

March 29, 2020

Issue
TWO

Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading: **Ezekiel 37:12-14**
Second Reading: **Romans 8:8-11**
Gospel: **John 11:1-45**



St. Virgil's Parish

New Contact Info >>>

Our Weekly Newsletter for our Parish Family

*During the COVID-019
Virus Furlough, you can
reach us at:*

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

A Letter from Fr. Michal



I hope that this brief note will find you well!

Many different thoughts are crossing our minds in the last couple of days. We ask ourselves many different questions. We worry about many different things. In the last couple of days, the world we knew has changed a lot. However, some things will never change. Even though sometimes we see the clouds in the sky, the sun is still there. Even though we cannot worship together as a community, it doesn't mean we are not a family of believers anymore. Although we have to keep a social distance from each other, it doesn't mean that we cannot show our love and concerns for others.

The world is a little bit different now, but God is still there. He is watching over us always. He never abandons those who trust in him. For Him, nothing is impossible. Please never forget about that. May fear and despair never prevent you from seeing his presence in your life.

May God give all the graces you need in this trying time!

With prayers,
Fr. Michal

Eucharistic
Adoration
Daily
11am – 2pm



Worship Aid for Sunday, March 29, 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 below to access the page:

[./././OneDrive/March29SVPWorshipAid.pdf](https://OneDrive/March29SVPWorshipAid.pdf)

Mass Intentions for this Week >>>

Sun., Mar. 29	James & Margaret Wells Eileen Doherty Domenic Gargano Michael Ryan Mary Ann Curran Tracy Rooney Ann Marie Logan
Mon. Mar. 30	For those lives affected by the Coronavirus
Tues., Mar 31	Fred & Ann Conforti—Special Intentions
Wed., Apr. 1	Grant Morgan Veronica LaCanfora—42th Anniversary
Thurs. Apr. 2	Active Military who server our Country
Fri., Apr. 3	Manual DaSilva Janet Dittrich Eileen Holden & Family
Sat., Apr. 4	Ruth Whelan Margaret Schark

We offer our prayerful condolences to the family and friends of **Christine Abbondanzo** (daughter of Anne Benson) and **Rebecca Tittensor** (niece of Lori Clendenny) who were called home to the Lord this week. We pray that **Christine & Rebecca** rest peacefully with the Lord.

Fasting & Abstinence

Church Regulations Regarding Fast & Abstinence

Abstinence from meat (beast & fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years of age and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent. The obligations prohibit eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.

Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary, to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days are not permitted.



Fr. Michal and the Parish Office have been working tirelessly to keep you connected with our Parish

family. They are currently sending out frequent Flocknotes, posting updates on our website, and live-streaming Mass at 10:30am on Sundays as well as some prayer services.

These are only some of the small measures we have been able to undertake until we can again gather as a community in our beautiful church. But even in your absence, the parish facilities will still need upkeep and maintenance and the salaries need to be paid.

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.



Please remember in your prayers:

Tom Kleso, 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 Dillion & 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.



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

SSGT Blake Reidinger

LT Patrick Leahey

LCDR Daniel M. Leahey

LT Mark C. Leahey

LT Kian Federick Stewart

DCI Alexander V. Fernandez

CPL Irvin Carithers

MJR Gary Windt

MJR Stephanie Sittmann

SSGT Thomas Sittman

PO2 Timothy Butchko

SSGT Eric Wright

2LT Ryan Feeny

LT Mark Van Orden

LTR Andrew McGuinness

MSGT T.J. Hopkins

LT Kelsey Bergh

LT Tyler Huhn

Ministries & Outreaches >>>



Penny Manser, our Youth Minister, is busy organizing the Youth to assist any of our senior parishioners with food shopping or errands that might need to get done. You may have already received a call from Penny. If you have not and require help with shopping and errands, please call the Parish Office at (973) 538-1418 or (862) 242-6961.

Interfaith Food Pantry

During this world-wide pandemic, we have had many new experiences. One of those has been entering our local supermarket and finding the shelves empty. Our friends at the Interfaith Food Pantry have increased need during these weeks ahead.



Understandably, shopping is a challenge today but please think about our neighbors in need while you are shopping. The current needs for the pantry include: 100% fruit juice, spaghetti/pasta sauce, tomato products, canned vegetables, cereal—low sugar, high fiber, dry milk (1 qt. pkg.), evaporated milk, calcium-fortified milk alternatives such as soy, rice, or almond milk, canned beans, (NOT green beans), tuna fish, peanut butter (18 oz.) canned meats and meals, hash, stew, canned chicken, chili, Rice-A-Roni, Pasta-Roni, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, soups, condensed and hearty, infant formula (Enfamil preferred—yellow, purple, blue) baby food (fruits, vegetables), Stage 2 (Meats & Meals, vegetables, fruits), Stage 3 (Meats & Meals, vegetables, fruits), baby cereal—oatmeal, Diapers Size 6, baby wipes, reusable grocery bags, Boost or Ensure, regular, Boost Glucose, Control, or Glucerna and resealable (i.e. Ziploc) sandwich bags and quart-sized plastic resealable.

You can place your offerings on the pews behind the Altar in the Sanctuary. Thank you from our friends at IFP.

This Week's Schedule

SCHEDULE IS BASED ON DIOCESAN GUIDELINES.
SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS CURRENT CONDITONS CHANGE.

SUNDAY

Mass will be celebrated and livestreamed on Facebook at **10:30am**. During the liturgy, the church will be closed and there will be no congregants permitted.

The Church will be open for **private prayer** from **11:30am – 3:30pm**

MONDAY – FRIDAY

Our Church will be open for your **private prayer** from **6:30am** until **3:30PM**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from **11am – 2pm**

SATURDAY

Our Church will be open for **private prayer** from **6:30am** until **3:30pm**

Evangelization Corner

Adults wishing to be baptized into the Catholic Church are invited to follow the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). This assumes that the adult has never been baptized into any Christian denomination.

RCIA is a process comprised of four phases: an *initial phase of inquiry* where the candidate expresses interest in being part of the church; a second phase, called the *catechumenate*, which teaches the candidate to live as a Catholic; the third phase, the *purification and enlightenment*, occurs during Lent and is a period of intense preparation, culminating in the baptism ceremony; the final phase, *mystagogy*, is a time for the newly-baptized member of the church to worship with other believers during the Eucharist and to learn about the mysteries of the Catholic faith. This lasts until Pentecost.

The Baptismal Rite for adults is, in many ways, similar to the Rite for infants. Both rites involve the application of water symbolizing the cleansing from sin, bringing them into a new life and making them true adopted children of God, and the pronouncement, *'I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'* The Rite typically takes place on the Easter vigil on the Saturday between Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

The celebrant also calls the adult candidate by their full name, but this time he asks the candidate *'What are you asking of God's church?'* and *'What does faith hold out to you?'*; to which the candidate responds, *'Faith'* and *'Everlasting life.'*

In a similar way the celebrant continues, as in the infant rite, with one or more prayers of exorcism, asking the impure spirits to leave and requesting that the candidates' ears and mouth be opened to hear and proclaim the Word of God. The adult candidate is then asked to make a *'proclamation of faith'*.

Using the Apostles' Creed, the celebrant asks the **candidate** to renounce their sins, reject Satan and profess their faith, etc.

Then the celebrant anoints the candidate with the oil of catechumens and places a white garment on the candidate indicating that the candidate is cloaked in Christ and he lights a candle symbolizing the light of Christ. The candidate renounces his sins and the devil and stands as the priest applies water that has been consecrated during the Vigil, to the head of the candidate and blesses him/her in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and consecrates him/her as Priest, Prophet and King.

However, there are also some differences between the Baptismal Rite for adults and the Rite for infants. First, while the adult candidate is fully aware of God's awesome love and grace and has obviously made a

choice to acknowledge and renounce his/her sins, reject Satan and profess his/her faith commitment, the infant is unaware and is not given a choice. The commitment to follow the catholic faith is made on the child's behalf by the parents, god-parents, and congregation.

Additionally, although there is no difference or variance in the efficacy of the promises God has placed within the sacrament, the infant is first baptized then taught about our faith while the adult candidate is taught about our faith then baptized.

Finally, the adult candidate usually receives the Sacraments of Communion and Confirmation along with Baptism.

May the Lord's peace be with you always!

Evangelization Ministry



Readings for the 5th Week of Lent

Sunday

Ezkiel 37:12-14 (34A)
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45

Monday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62
Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

First Friday

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

First Saturday

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

Weekly Reflection

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Old Testament: Ezekiel 37:12-14

New Testament: John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33-45

Each reading during Lent reveals miraculous acts performed by Christ which increased in importance as His Apostles drew deeper and deeper into faith in Him. The Lenten readings started with Christ Himself being tempted in the desert, demonstrating that they Apostles, like us, will also be tempted. In the Second Week we read of the transfiguration,

demonstrating Christ's divinity. In the Third Week we learned about a man blind from birth being given sight and faith in Christ. In the Fourth Sunday of Lent we learned about the Samaritan woman at the well, learning Who the Man at the well truly was, and how she was given faith. She became the first apostle who went off to the town preaching Whom He truly was, thereby bringing the town's people to faith.

In this week's Gospel, Christ performed the most remarkable of all of His miracles when He brought His friend Lazarus back to life. Not only is this the most incredible of His miracles, but it prefigures Christ's own resurrection, and also our own. The difference between Lazarus's reincarnation and Christ's resurrection was that Lazarus rose, but would "die" again, whereas Christ's resurrected body will never "die" again, but ascended to eternal life.

Thus, we have moved through the events of Christ's life in an abbreviated manner starting with the temptations and moving to Christ raising Lazarus from the dead. Huge events to ponder during these days of Lent.

Lord, stay with us as we try to fathom these events in Your life.

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
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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



"THE UNLIKELY TEACHER"

Written by Patrick Hall. Inspired by Dr. Seuss.

I imagine if Dr. Seuss were alive today, he'd write something like this:

(Read with Dr. Seuss book rhythm).

The buildings were big,
and people would smile
and travel they would
mile by mile.

But sick they became,
in numbers it grew.
Business worried,
communities too.

Things stopped for a bit.
The world slowed its roll;
the virus had certainly
taken its toll.

But what they then saw
from slowing things down,
is in fact they now had
less reason to frown.

Families now gathered,
What game shall we play?
Pass me the blue crayon,
give mommy the grey.

Dad's home, guys!
He'll read us a book.
Then all of us
together will cook.

The lungs of the planet
caught a small break.
Less travel meant less
pollution to make.

People did realize
they'd all be ok.
They don't need so much
to get through the day.

Maybe this virus
that caused so much stress,
shows the whole world
that more can mean less.