

St. Philip & St. James

CATHOLIC CHURCH

430 SOUTH MAIN STREET • PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865

Mission Statement

To love God and neighbor by sharing our belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior through prayerful celebration of His Sacraments, ministering to all in need, protecting life, and welcoming all who come to us.

Weekend Masses

Saturday 8:00am

Saturday & Sunday

4:30 pm, 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am; 1:00 pm (*Spanish*) & 5:30 pm

Weekday Masses—Monday - Friday:

6:45 am & 12:10 pm

Confessions: Saturdays 10:00 am & 3:15 pm

Adoration: 9 am—8 pm in the Chapel

Fr. Antony Arockiadoss *Pastor*

Nancy Ensley *Parish Sec. ext. 404*

Fr. Wilson Jerusalem

Parochial Vicar ext. 403

Fr. Patrick Boyle *ext. 404*

Dn. Enock Berluche *Ext. 405*

Dn. Larry Bevilacqua *Ext. 405*

Dn. Rob Fisher *Ext. 405*

Dn. Francisco Jauridez *Ext. 405*

Escarlen Duran *Religious Ed. ext. 406*

Lisa Sforza *Sacred Music*

Patricia Bell *School Principal*

Phone: 908-454-0112

Fax: 908-454-0125

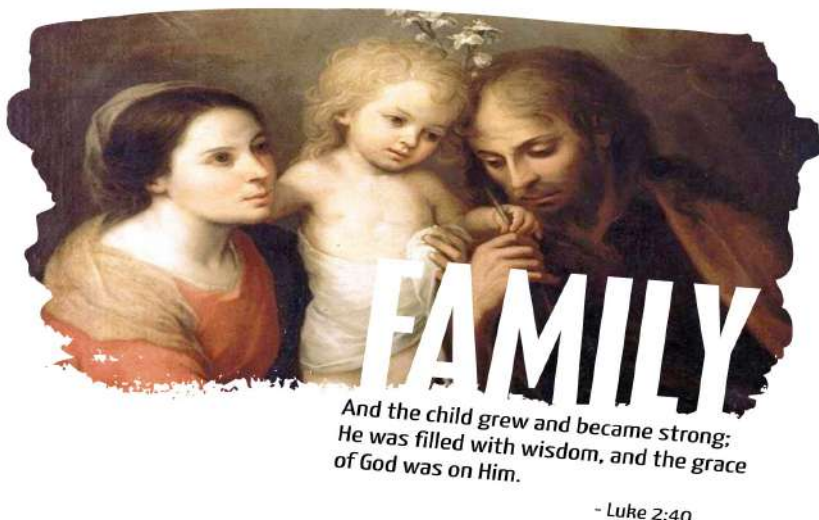
Website: www.spsj.org

Office Hours Mon.—Fri. 9am-12:30pm
(Closed for lunch) 1:00pm-4:00pm

Mondays & Fridays 3-5pm

(Para asistencia en español)

THE HOLY FAMILY JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH † December 31, 2023



Baptism, Marriage and RCIA

Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 12/31/23 No 8th Grade Confirmation Class & No RCIA.

Mon. 1/1/24 Happy New Year! - 3pm New Year's Dinner in MH.
CHURCH OFFICE & ADORATION CLOSED

Tues. 1/2/24 8:30am Sanctuary Guild in Church, 9am Legion of Mary in Conf. Room, 4:30pm—5:30pm Faith Formation (CCD) Classes at SSPJ school, 6pm Legion of Mary in Conf. Room & 7pm Cenacles of Life in Chapel.

Wed. 1/3/24 5pm Bible Study in Mercy Hall & No Divine Mercy Prayer Group.

Thurs. 1/4/24 7pm Blue Army Prayer Cell in Chapel.

Friday 1/5/24

Sat. 1/6/24 7am—8am Men's Fellowship Group in Conf. Room, 8:30am 1st Saturday Devotion in Church, 9am to 11am Committee of Timon in PMR, 9am - 1pm Soup Kitchen in MH.

Sunday 1/7/24 10am 8th Grade Confirmation Class in PMR, 10am RCIA in Conference Room, & 3-7pm Spanish Charismatic Group in PMR.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Dear Family!

I continue to wish you Merry Christmas! Thank you for making the most of all the opportunities that were provided for you in as many masses and community time created for you! There were so many people that I am grateful to those for making this year's Christmas: Starting with our priests and deacons. Our Director for Music Lisa Sforza and the whole choir for their time put into preparing and helping us to have a great worshipping experience. We are grateful to the Decoration Committee headed by Diane and Duane Volk and all the volunteers in donating long hours in making our already beautiful church more beautiful. We thank all the liturgical ministers (Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Ushers) and all the altar-servers for their role in making this year's Christmas memorable.

Today the Universal Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. I am not sure if you noticed that I always addressed my bulletin notes to 'Family'. You are my family; in you I rejoice; through you I witness a God's love and hope; with you my faith is strengthened. I pray with St. Paul (Philippians 1:3-11) on this Feast of the Holy Family that we may reflect the holiness and commitment of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. A family becomes holy when God is the central figure, devoid of our human nature. Mary and Joseph though humans, share the divinity of Godhead in the Incarnate Word - Jesus.

New Year's Day is a special time to reflect on God's generosity. The Old Testament Reading on the first day of the year has one of the finest blessings in the Bible. We need God's grace and blessings every day to keep our time holy and God-filled. God's gift of time is an invitation to everyone to seek His Face, His Kingdom. Mary as the Mother of God experienced the 'restlessness' in her heart. The light in her to fulfill God's will never missed to affect her Son in the womb.

Jesus was not only sharing her blood for nourishment but also her spirituality.

We are given that Marian Spirituality as a gift on the first day of the New Year. As her sons and daughters, we fulfill God's will for us, for our families and for our community. Pope John Paul II said, "To pray for peace is to open the human heart to the inroads of God's power to renew all things. To pray for peace is to pray for Justice, for a right-ordering of relations within and among nations and peoples. It is to pray for freedom of every individual. It is to seek God's forgiveness, and to implore the courage to forgive those who have trespassed against us."

Mary is the model of the Church and a great source of inspiration to all of us. By remembering her faithfulness to God, we live out her values and inspiration all the days of this year and the years to come. Let us make all our God-given time holy by following the example of Mary, the Mother of God. Amen.

Happy New Year!

Fr. Antony

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, December 31st – The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

7:00am – *Sp. Int. for the Voelker Family by Hoffman Family

9:00 – Joseph Todaro by Family

11:00 – Glenn & Margaret Clark by Family

1:00pm (SP) – *Sp. Int. Patrick & Joseph Giannotta by Brother Michael

5:30pm – *Sp. Int. Jenni Chapoñan

MONDAY, January 1st – Mary the Holy Mother of God

9:00am – *Sp. Int. Bruce Thompson by the Hoffman Family

11:00am – Alayna Sulick by Family

1:00pm (SP) – Benjamin J. Patti by Rosemary & Brian

TUESDAY, January 2nd - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

6:45 – Ben Patti by Deacon Enock & Ines Berluche

12:10pm – Philip Kays by Jeff Gensheimer

WEDNESDAY, January 3rd - The Holy Name of Jesus

6:45 – Hans Mueller by Lisa Garcia

12:10pm – Joyce Gasparovic by Ayala Family

THURSDAY, January 4th – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

6:45 – Jim Amos by Catalli Family

12:10pm – Richard Kirby by Family

FRIDAY, January 5th – St. John Neumann

6:45 – Joe Flynn by Family

12:10pm – Charles J. Wert, Jr. by Sharon

SATURDAY, January 6th – St. André Bessette

8:00 – Thomas B. Smith, Sr. by Marion

4:30pm – Rosa Duque by Darío F. Duque

SUNDAY, January 7th – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:00am – Perine Family by Martha

9:00 – Jane Merlo by Bob & Patti Merlo

11:00 – Anthony Loiacono by Dolly Loiacono

1:00pm (SP) – Nuriez-Fontanes by Family

5:30pm – Phil Kays by Paul & Donna Kucinski



Monday, January 1, 2024

The Church Office and Adoration will be closed.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule



January 6th

4:30pm	Acolyte	Mark Talpas
	Lector	Kelechi Odemma
	Minister	Beth Dispoto
	Minister	Melody Talpas
	Server	Chimbuzo Odemma
	Server	Chiezimuzo Odemma

January 7th

7:00am	Acolyte	Joey Grimshaw
	Lector	Susan Gerhardt
	Server	Brett Bruckman
	Server	Sofia Grimshaw

9:00am	Acolyte	Cole Rautenberg
	Lector	Ivanna Mendez
	Minister	Verónica Mendez
	Minister	Robert Case
	Server	Erin Case
	Server	Owen Case

11:00am	Acolyte	Joseph Cruz
	Lector	Denise Kassick
	Minister	Kevin Kassick
	Minister	Pat James
	Server	Andrew Sretenovic
	Server	Adam Sretenovic

1:00pm	Lector	Lisette Herrera
	Minister	Martha Lam
	Server	Miguel Quizhpi-García
	Server	Jackie Quizhpi-García

5:30pm	Acolyte	
	Lector	Christiana Anselmo
	Server	
	Server	

NURSING HOME ASSIGNMENTS

Lopatcong Nursing Home: 12/31 Ron Rossini & 1/7 Ed Socci.

Barkeley Nursing Home: Deacon Francisco.

Phillipsburg Care Center: 1/7 Judy Leone, 1/14 Lisa Spanopolous & 1/21 Beth Dispoto.

Stewardship

December 17, 2023,	\$ 8,283.37
Online Giving:	\$ 2,473.00
	\$10,756.37

Second Collection: \$ 2,983.02

(The Stewardship information for 12/24/23 will be included in the 1/7/24 bulletin.)

Around the Parish

Faith Formation News

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

- Parents of Confirmation students that will be confirmed in April, if you haven't met with Fr. Antony, please contact Mrs. Escarlen Duran at 908-454-0112 x406 to set up an appointment as soon as possible.
- The Confirmation Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2024 from 10am to 2pm in Mercy Hall.
- The following paperwork is due by January 8, 2024: Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility Form & the Saint Project Form. The 10 Weekly Reflection Forms should be handed as soon as it is completed (on weekly basis.) Paperwork may be handed to catechists, dropped off at the Church office, or may be placed in the collection basket marked to the attention of Escarlen Duran.



We are looking boys and girls, who have received their First Holy Eucharist, who are willing to make a commitment to become a member of our wonderful Altar Server team!

What a GREAT way to teach your children the concept of "Stewardship." Open to all children of the parish and school (who have received their First Holy Eucharist). Parents, please email Escarlen Duran at eduran@spsj.org if interested.

Pray for the Sick

James Tersigni, Jamey Perrone, Thomas Ernest, Lorraine Wonder, Rosa Zevallos, Manuel Venegas, The Pulecio Family, Jasmin Tricoche, Charlotte Meglic, Shirley Emery, Ernest E. Finizio, Sr, Paul Montrim, August Vinti, Theresa Adams, Brett Marino, Irene Benatti, The Quesada-Rocha Family, Sharon Donovan, Janet Duran, Bob Hoesley, Jacob Hille, Steven Hille, Frances Fulse, Bill Coyle, Laura Rinaldi, & Richard Dalrymple.

Pray for our Military ☆☆☆

Christian Finizio, Jack Pike, Michael Vega, Gianni Luzzetti, Lt. Abigail Gage, James B. Collins, Spec. Theodore Bill, Billy Erz, Andrew N. Zellers, Seth Reyes, Bryan Malizzi, Paul C. Hesch, Corporal Ryan M. Bell, Luis Quizhpi, Jason Erz, & Kevin Jirole.



Please help us keep both prayer lists up to date, contact the parish office when changes occur. Thank you and God Bless.



SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

The dedicated volunteers of the St. Philip & St. James Soup Kitchen handed out 144 meals to 36 families in our community this past weekend. A big thank you to all the volunteers and donors!! The Soup Kitchen is in need of Peanut Butter and Jelly; as well as store brought cookies or puddings. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

NEW YEAR'S EVE HOLY HOUR

On New Year's Eve, December 31, 2023, we will have a special Holy Hour starting at 11:00pm in the Church. You are invited to come to spend the last hour of the Year with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, to thank Him for His blessing for the past year and receive His blessing at the very beginning of the New Year 2024. Confession will be available. Midnight Mass will be celebrated.

NEW YEAR'S DINNER

Come celebrate the start of the New Year on Monday, January 1st, at 3pm, in Mercy Hall. We will have our traditional pork dinner for all those who are alone or without family on the holidays. Come & join us!! Call for reservations at 908-454-9880 leave your name and phone number.

BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

You are cordially invited by the Parish Family of St. Philip and St. James to attend the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord on Sunday, January 7, 2024, at 9:00am in celebration of your Baby's First Christmas. At this Mass, your child will receive a special blessing. If you are able to attend this Mass, please contact Melody Talpas at (610)-442-5555 or melodytalpas@gmail.com by January 2, 2024.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2024-2025

TUITION ASSISTANCE

ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than **March 31, 2024**. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31, 2023
7am, 9am, 11am, 5:30pm, & Midnight in English
1pm in Spanish



New Year's Day, Monday, January 1, 2024
9am & 11am in English
1pm in Spanish

OVER 50's CLUB

The Over 50's Club meets the first Wednesday of every month in Mercy Hall at St. Philip and St. James Church. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 3, 2024. The Executive Board meets at 12pm and the club business meeting begins at 1pm. We have coffee, dessert and bingo after the meeting. New members are welcome. Any questions, call President, Dolly Loiacono at 908-454-1067.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Join us on Saturday, January 6th, after the 8am Mass for the First Saturday Devotion. Our Lord has asked that we make reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for 5 First Saturdays by attending mass, saying the Rosary in reparation to her Immaculate Heart, and going to Confession. Her promise is that She will bring us to Heaven on the First Saturday after we die. Confession is in the church at 10am and 3:15pm.

MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP

Come join us for the March for Life in Washington, DC, on Friday, January 19, 2024. Join a half million people who are standing up for life! Bus leaves from St. Philip & St. James Catholic School at 6:30am. Mass in the church at 6:00am. For those who cannot walk, you can visit the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 908-454-9880 and leave a message.

THANK YOU!

The Parish Fundraising Committee would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 17th. We served 104 people, and our profit was \$1,004.00. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for cooking and the Confirmation Students for serving at the breakfast!!

DEACON'S CORNER

Final Commendation

For the past four weeks, I have been writing about your important role as a member of St. Philip and St. James, and I have suggested ways in which you can help make SPSJ vibrant again.

As the New Year approaches, people around the world are gearing up to make resolutions aimed at self-improvement and personal growth. Whether it's shedding a few pounds, committing to regular exercise, or aiming to reduce time spent on social media, these resolutions reflect a desire for positive change. While these goals are commendable and can lead to a healthier and more balanced life, there's another type of resolution that holds great significance – the resolution to actively improve the condition of our church through dedicated participation.

Participating in the life of a church community can have a profound impact, not only on the individual but also on the collective body of believers. It's a commitment that is rooted in the acknowledgment of the importance of spiritual growth and the nurturing of faith. By resolving to actively contribute to the betterment of one's church, individuals are not only seeking to strengthen their own relationship with God but are also expressing gratitude for the blessings they have received.

There are several ways in which one can actively contribute to the improvement of their church. Here are some specific suggestions:

1. Resolve to actively participate in the celebration of the Eucharist by responding to the prayers, singing the songs, and focusing on the significance of the Eucharist.
2. Sign up to spend one hour weekly with the Lord in Eucharistic adoration.
3. Consider becoming a member of the 72 disciples.
4. Make the resolution to attend the Holy Hour celebrated every first Friday at 6 pm.
5. Join an activity of your choice, such as the Legion of Mary, Divine Mercy prayer group, Columbiettes, the Cenacle, or any other activities in our parish, all for the glory of God.

May you have a happy and blessed New Year.

Remember that Jesus loves you and so do I.

Cheers...Deacon Enock

SPSJ DECEMBER EVENTS



8th Grade Faith Formation Students making lanterns.
Signifying the light, we await for during Advent, Jesus our Lord.



Christmas Blessings



Parishioners visiting with Santa Claus while enjoying breakfast.

ST. MARK BIBLE STUDY

RECAP OF 12-20-23

This lesson focused on the **Understanding of the Bread, The Feeding of the Five Thousand, Walking on Water, Touching the Tassel of His Cloak** and the **Fulfillment of the Old Testament Prophecies in the Person of Jesus Christ**.

The following reflections are from *The Gospel of Mark* by Mary Healy.

- **The Understanding of the Bread** - Not only are Jesus' teachings but also His actions are parables, signs that point beyond themselves to a deeper mystery. The early Church recognized in the miracle of the loaves a symbolic anticipation of the Eucharist when Jesus would share both word and food with his people. The structure of the Eucharist Liturgy follows the same pattern seen in the miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand. First, in the Liturgy of the Word, Jesus nourishes us with His teaching through the Scripture readings and the homily that breaks open their meaning. Then, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, He nourishes us with the Bread of Life, His own Body and Blood given for us.
- **The Feeding of the Five Thousand** is one of the most memorable events in Jesus ministry. It is the only miracle attested in all four Gospels. Mark recounts this dramatic event, like the earlier supper with sinners, as not only a meal but also a revelation of Jesus' identity and Messianic Mission. Almost every line echoes the Old Testament, providing clues to the meaning of Jesus' action.
- **Walking on Water** - Jesus comes toward them walking on the sea. This action can be fully understood only in the light of the Old Testament, where God's power to tread the waves is a sign of His sovereignty over all creation. Because their hearts were still hardened, they feared when they saw Jesus Walking on the Water. That their hearts were hardened seems to indicate that it was not a case of simple ignorance but a willful blindness, a reluctance to open their hearts fully to what God was doing in Jesus.

He immediately calms their fear with a **threefold** reassurance: **Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid!**

- **The Touching of the Tassel of His Cloak** - The tassel on His cloak is no mere decoration. It is the long fringe that Jewish men wore on the corners of their prayer shawl, in accord with the law of Moses. Jesus is the model of faithfulness to the covenant, who perfectly fulfills the Father's commands. **All who touched Jesus Tassel were healed**, not because of any magical power in the tassel itself, but because of their faith in Him who wore it. Here, physical healing is an anticipatory sign of salvation in the fullest sense.

Readers of the Mark's Gospel might be tempted to envy Jesus' contemporaries, who had the privilege of seeing Him, hearing His voice, and even touching Him to receive His healing power. But Christian tradition has always held that later generations have no less privilege than they. Because Jesus is alive and risen from the dead, the mighty works He did on earth are accessible even now to those who draw near Him in faith. The Catechism states, "The sick tried to touch Him for power came forth from Him and He healed them all. And so, in the sacraments Christ continues to "touch" us in order to heal us." Jesus is still the Divine Physician of our souls and bodies. In the power of the Holy Spirit, He continues His work of healing and salvation through the Church, especially in the two sacraments of healing: Penance and the Anointing of the Sick.

Throughout this lesson, it was emphasized Christ's fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies and His role as the new lawgiver whose divine mission was confirmed by repeated miracles. Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God, whose death and resurrection achieved victory of Satan, sin and death!

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

All are welcomed to come together for a Holy Hour on January 5, 2023 (First Friday) at 6:00pm in the Church. Let's spend an hour with our Lord as a community. Spending time before the Eucharist, is one of the best means of growing spiritually and cultivating a deep relationship with Christ. (On this day Adoration in the chapel will end at 6pm.)



MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK

January 1 - Pope Francis on the 57th World Day of Peace (Summary)

1. The progress of science and technology as a path to peace: The remarkable advances in new information technologies, particularly in the digital sphere offer exciting opportunities and grave risks, with serious implications for the pursuit of justice and harmony among peoples.

2. The future of artificial intelligence: between promise and risk: To date, there is no single definition of artificial intelligence. The term itself, which by now has entered into everyday parlance, embraces a variety of sciences, theories and techniques aimed at making machines reproduce or imitate in their functioning the cognitive abilities of human beings. Positive outcome will only be achieved if we show ourselves capable of acting responsibly and respect such fundamental human values as “inclusion, transparency, security, equity, privacy and reliability”.

3. The technology of the future: machines that learn by themselves: The ability of certain devices to produce syntactically and semantically coherent texts, for example, is no guarantee of their reliability. This poses a serious problem when artificial intelligence is deployed in campaigns of disinformation that spread false news and lead to a growing distrust of the communications media. Privacy, data ownership and intellectual property are other areas where these technologies engender grave risks.

4. The sense of limit in the technocratic paradigm: In an obsessive desire to control everything, we risk losing control over ourselves; in the quest for an absolute freedom, we risk falling into the spiral of a “technological dictatorship”. In the ideological context of a technocratic paradigm inspired by a Promethean presumption of self-sufficiency, inequalities could grow out of proportion, knowledge and wealth accumulate in the hands of a few, and grave risks ensue for democratic societies and peaceful coexistence.

5. Burning issues for ethics: Algorithms must not be allowed to determine how we understand human rights, to set aside the essential human values of compassion, mercy and forgiveness, or to eliminate the possibility of an individual changing and leaving his or her past behind.

6. Shall we turn swords into ploughshares? If artificial intelligence were used to promote integral human development, it could introduce important innovations in agriculture, education and culture, an improved level of life for entire nations and peoples, and the growth of human fraternity and social friendship. In the end, the way we use it to include the least of our brothers and sisters, the vulnerable and those most in need, will be the true measure of our humanity.

7. Challenges for education: Education in the use of forms of artificial intelligence should aim above all at promoting critical thinking. Users of all ages, but especially the young, need to develop a discerning approach to the use of data and content collected on the web or produced by artificial intelligence systems. Schools, universities and scientific societies are challenged to help students and professionals to grasp the social and ethical aspects of the development and uses of technology.

8. Challenges for the development of international law: This process of ethical and juridical discernment can prove a precious opportunity for shared reflection on the role that technology should play in our individual and communal lives, and how its use can contribute to the creation of a more equitable and humane world. For this reason, in debates about the regulation of artificial intelligence, the voices of all stakeholders should be taken into account, including the poor, the powerless and others who often go unheard in global decision-making processes.

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

HORA SANTA DE NOCHEVIEJA Y MISA DE MEDIANOCHE

El 31 de diciembre de 2023, tendremos una Hora Santa especial a partir de las 11:00pm en la iglesia. Están invitado a venir a pasar la última hora del Año con Jesús Sacramentado, para agradecerle por Su bendición durante el año pasado y recibir Su bendición al comienzo del Año Nuevo 2024. La confesión estará disponible. Se celebrará misa de medianoche.

HORARIO DEL MINISTERIO LITÚRGICO

7 de enero de 2024 - 1:00pm

Lectores

Lisette Herrera
Jaime Rocha

Ministro

Martha Lam

Anuncios

Giovanni Lam

Servidores

Miguel Quizhpi-García
Jackie Quizhpi-García
José Jauridez

DEL ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY

¡Querida familia!

Sigo deseándoles ¡Feliz Navidad! ¡Gracias por aprovechar al máximo todas las oportunidades que se les brindaron con tantas misas y tiempo comunitario creado para ustedes! Hubo tantas personas por las cuales estoy agradecido en esta Navidad: empezando por nuestros sacerdotes y diáconos. Nuestra Directora de Música Lisa Sforza y todo el coro por su tiempo dedicaron en prepararnos y ayudarnos a tener una gran experiencia de adoración. Agradecemos al Comité de Decoración encabezado por Diane y Duane Volk y a todos los voluntarios por donar largas horas para hacer aún más hermosa nuestra ya hermosa iglesia. Agradecemos a todos los ministros litúrgicos (Ministros Eucarísticos, Lectores y Ujieres) y a todos los monaguillos por su papel en hacer que la Navidad de este año sea memorable.

Hoy la Iglesia Universal celebra la Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia. No estoy seguro si ustedes se han dado cuenta que siempre dirijo las notas de mis boletines "Familia". Ustedes son mi familia; con ustedes me regocijo; a través de ustedes los veo el amor y la esperanza de Dios; con ustedes mi fe se fortalece. Oro con San Pablo (Filipenses 1:3-11) en esta Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia para que podamos reflejar la santidad y el compromiso de Jesús, María y José. Una familia se vuelve santa cuando Dios es la figura central, desprovista de nuestra naturaleza humana. María y José, aunque humanos, comparten la divinidad de Dios en el Verbo Encarnado: Jesús.

El Año Nuevo es un momento especial para reflexionar sobre la generosidad de Dios. La lectura del Antiguo Testamento el primer día del año tiene una de las mejores bendiciones de la Biblia. Necesitamos la gracia y las bendiciones de Dios todos los días para mantener nuestro tiempo santo y lleno de Dios. El regalo del tiempo de Dios es una invitación a todos a buscar Su Rostro, Su Reino. María, como Madre de Dios, experimentó la "inquietud" en su corazón. La luz en ella para cumplir la voluntad de Dios nunca dejó de afectar a su Hijo en el vientre. Jesús no solo estaba compartiendo su sangre para alimentarse sino también su espiritualidad.

Esa espiritualidad Mariana se nos regala el primer día del Año Nuevo. Como sus hijos e hijas, cumplimos la voluntad de Dios para nosotros, nuestras familias y nuestra comunidad. El Papa Juan Pablo II dijo: "Orar por la paz es abrir el corazón humano a las incursiones del poder de Dios para renovar todas las cosas. Orar por la paz es orar por la Justicia, por un correcto ordenamiento de las relaciones dentro y entre las naciones y los pueblos. Es orar por la libertad de cada individuo. Es buscar el perdón de Dios e implorar el valor de perdonar a quienes nos han ofendido".

María es el modelo de la Iglesia y una gran fuente de inspiración para todos nosotros. Al recordar su fidelidad a Dios, vivimos sus valores e inspiración todos los días de este año y los años venideros. Santifiquemos todo el tiempo que Dios nos ha dado, siguiendo el ejemplo de María, la Madre de Dios. Amén.

¡Feliz año nuevo!

P. Antony

EL PROCESO DE APLICACIÓN PARA ASISTENCIA DE MATRÍCULA PARA LA ESCUELA CATÓLICA DE 2024-2025 ESTA ABIERTO EN LÍNEA

Las familias interesadas en solicitar asistencia con la matrícula para acudir a una escuela primaria o secundaria elegible de la Diócesis de Metuchen, pueden presentar su solicitud en línea ahora a través "FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment" en la dirección electrónica <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Las solicitudes en línea deben completarse (incluida toda la documentación requerida) antes del **31 de Marzo de 2024**. Las solicitudes están disponibles en inglés y en español. Las familias que necesiten ayuda para completar la solicitud en línea o necesiten acceso a una computadora para postularse deben comunicarse directamente con su escuela.

SERVIDORES DE MISA

¡Estamos buscando niños/niñas que hayan recibido su Primera Eucaristía y que estén dispuestos a comprometerse a convertirse en miembros de nuestro maravilloso equipo de Servidores del Altar! Qué gran manera de enseñarles a sus hijos el concepto de "mayordomía". Abierto a todos los niños de la parroquia y de la escuela parroquial (que hayan recibido su Primera Eucaristía). Padres, envíen un correo electrónico a eduran@spsj.org para ser agregados a la lista.



Lunes, 1 de enero de 2024

La Oficina de la Iglesia y la Adoración estarán cerradas.

Saints Update

MONSIGNOR SHEEHAN SCHOLARSHIP:

Give the gift of a Catholic education! Contributions are awarded each July to families who otherwise could not afford a Catholic school education. To contribute, simply place your donation in the collection basket inside a clearly marked envelope. Making online donations? Please consider adding the scholarship fund to your monthly donations.

Interested in contributing to Saints Fund, and making a donation toward the general operating costs of Saints Philip and James School? Visit sspjnj.org and click the gold donate button located on the top right to contribute to the fund. Thank you for your support of Catholic education!

HELP WANTED

SSPJ School is currently in search of a school custodian. All clearances required. Black Seal certification preferred. Please contact Mrs. Bell, at bell.patricia@spsj.org or (908) 859-1244.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Saints Philip and James School family wishes you a 2024 filled with peace and love!



Congratulations to our most recent recipients of the Star Student award, Emma and Aaron!



Fifth grade worked on a candy cane craft and discussed the "Candy Cane Gospel." Look at the candy cane, what do you see? Stripes that are red, like the blood shed for me. White is for my Savior, who is sinless and pure. "J" is for Jesus, my Lord, that's for sure! Turn it around and a staff you will see; Jesus my shepherd, was born for ME!



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Eucharistic Revival

Please join us in
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(National Eucharistic Renewal)

9th Talk

The Vicar General Fr. Jay Tabrowski

**Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30pm in Mercy Hall
then at 7pm in the Church for the talk.**

At Our Church, 430 Main St., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

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