



Saturday, January 2 (Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church)

9:00 am Carmina Young + | The Young Family

5:00 pm Marlyn Meoli + | Shirley & Phil Eppard

Sunday, January 3 (Epiphany of the Lord)

9:00 am For the Parish

11:30 am Marlyn Meoli + | Sally Tanedo

Monday, January 4 (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious)

8:30 am Reynante Marientes + | Sally Tanedo

Tuesday, January 5 (St. John Neumann, Bishop)

8:30 am Marlyn Meoli + | Daughters of St. Anne

Wednesday, January 6 (St. Andre Bessette, Religious)

8:30 am Marlyn Meoli + | The Maralit Family

Thursday, January 7 (St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest)

8:30 am Meoli Family | The Maralit Family

Friday, January 8

10:00 am Joanne Burke | Mary Burke

Saturday, January 9

9:00 am Marlyn Meoli + | Daughters of St. Anne

5:00 pm Marlyn Meoli + | Phil & Shirley Eppard

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER LEWIS

Today is the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. On December 25, the world celebrated the Nativity, which was the first glimpse of the face of the Lord Jesus. On the feast of the Epiphany, we celebrate all the nations coming to the Lord, represented by the presence of the wise men. Jesus doesn't just come for one nation or people, but he comes as the Savior of the entire world.

We are still celebrating the Christmas season – so, it's right to say, "Merry Christmas." It's great when trees are still up, candles remain in the windows, and carols are still sung. But if you ended Christmas early this year – no worries! Next year, just remember to celebrate a little longer.

The Nativity is just the beginning. There are great feasts in the Christmas season: St. Stephen, St. John, Holy Innocents, Holy Family, the Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord. Today's feast, the Epiphany opens our eyes to the magnitude, the universal dimension, of Christ's mission here on earth.

Today, we rejoice in the gift of faith poured out upon the nations. The graces of Christmas night did not remain with a few shepherds or people from Bethlehem or one nation. Jesus came for all the world, for all time. Merry Christmas!

In January, St. Philip's will be adding a monthly collection for Parish Maintenance. As our buildings and property age, they require repairs and updates. An additional envelope and monthly second collection will set aside specifically for Parish Maintenance. Thank you for your generosity to St. Philip's.

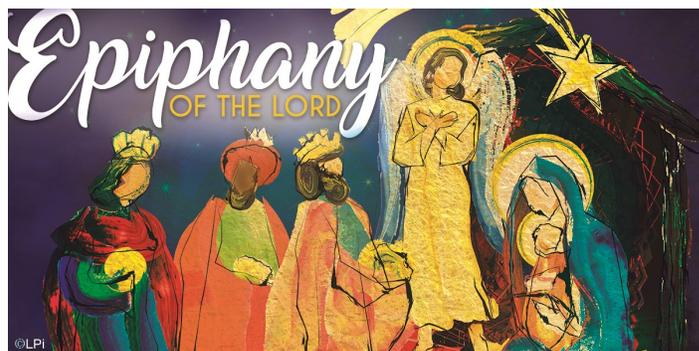
Sodality of St. Philip's Raffle

Winners:

Christine Mucker & Rit Taylor

Congratulations!

Thank you to all who participated this year!



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM:

Duffy Askin Family, Bradley Baker, Evan Beck, Pat Brooke, Counihan Family, Phil Eppard, Martin (Red) Fahey, Walter Harley, Lukas Hjort-Tyson, Hoehl Family, Art Grenier, Mary Gressett, Bert Latimer, Tonya Lee, Ralph Loveless, MacMannis Family, Lina Maralit, Jennifer Whipple-Marciano, Leondre Massey, Denise McHale, Grace Mueth, Nancy Palmedo, Deborah Pritts-Murray, Joe Norris, Shannon O'Connell, Matthew Pineda, Father Michael Quill, Barbara Ruf, Robert Wayne Saul III, Dolores Steinhilber, John Tierney, Elijah & Marilyn Thorne, Nellie & Ruth Wade, Suzanne Walters, Shawn & Tommy Webb, Dineen Whipple, Bee Duncan, Alma Streicher, Shoko Ferguson, Ryan Murray, and Patrick Baggott, Bee Dunkin

RCIA

RCIA classes are being held on Sunday's in the rectory or via Zoom from 10:15am – 11:15am. If you know someone who may be interested, contact Deacon Kelley at deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org

Evangelization Team

Are you interested in evangelization? Do you have a heart for reaching out to others? If so, please contact Deacon Kelley at deacon@stphiliptheapostlechurch.org

Philip the Apostle

Philip was born in Bethsaida, Galilee. He may have been a disciple of John the Baptist and is mentioned in the Gospel of John and in lists in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and in the Acts.

One account says he was a married and had several daughters.

He was among the first to be chosen by Christ, and it was Philip who brought Nathaniel to Christ.

Philip was present at the miracle of the loaves and fishes, when he engaged in a brief dialogue with the Lord. And he was the Apostle approached by the Hellenistic Jews from Bethsaida to introduce them to Jesus.

Just before the Passion, Jesus answered Philip's query to show them the Father, but no further mention of Philip is made in the New Testament beyond the list of those awaiting the Holy Spirit in the Upper Room.

According to tradition he preached in Greece and was crucified upside down at Hierapolis during the reign of Emperor Domitian.

St. Philip the apostle is the patron of bakers, pastry chefs, hatters, and the countries of Luxembourg and Uruguay. His symbols in art are loaves of bread or a tall cross.

He is patron of St. Philip the Apostle Church and keeps watch over us from the garden memorial in front of the church. We celebrate his feast on May 3.

The Epiphany of the Lord

"Where is that thing?" mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. "I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!" Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, "Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear." The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was." The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God's tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God's salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God's healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now! Use the light to find what you are really looking for!