

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 8:00 am

Saturday & Sunday

4:30 pm, 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: Monday - Friday:

7:30 am—8 pm in the Chapel

Fr. Antony Arockiadoss *Pastor*

Nancy Ensley *Parish Sec./Bookkeeper*
ext. 401

Fr. Alex Carles

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 Jaurides ext. 405

Escarlen Duran Faith Formation ext. 406

Lisa Sforza Sacred Music

Sara Siano School Principal: 908-859-1244

Phone: 908-454-0112

Fax: 908-454-0125

Website: www.spsj.org

Office Hours: **Mon.** 9am-12:30pm
(Closed for lunch) 1pm to 5pm,

Tues.—Thurs. 9am-12:30pm (Closed for lunch) 1pm-4pm, & **Friday** 9am—1pm
(Asistencia en español durante estas horas.)

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME † June 21, 2026



**SO DO NOT BE
AFRAID; YOU ARE
WORTH MORE THAN
MANY SPARROWS.**

MATTHEW 10:31

© JPPC

Baptism, Marriage and OCIA

Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Sunday 6/21/26** Knights of Columbus Breakfast ticket sales after Masses.
- Mon. 6/22/26**
- Tues. 6/23/26** 9am Legion of Mary in the Conference Room
6:30pm Fundraising Committee Meeting in the Conference Room
7pm Spanish Mass followed by Spanish Charismatic Group in the Church
7pm Cenacles of Life & St. Peregrine Novena in the Chapel
- Wed. 6/24/26** 10:30am Legion of Mary in the Conference Room
4pm St. Monica Prayer Ministry in the Chapel
- Thurs. 6/25/26** 6:30pm Choir Practice in the Church
- Friday. 6/26/26**
- Sat. 6/27/26** 8:30am Prayers for Life, Liberty, & Marriage in the Church
9am Life Chain Meeting in Mercy Hall
10am Confessions in the Church
9am-12:30pm Soup Kitchen in Mercy Hall
3:15pm Confessions in the Church
Knights of Columbus Breakfast ticket sales after Masses.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Family!

Happy Father's Day to all the Fathers, grandfathers, Godfathers, and priests! Every year we observe Religious Freedom Week. This year we observe it from June 22nd to 29th. It begins with the feast day of Saint Thomas More and Saint John Fisher (Both on the 22nd of June) and we also celebrate the Nativity of St. John the Baptist on the 24th of June (the only other birthdays we celebrate in the Catholic Church are the birth of our Lord and our Blessed Mother) and end with the solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. If we look at all these personalities it is obvious why we are observing Religious Freedom Week.

This year we focus on "Witnesses to Hope" as the theme. Every day of this week has its own focus and prayer. On the 22nd of June, we reflect and pray on the Political & Anti-Religious Violence; the 23rd on the Immigration Enforcement; the 24th for Africa; the 25th for Gender Ideology; the 26th for Religious Discrimination; the 27th for Parental Choice in Education; on the 28th for Federal Grants and on the 29th for Nicaragua.

We have been blessed with many celebrations especially of our clergy: Deacon Francisco's fourth year anniversary as a deacon was on May 14th; Deacon Rob celebrated his 9th diaconate anniversary on May 18th; Deacon Larry celebrated his 14th anniversary on June 9th and on the 13th was Deacon Enock's 28th anniversary of the diaconate. On the 28th of June I will be celebrating my 23rd anniversary of Priestly Ordination.

The Papal preacher Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa observed that the Gospel and also the First reading this weekend are summarized in a contradictory phrase, 'Have fear but do not be afraid. We must not be afraid of, nor fear human beings; we must fear God but not be afraid of him. Though peripherally our present time is 'the age of anxiety' (W. H. Auden) we as church live in the age of the Holy Spirit. Let us confidently say, 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.'

Ordinations for the Diocese of Metuchen 2026:

The diocese has announced that **Rev. Mr. James F Prumos** will be ordained to the Order of Priests and **Mr. Patrick J Rasimowicz** will be ordained to the order of Deacon. Ordination to Priesthood and Diaconate will be at the Cathedral on **June 20th, 10am**. Please pray for these young men who said 'Yes' to the Service of God and Church.

Diocese Still Without Bishop?

This is what we hear from our Diocesan Administrator Fr. Jay Toborowsky: "*We are approaching 7 months of being a Vacant See. Please consider asking your people to continue to keep the selection of our new Bishop in their prayers, particularly at Mass. Between us, as for "when", I've brought up before the precedent of the Diocese of Belleville and their recent 10-month wait. FYI - Abp. Caccia (the new Apostolic Nuncio) has settled in DC and presented his credentials to the President, so he is in place. If anyone does ask, remind them that besides dioceses like ours that are vacant because of transfers, there are a number of dioceses whose Ordinary is close to or already past 75 years of age. Like the Motor Vehicles, we wait and hope.*"

First Golf Outing 2026 to support Catholic Education

On June 15th, we had the first ever Golf Outing as a fundraiser for Catholic Education, thanks to all the dedication and service of the volunteers. It is one of the noted fundraisers for the school this year and it is great success. We thank God for the good weather and the participation of over 130 people and all the generous contributions they have made for Catholic Education. Great effort! God bless you!

World Refugee Day (June 20th)

World Refugee Day is an international observance held every year on June 20th to honor the courage and resilience of people forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict or persecution. It is dedicated to raising awareness about the global refugee crisis and building empathy for displaced families. (Note: In addition to World Refugee Day, the Catholic Church observes the separate "World Day of Migrants and Refugees" in September, which in 2026 focuses specifically on the theme of "Even just one of these children".)

Diocesan Programs in the near future:

Save the Date: an heads up that this year is the **25th anniversary of the 9/11** terrorist attacks. The **Celebrate Life Event for Grandparents & Seniors (55+)** (July 23rd), the **2026 Children's Choir Summer Camp** (Aug. 10-14, 16), **PCL Formation Days** (Sept. 1st, Oct. 8th), the **Hispanic Heritage Mass** (Sept. 18th), **OCIA Formation Days** (Sept 26, Nov. 14 and Jan. 23rd) and the **Silver & Gold Anniversary Celebration** (Oct. 18th).

Fr. Antony

Masses For The Week



SUNDAY, June 21st – TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00am – Gabriel Lantos by Family
 11:00am – Thomas B. Smith, Sr. by Tommy & Rachel
 1:00pm – (SP) – For the People
 5:30pm – Joan Johnson Shafer by Maryann Ignatz

MONDAY, June 22nd – *St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop, Sts. John Fisher, Bishop, & Thomas More, Martyrs*

6:45am – Rosa Barreiros by Hoffman Family
 12:10pm – Mr. & Mrs. Linus Leinenbach by Patti Leinenbach

TUESDAY, June 23rd

6:45am – *Sp. Int. Michael Leinenbach by Patti Leinenbach
 12:10pm – Frank B. Pologruto by Rose Bladies
 7pm (SP) – For the People

WEDNESDAY, June 24th – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

6:45am – Gerard Ferrari by Danny & Terri Starosciak
 12:10pm – Carol Lupi by Victor & Melissa Lupi

THURSDAY, June 25th

6:45am – Mr. & Mrs. David Leinenbach by Patti Leinenbach
 12:10pm – *Sp. Int. Terri Leinenbach by Patti Leinenbach

FRIDAY, June 26th

6:45am – Virginia Rossnagle by Tricia, Wendy, Jaclyn & Families
 12:10pm – *Sp. Int. Patti Leinenbach by Terri Leinenbach

SATURDAY, June 27th – *St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop*

8am – *Sp. Int. Randi Schabilon by Hoffman Family
 4:30pm – Gerri Rapinesi by Kathy Clemente

SUNDAY, June 28th – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00am – Triolo Family by Patricia Tumulty
 11:00am – Mark Kassick by Kevin Perna & Family
 1:00pm – (SP) – *Sp. Int. Martinez-Morales by Deacon Francisco
 5:30pm – For the People

2026 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal:	\$78,000.00
Total Pledged:	\$42,480.25
Total Received:	\$40,199.00
Over/under Goal:	(\$35,519.75)
Percent of Goal Pledged:	54.46%
Percent of Goal Received:	51.54%
Avg. Gift Amt.:	\$240.00

Liturgical Ministry Schedule



June 27th

4:30pm	Acolyte	-
	Lector	Mary O'Sullivan
	Minister	Margie Markus
	Minister	Bill Casey
	Server	-
	Server	-

June 28th

9am	Acolyte	Anthony Stefano
	Lector	Bill Strausser
	Minister	Valerie Lusardi
	Minister	Joseph Lusardi
	Server	Adam Sretenovic
	Server	Gabriel Sretenovic
11am	Acolyte	-
	Lector	Carol Bevilacqua
	Minister	Kevin Kassick
	Minister	Pat James
	Server	Chiezimuzo Odimma
	Server	Chimbuzo Odimma
1pm	Acolyte	Kaley Bustemante
	Lector	Juan Lalama
	Lector	Laura Garcia
	Minister	Oscar Dilone
	Announcements	Anyelina Rodriguez
	Server	Gregory Cano
	Server	Aaron Cano
5:30pm	Acolyte	-
	Lector	Keith Gallagher
	Server	Noah Blanes
	Server	Lucas Blanes

Stewardship

June 14th

Online Giving:	\$8,412.97
	2,650.20
	\$11,063.17
Father's Day:	\$1,568.97
Various Collections:	\$282.00

Around the Parish

Pray FOR THE SICK

James Tersigni, Jamey Perrone, Lorraine Wonder, Rosa Zevallos, Manuel Venegas, The Pulecio Family, Theresa Adams, The Quesada-Rocha Family, Janet Duran, Bob Hoesley, Steven Hille, Richard Dalrymple, Mauricio Castro, Grace Epo, Kevin Stannard, Jennie Rossetti, Terry LaBar, Jack Kane, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Caceres Family, Gustavo Caceres, Connie Sartini, Michael Burke, Hannah Paxton, Ruth Ann, Scott Visco, Ann Janasek Visco, Lynn Trimmer, Russell Perna, & Angel.

Pray for our Military ☆☆☆

Jack Pike, Michael Vega, Gianni Luzzetti, Lt. Colonel Abigail Gage, James B. Collins, Spec. Theodore Bill, Billy Erz, Bryan Malizzi, Paul C. Hesch, Luis Quizhpi, Jason Erz, Staff Sergeant Kevin Jiorle, Lt. Commander Dominique D'Anthony, Major Joseph Skopowski, Airman Seth Reyes, Marine LCpl Chad Bruckman, Angelo Luzzetti Army, Marine LCpl Steven Fulse, & Robby Anselmo.



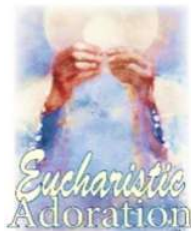
Please help us keep both prayer lists up to date, contact the parish office when changes occur. Thank you & God Bless.

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR



All are welcomed to come together for a Holy Hour on July 3rd (First Friday) at 6:00pm in the Church.

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"



We need adorers for 1pm & 5pm on Tuesdays; 8am, 2pm, & 5pm on Wednesdays; 12noon & 2pm on Thursdays; and 8am & 11am on Fridays. Call Deacon Enock at 908-310-8990 or Camille at 908-319-2719.

SPSJ NURSING HOME MINISTRY

Every 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Tuesday of the month, we hold Mass at the following nursing homes, 10:30am the First Tuesday at Complete Care also known as Brakeley Care Center, 10:30am the Second Tuesday at Lopatcong nursing home, and 10:30am the Third Tuesday at Phillipsburg nursing home. During this time sacraments of Confession and Anointing of the Sick are available to the Catholic residents who desire them. In addition, Holy Communion is distributed to the Catholic residents of these facilities every Sunday. If you would like to participate in the ministry and pray with our elderly residents, please contact the Legion of Mary or Deacon Enock.

NURSING HOME SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS



Lopatcong Nursing Home: 6/21 Bettina Socci, 6/28 Kelly Perna, & 7/5 Ron Rossini

Brakeley Nursing Home: 6/21 Deacon Francisco, 6/28 Mike St. Jacques, & 7/5 Melody Talpas

Phillipsburg Care Center: 6/21 & 6/28 Lisa Spanopolous, & 7/5 Beth Dispoto



Your generosity allows us to continue to feed the hungry in our community. The Soup Kitchen is in need of bottled water, cookies, and puddings cups. Any help is appreciated. It can be dropped off Saturday mornings from 9am-12noon in MH. Thank you!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will sponsor Breakfast on Sunday, July 12th from 9am to 12:30pm in the church hall at St. Mary's in Alpha. Suggested Donation \$8 per Adult. [Children Free] Advance tickets available after Masses.

Happy Father's Day



DEACON'S CORNER

In Matthew 10:26–33, Jesus speaks words that every disciple needs to hear, especially in a world that often prefers silence over truth and comfort over conviction. He tells His followers three things that still matter profoundly today:

1. “Fear no one” — because truth will always rise

Jesus assures us that nothing hidden will stay concealed. The Gospel is not meant to be whispered timidly but proclaimed with clarity and confidence. We are not called to be secret admirers of Christ—we are called to be public witnesses. Not loud, not aggressive, not self-righteous—just faithful.

2. “Do not be afraid” — because God sees you

Jesus points to sparrows—small, inexpensive, seemingly insignificant creatures—and says that not one of them escapes the Father’s notice. If God watches over sparrows, how much more does He watch over you, His beloved child. Your struggles, your worries, your quiet sacrifices—none of them are unseen.

3. “Acknowledge Me before others” — because discipleship is lived in public

Jesus isn’t asking for grand gestures. He’s asking for fidelity:

- choosing compassion when it’s inconvenient
- speaking truth when silence would be easier
- living the Gospel when the world prefers something else

To acknowledge Christ is to let His love shape your choices, your words, your priorities.

Bringing It Home: What This Means for Us

This Gospel invites us to examine the places where fear still holds us back: fear of rejection, fear of judgment, fear of standing out, fear of not being enough.

But Jesus doesn’t shame us for our fears—He names them so He can free us from them. He reminds us that courage is not the absence of fear; it is the decision to trust God more than the fear.

In a culture that often pressures us to keep faith private, Jesus calls us to a gentle but unmistakable boldness. Not to win arguments, but to witness to love. Not to impose truth, but to live it. Not to be heroes, but to be faithful.

Let this Gospel be your anchor:

You are seen. You are known. You are worth more than many sparrows. And the God who counts every hair on your head walks with you into every conversation, every challenge, every moment where courage is needed.

May we live this week unafraid to be who we are: disciples of Jesus Christ, loved beyond measure, and called to shine His light.

May God always be pleased with us,

Deacon Rob

MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK June 21st - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 22, Mon - Optional Memorial of St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop, Saints John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs.

June 24, Wed - Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist.

June 27, Sat - Optional Memorial of St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor.

Religious Freedom Week (June 22 - 29) - The Bishops (USCCB) have given us reflections for all the days of this week. Below is the reflection for June 27th.



June 27: Parental Choice in Education

Pray

Pray that all parents have the ability to direct the education of their children.

Reflect

The Annual Report for 2024 identified parental choice in education as a critical opportunity for religious freedom. This issue has long been a priority for the Catholic Church, which teaches that parents have the right to educate their children in accordance with their faith, and that the government ought to ensure that parents can make an authentically free choice. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act included a Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC), which allows donors to receive tax credits for gifts to scholarship granting organizations (SGO).

The FSTC promotes parental choice by encouraging donations to SGOs, which in turn grant scholarships that families can use to choose the school that is best for them. Unfortunately, the FSTC passed without religious freedom protections. Such protections would have helped prevent states from discriminating against SGOs that give scholarships that can be used in religious schools. The regulatory framework implementing the FSTC will be developed by the Department of Treasury. The regulations are expected to be issued in 2026. Treasury Regulations that protect the use of scholarships for religious education and the integrity of faith-based SGOs would prove to be a significant moment in the history of parental and school choice advocacy.

Act

The USCCB actively engages in the rule-making process, and the voice of advocates can make a difference. USCCB advocates have submitted significant numbers of comments in previous campaigns, and they helped. As the administration considers how to implement the FSTC, the USCCB will advocate to ensure that the rules protect the use of scholarships for religious schools..

PRAYERS FOR LIFE, LIBERTY, & MARRIAGE

Join us on June 27th, after the 8 am mass for prayers for life, liberty & marriage. We will be praying for our religious liberty during this week of Religious Liberty. Let us thank God for our freedom & pray for others to obtain theirs.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for post-abortion healing will be held on June 26-28 at the Blue Army Shrine, Washington, NJ. To register or for more information, contact Leah at LeahSoulFilledByGrace@gmail.com or call/text 609-709-3479. (Sponsored by Life Choices, Inc.)



PRAYERS FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED PARISHIONERS OF ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES

Timothy J. Hudak
Janelle Ajhar

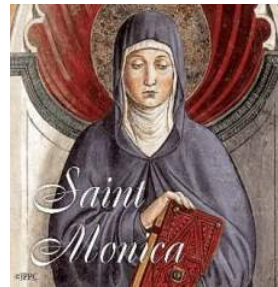
"EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER"



...discussion Group meetings will be on the following dates: **July 16th, August 20th, & Sept. 17th at 6:00 pm** in Mercy Hall. Light Refreshments will be served! The topic will be St. Joseph. **OUR**

MISSION: To build our *Knowledge* of the Faith; to help us *Explain* the Faith; & to encourage us to *Share* the Faith!!! No membership, no dues, no obligations! **Let Us Answer Your Questions.**

ST. MONICA PRAYER MINISTRY



The **St. Monica Ministry** is dedicated to offering hope and support to the families and friends of fallen-away Catholics. Like St. Monica, its members pray unconditionally for loved ones who have left the

Church. St. Monica prayed for 20+ years for her wayward son and her prayers were answered. St. Monica's great faithfulness was rewarded as her son, St. Augustine, converted and went on to become one of the greatest theologians in Church History and was declared a Doctor of the Church. This is a testimony to perseverance in prayer!!! **NOTHING IS FAR FROM GOD!!!**

Please join us on Wednesday's at 4:00pm in the Adoration Chapel for the St. Monica Prayer Ministry.

LAZARUS MINISTRY

The **Lazarus Ministry** is a function of the Legion of Mary and is designed to assist the **Souls of the Faithful Departed** and their families by praying the Rosary prior to a **Viewing or Funeral Mass**. If you would like this devotion to be performed for your deceased loved one, please send your request to: lazarusministry@spsj.org.

This is a **free ministry** that will greatly assist your loved one on their journey toward heaven!

St. Padre Pio on the Rosary, "Its costs so little and is worth so much to a precious soul!!!"

SACRED LINENS MINISTRY

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the volunteers of the Sacred Linens Ministry. Over the years, they have dedicated countless hours to ensure that our parish has clean and ready-to-use linens for our liturgical celebrations. I am confident that God will continue to bless and reward them for their efforts. Thank you to the following volunteers for their support of the Linens Ministry: Gwen Fisk, Jane Hanisek, Kelechi Odimma, Donna Thomas, Gladys Jauridez (Team Captain), Luisa Tacuri, Maria Rubi, Deydania Anyelina Rodriguez, and Virginia Garcia. We are still in need of volunteers. If you are interested in joining us, please do not hesitate to call me at 908-310-7264. Angela M. Hardison – Coordinator.

Diocesan News

LIFE-GIVING WOUNDS

A one-day healing retreat for adult children of divorce or separation on Saturday, July 11 2026, from 8:30am to 5:30pm. Come for a greater understanding of the wounds left by parents' divorce or separation, for advice concerning love and trust of others, and for an experience of Christ and community that will lead to deeper self-understanding and healing. Registration is \$40 and includes a light breakfast, boxed lunches, and all retreat materials.

For questions about registration: email magnese@diometuch.org or call 732-562-1543.

METUCHEN SUMMER CHORAL FESTIVAL

Participants in the NPM (National Assoc. of Pastoral Musicians) Metuchen Summer Choral Festival will present a concert entitled Be Joyful in the Lord on Sunday, July 12 at 3:30 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 390 County Rd. 523, Whitehouse Station. A reception will follow. A freewill offering benefits the NPM Metuchen Chapter.

Three conductors have honed this Festival Choir and Orchestra over five days to present extraordinary sacred choral music including works by John Rutter, Joel Raney, G.F. Handel, Elaine Hagenberg, Randall Thompson, J.S. Bach, Mack Wilberg and many others.

Come and be nourished by the joyful, contemplative, prayerful, and celebratory aspects of our faith and our music. For more information see www.npmmetuchen.org or contact Festival Director, Jim Cole at npmchoralfestival@gmail.com.

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Vocations
invites young men ages 14-17 to attend

QUO VADIS


WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP
DISCERNMENT ACTIVITIES

QUESTIONS? EMAIL QUOVADIS@DIOMETUCHEN.ORG

JULY 7 - 9, 2026

RSVP BY JUNE 1




This is an opportunity to have fun, grow in your faith, and learn how to think and pray about where God may be calling you in your life.

Quo Vadis is an action-packed few days, designed specifically for high school boys, with opportunities for prayer, sports, adoration, teambuilding, and inspirational talks by priests and seminarists.

It's an adventure retreat for high school boys, ages 14-17, who want to learn more about the priesthood and pray about if it's for them.

CAMP SHILOH
753 BURNT MEADOW ROAD,
HEWITT, NJ 07421

Learn more and register at:
diometuchen.org/quovadis



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



worldwide marriage encounter

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to enrich your marriage, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend:

July 17 – 19, 2026

Space is limited.
Apply now!

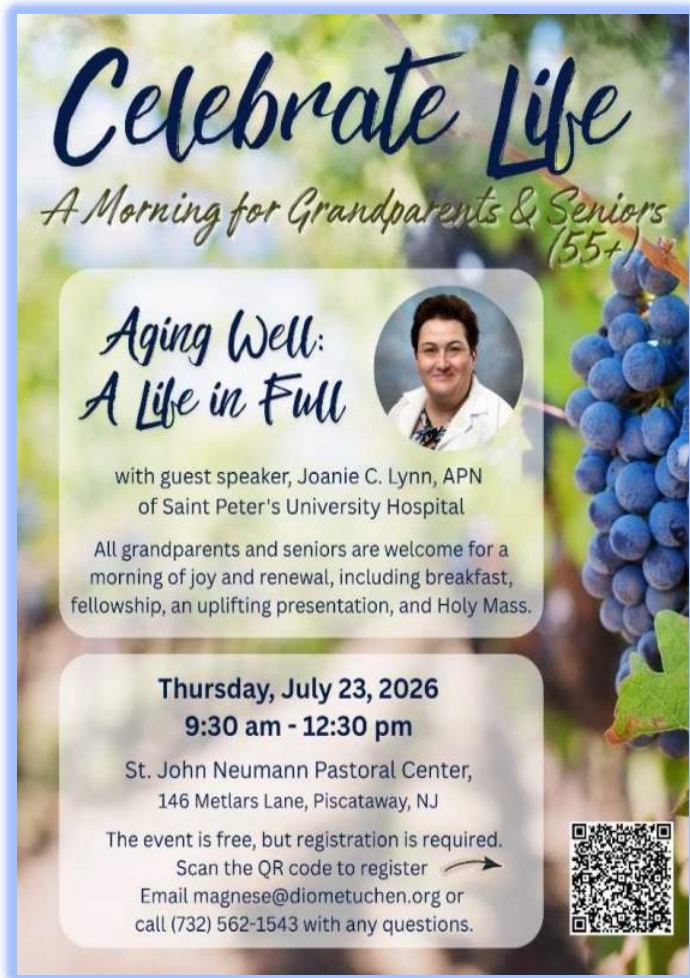


our love is timeless

Call Tom & Ruth DeFalco:
732-904-9636 to apply
and learn more.
wwme.org



"AGING WELL: A LIFE IN FULL"



Celebrate Life
A Morning for Grandparents & Seniors (55+)

**Aging Well:
A Life in Full**


with guest speaker, Joanie C. Lynn, APN
of Saint Peter's University Hospital

All grandparents and seniors are welcome for a morning of joy and renewal, including breakfast, fellowship, an uplifting presentation, and Holy Mass.

**Thursday, July 23, 2026
9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center,
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ

The event is free, but registration is required.
Scan the QR code to register →
Email magnese@diometuchen.org or
call (732) 562-1543 with any questions.



NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL DEL ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY **DUODÉCIMA DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

¡Querida familia!

¡Feliz Día del Padre a todos los padres, abuelos, padrinos y sacerdotes! Cada año celebramos la Semana de la Libertad Religiosa. Este año la conmemoramos del 22 al 29 de junio. Comienza con la fiesta de Santo Tomás Moro y San Juan Fisher (ambos el 22 de junio); también celebramos la Natividad de San Juan Bautista el 24 de junio (los únicos otros nacimientos que celebramos en la Iglesia Católica son el de Nuestro Señor y el de la Santísima Madre) y concluimos con la solemnidad de los santos Pedro y Pablo. Al observar a todas estas figuras, resulta evidente la razón por la que celebramos la Semana de la Libertad Religiosa.

Este año nos centramos en el tema «Testigos de la esperanza». Cada día de esta semana tiene su propio enfoque y oración. El 22 de junio reflexionamos y oramos sobre la violencia política y antirreligiosa; el 23, sobre la aplicación de las leyes de inmigración; el 24, por África; el 25, sobre la ideología de género; el 26, por la discriminación religiosa; el 27, por la libertad de elección educativa de los padres; el 28, por las subvenciones federales; y el 29, por Nicaragua.

Hemos sido bendecidos con muchas celebraciones, especialmente las de nuestro clero: el 14 de mayo fue el cuarto aniversario del diácono Francisco; el diácono Rob celebró su noveno aniversario de diaconado el 18 de mayo; el diácono Larry celebró su 14.º aniversario el 9 de junio y el día 13 fue el 28.º aniversario de diaconado del diácono Enock. El 28 de junio celebraré mi 23.º aniversario de ordenación sacerdotal.

El predicador de la Casa Pontificia, el cardenal Raniero Cantalamessa, señaló que tanto el Evangelio como la primera lectura de este fin de semana se resumen en una frase aparentemente contradictoria: «Tened temor, pero no tengáis miedo». No debemos temer a los seres humanos ni sentir miedo de ellos; debemos temer a Dios, pero no tenerle miedo. Aunque, en cierto sentido, nuestra época actual sea «la era de la ansiedad» (W. H. Auden), nosotros, como Iglesia, vivimos en la era del Espíritu Santo. Digamos con confianza: «El temor del Señor es el principio de la sabiduría».

Ordenaciones para la Diócesis de Metuchen 2026:

La diócesis ha anunciado que el **Rev. Sr. James F. Prumos** será ordenado al Orden de los Presbíteros, y el **Sr. Patrick J. Rasimowicz** será ordenado al Orden del Diaconado. La ordenación al sacerdocio y al diaconado tendrá lugar en la Catedral el **20 de junio, a las 10:00 am**. Por favor, oren por estos jóvenes que han dicho «Sí» al servicio de Dios y de la Iglesia.

¿La diócesis sigue sin obispo?

Esto es lo que nos comunica nuestro administrador diocesano, el P. Jay Toborowsky: «Nos acercamos a los siete meses de sede vacante. Por favor, consideren pedir a sus fieles que sigan incluyendo en sus oraciones —especialmente durante la Misa— el proceso de selección de nuestro nuevo obispo.

En cuanto a la cuestión de "cuándo" ocurrirá, ya he mencionado anteriormente el precedente de la diócesis de Belleville y su reciente espera de diez meses. A título informativo: el arzobispo Caccia (el nuevo nuncio apostólico) ya se ha instalado en Washington D. C. y ha presentado sus cartas credenciales al presidente, por lo que ya está en funciones. Si alguien pregunta al respecto, recuérdense que, además de las diócesis como la nuestra que están vacantes debido a traslados, hay varias diócesis cuyo obispo diocesano está cerca de cumplir los 75 años o ya los ha superado. Al igual que en el Departamento de Vehículos a Motor, solo nos queda esperar y mantener la esperanza».

Primer Torneo de Golf 2026 en apoyo a la educación católica

El 15 de junio celebramos nuestro primer torneo de golf para recaudar fondos destinados a la educación católica, gracias a la gran dedicación y al servicio de los voluntarios. Este evento ha sido una de las iniciativas de recaudación más destacadas del año para la escuela y ha resultado ser un gran éxito. Agradecemos a Dios por el buen tiempo, por la participación de más de 130 personas y por todas las generosas contribuciones realizadas en favor de la educación católica. ¡Un esfuerzo magnífico! ¡Que Dios los bendiga!

Día Mundial de los Refugiados (20 de junio)

El Día Mundial de los Refugiados es una conmemoración internacional que se celebra cada año el 20 de junio para honrar el valor y la resiliencia de las personas obligadas a huir de sus países de origen para escapar de conflictos o persecuciones. Esta jornada está dedicada a crear conciencia sobre la crisis mundial de refugiados y a fomentar la empatía hacia las familias desplazadas. (Nota: Además del Día Mundial de los Refugiados, la Iglesia Católica celebra en septiembre la "Jornada Mundial del Migrante y del Refugiado", que en 2026 se centrará específicamente en el tema "Aunque sea solo uno de estos niños").

Programas Diocesanos en el futuro cercano:

Reserve la fecha: le informamos que este año se conmemora el 25.º aniversario de los ataques terroristas del 11 de septiembre. También se incluyen el taller «Post-Caná» (20 de junio), el evento «Celebrar la vida» para abuelos y personas mayores de 55 años (23 de julio), el campamento de verano del coro infantil de 2026 (del 10 al 14 y el 16 de agosto),

las jornadas de formación para coordinadores de catequesis (1 de septiembre y 8 de octubre), la Misa de la Herencia Hispana (18 de septiembre), las jornadas de formación del OCIA (26 de septiembre, 14 de noviembre y 23 de enero) y la celebración de aniversarios de plata y oro (18 de octubre).

P. Antony

ESCUELA BÍBLICA HISPANA

La Diócesis de Metuchen iniciará un nuevo ciclo de la Escuela Bíblica Hispana. La escuela ofrece 9 cursos básicos: Introducción a las Sagradas Escrituras, Pentateuco, Libros Históricos, Profetas, Literatura Sapiencial, Evangelios, Epístolas Paulinas (2 cursos) y el Apocalipsis; el costo de cada curso es de \$35 por persona. El 20 de agosto de 2026 comenzaremos el curso de Introducción a las Sagradas Escrituras. Las clases se impartirán de forma presencial los jueves, de 7:00 p m a 9:00 pm, en el Centro Pastoral St. John Neumann (146 Metlars Ln, Piscataway, NJ).

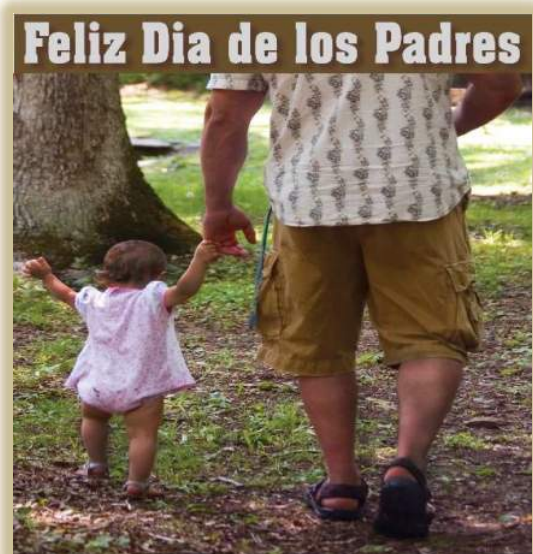
MISA DE LA HERENCIA HISPANA

El viernes 18 de septiembre de 2026, la Oficina de Evangelización Hispana celebrará la Misa anual de la Herencia Hispana a las 7:00 pm en la Catedral.

"¿No pudieron velar una hora conmigo?"



Necesitamos adoradores los **martes a la 1pm y a las 5pm; los miércoles a las 8am, 2pm, y 5pm; los jueves a al mediodía y 2pm; y a las 8am y 11am los viernes.** Si estás interesado hable con el diácono Francisco.




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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 "donate" on the top menu bar to contribute to the fund. Thank you for your support of Catholic education!



As we close another wonderful year at Saints Philip and James School, we would like to thank our students, families, faculty, and staff for making it such a successful and faith-filled year. A special thank you to our guest Italian Ice scoopers, Chris and Ryan, for helping us celebrate the last day of school, and to Tony's Ice Cream and Italian Ice for generously donating the delicious Italian Ice enjoyed by our students. We wish all of our SSPJ students and families a safe, happy, and relaxing summer filled with fun, faith, and family!

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