

**The Roman Catholic Parish
of St. Vincent de Paul
250 Bebout Avenue,
Stirling, New Jersey 07980
Phone: (908) 647-0118 Fax: (908) 647-5992**

We are a Catholic community rooted in the Eucharist and committed to the poor.

Parish Office—908-647-0118
After office hours in an
Emergency call 973-222-0720
Parish website: stvincentschurch.org
Parish Email: parish@stvd.org

PASTORAL STAFF

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frichardcarton@stvd.org

Vincent G. Clarke,
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Parish Trustees
Alan Tangreti
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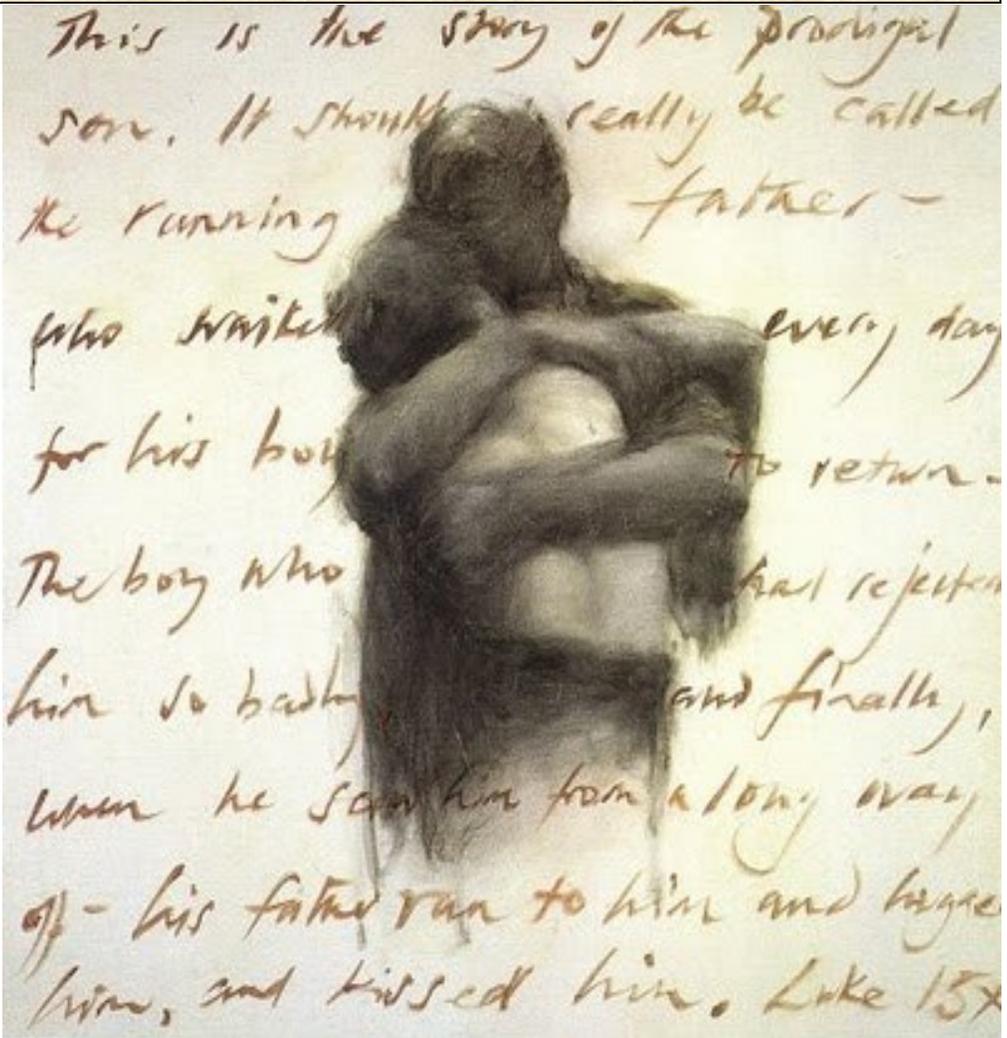
PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Maria DeLuca
Religious Formation Secretary
Tonianne VanDerveer
Parish Secretary
Mary Woods
Parish Finance Coordinator

PARISH SCHOOL

908-647-0421
Fax 908-647-3878
Website www.stvd.org

John Paul Crescenzo
Principal
Vera Castagna
School Secretary
Staci Ciamei
School Finance Coordinator



Sunday Mass Schedule

(Vigil Mass)
Saturday —5 PM
Sunday
8:30 AM, 10:30AM and 6:00 PM

Confession—Each Monday in Lent after 7 PM Mass, Saturday at 4–4:45 PM, and at other times by appointment.

Weekday Mass Schedule

8:30 AM Monday - Saturday
7PM—Monday through Friday (in Lent)

**“It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do so without the Holy Mass.”
St. Padre Pio**

SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT

The weekend of February 27th and 28th

Total amount in **253** envelopes: \$ 9,450
 Loose: \$ 2,173
 Online Parish Pay: \$ 3,632

Total offered: \$15,255
 Debt Reduction \$ 3,565

For reflection: Many times in scripture we are reminded to be generous with our time, talent and treasure. We are called to take care of others, to share what we have, to return a portion of our gifts to God. We are reminded to do this with purity of intention and according to our means. Guided by prayer, each Catholic should make a decision to live out the Christian life as a good steward. This decision is an intentional act intended to thank God for all of His blessings by returning to Him a portion of the time, the talent, and the treasure He has given us. Thank you to those who are good stewards in their support of the needs of this parish.

OPERATION RICE BOWL



We journey with CRS Rice Bowl to the Central American Country of Honduras, where we meet students who are learning that it's better to help your neighbor learn and grow than to leave him or her behind. To whom are we called to extend a hand this week? Visit crsricebowl.org

Mayra's story

Two years ago, Mayra was not a star student. She was very shy in the classroom and struggled with simple math and reading lessons. She often missed homework assignments and, some days, did not go to school.

Her teacher noticed and enrolled Mayra in the school's tutoring program. In the months that followed, Mayra and Fabricio, her tutor and classmate, spent many afternoons practicing reading and writing stories together. They made up games to practice math. And when they were done, they jumped rope and played in their neighborhood. In the process, the two became good friends.

"Fabricio never looked down on me because I had trouble learning," says Mayra. "He always treated me well."

The extra attention was what Mayra really needed. She lives with her grandmother, Lucia, who works hard to take care of Mayra. She picks coffee on a nearby farm and does laundry to earn money to put food on the table. But this means she doesn't always have time to help Mayra with her school work. In fact, like many people her age, Lucia cannot read.

That's why Fabricio's help was so important. Today, Mayra is proud of her reading and math skills. She does her homework and goes to class on time. She is more confident and has a new group of friends.

Mayra wants to be a teacher one day. But first, she will become a tutor so she can help her classmates-just as Fabricio helped her.

MASS INTENTIONS

- MONDAY** *March 7th*
Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
8:30 AM Theresa Schlegel (*Living*)
 Walter MacDuff
 Maria Segovia Straney
7:00 PM The Kesselmeier Family (*Living*)
 Aida Cook
- TUESDAY** *March 8th*
St. John of God, Religious
8:30 AM Elisa and Eliseo Espinosa
 Brian Meade
 Maureen Meade
7:00 PM Daniel Catena
 Anthony "Cobby" Accinni
- Wednesday** *March 9th*
Saint Frances of Rome, Religious
8:30 AM Peggy Lanoce (*Living*)
 James and Monica Sebold
 Vincent Corsentino
7:00 PM Jerry Blanch
 Frank J. Sevola
- THURSDAY** *March 10th*
8:30 AM Bob and Kathleen Slyker (*Living*)
 John McMonagle
 John J. Burke
7:00 PM Angelo Yannotta
 Flora Palazzi
- FRIDAY** *March 11th*
8:30 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory
 Matthew McMahon
 Cynthia Ferro-McCutcheon
7:00 PM Employees of Ferreira
 Construction (*Living*)
 Jessie and Frank Giacumbo
- SATURDAY** *March 12th*
8:30 AM Ernest Mozer, Sr.
 John McMonagle
 Catherine Silva
- FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**
5:00 PM Mary King
 Michael and Rita Pavlo
 Vera Bendinelli
 (*Saturday*)
- SUNDAY** *March 13th*
8:30 AM: The Buziak and McMonagle Families
 Mary Navin
 Edward Turner
10:30 AM Mary Ferrante
 Patricia Filippone O'Neill
 Richard Chaplin
6:00 PM People of the Parish
 John T. Mielach, Sr.

PASTORS COLUMN

Coming to our senses—there is a clear road home.

This weekend we hear the familiar Gospel of the Prodigal Son. The word prodigal essentially means wasteful. This we see that the sons are, the younger one of the father's tangible goods, and the older son of the father's constant love, mercy and compassion. The one phrase that always strikes me in this Gospel is when we are told by Jesus that the younger son comes to his senses and decides to return home to the house of the Father. Lent is a time for us to ask if we have come to our senses or are we still insisting on doing things our way rather than at God's direction. An area where this may happen for us 'older sons' frequently is in relation to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We may be tempted to believe that we are doing what the Father asks of us and that should be good enough, and thank God we are not like so many others who don't even darken the door of the Church. This sense of self sufficiency can be spiritually disastrous.

When we truly come to our senses we see the rich wisdom of the Father in affording each of us the opportunity to approach the Throne of mercy, forgiveness and compassion. Sr. Mary Ann Walsh, writing for the USCCB blog, offers the following insight on the Sacrament.

Penance, aka confession, is the sacrament of the forgiveness of sin. You can't beat it for convenience. It's available practically whenever. Confession has many benefits. Here are ten:

1. **Confidentiality guaranteed.** There's nothing like confessing your sins to someone guaranteed not to tell anyone else. Sometimes you need to talk in absolute confidence. Even under subpoena, a priest can't tell anyone what's said to him in confession. He can't even hint at it. Now that's confidentiality.
2. **Housekeeping for the soul.** It feels good to be able to start a clean life all over again. Like going into a sparkling living room in your home, it's nice when clutter is removed – even if it's your own.
3. **A balm for the desire for revenge.** When you have been forgiven you can forgive others. If the perfect Jesus forgives me, who am I to want to avenge the slights in my life. Think: "Why did they promote him over me?" or "Mom played favorites!"
4. **Low cost therapy.** It's free, which makes it cheaper than a psychiatrist for dealing with guilt.
5. **Forced time to think.** Socrates said that the unexamined life is not worth living. To examine our lives and acknowledge failings marks the first step of making things right with God, others and ourselves. Life can be more worth living when you ponder the meaning of your own life.
6. **Contribution toward world peace.** Gaudium et Spes, the Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, said that the imbalances in the world that lead to war and tensions "are linked with that more basic imbalance which is rooted in the heart of man." Peace of soul leads to peace of heart leads to peace beyond oneself.
7. **A better neighborhood.** Confession leaves you feeling good about yourself, thereby cutting back the inclination to road rage and aggressive shopping cart driving. With the grace of the sacrament you're energized to, as Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery, "go and sin no more."
8. **Realistic self-perception.** Confession helps overcome arrogance when you have to admit you're as much of a sinner as anyone else. It helps build tolerance for others' perceived shortcomings.
9. **One more benefit of being Catholic.** There are lots of benefits, including a sense of community, liturgical rites to help us encounter God in prayer, and the wonderful sense of humanity exemplified in the saints, from Mary, the loving Mother of God, to Augustine, the exasperating son of Monica. The sacrament that leads us to inner peace is among the greatest boons.
10. **Closeness to God.** Confession helps you realize that you have a close connection to God and receive his grace through the sacraments. What can be better than knowing God's on your team, or, to be less arrogant about it, that you are on God's.

Isn't it time we all came to our senses and come fully home to the Father?

Peace, Fr. Richard

LENT 2016

During Lent Mass is offered at 8:30 AM and 7 PM Monday through Friday. Confession is available after Mass on Monday, Adult Faith Formation after Mass on Wednesday, and Stations of the Cross after Mass on Friday.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We are short of several items: Pancake mix, white Rice, canned and dry black beans, ravioli, spam, spaghetti sauce (traditional or meat sauce). Additional items that are greatly appreciated are: Dry milk, canned pears and pineapple, dry mashed potatoes, coffee, hot chocolate mix, Honey Nut Cheerios, and Frosted Flakes.

Responding to the needs of the poor is a Corporal Work of Mercy.

A SPECIAL LENTEN RECOLLECTION

The Diocesan Commission for Catholic Filipino Ministries (DCCFM) invites you to a special Lenten Recollection.

Joy and Mercy Are One

Saturday, March 12th, 2016
 1:00 PM—5:15 PM
 5:30 PM Holy Mass
 St. Paul Church, 286 Haledon Ave.,
 Prospect Park, NJ

In this year of Mercy, DCCFM is proud to present Father John T. Catoir as the spiritual speaker and leader

Please come and join us rediscover the joy of God's mercy. For more information please contact Emma Militante 908-604-0075 or mommilitante@gmail.com

LIFE MINISTRIES

40 days for life is Prayer and Fasting, Peaceful Vigil, and Community Outreach. Join Morris County



Right To Life at: Planned Parenthood, 196 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown 8AM to 8PM 7 Days a week. It began Ash Wednesday February 10, Ends Palm/Passion Sunday March 20.

NEXT SUNDAY MASS READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Isaiah

43:16-21
 God says
 not to



remember the events from long ago, but to focus on the things he plans to do next. He also claims he will again help his chosen people when they need him.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Paul describes knowledge of Jesus as more important than knowledge of the Old Law. He wishes to share in the power of Jesus' resurrection, and speaks of concentrating on the finish line of the race with salvation as the prize to be won.

Gospel: John 8:1-11

Jesus preached forgiveness of sin, but in the old law those accused of adultery were to be stoned. So the Pharisees tried to trap Jesus and brought a woman accused of adultery to him, asking him what he would do to her. Jesus asked that one without sin cast the first stone, and then all of the elders left. Jesus told the woman that he did not condemn her, but warned her to avoid such sin in the future.

Holy Week, Sacred Triduum and Easter Sunday Schedule 2016

Tuesday of Holy Week
 Confessions – 7:30 to 9 PM
(Several confessors will be present)

Wednesday of Holy Week
 Seder Supper – 7:30 PM
(tickets needed)

Holy Thursday
 Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:30 PM
 with adoration following until midnight.

Good Friday
 Passion of the Lord and Veneration of the Cross
 3PM
 Stations of the Cross – 7:30 PM

Holy Saturday
 Blessing of Easter Food – Noon
(In the school hall)
 The Great Vigil of Easter – 7:30 PM

Easter Sunday
 Mass at 8:30 and 10:30 AM
(No evening Mass on Easter Sunday)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who serve in the military:

Sean Milde, James Minogue, Greg Scaduto, Frank Fasano, Marcia Fernandes, Richard Lister, Eric Leverone, Jay Donato, Frank Messina, Eileen Murphy, Peter Giovanni, Brian Reynolds, John E. Siedler IV, and Alex Slevens.

Those who are ill:

Lou Aroneo, Mary Jane Postal, Rosa Benitez, Jack and Maria Bickel, Bob Mikulyak, Barbara Engle, Marilyn Fogarty, Cecile Fountain-Jardim, Msgr. Patrick Brown, Mary Keller, Richard, Scherer, Dorothy Paul, Givi Trauwaert, Ruth Ann Rahe, Daniel Nastarowicz, Jonathan and John Tantaros, Mary Bigelis, George Armenti III, MaryAnn Paster, Anne Galdieri, Terry McCloskey, Patricia Caruso-Minicozzi, Susan Holmes, Pat Moran, Carmel Connolly and Eric Binner.

Those who have died to this world

Marie Sara

Requiescat in Pace

May all the faithful who have departed this world rest in your eternal peace. Amen.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT
IN PARISH CEMETERY**

EAGLE SCOUT LEGACY WALL

Boy Scout and parishioner, Sean Theoclitus, is building a wall that will curve around the back of the cross in the parish's cemetery. Which will provide a nice space for prayer and reflection. On the wall there will be names of people's loved ones, (deceased or living,) engraved onto individual name plates, to be put on the wall. If you are interested in having your loved one's name put on the wall please visit www.troop59.com/seaneagleproject. The project is limited to 100 names. The wall will stand for many generations to come. You may also contact the parish office for more information if you do not have access to a computer.

Lenten Regulations

Abstinence -- Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

Fast -- Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Regarding other weekdays of Lent, participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting is recommended. Commendable, particularly during Lent, is generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions and all the self-denial summed up in the Christian concept of "mortification."

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

On Sunday, March 20th, the Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations of frozen Turkeys and/or Hams in boxes with a few items to be delivered to St Agnes Parish in Paterson. It's as simple as placing a frozen Turkey or Ham in a cardboard box, adding a few food items (beans, rice, potatoes, vegetables, etc) and bringing the box to the Clock Tower by STVDP School on Sunday, March 20th by noon. May the Good Lord bless you and your family this Holy Easter season for your loving generosity and goodness to God's holy people.

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING

If you would like to offer Easter Flowers in memory of loved ones, please use the envelope that was provided in your monthly packet or the form below. If you have any questions please contact Tonia VanDerveer in the parish office for assistance. 908-647-0118 or at tvanderveer@stvd.org

In memory of: _____

Gifted by: : _____

Address: _____

Donation: _____

Thank you .



SCHOOL NEWS

What Catholic Schools Mean to Me



"Catholic schools are very important to me. I have been attending St. Vincent de Paul for nine years and I have learned a great amount of things. One subject that SVDP has taught me is that God is always with me wherever I am. They have taught me that God will always love me no matter what I do. The teachers explain how Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. Catholic schools teach discipline to their students so they can have a safe and friendly environment for others who surround them. It is good for them to be in a friendly community so they can grow up to be a better person when they grow up. Catholic schools excel in education, giving advanced classes which will prepare the student to get into better classes in high school. It is a great experience for a child to go to Catholic School to have a better future ahead."

Kathleen Grade 7

Upcoming Events:

For more information and to register, please visit us at: insidethewalls.org



FAITH FORMATION

The Season of Lent



LENTEN SCHEDULE

As part of the Faith Formation curriculum, during Lent, families are to participate in the following three events:

Confessions

Each Monday in Lent after 7PM Mass until 8:30 PM or Saturdays (4:00-4:45 pm)

Stations of the Cross

Mass at 7 PM followed by Stations of the Cross

Family Faith Session

on the Angels

(RSVP at www.stvincentschurch.org Religious Ed link)

M.O.M.S GROUP

Meals For Moms. Are you expecting a baby? Or do you know someone that is? Meals For Moms would like to show our support by providing meals. Please email Danielle Grieco at dgrieco7@verizon.net for more info.

ROSARY ALTAR GUILD

The Rosary Altar Guild will meet on Monday, March 7th to pray the Rosary at 7:30 in the Church followed by coffee and fellowship in the Church meeting room.

Shrouded in Mystery



Wednesday, March 9
7:30 - 9:00 PM
Join us for a presentation on the Shroud of Turin.

Speaking of Faith

Wednesday, April 6 from 7:30 - 9 PM
Join Fr. Paul Manning as he interviews **Mary Oswald** on her physical challenges, her encounter with and response to God, and the integration of faith into work and life.

**2016 Women's Conference
Feminine, Faithful, Fearless**

For women at any age and stage of life.
Saturday, April 9
9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Jewel of the Diocese

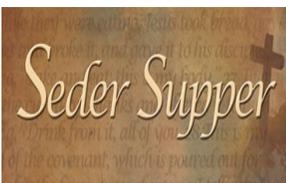
Wednesday, April 13
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Join Msgr. Raymond Kupke as he presents the history of St. John the Baptist Cathedral.



What Are the Seven Habits of Christian Disciples?

Join Br. Jude Lasota on
Saturday, April 16 from 10:00 AM - 12 noon
to find the answer to this question and learn much more.

SAVE OF THE DATE / SEDER MEAL



On Wednesday, March 23rd at 7:30 PM we will have our Seder Meal, Prayer and then dinner in the Parish Center. Please save the date. A flyer with all the information and sign up will be forthcoming.

Don't Miss... **BOLD**
Our Next **TNL** youth ministry by **fial Ventures**



DATE: Tues, March 8th
TIME: 7:30 - 9pm
PLACE: JP11 Room

Whether you're a "regular" or you've never been to a BOLD event, this is not a TNL you'll want to miss! Come for Chipotle, stay for a great night! Open to all in grades 9-12. Please sign up online and bring \$10 for Chipotle. SIGN UP FOR CHIPOTLE: boldym.com/svdp/signup

Confirmation Retreat

DATE: Sat, March 12th
This Saturday, our 10th grade Confirmation candidates will spend the day in reflection, preparation, and prayer, leading up to their Confirmation in April. Please keep all those on the retreat in your prayers this week, as we grow closer to God and together in community.



For more info such as calendar, contacts, sign ups & events
Amilee Bishop or Jeff Beer • (908) 295-8104
StVincent@boldym.com • www.boldym.com/svdp