

# CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES

## MISSION CHURCH OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER

430 South Main Street • Phillipsburg, New Jersey • 08865-3094

OFFICE 908•454•0112 + FAX 454•0125

RELIGIOUS ED 454•7620 + CEMETERY 454•0112 + SAINTS Philip & James School 859•1244

CONVENT 859•0300

Our WEB SITE: SPSJ.org

### • MASS IS CELEBRATED -

DAILY - 6:45 & 8:00am & 12:10pm in

Holy Family Chapel (HFC)

SAT. EVE - 4:30pm in the Church

SUN. - 7:00, 9:00, 11:00am, 1:00pm (Spanish),  
and 5:30pm in the Church.

### • RECONCILIATION IS CELEBRATED -

SAT. - 9:00 to 9:30am & 3:15 to 4:15pm in the Church

• **ADORATION:** Mon. to Sat. 8:30am to 11:00pm

& Sun. 1:00pm to 11:00pm in Holy Family Chapel

### • FOR BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION, & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

call the Church Office between 8am & 5pm weekdays

## ✠ PARISH STAFF ✠

**Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Corona, PA, KCHS, Pastor**

### In Residence

*Fr. Vincent P. Chen*

### Parochial Vicar

*Fr. James Kyrpczak*

### Weekend Vicar

*Fr. Patrick Boyle, OFM*

### Hospital Chaplain

*Fr. Robert Dhanaraj*

### Deacons:

*Deacon John Flynn*

*Deacon Enock Berluche*

*Deacon George Frank*

### School Principal

*Mrs. Judith Francisco*

### Parish Catechetical Leader

*Mrs. Jo-Ann Scott*

### Music Director

*Mr. Paul Kucinski*

### Cemetery Superintendent

*Mr. Mark Sandt*

## • Thought for the Week •

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

"I wish I could write with both hands at the same time," St. Theresa of Avila once said. Sometimes the ideas about God and about Jesus were coming to her so fast that she was unable to write them down. This is the feeling one can get reading the Gospel of St. John. The very first chapter alone is so full of life-enriching ideas, one gets the impression the author must have been writing with both hands at the same time: the idea that the "Word" (the "Logos") was God and was with God; the idea that the "Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us." These two ideas alone can send one thought after another racing through one's mind. In today's vernacular, the experience can be "mind blowing."

Think about it! When God acted through Jesus to reveal Himself to us, He was expressing for us the innermost essence of His being. When we draw close to God in Jesus Christ, we experience God in the most personal, intimate way. In today's Gospel Lesson, St. John stresses the importance of our understanding that God's unique presence in Jesus Christ is His gift of self to us.

On vacation, I read a story about a young woman who had converted to Christianity. She was asked to explain the difference it had made in her life. She answered, "The old gods that I believed in demanded so much of me. The Christian God gives so much." The theme of a giving God runs through all of St. John's Gospel. He wants us to understand how God is constantly giving to us in and through Jesus Christ: giving Himself; giving His love; giving the revelation of the innermost essence of His Being; giving His promise never to abandon us; giving His promise of our ultimate, total fulfillment in that blessed "peace" which the world cannot give. To respond appropriately to God's gift of self, we must do so in a way that genuinely expresses our innermost being—who we are and where we are as individual persons.

"My peace is My gift to you," Jesus tells His disciples. How simple, yet how profound! In and through Jesus Christ, God gives us peace. Yet this is no ordinary, worldly peace. "I do not give it as the world gives it," He says. The peace the world customarily offers is nothing more than a temporary lull between wars. Jesus' gift of peace is "Shalom!" In its deepest meaning, the gift of Shalom can be described as the sense of your life's wholeness, purposefulness; the sense of "having it all together"; the sense of spiritual soundness; the understanding, at the deepest level of your being, that you are somebody, that you are destined for greatness.

"I do not give it as the world gives peace." The peace of Shalom comes from God. God is offering us now the peace of Shalom. God is offering us now the wholeness of life our humanity craves. God loves us; He proved it in Jesus. God is aware of our needs. God loves us so much that He promises, without reservation, to fulfill our needs, especially in the Sacraments.

Through the grace we receive from the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, we can become the beautiful persons we long to be. All we have to do is trust God; if we believe in His promise; if we accept His love and reflect it in the lives we live.

In the process of going through his mid-life self-evaluation, a man got to thinking about those people whose help had made a difference in his life. He reflected with special gratitude on a teacher who stood out in his memory because she had helped him through a crisis of youth. Suddenly, he realized that he had never thanked her. He tried to contact her at the school, but learned that she had been retired for many years. Consequently, he sent her a letter in which he expressed his gratitude. Shortly thereafter, he received a letter in response. It read as follows:

"My Dear Willie, I can't tell you how much your note meant to me. I am in my eighties, living alone in a small room, cooking my own meals and, like the last leaf of Fall, lingering behind. You will be interested to know that I taught school for fifty years and yours is the first note of appreciation I ever received. It came on a blue cold morning, and it cheered me as nothing has in years."

Two beautiful thoughts emerge from this exchange. First, it brought a ray of sunshine into the life of a lonely, old woman whom the world had all but abandoned. Second, it was a gift of self-revelation. The man was revealing himself to the old teacher in a very personal, intimate manner. He was telling her that he was learning how to love in a whole new way. The gift of shalom had entered his being and with it, the desire to share it.

That is the wonderful thing that happens when men and women open themselves up to the Grace of God. They want to share it. "Shalom, Shalom!" they say to the world. "Peace on earth," they say: not the peace of a temporary lull in hostilities, but the peace of soul that makes war unthinkable!

Being consciously aware of your own infinite value in God's eyes is the first step toward achieving the kind of life God calls us to live. Being consciously aware of everyone else's infinite value in God's eyes is the second step. In order to bring peace into our world, we must take both steps, and the true spirit of "shalom" becomes part of the very essence of our being. Then we will be able to reveal it and share it, and change our world. Shalom!

In your charity, pray for the sick and the lonely—visit them if you can. Also, please remember to pray for all who have wandered from the faith and all who have died, especially Marie Eckel, Stanley Krutsick, and the babies who have been killed through abortion and their parents.

May God always be pleased with us!

Msgr. Michael J. Corona, PA, KCHS

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent • March 22, 2009

## ● FOR YOUR INFORMATION ●

### **BINGO WORKERS**

**3/24** – S. Pincus, C. Franceschino, J. Pike, G. Tirpok, M. O'Sullivan; **3/26** – E. Dean/C. Sumner, S. Gerhardt, M. DeMonti, B. Morris, K./P. Juliano; **3/28** – E. Socci, E. Rush, G. Harding, J./B. Roeder, K. Rush

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Stewardship involves a willingness to give from the very core of who we are and what we have; from substance rather than abundance.

### **PASTA DINNER**

St. Philip and St. James will be holding a Pasta Dinner on Sun., April 19, 2009 from 12 Noon to 6pm at Saints Philip and James Elementary School on Roseberry Street. Cost: Adults--\$7.00; Children 5-12 years old--\$5.00; Children under 5--Free; Family of four--\$20.00. For tickets, please call Anna Marie at 859-4473 or they can be purchased at the door.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

This year our School Carnival will be held from Wed., April 29, 2009 through Sun., May 3, 2009.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CARNIVAL**

We need many volunteers for each shift of the Carnival. We ask that you consider signing up to work to help support this important fundraiser for our School. Have a great time and support our Catholic School. There are jobs for everyone! Please call Donna Kucinski at the School for more information--(908) 859-1244. Thank you!

### **FAMILY LENTEN FISH DINNER**

The Knights of Columbus Council #474 and the men of the Holy Name of Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church are sponsoring a Family Lenten Fish Dinner at St. Mary Church, 830 Fifth Ave., Alpha, on Fri., March 20, 2009 from 4:00-6:30pm (take-outs are available from 4-6pm), and at St. Philip and St. James Mercy Hall, 430 South Main Street, on Fri., March 27, 2009 from 4:00-7:30pm (take-outs are available from 4-7pm). Dinner includes: White fish, baked potato, salad, vegetable medley, applesauce, roll & butter OR Pizza \$2 per slice, dessert & beverage. Price: \$10.00 per platter for adults; \$5.00 for children 6-12 year old; Children under 6 free.

### **SSPJ OPEN HOUSE**

Saints Philip and James Elementary School will be hosting an Open House from 1:00-3:00pm on Sun., March 29, 2009. Serving families in Warren and Hunterdon counties, as well as nearby communities in Pennsylvania, the school offers a comprehensive Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. An after-school program is also available. The school is conveniently located one block north of Route 22 West at 137 Roseberry Street in Phillipsburg. During the Open House, families and their children will have the opportunity to tour our facility and meet with members of our administration and staff. Registration and busing information will also be available. For more information or to request literature by mail, please contact our school at (908) 859-1244.

### **BARNES & NOBLE BOOKFAIR**

Barnes & Noble will once again be donating 10% of items purchased on behalf of Saints Philip and James School back to the school. Join our families on Thurs., April 2 for a day of fun, games, prizes and more. When you make your purchase, mention Saints Philip and James School, or use a voucher. Order Scrip for Barnes & Noble and local restaurants such as Panera Bread, Friday's and Ruby Tuesday's and enjoy a family night out. Scrip can be ordered through the school's main office at (908) 859-1244. For additional information, contact Sharon Hillhouse at (610) 253-9861.

### **URGENT NEED FOR BAGS!**

Catholic Charities Food Pantry has seen a 20% increase in households requesting help. In 2008 we distributed nearly 16,000 bags of groceries. Buying that many brown bags costs the agency close to \$700, money we would much prefer to spend on food. Please help us by donating brown bags, or better yet, cloth grocery bags our clients can reuse on future visits to the pantry. Thank you!

### **N.D. MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAM**

Attention current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders! If you are interested in playing tackle football next year for the revamped Notre Dame Little Crusaders Middle School Football Program, please contact Coach George Fedrizzi at (610) 504-7952 or [dfedr68@hotmail.com](mailto:dfedr68@hotmail.com). There will be an information meeting for the upcoming season on April 29, 2009 at 6:30pm in the library of Notre Dame High School. Parents and players are welcome to come and meet the LC's coaching staff, along with Chuck Muller, the new head coach for the Notre Dame High School Football Program.

### **"COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?"**

*"Every hour you spend with Jesus will be recorded in heaven and retold throughout eternity"*—Mother Teresa. Eucharistic Adorers are urgently needed for Fridays at 8pm. Phone Camille at (908) 387-0001 for these times or any other time you are able to commit to on a weekly basis. Substitutes are also needed!

### **I, PAUL PRODUCTION**

In honor of the year of St. Paul, you are invited to attend Damien Productions Presents "I, Paul" performed by Charles Baker on Wed., March 25 at 7:00pm at St. Joseph Church, 200 Carlton Ave., Washington, NJ. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 689-0058.

### **PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LOURDES**

Legion of Mary is promoting an eight-day pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes, June 25-July 2, 2009 from Newark on TAP Airlines. Let us journey to Portugal and France, visiting Lisbon, Santarem, Fatima and Lourdes. We will pray together at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima and Our Lady of Lourdes, receiving many blessings and graces. Fr. Guy Selvester will be the Spiritual Director. Cost is \$2,298 plus taxes. For more information, please see the fliers at the exits, or call Camille at (908) 387-0001.

## **CHRISM MASS**

On Mon., April 6, 2009, Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the diocese. At this Mass, the Bishop will bless the Holy Oils, which each parish receives for the rites of anointing. These Holy Oils, which are used to sanctify the Faithful, have been channels of holiness for centuries! The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint the chest of infants and hands of adults before their Baptism; the Oil of the Sick is used on the forehead and hands of the infirm in the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick; and Sacred Chrism is used to anoint the head of the newly baptized, the foreheads of confirmandi, the hands of a priest at his ordination, the head of a bishop at his ordination, and the altar and walls of new churches. These Oils are kept in an ambry; the Latin word *armarium* means cupboard or chest. At the Mass, all priests make a Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service, recommitting themselves to their Bishop and to their ministry to God and His People; the Bishop and all Priests then ask the people for a pledge of their prayerful support. All are strongly encouraged to join in the ancient, grace-filled Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen at 7:30pm.

## **ANAWIM COMMUNITY EVENTS**

The Anawim Community will be hosting a Healing Mass on March 25 at 7pm in the Chapel at St. Rose of Lima Parish Center, 10 Jonestown Road, Oxford, NJ. The Sacrament of the Sick will be offered as well as individual healing prayer and Adoration. Also, the next Anawim Community meeting will be held on Sun., March 29 from 2-4pm at St. Rose of Lima Parish Center. All are welcome to attend. For more information on either event, please call (908) 453-3886.

## **EASTER BUNNY BREAKFAST**

Ss. Peter & Paul RC Church in Great Meadows is hosting an Easter Bunny Breakfast on Sat., April 4 in the Parish Hall from 8:30am-10am. Come and eat a breakfast of eggs, sausage, French toast sticks with free give-a-ways and games. Also, pictures and visits with the Easter Bunny. Adults--\$6.00; Children 3-12--\$3.00; Infants--0-2 Free. Please RSVP for tickets by March 30--(908) 637-4269.

## **FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**

Poor people are hungry in Phillipsburg. Next time, bring as much as you can carry. Remember—"Food for the Needy" Collection—First Sunday of each month.



## ● **MINISTRY** ●

**March 21/22, 2009**  
SATURDAY EVENING

### **4:30 p.m. (CH)**

Acolyte: Michael O'Sullivan  
Ministers: Beth Decker & Frances Ludwig; C1 – Elaine Opdyke, C2 – Camilla Jebran, C3 – Stephanie Flynn, C4 – Robert Ellwood  
Lector: Mary O'Sullivan  
Commentator: Rosemary Carnali  
Servers: Joseph O'Sullivan & Kieran O'Sullivan

SUNDAY MORNING

### **7:00 a.m. (CH)**

Acolyte: Roger Acuna  
Ministers: Larry Bevilacqua & Allison Frasca  
Lector: Robert Brennan  
Commentator: Carol Bevilacqua  
Servers: Andrew Acuna & Sean Frasca

### **9:00 a.m. (CH)**

Acolyte: Kevin Hillhouse  
Ministers: Reenie Miller & Earl Miller; C1 – Sharon Hillhouse, C2 – Charlene Hummell, C3 – Irene Argentati, C4 – Dominick Mosco  
Lector: Carol Koop  
Commentator: Dit Mosco  
Servers: Megan Hillhouse & Emily Hillhouse

### **11:00 a.m. (CH)**

Acolyte: Adrian Llanos  
Ministers: Eileen Kerrigan & Sara Greene; C1 – Anna Marie Cervasi, C2 – Gloria Cervasi, C3 – William Harzer, C4 – Mary Ann Harzer  
Lector: Gerard Llanos  
Commentator: Richard Greene  
Servers: Katelyn McLoughlin & Jessica Torrey

### **5:30 p.m. (CH)**

Acolyte: Rachel Francisco  
Minister: Immaculata Durnin  
Lector & Commentator: Lisa Spanopoulos  
Servers: Colin Shoudt & Seamus O'Brien

## **NURSING HOME TEAMS**

### **Lopatcong Care Center**

3/22/09 – Dominick Mosco & Theresa Richey  
3/29/09 – Thomas Casey & Edward Soggi

### **Brakelev Care Center**

3/22/09 – Elaine Opdyke & Ellen Piperata  
3/29/09 – Judy Francisco & Sharon Hillhouse

### **Phillipsburg Care Center**

3/22/09 – Dorothy Kays & Jeanne Hagen  
3/29/09 – Patricia Flynn & Dee Fatta

## ● MASSES FOR THE WEEK ●

### SUNDAY, MARCH 22

7:00 – Mary S. Wismer by Children  
 9:00 – Julius Marzi by Wife, Lillian  
 11:00 – Joseph Pavkovic by M/M John Pavkovic  
 1:00pm (SP) – For the People  
 5:30pm – For the People

### MONDAY, MARCH 23

6:45 – Carmen Attinello by Halley Family  
 8:00 – Marian Manasseri by Rosalie Finegan  
 12:10 – Elizabeth LaLonde by C. Georgia Lehman  
 7:00pm – For the People

### TUESDAY, MARCH 24

6:45 – Thelma Morrow by Fran & John Ludwig  
 8:00 – M/M James McBrien & Family by Paul J. Lanning  
 12:10 (WH) – Joseph Marino by The McBride's

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

6:45 – Magdalena Chen by Deacon Enock & Ines Berluche  
 8:00 – James Herbert by M/M Salem Flynn  
 12:10 – Catherine Robedee by Sam Perio

### THURSDAY, MARCH 26

6:45 – John Stack by Mary Pat McTiernan  
 8:00 – Adelaide A. White by Barry & Cathy Vitale  
 12:10 – Marie & Antonio Caccese by Family

### FRIDAY, MARCH 27

6:45 – Joseph Kovatch by Hatsuko & Family  
 8:00 – Angelo DeNicuola by Daughter  
 12:10 – Frank Bronico by Tom & Fran Bronico

### SATURDAY, MARCH 28

7:00 – Rita Bill by Baakman Family  
 8:00 – Anna R. Ostili by Hatch Family  
 4:30pm – Mary Alfier by Joan Varone

### SUNDAY, MARCH 29

7:00 – For the People  
 9:00 – Eileen M. Perdoni by Eileen & Rich Dalrymple & Family  
 11:00 – Samuel A. Frinzi by Children  
 1:00pm (SP) – For the People  
 5:30pm – James & Helen Thomas by Ellen Piperata

## ● CALENDAR ●

### 22 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

8:00 - CH - Scapular Investiture  
 9:00 - CH - 1<sup>st</sup> Comm. Prep Mass #5  
 1:00-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 2:30 - CH - Baptism Ceremony  
 6:45 - MH - No Edge Night

### 23 - Monday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 7:00 - HFC - Novena (Eucharistic Holy Hour)  
 7:30 - MH - CDA Party for Retarded Citizens

### 24 - Tuesday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 9:30 - MH - Moms & Tots  
 4:00 - SSPJ - PREP Grades 1-5  
 7:00 - Conf. Room - Liturgy Committee Mtg.  
 7:00 - PMR - Hispanic Ministry  
 7:00 - MH - Bingo  
 7:30 - MH - Boy Scout Troop Mtg.

### 25 - Wednesday - Annunciation of the Lord

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 5:30 - MH - Legion of Mary  
 7:00 - MH - Soup Kitchen Volunteer Mtg.  
 7:00 - HFC - Charismatic Holy Hour & Reflection on Scripture Readings for Sunday

### 26 - Thursday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 7:00 - CH - Choir Rehearsal  
 7:00 - HFC - Blue Army  
 7:00 - MH - Bingo

### 27 - Friday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 3:00 - CH - Stations of the Cross  
 7:30 - CH - Stations of the Cross

### 28 - Saturday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 9:00 - CH - Confession  
 11:30-1:00 - MH - SPSJ Soup Kitchen  
 3:15-4:15 - CH - Confession  
 7:00 - MH - Bingo

### 29 - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

9:00 - CH - Conf. Prep Mass #7 & SAINTS Basketball Mass  
 10:15 - MH - Conf. Cand. Learning Session #7  
 1:00-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 2:30 - CH - Baptism Ceremony  
 5:30 - CH - Life Choices Anniversary Mass followed by Dinner in Mercy Hall  
 6:45 - MH - No Edge Night

### Stewardship of Treasure

#### St. Philip and St. James

March 15, 2009: \$11,343.00  
 Adopt-A-Missionary Collection: \$772.00

#### St. Christopher

March 15, 2009: \$240.00

### MASS CELEBRANTS ON MARCH 28/29, 2009:

4:30pm – Fr. Cronin  
 7:00am – Fr. Chen  
 9:00am – Msgr. Corona  
 11:00am – Fr. Boyle  
 1:00pm – Msgr. Corona  
 5:30pm – Bishop Hughes