

April 19, 2020

Divine Mercy Sunday



Issue Five



St. Virgil's Parish

New Contact Info >>>

Parish Office: 973-538-1418 or 862-242-6961
 Fr. Michal (direct) 862-242-6374
 Parish Email: svparishoffice@gmail.com
 Fr. Michal's Email: fr.falgowski@gmail.com
 Fr. Babu's Email: babuthelappilly@yahoo.com
 Deacon Merle: deaconmerle@yahoo.com
 Deacon Rich: deaconrpinto@verizon.net
 Youth Ministry: mansersvym@gmail.com
 PREP K-4: tonini.svprep@gmail.com
 rangel.svprep@gmail.com
 PREP 5-8: Valerie.svprep@gmail.com

Our Weekly Newsletter for our Parish Family

Worship Aid for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19, 2020

Our worship aid is available for you to use during the live-stream of our Sunday Mass at 10:30am. Ctrl + Click the link to access the page:

<..\Downloads\2ndEasterSundayWorshipAid.pdf>



Please remember in your prayers in a very special way, our first responders and those who are now serving on the "front line". Words cannot express how grateful we are for everything that they are doing for us. The support and strength amid these difficult and uncertain times gives us proof that the angels are working among us!

We offer our prayerful condolences to the family and friends of **Mary Grant** and **Cathy Buhler** who were called home to the Lord this week. We pray that **Mary** & **Cathy** rest peacefully with our Lord.



Please remember in your prayers:

Tom Egan, Josephine Carvagno, Colby Douglas, Timmy O'Shea, Deacon Victor Lupi, Deacon Alan Lucibello, Bill Warrick, Tony Loughlin, Florence Luckey, Rosemary Paulison, Jackie Donnelley, Judy Taylor Mary Eileen & Douglas Prinszano, Jacqueline Paw, Veronica Kelly, Baby Akeen Butchko, Mary Beth Jensen, Colleen Dillon & Family, Mary Maffeo, Marie E.Logan, Mallory Miller, Rose Marie Warrick, Sandra Buck, Margaret Ellis, John & Elizabeth Zisa, Daniella, Anne Benson, Bob Taylor, Kamasha Redhead, Miah Tully, Barabara Bock, Baby Emma Scannelli, Stephen Burke, Eileen Lagan, and Teresa Procopio.

Mass Intentions for this Week >>>

Sun., April 19	Frank Landi
Mon. April 20	Janet Dittrich Rita Murphy Bridget, Joseph, Anthony & Mary Haugh Anthony Cosenza Ann Marie Lagan
Tues., April 21	Anna Stearle
Wed., April 22	Helene Hallett—15 years Ines D. Bernardo
Thurs. Apr. 23	Tom Kleso
Fri., Apr. 24	Orlando & Ameila Biagi
Sat., Apr. 25	In Thanksgiving from the Bernardo Family John Courtet—24 th Anniversary John Keating Johanna Eckardt



Please pray for all those who serve in defense of our Country, both at home and abroad, especially:

The deployed airmen of the 914 Air Refueling Wing

<i>SSGT Blake Reidinger</i>	<i>PO2 Timothy Butchko</i>
<i>LT Patrick Leahey MJR</i>	<i>Stephanie Sittmann</i>
<i>LCDR Daniel M. Leahey</i>	<i>SSGT Thomas Suttman</i>
<i>LT Mark C. Leahey</i>	<i>SSGT Eric Wright</i>
<i>LT Kian Federick Stewart</i>	<i>2LT Ryan Feeney</i>
<i>DCI Alexander V. Fernandez</i>	<i>LT Mark Van Ordan</i>
<i>CPL Irvin Carithers</i>	<i>LTR Andrew McGuinness</i>
<i>MJR Gary Windt</i>	<i>MSGT T.J. Hopkins</i>
<i>LT Kelsey Bergh</i>	<i>LT Tyler Huhn</i>

Pope Francis names new Bishop for Paterson

The Holy See announced on Wednesday that Father Kevin J. Sweeney, a priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn, has been named as the new Bishop of Paterson, New Jersey. He succeeds Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, whose resignation has been accepted by Pope Francis.



Fr. Sweeney has been serving as Vicar Forane of Brooklyn & Deanery, and Pastor of St. Michael Parish in Brooklyn.

Fr. Sweeney was born in 1970 in Elmhurst, Queens, in the Diocese of Brooklyn. He attended Cathedral Preparatory Seminary High School and Cathedral Seminary Residence in Douglaston, and obtained in Bachelors degree at St. John's University in Queens. He completed his ecclesiastical studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington, NY. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Brooklyn in 1977.

Since his ordination Fr. Sweeney has undertaken assignments including Parochial Vicar at 2 parishes in the Diocese of Brooklyn, served as Coordinator of the Apostolate for the Irish, Director of the Office of Vocations, Chaplain at Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School; Administrator then Pastor of St. Michael Parish in Brooklyn as well as Spiritual Director of the of the Presbyteral Council; Priest Personnel Assignment Board, Seminary Admission Board and Brooklyn & Deanery Vicar and Representative of the Vocations Office.

We look forward to Bishop-Elect Sweeney's arrival in the Diocese of Paterson.



To help our parish continue the necessary upkeep and pay recurring expenses, we ask that you continue to donate to St. Virgil's during this unprecedented and uncertain time. This is not a request to give more; rather it is to simply change how you give to ensure St. Virgil Parish continues to receive the weekly income which we much rely on. Since we cannot physically put envelopes

in the collection baskets, you can drop off your donations or mail them to the parish office. We ask you to please consider using Faith Direct. Faith Direct is an online giving service where you can donate the amount you currently give each Sunday through an online medium.

Regardless of the method you choose, we would very much appreciate your continued generous support. There are two links on the parish website if you'd like to set up a one-time donation through Faith Direct or one to sign up for online giving. If you have any questions regarding the Faith Direct process, please feel free to call the parish office to discuss your options.

As the COVID-19 Pandemic continues and quarantine is extended, we will continue to work tirelessly to stay connected with all of our Parish Family. We are currently trying to enhance the new camera/sound systems to offer better, more reliable live-stream (please be patient: it's work-in-progress for many of us "non-techies".) The parish facilities will still need upkeep and maintenance and the salaries need to be paid.

Virtual Faith Sharing

Last week our Lenten study group, "Boundless Compassion" completed their study. They started as a "Monday Night Meeting Group," but ended up completing the course through conference call.

They are planning a new 4-week session (conference call style) to begin within the next two or three weeks. They will be discussing best-selling author Margaret Silf's book, "The Other Side of Chaos" – a book about the subject of chaos and the intrinsic transition it brings through the lens of Christian spirituality. Through Scripture stories and verses, personal accounts and other anecdotes, Silf helps us develop an authentic "Spirituality of transition" that allows us to live out life's changes constructively, creatively and confidently.

If you're interested in joining this group discussion, get in touch with Carole White-Connor by Tuesday, August 24, at her cell: 201-213-0038, or email carolewc44@verizon.net. Books can be ordered online. It is available in print and on Kindle.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Live Streamed on our website at
www.stvirgilparish.org

10:30am

Readings for the Week

Sunday
Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31
Monday
Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday
Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday
Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday
Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36
Friday
Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday
1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

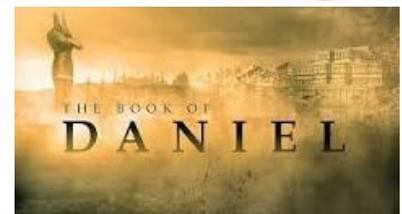


Saint Faustina Kowalska was born in 1905 to a devout but poor family in Poland. Jesus guided her to a religious vocation, and she entered the convent as a young woman.

In early 1931, Jesus appeared to her and told her that she would be His special messenger to remind the world of His Divine Mercy. He also informed her that the first Sunday after Easter would become the "Feast of Mercy," now known as Divine Mercy Sunday. St. Faustina died at age 33 and was canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000.

To pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on this special day, follow (Ctrl + Click) to follow the link: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>.

For this Novena and host of other Catholic Novenas go to: www.pray.com or download the App Pray Catholic Novenas to your mobile device.



We will be starting our new Bible Study in 3 weeks. We will be looking at the *Book of Daniel*, meeting by phone conference. We are using a workbook study, which doesn't have any videos. Daniel is a prophet whose visions give the details and timeline of the Jewish covenant up till the beginning of Jesus' initiation of God's Kingdom in this world. The prophecies have already been proven in our history. His timeline is 'fleshed out' in our current study of Revelation. Anyone interested in joining can call the Parish or contact Philip Alcock at 973-538-6045 or email at Philipalcock1@Verizon.net

Evangelization Corner

Confirmation continued.

During the first several centuries of Church history most of those who joined the church were adults. The baptism of these adults and the ceremony admitting them to the full rights of membership (equivalent to, but not yet called, confirmation) were conferred together. While the ritual of Confirmation existed from the beginning of the early Church, it did not surface as a ritual separate from Baptism until the fourth century.

Through the centuries the chronological separation between Baptism and Confirmation grew more distinct.

The fourth century, following the Roman Emperor Constantine's decree that Christianity was the state religion, the Church witnessed an increase in the number of people who were being baptized. This growth made it impossible for bishops to travel and continue to preside over every Baptism. Therefore, the bishops decided to delegate Baptism to priests, but retained the function of performing the initial anointing and laying on of hands for themselves. They would perform this rite whenever they visited a particular locality.

From the fifth century onward, as a result of Augustine's teachings on original sin, the focus of the Church was on the need for the forgiveness of original sin because more infants were being brought into the faith. As a result, a greater distinction between Baptism and Confirmation evolved. The anointing and imposition of hands associated with the calling down of the Holy Spirit on the Baptized person remained the prerogative of the bishops.

During the Middle Ages it became the practice to confirm one close to adolescence instead of infancy therefore the period between Baptism and Confirmation became further separated. At the same time, theologians began to teach that Confirmation was the sacrament of maturity. Those who received it were regarded as old enough and ready to live active, responsible Christian lives in the spirit of God and need the strengthening of the sacrament.

Over the centuries the Sacraments of Initiation for children have varied in their order of administration. While Baptism has always occurred in infancy, the ages

for Confirmation and First Holy Communion have varied depending upon the opinion of the reigning Pope.

Convinced that children could greatly benefit from receiving the Eucharist, Pope Saint Pius X in 1910 issued the decree *Quam singulari*, lowering the age for First Holy Communion to seven. Infants and children who have not made a personal commitment to Christ and the Church, would then be confirmed when they are able to make this personal commitment.

For adults entering the Church through RCIA, Confirmation is still performed along with Baptism and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. We will cover this in more detail next week.



May the Lord's peace be with you always!

Evangelization Ministry

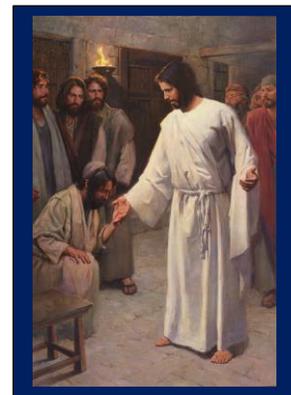
Weekly Reflection

Divine Mercy Sunday

Old Testament: Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 118
New Testament: John 20:19-31

This is Divine Mercy Sunday. Mercy is a concept that is hard to pin down. It is something we always want to receive, but not something that we are always anxious to deliver. We can recognize when someone deserves mercy, but sometimes not notice it when we ourself need it. It is obvious to us that Christ's apostles needed mercy. They had abandoned Christ when He most needed them.

Thomas had flat out denied that he would believe until Christ personally appeared to him and before he would proclaim His love to Christ. It is after this display of stubborn refusal that Christ did appear, which illustrates the most well known act of mercy. But Thomas was not the only one who needed mercy. Peter himself denied knowing Christ and, according to the Gospel, fled when asked about his association with Christ. The soldiers who whipped Him, those who called for His death, all also needed mercy.



These were not the only times that Christ demonstrated the gift of mercy. Many of His parables, even the most memorable of them, showed the need for giving and receiving mercy, e.g. the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan. Several times when Christ gave mercy to someone, the recipient gave no mercy, in return, to others who were in need of mercy.

Our world is crying out for mercy, for us to give or receive it. Indeed, three years ago the Pope declared a Year of Mercy. People need to believe that Christ demonstrated that God loves us so much that He would forgive us no matter what. Similarly, it would be a good idea for us to turn our focus on that gift of God loving us, and be willing to show others mercy - loving mercy.

In each Mass over and over we ask God for mercy. "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world have mercy on us."

Today's very appropriate Psalm 118 reads: "

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting."

final thoughts...

Regular updates will be posted to our website and to Facebook. We will also send out regular alerts on Flocknote.

If you know of a parishioner who is not yet signed up for Flocknote but would like to receive them, email the parish office at svparishoffice@gmail.com

St. Virgil's Parish



250 Speedwell Avenue
Morris Plains, NJ 07950
(973) 538-1418 or
(862) 242-6961

svparishoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.stvirgilparish.org

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