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Parish Homepage: www.stphilipapostle.org
Parish Email: apostle@stphilipapostle.org
School Homepage: www.stphilipschool.org

Pastor: Reverend Michael Rother
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Samuel K. Owusu

Deacons: Deacon Jerome Grahmann
Deacon Larry Hoelscher

***Community Mission Statement...** We, the people of God of Saint Philip the Apostle, in the loving and evangelizing spirit of St. Philip, form a family community that challenges each of us to proclaim and live the gospel messages of Jesus Christ in the world through worship, evangelization, Christian formation and service.*

Sunday Eucharist Schedule

Saturday (*Vigil of Sunday*) 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

Holy Day and Weekday Schedule

Holy Days (*check the Bulletin*)
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, First Saturday 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday 5:30 p.m.
Friday during School Season 8:15 a.m.

Perpetual Adoration and Rosary

Perpetual Adoration Monday 8:30 a.m. until Friday 5:00 p.m.
Rosary 30 minutes before 5:00 P.M. Saturday Evening Mass
and 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 4:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.; Saturday 3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.;
by appointment and season schedule during Advent and Lent

~ PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION ~

Sacrament of Baptism: Please inform the Parish office at least six months before due date. Further instructions and baptismal materials will be provided at the Parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please register at the parish office as soon as possible, but at least six months prior to anticipated date.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound: Call the Parish office when a family member is sick and would like a visit or would like to receive Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

New Parishioners and Status: Welcome to St. Philip Parish! Call or come by the Parish office to register. Also notify us when moving out of the parish or when you have a change of family status and address.

Mass Intentions Feb 27– March 5

MON	8:00 a.m.	+ Mildred Janda
TUE	8:00 a.m.	+ Louis Buzek
WED	1:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	+ Ed and Marcella Malek, Lester and Marie Ladewig + Eugene and Irene Benavidez
THU	8:00 a.m.	+ Mike Kubena
FRI	8:15 a.m.	+ Linda Wallis
SAT	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Parishioners Intentions + Florentino and Juanita Rodriguez, Jesse Rodriguez
SUN	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	+Edwin and Judy Orsak +Arnold and Lorene Kram deceased family members; Catherine Kram, Fr. Charles Kram Parishioners Intentions



First Sunday of Lent

The Lord, your God,
shall you worship and
him alone shall you
serve.

-Matthew 4:10

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MARCH 4 & MARCH 5

· **SATURDAY– 5:00 p.m.**

Lector: Leona Cunningham

Cantor: Richard Raun

Altar Servers: Michael Rodriguez, Parker Eide

Hospitality: Need Volunteers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Margaret Anderson, Martha Bartos

· **SUNDAY 7:00 a.m.**

Lector: Angela Dornak

Altar Servers: Allie Zalman, Jase Zalman

Hospitality: Gary and Jeanette Schoenfield

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Jason Zalman, **Need Volunteer**

· **SUNDAY– 10:00 a.m.**

Lector: Dot Hermansen, Susan Richards

Cantor: Diane Bard

Altar Servers: Annie Aertker, Krista Irby, Kylie Irby

Hospital/Meridian: Duane Korenek

Hospitality: Chris Pustejovsky, Randy Waligura

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Mike Couvillion, Kim Couvillion

CLOW: Hanni Mican

· **SUNDAY– 6:00 p.m.**

Lector: Polly Wilkins

Cantor: Abby Wallis

Altar Servers: Addison Koudela, Ali Koudela

Hospitality: Need Volunteers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Lynn Cox, **Need Volunteer**

First Sunday of Lent
February 26, 2023

A Message From Our Pastor

Father's Formed.org Suggestion of the Week

The LENT section on the Homepage



We begin Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday Mass when the priest blesses the ashes of the burned palms and our foreheads are marked by them with the sign of the cross. The minister says one of two admonitions: *Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return, or Repent and believe in the Gospel.*

The first of these directs our minds to reflect on the frailty of the human condition. In Genesis we read: "Then the Lord God formed the man out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." We were created from the dust of the earth and given life, but with Adam and Eve's fall death entered Man's reality. Man would now return to the dust from whence he was created. We are faced with our reality that is death as we receive ashes.

When the second option is used, we hear the completion of the first recorded word of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Here Jesus is admonishing us to turn from sin and be unified with God. Pope St. John Paul II said in his General Audience of February 12, 1997: "Jesus...(asks) for conversion of heart and decisive adherence to the will of his Father and our Father. [...] It reminds us that the salvation offered by Jesus in his paschal mystery requires our response." We demonstrate our response through fasting and praying during Lent. A way to empty ourselves of that which is not of God and allow Him to fill the emptiness with His abundant grace resulting in a deeper faith and stronger union with Him.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pray For The Sick...

Annabelle Van Deursen, Clifton Bram, Anton Tupa, Dolores Priesmeyer, Melody Macha, Milton & Henrietta Machacek, Kristen Lezak, Abby Goerig, Carly Walker, Lisa Respondek Holt, Helen Hicks, Leonard Hubenak, Jennifer Martin, Charles Maerz, Irene Sedlock, Garret Davis, Brandy Kubena, Eugene Graham, Cindy Junek, Bill Culver, Carl Siglock, Shirley McMahon, Cindy Schmidt, Edith Farish, Kristi Baker, Joy Roppolo, Lorrie Goodman, L. C. Koehne Jr., Donna Vasek, Lawrence Korenek, Linda Vaclavick, Sandra Munoz, Frank Kacal, Cindy Blaha, Kim Underwood, Vicky Pavlu, Margaret Waters, Rickie Wiesner, Gail Zaruba, Kim Peikert, Douglas Hansen, Sue Maxwell, Frances Kappellmann, Crawford Leonard, Austin Tice, Pat Cunningham, Gary Holub, Regina Merta, Daisy Zella, Laura Thane, Larry Livanec, Blair Ross Couey Jr., Barbara Junek, Darrell Nohavitz, Dorothy Faas, Walter and Stephanie Stepan, Ripp Macek, Louise Kubena, Billy Berry, Ashley Anderson, Anton Dybala Jr., Stephen Gaines, Gerald Ripple, Regina Kaspar, Calynne Reckaway, Carolyn Cernoch, Ginger McMasters Preite, John Scogin, and the homebound.

FIRST READING - Genesis 12:1-4

The LORD said to Abram: "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you. "I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you."

SECOND READING - 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God. He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Be merciful,
O Lord,
For we have
sinned



GOSPEL - Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Key Scriptural Passage:

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:1)

Questions for Discussion:

Adult: What helpful advice could you offer someone faced with a temptation?

Child: What helps you do the right thing when you want to do something wrong?

Readings For The Week (Feb 27 - March 4)

Monday.....Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday.....Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday.....Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday.....Est C:12,14-16,23-25/Mt 5:7-12

Friday.....Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday.....Phil 3:8-14/Jn 15:9-17

Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving...The Three Pillars of Lent... The solemn season of Lent is marked by three pillars of spiritual practice: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Lent recalls the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert, battling temptation. We, too, walk through the desert this season as we struggle with our temptations to sin. We pray more in Lent so as to strengthen our relationship with God and ask his forgiveness of our shortcomings. We fast as a reminder of how hungry we are for God's everlasting love. We give alms to people in need to follow Christ's command to feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

Flowers - February 26

Lent - No Flowers

Pray For Our Seminarians:

Deacon Ryan Kapavik, Deacon Luke Prihoda, Aaron Padilla, Shane Goertz, Caleb Krischke, Joseph Blackburn, William Pettus, Jacob Pyatt, Alex Woods, Nelson Lagos

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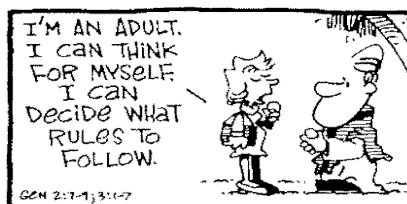
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Taking Up Our Cross And Following Christ

We need Lent. In the midst of our busy lives, with worldly forces and temptations working hard to distract us from the call of Christ, the weeks of Lent are a gift. As we fast, pray, and extend our hands to the poor, we are imitating Christ, joining ourselves more closely to him. He suffered and sacrificed; so do we. He lives in eternal joy; so will we, as we follow him in hope.

Set aside 10 minutes a day in Lent...

Just 10 minutes...to sit down in a quiet place, apart from others, to breathe deeply, to be still...to know that God is near, at hand, by my side, in my heart.



Pro-Life Corner...

The hottest places in Hell are reserved for those who, having the power and responsibility to oppose evil did nothing to extinguish it. We must pray and work to end the evil of abortion.

Pray For Those Serving In The Military and Law Enforcement

Nathan Cox LCRA Ranger, Zachary Elledge, IT1 US Navy, Lance Corp. Casey Winfield, USMC, David Haugh US Army Staff Sgt., Robert Drapela, Coast Guard, Zachary Montello Master Chief Sub-Lant Lance Corp., Mason Miller USMC, Spec. Christopher Alford, U.S. Army, Chris Bird, Texas Game Warden Wharton County, Lane Kocian Air Force, Shannon Sruhar Sheriff, Clint Savino Chief Deputy WCSO, Captain Larry Hensley, WCSO, Captain Jason Mican, WCSO, SRO Jeffery Pfeil, ECPD, Greg Pasak Travis County SO, James Scott DOJ, James Sanders Houston PD, Ivan Jaramillo Private #2, Arthur Debo ECPD, Braden Mican ECPD, SR Reece Mazel, Navy, Joseph Dornak, Private E2, Billy Edmiston, Infantry Marine, Brenden Norman Coast Guard, Colton Holub Army, Hunter Koudela WCSO, Jonathan Elledge, Staff Sgt. U.S. Air Force

THE BASICS OF LENT... What is Lent?

Lent is the annual preparation for Easter observance calling us to reform our lives and to open our hearts to the spiritual blessings God has promised to bestow on us. Lent begins Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday when the Triduum begins.



WHAT MUST I DO? According to the Church's Canon Law, all healthy Catholics from age 18 to 59 are required to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and to abstain from meat on all Fridays of Lent. Youth 14 and older are also to abstain from meat on those days. "Fasting" means that no more than one meal is eaten daily, while in the same day no more than two partial meals are eaten which together don't equal the one main meal.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? Take the necessary steps to get yourself on the road to conversion and spiritual renewal. To help you do this, the main Lenten disciplines urged are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are invited during Lent to practice these disciplines often. But these aren't just chores we must do because the Church strongly urges them: they are above all opportunities to grow in faith and in love for God.

WHY PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMS? The Lenten basic practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are rooted in Jesus' original guidance about how to be his disciples that we find in the Sermon on the Mount (Mt ch. 5-7) *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#1966-1972) also reminds us that Jesus here outlines for us the new law which, if we embrace and implement it, will lead us more surely to the interior renewal and growth in holiness and perfection that Jesus expects of us as his disciples.

SHOULD I SET LENTEN GOALS? Absolutely. Reflect prayerfully about your Lenten resolutions before making them. Then make yourself a list. But be modest. You may be setting yourself up for disappointment if you set unrealistic goals. And doing a little with love and devotion is spiritually more beneficial than trying to do much but doing it halfheartedly.

"Lent is like a long 'retreat' during which we can turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God, in order to defeat the temptations of the Evil One. It is a period of spiritual 'combat' which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith; prayer, listening to the Word of God, and penance. In this way, we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promises of our baptism."

- Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Prayer for Week One of Lent... Father, you established a new covenant with us in the blood of your Son, Jesus. The sacrifice of Jesus brings us salvation. Keep us faithful to your covenant. During this holy season, help us to discipline ourselves so that we can keep your covenant all the days of our lives. Your son, Jesus Christ, suffered and died for us. In his name, have mercy.

Area Fish Frys...

Holy Family Church in Wharton annual Lenten Fish Fry each Friday during Lent. 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Holy Family Life Center. \$12.00 per plate. Desserts available. Dine in or plates to go.

Nada Knights of Columbus annual Lenten Fish Fry each Friday during Lent beginning Feb 24. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Nada Community Center. All you can eat for \$15.00 per plate inside dining and \$12.00 for plates to go. Desserts available.

Area Church Dinners...

March 5 - St. Procopius Church in Louise spring festival at the Hillje Parish Hall. Fried chicken, white rice, gravy, and corn at 11:00 a.m. \$15.00 per plate. Drive thru only-plates to go. Raffle drawing after plates to go.

Mark Your Calendar... We are going to Steubenville Lone Star!! REFUGE 2023

Who can attend? – Teens 9th-12th grade – The date is June 23-25, 2023 at the Irving Convention Center. The cost of the retreat is \$195. The additional cost for hotel and transportation will be figured once we get a number of teens that will be attending. If you would like join us, a \$50 deposit is due by March 10th. We are looking to having a fundraiser once we know how many young people will be attending. Please contact *Ana Rodriguez* (979)637-0106 if you have any questions. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

- Matthew 11:28

From Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11, Victory in the Wilderness...

In this passage, Jesus is tempted by the devil. Having witnessed the Father's declaration at His baptism, Satan tested Jesus' identity as the Son of God. His goal was to tempt Jesus to embrace an earthly and political mission and to distract Him from the suffering and death that would lead to the world's salvation.

Satan tempted Jesus to satisfy His hunger with a miracle -to put physical needs above spiritual needs. In His response, Jesus taught us to put spiritual needs first and to entrust both body and soul to God's care. Next, Satan commanded Jesus to jump from the temple roof in an effort to force God to miraculously save him. Again, Jesus refused. God is not to be forced or controlled.

Finally, Satan offered to surrender all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would worship him. That would save Jesus from the Cross. Instead, Jesus chose the Cross because it was the only way to save us. When tempted to do what's "easy" versus what's normally right, ask for the strength to choose what's right.



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

Calendar of Events...**Monday, February 27**

- Men's bible study at 6:00 a.m. - Meeting House.
- Bible study group session at 10:00 a.m. - Meeting House.

Tuesday, February 28

- Women's bible study at 6:00 p.m.
- Upper room prayer group will meet at 6:00 p.m.
- KC meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 1

- Stations of the cross at 8:15 a.m.
- CCE grades K-12 at 6:30 p.m.
- Holy Hour at 8:15 p.m.

Thursday, March 2

- Administrative board will meet at 5:30 p.m.

Friday, March 3

- Patriotic rosary at 5:30 p.m.
- Stations of the cross at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 5

- Baptism instruction class at 8:30 a.m. - Mtg House.
- Blessing of expectant parents after all the Masses.
- Our second collection will be for Operation Rice Bowl.

St. Philip School Catholic Super Prize Drawing Winner for February 17 is *Kenneth and Renee Staff*.

Adorer Needed: We are needing an adorer for Thursday from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. For more information, call Janet Holub at 543-6130.



Men's Acts Retreat... March 2-5, 2023 at the Cathedral Oaks Retreat Center in Weimar, TX. "Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we put our trust in You." (Psalm 33:22) Applications are available on the parish website or in the parish office. For more information contact Michael Vela at 979-533-1623.

Easter flower envelopes will be available this weekend for those wishing to offer flowers in remembrance of their loved ones. You may drop in the collection basket or bring to the rectory.

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl... Please note that each Sunday of Lent we will have a second collection at each Mass that is designated for *Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl*. This program allows us the opportunity to share through almsgiving to the poor and less fortunate around the world.

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, March 1 at 8:15 a.m. in the school gym with St. Philip school children.
Friday, March 3: 6:00 p.m. in church.

**Ladies Bible Study...**

God wants to give you more. How will you respond this Lent? Has your relationship with God grown stale? Has it lost its spark? Are you plagued by a particular sin? Something you can't shake? Are you just tired from the day-to-day grind of your life? These all show that God wants to give you more. And this Lent can be when God gives it to you. *Fr. Mark Touns*, an experienced spiritual director, leads readers inward to invite the Lord to heal those areas where they need it most. Readers will receive daily guidance as well as supplemental videos, to help enter more deeply into Lent and remain focused throughout the season.

Day: Tuesdays, beginning February 28th

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Location: Mikeska Fellowship Center. Please contact *Linda Bolcik* - (979) 541-3172 or *lbolcik@sbcglobal.net* or *Angie Socha* - (979) 541-6385 or *adsocha4@gmail.com* for additional information.

Lenten Retreat on March 12-14 in the church beginning at 7:00 p.m. each evening with *Rev. Augustine Owusu-Peprrah*, parochial vicar at St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

Save The Date... Make sure you get a seat. The Roast and Toast fundraiser for the Emmaus Counseling Center is back this year on May 5, 2023. The *Rev. Tommy Chen* will be in the hot seat this year. Sponsorship tables are being sold now.



During the Season of Lent
 You are invited to join the IWBS Sisters
 Pray Solemn Vespers in their chapel at
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