

St Philip Parish & St Clare Mission

Roman Catholic Parish, Richmond, Ontario

Christmas 2023 & New Year 2024

Pastor: Father Bob Poole

Deacon Louis Seward

Website: www.stphilips-church.com

Email: WelcomeHome1819@gmail.com



St Clares Mission Est 1849

'A welcoming Catholic community seeking holiness in the Body of Christ'

Sunday Masses: St Philip: Saturday 4:30pm, Sunday 10:30am & 12:30 (Charismatic Mass) St Clare: Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses: Resume in the Fall

What's On Weekly—See Page 2

Fr Bob's Homilies: www.stphilips-church.com (right side of homepage under the 'Donate Now' button)

Register as a Parishioner: Fill out the form found at the church entrance and drop in collection basket.

Donation Envelopes & Pre-Authorized Payment Plan Forms: Help yourself – at the entrance of church

Fr Bob writes:

My own Advent preparations took an unexpected turn this year. As you know, I recently suffered a nasty dose of pneumonia, and spent 5 days in hospital. When I was eventually released, I felt quite wiped out, and it took me a further couple of weeks to begin to get my energy back. However, the enforced rest enabled me to reflect on the experience of Israel, as it awaited the coming of its longed-for Messiah, or Saviour. So much of this waiting time was spent under the thumb of cruel oppressors, first the Assyrians, then the Babylonians, then the Greeks and, during the time when Jesus walked the earth, the Roman Empire. Israel during this time was helpless to save itself from oppression and destruction, but, time and again, they experienced God coming to save them and deliver them from their enemies, from slavery, exile and slaughter.

All of these "deliverances " by God were the prelude to His ultimate saving intervention through His Son, Jesus Christ. The prophet Isaiah, in our first reading on Christmas Eve, prophesies what that would be like: ***"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, and on those who dwelt in the realm of night, light has dawned!"*** At long last, Israel would not have to fear the coming of the aggressor, bringing death, destruction and terror. Isaiah was prophesying that there would come to earth one whose advent they need not fear, because he came to save and not to condemn, to heal and not to destroy, to deliver and not to enslave. Jesus came to save us, above all from the consequences of our sin, namely death and hell. We were helpless to save ourselves, and God knew that, and sent in the fulness of time His Son, ***"not to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through him"*** (John 3:17).

And so, I lay on my hospital bed, totally unable to heal myself, but looking to the doctors and nurses to minister to me (I even had the joy of receiving the sacrament of the sick from the hospital chaplain, Fr Jonathan Kelly, when usually I have been the one to go into hospital to minister to the sick). In my helplessness and weakness, I was able to enter into the experience of Israel, awaiting the saving help of God, totally dependent on His power, and not their own to deliver them. And to give thanks that God did not leave us to perish, but sent his only Son, Jesus, to save us.

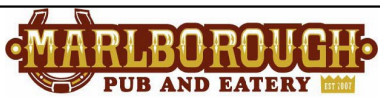
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS!!

Fr Bob
Deacon Louis
Lynn Lane



 Christmas Mass Schedule	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Regular Weekend Masses
	4:30pm—St Philip 7pm—St Clare 9pm—St Philip*	10:30am—St Philip	Regular schedule December 23-24 and December 30-31 (Sat at 4:30pm at St Philip & Sun 9am St Clares / 10:30am St Philips)
		New Years Day 10:30am—St Philip	

***Mass to be live-streamed.**



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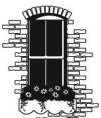
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Parish Life—Regular Activities

ST CLARES:

Pastoral Council—3rd Tuesday of month after 7pm Mass

Coffee Sunday—2nd Sunday of month.

CWL—every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm

ST PHILIPS:

Adult Ed/RCIA: Dcn Louis—444-1228

Adoration o/t Blessed Sacrament: Mondays, 2-6:45pm and
Thursdays, 3-6:45pm

Apostles Div Mercy: 2nd & 3rd Tues, 7:45pm. For location,
Contact Janet (44401228)

Bible Study: Resumes in the New Year

Coffee Sunday: Sundays weekly after 10:30am Mass, Hall

Euchre: Every 2nd Wed, 7pm in Hall: Dec 27. Jan 10 & 24

First Friday Mass: Watch this space for date to resume

Knights of Columbus—2nd Tues of mo-7:30 in Hall

Ladies Auxiliary: Wednesday Jan 17, 7 pm in Hall

Pastoral Council: 1st Tues of month, 8pm, Hall

Prayer Meeting—Every Thurs, 7:30pm, St Philips Hall

Rosary: St Philips, 4:10pm (before 4:30pm Saturday mass)
& 10:10 (before 10:30am Sunday Mass)

St Vincent de Paul—3rd Wednesday of the Month (Rectorry)

Temporal Affairs Cnc'l: 4th Tues of the month, 7pm, Hall

Announced Masses—December

Saturday, 4:30 at St. Philip

Dec 16-Mem of Robert & Lily Bradshaw by David & Elizabeth Vickers

Dec 23-Mem of Len & Marjory Vickers by David & Elizabeth Vickers

Dec 30-Mem of Diane MacKey & Anne Reilley by Rosemary Logan

Jan 6-In Memory of Diane MacKay by David & Elizabeth Vickers

Sunday, 9 am at St. Clares Mission

Dec 17-In memory of Bernie St John by Georgette & family

Dec 24-In memory of David Hamilton by Reta Hamilton

Sunday, 10:30 am at St. Philip Parish

Dec 17-In mem of Michael Evans by John & Birgit Evans

Dec 24-In mem of Jacques Bergeron, requested by Rosemary Logan

Dec 31-In mem of Frances Hughes by Desmond Kavanagh

Christmas Masses

Dec 24, 4:30-IMO Fr Michael Gillissie & Deceased family members

Dec 24, 7pm-IMO Marion & Jayden Dowdall & O'Connor family

Dec 24, 9pm-In memory of Stewart Logan by Rosemary Logan

Dec 25-For the intentions of parishioners

New Years Day

January 1-For the intentions of parishioners

Catechism Corner

Was Mary only an instrument of God? Mary was more than a merely passive instrument of God. The Incarnation of God took place through her active consent as well. When the angel told her that she would bear "the Son of God", Mary replied, "Let it be to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38). The redemption of mankind by Jesus Christ thus begins with a request by God and the free consent of a human being and a pregnancy before Mary was married to Joseph. By such an unusual path Mary became for us the "Gate of Salvation". Dig Deeper: CCC section (493-511) and other references [here](#).

Why is Mary our mother also? Mary is our mother because Christ the Lord gave her to us as a mother. "Woman, behold, your son! ... Behold, your mother!" (Jn 19:26b-27a). The second command, which Jesus spoke from the Cross to John, has always been understood by the Church as an act of entrusting the whole Church to Mary. Thus Mary is our mother, too. We may call upon her and ask her to intercede with God. (YOUCAT questions 84-85). Dig Deeper: CCC section (493-511) and other references [here](#).

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

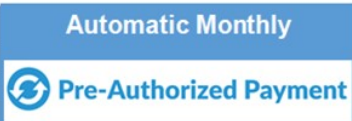


Please Consider Donating



Set up an E-Transfer from your bank and email to us at: WelcomeHome1819@gmail.com

Please ensure you include your full name and mailing address, and your parish 'Donation Box Number' (if you have one). You will receive a tax receipt from the parish in February next year.



Flexible and easy to set up—helps provide predictability and reliability to the parish finances. You can start or end anytime you wish. Wish to enroll? Download [form HERE](#) and email to the office with a photo of a void cheque. You will receive a tax receipt from the parish next February.



Click [HERE](#) to be sent to the CanadaHelps.org website to make your secure donation. CanadaHelps.org will send us your donation (less 4% service fee) and they will issue you an immediate tax receipt by email.



Donate by Cash of Cheque—donations in numbered envelopes (or in an envelope with your name & address) can be dropped in the collection plate. OR cheques can be mailed to the office.

Why is it important to support the parishes financially?

Just like any other charity or non-profit organization, it costs money to keep St. Philip Parish and St. Clare Mission afloat. For example, the annual operating expenditure budget of St. Philip Parish is approximately \$155,000, which goes towards paying for the following items:

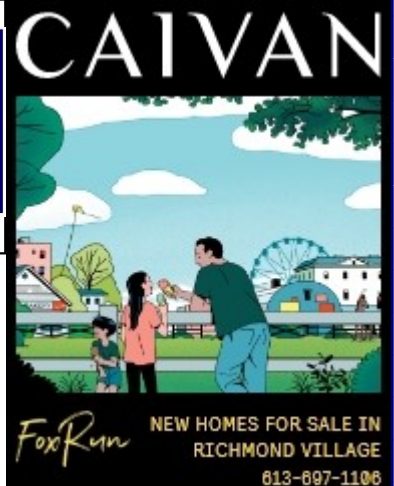
- Paying for the parish priest, the parish office administrator, replacement priests to say Mass and the parish bookkeeper;
- Diocesan tax on parish revenues (donations);
- Utilities (heat, hydro, water, sewer, utilities, etc.)
- Repairs and maintenance on St. Philip Church, the Parish Hall, and other buildings and grounds;
- Office expenses; and,
- Pastoral expenses.

In addition, St. Philip Parish also spends about \$10,000-\$20,000 per year on major projects and renovations to replace and/or renovate the parish buildings and other items within the parish.

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Parish News

ST PHILIP—ST CLARE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE You can find the schedule on the front of this bulletin, or see it online: www.stphilips-church.com

LOOKING FOR A MIDNIGHT MASS?

While we won't be having Midnight Mass at St Philips or St Clares, Holy Redeemer parish will have a midnight Mass (with incense) which you are most welcome to attend. They will also be livestreaming Masses here: <https://holyredeemer.ca/livestream>. St Philips will be live-streaming our 9pm Mass on Christmas Eve ... here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/@stphilipparish_stclaremission/streams

COME CELEBRATE DEACON LOUIS' BIRTHDAY!

All are invited to celebrate Deacon Louis' birthday. Come and wish him well on Saturday December 30th from 2-4pm in St Philips hall. No RSVP needed ... all welcome

LECTOR AND EUCHARISTIC TRAINING / REFRESHER SESSION for new and current volunteers will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, 7:00 pm in the Church. For further information contact Christina Murdock at tandemurdock@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before Saturday evening Mass on Sat Dec 23rd from 3:30 - 4:15pm with Fr Bill Penney.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITY RAFFLE

Tickets are now available from Peter Moore (613-762-5060) or John Evans (613-558-9620). This Raffle is a major fundraiser in our parish community with all proceeds donated to the Richmond Food Bank (50%) and our two churches (St. Philip and St. Clare - 50% shared).

FAMILY FUN BINGO NIGHT

Ladies Auxillary will be serving up Lasagna and Bingo in the Parish Hall. Cost is 10.00/person, maximum 30/family. Tickets available until January 10th, after masses on the last weekend of December and the first weekend of January. E-transfer payments can be made to stphilipslad-iesaux@gmail.com. For more information contact Veronica Gervais at 613- 791-2723.

MONDAYS & TUESDAY EVENING MASSES will resume again in the new year; watch bulletin for 'start date.'

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES IN THE NEW YEAR

Details will be announced at a future time.

2024 NUMBERED DONATION BOXES

You can pick up your 2024 box at the entry of the church.

LIVE-STREAMING MASSES CONTINUES

Watch at www.stphilips-church.com, or go to https://www.youtube.com/@stphilipparish_stclaremission/streams or click [this link](#). Many thanks to our faithful volunteers!

BRIDGE CLUB St Andrew's Presbyterian is interested in forming a bridge club. The club would start in the new year, on an afternoon in the hall at St Andrew's. There would be a minimal charge to play and refreshments could be arranged. If you are interested, please phone Sharon at 613-838-3723.

NEXT BULLETIN—Sunday January 14th.

Parish Directory :

Pastor: Fr. Bob Poole - 613-838-2314
Deacon: Den Louis Seward— 444-1228
Office Administrator: Lynn Lane 613-838-2314
Address: 127 Burke St., P.O.Box 59, Richmond, On, K0A 2Z0
Phone: 613-838-2314 **Fax:** 613-838-3985
Email: WelcomeHome1819@gmail.com
Website: www.stphilips-church.com
Office Hours: Virtual Tues & Thurs – 9am-1:30pm. Wed: In Person 9-1
Bulletin Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon
Hall Rentals: Office (613-838-2314)
Parish Schools: St. Philips Catholic School – 613-838-2466
Sacred Heart High School (Stittsville) - 613-831-6643
Baptisms: Third Sunday of the month (3pm); Baptismal preparation required. Contact office 8 weeks in advance.
Marriages: Contact office at least 6 months in advance of desired date
Reconciliation: First Fridays 7-8pm; OR
By appointment – call the office (613-838-2314)
Confirmation/1st Communion – Next Enrollment is September 2024
Sacrament o/t Sick-on request,&after every Mass on last wkend of month

GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

The Ladies Auxiliary will be raffling several Christmas Gift Baskets, full of goodies for all. First prize is value \$300. Tickets can be bought at the back of church after each mass add or by contacting Mary roosenmb@xplornet.ca. Tickets: \$0.99 each or 6/\$5.00. The draw will take place Dec 17th at the Knights of Columbus luncheon with Santa.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a food drive this Christmas season. Food collection bins will be placed at the entrances of each church. Non perishable food and hygiene products are welcome. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please mail your cheque directly to the Richmond food bank. Please do not put your monetary donations in with the weekly collections.

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Please pray for Gerry vanGall, Fr Bob Poole, Cecilia, Rosie, Mavis Lewis, Sheldon Seward, Kathleen Crozier, Glenna Leighton, Melissa Doyle, Mary Fitzpatrick, Krista Van Gaal, Elizabeth Vickers, Heather Murphy, MJ Wilson, Tracy Haddad, Samson Purdy, Ray Lalonde, Theresa Slattery, Alfie Kavanagh, Robert Braund, John Pybus, Michael Lawless, Suzanne Denis, Joyce Cook, Elizabeth vanGalder, Karen McCarthy, Doris Calagoure, Lorraine Wannamaker, Amber Williamson, healthcare workers, those affected by COVID, those who are isolated and all who mourn. God bless them & families with peace, joy, strength. St Joseph, Hope of the Sick, Patron of the Dying, intercede for us.

‘PARISH NEWS’ EMAIL BULLETIN

Available each Thursday by email. Contains a link to the bulletin and breaking news. if you wish to receive this newsletter in the new year, email us at welcomehome1819@gmail.com.

OFFICE REOPENS WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10

The office is now closed and will reopen Wednesday January 10th. Regular office hours are from 9am to 1:30pm on Tuesdays (virtual), Wednesday (in person) and Thursdays (virtual).

ARCHBISHOP’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

can be found here: <https://ottawacornwall.ca/news/christmas-message-from-archbishop-damphousse/>



Ministries:

St Philip Ministries:

Pastoral Council-Fr Bob Poole	838-2314
Temporal Affairs– Deacon Louis Seward	444-1228
Children’s Liturgy – Tina Sul	301-1585
Sacristans – Betty Dolan	838-3181
Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers– Christina Murdock	324-3287
Ladies Auxiliary – Sharon Crossan	790-7720
Knights of Columbus – John Evans	jte65@outlook.com
Cemetery – Brian Goss	838-4269
St Vincent de Paul - David Vickers	838-2314
Coffee Sunday—Veronica Gervais	791-2723
Live-Stream—Patrick McIver	

St Clare Ministries:

Pastoral Council Ryan O’Connor	Ryan@unreserved.com
Finance Chair – Anastasia Bowles	257-8249
Lectors, Sacristans – Ada Gorrie	838-2490
Cemetery – Jerome O’Connor	838-2704
CWL-Ada Gorrie(838-2490) / Tilly O’Connor	838-5103