



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Live Streamed on our website at www.stvirgilparish.org

Sunday at 10:30am ~ Weekdays at 9am

Readings for the Week

Sunday

Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

Monday

Jer 28:1-17; Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday

Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday

Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday

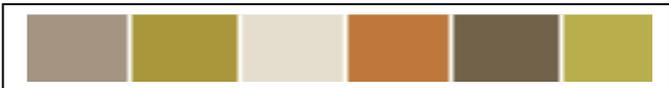
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

First Friday

Na 2:1, 3, 3:1-3, 6-7; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday

Hb 1:12—2:4; Mt 17:14-20



Operation Chillout Summer Campaign

This is the 20th anniversary year of Operation Chillout, an all-volunteer organization dedicated to providing the basic necessities to help the

homeless, primarily veterans, survive the summer and winter months. Many events and fundraisers were planned to commemorate this milestone. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, however, many of them have been canceled. The summer campaign will be conducted entirely online.

St. Virgil's is one of Operation Chillout's collection partners. Instead of donating cases of bottled water, baseball caps and tee shirts, we hope you will support our gift registry at www.operationchillout.org. For \$10 you can "purchase" three cases of bottled water (24 packs) or two tee shirts or two baseball caps. All donations will be used to purchase these items as we are an organization of volunteers, and we will make the purchases and deliveries - no middleman involved. You will receive a receipt for your donation. All items will be distributed at locations where the homeless congregate, primarily soup kitchens.

Please be as generous as you can to make the months ahead a little less stressful for those who have so little and have many challenges to face.



A Message from one of our Bible Study Leaders

Fellow Parishioners,

My name is Philip and I run a Bible study and the Return Group here at St. Virgil's. During this pandemic, I find

myself asking if there is something else we can offer you, to learn more about Catholic teaching or about Jesus Christ. When I learned the Baltimore Catechism, we were also taught that we are supposed to continue to learn more every day of our lives—just as the great Saints did.

So, I'm asking an open question, is there any subject or approach that you would like to see offered? Perhaps a study of the Baltimore Catechism itself? Or more about the Catholic teachings? Perhaps how to pray?

I'm not sure, so I'm opening a brainstorming request—if you have a need "throw"—tell us. If there is enough interest, I'll put something together. We can use phone conference or perhaps even a Zoom conference.

Just email your thoughts to syparishoffice@gmail.com or call at (973) 538-1418.

Phil Alcock



A while back I read a story of a visiting pastor who attended a men's breakfast in the middle of a rural farming area of the country. The group had asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.

"Lord, I hate buttermilk", the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going.

The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned.

Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour". The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love them fresh baked biscuits.

So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today.

Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it. AMEN!

Evangelization Corner

The Sacrament of Matrimony (Continued)



Rituals and traditions are important in our lives because they unite us to the past, and connect to who we are today, and help us express who we want to become. Good rituals are powerful because they communicate this so clearly.

Many of today's marriage rituals and traditions have their origins in societies that have their own customs; customs that are not always based on religion, but which may be reflective of the values of their people.

As an example, in Europe, marriage was traditionally considered a civil institution. Marriages played an important role in the consolidation or transfer of wealth and property between families. As such, marriage was often treated as a contract and the "Giving away of the bride" ritualized this contract.

In early Rome, there was a tradition where a young woman who was getting married would be escorted by her father to the home of her husband to be; a tradition which we recognize when a father walks his daughter down the aisle and gives her hand to the groom (a giving away of the bride). In addition, the husband would then carry his new wife over the threshold of his home and feed her a piece of "sacred cake" (e.g. the wedding

cake) which inducted her into his home and his religion.

However, not all marriage traditions reflect societal, civil or religious norms. As an example, the "honeymoon", has its roots in the belief that the fertility in newly-weds was enhanced if they drank a brew made from honey during certain lunar phases. Additionally, dating back to Ancient Rome, the roundness of a ring was believed to represent eternity and an everlasting union and it was once believed that there was a vein or nerve that ran directly from the 'ring' finger of the left hand to the heart of the wearer. From this we get 'the blessing of rings' tradition.

As the empire continued to grow and assimilate new cultures many of the traditional wedding customs continued, like handing over the bride and eating the cake. However, marriage was now based on the mutual consent of the partners themselves; a formal, solemn, and binding covenant—a vow or pledge between them. During the ceremony, the bride and the groom gave their consent to each other while joining their right hands.

In the 16th century, the Council of Trent decreed that marriage is a Sacrament and

must be celebrated in a Church, in the real presence of Jesus Christ, and in the presence of a priest. Since we believe that Christ is present in the tabernacle, it is fitting that a couple's exchange of consent and marriage takes place in a setting intended for worship and prayer. As Catholics we believe that the couple give themselves and, in a very particular way, their marriage to God. This exchange of consent is the only sacramentally essential element of the Catholic Rite of Marriage.

The Council also decreed that marriage to be a perpetual and indissoluble bond with these words: "What therefore God has joined, let no man separate."

Next week we will discuss more wedding traditions, where they originated, and the meaning behind them.

May the Lord's peace be with you always!

Evangelization Ministry

Weekly Reflection

In both the Old and New Testament today we hear how God fulfills our needs. Isaiah wrote: "All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat...I will renew with you the everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David." Matthew's Gospel recounts the story of the vast crowd following Christ, and how, at His word the disciples were able to feed the crowd of 5,000, which had become hungry, with only five loaves and two fish: "They all ate and were satisfied..."

Thus, Our Lord fulfilled the people's needs both in ancient times and in the time of Christ, meeting both their material and spiritual needs. The Word is directed at us today as much as those who heard Him 2000 years ago. Christ's words leave no stone unturned. His words are filled with meaning and teachings that are directed at our everyday lives, words of comfort and caring which give us strength.

Lord, thank You for the words of scripture You have given us, so that we may learn Your teachings!

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Old Testament: *Isaiah 55:1-3*
New Testament: *Matthew 14:13-21*

final thoughts...

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



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(973) 538-1418 or (862-242-6961)

svparishoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.stvirgilparish.org

Follow us on Facebook @ St. Virgil Parish

Emergency Resources in Morristown NJ

During the Covid-19 Pandemic - As of April 24, 2020

Hot Meals and Groceries

Table of Hope

At Bethel Church - 59 Spring St.

Carry out free Dinners

Monday through Friday from 5:30-7 pm

Thursday Food Pantry

Every Thursday from 2 to 4:45pm

Nourish. NJ (formerly the Community Soup Kitchen) at the Church of the Redeemer
36 South Street

Monday through Friday from 11:30 am to 1 pm

Saturday's at St. Peter's Episcopal Church;

70 Maple Ave between 11:30 am to 1 pm

Free Food Fridays

Cornerstone Family Programs in Partnership with
Calvary Baptist Church

10 Martin Luther King Ave.

Use Willow Street Entrance

Every Friday from 12:00 to 3:00 pm

Interfaith Food Pantry

Call 973.538.8049 ext 210 o ext 213 and leave a message with your name and phone number. You will receive a call to give you an appointment for a phone interview. After the interview you will receive food periodically.

Emergency food on 190 Speedwell Ave on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 am to 11:45 am and on 2 Executive Drive, Morris Plains. Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

I am Morristown

At St. Margaret Church.

Call Patricia Clavijo (973)452-8270 to register

Health

Zulfall Health Center

Call (973) 267-0002 for telemedicine (video or phone visit). Fees are being waived.

Atlantic Health Center

Call 1-800-247-9580 to find a doctor for a telehealth visit

For students in the School District that are eligible for free or reduce lunch

Pick-Up Location:

Morristown High School, 50 Early Street

Monday - Thursday 11am - 12:30pm

Meals for Friday will be distributed on Thursday

Bus Stop Locations:

BUS #1

Stop 1 - 11:00am - 11:30am - Coal Ave Lot @ Corner of Martin Luther King Ave. and Coal Ave.

Stop 2 - 11:40am - 12:10pm - Collinsville Playground, Monroe Street

Stop 3 - 12:20am - 12:45pm - Alfred Vail School, 125 Speedwell Ave.

BUS #2

Stop 4 - 11:00am - 11:30am - Latino American Supermarket @ Speedwell and Henry St.

Stop 5 - 11:40am - 12:00pm - Assumption Church Lot @ McCulloch St. and Madison St.

Stop 6 - 12:10am - 12:30pm - Corner of Franklin Street and Todd Place

Both Buses Will Operate Monday - Thursday Only

Meals for Friday will be distributed on Thursday

Housing

Housing partnership NJ

HUD-approved Foreclosure Prevention Counseling

Call (973) 659-9222 – 2 E Blackwell St #12, Dover

Utilities and rental assistance

Salvation Army –Utilities and rent

Call (973) 539-2700 – 95 Spring St.

Hispanic Affairs - Utilities

Call (973) 644-4884 or visit <https://hispanicaffairs.net/>

Preventing evictions and foreclosures

NJ Executive Order: 106

Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center

Website: wotsnj.org

Call (973) 538-2035 or visit 40Sussex Ave.

Unemployment

Call 908-820-3969 / 973-328-6490 / 609-292-6800

or visit: <https://myunemployment.nj.gov/>

Student Loan Aid

<https://www.studentaidpandemic.org/>

<http://freestudentloanadvice.org/>

For more resources, visit:

<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/get-assistance/what-types-of-benefits-or-assistance-are-available-to-me-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak> or

<https://wotsnj.org/wind-of-the-spirit-dover-morristown-area-covid-19-resource-guide/>