mergen, Kellen Leister, Tom Henson, Terry & Linda Gardner, Daniel R., Clare Scangarella.



Pray for the safety of those serving Our Country: Matthew Kleponis, Jay McElvenny, Brent Grafmuller, Cole Iannarino, Connor Iannarino, Matthew Boland, Liam Hansen, Daniel DiLuigi.

Please call the rectory if you would like a family members name added/removed to either list. Thank you.



Please remember all our deceased benefactors in your prayers.

“Those whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are.”

St John Chrysostom



Sacrament of Matrimony Couples must make arrangements to meet with a priest at least six months in advance. The next Pre-Cana will be **October 22, 2023**. For more info or to register call 610-363-6536.



Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated the Second & Fourth Sundays of most months at **1:00 PM** in the Church.

Baptismal Instruction The next scheduled class is **September 17, 2023** at 10:00 AM in the Rectory Meeting Room. Call Rectory to register 610-363-6536.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord:

Included in this week's bulletin (page 6) is an update on several parish projects as well as commercial and residential development within West Whiteland Township. We continue to work with the township regarding roadway changes and vehicular access to our main campus and Saint Mary's Chapel. We anticipate communication within the next few weeks that will provide specifics along with a poster board that will be in the Narthex.

The parish projects are part of our long-term capital maintenance program with project scope and funding planned in advance. Funding for these projects is budgeted from the parish renovation fund, Heritage of Faith capital campaign (for Saint Mary's Chapel) and contributions from our very generous parishioners. Additional support for these projects is provided by the work of our very dedicated volunteers at our Thrift Shop and donors.

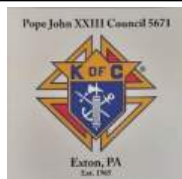
In order to complete the capital projects at our Thrift Shop and to allow for the seasonal changeover it will be necessary to temporarily close the store starting next week with an anticipated re-opening date of October 5th. During this time, we will be unable to accept any donations and ask that you hold such items until the store reopens.

Thank you for your very generous support for all the good works of Saints Philip and James Parish. +jcd



Calling all who love our Catholic Faith and desire to hand it on to our children!

SS. Philip and James Parish offers classes weekly on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:45, as well as on Sunday afternoons from about 1:15-2:30, once every 5-6 weeks. We have openings for catechists in Levels 1, 2, 5, and 6, and we use Archdiocesan-approved texts with lesson-planning support. We will also assist you in obtaining your clearances. Please consider becoming a part of this important ministry in our parish!



Pray the Stations Of the Cross

In commemoration of the Feast of the Cross on September 14, 2023, The Exton Knights of Columbus will be Praying the Stations of the Cross on September 10, 2023. We will be gathering in the back of the church after the 8:30 Mass to remember the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please join us as we walk through all 14 Stations and remember Christ's Passion and his love for us.

National Eucharistic Revival

Based on a recent poll revealing that many faithful Catholics think the consecrated bread and wine are merely symbols of Jesus' Body and Blood, The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops commissioned a National Eucharistic Revival. We are in the second year of this Revival which hopes to instill in all Catholics a belief in the beautiful and mysterious truth that at the Consecration of the Mass, the host and the wine truly become the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Believing in our hearts and minds that we are eating the Flesh and Blood of Jesus when we receive Holy Communion requires a desire to be intimately united to Jesus and an openness to receive God's grace. That Jesus is really present to us in the Eucharist - is described as "the source and summit of Catholic Christian life". Meaning, every aspect of our Catholic Faith stems from, and points to, Jesus as God, as Lord, and as Savior. During this National Eucharistic Revival, we are called to pray, to examine our beliefs about this Eucharistic miracle, to educate ourselves, and to grow in our relationship with Jesus through prayer, Adoration, and participation in the Liturgy.

CELEBRANT SCHEDULE September 2/3 2023

4:00 PM Fr. Cassidy
8:30 AM Fr. Sabatini
10:30 AM Fr. Dieckhaus
12:00 PM Fr. Dieckhaus
5:30 PM Fr. Drennen

Stewardship Update 7 Weeks through August 13, 2023

Budget	Sunday
Actual	228,162
Variance	<u>208,991</u>
	-19,171
	-8.4%

Thank you for your generous Support of SSPJ Parish



SSPJ Helping Hands Volunteers

A hand is here for the asking! We are a volunteer group and ready to help our fellow parishioners with temporary needs. We make meals, visit, drive for errands and doctor appointments, groceries, and church. Ask if you think we can lend a helping hand or if you would like to join our volunteer group.

For more info contact LeeAnne Kaminski 610.524.9335. HelpingHands.sspj@gmail.com

Bethesda Project – A Social Outreach

The SS. Philip and James parish family continues to provide on-going support of the Bethesda Project. This is a program which provides emergency shelters, transitional and long-term housing for Philadelphia's homeless population.

By way of explanation, one ministry of the Bethesda Project is in constant need of useable towels, toiletries (shampoo, toothpaste, etc.), men's new underwear (sizes M, L and XL) and twin flat white sheets. These items allow the homeless to shower, freshen up and change into clean undergarments. It gives them a fresh start and lends dignity to their person.

If you would like to participate, donations of the listed items can be placed in the designated container found in the church vestibule. Contact Lou Ruggeri (484-889-5239) for more info.

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Contact Mike Reitman
genereitman@gmail.com

Contact Jim Evans
jim8646@comcast.net



Registration for New Families

We want you to be a part of our Parish Family! Whether you are a returning Catholic, a newcomer to the area, or someone with an interest in the Catholic faith, we want to welcome you to our Church home. Stop in our Rectory Office Monday thru Thursday 9-5 closed 12-1 or Sunday from 9-1.

Moving On? Please let the rectory know if you are moving out of SSPJ Parish, so we can remove you from our registry.

All Bulletin Announcements need to be to the rectory by **Monday 12 noon** for the upcoming weekend.

SSPJ's Spiritual Adoption Program

The parish's Spiritual Adoption program will begin again in September

If you are interested in helping in any way please contact:

Fran Lisowski (flisowski421@gmail.com) or
Karen D'Ascenzo (karendascenzo@comcast.net)



Follow SSPJ CYO on Social Media

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SSPhilipandJamesCYO>

SSPhilipandJamesCYO

Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/sspj_cyo/

SSPJ Fall CYO Sport Registration is OPEN!

SSPJ CYO will be offering Volleyball, Soccer, Cross Country and Field Hockey AND is for ALL children of the Parish, no matter where they attend school! Register at cyo.sspj.net as practices will begin in August.



FREE Basketball Open Gyms for Boys & Girls in Grades 5-8

Starting in July, SSPJ CYO Coaches will be hosting basketball open gyms for boys and girls in Grades 5-8. Boys will be on Monday & Wednesday and Girls will be Tuesday & Thursday. Details and signing up can be found at cyo.sspj.net



In order to complete the capital projects at our Thrift Shop and to allow for the seasonal changeover it will be necessary to temporarily closed the store starting the week of August 28th with an anticipated re-opening date of October 5th. During this time, we will be unable to accept any donations and ask that you hold such items until the store reopens.



Saints Philip and James Prayer Shawl group will meet on Friday, **September 8 @ 9AM** in the rectory meeting room. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join the group. If you have any questions please call

Kathy at 610 363 1720 or kpenderghest@verizon.net (We are no longer accepting yarn and projects can be worked on at home)

Saints Philip and James School – Positions Needed 2023-2024

Technology Teacher (part-time)

SS. Philip and James Catholic School is accepting applications for computer teacher for grades Pre-K3 to Grade 8. Interested and qualified candidates must possess a Bachelor's Degree with a concentration in Elementary Education or Technology and have state certification.

Art Teacher (Part-time)

SS. Philip and James Catholic School is accepting applications for an Art teacher for grades Pre-K3 to Grade 8. Interested and qualified candidates must possess a Bachelor's Degree with a concentration in Elementary Education or Art and have state certification.

Music Teacher (Part-Time)

SS. Philip and James Catholic School is accepting applications for a Music teacher for grades Pre-K3 to Grade 8. Interested and qualified candidates must possess a Bachelor's Degree with a concentration in Elementary Education or Music and have state certification.

Contact Person: Sister Teresa Ballisty, IHM, Principal (steresa@sspj.net)

Interested and qualified candidates please send resume, cover letter, three letters of recommendation, and updated clearances (FBI fingerprint, Child Abuse, and Criminal Background) to the e-mail address above.



Welcome back to



SSPJ Parish Projects and Development Update

Starting this summer, SSPJ is investing \$300,000 in several maintenance and repair projects to maintain our facilities and campus infrastructure in a state of good repair.

Work at **Saint Mary's Chapel** began in June with the removal of trees and excavation of the parking lot. In July we changed out the oil furnace to a heat pump system and updated our air conditioning units. The project schedule continues this upcoming week with the installation of a new roof, gutters, and downspouts. Site work will follow the roofing project and that will include a lawn extension and resurfacing of the driveway and parking lot. Through an agreement with, and funded by West Whiteland Township a sidewalk will be installed in front of the Chapel that will link the walkway from the new Wawa to the ADA ramps at the corner of Lincoln Highway and Ship Road. An additional agreement with the township included our approval to close the Chapel driveway entrance at the corner of Lincoln Highway and Ship Road. We are very blessed to maintain our Chapel that was built in 1873 as a mission Church.

In July we met with the West Whiteland Township Historical Commission for review and approval of our project plans for the **Thrift Shop**. This project started this past week and includes the replacement of forty windows. The project schedule will also include the installation of a new roof, gutters and downspouts, exterior painting, and installation of shutters. SSPJ Parish is very fortunate to maintain and utilize this historic structure that has a date stone of 1726.

Please note that it is necessary to temporarily close our Thrift Shop starting next week and we anticipate a re-opening by October 5th. During this time, we will be unable to accept any donations and ask that you hold such items until the store reopens.

With several "100-year storms" over the past few years we have been evaluating all components of our **Stormwater Systems**. We will be moving forward over the next few years to maintain these systems and work this year includes stormwater pipe cleanouts and camera surveys, inlet repairs and a partial rebuild of the retaining wall for the bioretention basin. We have consulted with civil engineers and reviewed proposals from two firms for this project. This project has been awarded to the same contractor who installed the drainage systems last summer for the area near the school gym.

Within West Whiteland Township there are several projects in place or planned. **Commercial Development** includes the opening of the Wawa located near our Chapel in November. An additional Wawa with a different developer is planned at the intersection of West Lincoln Highway and Whitford Road (former Sunoco station).

Residential Development includes the following:

- 99 carriage homes - Exton Grove, on Lincoln Highway, east of SSPJ campus
- 220 rental townhomes – Summerhill, on Lincoln Highway, east of SSPJ campus
- 68 townhomes, located off Ship Road, behind the new Wawa
- 95 single family detached homes on the southern portion of the Laborer's Training facility along Lincoln Highway, west of Ship Road

OPENING OF SSPJ SCHOOL INFORMATION

Welcome to the 2023 – 2024 school year!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Monday, August 28 - Grades Pre-K 3 to 8 (Noon dismissal)

Tuesday, August 29 – Grades Pre-K 3 to 8 (Full day)

**Wednesday, August 30 - Grades Pre-K 3 to 8 (Full day)
7:00 p.m. – Back to School Night – Grades 1 – 4 – Church**

**Thursday, August 31 – Grades Pre-K 3 – 8 (Full day)
7:00 p.m. – Back to School Night – Grades 5 – 8 – Church**

Friday, September 1 – NO SCHOOL

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 5 – Hot Lunch & CARES begin

**Friday, September 8 – 7:00 p.m.
Ice cream social followed by Movie outdoors**

“Catholic education is above all a question of communicating Christ, of helping to form Christ in the lives of others.” St. John Paul II

From the Reach Out Team Ministry

The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. “What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ” (CCC 487).

FORMED offers an array of content about our Blessed Mother. “[The Bible and the Virgin Mary](#)” is an excellent 12-part video series that examines the role of Mary in salvation history, including her role as the New Eve, Ark of the Covenant and Queen Mother.

“[Understanding Catholic Teaching on the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)” by Tom Perna is a downloadable PDF, offered through the Faith Basics series, which explores the meaning behind the four Marian dogmas: Mother of God, Perpetual Virginity, Immaculate Conception, Assumption into Heaven. You can find [FORMED](#) content on each of these using the SEARCH function.

Please consider joining our Rosary group each weekday and Saturday morning after 8:30 AM mass to pray the Rosary in church.

The Eucharist

“The Eucharist becomes the great manna, the bread from Heaven. Just as our Father fed our ancestors manna in the desert, so Jesus feeds us with His Body and Blood. When you pray the Our Father, realize the daily bread that sustains you is the Eucharist.”

Daily Reflection, Augustine Institute, 7/26/23.

Jesus Christ invites us to return to the Source and Summit of our faith—his Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist. **The Eucharistic Revival is a national movement to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.** FORMED is proud to accompany the USCCB as we reinvigorate the Church in her understanding of and love for Our Lord in this sacrament. Learn what the Church teaches about this precious gift and why it is pivotal to your spiritual journey through these resources on FORMED!

Look for future announcements in our bulletin and website about our parish plans to participate in the Eucharistic Revival!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT **SSPJ**



GROWTH

By comparing the Normal Curve Equivalent score from this year's testing to the NCE in the last test the students took, the students gave evidence of expected or greater- than- expected growth. These schools were found to have shown a full year's growth in the Total Mastery of Skills at all grades tested using comparative NCE data.

EXCEEDING POTENTIAL

Analyzing the data from the ability testing (InView) and the achievement testing (Terra Nova), these schools were found to have 85% of the classes meeting or exceeding their potential in all content areas at every level tested as well as a 76-90% growth rate in all content areas at all grade levels.

CONGRATS!

After a thorough review of the Standardized testing data, we are pleased to announce that SSPJ has been named an Archdiocesan School of Distinguished Instruction. In determining the candidates for this award, two specific criteria were evaluated; Growth and Exceeding Potential.



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