

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Blessed are the Clean of Heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they will be called Children of God.



St. Virgil Parish

250 Speedwell Avenue
Morris Plains, NJ 07950
973-538-1418 - Phone
973-538-2992 - Fax

Website: www.stvirgilparish.org

Parish Staff

Rev. Michal Falgowski—Pastor

pastor@stvirgilparish.org

(973) 538-1418 ext 12

Rev. Marcin Kania - Parochial Vicar

parochialvicar@stvirgilparish.org

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Rev. Kerwin Timothy Gaza—In Residence
(Chaplain at Morristown Medical Center)

Deacons

Deacon Merle Sisler

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Deacon Joe Quinn

joeq8562@gmail.com

Deacon Sal Mazzoccoli, Retired

Office Staff

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(973) 538-1418 ext 13

Robert Lucia - Maintenance

Jose Fernandez

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Religious Education

Marcy Funk - Faith Formation (K-6)

faithformation@stvirgilparish.org

(973) 538-1418 ext 10

Nina Rangel - Youth Ministry/Confirmation (7-9)

youthminister@stvirgilparish.org

(973) 538-1418 ext 10

George Wolfe - RCIA

office@stvirgilparish.org

(973) 538-1418 ext 10

Music Ministry

Patrick B. Phillips, Director

music@stvirgilparish.org

(973) 538-1418 ext 10

Nina Rangel

Children's Choir and Youth Band

youthminister@stvirgilparish.org

(973) 538-1418 ext 10



FOR MINISTRY FOR THE SICK AND DYING
Call 973-538-1418, Ext. 14
for the immediate attention of a Priest.



Ministries

Altar Linens	Pat Para
Altar Servers	Fr. Michal Falgowski
Appalachia	Nina Rangel
Arbor Terrace	Deacon Joe & Don & Jeanne McKenna
Baptismal Prep	Clergy
Bible Groups	Kathy Sisler, Phil Alcock
Carnival	Keith Chesnut
Children's Choir	Nina Rangel
Church Décor	Parish Office
Counters	Jane Flynn
Divine Mercy	Frank Miller
Evangelization	John Trombetta
Hospitality & Greeters	Marybeth & Don Soutar
Interfaith Food Pantry	Parish Office
Knights of Columbus	Peter Sesso, G.K.
Lazarus Ministry	Barbara Fisher
Lectors	Don & Jeanne McKenna
Living Rosary	Cathy Marshall & Maureen Kelly
Men's Cornerstone	Chuck Havers
Morris View	Deacon Merle Sisler
Music Director	Patrick B. Phillips
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Jane Flynn
Pre Cana	Clergy
Prime Time	Lydia Sesso & Anna Loia
RCIA	George Wolfe
Respect Life	Angela Pennisi
Rosary Society	Ann Picone
Social Outreach	Jane Flynn
Sunrise Assisted Living	Deacon Sal Mazzoccoli
Ushers	Jim Scannelli
Wedding Prep	Clergy
Young Adults	Andrew DeBlock
Youth Band	Nina Rangel
Youth Protection/Safe Environment	Debbie Amati-Wolfe



Registration—Call or email the parish to register

Baptisms—The sacrament is celebrated on each Sunday at 1:00 PM. Please call the parish office to schedule an appointment

Wedding Preparations - Call the parish office to schedule an appointment with the pastor to begin marriage preparation, preferably one year in advance. A Pre-Cana Class will be required.

Visitation of the Sick or Elderly - Call the Parish Office to arrange for visits to the hospital, nursing homes, or home-bound. HIPPA Regulations require that we receive permission from the immediate family, prior to the visit.

"Blessed are
the pure in
heart, for they
will see God."



Matthew 5:8



Parish Giving

Thank you for your continued generosity. Donations for the weekend of January 21/22 totaled \$5,309.

The Christmas Collection brought \$41,601 to our parish.

The Faith Direct total for the month of December was \$14,765.

Please consider supporting our Parish through eGiving. Enrolling in online giving will simplify your monthly budgeting while also providing for our Parish. If you would like to sign up, visit faithdirect.org and enter parish code NJ732. Your kindness is appreciated.

January 29, 2023 The Third Week in Ordinary Time

Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 28

5 pm **Thomas A. Markt**
Donald Gulbicki

Sunday, January 29

7:30a **Bill Ryan**

Dan Bozza

9:00a **Thomas Grace**
Pat Havers

10:30a **Lottie Krolik**
Josefina Meza

12 pm **Yolanda Fallivene**
Domenico Procopio

Monday, January 30

12:10p **Evangeline Go (birthday)**

Tuesday, January 31

12:10 p **Kwiryn Wnuk**

Wednesday, February 1

12:10p **Bob Dubee**
Perodin Family health
Joe Brunetto

Thursday, February 2

12:10p **Digna Celic Rivera**
Baby Wujkowski

Friday, February 3

12:10p **Josephine Rogers**
Regine & Charles Parrish

Saturday, February 4

Margo Lilly

Confessions are heard Saturdays
3:45 to 4:30, and by appointment.

Please remember in your prayers:

Our Family & Friends

Kathy Sisler, David Blake, Peggy Barber, Jerry Warrick, Rose Marie Warrick, Bill Warrick, Gail Schulz, Helena, D'Estang, Shawn Black, Patti Alcock, Pearl Law, Ed Schrak, John O'Leary, Marie Loughlin, Steve Hogan, Mary Maffeo, Tony Loughlin, Robert Taylor, Doug Prisinzano, Sandra Buck, Judy Taylor, Eileen Langan, Stephen Burke, Miah Tully, Michael O'Connor, Barbara Bock, Debbie Dallemolle, Jackie Donnelley, Colleen Dillion & Family, Emma Scannelli.

(Unless you notify the parish office, names will rotate off the list in three months.)

All who serve in defense of our Country, both at home and abroad

The deployed airmen of the 514th Air Mobility Wing, the deployed airmen of the 621st Contingency Wing, the deployed airmen of the 914 Air Refueling Wing, SSGT Blake Reidinger, LT Kelsey Bergh, PO1 Timothy Butchko, MJR Gary Windt, LT Patrick Leahey, LCDR Daniel M. Leahey, LT Mark Leahey, LT Ryan Feeney, MJR Stephanie Sittman, SSGT Thomas Sittman, LTR Andrew McGuinness, SSGT Eric Wright, LT Mark Van Orden, MSGT T.J. Hopkins, LT Kian Federick Steward, LT Tyler Huhn, DC1 Alexander V. Fernandez, CPL Irvin Carrithers, and newly deployed Vincent Rizzo, SFC.

Our Home-bound Parishioners and friends at

Morris View Health Care,
Sunrise Assisted Living,
Arbor Terrace

This Week at Saint Virgil's

Roses for Life are available at the doors from the Knights of Columbus to support Right to Life.

Tuesday 1/31: Fr. Marcin Study Night 7 pm TC
Unlocking Mystery of the Bible

Thursday 2/2: Bible Study 10:30 am TC
Divine Mercy 6:30 pm
Bible Study 7 pm SVC
Candlemas Mass 8:00 pm

Friday 2/3 First Friday Mass 7 pm



NJ Right to Life Raffle Results

November raffle winners were notified and the results have now been posted.

1. Volvo Car: Domenika Olynyk, Morris County
2. \$1,000 ShopRite gift card: Andrew Roach Monmouth County
3. \$750 ShopRite gift card: Paul Gabrielski Somerset County
4. \$500 Shop Rite gift card: Dolores Plenzo Ocean County



Candlemas Liturgy

On Thursday, February 2nd, Saint Virgil Parish will celebrate the Feast of Candlemas with a Candlelight mass at 8:00 pm. This special liturgy will include the Blessing of Candles for our homes and for our devotions. Candlemas is an ancient feast that has developed over the centuries. February 2nd is 40 days after Christmas and marks the Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple and the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, both of whom brought light to our world. This Date has been revealed by the Blessed Mother at Garabandal to be a significant occasion on which to bring candles to the church to be blessed, so as to cast light against fearsome darkness. Current authors and theologians such as Daniel O'Connor, Christine Watkins, Taylor Marshall, and Fr. Chris Alar have commented on this meaningful effort.

We hope you will decide to join us for a beautiful and memorable liturgy and will bring your candles to be blessed.

The Lord is my
light & my salvation --
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the
stronghold of my life --
of whom shall
I be afraid?
- Psalm 27:1



Friday, March 3, 2023, 6:00 PM

Silent Weekend Retreat for women on Ignatian Spirituality. Theme is "It Was The Women Who Stayed. - "

This retreat will be guided by experienced spiritual director Judy Schiavo at the Loyola retreat house designed for those seeking to understand and navigate these tumultuous times



The next time you come into the church to pray, if you would like to pray the Rosary but do not have Rosary Beads with you, there is a box at the Altar of Our Blessed Mother where you will find blessed prayer beads that you may

use and take home with you. There are also books and pamphlets available to you on the side window ledge. Please feel free to place prayer petitions in the prayer box by the Infant of Prague statue.

Catechism in a Year

On January 1st, New Year's Day, Ascension Press started the Catechism in a Year program. Father Mike Schmitz reads from the Catechism in 15-20 minute daily podcasts and shares lively insights with us. There's no cost involved and it's never too late to join in.

To join us in this exploration of the Catechism, visit AscensionPress.com/CIY, pick up a flyer at the doors of the Church, or try out this QR Code to learn more.



Evangelization Corner

With Chapter 17 we begin the conclusion of the Book of Revelations. In these last 5 chapters before the final epilogue, John has divided this last part of the book into three well defined sections. The first section which includes Chapters 17: 1-19:10, one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls shows John a vision of a city depicted as a woman: The Harlot, The Great Whore of Babylon. which goes down to utter destruction.

The second phase, begins in Chapter 19:11 and ends with 21:8, consists of the following four visions to tell us:

- How God routs his enemies,
- How He judges the dead,
- How He renews creation, and
- How God establishes the new Jerusalem.

The third section parallels the first and John has another vision of another glorious angel who shows John the new Jerusalem, the bride of the lamb. This city will continue forever and ever.

The fact it is one of the seven angels who carry one of the seven bowls that shows John the judgement that is to come upon the great Harlot links this to the seventh judgement poured out on Babylon in chapter 16. (16:17-21) First it is important to understand Who is The Great Whore of Babylon that John begins Chapter 17 with.

Babylon was an ancient city situated on the banks of the Euphrates River in what is now Iraq. In the Old Testament, the city of Babylon twice gave birth to empires that ruled the known world (18th and 7th centuries) and imposed a worldview upon all those she conquered. She ruled with brutality, callousness, and arrogantly. Her rulers believed that she would reign over the earth forever. Isaiah wrote that she said in her heart: *"I, and no one else! I shall never be a widow, bereft of my children—."* (Is 47:8) She spoke as if she were God and she thought herself secure. Her destruction is also announced in Isaiah 47. In response to her wickedness, arrogance, self-indulgence, and brutality towards the people of God the Lord announces sudden doom: *"But upon you shall come an evil you will not be able to charm away; Upon you shall fall a disaster you cannot ward off. Upon you shall suddenly come a ruin you cannot imagine."* (Is 47:11) History tells us that the Babylonian Empire fell very suddenly and very unpleasantly to the Persians in 539 BC and experienced many of the same brutalities they had previously inflicted upon the Jews. Babylon next appears in the biblical narrative about 630 years later as a village surrounded and nearly swallowed by a sea of sand.

The name Babylon begins to reappear in the New Testament canon as a symbol of the world at war with the people of God. Peter ends his epistle to the churches of Pontus and Bithynia by saying: *"The chosen one at Babylon sends you greetings, as does Mark, my son. Greet one another with a loving kiss. Peace to all of you who are in Christ."* (1 Pt 5:13-14) Rome becomes the new Babylon; the new mistress who would seduce and subvert the people of God.

Next week we will continue next week with the judgement of The Harlot.

God bless and may His grace be with each of us as we continue on our journey with Christ.

Morris Catholic High School

Congratulations to all the students accepted to the Class of 2027 at Morris Catholic. At Morris Catholic, we are committed to helping students grow into persons of character, active members of their community, and committed lifelong learners. In the spirit of Catholic Schools' Week, we will continue to welcome students and families who have recently begun to consider a Catholic education with our rolling admissions process. We are also accepting transfer applications for grades 10 and 11 for the 2023-2024 year. Do not hesitate to reach out to our Admissions department if you would still like to experience a campus tour or shadow day. Contact admissions@morriscatholic.org or 973-627-6674 ext. 322 for more information.

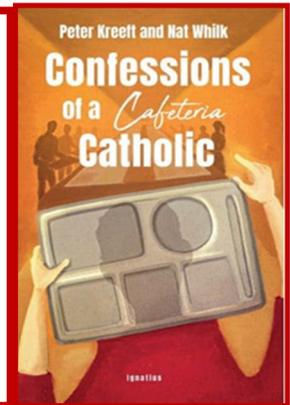


The current economic challenges have made it very difficult for all of us, and in particular the working poor of Morris County. Please be generous

Pantry's Biggest Needs
We currently have a low supply of the following items:

- * Canned Fish (Tuna, Salmon and others)
- * Cereal - lower sugar preferred
- * Soup—Hearty and Condensed
- * Tomato products (sauce, crushed, whole, diced, paste, puree, etc.)
- * Pasta
- * Rice (in 1 or 2 pound bags)
- * Dry milk (1-qt. packages) or Parmalat
- * Baby Food— Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3

Take a look at what you can find in the parish book rack! This book is reported to be a fast favorite, and there are others to explore.



Masterfully written by best-selling Catholic author and philosopher Dr. Peter Kreeft, this enjoyable book is a dialogue format between himself and a self-identified "Cafeteria Catholic" who wonders why he must accept everything that the Church teaches. It's a sharp, friendly, and funny investigation into the Christian life and why the Church asks for so much trust and commitment on so many issues.

Roses for Life: This weekend be sure to look for the Knights of Columbus. They are offering Rose emblems for the benefit of the unborn after all the masses.



Youth Ministry/Appalachia Spotlight: Michelle Ona



My name is Michelle Ona and I'm a junior at Morristown High School. I enjoy singing, drawing, playing volleyball, and writing. In school, I'm on the fencing team, in Model United Nations, and in Student Government. I've been a parishioner at St. Virgil's for a year and this is my first time participating in the Appalachia Outreach program.

I want to participate in Appalachia Outreach to appreciate the life God has given me and repay him through service. I want to take advantage of this opportunity and give back to people in need. To me, service means to be there for people without the expectation of a reward or thanks. This sponsorship would be incredibly meaningful to me because it would allow me to experience lives different than my own and see how I can be of service.

Want to sponsor Michelle? To donate online, please visit www.stvirgilparish.org, click "Online Giving", scroll down to "One-Time Gifts", and select Appalachia. Please make sure to write in the candidate you are choosing to sponsor in the "notes" section. You can also access this link by scanning the following QR Code. You can also make a check payable to St. Virgil Parish.





St. Virgil Rosary Society Movie Day

Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 1 p.m., in the Tracy Center

Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris

Starring Lesley Manville, Lambert Wilson, Isabelle Huppert

It is 1957 London. Mrs. Harris is a widowed housekeeper who became captivated with the Dior dress of one of her clients all the while knowing she could not ever afford one. However, she unexpectedly learns she is to receive a “war-widow’s pension.” Suddenly, she has enough money to travel to Paris to purchase her own Dior *haute couture* dress. Reluctantly, and because Dior is facing financial problems, they agree to make her a dress with her offer of payment in cash. When back in London, a struggling young actress borrows her dress for an event, stands too close to a fireplace and the dress is ruined.

This is a delightful 2022 comedy-drama which enjoyed strong box office results in the US. Also, Lesley Manville was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Motion picture.

Friends are always welcomed. Refreshments available.

Service: A donation of \$1.00 may be given to purchase Food Pantry items, in lieu of a canned good.

In case of inclement weather, please call the parish office at 973-538-1418



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday we encounter some of the readings in the Old and New Testament which help us to strive to achieve the exercising the greatest of God’s commandments: “Love.” We know these teachings of Christ as the “Beatitudes.” They are loaded with points for us to meditate on, viz., whether we are striving to practice Christ’s teachings, or those of any other faith-based group.

Today’s readings start with **Zephaniah 2:3** telling us to be humble and seek justice and humility ” But I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord.” Right away we can sense that we have a “caring God.” The **Responsorial Psalm 146** follows with the theme of the Lord serving the poor, the oppressed, the hungry and the blind and that the Lord loves the just, protects strangers, the fatherless and the widow, but who thwarts the ways of the wicked. This is a theme that never disappears in the entire Bible. As a matter of fact it never disappears anywhere. People of any faith, or no faith, know the principles of what we call the Beatitudes. (Gandhi is reputed to have had a copy above his bed.)

The **Gospel of Matthew 5:12a** starts off with “Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven,” and continues blessing those who mourn; the meek; the hungry; the merciful; the clean of heart; the peacemakers; and those “who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.” There are several renditions of this in scripture, usually 8 beatitudes in each one.

Lord, help us to focus on and practice the Beatitudes in our daily life!