

SAINT PHILIP THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

FOUNDED 1909

DIocese of Victoria in Texas



304 W. Church St., El Campo, Tx. 77437
979-543-3770 • fax: 979-578-8831

PARISH SCHOOL:

979-543-2901 • fax: 979-578-8835

Parish Homepage: www.stphilipapostle.org

Parish Email: apostle@stphilipapostle.org

School Homepage: www.stphilipschool.org

Pastor: Reverend Michael Rother

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Chase Goodman

Deacons: Deacon Jerome Grahmann
Deacon Larry Hoelscher

Administrative Secretary

Leslie Farquhar

Receptionist

Sylvia Peter

Music Director

Janice Cox

Youth Minister

Ana Rodriguez

Technology/Schedules

Leslie Farquhar

Parish Catechetical Leader

Nancy Fenner

School Principal

Gwen Edwards

School Secretary

Amanda Stary

Cemetery Supervisor

Kirk Stary

Parish Administrative Council

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Deacon Larry Hoelscher

Lisa Bubela

Gary Charbula

Jeanie Janak

Claudia Raun

Scott Strnadell

Ray Viktorin

Mike Watz

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Amanda Dorotik

Stacey Ermis

Kimberly Kelly

William Key

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Kyle Wallis

Tyler Williams

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Lynn Cox

Ginger Harris

Dot Hermansen

Mary Jane Kaiser

Gracie Priesmeyer

Jerry Socha

Bereavement/Outreach

Committee

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Irene Nohavitza

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James Bouligny

Deacon Larry Hoelscher

Gloria Marek

Kim Socha

Donald Sutton

David Zalman

Spiritual Direction

Patricia Hoelscher

Safe Environment Coordinator

Leslie Farquhar

Community Mission Statement... We, the people of God of Saint Philip the Apostle, in the loving and evangelizing spirit of St. Philip, form a family community that challenges each of us to proclaim and live the gospel messages of Jesus Christ in the world through worship, evangelization, Christian formation and service.

Sunday Eucharist Schedule

Saturday (*Vigil of Sunday*) 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 7:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

Holy Day and Weekday Schedule

Holy Days (*check the Bulletin*)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, First Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday 5:30 p.m.

Friday during School Season 8:15 a.m.

Perpetual Adoration and Rosary

Perpetual Adoration Monday 8:30 a.m. until Friday 5:00 p.m.

Rosary 30 minutes before weekday and weekend Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.;

by appointment and season schedule during Advent and Lent

~ PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION ~

Sacrament of Baptism: Please inform the Parish office at least six months before due date. Further instructions and baptismal materials will be provided at the Parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please register at the parish office as soon as possible, but at least six months prior to anticipated date.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound: Call the Parish office when a family member is sick and would like a visit or would like to receive Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

New Parishioners and Status: Welcome to St. Philip Parish! Call or come by the Parish office to register. Also notify us when moving out of the parish or when you have a change of family status and address.

Prayer Intentions at Mass Dec 20 – Dec 26		
MON	8:00 a.m.	+ Emma Mladenka
TUE	8:00 a.m.	+ Ludvik and Julia Bartek
WED	1:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Priest Intention + Francis Stock, Sablatura and Stock deceased family members
THU	8:00 a.m.	+ Bob Nottebart
FRI	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 12:00 a.m.	+ Grace Vaclavick + Mitzi Schmidt + Janell Marek, Joe A. and Mary L. Dornak
SAT	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Parishioners Intentions + Cynthia Mach + Deacon Jarrel Nohavitza
SUN	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	+ Robert Faas + Anton Dybala Sr., Jeanette Newman, Edwin and Bernice Kaluza, Hugo and Emelie Schilhab, Leon and Lorraine Schilhab Parishioners Intentions

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DEC 25 & DEC 26

• SATURDAY– 5:00 p.m.

Lector: Leona Cunningham

Cantor: Jeanette Hunter

Altar Servers: Thauh Nguyen, Trent Womak, Aribel Zarate

Hospitality: Need Volunteers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Margaret Anderson, **Need Volunteer**

• SUNDAY– 7:00 a.m.

Lector: Donna Shelton

Altar Servers: Abigail Garrett, Claire Radley, Rylan Staff

Hospitality: Zachary Edwards, Gerry Graham

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Mark Merta, Jerry Shelton

• SUNDAY– 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Susan Richards, Madsen Raun

Cantor: Carol Smolik

Altar Servers: Kolin Cerny, Kinsley Cerny, Kasey Cerny

Hospitality/Meridian: Mike Couvillion

Nursing Home Ministers:

Hospitality: Gerry Mikeska, **Need Volunteer**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

John Hancock, Rita Hancock, Madysen Korenek

• SUNDAY– 6:00 p.m.

Lector: Riley Wallis

Cantor: Abby Wallis

Altar Servers: Alexandra Martinez, Pierson Prasek, Wyatt Prasek

Hospitality: Need Volunteers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Lynn Cox, Lisa Dannels

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

A Message From Our Pastor

Father's Formed.org Suggestion of the Week

HOME – Advent Section

The Christmas Pageant that Almost Wasn't



We have arrived to the fourth and final week of Advent. The coming of the Lord is ever nearer. We begin the week by lighting the last candle on the Advent Wreath known as the Angel Candle so named for the angels that brought the news of the savior's birth to the shepherds. The same proclamation will be given to us in six short days. Come let us go to adore Christ the new born king!

We have moved through four virtues that the Nativity of our Lord brings us—hope, peace, joy, and now love. Jesus is the love of God incarnate for all of humanity. The full light of the Advent Wreath tells us that the time of preparation is almost over. Our preparation for the coming of Christ ends with the jubilant praise of God on Christmas day.

We will quickly move into celebrating the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph who are the prime example of family to all.

Let us pray this final week of Advent: Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to heart the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pray For The Sick...

Annabelle Van Deursen, Clifton Bram, Anton Tupa, Dolores Priesmeyer, Melody Macha, Milton & Henrietta Machacek, Johnnie Mican, Kristen Lezak, Abby Goerig, Carly Walker, Lester Lutringer, Lisa Respondek Holt, Helen Hicks, Alvin Korenek, Joshua Fowler, Leonard Hubenak, Jennifer Martin, Stephanie Stepan, Weston Swoboda, Charles Maerz, David Dunn, Donnie Novak, Irene Sedlock, Lonnie Roe, Garret Davis, Ed Wasek, Brandy Kubena, Eugene Graham, Cindy Juneck, Bill Culver, Daniel Marek, Carl Siglock, Shirley McMahon, Cindy Schmidt, Edith Farish, Kristi Baker, Tyler Simpson, Joy Roppolo, Lorrie Goodman, L. C. Koehne Jr., Donna Vasek, Kenny Mrustik, Lawrence Korenek, Linda Vaclavick, Sandra Munoz, Frank Kacal, Betty Fisher, Tommy Hitzfeld, Mildred Janda, Craig Terrell, Cindy Blaha, Bennie Novak, Dolores Sbrusch, Kim Medford Underwood, Mary Cantu, George Gerberman Jr., Roxane Roach, Vicky Pavlu, Daisy Zella, Margaret Waters, Rickie Wiesner, Clinton Kirk, Sherrie Witcher, Gail Zaruba, Kim Peikert, Douglas Hansen, Sue Maxwell, Frances Kappelmann, Crawford Leonard, Ellwood Hermansen, Austin Tice, Pat Cunningham, Jeanette Orsak, Blair Couey Sr. and the homebound.

FIRST READING - 1 Samuel 20-22,24-28

In those days Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel, since she had asked the LORD for him. The next time her husband Elkanah was going up with the rest of his household to offer the customary sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vows, Hannah did not go, explaining to her husband, "Once the child is weaned, I will take him to appear before the LORD and to remain there forever; I will offer him as a perpetual nazirite." Once Samuel was weaned, Hannah brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and presented him at the temple of the LORD in Shiloh. After the boy's father had sacrificed the young bull, Hannah, his mother, approached Eli and said: "Pardon, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood near you here, praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." Hannah left Samuel there.

SECOND READING - 1 John 3:1-2,21-24

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him

Key Scriptural Passage:

Elizabeth said, "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." (Luke 1:45)

Questions for Discussion:

Adult: When was it hardest for you to trust in God's plan for your, as Mary did? What can help you at such times?

Child: When is it hardest for you to obey a parent or teacher? What can help you obey with more trust?

Readings For The Week (Dec 20 – Dec 25)

- Monday.....Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
- Tuesday.....2 Tm 4:1-5/Mt 5:13-19
- Wednesday.....1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
- Thursday.....Mal 3:1-4,23-24/Lk 1:57-66
- Friday.....2 Sm 7:1-5,8-12,14,16/Lk 1:67-79
- Saturday.....Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Pray For Our Seminarians:

Ryan Kapavik, Aaron Padila, Luke Prihoda, Philippe Dubourdieu, Caleb Krischke, Shane Goertz, and Joseph Blackburn

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whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

GOSPEL - Like 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

St. Philip Catholic School Super Prize Drawing Winner for December 10 is *Becky Petrash*.

Olive wood from the Holy Land will be on sale after all the Masses next weekend, December 18 and December 19.

Pro-Life Corner... "Children truly are the family's greatest treasure and most precious good. Consequently, everyone must be helped to become aware of the intrinsic evil of the crime of abortion. In attacking human life in its very first stages, it is also an aggression against society itself. Politicians and legislators, therefore, as servants of the common good, are duty bound to defend the fundamental right to life, the fruit of God's love." – Pope Benedict XVI




Those Going Home To God...
Janell Labay
"Life has changed, not ended"

**Pray For Those Serving In The Military
and Law Enforcement**

Nathan Cox, ECPD, E-5 MM2 Zachary Elledge US Navy, Lance Corp. Casey Winfield, USMC, US Army Staff Sgt. David Haugh, Robert Drapela, Coast Guard, Master Chief Sub-Lant Zachary Montello, Christopher Alford, U S Army, LCDR Jarrod Smith, US Navy, Chris Bird, Texas Game Warden, Wharton County, Sr. Airman Lane Kocian, Air Force, Sheriff Shannon Srubar, WCSO, Chief Deputy Clint Savino, WCSO, Captain Larry Hensley, WCSO, Captain Jason Mican, WCSO, Deputy Calvin Pfeil, WCSO, SRO Jeffery Pfeil, ECPD, Greg Pasak Travis County SO, James Scott DOJ, James Sanders, Houston PD, Private #2 Ivan Jaramillo, Arthur Debo, ECPD, Braden Mican, ECPD, SR Reece Mazel, Navy, Pvt E2 Joseph Dornak, Army, Billy Edmiston, Marine

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We would like to thank the following families and individuals for their memorial donations to the Christmas flowers in loving memory of: *George & Georgie Mondrik, Barbara Mondrik, Beatrice Mondrik* by George Mondrik Jr., *B. G. Parma* by Betty Parma, *Tiffany Alford & Mitzi Schmidt* by M/M Bill Schmidt, *Francis Stock, Sablatura & Stock families* by Jeanette Stock, *Julius & Estelle Valicek* by M/M Norman Peter, *Michael Appling Sr.* by Dianne Appling, *Charles & Marie Urbanovsky, Hans & Christine Smith* by M/M Harold Smith, *Terry Busby, Ed & Rita Strnadel* by Diane Busby, *Jason & Jeffrey Kachmar* by Florine Kachmar, *Emil & Hattie Bolcik, Joseph & Annie Sablatura* by M.M Michael Bolcik, *Richard "Dickie" George* by M/M James Van Antwerp, *Martha Marek* by Daniel Marek, *Wilbert Hundl Sr.* by M/M Mark Merta, *Adolph & Sophie Kunetka, Frank & Frances Mican* by M/M Johnny Mican, *John J. Naiser, Juroska family, Bittle family, Naiser family* by Mildred Naiser

Also *Jesse & Maggie Kopecky, Joe & Annie Kopecky, Charlie & Millie Krenek, Ollie & Martha Kopecky, Andy & Lora Reinhardt, Linda and Lori Foreman, Victor Kopecky, Delphine Krenek, Gerome Krenek, Emma Holub, Pius Sr. & Florence Warzecha, Rosemary Diaz* by Melody Kopecky, *Wilber Hensley, Richard & Lucy Hubenak, Frank & Millie Matlock, Emil Matlock, Peggy Matlock, Cheryl Cornelson* by M/M Larry Hensley.

2021 Gift To Christ... We would like to thank the following families and individuals who have contributed to the appeal of **GIFT TO CHRIST: The total thus far is \$18,605.00.**

M/M David Pratka, M/M Andy Swoboda, Wiliam Merta, Barbara Junek, George Mondrik Jr., M/M Lawrence Knebel, Cecilia Krenek, M/M George Genzer, M/M Clifton Bram, Olivia McDonald, Joseph Peters, M/M Robert Schilhab, M/M Robert Reck, M/M Johnnie Mican, M/M Randy Hildebrand

M/M Mark English, Linda Mican, M/M Garland Barr, Linda Wiesner, Mrs. Maurice Mikeska, M/M Robert Blume, M/M Jeffrey Cranek, Katherine Young, James Kallina, M/M Mike Kennedy, Evelyn Dybala, Dr. John & Susan Richards, M/M Hubert Kaiser, M/M Larry Cerny, M/M Dwayne Holub, Carolyn Foegelle, M/M Chris Triska, Tonya Quinn

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M/M Alvin Korenek, Gladys McMasters, Mary Ann Gerla, Diane Busby, M/M Joe Janda, Dorothy Faas, M/M Lawrence Krenek, Arliss Treybig, M/M Stephen Korenek, M/M Barney Douglas, M/M Joe Vacek, M/M Farley Zboril, M/M Edmund Weinheimer Jr., M/M Eric Merta



The Diocese of Victoria in Texas

With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God, joyfully Announces and invites you to attend the ordination of



Rev. Mr. Richard Gordon Barfield
Rev. Mr. Tran Ngoc Dinh



*To the sacred Order of the
Presbyterate through the Imposition
of Hands and Prayer of Ordination
by*

The Most Rev. Brendan J. Cahill
Bishop of Victoria

*Saturday, the eighth of January in the Year of Our Lord
Two Thousand Twenty-two at Ten O'clock in the morning*

*The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory
1309 East Mesquite Lane; Victoria, Texas*

Reception to follow in the Cathedral Center

St. Philip Catholic School Distinguished Graduate Award

St. Philip Catholic School recognizes a distinguished graduate whose accomplishments reflect the values and character of St. Philip alumni. We ask for nominations for one such graduate using the following simple criteria:

The Distinguished Graduate Award Nominee:

- Must be a graduate of St. Philip Catholic School
- Should have graduated from St. Philip at least 10 years ago
- Should have made some significant contribution to American, Texas or local society and /or the Catholic Church which reflects favorably on the education the nominee received at St. Philip Catholic School.

If you know of someone who meets the above-mentioned qualifications, please complete a nomination form. Past nominees will be considered. They can be picked up at the school office during normal business hours. Deadline for nominations will be January 5. The 2022 Distinguished Graduate will be announced during Catholic Schools Week.



Fourth Sunday of Advent...A Light In The Darkness... "My Soul Magnifies the Lord." .. Luke 1:39-45

When Mary visits Elizabeth, she exclaims, "Blessed is she who believed that would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord" (vs 45). Blessed was Mary for her hope and her faith. Blessed are we, to have this same hope and faith in the fulfillment of God's promise to his followers!

The way that Mary's birth was fulfilled was amazing. It wasn't quite the royal birth that one would expect for the King of Kings. Instead, it was quite radically the opposite. As the Cate-

chism of the Catholic Church notes, "In this poverty heaven's glory was made manifest." (525,cf.Lk 2:6-7).

It makes you think, doesn't it. Perhaps your faith is shaken when things don't seem to be going according to plan. The situation of the Lord's birth certainly wouldn't match most parents hopes. But God has a plan, and he never fails. And what joy this brings! Even in the dark of winter or the dark of a spiritual winter, we can find joy in the fulfillment of our hope and faith. Our souls can magnify the Lord – **he is coming!**

Calendar of Events...

Monday, December 20

- Men's Bible study at 6:00 a.m. - Meeting House.
- Bible study group session at 10:00 a.m. - Mtg House.
- Reconciliation from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

Tuesday, December 21

- Reconciliation from 10:00 a.m. to Noon; and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Women's bible study at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday, December 22

- Reconciliation from 10:00 a.m. to Noon; and from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 23

- Reconciliation from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



**Mass Schedule for
The Feast of The Nativity of the Lord**

December 24th	5:00 p.m.
December 25th	12:00 a.m. (Midnight), 7:00 a.m., and 10:00 a.m.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m. on **Saturday, December 25th** and
Masses at 7:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m on **Sunday,**
December 26.

**Mass Schedule for the Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God.**

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation This Year)

January 1	9:00 a.m.
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*Father Michael, Father Chase,
Deacon Jerome, Deacon Larry,
and the entire staff of Saint Philip
the Apostle Catholic Church pray
you and your family will have a
Blessed Christmas Season!*



A Christmas Prayer...When life forces us to wrestle with what's difficult, give us courage. Teach us that there is a purpose in everything we experience, and everything is more than it appears to be. This world is permeated by Your presence, and is Your presence in form. May we be drawn to Your voice above the other, competing voices. Great and Holy One, we pray for Peace. Take us to the abode of Peace for which all hearts long. We pray to find stillness within our busyness, and rest in the midst of our celebrations and activity.

Show us how to walk more gently, more patiently, on the Earth. Let Kindness be born within all hearts. Teach us to draw together as one people. One humanity. One heart. One spirit. One longing. May our prayer rise up like fire and be Light for a troubled world. This we know. Something is trying to be born in us. Take our hand as we set out anew.

- Paula D'Arcy

Liturgical Ministers for Christmas Masses

FRIDAY 5:00 p.m.

Lector: Jim Van Antwerp
Cantor: Anna Rod
Altar Servers: Paislyn Drapela, Brooklyn Leopold, Elizabeth Leopold, Matthew Van Antwerp (Thurifer)
Hospitality: Larry and Joyce Hensley
Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion: Gwen Edwards, Mary Kay Price, Ron Price, Claudia Raun

MIDNIGHT MASS 12:00 a.m.

Lectors: Judy Barrett, Paul Barrett, Ceci Triska, Romona Stepan, Ginger Harris
Cantor: Daniel Berglund
Altar Servers: Duncan Harris, Evelyn Harris, Chelsea Flagg, Faith Korenek (Thurifer)
Hospitality: Steven Korenek, Jimmie Triska
Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion: Kimberly Couvillion, Mike Couvillion, Lynn Cox, Duane Korenek

SATURDAY 7:00 a.m.

Lector: A. J. Kresta
Cantor: Richard Raun
Altar Servers: Grant Bubela, Abigail Burrow, Allie Zalman, Jase Zalman (Thurifer)
Hospitality: Roy and Janice Smaistrla
Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion: Lisa Bubela, Jason Zalman, Mike Smaistrla

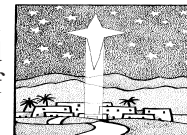
SATURDAY 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Cecilia Polasek
Cantor: St. Philip School Students
Altar Servers: Annie Aertker, Brynn Charbula, Talyan Charbula, **Need Volunteer**
Hospitality: Need Volunteers
Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion: Jan Dornak, Phil Dornak, Janet Holub

Advent Schedule for the Sacrament of Reconciliation....In order to assist you in preparing spiritually for the celebration of Christmas, extended hours for the Sacrament of Reconciliation are being offered. Take the opportunity to receive God's forgiveness. Please be considerate of the ending time and come early.

- Dec. 20** - 10:00 a.m. to Noon
- Dec. 21** - 10:00 a.m. to Noon; 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Dec. 22** - 10:00 a.m. to Noon; 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The parish office will close at noon on Thursday, December 23 and remain closed until Monday, January 3 in observance of the Christmas and New Year holiday.



Save The Date.... St. Philip Youth Fried Chicken Dinner... St. Philip Youth will sponsor their annual fried chicken dinner Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. with plates to go only at the Columbus Club Hall.

Sacrificial Giving:

12-12-21	\$14,610.00
Second Collection.....	\$755.00
Maintenance.....	\$160.00
School.....	\$150.00

Flowers - December 19
Advent: No Flowers


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