

# 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:

Down through the ages, many examples have been used to express the relationship between Christ and His people. One particularly powerful example has been used with younger children. A teacher holds aloft a box containing various articles, and tells the classroom that "Inside this box is the best thing God ever made." This gets the attention of the children. Then comes the teasing out by emptying the box of its cargo: a chocolate bar, a music CD, a baseball card of a MVP, etc. As these are produced, the teacher asks if these are the best things God has made. The class is not sure. A child is then invited forward to look into the now empty box, except for a mirror at the base. The class is reminded that in the box is the most beautiful thing God has made. Of course when the volunteer looks inside all she sees is herself reflected back. This then is shown to the class, the message being that we are each special, beloved by the Lord, and the best thing He ever made.

Children are usually able to accept this basic fact more easily than their parents. Hopefully they will be young enough not to have been told otherwise too often. Hopefully they have not found themselves too hurt, and, therefore, tempted to close in on themselves. It is less likely that they will have failed too badly, or lost a relationship, and found themselves feeling worthless inside. By contrast, if you were to ask most of us adults to look into the mirror to see a wonderful creation of the Lord, would we readily believe it?

As Jesus begins His public ministry, He is comforted by a voice of assurance, a voice of love that tells Him He is beloved by His Father. This is a moment of truth, a moment of transfiguration. This gives Him the strength He needs to continue a journey that will lead to the cross. In our own lives too, we need to know the love God has for us. We need to be reminded that we have been created by Him and chosen in love.

So, in our Gospel Lesson for today, the apostles see the glory of our Lord. They want to remain in this beautiful place. It is Peter who speaks up: "Let us stay here, I will set up camp." The impetuous apostle does not realize the significance of the moment. Just as Abraham imagined that the Lord would take his son, Peter imagines that they had already reached the end of their journey. Jesus has been acknowledged as the chosen one of God, not just in their presence, but also in the presence of history, the Law and the Prophets. His next 'transfiguration' will wait till Gethsemane, the cross and finally the risen glory of Easter morning.

As we continue our pilgrimage through Lent, we look within ourselves for the strength we need to follow the way of the cross. We need a reminder of God's love in our moments of doubt. Sometimes we lose the ones we love, sometimes we find ourselves lost, unsure of our next move in life. If our God loves us, why do these things happen to us? There are no easy answers to such questions. Yet we know that God has given us the ultimate gift--He has given His Son that we might be free. Could it be that in facing dark times with God on our side we become more whole? We have a choice, to be alone and embittered, or to walk with Him and hear that voice of encouragement, the voice that transfigures, calls us to be more than we are already; the voice that calls us His beloved.

Each of us has the capability of building others up, of showing them the love of Christ by our actions and our lives. Thank God we do not struggle alone. Like Christ we each have moments of transformation along the way of faith that leads us to Easter. Those defining moments may be fleeting, but they point to the Father's presence with us. They may be an embrace, a wedding day or the birth of a new baby: high-points in our lives, confirming us just as Christ is confirmed in the presence of Moses and Elijah, the Lawgiver and the Prophet.

Yet transformation is more than a moment. For Christ, it is the start of a long journey of endurance towards another hill and a more painful spectacle that leads to our freedom. Peter hopes the moment will last, but, as we know, such moments never do. Yet our little moments of transfiguration, instances when we are shown love, acceptance, and encouragement by others, are moments when we are given strength to journey on, like Jesus, to the moment of Redemption. They echo the voice of a God who says to each of us, "you are my chosen ones."

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 the babies who have been killed through abortion and their parents.

May God always be pleased with us!

Msgr. Michael J. Corona, PA, KCHS

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent • March 8, 2009

## ● FOR YOUR INFORMATION ●

### **BINGO WORKERS**

**3/10** – D. Varga, C. Franceschino, J. Krupski, E. Hooper, C. Ross, C. Stallings; **3/12** – V. Halm, P. McLoughlin, L. Ayala, T./D. Shoudt; **3/14** – D. Kassick, R. MacDonald, W. Davis, P. Madawela, SSPJ Family

### **STEWARDSHIP**

“Your light must shine before all so that they may see the goodness in your acts and give praise to your Father in heaven.” (Matt 5:16)

### **WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!**

Recently we welcomed into our Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism: GIANLUCA REYES, son of Juan Reyes & Melissa Rocha

### **LENTEN PARISH MISSION**

St. Philip and St. James Parish Mission is scheduled for March 9-12, 2009 (Monday through Thursday) beginning at 7:00pm in the Church. All are welcome. Fr. Dan Havron of St. Francis Retreat House will be our Parish missionary. After each service, we will gather in the Parish Meeting Room for refreshments and fellowship. Please note: Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel will close at 7:00pm Mon., March 9 to Thurs., March 12 to allow everyone to attend the Parish Mission. Please see the fliers at the exits for detailed information.

### **PANCAKE & EGG BREAKFAST**

A Pancake & Egg Breakfast will be hosted by the Knights of Columbus and St. Philip and St. James Parish on Sun., March 8, 2009 from 8:00-11:00am in Mercy Hall. The menu includes pancakes and eggs, sausage, juice, coffee, tea and milk. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Come out and enjoy the fellowship of our parishioners.

### **2008 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL TELEMARKETING CAMPAIGN**

In an effort to secure the funding which is critical to sustaining our pastoral, educational, and charitable ministries, the Diocese of Metuchen is embarking on a telemarketing campaign for the 2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Calls will be made from March 2 through April 3 (excluding Sundays). Please note that callers will not ask for your credit card information. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Very Rev. Sylvester J. Cronin, Executive Director, Stewardship & Development by phone at (732) 562-2431 or e-mail at [scronin@diometuchen.org](mailto:scronin@diometuchen.org).

### **LENTEN STUDIES**

Father James will conduct a series of studies based on the Lenten Sermons of Venerable John Henry Cardinal Newman. Meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings of Lent from 7:00-8:00pm on the second floor of the Parish Center above Mercy Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Father James at (908) 387-6365.

### **UPDATE ON SUPPLIES FOR THE TROOPS**

The Knights of Columbus, Council #474, has received confirmation via e-mail that the men and women troops in Iraq have received the supplies that were so generously donated by you good people. In fact, one unit of the 35<sup>th</sup> Inf. Regt. received some supplies on Christmas Eve, which was a pleasant gift from home. Well over 100 troops enjoyed the supplies. Some comments were: “they wanted to thank all you good people and especially the pastors of both parishes for their cooperation. It made them (the troops) feel that America still cares about them. Please remember us in your prayers. If photos become available, we will share them with you.” Any questions, contact Jim Martin, Grand Knight, at (610) 559-1355 or Herman Boos at (908) 859-3190.

### **FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE**

Christians throughout our area are invited to take part in the national 40 Days for Life effort from February 25 through April 5. In addition to 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion in America, please consider volunteering to pray outside of the American Women's Center, Phillipsburg's abortion mill, for one or more hours during the 40 days, and spread the word to others about this important life-saving effort. To get more information, or to volunteer to help, contact [joan@lifechoicesonline.org](mailto:joan@lifechoicesonline.org). All are welcome!

### **CEMETERY CLEAN-UP**

Cemetery personnel will initiate their clean-up operation beginning March 16, 2009. Anyone wishing to obtain any decorations presently on the graves should do so by March 15. Any decorations left on the graves after this date will be discarded.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS**

We will be conducting a membership drive on March 8 after all Masses. Please see a representative for literature and contact card. Become a member and help us to fulfill our goals to help the Church and the needy of the community.

### **“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 Saturdays at 1pm. 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!

### **CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS**

A Charismatic Healing Mass will be held on Wed., March 11, 2009 at 7:30pm at St. Bernadette Church, corner of Princeton and Villanova Roads, Parlin. Rev. John Campoli, Director of His Love Ministries, will be the president. Praise and Worship begins at 7pm with His Branches Praise Band. Individual healing prayer will be available. For information, please call (732) 721-2772.

### **"BORROW-A-KID" PROGRAM**

Mayor Harry Wyant of Phillipsburg, in conjunction with the Phillipsburg High School Student Council, is sponsoring a program to help Senior Citizens prepare their yards for the spring and summer seasons. If you have trouble getting your yard cleaned up and spruced up, this program will help you. The students have volunteered to help you with the cumbersome task. Groups of students will rake, weed, and do general clean-up tasks for you at no charge and make it easier for you to maintain your yard. This one-time effort will be held on Fri., April 17, 2009 from 8am to 2pm (rain date is Mon., April 20, 2009) and is open to all residents of the Phillipsburg area. Application forms are available at the Church Office and must be returned to Phillipsburg High School by March 13 at the latest. You will be contacted as to what time the students will be at your home.

### **PILGRIMAGE TO HONOR ST. PAUL**

The Diocese of Metuchen is sponsoring a pilgrimage to honor St. Paul on June 19-30, 2009. The pilgrimage, entitled "Following in the Footsteps of St. Paul" will trace his last missionary journey through Greece and conclude in Rome with the Papal Mass for the Feast of St. Paul. For more information, go to [www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.org) or call (732) 562-1990, ext. 1310 or 1824.

### **BILINGUAL CONFERENCE ON ST. PAUL**

The Diocese of Metuchen invites you to celebrate the Year of St. Paul. We will be holding a "Bilingual Conference on St. Paul" on Sat., March 14, 2009 at St. Magdalen de Pazzi Church in Flemington. Workshops will include an English Tract or Spanish Tract, several guest speakers and a keynote address by Fr. Bruce Niele, a Paulist priest, and former Director of Evangelization for the USCCB. Liturgical celebrants will be Bishop Paul Bootkoski and Bishop Emeritus Edward T. Hughes. To register, please call Pat Martin at (732) 562-1990, ext. 1310.

### **FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**

Forgot to bring groceries to the Food for the Needy Collection this month? Drop a gift card from a local grocery store into next week's collection basket. Remember—"Food for the Needy" Collection—First Sunday of each month.



## ● MINISTRY ●

**March 7/8, 2009**  
SATURDAY EVENING

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

Acolyte: No Acolyte  
Ministers: Melody Talpas & Camilla Jebran; C1 – Thomas Casey, C2 – William Casey, C3 – Ann-Lynn DeGerolamo, C4 – Dorothy Kays  
Lector: Michael Boylan  
Commentator: Lisa DeGerolamo  
Servers: Maria Talpas & Luke Talpas

SUNDAY MORNING

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

Acolyte: Pamela Bay  
Ministers: Barbara Balas & Patricia Flynn  
Lector: Susan Gerhardt  
Commentator: John Bruns  
Servers: Molly Zgoda & Ellie Zgoda

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

Acolyte: Paul Kucinski  
Ministers: Anne Coyle & Donna Kucinski; C1 – Edward Flynn, C2 – Stephanie Flynn, C3 – Dominick Mosco, C4 – Charlene Hummell  
Lector: Dit Mosco  
Commentator: Christy Krouse  
Servers: Victoria Gural & Catherine Gural

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

Acolyte: Roger Acuna  
Ministers: Irene Argentati & Pat James; C1 – Peg Skears, C2 – Theresa Richey, C3 – Anna Marie Cervasi, C4 – Gloria Cervasi  
Lector: Karen Llanos  
Commentator: Mike James  
Servers: Andrew Acuna & Katelyn McLoughlin

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

Acolyte: Rachel Francisco  
Minister: Immaculata Durnin  
Lector & Commentator: Barbara Shaneberger  
Servers: Emily Halm & Jessica Torrey

## **NURSING HOME TEAMS**

### **Lopatcong Care Center**

3/8/09 – Anne Coyle & Diane Volk

3/15/09 – Edward & Stephanie Flynn

### **Brakeley Care Center**

3/8/09 – Pat James & Allison Frasca

3/15/09 – Sara Greene & Melody Talpas

### **Phillipsburg Care Center**

3/8/09 – Bud Lilly & Robert Hopkins

3/15/09 – Dorothy Kays & Jeanne Hagen

● **MASSES FOR THE WEEK** ●

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8**

7:00 – Charles Young by Children  
 9:00 – Jack Zwicker by Wife, Son & Family  
 11:00 – Frank J. Bronico by Wife & Daughters  
 1:00pm (SP) – For the People  
 5:30pm – For the People

**MONDAY, MARCH 9**

6:45 – Jean Lukens by Enock & Ines Berluche  
 8:00 – Charles Farley, Jr. by Family  
 12:10 – Mary Aiello by Barbara Aiello  
 7:00pm – For the People

**TUESDAY, MARCH 10**

6:45 – Grace Young by Chipoloski Family  
 8:00 – Wallace Kelly by Dagon Family  
 12:10 (WH) – Frank & Mary Simonetta by Simonetta Children

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11**

6:45 – Joseph P. Bronico, Sr. by Francis Corriere  
 8:00 – Mary Vanatta by Deacon John Flynn & Wife, Florence  
 12:10 – Rocco Turdo by Margaret Beasley

**THURSDAY, MARCH 12**

6:45 – Encarnacion Colon by George & Matt McBride  
 8:00 – Agnes Lillie by Donna Youpa  
 12:10 – Bernard A. Bladies, Sr. by Mary Rutt & Family

**FRIDAY, MARCH 13**

6:45 – Will David Perna by Judy Francisco & Family  
 8:00 – Virginia Rosnagle by Son, William Rosnagle  
 12:10 – Russell “Duke” Johnson by Daughters, Margaret, Joan & Kay

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

7:00 – Adelaide A. White by Marge Carlson  
 8:00 – Argentati Family by Anna Marie & Gloria Cervasi  
 4:30pm – M/M James W. Martin, Sr. by M/M James W. Martin, Jr.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

7:00 – Geri Farley & Pat Thompson by Sister, Camille Rapinesi  
 9:00 – Frank DeRoner by DeRoner Family  
 11:00 – Carol McGuire by Bob, Linda & Rob  
 1:00pm (SP) – For the People  
 5:30pm – For the People

● **CALENDAR** ●

**8 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**(Special 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection--Catholic Relief Services)**  
 8:00-11:00 - MH - Pancake & Egg Breakfast  
 9:00 - CH - 1<sup>st</sup> Comm. Prep Mass #4 & Girl Scout Sunday  
 1:00-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 2:30 - CH - Baptism Ceremony  
 6:45 - MH - Edge Night

**9 - Monday**

8:30am-7:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 7:00 - CH - Parish Lenten Retreat  
 7:00 - HFC - Novena (Day 8)  
 7:30 - MH - CDA Mtg.

**10 - Tuesday**

8:30am-7:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 9:30 - MH - Moms & Tots  
 4:00 - SSPJ - PREP Grades 1-5  
 7:00 - CH - Parish Lenten Retreat  
 7:00 - Conf. Room - Serra Club Board Mtg.  
 7:00 - PMR - Hispanic Ministry  
 7:00 - MH - Bingo  
 7:30 - MH - Boy Scout Troop Mtg.

**11 - Wednesday**

8:30am-7:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 5:30 - MH - Legion of Mary  
 7:00 - CH - Parish Lenten Retreat  
 7:00 - HFC - No Charismatic Holy Hour

**12 - Thursday**

8:30am-7:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 7:00 - CH - Parish Lenten Retreat  
 7:00 - HFC - Blue Army  
 7:00 - MH - Bingo  
 7:30 - HOME - 4<sup>th</sup> Degree K. of C. Mtg.

**13 - Friday**

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

**14 - Saturday - St. Joseph**

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

**15 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Adopt-A-Missionary Collection**  
 9:00 - CH - Conf. Prep Mass #6  
 10:15 - MH - Conf. Cand. Learning Session #6  
 1:00-11:00pm - HFC - Adoration  
 2:30 - CH - Baptism Ceremony  
 6:45 - MH - No Edge Night

**Stewardship of Treasure**

**St. Philip and St. James**  
 March 1, 2009: \$13,695.00

**St. Christopher**  
 March 1, 2009: \$220.00

**MASS CELEBRANTS ON  
 MARCH 14/15, 2009:**

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