

December 6, 2020
 Second Sunday of Advent

St. Virgil's Parish

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14;
Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6,
 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a,
 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-
 47 or any readings from the *Lectio-
 nary for Mass* (vol. IV), the Common of the
 Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712



Please remember in your prayers:

John & Lucie Cehelsky, Doris Biache, Barbara Trzaska, Lydia Sesso, Robert Taylor, Mike Manley, Debbie Dallemolle, Harriet Lipari, Deacon Alan Lucibello, Bill Warrick, Tony Loughlin, Florence Luckey, Rosemary Paulison, Jackie Donnelley, Judy Taylor, Mary Eileen & Douglas Prisinzano, Mary Beth Jensen, Colleen Dillion & Family, Mary Maffeo, Marie E. Logan, Rose Marie Warrick, Sandra Buck, Margaret Ellis, John & Elizabeth Zisa, Anne Benson, Bob Taylor, Kamasha Redhead, Miah Tully, Barbara Bock, Baby Emma Scannelli, Stephen Burke, Eileen Lagan, and Teresa Procopio.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., Dec. 5	5pm	Agnes Yatsko
Sun., Dec. 6	8am	Phyllis & Francis D'Annunzio Barbara Bracale
	10:30am	Tony Carvagno William Bossard
Mon., Dec. 7	9am	Joseph & Marion Martin Francis McConvery Jack Schultz
	9am	Gerard Palumbo Ana Russo Jamie Hunter
Tues., Dec. 8	9am	Gerard Palumbo Ana Russo Jamie Hunter
	7:30pm	Phyllis & Francis D'Annunzio
Wed., Dec. 9	9am	Mickey Nodoro
Thurs., Dec. 10	9am	Carol Terhune Erin Weisberg—Special Intentions
Fri., Dec. 11	9am	Gilbert Hallett



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 Kelsey Bergh**
PO1 Timothy Butchko **MJR Gary Windt**
LT Patrick Leahey **2LT Ryan Feeney**
MJR Stephanie Sittmann **SSGT Thomas Sittman**
LTR Andrew McGuinness **SSGT Eric Wright**
LCDR Daniel M. Leahey **LT Mark Van Ordan**
LT Mark C. Leahey **MSGT T.J. Hopkins**
LT Kian Federick Stewart **LT Tyler Huhn**
DCI Alexander V. Fernandez **CPL Irvin Carithers**

Parish Office News

The Church is open for private prayer and reflection Monday through Friday from 9:30am – 11:30am. You can access the church from the Parking Lot doors and are restricted to the area near the Blessed Mother's statue.

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays from 3:45-4:15pm in Church in the newly created Confessional space behind the Altar. You also can make an appointment by calling the parish office.

The Parish Office is open for visitors Monday thru Friday from 11am to 1pm. You can reach the office by phone Monday thru Friday 9am – 4pm or anytime by email svparishoffice@gmail.com

We have new phone system in the office. While the office number remains the same, we each have our own extensions which you can reach directly:

Fr. Michal – Ext. 12
 Fr. Marcin – Ext 11
 Main Office (Gloria) – Ext 10



We are extremely grateful for your continuing financial support. The collection for the week of November 28/29 was \$3,708 and our Thanksgiving collection was \$548. We continue to accept your offerings at the Parish Office. We also ask you to please consider using Faith Direct, an online giving service where you can donate the amount you currently give each Sunday through an online medium (Our parish number is NJ732) or you can a one-time gift as well. (Ctrl+Click this link)
<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ732/208>

Lazarus Ministry

We are a group of adults who serve at the Altar for funerals, memorial services, and special celebrations. If you are interested in joining us, please call the Parish Office or Barbara Fisher at 973-538-8771



St. Paul's Abbey, on Route 206, one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose 'n' cut, 7 days a week from November 27 to December 20, 10am – 3pm. They also have the Abbey Gift Shop with many items that make ideal Christmas gifts, including book, statues, jewelry and more.

2020 Parish Census Update

Earlier this fall we sent a letter to every St. Virgil's Parish family to help us update your contact information. We have heard from many of you, but there are still too many that have not responded. If you have not already done so, kindly respond to the census with updated contact information. You can return the form we sent you or you can respond by email or you can go to our website to update your information. Thanks for your help on this!

Operation Chillout Homeless Veteran Outreach Winter Backpack & Emergency Response Fund Drive

Operation Chillout thanks our donors for supporting the virtual Summer Supply Drive! The pandemic has greatly impacted the homeless community and our usual method of reaching out to them. With your help, donations received through the online gift registry enables us to deliver over 15,000 bottles of water, 500 new tee shirts and several hundred baseball caps for homeless veterans, both men and women.

Due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions, we will also conduct our annual winter drive using a gift registry at www.operationchillout.org. For \$25 you can "purchase" a backpack filled with warm winter gear. Since many of our fundraisers were canceled, funds are low for our year-round rapid response program and emergency supplies. Other suggested donations are \$10 for the OCO Rapid Response Team or \$10 for the Emergency Supplies Fund.

All donations for the gear packs will be used to purchase these items as we are an organization of volunteers, and we will make the purchases and deliveries – no middleman involved. You will receive an online receipt for your donation. All items will be distributed at locations where the homeless congregate, primarily soup kitchens and train stations.

Please be as generous as you can to make the winter months a little more comfortable for those who have so little and have many challenges to face.

Ayres/Knuth Farm Foundation Annual Tree & Wreath Sale

Union Hill Farms off Route 10W at 25 Cooper Road, Denville
Weekends through December 13
Fridays 4-7pm~ Saturday/Sundays 10am – 4pm
Find us on Facebook and at www.ayresknuth.org
Inquireis: 973-625-8300 Ext 205



In observing the safety protocols recommended for churches due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Christmas outreach program will have to be cancelled this year.

Therefore, this season for the first time in 15 years, the Star of Bethlehem trees with envelopes requesting gift card donations will not be displayed.

In place of the usual gift card donations, parishioners may want to make a personal donation to a local charity this Christmas season.

2020 Diocesan Ministries Appeal "Love Thy Neighbor"

As the year comes fast to an end, and many are planning on how to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact, please consider the many lives that are helped because of the support given to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal. These are your neighbors, your friends, our senior priests and seminarians and urban school students. All of us can play a part in the Diocesan Ministries Appeal – as either a contributor to the cause or as a recipient of its mission—and all are blessed as a result. Please make the Diocesan Ministries Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, credit cards, through gifts or securities or on-line at www.2020appeal.org.

Carmelite Sisters Fundraiser

The cloistered Carmelite Sisters of Morristown are devoted to praying more than eight hours a day for peace in our community in in the world. They are dependent on the goodwill of the community to meet their basic needs and unfortunately, the Assumption Church annual bake sale benefiting the Sisters cannot be held this year due to the COVID pandemic. In lieu of the bake sale, volunteers have created a cookbook of desserts, "Sweet Carmel", which includes Catholic themed photos taken by a professional food photographer? There will be a limited number of printed copies available by mid December. The 80+ page cookbook will be high end magazine quality with a bounded spine. There is also a digital version that can be downloaded immediately upon payment. Please keep the Carmelite Sisters in your prayers, especially during these trying times.

Link: www.carmelnj.org

Go to COOKBOOK tab

Contact: carmelvolunteers189@gmail.com

Evangelization Corner



There are no human needs that are more distressing than those of hunger and thirst. To 'give a drink to the thirsty' is the second Corporal Work of Mercy. While similar in action to 'feeding the hungry,' it addresses a different need of the body. You may be thinking how is giving a drink to someone an act of mercy?

Giving someone a cup of water seems like a small, insignificant thing but when given can make huge difference to that someone. It may seem like a simple act of kindness and a gracious act of hospitality, but it places the other person's need ahead of one's self.

Water is a necessity for human life. It is essential to our physical living and plays a crucial role in maintaining our bodily functions and thus our overall health. Over half of the average person's body is made of water. There is a water in and around our cells and in our blood vessels and in our brain and heart, lungs, kidneys, skin, muscles and even in our bones.

Each day we lose water through our normal biological processes. If not replenished, we risk becoming dehydrated. Mild dehydration can affect your mentally and physically. As it worsens, dehydration can lead to decreased saliva, loss of fluid volume, an imbalance in electrolytes, and cramps. The lack of water can also lead to altered body temperature control, heat exhaustion and stroke, reduced motivation, increased physical and mental fatigue, and potentially death.

As you can see, a world without water would be dry and dead.

Although we in Morris County are blessed in that we have potable water to drink every day, there are many parts of the world, even in our own country, where fresh drinking water is scarce or impossible to find. It has been reported that nearly 1 billion people lack access to a supply of safe water and that more than 3.4 million people die from water-related diseases found in impure water each year. Illness from drinking dirty water can rob an individual or an entire community of their futures.

Right now, you may be asking, we live in a world that's thirsty, so what can we do?

Obviously, it is important to avoid wasting water. Below are nine simple things we can and should incorporate into our daily lives:

- Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth. Leaving the water running while you brush for the two minutes twice a day can end up letting four to eight gallons of water run down the drain.
- Turn off the water while you're washing your hands, shaving, or washing dishes by hand.
- Don't buy bottled water; refill your own bottle and bring your water with you.
- Install a low-flow showerhead. Low-flow showerheads can cut water use in half—maybe more.
- Install Faucet Aerators. Faucets typically flow at twice the rate they should.

- Choose recycled-paper products. Products made from 100% recycled paper require much less water in their manufacturing than do those made from virgin paper.
- Water your lawn in the early morning or evening. If you irrigate in the middle of the day, evaporation prevents a lot of that water from reaching the plants' roots.
- Use a lower dishwasher setting. The typical household dishwasher holds 6 to 16 gallons of water with each run of the dishwasher.
- Only purchase water that you need. Don't hoard more than you need.

May the Lord's peace be with you always!

Evangelization Ministry



Weekly Reflection

Advent is already running through our fingers. The stores are in motion for this feast, so it seems we have to jump on the wagon to get the full meaning of Advent.

Advent means "coming." In today's reading, the people of this book are wondering if Christ is coming at all. The book is written over 100 years after Christ, so one can understand that they would have been wondering when the "end time" which Christ spoke of, was actually coming.

The author is telling his congregation that Christ does care; that there is both a heaven and a life after death; that God's time is not like our time; and that we do need to live a faithful and virtuous life to be ready for that second coming.

So those store decorations and the pushing of gifts for all is not really so off the mark, if we use them as reminders of the great feast for which we are preparing. This Epistle is trying to help us, not distract us.

Lord, help us to prepare for Your coming to us this Christmas.

final thoughts...

Lynch Creek Farm Christmas Greenery Sale

15% of the profit on every order comes back to St. Virgil.
Visit www.LynchCreekFundraising.com/c/248026

Donate at Faith Direct:

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ732/20872>

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 syparishoffice@gmail.com to request to participate.