



**The Roman Catholic Parish
of St. Vincent de Paul**
250 Bebout Avenue
Stirling, New Jersey 07980
Phone: (908) 647-0118 Fax: (908) 647-5992

**We are a Catholic community
rooted in the Eucharist
and committed to the poor.**

Parish Office—908-647-0118
In an emergency call
973-222-0720

Parish website:
stvincentschurch.org
Parish email:
parish@stvdvp.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. A. Richard Carton, Pastor
frrichardcarton@stvdvp.org

Fr. William (Bill) Mooney
Weekend Assistant

Elena Bird Zolnick Director of
Sacred Music 907-953-0128
elenatbird@gmail.com

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908-647-4926

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Sr. Elsa Jeronimo, C.S.J.B.
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908-647-7258 pjoneill@att.net

Parish Trustees
Alan Tangreti and Timothy Wallisch

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Vera Castagna
Parish Secretary

Maria DeLuca
Religious Formation Secretary

Teri Kesselmeyer
Technology and Communications

Mary Woods
Parish Finance Coordinator



**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO TRAVELED FROM HERE
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2017 RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH**

"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect." Pope Francis

Sunday Mass Schedule

(Vigil Mass)
Saturday —5:00PM

Sunday
8:30AM, 10:30AM
and 6:00PM

Confession: Saturday at 4PM
or other days by appointment.

Weekday Mass Schedule

8:30AM Monday-Saturday

**"It would be easier for the
world to survive without the
sun than to do so without the
Holy Mass."**

St. Padre Pio

SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT**The weekend of January 28th and 29th**

Total amount in envelopes: \$9,553

Loose: \$2,348

Online Parish Pay \$2,217

Total Offered: \$14,118

Parish Debt Reduction: \$3,121

"It is not how much we give but how much love we put into giving." St. Teresa of Calcutta**Daily Mass Readings****Monday**

Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday

Gn 1:20—2:4a; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday

Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30

Friday

Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday

Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10

**SUPPORT THE CHURCH IN
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

This week our **second collection** will be for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation helps restore the Church and build the future in 20 countries, many of which still struggle to recover in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Funds from this collection help support reconstruction, education, formation and poverty outreach. For more information please visit www.usccb.org/ccee. Thank you for your generosity.

*Be rich in good works. 1 Timothy 6:18***MASS INTENTIONS****MONDAY****February 6th****Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs****8:30AM**Richard Garno
Arthur Del Pomo
Anthony LaRezza**TUESDAY****February 7th****8:30AM**Ellie Alber (*Living*)
Juan Carlos Cruz
Sigrid Novak**WEDNESDAY****February 8th****Saint Jerome Emiliani,
Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin****8:30AM**Marie Sara
Mario J. Lamia
Juan Carlos Cruz**THURSDAY****February 9th****8:30AM**Deacon Bill Wagner
Lena and Duke Dorsi
Francesca Petruso**FRIDAY****February 10th****Saint Scholastica, Virgin****8:30AM**Helena Rohal (*Living*)
Maureen Palamaro
Robert Tucker**SATURDAY****February 11th****Our Lady of Lourdes****8:30AM**Donald Courter
Richard Higgins
Edward DeFabio**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time****5:00PM (Vigil)** Anne Musso

Carol Nelson

Deceased members of the Norton Family

SUNDAY**February 12th****8:30AM**John McMonagle
Deacon Bill Wagner
Gretchen Dolman**10:30AM**Lena and Duke Dorsi
Rita and Michael Pavlo
Liberatia and Francesco Salvati**6:00PM**People of the Parish
Frank Sama

Deceased members of the Sheedy Family

To Be One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic: The Mission of Christ's Church

"This is the sole Church of Christ, which in the Creed we profess to be **one, holy, catholic** and **apostolic**. These four characteristics, inseparably linked with each other, indicate essential features of the Church and her mission. The Church does not possess them of herself; it is Christ who, through the Holy Spirit, makes his Church **one, holy, catholic**, and **apostolic**, and it is he who calls her to realize each of these qualities" *Catechism of the Catholic Church* no. 811.

Catholic means "**universal**." The Church is universal in two ways. First, the Church is universal because all baptized people are part of the Church and the Church possesses the means of salvation. Second, the mission of the Church is universal because the Church has been sent to proclaim Christ to the entire human race. In that sense the Church has no borders and has been commissioned to go to every place in the world to proclaim Jesus as Lord. As Catholics we do not do this just in words but in deeds. In essence, drawing others to Jesus has been the mission of evangelization. This is not simply a matter of speaking words but of putting the teachings of Jesus into practice. The central command of Jesus is love and the Church, by virtue of that command, is commissioned to bring Christ's love to the world through action.

Much has been going on in our nation this week. Much has been going on in other nations this week. Much has been going on in the Church this week. It will continue next week. The question is what has been attracting our attention, thoughts, directing our conversation and actions. There are many strong opinions and depending on which news outlet you subscribe to absolute opposites in news stories are reported to us. In the midst of all the politicking I received a letter from Sean Callahan the President and CEO of Catholic Relief Services. It reminded me that while much is swirling in the news and across the nation there are people whose lives are in peril and that organizations such as Catholic Relief Services are 'on the ground' to bring assistance, relief and humanitarian aid to those in great need. In his letter Sean wrote: "Over the years, I've met countless Syrian refugees and heard their stories. I've looked into their eyes, held their children, talked to mothers and fathers as they described the lives they had before the war—and after they were forced to flee. I've seen fear of what they left behind changed to hope for tomorrow. And I've seen how people like you have responded to this crisis of violent conflict for nearly 6 years—reaching out to fleeing refugees, and providing food, shelter, living supplies and trauma counseling. The war in Syria has killed more than 400,000 people, and has uprooted more than 11 million—half of them children. What do I tell children like Liane and her mother, Fadia, who fled Syria just over 3 years ago? I tell them that there are people like you. I tell them that people in the United States care about them. That there are women and men who practice living God's love, extending the hands and feet of Christ to the most vulnerable."

Politicians will do what they do. As Christians we must do what Christ has called us to do. First, pray for those in elected office that they will draw from God's wisdom in making good decisions. "The more prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent they are able, to welcome the foreigner in search of the security and the means of livelihood which he cannot find in his country of origin. Public authorities should see to it that the natural right is respected that places a guest under the protection of those who receive him. Political authorities, for the sake of the common good for which they are responsible, may make the exercise of the right to immigrate subject to various juridical conditions, especially with regard to the immigrants' duties toward their country of adoption. Immigrants are obliged to respect with gratitude the material and spiritual heritage of the country that receives them, to obey its laws and to assist in carrying civic burdens." *Catechism of the Catholic Church* no. 2241. While the political process unfolds there has been a call to allow for better vetting procedures so that citizens here may be safer. This is the responsibility of the government to protect the citizens of a nation. Hopefully once this review is completed, refugees fleeing their home countries for their life may begin anew. America must continue to be a land that welcomes all people yearning to breathe free. Second, we, the Church, are universal and so is the aid we can offer those in great need. Consider a donation to Catholic Relief Services at CRS.org or Catholic Relief Services, 228 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3443 who, as part of the Universal Church, work with local Catholic institutions around the world. As a Catholic agency CRS provides assistance to people in need in 101 countries without regard to race, religion or nationality. Pray for those who live in fear and have been displaced from their homeland. There is always something that we as Christians can and must do.

Peace,

Fr. Richard

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**Those who serve in the military:**

Nick Ragazzo, Stephen J. Campbell, Sean Milde, Frank Fasano, Marcia Fernandes, Richard Lister, Eric Leverone, Jay Donato, Frank Messina, Eileen Murphy, Peter Giovanni, John E. Siedler IV, and Alex Slevens.

Those who are ill:

May Hill, Cesare Passarelli, Sal Cerami, Caitlin and Kevin Shea, Bill Wallisch, Helen Marie Kravitz, Linda Russell, Larry and Aileen Oster, Nanci Gamba, Elizabeth Early, Serenity Rose Apuzzo, George Thoms, Richard Sherer, Maple Young, Helen Munro, Larry Hebert, Lou Aroneo, Msgr. Patrick Brown, Mary Keller, Dorothy Paul, George Armenti III, MaryAnn Paster, Anne Galdieri, Terry McCloskey, Patricia Caruso-Minicozzi, Pat Moran and Eric Binner.

Those who have died to this world**Requiescat in Pace**

May all the faithful who have departed this world rest in your eternal peace. Amen

2018 MASS BOOK

The Mass Book for 2018 is now available for your Mass intentions. Please call or visit the Parish office to request dates and times for your intentions. You can also email Vera at vcastagna@stvdpc.org with your requests.

HAVE YOU BEEN ASKED TO BE A GODPARENT?

Parishes require certificates of sponsorship for Godparents and Confirmation Sponsors. Upon request, a Certificate of Eligibility will be issued only to those who are Confirmed Catholics, registered in our Parish, regular participants at Mass, and validly married in the Church (if applicable).

It is difficult to have to refuse anyone but it has had to be done at times. You should be registered with the Parish at least 6 months before we can issue you a certificate to become a Godparent or Sponsor.

It is a privilege to be asked to take on this responsibility and to participate in the sacramental life of the Church.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20**

This passage from Sirach gives strong, unequivocal emphasis to free will in every person. Before each of us is set, sin or virtue, life or death, and each of us are free to choose the one or the other.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Paul explains to the Corinthians that there are two different kinds of wisdom — the wisdom of God and the wisdom of the world. The wisdom of God is mysterious, but this wisdom has been revealed “to those who love him” through the Spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus tells the people he has come to fulfill the law. He speaks strongly against murder and anger, against adultery and lust, and against false oaths and lies. He warns the people that unless their virtue exceeds that of the Pharisees, they “will not enter the kingdom of God.”

GETTING READY FOR SUNDAY

Join Fr. Richard for a deeper insight into the Scriptures for Sunday Mass. Let the texts come alive for you by gaining an understanding of their context and the culture within which they were written.

Discussions are on-going every Thursday at 2pm to 3:30 pm and repeated at 7:30pm to 9pm in the Pastoral Center Library.

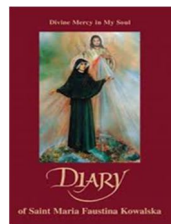
FAITH FORMATION 1st-8th GRADES

It is time to sign up for the “Divine Mercy” Family Faith Session. There are two Sunday sessions to choose from:

Sunday, March 19th or March 26th at 10:20am-1:30pm (Mass and lunch included)

Go to www.stvincentschurch.org, Faith Formation link, Family Faith RSVP link to sign up.

Come gather as a family and with members of our faith community to learn about and discuss the main theme from the Diary of St. Faustina. This book brings to light the beautiful and urgent message Jesus wants to spread to the world; that of his unfathomable divine mercy. The time is now for powerful and amazing graces to be poured out to the world through the image, prayers and works of Divine Mercy.



BOOK CLUB SERIES WITH SR. ELSA



Mondays from 9:15am to 10:45am join Sr. Elsa's **Book Club** series in the Pastoral Center Library. Come and participate with Sr. Elsa as she leads the discussion from *Praying with Women of the Bible* featuring women from the Old and New Testament. Every Monday a different woman from the Bible is discussed utilizing scripture, prayer and addressing questions from our own lives.

THE STORY OF DIVINE MERCY

A DVD series by Fr. Michael Gaitley is presented on **Sundays** in the Library following each Mass. Coffee, tea and pastries are served. Come and enjoy fellowship and then watch the amazing **story of Divine Mercy** unfold through the dramatic history of Poland, the messages of St. Faustina, the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima and the powerful witness of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Also, join Sr. Krystyna as she leads the discussion on a **"Quick Journey Through the Bible"** on **Wednesdays at 9:30am to 11am** in the Library in the Pastoral Center.



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY



The next meeting of the Rosary Altar Society will take place on **Monday, February 6**. The Rosary will be prayed in the Chapel at 7:00 pm followed by our meeting and refreshments at 7:30pm. New members are always welcome!

PARISH PLAYGROUP

The next gathering of our Parish Playgroup will be Wednesday, February 8th in the Pre K room in the Pastoral Center. All new Moms and tots are welcome. We meet from 9:15am to 10:30am the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. If you are able, join us at 8:30 Mass beforehand. For more information contact Josephine Costanzo at j_gro4@hotmail.com or Lindsay Schlegel at Lindsay.schlegel@gmail.com

Valentine's Day Service TNL!

**February 14, 2017
7 - 8:30pm**

**BOLD will be hosting a
Valentine's Day party for
the seniors at Lounsberry
Meadow. Come join us!**

**We will meet at
Lounsberry Meadow at 7pm.
1449 Valley Rd, Stirling**

Sign up online: boldym.com/svdp/signup

Questions? Amilee Beer
(908) 295-8104
stvincent@boldym.com

BRIDGES RUN

Our first **Bridges Run** to New York City will be **Friday, February 10th**. Please consider donating needed supplies by visiting www.perfectpotluck.com



Coordinator: Garcia Password: 2323

As of now Bridges is in need of clothing for **men only**. Beginning in March they will resume collecting seasonal clothing for women and men.

MOMS GROUP MEETING

Our monthly meeting will be Tuesday, **February 7th from 7:30pm to 9:00pm** in the Library in the Pastoral Center. Please join us for an inspiring presentation by Cindy Costello entitled "Parenting Through the Eyes of Faith." Cindy will offer ways to prioritize your activities so that faith in God leads to a happy family life. Contact Danielle Grieco for further information dgrieco7@verizon.net.

Speaking of Faith

Christopher Bell, the founder of Good Counsel and innovator in creating supportive residential care and services for homeless, expectant and new mothers and their children will speak at St. Paul Inside the Walls on **February 22nd at 7:30pm**. To register visit insidethewalls.org.

THE BRIDGE ACT

The **BRIDGE ACT** was introduced in Congress as a bipartisan effort to sustain the temporary relief from deportation and employment eligibility offered to youth through the Dept. of Homeland Security's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. The **BRIDGE ACT** allows young people who came to the United States as children to maintain their eligibility to work and live in the U.S. without fear of deportation and family separation so long as they meet certain requirements, such as showing a commitment to education or honorable service in our military and having no history of serious crime. As Catholics we believe in protecting the dignity of every human being, especially that of our children.

Please act! Ask Senators Booker and Mendez and Representative Lance to support and co-sponsor the **BRIDGE ACT** by sending this message:

Dear Senator/ Representative:

*As a Catholic, I write to express my support for the "Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our Economy Act" S.128/H.R.496. The **BRIDGE ACT** protects the dignity of DACA eligible youth ensuring that they can continue to live their lives free of the anxiety that they can be deported at any time to a country they do not know and separated from their families. I urge you to support and co-sponsor the **BRIDGE ACT**(S.128/H.R.496) and continue to work towards larger legislative reform of our immigration laws.*

Then sign your name and be a blessing to another.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP



The **Journey After the Death of a Loved One** is the theme of the support group offered by the

Bereavement Ministry of the

Church of the Little Flower in Berkeley Heights. Sessions start on **Tuesday, February 7th from 1pm to 2:30pm and run for eight Tuesdays through March 28th.** Registration is necessary

For more information contact Maria at bereavement.lf@gmail.com or by calling 908-464-1585. Whether your loss occurred a week ago or ten years ago, this is a valuable opportunity to those still in need of healing.

VOTIVE CANDLE OFFERINGS



If you would like to have a candle lit in remembrance of a loved one before the statue of the Blessed Mother and/or St. Joseph please call the parish office to choose a date. Candles are lit for one week at a time. This is a beautiful way to memorialize a loved one .

COUPLE S RETREAT

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer, Watchung will offer a **Valentine's Couple Retreat: A Special Evening for Married Couples on Tuesday February 14 from 5:30pm to 9pm.** The evening will include supper, presentation, prayer and sharing and will conclude with the renewal of marriage vows at Mass. The donation is \$80 a couple. Registration is required by calling 908-753-2091 or email msmhope@msmhope.org

2017 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE



The Archdiocese of Newark is hosting a Catholic Men's Conference at Seton Hall University on **Saturday, March 4th from 8:00AM to 4:30PM.** The theme of the conference is: Be Not Afraid...Becoming Missionary Disciples. The guest speaker will be

Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston and Joe Lombardi, Jr., coach for the New Orleans Saints. Cardinal Joseph Tobin will be the main celebrant at Mass. Register online at www.NJCatholicMen.org.

ENDOWMENT FUND FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The Endowment Fund is available to registered, contributing and active parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Parish who have or who intend to enroll a child or their children in a local Catholic Grade School. The Fund provides for the out of parish differential for each student and also provides Tuition Assistance to those with demonstrated need. Application for the Fund may be obtained by contacting Vera at the Parish House. The completed forms should be returned to the Parish House by Monday, March 20th. Thank you to all who have contributed to this Fund in the past to assist in providing a Catholic education to children in our parish.