

# Church of St. Philip the Apostle

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*Diocese of Charlotte*

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## 4th Sunday of Lent

**Rev. Fr. Thomas J. Kessler, *Pastor***

**Mrs. Carissa M Bennett, *Parish Secretary***  
**Mrs. Raquel Swierczewski, *R.C.I.A***

**Mrs. Glenda Ulloa, *Faith Formation Co-Director***  
**Mr. Edgar Noveron, *Faith Formation Co-Director***  
**& *Youth Director***

### **Marriage - Baptism**

Call the church office.  
Marriages, call at least 6 months in advance.

### **Reconciliation**

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. on Saturday or by  
appointment.

### **Pastoral Council**

Meetings are 2nd Monday of each month at  
7:00 p.m. September thru May except National  
Holidays.

### **Religious Education**

Children, grades 1-Confirmation, are required  
to attend religious education classes. Call  
the office to register your children. Adult RCIA  
classes also available.

### **Parish Registration**

We welcome new parishioners to the parish  
and we ask them to register as soon as  
possible. Parish registration is important and  
necessary. Also, if you move away from the  
Parish please notify the office. Thank you.

## From the Pastor's Desk

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent** – In today's Gospel (Jn. 9:1-41) **Jesus saw a man blind "from birth"**. Our Lord was asked – who sinned, this man or his parents? Some times we have this same mentality. If something doesn't seem right to us, we may figure that God is punishing us for something we've done. The Lord is not a vengeful God. Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross...By his wounds you have been healed (1Peter 2:24). So repent now and live. In response to the question as to who sinned, Jesus said "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." Jesus touched the blind man and he was able to see. Thus **God was glorified in the man's imperfection**. Imagine, the Pharisees declared that "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath." In Mark 2:27-28 Jesus told the Pharisees "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. That is why the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

The ever-popular musical *The Sound of Music*, tells of the momentous day, when Sister Maria had to leave the convent. She expressed her resignation to God's will with the oft-quoted "When God closes a door, somewhere he opens a window." Many Christians who have faced setbacks, trials and heartaches – yet kept the faith – know the truth of Maria's expression of trust in God.

Many heroic people have attained their highest goals when certain doors shut them out. For example, John Milton wrote *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regained* after suffering total blindness. Ludwig Von Beethoven composed some of his greatest music, including the Ninth Symphony, when he was completely deaf. And Helen Keller, struck deaf, blind and mute at the age of nineteen months, learned to read Braille and to talk. She even graduated from the prestigious Radcliffe College and went on to live a rich life of lecturing and writing. May God also be glorified in our imperfections.

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent is next weekend** – The readings at Mass will be taken from Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11: 1-45 (or short form John 11: 3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45).

**The Family Life Committee** will meet this Thursday, March 23 at 7 p.m.

**Next Sunday, The Spanish** will once again have a **Hot Food Sale** after the 12:30 p.m. Mass. Food can be eaten in or served to-go. This fundraiser is in support of our Building Campaign. **The Spanish are always delighted when any of our parishioners support their efforts.**

**Next Sunday** – a **Parish Potluck** will be held in the Social Hall at 5 p.m. and all are invited. Please sign up in the Gathering Space to indicate your plans to attend and what you plan to bring.

**Thanks to all who**, this weekend, **brought non-perishable foods** for the less fortunate in our community. We also thank the men who delivered our donations to Iredell Christian Ministry. Almsgiving is a great Lenten practice.

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## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Saturday, March 25**

5:00 pm Ron & Betty Brostowski †† by The FerguStein Families

### **Sunday, March 26**

8:00 am John C. Williams † by Tom & Debbie Ward

10:30 am Sick of our Parish by Our CDA

12:30 pm The Parents of Rita Tondo by Rita Tondo

### **Monday, March 27**

9:00 am Anthony Sinicropi † by Andrea Napoli

### **Wednesday, March 29**

6:00 pm Mike Cicciu by Carol Micalizzi

### **Thursday, March 30**

9:00 am Bill McEvilly † by Toni McEvilly & Family

### **Friday, March 31**

9:00 am Mary Peters † by Maryann Rhodes

### **Saturday, April 1**

9:00 am Winnie Gillis † by Maryann Rhodes

5:00 pm Stella & Jozef Kopec †† by The FerguStein Families

### **Sunday, April 2**

8:00 am Religious Vocations by Our CDA

10:30 am Tawney Heffley † by The Brooks Family

12:30 pm Souls in Purgatory † by Dora Ramirez

### **READERS**

March 25 5:00 pm Jim Kermes

March 26 8:00 am Andrea Napoli

10:30 am Linda Ortiz

12:30 pm Juan Carlos Medina

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

March 25 5:00 pm B. McGinn (HM), R. Reed (HA),

T. Reed (HC)

March 26 8:00 am V. Storey (HM), M. Swierczewski (HA),

R. Swierczewski (HC)

10:30 am J. Bennett (HM), T. Douglas (HA)

P. Eaverson (HC)

12:30 pm Edgar N. (H), Martha R., Mary G.

### **ALTAR SERVERS**

March 24 6:00 pm Jackie D.

March 25 5:00 pm Cory H., Bret L.

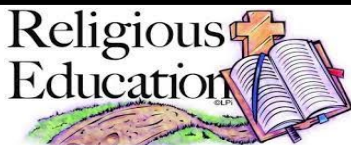
March 26 8:00 am Emily S., Cayden C.

10:30 am Sam W., Anneliese P.

12:30 pm Giselle y Dionisio



**Mrs. Glenda Ulloa :** If you need to contact Faith Formation, please call the office at 704-872-2579 or email Glenda at [stphilipfaith@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipfaith@gmail.com)

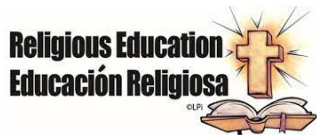


**Mr. Edgar Noveron :** If you need to contact Edgar please call the office at 704-872-2579 or email Edgar at [stphilipfaith@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipfaith@gmail.com)

Faith formation Mass cards will be collected at the following times only:

5pm Mass-before  
8am-before 10:30am-after 12:30pm-after  
No card collection during Holiday's

**Mrs. Glenda Ulloa:** Si desea comunicarse con Glenda de la Formación Fe, por favor llame a la oficina al 704-872-2579 y deje su mensaje o envíe un correo electrónico a Glenda a [stphilipfaith@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipfaith@gmail.com)



**Mr. Edgar Noveron:** Si desea comunicarse con Edgar de la Formación Fe, por favor llame a la oficina al 704-872-2579 y deje su mensaje o envíe un correo electrónico a Edgar a [stphilipfaith@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipfaith@gmail.com)

First Reconciliation for 2nd year first communion candidates will be on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.

La primera reconciliación para los candidatos de segundo año de primera comunión será el sábado 25 de marzo a las 10:00 a.m.

Faith Formation Dept. is asking for plastic egg & candy donations for the upcoming Easter egg hunt on April 2, 2023 from 4-6pm.



St Philip's book Club will be meeting on Monday, March 27th at 7pm in the Social Hall. Our book is The Library at the Edge of the World by Felicity Hayes-McCoy. They are on hold at Statesville Library Contact Jeanne Klauss email [jklauss@live.com](mailto:jklauss@live.com) 216.235.3240

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This is also a great opportunity to thank our generous parishioners, who daily deliver day-old baked goods and foods from our local grocery stores and suppliers to a variety of food closets throughout Iredell County.

Thanks also to those who worked and participated in our **Forward With Christ Bingo fundraiser** this Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**A Forward With Christ Capital Campaign Update** – As of this past Monday, we have \$2,9, in the bank with a remaining \$155,825 in pledges. So, with cash and pledges we have a total of \$3,???,???. Our goal is \$3,800,000 and we will borrow an additional \$200,000 if necessary. The campaign ends at the end of this calendar year. With God and you, **“all things are possible”**. Thanks so much for your sacrificial donation.

## March 19, 2023

### Collection totals from March 12

5:00 pm.....	\$2,646.00
8:00 am.....	\$1,469.00
10:30 am.....	\$1,815.00
12:30 pm.....	\$1,262.65
<b>Regular Total</b> .....	<b>\$7,192.65</b>

<b>Food Closet</b> .....	\$95.00
<b>Forward with Christ</b> .....	\$3,583.00

### Forward With Christ as of March 13

Total Funds in bank.....	\$2,907,695.74
Remaining Pledges.....	\$155,825.16
Total Cash & Pledges.....	\$3,063,520.90

### Accumulative Fiscal Year Collections As of March 13

Last Fiscal Year	This Fiscal Year
Regular \$255,379.09.....	\$260,782.15
Food Closet \$16,654.02.....	\$18,158.00

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**At home...** Lillian Alvey, Anna Eisele Singleton, Jessica Allison, Jessica Crosso, Andrew Gulley, Jackie Mejia, Angela Moreno, Alan Eisele, Marion Weber, Joan Chiodo, Jack Kelley, Ligaya Kates, Jeannine Dessert & healing for all ill. **Autumn Care...** Brenda Kelley. **Maple Leaf** Janet Morrison **Spring Arbor** Pat Reilly **Please pray for the intentions on Our Prayer Tree. To place a name on the Prayer Tree, please sign the Prayer Book in the Lobby.**



### Happy Birthday 3/20/2023 to 3/26/2023

3/21 Elizabeth Castaneda Hurtado, Michael DeBeradino, James Fierros, Matthew Flerra, Michael Flerra, Thomas McCoy, Garrison McGinn, Elias McMurry, Michael Rash, Emily Robinette 3/22 Bret Lund, Rosa Maria Noveron Rodriguez, Regina Pellegrino 3/23 Monica Cook, Patricia Reilly 3/24 Luis Alva, Barbara Bakowski 3/25 Catherine Moleta, Jack Smith 3/26 Ashley Gaspar, Anthony Petrozza, Braulio Pina Ferretiz

### Happy Anniversary 3/20/2023 to 3/26/2023

3/21 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce McGuire



## The Week Ahead

### Sunday March 19

Food pantry collection  
K of C selling raffle tickets  
5-7pm Youth group

### Thursday March 23

7pm Family Life Meeting

### Friday March 24

5:30-7pm Fish Fry  
6pm Stations in English  
7pm Stations in Spanish

### Sunday March 26

5pm Parish Potluck