

Welcome to St. Virgil's...
Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., Dec. 22	5:00 PM	Louis Beneduce Josephine Underhill Jean Williams
Sun., Dec. 23	7:30 AM	Phyllis & Francis D'Annunzio
	9:00 AM	Craig Davidson Loretta Lang Harold & Mae Williamson
	10:30 AM	Kathleen McGinty Mark Vadakara
	12:00 PM	Angela & Antonio Gabriele Frances & Michael Marinaccio
Mon., Dec. 24	6:30 AM	Arduino Magliocchetti
	4:00 PM	Ed Zinckgraf Alma Thrum Clara & Robert Zinckgraf
	6:00 PM	Craig Jacobs Joe Kowalski Alice Morris Michael Smith
Tues., Dec. 25	11:00 PM	Bob & Helen Underhill & Family
	8:00 AM	Dec'd Members of the D'Annunzio & DeRienzo Family Kathy & William Steur Frank Landi Mary & Eugene Delmonico, Sr.
Wed., Dec. 26	10:00 AM	Alice Morris Elizabeth Wurzer Gerard Palumbo Anna Russo
	12:00 PM	Robert Gerhold
	6:30 AM	Jack Gallagher
Thurs., Dec. 27	12:10 PM	Alice Morris—1 st Anniversary
	6:30 AM	Sam Barrett
Fri., Dec. 28	12:10 PM	Rose Onorati
	6:30 AM	Don Bookhold
Sat., Dec. 29	12:10 PM	Theresa Ponticelli Sabin Fallivene
	8:00 AM	In Thanksgiving from the Bernardo Family
Sun., Dec. 30	5:00 PM	Judy DiCarlo William Smith Alice Morris
	7:30 AM	Walter Appell Eileen Doherty
	9:00 AM	Loretta Lang
	10:30 AM	Suzanne Cattaneo Jean Williams
	12:00 PM	Eleanor Gallagher



**God's Blessings to all
on this Holy Day!**

This Week at St. Virgil's



**"Find Your Greatness"
With Dr. Allan Hunt
From Dynamic Catholic
Tickets available in the Parish Office!**

Sunday, December 23

Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 AM, CR
Youth Band Practice, 5 PM, Church

Monday, December 24

Parish Office open till 12 noon
Christmas Eve Masses
4 PM, 6 PM, 11 PM

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day Masses
8 AM, 10 AM, 12 PM

Wednesday, December 26

Parish Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

Parish Office Open 9 AM - 2 PM
Divine Mercy Novena, 6:30 PM, Chapel

Friday, December 28

Eucharistic Adoration following the 6:30 AM Mass
Parish Office Open from 9 AM - 2 PM

Saturday, December 29

Confession, 3:30 - 4:15 PM

Sunday, December 30

Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 AM, CR



Among Ourselves

The **Sanctuary Candle** honors the memory of
Bob Law
from his Family

The **Altar Bread & Wine** honors the memory
Of the **Deceased Members of the Russo Family**
From the Fallivene Family

Please remember in your prayers: Mary Eileen Prisinzano, Noreen Ballon, Eileen Langan, Karen Cullen, Mary Sullivan, Colleen Dillon & Family, Bob Taylor, John & Elizabeth Zisa, Kamasha Redhead, Stephen Burke, Sandra Buck, Janet Dittrich, Tammy Dolan, Mallory Miller, Miah Tully, Domenico & Teresa Procopio, Anne Benson, Baby Emma Scannelli, Barbara Bock, Mary Maffeo, & Rose Marie Warrick.

Through your generous donations the collection for the weekend of December 15/16 was \$10,581. (In-pew donations \$8,976 and \$1,605 through Faith Direct). We are most appreciative for your kindness.

Ministry Schedule for December 29 and 30					
	5:00pm Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	12:00 noon
Cantor	Nancy Fenimore		Janet Winston	Jonathan Blanco	Nancy Fenimore
Lector	Bob Clifford	Mike Butchko	John Trombetta	Kathy Sisler	Jen Qvotrup
Altar Servers	Lia Dyer		Luken Biggan	Ally McLoughlin	Micah Fuentes
	Natalie Dyer		Chris Urriola	Bobby McLoughlin	
	Kevin Goupon				
Extraordinary Ministers	Jane Flynn	Jackie Donnelley	Dianna DeLorenzo	Maureen Kelly	Marie Aloia
	Renee Gopon	Shirley Fleury	Joe DeLorenzo	Penny Manser	George Perkins
	Tina Gopon	Margaret Flory	Chris Letta	Frank Miller	Angela Rangel
	Helen Salerno	Joan Sambrowski	Michele Para	Sue Carol Scannelli	Sandy Rosanio
	Karen Schwingel		Pat Para	Jim Scannelli	
	Grace Walsh				



Fr. Lance's Letter

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! The excitement about Christmas cannot be contained any longer. We seem to have begun celebrations well in advance - in our school and classrooms, offices and work places, among family and friends, our church groups, just about everywhere. This weekend is still the "Fourth Sunday of Advent", still waiting with expectation, still waiting to make space for the New Born Savior, still waiting with hope that most of our wants and desires, our wishes and dreams will be fulfilled, our issues and problems solved or just go away. And yet...

"Homeless, hungry and helpless" are some of the true facts of Christmas. The Christmas scene finds us before a stable, a shelter for animals. Not just because there was "no room" and all the doors were shut closed, but because the stable has no doors - it's open to anyone and everyone.

While sculptors, painters and decorators have presented the Christmas Nativity scene vividly and admirably there is the possibility of them blocking out God's hunger for us and our hunger for God. Also, God's intense desire to find a home "among us" and for those who received Him the joyous blessing seen in the faces of the shepherds and the Wise Ones. Most of all, our God comes to us as a "helpless Infant", lying in a manger

- where fodder for animals is kept. God is willing to be carried and embraced by anyone and everyone. This special moment of Christmas - my Mass with Christ, my Eucharist in Christ - when I can open my personal life for the Lord's entry, welcome and stay in my life is reality of this Feast. God becomes "incarnate", taking flesh in me. This is my sincere prayer and wish for each of you this Christmas: Let God be born in You! Let the New Born Savior Jesus Christ live in You! Let His Wonder and His Greatness shine in and through You! Merry Christmas!!!

From all in ministry at St. Virgil: our Altar Servers, Children, Youth and Adults Choirs, our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Greeters, our Decorators and our Religious Education Staff, our Office Staff, all who serve us in countless other ways, our Deacons and Priests: God Bless You and Your Families with His constant Presence, His Joyous Love, and His calming Peace.
- Fr. Lance

WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS

Thank you for coming to worship at St. Virgil and to celebrate the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We hope that you feel welcomed, very comfortable and spiritually inspired. We want you to know and experience God's Love for you and our desire to want the best for you. You will find a "welcome card" in your pew. Kindly enter your e-mail address so that we can keep you informed of what we are and do at St. Virgil Parish. Thank You and Merry Christmas!

Faith Formation

Religious Education Schedule for January

PREP K - 4	Jr. High PREP 5-8	Jr. High Masses	FISH (Confirmation)	Youth Masses
10:15-11:45 AM January 6 & 27	Sunday: 1-3:15 PM January 20	9 AM January 27	6:30 PM 1 st Yr: January 13	12:00 Noon January 13
1st Eucharist Retreat January 26:	Monday: 7 - 8:15 PM January 7 & 27		2 nd Yr: January 27	



We would like to say a big "Thank You!" to our K-4 PREP families for their generous donation of baby food items to the Interfaith Food Pantry. We delivered close to 100 pounds of food and supplies to the pantry, who will distribute the items to families in need. We wish you many blessings this Christmas and in the New Year!!



Men's Cornerstone: "Did you ever wonder what kind of gift you could give to a friend...a loved one...or even yourself this coming Christmas? A gift that would leave a lasting memory and even perhaps change someone's life for the better. What better way to show your concern than to find a way to strengthen your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and to gain a better understanding of God's Plan for You. Be on the lookout for the registration for the upcoming Cornerstone VII Retreat scheduled for February 15 & 16 at Loyola."

Men's Retreat ~ The men of the parish are invited to take part in the annual Men's Retreat at Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown. Here are some quick facts:

- When is the retreat?** Friday, January 18 thru Sunday, January 20
- What is the retreat?** An opportunity of prayer, listening, and self-examination
- What is the theme?** "Surrender? Learning to Yield to Loving to our God"
- Who is the presenter?** Fr. Tom Marciniak, SJ
- Cost of the retreat?** A FREE WILL OFFERING

You are invited to a quiet weekend of prayer as God speaks to you in the silence of your heart. For more details, call Michael Butchko at 973-216-4874 or email retreathouse@loyola.org. You can also register online at www.loyola.org.



Parish Postings

In the event that PREP classes, Formation sessions, or meetings need to be cancelled due to inclement weather, a message will be posted on the Parish website www.stvirgilparish.org at least one hour prior to the start of session.

The Rosary Society will not meet in January due to the celebration of New Year's Day.

A Thank You from the Star of Bethlehem

At present a total of \$16,928 has been contributed to the Star of Bethlehem Outreach program. About 20% of the envelopes have yet to be returned; the final amount will be published in a January bulletin along with the charities and agencies that receive them. As in the past, your donations will remain in our community.

Your joy on this Christmas morning will be increased by knowing you have provided more food on the table, toys for children, gifts for the elderly and warm clothing for the cold winter days ahead.

Your compassion for those in need has truly made Christmas a "journey of the heart".

The computers you no longer use can still have a HUGE impact!

ELECTRONICS DRIVE

December 29
10am to 2pm
Tracey Center @St Virgil's Parrish

Looking for used
desktops | laptops | tablets | flat screen
monitors | cell phones.

Equipment donated will be used to support Electronic Access Foundation's efforts to provide technology to program participants at Catholic Charities of Newark Archdiocese, Homeless Solutions of Morristown, Community Hope of Parsippany, Youth Consultation Services of Hackensack, Newark Kids Code and Community Lifestyle of Hoboken.




Electronic Access Foundation
A partner of the Newark Charities Foundation
www.e-access.org

ST. VIRGIL PARISH

FIND YOUR GREATNESS

Four habits that will transform your life

Featuring: **DR. ALLEN HUNT**

When: **March 30, 2019**
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Where: **St. Virgil Catholic Church**
250 Speedwell Avenue
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Tickets: **\$25.00**
Purchase your tickets at DynamicCatholic.com or call 859-980-7900

What are your habits? Are they helping you become the best version of yourself or some second-rate version of yourself?

Our lives change when our habits change. Based on Matthew Kelly's book *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, this half-day event will introduce you to four simple habits that will help you reach your full potential.

Dynamic Catholic

Tickets are available for purchase in the Parish Office and online. Claim your free gift (while supply lasts) by purchasing your ticket at the Parish

Christmas Flower Remembrances



In loving memory of...

From...

- | | |
|---|--|
| Powell, Gallagher & Salerno Families..... | Helen & Don Salerno |
| Craig Allen Davidson..... | Mom & Dan, Kyle & Kristen, Jake & Brooke |
| Frances & L..... | Costello Family |
| Jack & Helene McMahon..... | Kevin & Sara McMahon |
| Alex Paganelli..... | Kevin & Sara McMahon |

Our Parents & Grandparents	The Fichter & DiVitanonio Families
Alice Morris	The Terracciano Family
Barbara & Attilio LaMagna	The Terracciano Family
The Cuddy Family	The Terracciano Family
Forbes & Mary Smith.....	The Terracciano Family
Grace & Patrick Terracciano	The Terracciano Family
Morgan Hardy, Carmella & Angelo Simone, George Hassan	The Simone/Hassan Family
Vincent & George.....	Jeanne McGuinness
Jack - John Hooper.....	Pauline Hooper & Family
Frances & Louis Froehlich & Mary Costello.....	Costello Family
Michael & Nellie Kushner.....	With love, Gloria
James O'Keefe.....	The O'Keefe Family
Edward & Robert Taratko	Loving Family
Ronald & Lillian Burrows, Ronald Harris, Ann Marie Lagan.....	The Burrows Family
Robin Maura Claffey, George & Rachel Claffey, George & Ellen Shivas.....	John & Eileen Claffey
The Suriano & Urbanik Family	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Suriano
Julianne Agacinski.....	The Baiel Family
Jennifer Ann Baiel.....	The Baiel & Christopherson Families
Katherine & Edward Snow & Christin Barilla	John & Martha Barilla
Alfred M. Keller & T. McLoughlin.....	The McLoughlin Family
Donna Garland.....	Regina Keating
John Keating.....	Regina Keating
William, Edith & Robert Keating	Regina Keating
Johanna Eckardt.....	Regina Keating
Dec'd Members of the Memmer & Eckardt Families.....	Regina Keating
Dec'd Members of the Paul Glanville, Sr. Family.....	Beverly Morgan & Rosemary & Dennis Paulison
Grant Morgan.....	Beverly Morgan
Kosakowski, Novak & Waer Families.....	Jean, David, Ed & Melissa
Johanna Eckardt.....	Carl & Mary Eckardt
John Keating.....	Carl & Mary Eckardt
Olive Jeanpierre.....	Carl & Mary Eckardt
Memmer Families	Carl & Mary Eckardt
Dec'd Members of the Cutter Family	The Cutter Family
Edmund & Clara Flynn.....	Jane Flynn
George H. Nunn, Sr.	Laura & Thomas Nunn & Family
Edith J. Nunn	Laura & Thomas Nunn & Family
Margaret Courtet.....	Laura & Thomas Nunn & Family
John H. Courtet.....	Laura & Thomas Nunn & Family
George Nunn, Sr.	Dan, Wendy & Kelly Nunn
Edith Nunn	Dan, Wendy & Kelly Nunn
Geddy & Marie Kairaitis.....	Dan, Wendy & Kelly Nunn
Debbie Stumpt	Dan, Wendy & Kelly Nunn
The Carvagno & Conforti Families.....	Tom & Gloria Carvagno
Christopher & Margaret Magestro and Anthony & Anne DeVenezia.....	Jack & Diane DeVenezia
The King & Gaertner Family.....	Thomas & Elisabet King
The Williamson & Fisher Family	Barbara & Matt Fisher
Gaetano & Rose Cumella.....	Thomas & Marianne Altrui & Family
Frank & Catherine Altrui.....	Thomas & Marianne Altrui & Family
Loreto & Miller Families	Grace L. Miller
Mike Smith.....	Rose & Dick Smith
Alice & Bud Leyhan	Rose & Dick Smith
Dec'd Members of our family.....	Mark & Jennifer Beyrent
Dec'd Members of the Scannelli & Perruso Families.....	Jim & Sue Carol Scannelli
Dec'd Members of the Donnelly and Sandelli Families.....	Michael, Barbara, Anthony & Samantha Sandelli
Bob Law.....	from his family
Jerry Kelly.....	Maureen & Family
My loving parents, Mary & Angelo Spinola.....	Judy
The Barry Family.....	Pat, Joanne & Chris
The Gallo Family	Pat, Joanne & Chris
Mike Beck.....	Aunt Pat
Robin Dunn	Pat & Marlene
Elizabeth G. Wurzer.....	Herb Wurzer & Family
Jordan & Ronald Krakauer Love and miss you both so much.....	Paul & Barbara Boller
Eileen & George Shivas and Anne & Edward Morley.....	Nancy & Jack Shivas

The Cifelli / King Families	Judith Cifelli
Bill Warrick	Wife, Rose Marie
Mericle & Tillett Families	James & Blanche Tillett
Our Parents	Bob & Carolyn Dube
Joseph P. Gagliardi, Jr.	Loving wife & son, Lysa & Kyle
Jeffrey R. Warrick	Dad, Gerald, and Grandma Rosie
Pamela Costens Bauman, Robert Clark Campbell, & Louis Beneduce	Joseph & Florence Costens
Robert & Annarose Butterly and Robert, Doris & Mark Clifford	Bob, Mary, Anne & Rob Clifford
Powell, Gallagher & Salerno Families	Don & Helen Salerno
Bob Hunter & Jamie Hunter	Helen & Family
Donald Walsh & Family	Lovingly, Grace Walsh
Bolton & DeChiara Family and Frances, Howard & Mark Sherwood	Harry & Frances Bolton
Dec'd Members of the Radicsh and Kelch Family	The Radicsh Family
Frank Tykowski	Helen Tykowski
Dec'd Members & For Favors Received	Ric & Mary Ann Perez and David Brager

Weekly Reflections

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Old Testament, Micah 5:1-46
New Testament, Luke 1:39-45

We all must have experienced the feeling of being small and unnoticed at some point in our lives. That is at the core to today's readings. You, (Old Testament) Bethlehem... too small to be among the clans of Judah..." And in the New Testament, "...how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" Both the Old and New Testament today reveal that Christ shall come to live and dwell among those who seem small in the eyes of this world. But, obviously not small in the eyes of God.

As we live out the Incarnation story depicted in Luke's Gospel, we shall imagine and feel this innate smallness held against the greatness of God, who is coming to live among us, for even the town in which He came to live was considered a nothing! We shall witness the reality of God coming among the littlest in our world. We shall see the shepherds; and a very young girl and young man who came to be parents in a homeless little family. They were, also, at the beginning, "immigrants" as they travelled with their Child in haste to Egypt, to safety. Who look more lowly to us, today, than those embattled immigrants who are traveling to a safe place for them and their families?

So, if we feel down on ourselves, let us not worry, for we are in good company. Let this Christmas remind us of where Christ came to dwell and that the life of humility, He led is a great teaching of Christ, right from His very first day!

Lord, teach us to live a life of humility, as you did!



Please remember the **Interfaith Food Pantry** while you are shopping for your Christmas grocery needs. Pantry needs are extensive this time of year. Current needs are: canned fruit, spaghetti/pasta sauce, tomato products, cereal, white and brown rice, dry milk, evaporated milk, calcium-fortified milk alternatives, tuna fish, peanut butter (18oz), canned meats and meals, Rice-A-Roni, Pasta-Roni, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, all varieties of soups, Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 baby food, baby cereal, baby wipes, reusable grocery shopping bags, Boost or Ensure regular and glucose control.

EVANGELIZATION CORNER



During the hustle and bustle of making final preparations for Christmas, it can be difficult to stay focused on the reason for the season — to find time to reflect and pray. But don't let these activities overshadow the final moments of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for Catholics. It is important that we continue to direct ourselves and our family focus on God and allow the Christmas season, from Jesus' birth on Christmas day to his Baptism by John in January, happen slowly.

As we celebrate the fourth and last Sunday in Advent we are reminded of the long-expected coming of the Messiah that was promised to the Jewish people in Genesis *"I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed; He shall crush your head, and you shall lie in wait for his heel."* (Gen 3:15)

The whole season of Advent has been a time for us to find intimacy with God in the midst of our everyday lives. It has been a time of hope, of peace, of joy and of love. Our journey through Advent has offered us an opportunity to reflect upon how Jesus came into the world. He came in the midst of scandal and conflict, in poverty and hunted by Herod. Such reflections allow us to better appreciate Jesus, who came to earth, grew up in obscurity, walked among the people and preached the good news to them and was rejected and crucified. And yet today he continues to live in people and in the sacraments.

Our call to evangelize also involves waiting, anticipation and preparation — waiting and anticipation of Jesus' second coming and preparation for our final journey into eternity. But it also involves more. This "more" involves a new attitude of waiting that centers around Jesus' ministry to the poor and downtrodden. It invites us to shift our attitude of waiting from looking to some distant past or future to the waiting that happens in everyday life.

More than any other Christian holiday season, the Christmas season gives us the opportunity to talk about our faith in a very forthright way. Although we should boldly proclaim Jesus' name at any time of year, the Christmas season is an excellent opportune time to remind everyone in our lives that Jesus is God Himself, and that his incarnation is something to celebrate. It's a time to shout with joy and gladness that "Christ our Savior is Born!"

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

St. Virgil's Evangelization Ministry