

April 12, 2020

Issue
THREE

Happy Easter



St. Virgil's Parish

New Contact Info >>>

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Our Weekly Newsletter for our Parish Family

The Closest Taste

The very first Easter was not in a crowded worship space with singing and praising. On the very first Easter, the disciples were locked in their house. It was dangerous for them to come out. They were afraid. They wanted to believe the good news they heard from the women, that Jesus had risen. But it seemed too good to be true. They were living in a time of such despair and such fear. If they left their homes, their lives and the lives of their loved ones might be at risk. Could a miracle really have happened. Could life really had won out over death? Could this time of terror and fear really be coming to an end?

Alone in their homes, they are dared to believe that hope was possible, that the long night was over and morning had broken, that God's love was the most powerful of all, even though it didn't seem quite real yet. Eventually, they were able to leave their homes, when the fear and danger had subsided, they went around celebrating and spreading the good news that Jesus was risen and love was the most powerful force on the earth.

This year, we might get to experience a taste of what that first Easter was like; still in our homes daring to believe that hope is on the horizon. Then, after a while, when it is safe for all people, when it is the most loving choice, we will come out, gathering together, singing and shouting the good news that God brings life even out of death; that love always has the final say! *by Vincent P. Tavormina, KofC State Deputy*



We offer our prayerful condolences to the family and friends of **Tom Kleso and Patricia Morrison** who were called home to the Lord this week. We pray that **Tom and Pat** rest peacefully with our Lord.

Mass Intentions for this Week >>>

Sun., April 12 Easter Sunday	Francis & Phyllis D'Annunzio Deceased Members of the DeRienzo Family Joseph Diancola Janet Dittrich Monica Popa Phillip Mizzone, Sr.
Mon. April 13	Mariamamma—In Remembrance
Tues., April 14	Janet Dittrich
Wed., April 15	Maria Santofiore—13 th Anniversary
Thurs. Apr. 16	Bob Thomas
Fri., Apr. 17	Jacqualine Alcock Arthur Vigilante
Sat., Apr. 18	Joseph & Anita Farias Sue Ann Cattano

Worship Aid for Easter Sunday, April 12, 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:

<..\..\Downloads\EasterSundayWorshipAid.pdf>



Brightening the Days of our friends at Sunrise & Morris View

We delivered 36 Easter Cards with lolly pops to Sunrise Assisted Living and we delivered 96 Easter Cards with lolly pops to Morris View. The people in charge were very appreciative.

God Bless .. **Deacon Merle**



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 Feeney**
- LT Mark Van Orden**
- LTR Andrew McGuinness**
- MSGT T.J. Hopkins**
- LT Kelsey Bergh**
- LT Tyler Huhn**



Please remember in your prayers:

Timmy O'Shea, Deacon Victor Lupi, Deacon Alan Lucibello, Bill Warrick, Tony Loughlin, Florence Luckey, Rosemary Paulison, Jackie Donnelley, Judy Taylor, Mary Eileen & Douglas Prisinzano, 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, Barbara Bock, Baby Emma Scannelli, Stephen Burke, Eileen Lagan, and Teresa Procopio.

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!



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.

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.

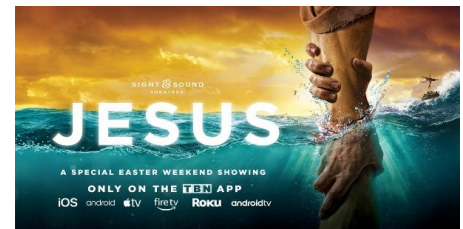
Regardless of the method you choose, we would very much appreciate your continued generous support. There are two links on the parish website if you'd like to set up a one-time donation through Faith Direct or one to sign up for online giving. If you have any questions regarding the Faith Direct process,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



Easter Schedule

Live Streamed on our website at
www.stvirgilparish.org

Easter Sunday
10:30am



Presented by the
Sight & Sound Theater
in Landcaster, Pennsylvania
<https://watch.tbn.org/sight-sound-theatres-presents-jesus?fbclid=IwAR1oZP7yQG20pLOafPPiswxvUjrBadh0JUHeyXHE7pvRDk8DrOZ8Q7Xy2LA>

Readings for the Easter Sunday

Sunday
Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4
or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or
Mt 28:1-10
or, at an afternoon or
evening Mass, Lk 24:13-35

Monday
Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

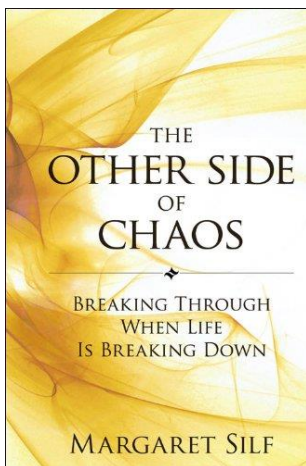
Tuesday
Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday
Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday
Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Friday
Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday
Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15



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 14, at her cell: 201-213-0038, or email carolewc44@verizon.net. Books can be ordered online. It is available in print and on Kindle.

Evangelization Corner

The third Sacrament of Initiation is Confirmation. Confirmation is a celebration of the Spirit within us, a time for affirming our Baptism and an anointing that completes baptismal graces. Up until the fifth or sixth century, a person received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in a single rite of welcoming into the Church and the Christian faith. It was held during the Easter Vigil with a bishop as the celebrant.

From passages in the Bible we learn that even in the earliest ages of the Church there was a rite, distinct from Baptism, in which the Holy Spirit was conferred by the imposition of the hands; something that was not implied in Baptismal rite. In the Acts of the Apostles there is reference to the Holy spirit and Confirmation, "Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit." (Acts 8:14-17)

Baptism is the sacrament of the initial gift of the Spirit, while Confirmation is the sacrament of the fullness of the Spirit, with His seven gifts. Isah 11:2-3.

You cannot be a complete Catholic without receiving Confirmation. Confirmation imprints on the soul an indelible spiritual mark, the 'character,' which is the sign that Jesus Christ has marked a Christian with the seal of his Spirit and, like Baptism, Confirmation can be conferred only once.

Confirmation is a strengthening of one's acceptance in Christ by receiving the blessings of the Holy Spirit to live out our mission of building the kingdom of God. A majority of believers are baptized as newborns, when they lack the ability to understand the significance of the rite for themselves. Confirmation takes place when the baptized person

begins to understand what it means to be a member of the Catholic Church. It seals the decision of being a Catholic, a decision that was taken by his/her parents and godparents during the baptismal ceremony.

Today, the ceremony is still conducted by the bishop who lays his hands on the candidates and anoints them with Sacred Chrism (oil mixed with balsam). This enables the candidates to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit so that they may grow in its care and purity. Confirmation equips Christians to be soldiers for Christ. Before the Second Vatican Council, the bishop would slap the cheek of the newly confirmed Christian as a reminder to be courageous in the work of evangelization. Now the newly confirmed receive a hand shake as a sign of peace.



May the Lord's peace be with you always!

Evangelization Ministry



Weekly Reflection

Easter Sunday

Old Testament: Psalm 118
New Testament: John 20:1-9

Easter is here, the day we have been awaiting. Interesting enough is that this day did not show us Christ's disciples jumping for joy. The fact is that in John's account we find the Apostles utterly confused, and not able to exactly understand what was happening

right before their very eyes. Mary Magdala thought the body of Christ had been stolen. The beloved disciple, believed to be John, and Peter ran to the tomb. We don't hear what Peter's reaction was, but the beloved disciple who entered the tomb is said to have seen and "believed." But John reports of the others, "they did not yet understand the Scripture that [H]e had to rise from the dead." Sounds familiar doesn't it? Today with the world in utter confusion, with even our churches closed, we can't manage to understand what is happening in our world today.



May God be with us during these days of stress, as He was with the Apostles when John preached that "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil for God was with Him."

Christ and His followers were successful because "God was with them." May we feel that same presence of God with us with the comforting words in the Psalm for Easter Sunday, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever."

Lord, be with us in these times of trouble!

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



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