

**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
In an emergency call
973-222-0720

Parish website:
stvincentschurch.org
 Parish email:
parish@stvd.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. A. Richard Carton, Pastor
 rrichardearton@gmail.com

Fr. William (Bill) Mooney
 Weekend Assistant

Elena Bird Zolnick Director of
 Sacred Music 907-953-0128
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Parish Trustees
 Alan Tangreti and Timothy Wallisch

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Vera Castagna
 Parish Secretary

Maria DeLuca
 Religious Formation Secretary

Teri Kesselmeier
 Technology and Communications

Mary Woods
 Parish Finance Coordinator



A Prayer for Healing

*At every moment of our existence
you are present to us, God,
in gentle compassion.*

*Help us to be present to one another
so that our presence may be a strength
that heals the wounds of time,*

*and gives hope that is for all persons,
through Jesus our compassionate brother.*

Sunday Mass Schedule

(Vigil Mass)
Saturday —5:00PM

Sunday
8:30AM, 10:30AM
and 6:00PM

**Confession: Saturday at 4PM
or other days by appointment.**

Weekday Mass Schedule

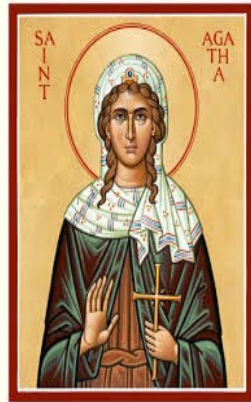
8:30AM Monday - Saturday

**“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 January 27th and 28th	
Total amount in envelopes:	\$8,123
Loose:	\$2,894
Online Parish Pay:	<u>\$2,850</u>
Total Offered :	\$13,867
Mortgage Reduction:	\$3,205

Daily Mass Readings	
Monday	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday	1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday	1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30
Friday	1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday	1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
MONDAY	February 5th Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
8:30AM	Msgr. Patrick Brown Giuseppe Iellimo Deceased members of the Syrotiuk Family
TUESDAY	February 6th Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
8:30AM	Br. Mark Mary Maximilian Ames (<i>Living</i>) Noel Williams Vincent and Virginia Corsentino
WEDNESDAY	February 7th
8:30AM	Brantley Dobbs Ann Cahill Judy and Eddie Morgan
THURSDAY	February 8th Saint Jerome Emiliani Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
8:30AM	John Calabro (<i>Living</i>) Aileen Oster Frank Mares
FRIDAY	February 9th
8:30AM	Joseph Schlegel (<i>Living</i>) Anthony Delia Teofilo Ferraris
SATURDAY	February 10th Saint Scholastica, Virgin
8:30AM	Iain Thomlinson Joan O'Connor Aileen Oster

PALM FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Palm which was blessed last Palm Sunday may be brought to the vestibule of the church by **Monday, February 12th** and placed in the basket there. It will be burned and prepared for use as ash on **Ash Wednesday, February 14th**. After that time blessed palm from last year may be buried or burned in order to be disposed of properly. **Please do not return last year's palm to the church after February 12th.**

Ash Wednesday Schedule 2018

Mass will be offered at 8:30AM, Noon and 7:00PM with the blessing and distribution of Ashes.

At 4 PM there will be a Liturgy of the Word with the blessing and distribution of Ashes.

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
5:00PM (Vigil)	Arthur Del Pomo Pat Passarelli Deceased members of the parish
SUNDAY	February 11th
8:30AM	John McMonagle Therese McCloskey Nunzio Dagostino Gretchen Dolman
10:30AM	Richard Higgins Letitia Jorgensen Francesco and Liberata Salvati
6:00PM	The Mendez Family (<i>Living</i>) Bill Mahoney Anthony LaRezza



The **Mass Book for 2019** will be available for your Mass intentions beginning the week of **February 12th**. Please call or visit the Parish Office to request dates for your intentions. You can also email Vera at vcastagna@stvd.org with your requests.

Give me something to drink.....

It is something that I do several times a day. I do not always give it sufficient reflection. I guess it is because I get so used to something until it is not there and even then have other options. I am referring to the action of water flowing from faucets. I was thinking of it last night in light of my recent trip to Haiti. When Fr. Theo was here to visit in September he shared with me the way in which feast days are celebrated in Haiti. After Easter and Christmas the feast day is the most important celebration in parishes throughout Haiti. It made sense then that a return visit to our sister parish should be for their feast day—January 25th—the Conversion of St. Paul. Accompanied by Sr. Elsa, Laurette and Kevin Dempsey, I headed out in the early morning of January 22nd for my 2nd visit to the parish there, my 8th visit to Haiti.

You may remember that in the first visit, meeting with representatives of the parish there, we asked what their needs were. The first need cited was for them to have a place for Fr. Theo to live. They desperately wanted their pastor living there. The shell of a proposed rectory stood there 6 months ago and it would be a very slow process of completion without other assistance. Through the generosity of parishioners and non parishioners, along with the proceeds from the Wine and Food Tasting, we have contributed \$30,000 to that project. It is amazing what has been accomplished in such a short time. The shell is now a home, furnished and habitable. Fr. Theo made me laugh when recounting that in order to encourage the parishioners to work on the house, the parishioner in charge, Simone, would ask on days that they seemed less enthused if they intended to have the visitors from St. Vincent de Paul stay with them or where they stayed previously (an orphanage about an hour or so drive away) and that they would respond “here” and then, with a new energy, would return to working on the rectory.

We were greeted with such warmth and affection when we arrived. Within hours of reaching Nanpol members of the community gathered for the blessing of the rectory and we were not spectators but participants. Fr. Theo is so thoughtful and considerate and made a point of making sure that each person in our group had a part to play. He speaks with such joy about the hope that we as a community of believers bring to our sisters and brothers in Nanpol, and to him as pastor there.

The feast day celebration was sure not to disappoint. Priests began to arrive the night before. The choir rehearsed for hours; so much so that we were able to participate in the sung parts of the Mass as we had heard the pieces so often. On the morning of the feast day the community was alive with activity and the excitement could be witnessed in the enthusiasm and energy of those around us. They invigorated us. For the Mass, the church was filled to overflowing. There were nearly 20 priest concelebrants, civil officials and leaders from the local community. The feast day is not just for the parish but for the entire region. Many of those present had walked hours to be there. As is par for the course the Mass spanned almost 3 hours—the homily alone was almost 50 minutes. I did not time it—others shared that tidbit with me. As a concelebrant I prayed part of the Eucharistic Prayer in English, again Fr. Theo is so aware of making sure that we are included. Sr. Elsa proclaimed the Second Reading of the Mass and Kevin Dempsey read one of the Prayers of the Faithful. It certainly was not a case of watching the clock as the time passed, packed with many beautiful moments. I was given the opportunity to speak with the congregation with the assistance of an interpreter. These are the words I shared with them: *My dear sisters and brothers in Christ. I greet you in the name of your sisters and brothers of St. Vincent de Paul parish on this your patronal feast day. St. Paul shows us what discipleship in Jesus entails. He urges us on our journey to forget what is behind and to push on to what lies ahead. Six months ago we met here and you asked that we would return. Now by the grace of God here we are again. Thanks be to God who is always victorious in us, proclaims the great Apostle. It is such a joy to be with you and to see the progress that has been made. Your prayer to have your pastor living among you has been answered through the assistance of your sisters and brothers bound to you in faith and love by Jesus. For us, and as I see so clearly for you also, the only important thing is to know and love Christ. Love of Jesus is our true happiness. Love opens hearts. Love brings us comfort in affliction and difficulty. In being loved by Christ we possess everything even, and most especially, in our poverty. The one who is truly poor is the one who does not love Christ. Jesus' love is made visible in His command which we must follow—love, as I have loved you. I am most humbled by your welcome, your joy and the hospitality Fr. Theo and you have shown us. Let us continue to pray for one another. Let us work together so that God may be glorified in all that we do.*

So back to the water. It is disturbing to note that the people of Nanpol live in the appalling conditions that they are in. In the 21st century they have no running water. I thought of that last night as I was filling the dogs' water bowl. They depend on rivers and streams for water, carrying containers for many, many miles. Through the generosity of a parishioner there is now a pump at the well in our sister parish—the water from that well is certainly not drinkable. It is my hope that we may be able to assist not just the parish but the community of Nanpol in providing water that is treated and may be consumed free of contamination. The research on this has already begun. I also pray that we will be able to continue assistance in other ways. Soon photos of the trip will be posted to our parish website for you to view. I have asked the other members of our group who visited last week to provide a reflection on the experience from their perspective which will be in the next bulletin. Thank you to all who prayed for our safe travels and who have continued to express interest in our parish mission. More information will follow.

Peace,
Fr. Richard

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**Those who serve in the military:**

James Minogue, Nick Ragazzo, Stephen J. Campbell, Sean Milde, Frank Fasano, Richard Lister, Eric Leverone, Jay Donato, Frank Messina, Eileen Murphy, Peter Giovanni, John E. Siedler IV

Those who are ill:

Cathy Bognar, John Daglian, Parker Watson, Annette McGrory, Lou Aroneo, Patrick Bergin, Joseph Rota, Lynne Coombs, Lucy Bustillos, Paula Matchen, May Hill, Caitlin Shea, Bill Wallisch, Larry Oster, Nanci Gamba, Elizabeth Early, Serenity Rose Apuzzo, Helen Munro and Eric Binner

Those who have died to this world

Marie Lamia, Maryann Covalence,

Christopher Brennan

Requiescat in Pace

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



The votive candles before the statues of the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph are in memory of Noel Williams.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

This flu season is one of the worst in 15 years. Bishop Serratelli has issued the following guidelines for all liturgies in the diocese until further notice:

1. If you do not feel well and suspect that you have the flu please remain at home.
2. The Sign of Peace: If you feel uncomfortable with the exchange of the sign of peace through a handshake you are under no obligation to do so. You may extend the sign of peace to your neighbor by a nod of the head.
3. Distributing and receiving the Eucharist: Priests, Deacons and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist must thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water or an alcohol based hand cleanser both before and after the distribution of the Eucharist. Receiving Holy Communion in the hand is the most practical means to distribute the Blessed Eucharist in a sanitary way.
4. Receiving the Eucharist by also drinking the Precious Blood from the chalice is discontinued until the level of flu cases is dramatically decreased.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46**

The Lord tells Moses and Aaron that anyone bearing the sore of leprosy must first be seen by Aaron or one of the other priests, and that as long as the sore is upon him, "He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Paul instructs the Corinthians to do everything for the glory of God, to avoid offending others, and to be imitators of Christ.

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Jesus takes pity on a leper and cures him of his disease with a warning not to say but to show himself to the priest and make an offering. Instead of remaining silent, the leper greatly publicized the healing, making it impossible for Jesus to enter the town openly.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
IN OUR PARISH**

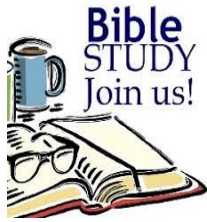
Our church is open daily from 7:30am to 9:00pm, closing on Saturday and Sunday after the evening Mass. On the third Friday of each month we have Adoration and the praying of the Rosary particularly focused on families – come, bring your children and grandchildren and teach them to speak to Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament. On First Fridays we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8:30am Mass through the night until 8:00am on Saturday. If you are awake because you have many concerns, come talk to Him. Jesus is absolutely and truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament – many, many Saints became Saints because they knew and responded to this truth.

"Do you realize that Jesus is there...especially for you- for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart." St. Therese of Lisieux

FAMILY ROSARY AND ADORATION

During Lent Mass is celebrated at 7PM followed by Stations of the Cross on Fridays. Family Rosary and Adoration will resume in April.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION STUDIES



Sr. Elsa's Spiritual Book Club
 Mondays 9:15am to 10:45am. On February 26th Sr. Elsa will begin a new book for discussion entitled *From the Cross to the Empty Tomb* by Bishop Serratelli.

Getting Ready For Sunday with Fr. Richard
 Gain a deeper insight into the Scriptures for Sunday Mass and a deeper understanding of the readings and of the culture and context within which they were written. Discussions are held on Thursday afternoons at 1pm to 2:30pm and repeated in the evening at 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

The Bible and the Sacraments: Journey Through Scripture. Wednesdays from 7pm to 8:30pm with Fr. Richard. Learn about the life changing power of the sacraments, their meaning and origin as illuminated in Sacred Scripture. Sessions take place in the Pastoral Center Library.

FISH AND CHIPS DINNER



Our annual Fish and Chips Dinner will be held on **Saturday, March 17th** in the gym. The doors open at 5:30pm. A planning meeting will take place on **Tuesday, February 6th at 7:00pm** in the Library. The proceeds from the dinner will benefit our sister parish in Haiti.

New ideas and volunteers are welcome! If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to share your thoughts, time and talents please contact Terri Apuzzo at terriapuzzo@gmail.com.

2018 CALENDAR RAFFLE



Soon you will be receiving your 2018 Calendar Raffle tickets in the mail. The total amount of the prizes will be \$20,000.

The first drawing will take place on Wednesday, February 28th with the winning prize amount of \$1,000. Return your ticket stubs as soon as possible to be eligible for all 9 drawings. We encourage you to get your family and friends in on the fun. Each week the winning ticket is put back in with the others so there is more than one opportunity to win!

Parishioners are needed to sell tickets after all Masses every weekend. Please visit the parish website to volunteer. Your help is needed to make our parish raffle a success.

Good Luck to all!

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY BAKE SALE



Our "Sunday Before Fat Tuesday Bake Sale" will take place **next weekend** after all the Masses. We need your help to make this the best sale ever! Please drop off your nicely wrapped "culinary treasures" to the kitchen in the church meeting room by 4:00pm

on Saturday, February 10th or before the Mass you attend next weekend. Support the Rosarians by purchasing one or more baked items to enjoy before Lent begins. For questions, contact Karen Nyquist at 908-350-8009 or by email to Karen.nyquist@gmail.com.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Daily Mass—Monday through Friday 8:30am and 7:00pm.

Confession—Every Monday during Lent after 7:00pm Mass until 8:30pm.

Mondays—Sr. Elsa will be moving on to a new book for reading and discussion in the Library. The new book is entitled *From the Cross To The Empty Tomb* written by Bishop Arthur Serratelli.

Wednesdays—Saints Alive is a dramatic presentation on the life of St. Patrick, St. Francis and St. Cecilia. Listen to a dramatic and fascinating reading of the life of a saint by some amazing and known actors and actresses. Then join in a discussion about what you have heard. Sessions will take place in the JPII Center from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

Thursdays—Bible Study focusing on the readings for Mass each Sunday and takes place in two sessions: 1:00pm to 2:30pm **and** repeated from 7:30pm to 9:00pm in the Library. (No previous experience needed)

Fridays—Stations of the Cross after the 7:00pm Mass during Lent.

Please plan participate in these opportunities so that you may have an inspirational Lenten journey.

Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act - Failed to pass

This past week the U.S. Senate failed to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (S. 2311) on a vote of 51 to 46. The bill was stopped on a procedural measure requiring 60 votes for the legislation to move to a final vote. Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities called the Senate's failure to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act "appalling". The bill proposes to ban abortions starting at 20 weeks after fertilization.

The Cardinal issued the following statement: "The U.S. Senate's failure to adopt the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, prohibiting abortions at 20 weeks post-fertilization, is appalling. Abortions performed in the second half of pregnancy usually involve brutally dismembering a defenseless unborn child, while also posing serious dangers to his or her mother.

The Senate's rejection of this common-sense legislation is radically out of step with most Americans. Opinion polls consistently show that a strong majority of the public opposes late-term abortions—including those who self-identify as 'pro-choice'.

Furthermore, the United States is currently one of only seven countries that allows abortions beyond 20-weeks. The other six are North Korea, China, Vietnam, Singapore, Canada and the Netherlands. The Senate must rethink its extreme stance on late-term abortions. I call upon the public to tell the Senate that this vote is absolutely unacceptable."

LEGATUS OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY



Legatus is an international Catholic organization for CEOs, Presidents, Business Owners and Managing Directors/Partners and their spouses founded by Tom Monaghan of Domino's Pizza fame.

For membership information and reservations please call Allison Provinsal, Chapter Administrator at 908-458-2633 or visit legatus.org/chapter/northern-new-jersey/.



BOLD Middle - Service Night!



Friday, February 9th,
7-8:30pm
JP11 Room

For all in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
Come put together toiletry kits for the needy!
Sign Up at boldym.com/svdp/signup



High School

Next TNL
Tuesday, 2/13,
7:30-9pm

Yes, there will be pizza!

Maria Allen | StVincent@boldym.com | 908-295-8104

THANK YOU!



Thank you to all who supported the January 26th St. Vincent de Paul Bridges Run. Because of your generous donations, prayers and action over 250 sandwiches were made and goody bags were filled by Long Hill Township Girl Scout troops and later

distributed in New York City by our Confirmation candidates. The recipients of the meals were so appreciative of the love expressed in the giving by our young people. Thank you to all for your efforts in making this Bridges Run a success!

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE FOR SISTERS

Assumption College for Sisters in Denville will hold their **17th Annual Caring Basket Gala** on **Thursday, March 22nd**. The Gala raises scholarship funds for the education of Catholic Sisters from the developing world who do not have an opportunity in their homelands. Please consider attending the Gala at the Hanover Marriott, Whippany or placing a congratulatory message in the journal for the Sisters. Your support will make a difference in the lives of many through the education of Catholic Sisters.