

St. Philip & St. James

CATHOLIC CHURCH

430 SOUTH MAIN STREET • PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME † January 28, 2024

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)



Baptism, Marriage and RCIA

Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 1/28/24 10am 8th Grade Confirmation Class in PMR & 10am RCIA in Conference Room.

Mon. 1/29/24 7pm Spanish Charismatic Group “Aliento de Vida” in the Church (Mass in Spanish 2nd & 4th Monday’s of the month.)

Tues. 1/30/24 8:30am Sanctuary Guild in the 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 the Chapel.

Wed. 1/31/24

Thurs. 2/1/24 7pm Blue Army Prayer Cell in the Chapel.

Friday 2/2/24

Sat. 2/3/24 7am—8am Men’s Fellowship Group in Conf. Room, 8:30am First Saturday Devotion, 9am - 1pm Soup Kitchen in MH, 1pm Altar Servers & Acolytes Practice in the Church.

Sunday 2/4/24 10am 8th Grade Confirmation Class in PMR & 10am RCIA in Conference Room, & 3—7pm Spanish Charismatic Group “Aliento de Vida” in

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Family!

In the last three Sundays the Church reflected on the baptism, Mission Statement of Jesus, Jesus as the Word (Word of God Sunday), and we see today how Jesus puts those elements in His ministry as 'The Prophet like Moses' (1st reading). His announcement of the Kingdom of God was accompanied by God's love to each and every one of us.

Undoubtedly, as Church is the universal sacrament of salvation, 'Proclamation of the Gospel' is absolutely necessary for our salvation. This is what we call 'Evangelization'. But what is it actually? Pope Paul VI taught us that "the Church exists in order to preach the Gospel, which is to preach and teach the word of God so that through her the gift of grace may be given to us, sinners may be reconciled to God, and the sacrifice of the Mass, the memorial of his glorious death and Resurrection may be perpetuated" - Evangelii Nuntiandi 14

We understand from the Pope that there is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the Kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God are not proclaimed. St. John Paul II taught us that the first form of evangelization is witness, because "people today put more trust in witnesses than in teachers, in experience than in teaching, and in life and action than in theories" - Redemptoris Missio 42. Learning from Jesus to preach with authority (Gospel Reading), our personal witnesses are important and need to be shared.

Catholic School Week (Jan 28 - Feb 3): With the help of our Bishop and other pastors in our County, we want to make the most of this week with letters, postcards, and posters advertising our School. There will be teams going to different parishes presenting our school to parents. Please see the letter at the end of the bulletin. I request you to support and help us to spread the news and create awareness! Find out more on School Week in our parish announcement board and on the school's website.

Eucharistic Revival Seminar is on February 13th at 4:30pm: Our next seminar on the Eucharist is titled "Foundational teachings from the Eucharistic Prayers". We will have two priests ordained from our diocese. These young men are coming to our parish to talk to us of the importance of Eucharist from their vocational journey that helped them to become priests.

These young priests are invited first and foremost to foster vocations in our parish - We will host this seminar in place of Faith Formation (CCD) so all the children and parents can attend this event. I request all parishioners to join us! Your presence will help the spirituality of our children. I continue to encourage community learning as it is indispensable for our faith.

Bible Study on Mark: All are welcome! Our next class will be on Feb 8th, 5pm at Mercy Hall. This will immensely help you with your Sunday Mass experience as Year B reflects on Mark. There is a new Bible Study on the Acts of the Apostles starting February 29th. This will be in preparation for the Easter Season 2024.

2024 Lenten Obligations:

1. The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (February 14) and Good Friday (March 29).
2. The other Fridays of Lent (Feb. 16 and 23, Mar. 1, 8, 15, and 22) are days of abstinence.
3. Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.

Note: This year, be aware that Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 (also Valentine's Day). The obligation to fast does remain in effect, so it is suggested that those who are planning a special dinner make that their one main meal of the day.

Ordinary Maintenance Projects: We are looking into removing of the old carpet in our Chapel and replacing it with hardwood. We also need to do some maintenance work at the Sacristy and also looking into repairing the floor in Mercy Hall. These are all Ordinary Maintenance projects, something simple, not a major undertaking. Your prayers and support are always needed!

Be assured of my love and prayers for you and your family!

Fr. Antony

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, January 28th – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – Gregorio Fodero by Deacon Rob
 9:00 – Virginia Fahr by William Fahr
 11:00 – Kimberlee Pisarek by Sharon
 1:00pm (SP) – Karla Patricia Morales-Rojo by Sara Epple
 5:30pm – Phil Kays by Lisa Garcia

MONDAY, January 29th

6:45am – Barbara Ann Flurchick by Hoffman Family
 12:20pm – Lucy Haney by Dee & Bob Ellwood

TUESDAY, January 30th

6:45am – Louis Reda by Family
 12:10pm – Peter & Theresa Schiro by Rose Bladies

WEDNESDAY, January 31st – St. John Bosco

6:45am – Donna Rossini by Ron Rossini
 12:10pm – Rose Ritz by St. Lukes Exercise Class

THURSDAY, February 1st

6:45am – Michelle Doosterwal by Tina Holly
 12:10pm – Carrie & Helen Bachman by Tom Duffy

FRIDAY, February 2nd - The Presentation of the Lord

6:45am – Marie Mueller by Lisa Garcia
 12:10pm – *Sp. Int. George Babula by Family

SATURDAY, February 3rd – St. Blaise

8:00am – Frank Rossnagle by Tricia, Wendy, Jaclyn & Family
 4:30pm – Rosa Duque by Darío F. Duque

SUNDAY, February 4th – FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:00am – Carmella Fisher by Deacon Rob
 9:00 – Yola Marinelli by Lisa Marinelli
 11:00 – Helen F. Flynn by Nieces & Nephews
 1:00pm (SP) – Luz de Jesús Rivera by Family
 5:30pm – Nancy M. Gazzana by The Fatta Family

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection on February 4th for Repairs & Renovations. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule



February 3rd

4:30pm	Acolyte	Nicholas Socci
	Lector	Lisa DeGerolamo
	Minister	Thomas Casey
	Minister	Margie Markus
	Server	Chiazam Odemma
	Server	Chiezimuzo Odemma

February 4th

7:00am	Acolyte	Joey Grimshaw
	Lector	Marianne Palos
	Server	Sofia Grimshaw
	Server	Oliver McKenna

9:00am	Acolyte	Andrew Sretenovic
	Lector	Christina Anselmo
	Minister	Eileen Catalli
	Minister	Anne Coyle
	Server	Gabriel Sretenovic
	Server	Adam Sretenovic

11:00am	Acolyte	Brett Bruckman
	Lector	Mary O'Sullivan
	Minister	Carol Bevilacqua
	Minister	Robert Hopkins
	Server	Erin Giacalone
	Server	Emma Giacalone

1:00pm	Lector	María Rubi
	Minister	Oscar Dilone
	Server	Miguel Quizhpi-García
	Server	Jackie Quizhpi-García

5:30pm	Acolyte	
	Lector	Susan Gerhardt
	Server	
	Server	

NURSING HOME ASSIGNMENTS

Lopatcong Nursing Home: 1/21 Anne Coyle & 1/28 Magnolia Mateo.

Barkeley Nursing Home: Deacon Francisco.

Phillipsburg Care Center: 1/21 Beth Dispoto.

Stewardship

	January 14	January 21
	\$10,922.56	\$7,567.56
Online Giving:	\$ 2,833.00	\$ 2,463.00
	\$ 13,755.56	\$10,030.56
Together in Charity:	\$1,955.56	SSPJ School \$2,069.56
Various Collections:	\$ 971.00	\$135.00

Around the Parish

Faith Formation News

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

- The following paperwork is now due: Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility Form & the Saint Project Form.
- The 10 Weekly Reflection Forms should be handed in as soon as they are completed (on weekly basis.)
- Christian Charity Form is due February 29, 2024.
- The Confirmation Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2024 from 10am to 2pm in Mercy Hall.

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.



*****PRACTICE*****

There will be practice for all new and current altar servers and acolytes on Saturday February 3rd at 1pm in the church. The purpose of this practice is to train new servers and for all to be trained for masses when the incense is used. Please plan on attending.

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.



The Warren Council Columbiettes #474 would like to thank all of our parishioners for their generous donations to help our Postulants and Seminarians on their journey to do God's work. Thank You!

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Join us on Saturday, February 3rd, after the 8am Mass for the First Saturday Devotion. Our Lord has asked that we would 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 & 3:15pm.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HEALING MASS

On Saturday, February 10th, there will be a Healing Mass in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes. Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet will begin at 3:00pm. Confessions are at 3:15 - 4:00pm, followed by mass at 4:30pm. Please sit near the front of the church. In order for you to receive the full benefit of the Anointing of the Sick, Confession is recommended.

2,000 HAIL MARY'S

The "Aliento de Vida" ministry extends a cordial invitation to the entire community of St. Philip and St. James to pray 2,000 Hail Mary's for the marriages and families of the entire world which are the main basis of our society and for peace to reign in the entire world. It will be on Saturday, February 10 from 8am to 8pm in the chapel. Please join us.

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, 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. Colonel 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, Lt. Commander Dominique D'Anthony, & Major Joseph Skopowski.



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

DEACON'S CORNER

Jesus was in the synagogue on the sabbath. He was teaching, so his prophetic lifestyle was emerging. He taught with authority, not like the scribes. He had something fresh and new to share and could do so in a convincing way. Lord, we pray that we might be prophetic in sharing your message in an authoritative way.

Mark wanted people to believe in the good news of Jesus, the Son of God, but many were slow to come to that. It seems that the unclean spirits believed more readily in who he was. Jesus showed his power and authority in expelling the demon. Lord, we need a deeper faith in you as sent by God, knowing that you are greater than the forces of evil.

Deacon Francisco

MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (January 28)

January 31 - St. John Bosco, Priest

“At the time of Don Bosco's death in 1888 there were 250 houses of the Salesian Society in all parts of the world, containing 130,000 children, and from which there annually went out 18,000 finished apprentices. [...] Up to 1888 over six thousand priests had gone forth from Don Bosco's institutions, 1,200 of whom had remained in the society.” (From the Catholic Encyclopedia)

“On the day of his ordination, his mother said to him: ‘you will be a priest, you will begin to suffer’”, Pope Francis said. The purpose of this warning and “prophecy” from his humble mother was to let her son know that if he perceived no suffering, then that was a clear sign that “something was wrong”. Why should a priest suffer?, the Pope asked. The reason can be found in Don Bosco’s life choices. He “had the courage to view reality with the eyes of a man and with the eyes of God”. Indeed, Francis noted, “in those Masonic days ... where the poor were truly poor”, Don Bosco was moved to seek new avenues, human avenues that could help young people grow. (Pope Francis on Jan. 31, 2019).

February 2 - Feast of The Presentation of the Lord

The specific requirement of the law of Moses was that a firstborn son, the “male that opened the womb,” be presented to a priest and ransomed by the payment of five shekels (Num 18:16).

St. John Paul II, in his encyclical on the virtues of St. Joseph, remarked that, along with his responsibility to see to the circumcision and naming of the child, the ransoming of Jesus further affirmed Joseph’s legal guardianship.

St. John Paul II wrote: The ransoming of the first-born is another obligation of the father, and it is fulfilled by Joseph. Represented in the first-born is the people of the covenant, ransomed from slavery in order to belong to God. Here too, Jesus — who is the true “price” of ransom — not only “fulfills” the Old Testament rite, but at the same time transcends it, since he is not a subject to be redeemed, but the very author of redemption. (*Redemptoris Custos*, 12)

The thirteenth-century Dominican Friar Jacob Voragine, a contemporary of Thomas Aquinas, offered a beautiful reflection on the symbolism of candles in his homily for today’s celebration. “On this feast day we too make a procession, carrying in our hands a lighted candle, which signifies Jesus, and bearing it into the churches. In the candle there are three things — the wick, the wax, and the fire. These three signify three things about Christ: the wax is a sign of his body, which was born of the Virgin Mary without corruption of the flesh . . . ; the wick signifies his most pure soul, hidden in his body; the fire or the light stands for his divinity because our God is a consuming fire.” (*The Golden Legend*, “On the Feast of the Purification of Mary”)

February 3 - *Optional Memorial of St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr, and Optional Memorial of St. Ansgar, Bishop*

SIGHT & SOUND BUS TRIP

St. Philip & St. James Parish is running a bus trip to see Daniel at Sight & Sound on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. Tickets: the standard price for an Adult is \$140 and for a Child (3-12) it is \$100. This includes the ticket, bus and driver gratuity. Visit to Kitchen Kettle Village (on your own) after the Matinee. Bus leaves Phillipsburg at 7:30am and the return is 7:00pm. Contact Camille 908-319-2719 for reservations.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

The dedicated volunteers of the St. Philip & St. James Soup Kitchen handed out 154 meals to individuals 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.



NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL

INFORMACIÓN DE CONFIRMACIÓN

- Ya se debe entregar la siguiente documentación: formulario de elegibilidad del patrocinador de confirmación y formulario del proyecto santo.
- Los 10 formularios de reflexión semanal deben entregarse tan pronto como estén completados (semanalmente).
- Tienen hasta el 29 de febrero de 2024 para entregar el formulario de caridad cristiana.
- El Retiro de Confirmación se llevará a cabo el sábado 2 de marzo de 2024 de 10 am a 2 pm en Mercy Hall.

Los documentos pueden entregarse a los catequistas, llevar a la oficina de la Iglesia o colocarse en la canasta de colecta marcada a la atención de Escarlen Durán.

DEL ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY

¡Querida familia!

En los últimos tres domingos la Iglesia reflexionaba sobre el bautismo, la Declaración de la Misión de Jesús, Jesús como la Palabra (Domingo de la Palabra de Dios), y vemos hoy cómo Jesús pone esos elementos en Su ministerio como 'El Profeta como Moisés' (primera lectura). Su anuncio del Reino de Dios estuvo acompañado del amor de Dios hacia todos y cada uno de nosotros.

Sin duda, como la Iglesia es el sacramento universal de la salvación, el "Anuncio del Evangelio" es absolutamente necesario para nuestra salvación. Esto es lo que llamamos "evangelización". ¿Pero qué es realmente? El Papa Pablo VI nos enseñó que "la Iglesia existe para predicar el Evangelio, que es predicar y enseñar la palabra de Dios para que atrevas de ella nos sea dado el don de la gracia, que los pecadores sean reconciliados con Dios, y el sacrificio de la Misa, se perpetúe el memorial de su gloriosa muerte y resurrección" - Evangelii Nuntiandi 14

Entendemos del Papa que no hay verdadera evangelización si no se proclama el nombre, la enseñanza, la vida, las promesas, el Reino y el misterio de Jesús de Nazaret, el Hijo de Dios.

San Juan Pablo II nos enseñó que la primera forma de evangelización es el testimonio, porque "hoy en día se confía más en los testigos que en los maestros, en la experiencia que en la enseñanza, en la vida y en la acción que en las teorías" - Redemptoris Missio 42. Aprendizaje de Jesús para predicar con autoridad (Lectura del Evangelio), nuestros testimonios personales son importantes y necesitan ser compartidos.

Semana de la Escuela Católica (28 de enero - 3 de febrero): Con la ayuda de nuestro obispo y otros pastores de nuestro condado, queremos aprovechar al máximo esta semana con cartas, postales y carteles anunciando nuestra Escuela. Habrá equipos que irán a diferentes parroquias presentando nuestra escuela a los padres. Consulte la carta al final del boletín. ¡Les pido que nos apoyen y ayuden a difundir la noticia y crear conciencia! Encuentre más información sobre la Semana Escolar en el tablero de anuncios de nuestra parroquia y en el sitio web de la escuela.

La charla de Avivamiento Eucarístico es el 13 de febrero a las 4:30pm: Nuestra próxima charla sobre la Eucaristía se titula "Enseñanzas fundamentales de las Oraciones Eucarísticas". Tendremos dos sacerdotes que fueron ordenados en nuestra diócesis. Estos jóvenes vienen a nuestra parroquia para hablarnos de la importancia de la Eucaristía desde su camino vocacional que los ayudó a ser sacerdotes. Estos jóvenes sacerdotes están invitados mas todo a fomentar las vocaciones en nuestra parroquia. Organizaremos este seminario en lugar de Formación de Fe (CCD) para que todos los niños y padres puedan asistir a este evento. ¡Solicito a todos los feligreses que se unan a nosotros! Tu presencia ayudará a la espiritualidad de nuestros hijos. Sigo fomentando el aprendizaje comunitario, ya que es indispensable para nuestra fe.

Estudio Bíblico sobre Marcos: ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Nuestra próxima clase será el 8 de febrero a las 5pm en Mercy Hall. Esto te ayudará enormemente con tu experiencia en la Misa dominical ya que el año B reflexiona sobre Marcos. Hay un nuevo Estudio Bíblico sobre los Hechos de los Apóstoles a partir del 29 de febrero. Esto será en preparación para la temporada de Pascua de 2024.

Obligaciones de Cuaresma 2024:

1. Los días tanto de ayuno como de abstinencia son el Miércoles de Ceniza (14 de febrero) y el Viernes Santo (29 de marzo).
2. Los demás viernes de Cuaresma (16 y 23 de febrero, y el 1, 8, 15 y 22 de marzo) son días de abstinencia.
3. Ayunar en la tradición católica romana significa limitarse a una comida completa con dos comidas más pequeñas que juntas no equivalen al tamaño de la comida completa. La obligación de ayunar se aplica únicamente a los católicos entre 18 y 59 años.
4. La abstinencia en la tradición católica romana significa abstenerse de comer carne (carne de res, pollo, cerdo, pavo, etc.). La obligación de abstinencia se aplica a todos los católicos que hayan cumplido 14 años.

Nota: Este año, tenga en cuenta que el Miércoles de Ceniza cae el 14 de febrero (también el Día de San Valentín). La obligación de ayunar sigue vigente, por lo que se sugiere que quienes estén planeando una cena especial lo hagan como su principal comida del día.

Proyectos de mantenimiento: Estamos considerando quitar la alfombra vieja de nuestra capilla y reemplazarla con madera. También necesitamos hacer algunos trabajos de mantenimiento en la sacristía y estamos considerando reparar el piso en Mercy Hall. Todos estos son proyectos de mantenimiento algo simple, no un gran compromiso. ¡Sus oraciones y apoyo siempre son necesarios!

¡Tenga la seguridad de mi amor y mis oraciones para usted y su familia!

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.

2.000 AVE MARÍAS

El grupo de Aliento de Vida le hace una cordial invitación a toda la comunidad de St. Philip y St. James para el rezo de 2.000 Ave Marías por los matrimonios y familias del mundo entero que son la base principal de nuestra sociedad y para que reine la paz en el mundo entero. Será el sábado 10 de febrero de 8am a 8pm en la capilla.

SERVIDORES DE MISA

Habrà práctica para todos los monaguillos y acólitos nuevos y actuales el sábado 3 de febrero a la 1 pm en la iglesia. El propósito de esta práctica es capacitar a nuevos servidores y que todos estén capacitados para misas cuando se utiliza el incienso. Por favor planea asistir.

HORARIO DEL MINISTERIO LITÚRGICO

4 de febrero de 2024 - 1:00pm

Lectores

María Rubí
Juan Lalama

Anuncios

Anyelina Rodríguez

Ministro

Oscar Dilone

Servidores

Miguel Quizhpi-García
Jackie Quizhpi-García
José Jauridez



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.

SUPPORT THE SAINTS FUND:

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!

WINTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the school or church office. All proceeds will benefit SSPJ School. Tickets will be available for pickup after the 11AM Mass on 1/28. Payments and stubs should be returned to the church or school office by 2/1. Drawing will be held on Friday, 2/2.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK OPEN HOUSE

Come find out why it is so great to be a Saint by attending the Saints Philip and James School open house from 1PM - 3PM this Sunday, January 28. For more information visit www.sspjnj.org/tour or call the school office at (908) 859-1244.

SSPJ SOUP-ER BOWL

Saints Philip & James School will once again be collecting cans of soup during Catholic Schools Week, as part of our initiative to affect hunger in our community. If you are able to donate, please drop off cans of soup by this Monday, January 29. Soup cans with pull tabs on top are preferred, but all donations are much appreciated. Thank you!



As we "cell-ebtrate" Catholic Schools Week, check out the cell models our sixth grade scientists are working on!



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

#OurPurpose OurSchools

**The Diocese of Metuchen
celebrates Catholic Schools Week 2024**

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2024 is January 28 – February 3. The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2024 is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community." Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

**Learn more about Catholic Education
in the Diocese of Metuchen by visiting
www.diometuchen.org/csw**



Contact the Office of Schools at schools@diometuchen.org

Catholic schools remain a bright light in dismal academic forecast

By Mary Morrell, Editor-in-Chief

In spite of the challenges encountered during the three-year health crisis of COVID-19, "Catholic schools have continued the legacy that has characterized Catholic education: academic excellence, a strong partnership with parents, a sense of community and a faith-filled education for students nationwide," reports the National Catholic Educational Association.

Their recent data brief notes that, with the 2022-2023 school year Catholic school enrollment increase (0.3%) which maintains a national two-year trend, Catholic schools continue to attract and retain new students, supporting their academic, spiritual and mental health.

Academically, the merits of Catholic schools continue to be evident in scores from the National Assessment of Educational Progress, known as the "Nation's Report Card," which show noticeable achievement for Catholic schools in a post-COVID-19 environment compared to schools in both the public and private sectors which have suffered steep declines in math and reading at both grades assessed – grades 4 and 8.

A recently released NAEP Long-Term Trend assessment report reveals a continuing decline for public schools with average math scores for 13-year-old students falling nine points between 2020-2023. Reading scores fell by four points. For 9-year-old students who were administered the LTT assessments in 2022, scores dropped by seven points in math and five points in reading.

The same LTT assessment showed 13-year-old students in Catholic schools outpacing their public-school counterparts by 20 points in math and 21 points in reading. There were no results for 9-year-old Catholic school students as sample size was insufficient.

Since the 1970s, the NAEP has monitored student performance in math and reading through long-term trend (LTT) assessments across three age levels, 9-, 13-, and 17-year-old students. While usually administered every four years, with the last being

administered in 2020, the National Center for Educational Statistics decided to administer the assessment ahead of schedule for students ages 9 and 13 to provide data on post-pandemic student performance.

When the first national study of the pandemic's impact on learning was released, the 2022 NAEP results (unrelated to LTT assessments) showed that Catholic schools had done remarkably well in mitigating learning loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and related challenges while revealing an unprecedented decline in average scores for public school students coming out of the pandemic.

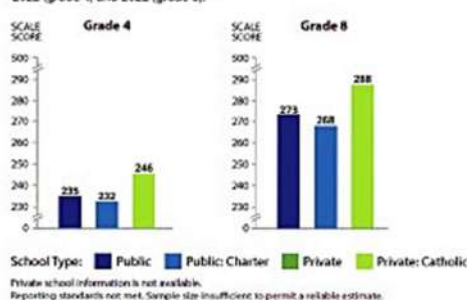
Comparing results from 2019 and 2022, the main NAEP indicated reading and math scores declined in public and charter schools for grades 4 and 8 for the majority of states. Average national reading scores reverted to 1992 levels, and math scores had the most significant declines ever recorded for that subject.

In contrast, Catholic schools showed a slight increase (1 point) in 8th-grade reading and maintained levels for 4th-grade math at achievement levels already higher than public schools. Catholic schools saw declines in 8th grade math and 4th-grade reading, though declines were less than those in public and charter schools.

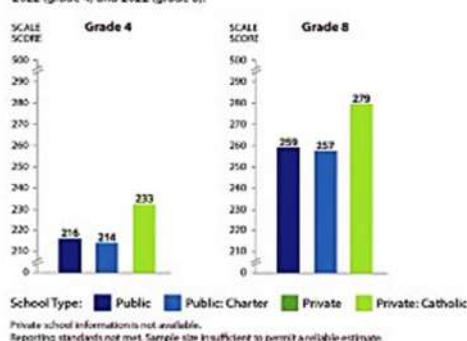
In a 2021 article in America Magazine, Kathy Mears, then-interim president and chief executive officer of the National Catholic Educational Association acknowledged, "Catholic schools have placed students first in the teaching and learning processes. We have continued to orient these endeavors toward the pursuit of beauty, truth and goodness in the person of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is at work, breathing life and fostering renewal in the souls of the young people entrusted to our care. It is through this unique and blessed devotion and service to God's people that generations will be transformed."

To read more about student achievement visit nationsreportcard.gov. Go to Dashboards to access Catholic school information. Go to Reports to access highlights or full reports of various assessments.

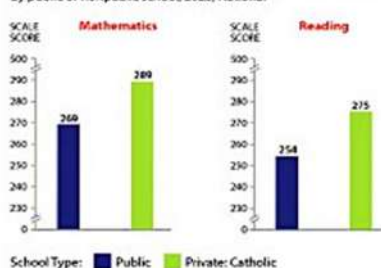
Average scores in NAEP Mathematics
for all students, by grade and type of school:
2022 (grade 4) and 2022 (grade 8).



Average scores in NAEP Reading
for all students, by grade and type of school:
2022 (grade 4) and 2022 (grade 8).



Average scale scores for age 13 long-term trend
by public or nonpublic school, 2023, National



Students in St. Augustine of Canterbury School, Kendall Park, are using the 5 "Cs" of the Engineering Process: Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, and Curiosity to guide Ozobot robots through a maze using color codes – short sequences of color used to teach basic coding concepts, from cause-and-effect to debugging. —Photo courtesy St. Augustine FB page

January 8, 2024

Dear Pastors!

Hope the Joy of Christmas Season finds you in great light as Jesus continues to bless your parish community and bring glad tidings of love and peace!

The Principal Ms. Bell and I are reaching out to you as we begin to commemorate the Catholic Schools Week (From January 28th to February 3rd) to promote Catholic Education in Warren County. As you are aware St. Philip and St. James School is the only Catholic School in the entire county and is open to broaden its limit in serving the community at large!

Saint Pope John Paul II insisted on the role of Parents when it comes to educating children in faith. He said, “Not only are the attitudes of teachers crucial for the success of Catholic education but also the attitudes of Catholic parents. Parents must set themselves very definite priorities, such as the determination to have schools in which their children’s faith will be respected, fostered and enriched; schools in which their children learn the value and beauty of the Church’s teaching. They must also see to it that their own homes are places in which these values are first fostered and lived. Parents’ own practice of the faith, their own love for Christ, is of course fundamental.” – *Address of the Holy Father Pope John Paul II to the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Regions of Chicago, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee (USA) on Their “Ad Limina” Visit, May 30, 1998.*

As we all they see how crucial and demanding of a responsibility it is that we (The Catholic School) reach out to all parents in the county and beyond to humbly request them of their support in educating their children in faith. We are requesting all pastors (with the approval of our Bishop) to permit our team (The Principal and Students) to visit and attend your main mass on Sunday of your choice and give a short presentation (5 minutes) of the importance of Catholic Education. We thank you for your support and encouragement. We are grateful for your community in entrusting your children to our care! May God be glorified in and through our ministry in educating our children.

Please help us to spread the word...Thank you!

Sincerely,

Fr. Antony Arockiadoss, Pastor & Ms. Patricia Bell, Principal

**Please note: This letter has been sent out to the pastors' of neighboring parishes. It is shared in the bulletin in hopes that St. Philip & St. James parishioners will spread the word as well.*

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