

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:

Do you remember the last time you had to put your name to an important document? At crucial moments in our lives we will be invited to sign a binding legal document. You may have signed a contract of employment outlining the rights and responsibilities that you and your employer have with regard to each other. You may have agreed to act as the guarantor of a loan made by a bank to a family member or close friend. Many of you have committed your lives to one another in marriage and remember signing the marriage license. These documents are often contractual in their language and their purpose. While the sacred and relational nature of marriage is expressed beautifully in the Rite of Marriage, the legal consequences are determined by the signing of the official state documents.

There are some marriages that seem to be simply contractual arrangements, marriages of convenience we might call them. These can seem to be quite cold and ungenerous relationships; they seem to function on the level of the bare minimum. We might not like to stay too long in their company, as they may sadden or even depress us. There are also many marriages that exhibit quite different characteristics – these are not founded on legal rights or responsibilities, but on mutual understanding, self-giving and service. These people are not contracted to one another; instead they are covenanted to one another.

In today's Gospel Lesson, some God-fearing gentiles approach St. Philip asking 'to see' Jesus. These people do not want to satisfy their idle curiosity, but truly to see and recognize who Jesus is. Their journey to faith triggers a momentous shift in Jesus' ministry. Until now His ministry has pointed to the life the Father gives. Miraculous healings, multiplication of food and, most dramatically, the raising of Lazarus from the dead, have been the signs of this abundant life. These signs have had a mixed reception among the people of Israel. The leaders respond to the raising of Lazarus by condemning Jesus to death. At the same time, a large crowd welcomes the King of Israel into Jerusalem. Now that the Greeks (the gentiles) have approached Jesus, He is aware that there is no longer a need for miraculous signs – He Himself, in His death and rising, will be the sign and source of eternal life with God.

The death and rising of Jesus Christ, the grain dying in order to bear a rich harvest, will be the work of God's glory. In the death and rising of Jesus, the whole world is brought into a new covenant of

love and mercy. This is no contract; it is a covenant of the heart signed with the precious blood of Jesus Himself. It is of this covenant that the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel spoke. In the death and rising of Jesus, God has made a new and everlasting covenant of mercy with us.

As followers of Jesus, we find ourselves in situations that challenge us deeply: the people around us; the political and moral decisions that are made in our country; the economic or human needs of those in foreign lands. When looking at these different circumstances, we always come to moments of decision – "what should I do about this?" When we focus on what we are entitled to or on how to get away with the minimum required of us, we are self-obsessed and selfish. This is a grain of wheat that will not die to self, and it can only become a rotting husk. The only path to a rich harvest for ourselves and the world we live in, is the path of self-giving and self-sacrifice that Jesus Himself has walked before us. We know that this will not be easy, and we look for the strength that comes from Jesus to help us walk that road. We trust in His covenant with us and we seek to bring that mercy to others.

Each day we meet many people who need 'to see' Jesus. Some people are seeking faith, some companionship, and some are in need of compassion, healing or forgiveness. Do we protect our own rights and privacy or do we willingly die-to-self in generous service? When our lives are marked by this generous service, we will know that the covenant is written no longer on stone but upon our hearts. God does not want us to make contracts to serve others on our terms. God wants us to enter into a covenant with no exclusion clauses – a covenant of the heart.

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 Rosalie Eustis, Eleanor Carita, Geraldine Rosnagle, 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

5th Sunday of Lent • March 29, 2009

● FOR YOUR INFORMATION ●

BINGO WORKERS

3/31 – T. Reilly, C. Franceschino, M. McCabe, N. Mathias, SSPJ Family; **4/2** – C. Torrey, J./M. Forder, L. DeLaRosa; **4/4** – B. Christian, M. Anmol Singh, P. Lepore, S. Spence, C. Nixon

STEWARDSHIP

“For your heart will always be where your riches are.” (Matt 6:21)

WEDDING BANNS

FIRST TIME – Selene Fuentes Beristain & Jaime Arteaga Salomon

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY COLLECTION

The monthly “Food for the Needy” collection will be held on the weekend of April 4/5, 2009. April’s needs are: spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, tuna fish, canned soups, canned meat, canned fruit, toothpaste, soap, laundry detergent, and deodorant. Life Choices is in need of diapers, formula and children’s items. Thank you for your continued support.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE

Prayer Vigil for Life will be held on Sat., April 4, 2009 after the 8am Mass in the Chapel with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by the Rosary for Life at 9:15 & 10:15 across from the Abortuary on South Main Street.

GOOD FRIDAY DINNER

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Good Friday Dinner on April 10, 2009 from 4:00-7:00pm in Mercy Hall. Dinner includes: White fish, baked potato, salad, vegetable medley, applesauce, roll & butter, dessert & beverage. Cost is \$10.00 per platter for adults; \$5.00 for children 6-12 years old; Children under 6 free. Not a fish fan? Pizza is also available for \$2.00 per slice.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Anyone interested in participating in the special Palm Sunday Procession (April 5, 2009 at 11:00am) should line up in front of the Church by 10:45am.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be held following the Holy Thursday Mass on April 9, 2009.

SPECIAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Special Stations of the Cross will be held at 7:30pm on Good Friday, April 10, 2009.

PASTA DINNER

The Knights of Columbus and St. Philip and St. James Parish are 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!

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 8th 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.

BUS TRIP TO “GUYS & DOLLS”

St. Philip and St. James is sponsoring a bus trip to New York City on Sun., September 20, 2009 to see “Guys and Dolls” at the Nederlander Theatre (Sunday Matinee--3pm). \$162.00 made payable to St. Philip and St. James will hold your reservation and includes a ticket in the orchestra and transportation. The first 47 passengers to pay will fill the bus; after that a cancellation list will apply. The bus leaves Saints Philip & James Elementary School on Roseberry Street at 9:30am promptly. The bus will take us to Little Italy--arrange your own lunch at a restaurant of your choice. At approximately 1:30pm the bus will take us uptown to the Theatre. Seats are not reserved on the bus. After a 3pm Matinee, we will be returning directly back to Phillipsburg. Please call 859-5256 to reserve your ticket.

“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!

CHORAL CONCERT

St. Ann Parish in Raritan, NJ (45 Anderson Street) will be presenting a concert on Palm Sunday, April 5, 2009 at 4pm featuring Gabriel Faure's Requiem, performances by the St. Ann's Handbell Choir and Children's Choir. The St. Ann's Choir is made up of 20 professional and volunteer singers. This event is a wonderful musical experience as well as spiritual mediation for this holy season of our liturgical year. Please join us! For information, please call (908) 725-1008.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LOURDES

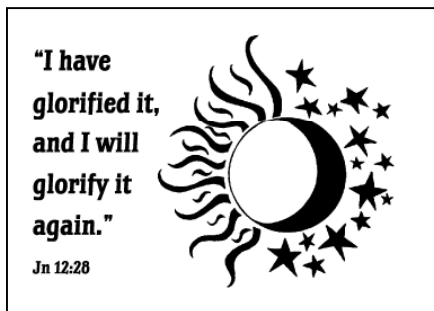
Legion of Mary is promoting an eight-day pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes, June 25-July 2, 2009 from Newark on TAP Airlines. We will pray together at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima and Our Lady of Lourdes, receiving many blessings and graces. Fr. Guy Selvester will be the Spiritual Director. Cost is \$2,298 plus taxes. For 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.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

Do a good deed—help those in need. *Remember—“Food for the Needy” Collection—First Sunday of each month.*



● **MINISTRY** ●

March 28/29, 2009
SATURDAY EVENING

4:30 p.m. (CH)

Acolyte: No Acolyte
Ministers: Josephine DeMonti & Melody Talpas; C1 – Joseph Merlo, C2 – Ann-Lynn DeGerolamo, C3 – Roger DiVittorio, C4 – Linda McGuire
Lector: Jack Kocsis
Commentator: Lisa DeGerolamo
Servers: Jessica Torrey & Rosalind Wilmott

SUNDAY MORNING

7:00 a.m. (CH)

Acolyte: Anthony Marigliano
Ministers: Joseph Gourmiak & Mary Duaine
Lector: Carol Koop
Commentator: John Bruns
Servers: Justin Marigliano & Sean Frasca

9:00 a.m. (CH)

Acolyte: Kayla Krouse
Ministers: James Bramick & Judy Francisco; C1 – Anne Coyle, C2 – Edward Socci, C3 – Eileen Catalli, C4 – Samuel Fatta
Lector: Mary O'Sullivan
Commentator: Christy Krouse
Servers: Dominic Socci & John Socci

11:00 a.m. (CH)

Acolyte: Taylor-Bay Sutton
Ministers: Theresa Richey & Pat James; C1 – Anna Marie Cervasi, C2 – Gloria Cervasi, C3 – Reenie Miller, C4 – Earl Miller
Lector: Cassie Apgar
Commentator: Mike James
Servers: Christiana Anselmo & Tanner Sutton

5:30 p.m. (CH)

Acolyte: Kevin Hillhouse
Minister: Maureen Speer
Lector & Commentator: Rosemary Carnali
Servers: Megan Hillhouse & Emily Hillhouse

NURSING HOME TEAMS

Lopatcong Care Center

3/29/09 – Thomas Casey & Edward Socci
4/5/09 – Ann-Lynn DeGerolamo

Brakelev Care Center

3/29/09 – Judy Francisco & Sharon Hillhouse
4/5/09 – Pat & Emil Brisson

Phillipsburg Care Center

3/29/09 & 4/5/09 –
Patricia Flynn & Dee Fatta

● **MASSES FOR THE WEEK** ●

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

MONDAY, MARCH 30

6:45 – Charles Farley, Jr. by Family
 8:00 – Grace Maguire by Sister-in-Law
 12:10 – John Pasquini by Jean Pasquini
 7:00pm – For the People

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

6:45 – Henry Cucciniello by Juanita & James Hayes
 8:00 – Frank Manasseri by Rosalie Finegan
 12:10 (WH) – Anthony Tolotta (A) by Grace & Dick Chidsey

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

6:45 – Patricia Thompson & Geraldine Farley by Cindy Giaquinto
 8:00 – James B. Maguire by Daughters
 12:10 – Mary Bachman by Ed & Dolly Duffy

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

6:45 – M/M Stefano Loiacono by Tony & Dolly Loiacono
 8:00 – Barbara E. Fortunato by John & Irene Cooke
 12:10 – Amerigo Gobbi by Rena Gobbi & Family

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

6:45 – Corona Family (A) by Family
 8:00 – Anna R. Ostili by Art Ostili & Lusardi Family
 12:10 – Aurelio Pasquini by Jean Pasquini

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

7:00 – Fred Corona by Marie Frinzi
 8:00 – Dominick Merlo, Sr. by Don, Faye, Michelle & Judy Merlo
 4:30pm – Lena Connolly by Ed & Jean Connolly

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

7:00 – Mary Frances Patterson by Family
 9:00 – Guadalupe Garcia Young by DeRoner Family
 11:00 – Glenn & Margaret Clark by Lawler Family
 1:00pm (SP) – For the People
 5:30pm – For the People

● **CALENDAR** ●

29 - 5th 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

30 - Monday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration
 6:00 - MH - Edge Night & Family PREP
 Program
 7:00 - HFC - Novena (Day 1)

31 - Tuesday

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

1 - APRIL - Wednesday

8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration
 1:00 - MH - Over 50's Club Bus. Mtg./Social
 5:30 - MH - Legion of Mary
 7:00 - HFC - Charismatic Holy Hour &
 Reflection on Scripture Readings for Sunday

2 - Thursday

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

3 - Friday

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

4 - Saturday

8:30 - HFC - Pro-Life Adoration
 8:30am-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration
 8:30 - CH - Children's Choir Rehearsal
 9:00 - CH - Confession
 3:15-4:15 - CH - Confession
 7:00 - MH - Bingo

5 - Palm Sunday (Palm distributed at all Masses)

Food for the Needy Collection

11:00 - CH - Baptism Mass
 11:00 - CH - Palm Sunday Procession
 1:00-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration
 6:45 - MH - No Edge Night

Stewardship of Treasure

St. Philip and St. James
 March 22, 2009: \$11,524.00

St. Christopher
 March 22, 2009: \$224.00