

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



Sat., Sept. 15	5:00 PM	Craig Davidson Dorothy Denman Dolores Marcantonio
Sun., Sept. 16	7:30 AM	Craig Davidson Phyllis & Frances D'Annunzio
	9:00 AM	Craig Davidson
	10:30 AM	Grace Fili William Conradi
	12:00 PM	Geraldine Rose Puca
Mon., Sept. 17	6:30 AM	Claire Bray
	12:10 PM	Dr. Edgardo D. Bernardo
Tues., Sept. 18	6:30 AM	Brother James Konchalski, O.S.B.
	12:10 PM	Kathryn Cheryl Chicken Theresa Moccia—Special Intentions
Wed., Sept. 19	6:30 AM	Maria Goldovsky
	12:10 PM	Maria Goldovsky
Thurs., Sept. 20	6:30 AM	Ann Orlando
	12:10 PM	Dolores Marcantonio
Fri., Sept. 21	6:30 AM	William Conradi
	12:10 PM	A request to St. Jude Anthony Rizzo Rose Prisco, Phylis Resh, Lester Resh & Richard Esposito
Sat., Sept. 22	8:00 AM	David Weisberg—Special Intentions
	5:00 PM	Craig Davidson Dorothy Denman Angelina Zisa
Sun., Sept. 23	7:30 AM	Larry Eckel Marlys Stover
	9:00 AM	Craig Davidson
	10:30 AM	Deceased Members of the Calentone Family William Conradi
	12:00 PM	Geraldine Puca Mary Patricia Bowers Mary McElroy

**This Week at St. Virgil's**

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY**

**Sunday, September 16**

Choir Rehearsal, 8:45 AM, CR  
PREP, K-4, 10:15-11:45 AM, School  
Youth Mass, 12 noon  
Jr. High PREP, 1 PM, School  
1st Yr. FISH, 6:30 PM, School

**Monday, September 17**

Miraculous Medal Novena, 12:40PM, Church  
Jr. High PREP, 7 – 8:15 PM< School

**Tuesday, September 18**

Return Support Group, 11 AM, TC

**Thursday, September 20**

Bible Study, 10:30 AM, TC  
Divine Mercy Novena, 6:30 PM, Church  
Bible Study, 7 PM, TC  
Pastoral Council Meeting, 7 PM, Library

**Saturday, September 21**

Confession, 3:30-4:15 PM, Church

**Sunday, September 22**

Choir Rehearsal, 8:45 AM, CR  
Parish Picnic, 2PM, Church Grounds  
2nd Yr. FISH, 6:30 PM, School



Through the waters of Baptism, we welcome to the parish family **Adam Daniel Foland**, son of Adam & Biljana.



Please join with us in offering best wishes to **Danielle Hubert and Chad Sisco-Schwartz** who will be married here this coming weekend. We wish **Danielle & Chad**, many years of blessings and happiness.



We offer our prayerful condolences to the family and friends of **David Bryce and Julian Miles Mislavsky** who were called home to the Lord this week. We pray that **David & Julian** rest peacefully with the Lord.

**Among Ourselves**



Noreen Ballon, Eileen Langan, Karen Cullen, Mary Sullivan, Steve O'Neill, 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, Theresa Mohr, Christopher Mohr, Mary Maffeo, & Rose Marie Warrick.

Please note that names will remain on the prayer list for 3 months at which time they will be rotated off. If you wish the name to stay on the list, a family member must call the Parish Office to make the request.

**Ministry Schedule for September 22 and 23**

	5:00pm Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	12:00 noon
<b>Cantor</b>	Janet Winston		Nina Rangel	Michael Kane	Nina Rangel
<b>Lector</b>	Steve Welsh	Martha Barilla	Kathy Sisler	Rick Kane	Mary Tiso
<b>Altar Servers</b>		Anthony Tonini	Jake Gringeri	Anthony Loia	Micah Fuentes
<b>Extraordinary Ministers</b>	Jane Flynn	Shirley Fleury	Eileen Fogleman	Maureen Kelly	Marie Aloia
	Linda Marcantonio	Debbie Richenaker	Melissa Gringeri	Frank Miller	Tony Avella
	Helen Salerno	Gary Richenaker	Bill Hoferer	Karen Schwingel	Veronica Kelly
	Sue Carol Scannelli	Joan Sambrowski	Bernadette Mauser	Cheryl Zebick	Sandy Rosanio
	Jim Scannelli		Rita McCleary	Bob Zebick	
	Tom Wendorff		Mary Jo Tufaro		



### Fr. Lance's Letter

(instructors; guides) our fellow parishioners at the 9:00 AM and 12:00 noon Sunday Masses. Catechetical Sunday is a given opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays - because we are baptized into Jesus Christ - in sharing our faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all, not only our "catechists", to rededicate ourselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Bishop Robert Barron offers us a provocative message of hope and engagement in an otherwise harsh environment that does not foster our Catholic Faith and Catholic Living.

"We are living in a secularized society which continues to squeeze Christianity to the margins, or completely out of engagement with Jesus Christ and the Church. We are losing baptized Catholics at an alarming rate. According to Pew Research, nearly one-in-four Hispanic adults (24%) are now former Catholics and most of them are "nones", a term used for people with no religious affiliation.

Many parents are saddened to report that their children are leaving the Church after preparing for and celebrating initiation sacraments, and after years of Catholic School or parish religion classes. Figures for Baptisms, Church weddings and weekly Mass attendance are down. Those who self-identify as atheists or agnostics ("Nones") now make up roughly 23% of the U.S. adult population.

Adults, especially young adults, are more likely to say they are not religiously affiliated than in past generations. (Michael Lipka. A closer look at America's rapidly growing religious 'nones'. . . , pew research center; 5/5/2017). Also growing in numbers are those who are baptized, and in junior or senior high school, who are increasingly stopping to self-identify as Christians and grouping themselves among the "Nones".

At the same time, we are blessed with an incredibly generous cohort of faithful who are sacramentally graced to give Gospel witness in their homes, schools and workplace, if only they were invited, trained and supported in their outreach as missionary disciples. It will take the whole Church's witness and engagement of the "Nones", inside and outside the walls of the church and across society, to reach out, accompany them, and share the joy of the gospel with them.

Our 2018 and 2019 Catechetical Sunday and Leadership Institute themes are designed to address the phenomena of the "Nones" in two parts. During 2018, we will be researching some of the causes eroding faith and moving people to step away from life in Christ and his body, the Church. We will also showcase some of the many groups of missionary disciples already enlisted and engaged as witnesses for Jesus Christ. Hopefully many more will be able to learn about and join in their efforts.

We join everyone in the USA in celebrating Catechetical Sunday on September 16, 2018. The theme for this year is: "Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ." We will commission for the ministry of "catechists"

During 2019, we will focus particularly on the steps needed to enable the faithful to claim their true roles as witnesses to Jesus Christ. In imitation of Jesus' encounter with two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), we will become more familiar with terms like "accompanying", "evangelizing" and "catechizing". We will learn how to assist folks in exploring the reasonableness of the Faith, having an "encounter" with Jesus, sharing in a deeper faith experience, and drawing out the meaning of those experiences for their lives. May the joy of our life in Christ be so remarkable that even the "Nones" are moved to ask what is the secret behind this joy and claim it for themselves."

Sincerely yours in Christ, *Bishop Robert Barron*, Chairman, Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

### OPEN FORUM

Concerns about the recent Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report (8/18/18) and many other reports, statements, editorials, it would be beneficial for us at St. Virgil to have a "conversation" regarding this subject.

I invite all parishioners to come to the "Open Forum" on Sunday, September 30, at 4:00 PM in our School Gym. You will have the opportunity to listen, speak, ask questions and suggest what we at St. Virgil Parish can do. There are many among us who have been greatly disturbed, rightfully angered, sorely discouraged and bitterly confused. Yet, such an opportunity is a way of gathering together and seeking ways of change, improvement and security for our children and our community. All are welcome to our Open Forum, Sunday September 30, at 4:00 PM in our School Gym. -- *Fr. Lance*

### RESPECT LIFE & COAST-TO-COAST ROSARY

*Angela Pennisi*, our parish Liaison Representative for Respect Life attended a Diocesan Meeting during which a lot of information was given about recent endeavors to support the life of the Unborn. "Beneath all of the propaganda is a nihilism that denies to human life inherent meaning, value, dignity or beauty. Without God and His gifts, life will not seem worth living; it will be vapid and pointless. The system perpetuates itself, alienation breeding alienation. For us, there is counseling and picketing at clinics, lobbying & writing letters, distributing pamphlets, donating time, money, clothes to pregnancy centers. But there is one thing that every Christian can and must do every day: pray—pray for the parents and the children, for the doctors and the nurses, for the lawmakers and the judges."

Our parish will join with others throughout New Jersey in a campaign - sending post cards with petitions to support the "NJ Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act A1686/S537" - the weekend of October 6/7, 2018.

Also, Sunday October 7, we will join in the Rosary Coast-to-Coast at 4:00 PM asking our Blessed Mother to heal our country and to return us to holiness. The Holy Rosary will be recited at 4:00 PM by us on the East Coast; 3:00 PM Central; 2:00 PM Mountain; and 1:00 PM Pacific. Poland, Ireland and the British Isles will also join the USA in this Rosary Prayer.

## Parish Postings



### Altar Server Training

We will be having another learning session coming up on September 17 & 18 from 6:30-7:30 PM in church. This will be open to all those (must be at least Grade 4) who have thought about becoming an altar server and for those who would like a quick refresher at the same time. Call the Parish Office (973) 538-1418 if interested.

### Living Rosary

We are looking for someone who would be interested in managing the parish Living Rosary Prayer Group. Please call Cathy at (973) 538-0793, if you would care to help out.



### 3rd Annual Christmas Bazaar

Crafters Needed for our Third Annual Christmas Bazaar ~ December 1 & 2. Join the growing number of crafters that have already registered! Contact the Parish Office (973-538-1418) for a registration form or email [svparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:svparishoffice@gmail.com). If you'd like to join the team of volunteers who work to make the Bazaar a success, please call Gloria in the Parish Office or email her at [svparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:svparishoffice@gmail.com)



### St. Virgil's Tuesday Evening Bridge

On the third Tuesday of each month, the St. Virgil's Tuesday Evening Bridge group meets to play. They are seeking new members for the group. If you're interested in joining, please call Joani Backes at 973-267-8484.

### Divine Mercy Devotion



Autumn is almost here, and our church ministries will begin again. Our Divine Mercy devotion has been active right through the summer every Thursday evening at 6:30 PM here in the church (only a 1/2 hour). If you're looking for a spiritual journey with Jesus (and us), please come and give it a try. Learn how Jesus appeared to a nun from Poland in the 1930's (St. Sr. Faustina) and a painting drawn \*just as she saw\* with the bright rays streaming from His heart. See how you can be drawn to this picture and other wonders of His mercy. Come join our regular devoted worshippers on Thursday evenings.



I hope all of you are having a great summer and are looking forward to our first Prime Time meeting of the new year. We will be getting together on Friday, September 21, at 1 PM in the Tracy Center to kick off our new season. We have invited Judy Bortman of TransOptions, Inc. to share with us some safety tips in our distracted world. This program will coincide with the "street Smart New Jersey" Program that Morris Plains is participating in during the month of September. So, whether you walk or drive, we will be able to learn to be a safer in a world dominated by the electronic age we live in.

Remember to send your check for membership dues of \$15 (payable to St. Virgil – Prime Time) to Jeanne McGuinness, 18 Central Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ 07950. Any other questions? Please call me, Kathy Sisler at 973-538-1379 or email me at [kathleen\\_sisler@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleen_sisler@yahoo.com). Hope to see you all on September 21 at 1 PM for some wonderful dessert-type goodies and renewal of friendships. Blessings on us all.

## Faith Formation

### Religious Education Schedule for September & October

<b>PREP K – 4</b> <b>10:15-11:45 AM</b>	<b>Jr. High PREP 5-8</b> <b>Sunday: 1-3:15 PM</b>	<b>Jr. High Masses</b> <b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>FISH (Confirmation)</b> <b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Youth Masses</b> <b>12:00 noon</b>
September 16 & 30	September 16	October 21	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr.—September 16	September 16
October 4 & 28	<b>Monday: 7 – 8:15 PM</b>		2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.—September 23	October 12
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Meeting 11 am October 4	September 17		2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr.—October 4	
	October 1, 15, 29			

## Ministries & Outreaches

### 40 Days for Life

You understand the travesty of abortion...give an hour in defense of life. Join Morris County Right to Life at: Planned Parenthood, 196 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown 7 AM – 7 PM 7 Days a week—Begins September 26 ends November 4. We suggest picking an hour or two per week. To participate, email: [44lifeus@gmail.com](mailto:44lifeus@gmail.com) or call 973-627-1654

### K of C Bishop McLaughlin Council #3495 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Msgr. James Fallon & Jack O'Brien Charity Golf Outing



September 24  
at the Flanders Valley Golf Course  
Tee Time: 1 PM  
Flyers at the doors of the Church

### Respect Life Weekend

Respect Life Annual Raffle on October 6 and 7

Tickets sold prior to and after all masses. Raffles are \$10 each. Drawing at FairBridge Hotel, Somerset, on November 16, 2018. Winner need not be present. Proceeds will benefit New Jersey Right to Life, the state's oldest and largest pro-life organization, dedicated to protecting all human life from conception to natural death. Cash or Check is acceptable with checks payable to: New Jersey Right to Life.

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – 2019 Volvo XC40 AWD SUV value \$41,215; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Shop Rite gift card value \$1,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Shop Rite gift card value \$750; and 4<sup>th</sup> Prize Shop Rite gift card value \$500.

## *Bereavement Ministry*

**Can you really recover from personal loss?** Most of us deal with grieving experiences on a regular basis and never realize it! While most people associate grief with death, it's something that reaches far beyond that narrow focus. Grief is the normal and natural reaction to every change we experience in life. Many of those changes are so small that, while we have feelings attached to those events, we do not label them as grief. Whether the loss is due to the death of a spouse, a parent or friend – or perhaps because of the breakup of a relationship through divorce, or even the loss of our youth, it's possible that your loss gave way to intense feelings of sadness and affected your life in immeasurable ways. If you have found grief to be overwhelming for you, it's not because there is anything wrong with you. Grief is the normal and natural reaction to change in your life. Likewise, if you have felt lost in how to deal with that emotional pain, it's simply because you never had the proper tools to deal with it effectively. The Grief Recovery Method® can offer you that direction and the opportunity to look forward to another day, rather than fearing what it might bring. Grief can be scary, but it does not need to destroy your ability to feel joy again, unless you allow that to be the case!

Please join me to find out how joy can be part of your life again. The program is free but you need to register. The introductory session will be held: Thursday, September 27, at the Morris Plains Community Center on Jim Fear Drive in Morris Plains. **R.S.V.P. by: September 24,** to Betty Dangler, Grief Recovery Specialist 973-539-3300

## *Around the Diocese*

### *2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal Here I Am, Lord!*

Over the years, more and more parishioners have chosen to support the Bishop's Annual Appeal by making an on-line gift. Simply go to [www.2018appeal.org](http://www.2018appeal.org) and follow the instructions. You can either make a one-time gift or a pledge with monthly payments made automatically for your convenience. Whether it is a pledge, a one-time gift, or an on-line donation, your support is greatly needed. Every single gift counts! Please participate in the 2018 Appeal today!



**THERE'S STILL TIME to #bepathful #bechallenged #bethefuture** Visit us during Welcome Wednesday (come in for a tour anytime between 9 and noon) or call for a tour anytime! 973-635-2311 Contact Ashley Kearney, Director of Development & Marketing at [admissions@st-pats.org](mailto:admissions@st-pats.org).

### **Alumni & Friends Food Truck Night -COME JOIN THE FUN!**

You are cordially invited to join the St. Patrick School Community for Food Truck Night! Friday September 28, 2018 in the SPS Parking Lot (45 Oliver Street, Chatham) from: 7:00 - 10:00pm. Cost: \$60 per person – BYOB Come enjoy a night out with a DJ and dine on delicious culinary creations from 3 fabulous food trucks, including Mexican Spice, The Pressed Sandwich food truck and Donut Carnivale (a donut food truck!). Costs include all food. Beverages of all types are BYOB. Tickets must be purchased no later than Friday, September 21st via online link. **You must purchase tickets in advance.** Any questions, please contact Alison Pignatello at [apwjjp@gmail.com](mailto:apwjjp@gmail.com) or 973-789-1174. **This is an adult only event**, must be 21 or older to attend. Thanks, and we hope to see you there, old and new friends, to celebrate another great year at SPS!

**Morris Catholic** will be hosting a **Clothing Drop** from 8:30am – 1:30 pm on Saturday, October 13, in the side parking lot of the high school near the convent. Clothing, bedding, pots, pans, and small household appliances will be collected. All items should be placed in plastic bags. Please be aware that **we do not accept VCR Tapes, CDs, Outside Toys, or Books.** All proceeds will benefit the MCHS Class of 2019 Project Graduation. If you have questions, email [ftuite@morrisatholic.org](mailto:ftuite@morrisatholic.org) or Joanne Feeney at [jojohn89@optonline.net](mailto:jojohn89@optonline.net).

### *Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass*

Couples, were you married in 1968 or 1993? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Serratelli will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held on **Sunday, November 4, at 3:30 PM.** Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. The deadline to register is Monday, October 15. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. Congratulations on this joyous occasion!

### *Saint Pio comes to the Diocese of Paterson*

St. Peter the Apostle Church, Parsippany on Thursday, September 20, from 8:30am – 6:30pm. For more information about the public veneration, please call (973) 334-2090 or send an email to [stpeterpar@optonline.net](mailto:stpeterpar@optonline.net). Come and venerate the official relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> commemoration anniversary of his passing. A Mass in honor of Saint Padre Pio will be celebrated at 7 PM by Msgr. Herbert K. Tillyer, P.A., Pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Church.

**Mary Help of Christians Academy** will be hosting an **Open House** for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls on Sunday, September 23, and Sunday, October 14, at 1 PM. You're invited to learn more about our innovative curriculum that includes our recently launched Internship Program in a variety of fields, a 1:1 iPad initiative, and our many offerings in the arts and athletics. Explore the possibilities of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century education provided within a safe and nurturing single-sex environment of a Catholic Academy with over a 75-year

**The Academy of St. Elizabeth** in Madison, NJ, is holding Fall Open Houses for all 6, 7, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls: September 30--1-3 PM; October 11--7 – 8:30 PM, November 8--7-8:30 PM. As the oldest Roman Catholic high school for young women in New Jersey, we offer a rich history empowering students to meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. With its powerful combination of an innovative college preparatory program, and personalized attention, allows students to grow both academically, spiritually, and socially. The implementation of rigorous academics; AP courses, STREAM, 100% college acceptance, ten varsity sports and over 24 clubs and organizations make the Academy a leader in providing a well-balanced education. Come visit our beautiful campus and attend one of our open houses to learn of the possibilities.

## Weekly Reflections

### Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 8:27-35

Today's Gospel by Mark is not one of those feel good gospels, like "every hair on your head is counted," or that we are "as important as the sparrows in the air." In this week's reading, Christ asked His followers who the people say He is. After they answered incorrectly, guessing at John the Baptist, Elijah and other prophets, Christ foretold his death and resurrection, telling His followers that He would be rejected by the elders, chief priests and scribes, that He would be killed, but would rise up after three days.

This Gospel leaves little room for us to view our faith as a comfortable, peaceful kind of life. It makes one wonder if we have the "stuff" that Christ is telling us we will need to take on the "life" that He is presenting to us. When it comes right down to it, we are a pretty pampered lot- not that we don't have our family problems, sickness, or other woes; but compared to Christ's picture, we have it pretty easy.

The Gospel also reveals that Christ said: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Christ didn't mince words, or pretend that this life will be a walk in the park. He is giving us a warning that there will be difficulties. We can't fault those followers who went back home after hearing these words of Christ. Yet, we are told that He also said: "...whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it," Thus, Christ finished with a promise that all will end well for those of us who commit to this journey. But this does not wipe away the challenge He tells us we shall be facing. He also has told us, consistently, in the gospels, that He will be with us every step of the way; that His Eucharistic presence will be there for us; and that we shall never be alone. So, His tough message does finish with words of comfort we need to hear in order to follow Him.

*Lord, stay with us on this journey following You.*



#### EVANGELIZATION CORNER

Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea. It may be an encounter with an event or a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction which leads us to Jesus Christ. Often repeating the obvious is a way to refocus, a way to make sure that we are on the correct path or course. With evangelization it is the same whether we are the one being evangelized or the one doing the evangelizing, we must occasionally refocus to ensure that we are on the right track.

Our direction, and that of the Church, has been laid out for us by Jesus. Evangelization is the act of bringing the Good News of Jesus into all corners of life – in homes, parishes, schools, prisons, workplaces, and all of society – so that every person can draw closer to Him.

It is about sharing a relationship, a friendship with the Lord. But you can't share what you don't have. Christ must be at the center of our life. When He is at the center of our life everything will fall into place, into harmony. When He isn't, we often face discord in life, an imbalance. St. Augustine said, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

As Catholic we find the center of our life in the Eucharist, it is "the source and summit of our Catholic Faith." (CCC 132). In offering His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity Jesus instituted the Eucharistic sacrifice from which all Christian spirituality flows. Only when we are in communion with Him, when He is at the center of our life, is our life in harmony.

Evangelization is simply proclaiming the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

There are many ways by which evangelization happens. It happens in the way we go about our work, share with our neighbors, and treat strangers. In the way we live our daily life in God's love family members evangelize each other; men and women evangelize their future spouses; and parents pass faith on to their children. Through the ordinary patterns of our Catholic life, the Holy Spirit brings about conversion and a new life in Christ.

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

#### St. Virgil's Evangelization Ministry



**St. Virgil's Parish Family Picnic**  
Sunday, September 23

2:00pm

Church Grounds

**Bring a salad or dessert!**



**Games and activities for the kids!**



#### Interfaith Food Pantry



Even in Morris County, NJ, which is often ranked as one of the best counties in the nation to live in, there are many households struggling. Please remember to bring an item for the Food Pantry when you come to Mass each Sunday. You can consult their website – [www.mcifp.org](http://www.mcifp.org) for a complete list of needs.