

May 2, 2021

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8
Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11
First Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21

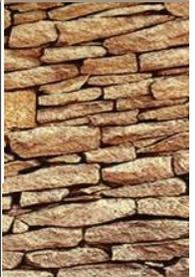


Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat. May 1	5pm	Bill Haberman
Sun., May 2	8am	Jayne Pavia Patrick Murphy Sarah Sweeney
	10:30pm	Henry Toby Vince Loia
	12:15pm	John & Lucie Cehelsky Marie Feeney
	Mon., May 3	9am
Tues., May 4	9am	Ernie Fiore, Sr. All Souls
Wed., May 5	9am	Pio Diokno
Thurs., May 6	9am	Mark Norton
Fri., May 7	9am	Mary Beth Slotworthy Eileen Day

Fifth Sunday of Easter

St. Virgil's Church



Please remember in your prayers. . .

Our Family & Friends

Audrey Bezerra	Ed Schrak	Christie Farias
Mary Sullivan	Marie Loughlin	Steve Hogan
Doris Biache	Tony Loughlin	Robert Taylor
Mike Manley	Judy Taylor	Eileen Lagan
Mary Maffeo	Marie E. Logan	Bill Warrick
Sandra Buck	Margaret Ellis	Anne Benson
Bob Taylor	Miah Tully	Barbara Bock
Stephen Burke	Baby Emma Scannelli	
Barbara Trzaska	Debbie Dallemolle	
Florence & John Luckey	Rosemary Paulison	
Jackie Donnelley	Colleen Dillion & Family	
Rose Marie Warrick	John & Elizabeth Zisa	
Kamasha Redhead	Teresa Procopio	
Edward Schwartz	Jeffrey Taszko	
Mary Eileen & Douglas Prinsizano		

Divine Mercy Novena

We are again meeting on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. We gather at the side altar at the statue of the Blessed Virgil Mary for our weekly novena. You are cordially invited to join us!



Rosary Hour

On Thursday mornings at 10:30am (provided there is no funeral) the ladies of the parish gather at the church to pray the Holy Rosary. All are invited to attend.



Novena to St. Joseph

On Tuesday mornings following the 9am Mass, we invite you to join in our Novena to St. Joseph.



All those who service in defense of our Country, both at home and abroad

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 Sittman SSGT Thomas Sittmann
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 Hugn
CPL Irvin Carithers DC1 Alexander V. Fernandez



Thank you for your continued generosity. The regular collection for the weekend of April 24/25 was \$7,314. In pew - \$3,477; Faith Direct - \$3,837). Although we reported a preliminary Easter amount, we are still receiving donations and will update shortly.

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. You can also use your cell phone and "text to give" at 973-221-9551 and follow the instructions for a one-time gift.

Food Drive Results >>>

During the Lenten season, our Young Adults along with a group of graduate nursing students from St. Elizabeth's University conducted a food drive to benefit the Interfaith Food Pantry. We heartfully thank the parishioners of St. Virgil's. At final count, you donated 2,014 lbs of food and \$257. Our Young Adults, the nursing students, and of course, the Interfaith Food Pantry are very grateful for your support.



Thirty 2nd graders in our Faith Formation program made their First Penance on Friday afternoon. Please keep them all in your prayer as they continue their journey to their First Eucharist. They are:

Daniel Cerrato
Henry Frost
Stella Ho
Matthew Ortmanis
Eva Subocz
Garen Young

George Barter
Luke Cottone
Brayden Garretson
Brian Kaiser
Mary Ortmanis
Gavin Subocz

Jamie Blanco
Sara Cottone
Mia Gervasio
Elizabeth Kot
Eva Rough
Elaina Villani

Mackenzie Boothe
William De Rosa
William Goyeneche
Alice Lloyd
Chloe Smyth
Prisco Villani

Harper Clark
Ellie Fischer
Riley Havers
Scarlett Mariano
Andrew Stork
Jackson Walsh

Weekday Mass Schedule Change

Beginning Tuesday, June 1, the weekday Mass schedule will change. The daily Mass will be held at 12:10pm. We will not longer have the 9am Mass. The 12:10pm Mass will be live streamed and any of the devotions that meeting following the 9am Mass will begin following the 12:10pm Mas.

Morris Plains Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Mother's Day Plant Sale

Saturday, May 8 ~ 8am - 2pm

*Morris Plains Firehouse
531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains
Beautiful hanging baskets and pots*



SCC Virtual Run for a Nun!

Join the Sisters of Christian Charity in Mendham, NJ for a **Virtual 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run** this spring. You can participate anywhere and anytime by June 1, 2021. All proceeds benefit the education of the young women in Initial Formation. Sponsorship opportunities are available! Visit the SCC website at www.scecast.org/runforanun to register or for more information. You can also contact the Office of Mission Advancement at dev.director@scecast.org or 973-230-5355.



Our Lady's Blue Army

May 1 ~ Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

The World Apostolate of Fatima and Blue Army Shrine, 674 Mountain View Rd. E., Asbury, NJ 08802 invites all to a Fatima/St. Joseph virtual conference, [Reclaiming the Family Through Fathers](#), 9:30am - 1:30pm with three virtual speakers: **Fr. David Guffey, CSC**, National Director of Family Theater Productions and producer of *PRAY: The Life of Patrick Peyton*; **Mr. Devin Schadt**, co-founder of The Fathers of St. Joseph; and **Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC**, acclaimed author and speaker. Our Shrine Chaplain, **Fr. Ronan Murphy**, will lead a Consecration to St. Joseph, followed by First Saturday Devotions and Holy Mass, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and enrollment in the Brown Scapular. Registered conference attendees will receive free streaming of the movie *PRAY* and other conference perks. For more details and to register, visit www.reclaimingthefamily.com. For more information, call 908-689-1700, X 210, or bernster@bluearmy.com



Evangelization Corner



The 3rd theme of the Bible is “Redemption.”

Redemption and salvation are tremendously important concepts in Christianity. Often, we hear the terms “redemption” and “salvation” used interchangeably but in reality, although they are related, there is a difference between them.

What is **redemption**?

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines redemption as: 1) “the act of exchanging something for money, an award, etc.” 2) “The act, process, or an instance of redeeming.” The New Bible Dictionary defines redemption as: “the deliverance from some evil by payment of a price.” Each of these definitions depict the act of buying something back; paying a price or ransom to get back a possession that has been lost.

Redemption is an important aspect of the work of God in the salvation of man. Redemption deals with eliminating all the negative problems that separate us from God and their consequences. We originally

belonged to Him but became lost through sin; the penalty for which is our death. But if we were all to die because of our sins, there would be no one to fulfill God’s divine plan. Since we could never pay the price of our own rescue, God has purchased our freedom from the slavery and penalty of sin through the sacrificial death of His son Jesus Christ. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16) Through his death and resurrection, Jesus opened the door to heaven that was closed by the disobedience to God by Adam and Eve. Through his selfless act, Jesus redeemed us and gave each of us a way to be cleansed of our sins, restoring us to our original purpose and offering us the chance to spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

Salvation is more comprehensive than redemption. Salvation refers to the complete work of God in restoring our relationship with Him, living a Christian life, and fulfilling His divine plan. Jesus has told us that he is the way to ever-lasting life, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6) All we have to do is

take him up on this offer by believing in and following his teachings. “I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned but has passed from death to life.” (John 5:24) We need to follow Jesus through the door that he has opened; to live and share the Gospel.

Although we all are given the opportunity and promise of eternal life, there are some who do not want to know or who reject the news even after they hear it. As Catholics we need to continue to live and preach the gospel to those who still have not yet heard the “Good News” and need to or want to hear it.

May His grace be with each of us as we continue to our journey with Christ.

St. Virgil’s Evangelization Ministry

Weekly Reflection

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8*

As the weeks fly by, we are told in the Epistles and Gospels about the early development of the Church. We know there was information about the early persecution experienced by the Apostles, but this week we are told about a time of peace and growth in the early Christian community. In 1 John we are not hearing about trouble but about the evangelical successes they encountered. John starts out with the same

address that has been given in earlier letters, “Children,” a term of attachment and inclusion. He goes on to say “...let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” He did not want just words, even a word such as “love” used as a just term, he wanted action. He goes on to tell us that we are not alone in our action efforts. John goes on to say “...the way that we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.”

The Gospel affirms the unity of each of these readings, and is summed up by John as Christ telling his disciples that well known refrain: “I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit...” “By this is my father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

As spring comes to us, it is easy to see the branches of the trees in our garden growing, and how we, ourselves, for the sake of the trees, pare back the branches that are not thriving. Lord, help us to lean on the Holy Spirit to help us be the flowering branches that strengthen our trees.

Lord, help us and those we love to grow.



Final

thoughts...

Our Children’s Bulletins (one for children 3+ and one for Children 7+) is available through Flocknotes or on the Parish Webiste.

Donate at Faith Direct: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NJ732/20872> or “Text to Give” at 973-221-9551

