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**Receptionist**  
Sylvia Peter

**Music Director**  
Janice Cox

**Youth Minister**  
Ana Rodriguez

**Technology/Schedules**  
Leslie Farquhar

**Parish Catechetical Leader**  
Allison Van Antwerp

**School Principal**  
Gwen Edwards

**School Secretary**  
Amanda Stary

**Cemetery Supervisor**  
Kirk Stary

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Deacon Larry Hoelscher

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Stacey Ermis  
Kimberly Kelly  
William Key  
Jonathan Kulak  
Michael Porter  
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Dot Hermansen  
Mary Jane Kaiser  
Gracie Priesmeyer  
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Patricia Hoelscher

**Safe Environment Coordinator**  
Leslie Farquhar

# SAINT PHILIP THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

FOUNDED 1909

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS



304 W. Church St., El Campo, Tx. 77437  
979-543-3770 • fax: 979-578-8831

**PARISH SCHOOL:**  
979-543-2901 • fax: 979-578-8835

Parish Homepage: [www.stphilipapostle.org](http://www.stphilipapostle.org)  
Parish Email: [apostle@stphilipapostle.org](mailto:apostle@stphilipapostle.org)  
School Homepage: [www.stphilipschool.org](http://www.stphilipschool.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Dalton R. Ervin  
**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.

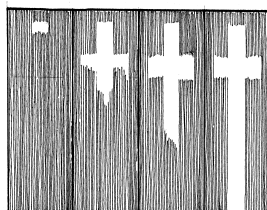
**Sacrament of Marriage:** Please register at the parish office as soon as possible, but at least six months prior to anticipated date.

**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 August 21 – August 27**

MON	8:00 a.m.	+ Evelyn Novak Dornak
TUE	8:00 a.m.	+ Mildred Janda
WED	1:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Priest Intention + Albert and Ruby McClure, Lane Priesmeyer
THU	8:00 a.m.	+ Donald McDonald
FRI	8:15 a.m.	+ Cynthia Mach
SAT	5:00 p.m.	+ August and E. L. Schmidt
SUN	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	+ Regina Merta + John and Mary Kaspar Parishioners Intentions



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**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time...**

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your  
anointed one; one day within your  
courts is better than a thousand  
elsewhere. - Psalm 84

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR AUG 26 & AUG 27****SATURDAY– 5:00 p.m.****Lector:** Leona Cunningham**Cantor:** Diane Bard**Altar Servers:** Connor Purrell, Michaela Purrell, (Need Volunteer)**Hospitality:** Need Volunteers**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

Dennis Edwards, Gwen Edwards

**Vocation Prayer Cross:** Michael and Linda Bolcik**SUNDAY 7:00 a.m.****Lector:** Angela Dornak**Altar Servers:** Parker Eide, Elizabeth Juranek, Paul Juranek**Hospitality:** Roy Smaistrila, Janice Smaistrila**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

Aaron Faas, Rian Juranek

**SUNDAY– 10:00 a.m.****Lector:** Jim Van Antwerp, Susan Richards**Cantor:** Carol Smolik**Altar Servers:** Beck Hoelscher, Louise Hoelscher, Matthew Van Antwerp**Hospital/Meridian:** Mike Couvillion**Hospitality:** Dennis Korenek, Chris Pustejovsky**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

Jason Hoelscher, Duane Korenek, Veronica Marek, Claudia Raun

**SUNDAY– 6:00 p.m.****Lector:** Polly Wilkins**Cantor:** Abigail Porter**Altar Servers:** Alexandria Martinez, Sophie Porter, Harrison Porter**Hospitality:** Need Volunteers**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

Lynn Cox, Theresa staff

*Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 20, 2023***A Message From Our Pastor**

Vacations have come to an end, summer break is over, students have returned to school, we should be ready to get back into our routines, but there always seems to be something that disrupts the rhythm of life. This past week, at least for me, it was the fire in town.

Sitting here at the rectory, seeing all the smoke billowing up over the tree line, I found myself like St. Peter and the Apostles who were in the boat during the storm last Sunday, asking, “Lord, do you not care?” All I could think of was the fire spreading, people suffering in this heat with no power in their homes, I was focused on loss and destruction. Can’t anything go right? Can’t anything be normal?

Then, in the gentleness of the wind, I received the answer, in the sound of the sirens filling the air. God cared through the brave men and women who were fighting the fire and protecting the city. God cared through the wisdom that shut down the power and then worked so hard to get it back up, for us. God does not want normal, he calls us to the extraordinary, he calls us to greatness. When we accept God’s invitation to put our gifts, to put our lives at the service of one another, we witness the very best of humanity and God is glorified.

Some people say the only constant in life is change, maybe so. However, I would suggest that the only constant in life is God’s presence. As Henry F. Lyte says in the hymn, *Abide with Me*, “I need your presence every passing hour: What but your grace can foil the tempter’s power? Who like yourself my guide and strength can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.”

Our routines will very likely continue to be disrupted despite our best efforts, in big and small ways, but perhaps instead of allowing the frustrations, worry, and fear get us, we can look for God’s gentle and peaceful presence in the midst of our mess, and in him, find our strength and joy.

With the tenderness, compassion, and mercy of the loving Savior,

-Fr. Dalton

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER  
Pray For The Sick...**

Annabelle Van Deursen, Anton Tupa, Dolores Priesmeyer, Melody Macha, Milton & Henrietta Machacek, Kristen Lezak, Abby Goerig, Carly Walker, Lisa Respondek Holt, Helen Hicks, Leonard Hubenak, Jennifer Martin, Irene Sedlock, 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., 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 Kappelmann, Crawford Leonard, Austin Tice, Pat Cunningham, Gary Holub, Daisy Zella, Laura Thane, Larry Livanec, Blair Ross Couey Jr., Barbara Junek, Darrell Nohavitza, Dorothy Faas, Walter and Stephanie Stepan, Louise Kubena, Billy Berry, Stephen Gaines, Gerald Ripple, Regina Kaspar, Calynne Reckaway, Ginger McMasters Preite, John Scogin, Amelia Lyford, Betty Hlavinka, Jesse Wheeler, Candace Janecka, Douglas “Bubba” Dornak, Elaine Janik, Wayne Bard, Albert Socha, Clifton Bram, Alvin Merta, Dolores Resendez, Patsy Mican Smith, Melodie Kacal, Larry Grubbs, Eleanor Mican, Julia Rodriguez and the homebound.

**FIRST READING** - Isaiah 22:19-23

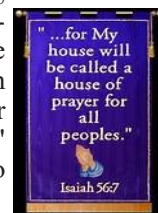
Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace: "I will thrust you from your office and pull you down from your station. On that day I will summon my servant Eliakim, son of Hilkiah; I will clothe him with your robe, and gird him with your sash, and give over to him your authority. He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open. I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot, to be a place of honor for his family."

**SECOND READING** - Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways! *For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor? Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?* For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

**GOSPEL** - Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.



**Key Scriptural Passage...**

For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all people.  
(Isaiah 56:7)

**Questions for Discussion:**

**Adult:** When has the faith of someone from another race or culture enriched your own?

**Child:** What could you do to help someone of another race or culture feel more welcome in your neighborhood?

**Readings For The Week (Aug 21 - Aug 26)**

Monday.....Jgs 2:11-19/Mt 19:16-22  
Tuesday.....Jgs 6:11-24/Mt 19:23-30  
Wednesday.....Jgs 9:6-15/Mt 20:1-16  
Thursday.....Rev. 21:9-14/Jn 1:45-51  
Friday.....Is 58:6-11/Mt 22:34-40  
Saturday.....Ru 2:1-3,8-11;4:13-17/Mt 23:1-12

**Church Picnics in the Area...**

**August 20** - St. Andrew summer festival at the St. Andrew parish hall in Hillje. Prime beef bbq and homemade sausage dinner with all the trimmings. \$13.00 per plate. Dine in or plates to go. Auction, country store, cake and plant wheel, games for the kids, and raffle drawing.

**August 27** - St. Cyril and Methodius Church in Cistern picnic. Fried chicken and sausage dinner at 11:00 a.m. Auction, bingo, games, music, and raffle. \$14.00 per plate.

**Sacrificial Giving**

8-13-23.....\$10,776.25  
Assumption .....\$1,360.00

**Pray For Our Seminarians:**

Deacon Joseph Blackburn, Aaron Padilla, Shane Goertz, Caleb Krischke, William Pettus, Alex Woods, Nelson Lagos

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**Pro-Life Corner...** "There was a time when our enemies wore white hoods and drove old pickups. But today, they wear white lab coats and drive Jaguars. For our (black) community, the real weapon of mass destruction is the suction machine at the local Planned Parenthood." *Dr. Johnny Hunter, speaker, Educator*



**A Word From  
Pope Francis...**

Each one of us has our own story...and it is not always a clean story... Many times it is a difficult story, with a lot of pain...What do I do with my story? Do I hide it? No! We must bring it before the Lord. "Lord, if you will it, you can heal me!"  
*Angelus, Rome, August 16, 2020.*

**Flowers - August 20**

**Main Altar and Ambo:** In honor of *Fr. Dalton's* installation.

**Blessed Virgin Mary Altar:** In loving memory of *Jeffrey Kachmar* given by Mom.

**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 Srubar* 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, *Sgt Kurt Korenek*, PD - Cy Fair ISD, *Kaci Korenek* USMC



### Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary...

The Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is a dogma of the Catholic faith that Mary is the Immaculate Conception; that is, in preparation for the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity in her womb, she was conceived without the corruption of sin through the infinite merits of her Son, Jesus Christ. Over the centuries, as saints and theologians reflected on how Mary pondered and treasured the sacred events from the life of Christ in her holy heart, as attested in Scripture, her pure heart was recognized as something to be imitated. Devotion to Our Lady's purity of heart began to flower, so much so that in the 17th Century St. John Eudes promoted it alongside the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion rose to a new level after the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, when Mary revealed an image of her Immaculate Heart to Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco.

### A Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (August 22)

Heart of Mary ever Virgin, you are full of grace. You are the dearest daughter of the heavenly Father, the tabernacle of the Word made Flesh, and the beloved home of the Holy Spirit. You are the wonder and delight of angels, of saints, and of men. I offer you my deepest reverence. With great love and thanksgiving I consecrate myself, body, and soul, to you this day, and will never take back my word.

You are the marvel of God's creation: a Virgin's heart, yet a Mother's too, with a mother's love of Jesus and of men. Dear Mother, fashion in my heart a child's true love of you. Fill me with your own bright virtues: simplicity and innocence, meekness and courage, and unfailing devotion to Jesus Christ. Since I belong to you then, holy Mother, save me from my enemies, from the world, from Satan, from myself. Keep me always in your sinless Heart to make my poor heart more and more like your Heart and the Heart of Jesus.

Dear, merciful Mother, look with a mother's love and pity on the poor, sinful, suffering children of the whole human family. Our Holy Father Pius XII has consecrated them to your Immaculate Heart. Do not turn them away. Remember the cruel pain your heart suffered for their salvation with Jesus Christ on Calvary. Save them by His precious Blood. Draw them out of the darkness and despair of their sin and misery into the light, peace, and holiness of the Church.

Then with the angels and saints, may they join us in singing the everlasting Magnificat of praise, gratitude and love to your tender and Immaculate Heart, and to the adorable and merciful Heart of Jesus. Amen.

**Amor Meus Spirituality Center is offering a 12-week Ignatian Retreat entitled: "Finding Christ in the World"** beginning Wed, August 30 - Wed., November 29. It is facilitated by Sister Digna Vela, OVISS. The participants making this retreat will pray at home each day with a given scripture passage and meet for one hour each week in a group to share. They will meet at Incarnate Word Convent on Wed. mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. or on Wednesday evenings on Google Meet 6:30 -7:30 p.m. Brief notes help move the retreatant into prayer around 12 themes. A stipend of \$100 for the 12 weeks includes a \$40 workbook amounting to \$5/week. The retreat is limited to no more than 10 persons. Call early to secure a space. To register or inquire about the retreat, call Sister Digna Vela, OVISS, at 361-485-0866 or email [amormeuscenter@gmail.com](mailto:amormeuscenter@gmail.com).

**Prayer for Rain...** Almighty God, we are in need of rain. We realize now, looking up into the clear, blue sky, what a marvel even the least drop of rain really is. To think that so much water can fall out of the sky, which now is empty and clear! We place our trust in You. We are sure that You know our needs. But You want us to ask You anyway, to show You that we know we are dependent on You. Look on our dry hills and fields, dear God, and bless them with the living blessing of soft rain. Then the land will rejoice, and the rivers will sing Your praises, and the hearts of men will be made glad. Amen.



**You can now register for the Annual Catholic Conference.**

Registration deadline is Sept. 14 and the cost is \$35, which includes lunch. Registration forms on the Diocese of Victoria website.



Coping with the death of a child is very difficult. Parents are in a place they have never been before, often overwhelmed by the grief that follows. Grief does not end in a prescribed number of days, weeks, months or years. We are a group of parents who have lost a child, and will walk this grief journey with you whether your loss is recent or in the past.

**Monthly meetings take place from 6:30-8:00 pm at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, 108 S. 6th Street, Ganado.**

Meetings include the opportunity to pray, listen to presentations by clergy and other parents who have lost a child, and meet others on the grief journey. Participants are not required to share anything, and may just remain silent and listen if they'd like.

**Upcoming Meeting Dates: Sept 12, Nov 14, and Dec 12, 2023.**

Please also save the date for a weekend retreat **Oct. 13 - 15, 2023** at the Spiritual Renewal Center in Victoria. information, please contact Patricia Hoelscher 979-257-9984, [phoelscher@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:phoelscher@victoriadiocese.org) Or Deacon Larry Hoelscher 979-578-3934

**Caregiver Support Group...** The Emmaus Center will begin the Ministry of Love support group for caregivers. Caregiving is a ministry of love that can be mentally and physically exhausting. This support group will provide supportive and spiritual resources for self care. The group will meet the first Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory's Cathedral Center in the St. Gabriel room. Please call 361-212-0830 for more information and to register.

**Calendar of Events...****Monday, August 21**

- Men's Bible study at 6:00 a.m. - Meeting House.

**Tuesday, August 22**

- Upper room prayer group will meet at 6:00 p.m.

- KC rosary at 6:30 p.m.; meal at 7:00 P.M.; and meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Columbus Club Hall.

**Saturday, August 26**

St. Philip School annual pioneer class at the Country Club.

**Sunday, August 27**

- St. Philip School Booster Club meal at 11:00 a.m.

**Adorers Needed:** We are needing adorers for **Wednesday** from 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m., and **Thursday** from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Please pray and answer God's call. For more information, call Janet Holub at 543-6130.

**St. Philip School Catholic Super Prize Drawing Winner** for August 11 is *Brian and Lisa Hodges*.

**The St. Philip School Booster Club** will have their catered meal fundraiser on Sunday, August 27, 2023 from 11:00-12:30. Pickup at St. Philip Parish Hall. \$13 per plate. Tickets can be purchased through any SPS student or at the school office.

**St. Philip Catholic School****August 26, 2023****Annual Pioneer Classic****9****a.m Tee Time****\$1500 Tournament Sponsor\*****EC Country Club****\$1000 Gold Sponsor\*****\$500 Silver Sponsor****\$250 Pioneer Blue Sponsor****\$150 Bronze Sponsor****\$500 - 4 Member Team****\* Tournament & Gold Sponsorship includes Team Entry**

Teams Include - Green Fee, Cart Fee, Lunch, 2 Monster Drives and 2 Free Putts Per Nine

**Opportunities to Win: Calcutta, Hole-in-One, Putting & Chipping Contest**

All proceeds directly assist with SPS Expenses.

**St. Philip the Apostle Parish Picnic****Sunday, September 24, 2023**

**Our mega raffle returns this year with 1500 (\$100.00 tickets) and a chance to win some really great prizes.**

**Sponsorship opportunities are as follows:**

Each **\$500.00** sponsor will receive two free \$100.00 raffle tickets; each **\$1000.00** sponsor will receive four free raffle tickets; each **\$1500.00** sponsor will receive six free raffle tickets; each **\$3000.00** sponsor will receive twelve raffle tickets and each **\$6000.00** sponsor will receive twenty-four raffle tickets.

**The St. Philip parish picnic mega raffle** tickets are ready to sell. You may come by the parish office if you would like to purchase or sell the tickets.

**Sponsorships:** M/M Randal Hildebrand, Irene Nohavitz, M/M Tommy Turner, EC Monuments and Memorials, (Chris & Tami Triska) M/M Mike Holub, M/M Edmund Weinheimer Jr., M/M Richard Raun, M/M Donald Sutton, M/M Jim Van Antwerp, M/M Leon Macha, M/M Terry Brandl, M/M Jimmy Roppolo, Betty Konvicka, M/M Mike Kennedy, EC Refrigeration, Gulf Coast Ready Mix, M/M Jonathan Kulak, Joe Janda, M/M John Hrnecir, M/M Arthur Priesmeyer, M/M John Hancock, Ellwood Hermansen family

**Thank you to the following families and individuals** who have donated toward the **cost of meat** for the picnic meal. The total thus far is **\$8,420.00**.

Joe Janda, M/M Larry Hensley, M/M John Dannels, M/M Mark English, M/M Michael Bolcik, M/M Doug Ondrias, M/M Eugene Graham, M/M Larry Wagner, Melody Kopecky, M/M Dennis Korenek, M/M James Bouligny, M/M Hubert Kaiser, Rudy Machala, M/M Jay Hubenak, M/M Arthur Priesmeyer

**WE ARE NEEDING A CHAIRMAN FOR THE CAKES AND DESSERT BOOTH AT THE PICNIC. PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY AT 543-3770.**

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Join us for **Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point** as we explore the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ.



Tuesday Evenings beginning September 12th  
Mikeska Fellowship Center - 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Questions? Contact Linda Bolcik (979) 541-3172  
or Angie Socha (979) 541-6385

Monday Mornings beginning September 11th  
St. Philip's Meeting Room - 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
Questions? Contact Dot Hermansen (979) 541-3023  
or Rita Hancock (979) 541-7475

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**Invite Someone to Join the Catholic Church...**

- ◆ Have you ever thought about becoming a Catholic?
- ◆ Do you have a spouse or a friend who is non-Catholic and has expressed a desire to become Catholic?
- ◆ Does your non-Catholic spouse or friend want to better understand the Catholic Church?

The RCIA is a process of 26 to 28 weeks in length, providing information about Catholic Church Doctrine and beliefs as well as a formation process in the faith.

Inquiry classes begin September 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Meeting Room.



We are looking for Bulletin Sponsors. If you would like to place an ad please Contact Leslie Farquhar at 979-543-3770 or apostle@stphilipapostle.org

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**'Unity and Charity'**  
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Monday of Month



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