THIRD Sunday OF Advent

Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.

Luke 3:11
THE MISSION OF OUR PARISH
As members of the Diocese of Joliet, we are a faith community united in Christ by a common bond to the universal Catholic Church.
Our words and actions are a reflection of Christ’s presence among us.
We manifest God’s Word through active participation in spiritual, liturgical, educational, service, and social ministries directed at bringing all people to Christ.

Please join us for:
Masses at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Communion Service at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday
Rosary at 8:30 a.m. on Monday-Friday
Individual Rite of Penance at 4:00 p.m. & Mass at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday
Sunday Masses at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH DIRECTORY & INFORMATION
Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Thursday (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.), Friday (8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.)
Rectory Summer Office Hours: Monday through Thursday (8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.); Friday (8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)
Website: http://www.st-phil.org Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/StPhilipAddisonIL/

RECTORY OFFICES
1223 W. Holtz Avenue in Addison, IL 60101
Phone #: 630.628.0900 Fax #: 630.543.9858
Reverend Steven J. Bondi, Pastor (x101); stevo1359@gmail.com
Deacon Sean McGreal, Pastoral Associate/RCIA Director (x105); smcgreal@st-phil.org
Deacon Philip Heitz, OFS, Marriage/Baptismal Preparation (x100)
Stephen R. DiBrito, Parish Business Manager (x103); sdibrito@st-phil.org
Judy Jaskey, Business Office Administrative Assistant (x102)
Sandi Milazzo & Shar Mirabelli, Administrative Assistants (x100); rectory@st-phil.org
Carol Schubert, Liturgy/Adult Faith Formation Director (x104); cschubert@st-phil.org
St. Vincent de Paul Society (x1 & then x5)

PARISH CENTER OFFICES
1233 W. Holtz Avenue in Addison, IL 60101
MUSIC OFFICE
Bill Wilder, Music Director
Phone #: 630.543.4015 Fax #: 630.543.4672 bwilder@st-phil.org
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE
Phone #: 630.543.1754 Fax #: 630.543.4672 Nancy McKnight, Faith Formation Director stphilipre@gmail.com
Barbara Nicolai, RE Administrative Assistant Editor of Parish Bulletin, Calendar, Website bnicolai@st-phil.org
ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE SCHOOL OFFICE
Phone #: 630.543.4130 Fax #: 630.458.8750 Julie Noonan, School Principal jnoonan@st-phil.org
Joann Wheeler, School Administrative Assistant jwheeler@st-phil.org

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS & BULLETIN DEADLINES
Parish staff reserves the right to accept/decline/edit pulpit announcements and bulletin submissions.
Please submit pulpit announcements to Carol Schubert (cschubert@st-phil.org; 630-628-0900 x104) no later than the Wednesday preceding the desired weekend.
Please send bulletin submissions to Barb Nicolai (bnicolai@st-phil.org; 630-543-1754) a week prior to desired publication date.

If you are a new visitor to our church today, welcome!
If you would like more information about our church or would like to register in the parish, please contact any of the staff members listed above or fill out a simple on-line registration form at st-phil.org.

WELCOME
WE’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE!
Almost every day, hundreds of people use our church and school building. It's used daily by our parishioners attending Mass or Communion Services. It's used every weekday by our school students and staff, and twice a week by our religious education students and their teachers. It's used by more than 15 different ministries for meetings and gatherings. It's used by our seniors throughout the year for their Senior Socialite gatherings, and it's used during the summer for our Vacation Bible School. It's used by our families and their guests when we celebrate milestone moments like Baptisms, First Communions, Confirmations, weddings, and funerals. That means that there's a lot of wear and tear on the building and its facilities. You may have noticed that our bathrooms are especially showing their age. We want to renovate our bathrooms, but we need to raise money to do so. That's why we're beginning a month-long fundraising campaign, which we've lightheartedly dubbed "Operation: Beautify Our Bathrooms." Can you help us raise the money so we can spruce up our bathrooms with new paint, flooring, stalls, and fixtures? We hope to raise this money before December 31, 2021, so we can update all the bathrooms during 2022. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK
Third Sunday of Advent
O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord’s Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:
How am I faithfully awaiting the Lord’s Nativity?

Interested in joining the Knights of Columbus? Please call 312-391-3843 or visit http://kofc650.org for more information.
The Virgin Mary is known by many titles in the Catholic Church. They represent her universal love and compassion to all her children. One of her beautiful and powerful titles is Our Lady of Guadalupe. Some may assume that because of this title, her appeal is limited to only Mexicans, since she appeared to St. Juan Diego at the hill of Tepeyac in Mexico in December of 1531.

However, since her apparitions, she has converted millions of people worldwide to her son, Jesus. For this reason, St. John Paul II proclaimed that she is not only the queen of Mexico, but formally declared her as the patroness of the Americas. In other words, as Pope Francis said, “She shares all the joys and hopes, the sorrows and troubles of God’s People, which is made up of men and women of every race and nation.”

As we are quickly approaching the quincentennial year of her appearances, her message continues to be more relevant than ever for all people. In a world filled with division, violence, murder, atheism, spiritual apathy and distrust, Our Lady of Guadalupe urgently desires us to know and love her son, Jesus. For it is through Jesus that we find true unity, peace and salvation.

As a priest, I led many trips of parishioners to visit a home for orphaned and abandoned children in Morelos, Mexico. As we toured the dormitories and classrooms, most would notice that there was a picture, candle or statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe in almost every room. I would share with the group that Guadalupe had a special place in the hearts of these children because they looked to her not only as the Mother of God, but also as their own mother. They took real comfort in knowing that even though they were no longer with their biological parents, she is their mother. Her presence beautifully reminds them that they are not alone or forgotten, instead, they are loved. She shares with them and us the same powerful words that she shared with St. Juan Diego, “Do not be afraid, am I not here, your Mother?”

As an added bonus to the trip to the orphanage, we would also spend a day in pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. On most of our visits, we would begin by exiting the bus and making a human chain, holding each other’s hands so that we would not get separated in the vast crowds. My group would always be impressed with the level of faith and devotion they witnessed as many people approached their penitential journey to Our Lady on their knees and in deep prayer. Once inside the basilica, we would celebrate Mass and pray the rosary together in one of the many side chapels. No one ever had a doubt that we were on holy ground.

After Mass and the purchase of some religious souvenirs and gifts, it would be time to conclude our visit by walking behind the main altar and view up close the tilma of St. Juan Diego. It is the actual cloth that bears Our Lady of Guadalupe’s beautiful image. On one of the visits, as we were walking back to our bus, one parishioner asked me, “Does the real tilma from 1531 still exist?” I replied, “Yes! We just looked at it behind the altar!” With shock and surprise, she raised her voice and exclaimed, “THAT was the real tilma? It’s not a copy?” I assured her that it was the original, one and only, tilma. With that, she said, “I have to go back and see her again.” Without hesitation, the whole group agreed to turn around and get another glimpse of the tilma bearing the image of the patroness of the Americas, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

When we realize and are convinced that Mary our mother is real, and she truly wants us to know and love her son, then our hearts, on fire, are naturally drawn to her. We feel a deep longing to see her, to talk with her and to celebrate her.

This year, as we return to this special feast day on Dec. 12, may Our Lady of Guadalupe continue to draw all her children close to her and to follow the Gospel of life and light of her son, Jesus Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, pray for us.
As part of their preparation for Confirmation, the eighth grade students in the RE Program and St. Philip the Apostle School write letters to the parish to explain why they want to be Confirmed. Below is the letter from St. Philip the Apostle School student Mallory Keller.

My name is Mallory Keller, and I am very grateful to be a Confirmation candidate this year. As I grow older, I see myself grow with my family and with my faith. I am the youngest of three with my two older brothers Will Keller and Mason Keller who have been confirmed at St. Philip the Apostle Church.

My family encourages me to become closer with my faith and to become closer with God. They did this by involving me in church as an altar server since third grade. As a child, I have been praying to God and thanking him for loving me unconditionally. Believing in God and going to church has always been an escape for me. When I go I feel welcomed by the presence of the Holy Spirit and God. I feel very proud and honored to be a part of the Church at such a young age. I plan on altar serving and participating in Church by becoming an EMC after my Confirmation.

After Confirmation I will be considered an adult in the Catholic Church. By becoming an adult, I want to share and speak out about my faith. I want to be confirmed because I feel I am ready for any obstacle God believes I am ready for. I have been preparing for this moment my whole life by attending St. Philip the Apostle School and really taking in everything my teachers have taught me. I feel that throughout this year my faith has grown the most throughout any other time in my life mainly because of Mrs. Sannasardo. She has really gone into context with my faith unlike any other teacher.

My sponsor is my aunt Adrianne Poulakidas. I chose her because she has always been there for me, and she is like a second mother to me and my siblings. My aunt inspires me to always do good and to try my best. Along with my sponsor comes my Confirmation name, St. Lucia of Syracuse. I chose her because she shares the light of Christ with the world. She is a kind soul, and she never gave up on her faith.

Sincerely, Mallory Keller

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DIOCESAN MISSION TRIP TO THE NAVAJO NATION

The Diocese of Joliet will resume its U.S. mission program in June with a two-week trip to the Navajo Nation located near Chinle, Arizona. The June 4-17 trip will focus on construction projects for residents of the reservation, with volunteers helping with such jobs as framing a house, tearing down dilapidated buildings, repairing fencing, etc. “It’s not just going to work for the people, but to be with them and experience their life and culture,” said diocesan missions coordinator Bruce Carlson. The diocese has organized mission trips to the reservation since 2002, but paused the annual expeditions during the past two years because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Informational meetings on the trip will be held on January 4 and 12 at the Blanchette Catholic Center, 16555 Weber Road in Crest Hill. For more information, email bcarlson@dioceseofjoliet.org or call 815-221-6256.

JULIE NOONAN
St. Philip the Apostle School Principal

The St. Philip the Apostle School's Parent Association is pleased to present THE SPARTAN GALA on February 18, 2022, at The Empress Banquets in Addison. Enjoy a lavish night of dancing, dinner, and fun! Open bar and a Grand Raffle ticket is included with every $115 admission ticket. If you can't attend, you're still encouraged to purchase a Grand Raffle ticket for $25 each. 1st prize is $2000, 2nd prize is $1000, 3rd prize is $500. Visit the Gala website at https://stphil.home.qtego.net to make a donation, purchase tickets, or get more information. We are also seeking sponsorships from local businesses or donations for our raffle/auction. Please contact Lizzy Roberson at lizzywroberson@gmail.com with any questions. Masks must be worn at this event, unless eating or drinking (subject to change as COVID guidance evolves).

SCRIP gift cards are available to order throughout the year. Visit shop.shopwithscrip.com to see brands/denominations. Contact Lizzy Roberson at 224-287-5278 or email lizzywroberson@gmail.com for more information. All proceeds are earmarked for the school. Thank you for your support in keeping the St. Philip the Apostle School tuition low.
Our readings today on this Gaudete Sunday are filled with images of rejoicing. The prophet Zephaniah tells us to shout for joy, for the Lord is in our midst. Likewise, St. Paul insists that the Lord is near and exhorts us to rejoice in the Lord. Although it takes a more somber tone, even the gospel reading speaks of rejoicing as John the Baptist warns his followers that there is still time to turn to God before the wheat is gathered and the chaff is burned. Emanuel, “God with us,” is such a powerful reality that is far beyond what we can possibly comprehend. Even so, we can reflect on the idea that God loves us so intimately that God becomes one of us. If we really lived this notion of Emanuel, would we not treat all people with dignity and respect? Would we not live as stewards of the earth, working to care for our common home? As we continue this season of Advent, how might we be called to more fully live this certainty of Emmanuel, God with us?

Source: Liturgical Press, Living Liturgy 2022

It’s time to sign up for the second part of the Fulfilled Series with Adult Formation. All are welcome to participate in a dynamic discussion about Scripture and gain an understanding of some of the most questioned Catholic teachings. The book is available at Ascension Press for $16.95. Please register with Carol Schubert by calling 630-628-0900 x104 or emailing cschubert@st-phil.org. If you did not participate in the first session, you can still sign up for this one. Sessions will start on Tuesday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 1 of the Parish Center.

Meeting dates are:
January 11, 18, 25, and February 1, 8, 15, 22

**ADULT & FAMILY BUS TRIP**
**Saturday, January 8th 2022 11:50 am-4 pm**
Round Trip Bus Between Elmhurst and Daley Plaza

**MARCH FOR LIFE CHICAGO**
**Saturday, January 22, 2022**
CONTRIBUTE TO A MOVEMENT
Participate with over 10,000 people to MARCH from Federal Plaza in Chicago.

**SIX HOURS OF CONFESSION**
When was the last time you received Reconciliation? Was it recently? In the past year? Awhile ago?
You are invited to prepare your heart and soul for Christmas.

Saturday, December 18
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Mary Queen of Heaven Church
430 N. West Avenue in Elmhurst
6300-279-5700
There will be select times when the Sacrament will be offered in both Polish and Spanish. All Catholics are invited to receive God’s grace.
Rejoice! Today is the day to rejoice. Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday in Advent, is the midway point in our Advent journey as we prepare ourselves and our homes to welcome Jesus our Savior in human form on Christmas Day. Sometimes when we reach the halfway point of a process we will look back and forward to see how well we are progressing and to see if we need to reevaluate the work we have done. The same is true for a spiritual journey like Advent. With this in mind, I want to share with you some words from Edward Hays in his book *A Pilgrim’s Almanac*: Advent is the perfect time to clear and prepare the Way. Advent is a winter training camp for those who desire peace. By reflection and prayer, by reading and meditation, we can make our hearts a place where a blessing of peace would desire to abide and where the birth of the Prince of Peace might take place. As we continue to prepare for the birth of Christ, consider the greatest gift of all, our life and the life we have in God. How well do we use this gift to show our appreciation to God for the many blessings he has given to us, our families, and friends and for the sending His Son to dwell among us.

Even in these troubled times, we are urged to rejoice this day, this week, this season. The question posed by nearly everyone to John the Baptist, What should we do?, is also our question. St. Paul reminds us that the Lord is near. While we actively wait for Jesus Christ to come again, we are told to be merciful and just.

### Collection for December 4/5, 2021
- **Collection:** $16,990
- **Budget:** $13,115
- **Difference:** $3,875

### Sources & Uses of Maintenance Fund
- **Maintenance Fund Collection YTD:** $27,105
- **Investment in St. Philip the Apostle Parish:** $7,439
- **Replacement LED of Church Lighting:** $69,729
- **Repair, sealcoat, stripe parking lots and add concrete aprons:** $77,168
- **Total Spent:** $27,105

### Upcoming Projects:
- **Remodeling of Six Bathrooms:** TBD
- **Parking Lot Lighting:** TBD

Your generosity in helping fund the above work is greatly appreciated!

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

**Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

**Thursday:** Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30

**Friday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

**Saturday:** Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

**Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45
MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13
8:00 AM  People of the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14
8:00 AM  George Beyette

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15
8:00 AM  (Communion Service)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16
8:00 AM  Anna Serpico

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17
8:00 AM  Jean Troksa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
4:00 PM  INDIVIDUAL RITE OF PENANCE
5:00 PM  Anticipated Mass for Sunday
Wayne Berg / Joseph Mariottini / Meccia Family
Paulina Bytna / Christine Perry / Merle Bucher
Nick Ferri / Richard Culen / Jack Glogowski
Fathers’ Day Mass Intention Recipients
Groth Family / Podesta Family
Casaccio Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:00 AM  Rosolino & Florence DiTusa
Dominic Ferenzi / Marc Stolfe / Anthony Russo
Ralph, Shirley, & Steve Rocco / Marie Di Fazio
Giuseppe Giuliano Family / Mary Bellavia
John & Catherine Ardito / Ty Murinas
Jean Troksa / Carol P. Baran
10:00 AM  (same names as 8:00 a.m.)

Let us remember in prayer
our deceased relatives,
friends, and parishioners,
especially:
Rochelle Incardone
Luisa Spadasino

Our sympathy to their friends and families.

JOB OPENINGS IN THE JOLIET DIocese

* St. Mary Immaculate Parish in Plainfield is seeking to hire a
  Director of Youth and Young Adult Formation. To view a full
  job description, visit https://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/hr/
  jobdetail.php?id=715. To apply, send a cover letter and
  résumé to Laura VanHam at lvanham@smip.org.
* Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Naperville is seeking to
  hire a full-time parish accountant. Please send a résumé and
  cover letter to financemanager@sspeterandpaul.net.

ABORTION ALTERNATIVES: Waterleaf (630-701-6270), Post Abortion Healing (877-467-3463), Birthright (800-550-4900, 24 hours)

Please pray for our sick & shut-in and those who are healing & convalescing...

Jackson Becker, Jenny Bellezza,
Jenny Belletzni, Ray Bugielski,
Judy Casey, Brian Cherry, Tim
Kullman Cherry, Sylvia Culotta,
William Czerniak,
Jeff Dela Cruz, Michael DeStefano,
Tod Fazio, Todd Gardener, John Garrett,
Lucas Hameau, Anita Harshbarger,
Ifreda Holtz, Judy
Jaskey, Jim Lambert, Shirley Legaspi, Janet
Lombardi, Sandra Lundgren, Sandi Milazzo,
Cindy Miles, JoAnne Moberg, Vito Montana,
Geri Mulcahy, Avery Quarles, Beverly Quinn,
Frank Reid, John Rossi, Bud Schubert, Dale &
Stella Shamberg, Bill Slovik, Wanda Slupik,
Daniel Spratt, Mary Taschetta, Ann Treccia,
Jim Wright.

Please get permission from family members or the person
who is ill before requesting that his/her name be added
to the prayer list. To add names to the list, please call
630-543-1754 or email bnicolai@st-phil.org. Names are
deleted from the list after six months unless a request is
made for a perpetual listing.

Let us remember in prayer
our deceased relatives,
friends, and parishioners,
especially:
Rochelle Incardone
Luisa Spadasino

Our sympathy to their friends and families.

Richard Avila, Marines
Salvador Bonilla, Jr., Air Force
Elijah Burgins, Marines
Emiliano Carrazco, Marines
Steven J. DeMarco, Army
Matthew Deimling, Army
Jack Domek, Marines
Adam Domey, Army
Samantha Fallon, Navy
Diego Feros, Army
Blaze Galardy, Air Force
Martin Garcia, Army
Mark Jastowski, Marines
José Juarez, Navy
Paul Keppler, Navy
Ben Krause, Marines
C. J. Loveland, Air Force
Matthew Maslanka, Army
Bradley Melson, Marines
Anthony Milazzo, Navy
Ryan Mills, Air Force
Billy Moncatch, Marines
Jason Okara, Army
Enrique Ospina, Marines
Adam Ostrander, Navy
Cole Parent, Marines
Randall Petrbok, Air Force
James Roman, Marines
Ryan Ruizol, Navy
Andrew Tarchinski, Army
Isaiah Wuich, Marines

To add a name to the list,
please call 630-543-1754 or
email bnicolai@st-phil.org.
Baptism Information: Baptisms are celebrated on the second & fourth Sunday of each month. A pre-Baptism program must be attended by the parents. Please call the rectory to register for a program.

Marriage Information: Please call the rectory to make arrangements at least six months (a year is preferred) in advance of the wedding date. It is recommended you do not rent reception facilities until your wedding date is confirmed with the pastor. Your preferred wedding date may be unavailable, and we do not want you to lose your deposit with the reception venue.

Parish Registration: New families are welcome and are asked to register at the rectory. Also, previously registered parishioners are asked to notify us of any address changes.

Emergency Sick or Anointing Calls: Please notify us immediately of any serious illness in your family. If you have a hospitalized loved one who would like a visit, please call the rectory with contact information since the hospitals and hospices no longer notify parishes. Please do not wait until the last minute to have someone anointed. There are always accidents/emergencies, but sometimes there is less panic when the anointing can be done prior to someone passing.

We now have available low-gluten hosts which make it possible for people who have celiac disease or allergies to wheat or gluten to be able to receive communion. If you have celiac disease or an allergy to wheat or gluten, please let us know before Mass so that arrangements can be made for you to be able to receive communion at Mass.
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For further information, please call the Parish Office.