

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. Joseph Ban Thien Ho *Parochial Vicar*
ext. 402

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

Sara Siano School Principal:
908-859-1244

Phone: 908-454-0112

Fax: 908-454-0125

Website: www.spsj.org

Office Hours: **Mon.** 9 am-12:30 pm

(Closed for lunch) 1 pm - 5 pm

Tues. - Thurs. 9 am-12:30 pm

(Closed for lunch) 1 pm - 4 pm,

& **Friday** 9 am-1 pm

(Asistencia en español durante horas de
atencion.)

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME † AUGUST 16, 2026



O woman,
great is
your faith!
Let it be done
for you as
you wish.

MATTHEW 15:28

Baptism, Marriage and OCIA

Please call the Church Office to make arrangements.

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday	8/16/26	10am Blues Grieving Group in Mercy Hall
Monday	8/17/26	6pm Knights of Columbus Meeting in Mercy Hall 7pm Miraculous Medal Novena in the Chapel
Tuesday	8/18/26	9am Legion of Mary in the Conference Room 6:30pm Parish Fundraising Meeting in the Conference Room 7pm Spanish Charismatic Group in the Church 7pm Cenacles of Life & St. Peregrine Novena in the Chapel
Wednesday	8/19/26	10:30am Legion of Mary in the Conference Room 4pm St. Monica Prayer Ministry in the Chapel
Thursday	8/20/26	6pm Exploring Our Faith Together in Mercy Hall 7pm Blue Army Prayer Cell in the Chapel
Friday	8/21/26	
Saturday	8/22/26	9am - 12:30pm Soup Kitchen in Mercy Hall 10am Confessions in the Church 10:30am Legion of Mary Curia in Mercy Hall 3:15pm Confessions in the Church
Sunday	8/23/26	

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Family!

Yesterday we celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother, which, this year, is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Karl Rahner, a famous theologian calls the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary a Day of Hope. What hope? It is the hope that someday eternal life may be ours. Mary not only assures us of eternal life through her intercessory power, but Mary stands with us now to strengthen us in the virtue of hope especially when we feel the worst.

The theme of the 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time reveals to us the universal call to salvation. Jesus commissioned His Apostles to spread the Gospel “to the ends of the earth”. God’s plan was always to invite all people. In the first reading, through the voice of Isaiah we hear that the Jerusalem Temple “Shall be called a house of prayer for all people”. God will extend the gift of salvation to all nations (Isaiah 56:1-12). Saint Paul also reiterates this universal call of God: Jews and Gentiles can have confidence in God’s call to salvation because the “gifts and call of God are irrevocable.”

The powerful message of the Gospel reminds us that no one is unworthy of God’s mercy or gifts. It also encourages us to persist in prayer amidst all uncertainties and doubts. I could very well relate to this woman in my personal life. My sole intention in responding to God’s call to be a humble priest is lead people to God. Being a pastor has more demands than just responding to God’s call. It needs a complete vision and service-mind for the parish and people accompanied by proper skill-sets. One such skill is to humbly ask for help from people in your community/parish needs.

The Canaanite woman is twice rejected by our Lord. Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Jesus uses ‘dog’ an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites. Yet she persists, believing that Jesus alone offers salvation. She asks the disciples for help, to intercede for her. Being born in a different country and ask for help could be challenging at times. You are the apostles and disciples of the Lord. Only with your support and intercessory prayers my fervent need for people and community can be responded by our Lord’s gaze.

Pride in Our Priests Banquet:

Our Knights of Columbus Metuchen Chapter is continuing its tradition of generosity towards our priests. As they have in the past, the Knights are inviting all the priests of our diocese to join them at their "**Pride in Our Priests**" Banquet on Tuesday, September 15th, from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at The Grand Marquis, 1550 Route 9 South, Old Bridge, NJ 08857.

The Stanley Rother Story:

The National theatrical release of the documentary ‘American Martyr’ - The Stanley Rother Story, being released on August 25th and in Spanish on August 27th.

Missionary Priest will be visiting us:

On the weekend of **August 22-23**, we are blessed to welcome **Fr. Michael Tigga** from the **Diocese of Dinajpur, Bangladesh**, who will preach at all Masses on behalf of **Bishop Sebastian Tudu, D.D.**, as part of the annual Missionary Cooperation Plan.

NJ Bishops’ Mass for Life & NJ March for Life

On Thursday, October 8th, 9:30am at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, there will be a special NJ Bishops’ Mass for Life, the NJ Rally, and the March for Life will begin at 11am at the Statehouse Annex, a short walk from the Cathedral. There will be buses organized for this trip. Please call the office for more information.

Monsignor Sheehan Scholarship Committee:

This year the families continued to receive scholarships from the diocese to go to Catholic Schools throughout the diocese. In addition to that we also had little money saved in the Monsignor Sheehan’s Scholarship Fund. We created a committee to work with various families that applied to us for help. I thank the committee in guiding me to award this much needed help to our school families.

Diocesan Programs in the near future:

PCL Formation Days (Sept. 1 & Oct. 8), the **Hispanic Heritage Mass** (Sept. 18), **OCIA Formation Days** (Sept. 26, Nov. 14, & Jan. 23) and the **Silver & Gold Anniversary Celebration** (Oct. 18). Also included is information regarding the **Upcoming Adult Faith Formation Classes** and **National Black Catholic History Month** (Nov.).

Fr. Antony

Masses For The Week



SUNDAY, August 16th – TWENTIETH

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00am – Marie Ganz by Family
11:00am – Pat Flynn by Deacon Larry & Carol Bevilacqua
1:00pm – (SP) – Miguel Servin & Lucia Lopez by Mariana Aversa & Wil Stollsteimer
5:30pm – For the People

MONDAY, August 17th

6:45am – Ladislao Duran (A) by Daughters & Granddaughters
12:10pm – Dr. Nicola & Rosita Aversa by Gomes-Aversa Family

TUESDAY, August 18th

6:45am – Virginia Fahr by Patrick Rosnagle
12:10pm – Anatinoco de Castro & Amaro Guerreiro by Gomes-Aversa Family

WEDNESDAY, August 19th – *St. John Eudes, Priest*

6:45am – Virginia Fahr by William Fahr
12:10pm – Helen & Nicholasi Conti by Family

THURSDAY, August 20th – *St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church*

6:45am – Josette Greenleaf by Pat Mattingly
12:10pm – Matt P. Flynn by Grandchildren

FRIDAY, August 21st – *St. Pius X, Pope*

6:45am – Mary Gurczynski by Family
12:10pm – Helen Sostak (A) by Patti & Bob Merlo

SATURDAY, August 22nd – *The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

8am – Jack Finegan by Family
4:30pm – Grace Ajhar by Dolly Loiacono

SUNDAY, August 23rd – TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00am – Mixnor Berluche by Deacon Enock & Ines Berluche
11:00am – Patricia A. Flynn by Family
1:00pm – (SP) – Iliberto Basquez-Calderon by Anamaria Brenes Mongei
5:30pm – For the People

Stewardship

August 9th **\$7,994.33**
Online Giving: **2,742.50**
\$10,736.83

Various Collections: **\$269.33**

Liturgical Ministry Schedule



August 22nd

4:30pm	Acolyte	Andrew Sretenovic
	Lector	Mary O'Sullivan
	Minister	Margie Markus
	Minister	Ronald Rossini
	Server	Gino Siano
	Server	-

August 23rd

9am	Acolyte	Jack Perna
	Lector	Rob & Jen Anselmo
	Minister	Ann Coyle
	Minister	Kelly Perna
	Server	Gabriel Sretenovic
	Server	Luke Sretenovic
11am	Acolyte	Breann Pisarek
	Lector	Kelechi Odimma
	Minister	Carol Bevilacqua
	Minister	Kelvin Osoria
	Server	Laney Minutaglio
	Server	-
1pm	Acolyte	Kaley Bustamente
	Lector	Oscar Dilone
	Lector	Laura Garcia
	Minister	Martha Lam
	Announcements	Ramón Hernández
	Server	Aaron Cano
	Server	Jose Jauridez
5:30pm	Acolyte	Allyssa Palos
	Lector	Marianne Palos
	Server	-
	Server	-

2026 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal:	\$78,000.00
Total Pledged:	\$48,242.25
Total Received:	\$46,802.25
Over/under Goal:	(\$29,757.75)
Percent of Goal Pledged:	61.85%
Percent of Goal Received:	60.00%
Avg. Gift Amt.:	\$265.07

We recently graciously donated in solidarity to the people of Venezuela & the Philippines following the earthquakes they experienced. This week, a powerful earthquake in Colombia has prompted us once again to invite members of our parish to show solidarity with those affected through prayer and financial support. CRS is working with Caritas Colombia to provide an on-the-ground response.

For more information, please visit www.crs.org

Around the Parish

Faith Formation News



**26-27 SPSJ ONLINE
REGISTRATION FOR THE
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM
IS OPEN Visit:
<https://www.spsj.org/ccd>**

Is God calling you to do more? Become a Catechist or volunteer to help in the SPSJ Faith Formation Program! Call the Church Office at 908-454-0112 x406

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, Ellen Piperata, & Pam McMichael.

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.

SSPJ YOUTH SOCCER SIGN-UP

SSPJ Youth Soccer is looking for players for our Under age 12 Fall soccer teams. Girls and boys in the 5th or 6th grade, of any skill level, are welcome to join us. We currently have room for 5 to 7 more players. The season starts at the end of August. All other levels are full. If you are interested in signing your child up, please go to

<https://spjs.sportngin.com/register/form/794996917>

or email us at spjsoccer@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you!

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: 8/16 Bettina Socci, 8/23 Kelly Perna, & 8/30 Anne Coyle

Brakeley Nursing Home: 8/16 Bill Casey & Kelvin Osorio, 8/23 Deacon Francisco, & 8/30 Gladys Jauridez

Phillipsburg Care Center: 8/16 Lisa Spanopolous and 8/23 & 8/30 Beth Dispoto

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR



All are welcomed to come together for a Holy Hour on September 4th (First Friday) at 6:00pm in the Church.



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!

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED



Open to boys and girls ages 8-18 who have received First

Holy Communion. The schedule is flexible. Counts toward volunteer hours for Confirmation, Bethlehem Catholic High School and Notre Dame High School. Jesus loves his little ones! That is why they have such an important role at Holy Mass. Email Don and Laura Sretenovic at altarservers@spsj.org.

MEMORIALS AND FEASTS THIS WEEK

August 16th - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 19, Tue - Optional Memorial of Saint John Eudes, Priest

**August 20, Wed - Memorial of Saint Bernard,
Abbot & Doctor of the Church**

Excerpts from *On the Love of God - Why God Should be Loved*

You ask me, "Why should God be loved?" I answer: the reason for loving God is God himself. And why should God be loved for his own sake? Simply because no one could be more justly loved than God, no one deserves our love more. Some may question if God deserves our love or if they might have something to gain by loving him. The answer to both questions is yes, but I find no other worthy reason for loving him except himself.

August 21, Fri - Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope

"Pius X paid considerable attention to the reform of the Liturgy and, in particular, of sacred music in order to lead the faithful to a life of more profound prayer and fuller participation in the Sacraments. In the Motu Proprio Tra le Sollecitudini (1903), the first year of his Pontificate, he said that the true Christian spirit has its first and indispensable source in active participation in the sacrosanct mysteries and in the public and solemn prayer of the Church. For this reason, he recommended that the Sacraments be received often, encouraging the daily reception of Holy Communion and appropriately lowering the age when children receive their First Communion "to about seven", the age "when a child begins to reason".

"Faithful to the task of strengthening his brethren in the faith, in confronting certain trends that were manifest in the theological context at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, Pius X intervened decisively, condemning "Modernism" to protect the faithful from erroneous concepts and to foster a scientific examination of the Revelation consonant with the Tradition of the Church. On May 7, 1909, with his Apostolic Letter *Vinea Electa*, he founded the Pontifical Biblical Institute. The last months of his life were overshadowed by the impending war.

His appeal to Catholics of the world, launched on August 2, 1914 to express the bitter pain of the present hour, was the anguished plea of a father who sees his children taking sides against each other. He died shortly afterwards, on August 20th, and the fame of his holiness immediately began to spread among the Christian people." Pope Benedict XVI, General Audience, August 18, 2010

**August 22, Sat - Memorial of The Queenship of
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Pope Benedict XVI on the Queenship of Mary

Devotion to Our Lady is an important part of spiritual life. In our prayer, we should not fail to turn to her, confident that Mary will intercede for us with her Son. Looking upon her, let us imitate her faith, her complete openness to the loving plan of God, her generous welcoming of Jesus. We learn to live from Mary. [Mary is continually] watching over us, her children, the children who come to her in prayer, to thank her or to ask for her maternal protection and heavenly help, perhaps after having lost their way, burdened with grief or anguish amid the sad and troubled vicissitudes of life. Pope Benedict XVI, address to pilgrims, August 22, 2012

COLUMBIETTES SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



The Warren Columbiettes #474 will start collecting school supplies for the children of our community. With the back-to-school sales beginning, now is the time to start collecting school supplies from Target, Walmart, Staples and Dollar Tree. Any donations such as backpacks, pens, pencils, colored pencils, notebooks, glue sticks, and crayons, that can fill a school backpack would be greatly appreciated. Boxes will be placed in the foyer of the church from August 15th to August 31st. We will deliver these items in September to SPSJ school and the Elementary schools of Alpha and Phillipsburg. We appreciate your help with this project, so the children of our community have their needed items. Thank You!

A Second Collection the weekend of
August 22-23 for
the Annual Missionary Cooperation Plan
to aid the
Diocese of Dinajpur, Bangladesh

DEACON'S CORNER

Learning with Wisdom in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." — Proverbs 9:10

Over the past two weeks, we have reflected on the dignity of every human person and the importance of living in the truth. This week, Pope Leo XIV invites us to consider another essential virtue: **wisdom**. We live in an age when knowledge is available at our fingertips. Within seconds, we can search the internet, ask artificial intelligence a question, or find information on almost any subject. While this is a remarkable blessing, Pope Leo reminds us that **knowledge alone is not enough. We also need wisdom.**

In *Magnifica Humanitas*, Pope Leo XIV teaches that technological progress is valuable only when it is accompanied by moral and spiritual growth. He reminds us that **education must form not only the mind but also the conscience, helping people to recognize what is true, good, and beautiful. He also emphasizes that technology should never replace the human capacity for moral judgment, responsibility, and love.** The Book of Proverbs tells us, **"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."** In the Bible, "fear of the Lord" does not mean being afraid of God. It means having a deep reverence for Him and allowing Him to guide our decisions. Wisdom begins when we place God first.

Today, we often confuse **information** with **wisdom**. Information fills our minds; wisdom forms our hearts. A person may know many facts yet still make poor choices. Wisdom teaches us how to use knowledge in a way that honors God and serves others. Artificial intelligence can help us write letters, organize schedules, translate languages, summarize books, and answer questions. These are wonderful tools that can save time and increase productivity. Many students, teachers, doctors, engineers, and even parish ministers are finding helpful ways to use this technology. However, AI cannot replace the gifts that God has given uniquely to every human person. It cannot receive the Eucharist. It cannot pray. It cannot experience compassion, forgive an enemy, comfort a grieving family, or discern God's will. Those are gifts of the human heart enlightened by the Holy Spirit.

As Christians, we must be careful not to allow technology to become a substitute for thinking, praying, or building relationships. For example, while AI may help prepare a lesson or summarize a Church document, it cannot replace personal study of Sacred Scripture, time spent before the Blessed Sacrament, or listening attentively to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Parents and grandparents also have an important responsibility. Our children and grandchildren are growing up in a digital world. They need more than instructions on how to use technology; they need guidance on how to use it wisely. They learn by watching us. If they see us spending more time with our phones than with our families, they receive a powerful message in a negative way. But if they see us praying together, reading the Bible, attending Mass faithfully, and using technology responsibly, they learn that Christ remains at the center of life. Education, therefore, is not simply about earning degrees or acquiring skills. It is about becoming the person God created us to be. Every day offers an opportunity to grow—not only in knowledge but also in faith, virtue, and love.

Questions for Reflection

- Do I spend as much time growing in my faith as I do using technology?
- Does my use of technology help me become a better disciple of Christ?
- How can I encourage my family to use technology with wisdom and moderation?

Am I allowing Christ to shape my mind and heart each day?

Stay tuned for the next Article "Building Authentic Relationships in a Digital World"

Remember that Jesus loves you and so do I.

Cheers

Deacon Enock

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the volunteers of the SPSJ Fundraising Committee for their efforts in organizing our first Flea Market. Also, to all the vendors that participated.

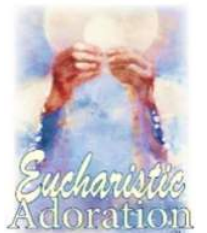
"EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER"



...discussion Group meetings will be on the following dates: **August 20th & Sept. 17th at 6:00pm** in Mercy Hall. Light Refreshments will be served! The August topic is What does it mean to be Saved?

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.**

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"



We urgently need an Adorer for Wednesdays at 2pm.

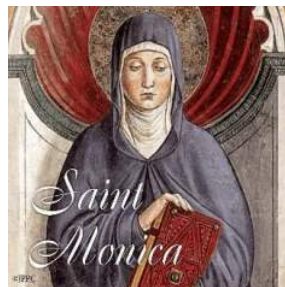
...also, we need adorers for **Mondays 10am, Tuesdays 10am & 1pm; Wednesdays 8am & 7pm; Thursdays 10am, Noon & 2pm; and Fridays 11am & 2pm.**

Call Deacon Enock at **908-310-8990** or Camille at **908-319-2719**.

VENDORS FOR MULTICULTURAL FAIR

Interested helping our parish by preparing your favorite dish from your heritage? To sign up contact the church office. All proceed go to the church. Please note that you will have to set up and attend to your own table/booth. (See flyer within the bulletin.)

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.

INTERNATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE

On **Thursday, August 20th** St. Mary's Church, Alpha, will have the honor and privilege of hosting the **World-Famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.**

The statue was sculpted in 1947 by Jose Thedim, based on the description of Sister Lucia, one of the three young seers who saw Our Lady each month from May to October 1917 in Fatima, Portugal. On May 13, 1947, in the presence of some 150,000 pilgrims, the statue was blessed by the Bishop of Leiria at Fatima to be the pilgrim, the traveler. Sent out to bring the Message of Fatima to the world, it began its journeys. Since then, it has traveled to more than 100 countries, bringing Our Lady's message of prayer, conversion, and peace to millions of people.

The mission of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue Program is to bring the message of Fatima — the Peace Plan from Heaven — to a world in need. Throughout its travels, countless favors and graces have been reported and may have been inspired to a deeper relationship with our Lord through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

We invite you, your family, and friends to come and experience this special visitation of Our Lady, on Thursday, August 20th starting at the statues arrival at 3:00 pm with a procession followed by Rosary, Adoration, caretakers talk, Holy Mass, and the Consecration of St. Mary's Church to Our Lady.

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!!!"

Volunteer Drivers Needed

Deliver meals to Homebound Seniors
Call Warren County Division of
Aging & Disability Services at
908-475-6591

NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL DEL
ESCRITORIO DEL P. ANTONY
20º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

¡Querida familia!

Ayer celebramos la solemnidad de la Asunción de nuestra Santísima Madre, que este año no es día de precepto. Karl Rahner, un célebre teólogo, llama a la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María un día de esperanza. ¿Qué esperanza? Es la esperanza de que algún día la vida eterna sea nuestra. María no solo nos asegura la vida eterna mediante su poder de intercesión, sino que también nos acompaña ahora para fortalecernos en la virtud de la esperanza, especialmente cuando nos sentimos peor.

El tema del vigésimo domingo del Tiempo Ordinario nos revela la llamada universal a la salvación. Jesús encargó a sus apóstoles que difundieran el Evangelio «hasta los confines de la tierra». El plan de Dios siempre fue invitar a todas las personas. En la primera lectura, a través de la voz de Isaías, escuchamos que el Templo de Jerusalén «será llamado casa de oración para todos los pueblos». Dios extenderá el don de la salvación a todas las naciones (Isaías 56, 1-12). San Pablo también reafirma esta llamada universal de Dios: tanto judíos como gentiles pueden confiar en la llamada divina a la salvación, porque «los dones y la llamada de Dios son irrevocables».

El poderoso mensaje del Evangelio nos recuerda que nadie es indigno de la misericordia ni de los dones de Dios. También nos anima a perseverar en la oración en medio de todas las incertidumbres y dudas. Me siento muy identificado con esta mujer en mi vida personal. Mi única intención al responder a la llamada de Dios para ser un sacerdote humilde es conducir a las personas hacia Él.

La labor pastoral conlleva exigencias que van más allá de simplemente responder a la llamada divina; requiere una visión integral y una actitud de servicio hacia la parroquia y sus fieles, respaldada por las competencias adecuadas. Una de estas competencias es saber pedir ayuda con humildad a los miembros de la comunidad o parroquia para atender las necesidades existentes.

La mujer cananea es rechazada dos veces por nuestro Señor. Jesús pone a prueba su fe en tres ocasiones. Él se niega a responder a su clamor. Jesús emplea el término «perro», un epíteto utilizado para menospreciar a quienes no eran israelitas.

Sin embargo, ella persiste, convencida de que solo Jesús ofrece la salvación. Pide ayuda a los discípulos para que intercedan por ella. Haber nacido en otro país y solicitar ayuda puede resultar difícil a veces. Ustedes son los apóstoles y discípulos del Señor. Solo con su apoyo y sus oraciones de intercesión podrá mi ferviente necesidad de personas y de comunidad hallar respuesta en la mirada de nuestro Señor.

Banquete «Orgullo por nuestros sacerdotes»:

El Capítulo de Metuchen de los Caballeros de Colón continúa con su tradición de generosidad hacia nuestros sacerdotes. Al igual que en ocasiones anteriores, los Caballeros invitan a todos los sacerdotes de nuestra diócesis a acompañarlos en el banquete «Orgullo por nuestros sacerdotes», que se celebrará el martes 15 de septiembre, de 6:00 pm a 10:00 pm, en The Grand Marquis (1550 Route 9 South, Old Bridge, NJ 08857).

La historia de Stanley Rother:

Estreno nacional en cines del documental “American Martyr: The Stanley Rother Story”, que se estrenará el 25 de agosto y en español, el 27 de agosto.

Nos visitará un sacerdote misionero:

El fin de semana del 22 y 23 de agosto, tendremos la bendición de recibir al P. Michael Tigggga, de la Diócesis de Dinajpur (Bangladesh), quien predicará en todas las misas en representación del Obispo Sebastian Tudu, D.D., como parte del Plan Anual de Cooperación Misionera.

Misa por la Vida de los Obispos de NJ y Marcha por la Vida de NJ

El jueves 8 de octubre, a las 9:30 am, se celebrará una Misa especial por la Vida oficiada por los obispos de Nueva Jersey en la Catedral de Santa María de la Asunción; posteriormente, a las 11:00am, comenzarán el mitin y la Marcha por la Vida de Nueva Jersey en el anexo del Capitolio estatal (Statehouse Annex), situado a poca distancia a pie de la Catedral. Se organizarán autobuses para este evento; por favor, comuníquese con la oficina para obtener más información.

Comité de Becas Monseñor Sheehan:

Este año, algunas familias recibieron becas de la diócesis para asistir a escuelas católicas de toda la diócesis. Además, contábamos con algunos fondos ahorrados en el Fondo de Becas Monseñor Sheehan. Creamos un comité para trabajar con las diversas familias que solicitaron nuestra ayuda.

Agradezco al comité por orientarme a la hora de otorgar esta ayuda, tan necesaria, a las familias de nuestras escuelas.

Programas Diocesanos en el futuro cercano:

La **Misa de la Herencia Hispana** (18 de septiembre) y la **XI Conferencia Nacional para Músicos Hispanos** (25 y 26 de septiembre).

P. Antony

INFORMACIÓN DEL PROGRAMA DE FORMACIÓN EN LA FE DE ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES



LA INSCRIPCIÓN PARA EL PROGRAMA DE FORMACIÓN EN LA FE DE SPSJ 26-27 HA COMENZADO EL ENLACE ES:

<https://www.spsj.org/ccd>

DATOS IMPORTANTE DEL PROGRAMA FORMACIÓN EN LA FE

Nuestra esperanza es caminar junto con las familias en la formación de sus hijos en la fe católica, que comienza en sus hogares. Nuestro programa de formación en la fe comienza en el primer grado y continúa hasta el octavo grado. Dentro de estos años se celebran los Sacramentos de la Primera Comunión (en el segundo grado) y la Confirmación (en el octavo grado). De acuerdo con los requisitos establecidos por la Diócesis de Metuchen, un niño(a) debe prepararse durante dos años antes de recibir estos sacramentos. La preparación para la Primera Comunión comienza en el primer grado, continúa en el segundo grado y al final del segundo año el niño(a) recibe su Primera Comunión. Lo mismo con la Confirmación los años de preparación son en los grados séptimo y octavo y al final del octavo grado recibe la Confirmación.

Sra. Escarlen Duran (Directora de Catequesis Parroquial)

908-454-0112 x406 - eduran@spsj.org

Recientemente, hicimos una generosa donación en solidaridad con los pueblos de Venezuela y Filipinas tras los terremotos que sufrieron. Esta semana, un fuerte terremoto en Colombia nos ha impulsado una vez más a invitar a los miembros de nuestra parroquia a mostrar su solidaridad con los afectados mediante la oración y el apoyo financiero. CRS está colaborando con Cáritas Colombia para brindar asistencia directamente a las zonas afectadas.

Para obtener más información, visite: www.crs.org/es

Necesitamos urgentemente un adorador para los Miércoles a las 2:00 pm, ya que no hay nadie programado para este horario.



Necesitamos adoradores los lunes a las 10am, martes a las 10am, 1pm y 5pm; los miércoles a las 8am, 2pm, 5pm y 7pm; los jueves a al mediodía y 2pm; y a las 11am y al mediodía los viernes. Si estás

interesado hable con el diácono Francisco.

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 7:00pm a 9:00pm, en el Centro Pastoral St. John Neumann (146 Metlars Ln, Piscataway, NJ).

ORDEN DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA DE ADULTOS EN ESPAÑOL

Nuestra parroquia va a comenzar un programa de “Orden de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos” en español. El programa de O. I. C. A es el camino ordinario de integración plena en la Iglesia Católica para adultos, que necesitan recibir uno o varios de los Sacramentos de Iniciación Cristiana (v.gr. Bautismo, Comunión, o Confirmación). Por favor llame al 908-454-0112 x406 para más información.

INSCRIPCIONES PARA FÚTBOL JUVENIL DE SSPJ

“SSPJ Youth Soccer” busca jugadores para nuestros equipos de fútbol de otoño de la categoría Sub-12. Invitamos a niños y niñas que cursen 5.º o 6.º grado, independientemente de su nivel de habilidad, a unirse a nosotros. Actualmente tenemos plazas disponibles para entre 5 y 7 jugadores más. La temporada comienza a finales de agosto. Los demás niveles ya están completos.

Si desea inscribir a su hijo o hija, por favor visite <https://spjs.sportngin.com/register/form/794996917> o envíenos un correo electrónico a sspjsoccer@gmail.com si tiene alguna pregunta. ¡Gracias!

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Donations accepted Monday to Thursday 9:30am to 3:30pm. Friday 9:30am to 12:30pm. Saturday 9:30am to 11:30am



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