

Mass Intentions for the Week

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|-----------------|-------|---|
| Sat., Dec. 10 | 5:00 | Celeste Sodano |
| Sun., Dec. 11 | 7:30 | For the People |
| | 9:00 | Marjorie Lynch-Blosse -4 th Anniversary |
| | 10:30 | Eva & Thomas Bowden |
| | 12:00 | Gilbert Hallett—40 th Anniversary |
| Mon., Dec. 12 | 6:30 | Angela Nucci |
| | 12:10 | Frank Tykowsky |
| Tues., Dec. 13 | 6:30 | Mark Zmachinski Fr. Theodore Howarth, OSB George Howarth |
| | 12:10 | Anne Callahan |
| Wed., Dec. 14 | 6:30 | Louise Perretta |
| | 12:10 | Elizabeth Erlenkotter |
| Thurs., Dec. 15 | 6:30 | Grant Morgan |
| | 12:10 | Mary Fico Anne Callahan |
| Fri., Dec. 16 | 6:30 | Judy Lynch Mike Lynch |
| | 12:10 | Guy Adami Joseph & Ella Picone Anna Acocella |
| Sat., Dec. 17 | 8:00 | Mary L. Cifrese & the Lanza Family Phyllis Ann Resh |
| | 5:00 | Frank Suchenski |
| Sun., Dec. 18 | 7:30 | John Flannery |
| | 9:00 | Msgr. James Fallon |
| | 10:30 | Maurice desEtangs |
| | 12:00 | Antonio & Angela Gabriel |

The **Sancutary Candle** burns in memory of
Barbara Caroselli & Elvira Caroselli

**Mass Schedule for the
Christmas & New Year**

Saturday, December 24: 4pm, 6pm, 11pm
Sunday, December 25
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12noon

Saturday, December 31 at 5pm
Sunday, January 1 at 7:30, 9, 10:30am & 12 noon



Events for the Week

Sunday, December 11

Second Collection for Religious Retirement
Gr. 2 Eucharist Parent Meeting, 9am, TC
PREP A, 10:15am, School
Jr. High PREP, 1pm, School
Confirmation Class, 1st Yr. Candidates, 6:30pm, School

Wednesday, December 14

Tea at Morris View
Advent Program for Tots, 10am, TC

Thursday, December 15

Bible Study, 10:30am, CMR

Friday, December 16

Prime Time, 1pm, TC
SVA/MCJS Christmas Concert, 7pm, Church

Sunday, December 18

Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9am, Church
PREP B, 10:15am, School

We offer our prayerful condolences to the family and friends of **Anne Callahan, Robert Conway, Kevin Fraine, & Marita Miller**. May **Anne, Robert, Kevin and Marita** rest in God's peace.

Through your generous donations the collection for the weekend of December 3/4 was \$12,272. Thank You!!!!

Please remember in your prayers:

Joe Russo, John Racik, Jr., Lucille Caporuscio, Michael Smith, Michael Schmidt, Leonard Cifrese, Eric Rotella, Frances Merlo, and Susie Bryce.

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These names will remain on the list for 3 months and then be removed unless you notify the parish office at 973 538-1418 or [svparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:svparishoffice@gmail.com)



St. Virgil Academy  
Morris Catholic



## GIFT CARDS ON SALE AFTER MASS

### Convenient for "Giving Tree" Donations and Holiday Shopping!

St. Virgil Academy/Morris Catholic Junior School will be **selling gift cards at the parking lot doors** after all masses this weekend. The cards come in a variety of denominations and cover a wide array of grocery stores, department stores, discount stores and on-line shopping centers, just to name a few. It is extremely convenient for "Giving Tree" donations. We have Shop Rite, Acme and even Wal-Mart. Just purchase from us and place your donation in the boxes located near the trees—and you're done! You simply pay us the face value on the card and we get a percentage of the sale from the store. Absolutely no extra cost to you and a wonderful donation for our school! Checks can be made payable to "SVA HSA." Oh, and don't forget all the others on your Christmas list—we have cards for them too! Stop by after mass and we'll show you a complete list of what's available.



### JOIN OUR "ANGELS"

...as they sing on high! Our St. Virgil Academy/ Morris Catholic Junior School will perform the Nativity at their annual Christmas Pageant. All

parishioners are invited to share in this beautiful celebration of Christ's birth. It will be held in the church at **7 PM this Friday, December 16, 2011**. Immediately following the performance beverages and **homemade baked goods** will be available for sale in the school cafeteria...have a bite after the performance and then take some pre-packaged goodies home. A spiritual performance, great company and great desserts, who could ask for more? Please join us!

delivery. The Forensics team is open to all MCJS students in grades 5 through 8. The children meet weekly to hone their presentation skills and prepare for local competitions. The team members who competed last week were: Ivana Giglio, Megan Fischer, Erin Fischer, Tess Potter, Nicole Zebick, Sam Drake, Conor Williams, Kian Sharifian, Kelly Jarocha and Riley Praino



### DID YOU KNOW...?

That St. Virgil Academy's Early Childhood Center (ECC) follows the educational approach developed by Italian physician and educator Maria Montessori? The "Montessori Education" is characterized by an emphasis on independence, freedom within limits, respect for a child's natural psychological development, as well as technological advancements in society. One of the key elements to a Montessori education is a "discovery model," where students learn concepts from working with materials, rather than by direct instruction. In Mrs. Patsy Dewey's Pre-K 4 class, those materials were recently cardboard boxes which were creatively

transformed into a bat cave, then a tree, then a canoe and then the Mayflower! Who knows what's next for these creative young minds?



### FORENSICS COMPETITORS



Congratulations to the Morris Catholic Junior School (MCJS) Forensics team members who competed last week in an interpretive reading competition with 4 other local Catholic schools. The students had to read a 3 - 7 minute selection to judges who ranked them on their

# FAITH FORMATION

In the event that PREP classes need to be cancelled due to inclement weather, a message will be posted on the Parish website ([www.stvirgil.org](http://www.stvirgil.org)) at least one hour prior to the start of class.



## ***Children's Liturgy of the Word December 18 at 9am Mass***

Children ages Pre-K 4 - Grade 5 will be called forward to process with catechists to the Church Meeting Room for age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word. Children will return to their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

## ***Jr. High PREP***

Jr. High: 1PM - 4PM

**Jr. High - December 11**

## ***Early Childhood Faith Experience***

*Wednesdays ~ 10-10:45am  
December 14 & 21*

## ***PREP***

### **PREP Class Schedule**

PREP A & B: 10:15AM - 11:45AM

**PREP A** - Classes Dec. 11

**PREP B** - Classes Dec. 18

**Jr. High** - Classes on December 11

### **Grade 5 Trinket Fundraiser**

PREP A-Dec. 11~Please bring \$1 to class

PREP B-Dec. 18~Please bring \$1 to class

As part of the Grade 5 curriculum, the children are learning about the works of mercy. As part of their service towards others, they will host their annual Advent fundraiser to raise money for those less fortunate. Students are asked to bring \$1.00 to class.

### **Grade 2 First Eucharist Parent Meeting**

A parent meeting is scheduled on **Sunday, Dec. 11 at 9AM and on Sunday, Dec. 18 at Noon** in the Tracy Center for parents with children preparing to receive First Eucharist in the spring. *Parents may attend the meeting that is more convenient.*

## ***Confirmation Classes***

1st Year: December 11 at 6:30pm

## ***From the Youth Minister...***

Appalachia North Dates to remember:

**December 26-30 - Habitat for Humanity  
January 2012-Hope House**

We will continue to work with Catholic Charities and the Diocese of Paterson to minister to those in need with strong hands and gentle hearts. If you would like to be involved in "App North", please contact Penny Manser at [mansersvym@gmail.com](mailto:mansersvym@gmail.com) or A.J. Capuzzi at [capuzziaj@verizon.net](mailto:capuzziaj@verizon.net) with any questions, comments or suggestions.

On the lighter side...



A Sunday School teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother", she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters? Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest in his family) answered: "Thou shall not kill."

# Ministries & Outreaches

## HELP! HELP! HELP!

We are in need of Volunteers for Morris View Health Care Center to wheel residents to the Chapel for Mass on Tuesday mornings from 9am – 11:30am.

This is an extremely rewarding ministry working with these special seniors and your fellow parish members. If you're interested, please call Maureen Kelly at 973-267-0022.



## Christmas Trees

St. Paul's Abbey, on Route 206 one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas Trees in the fields ready for you to choose 'n' cut from November 25 to December 20, 9am –

4pm.



## Pre Cana

Pre Cana provides guidance to couples preparing for marriage. St. Virgil will hold our Pre-Cana on January 23, 25 & 27, 2012, at 7pm. This is an opportunity for married couples to share their insights into marriage by speaking from their experiences. The Pre-Cana team is looking for couples to join the team. Whether you're newly married or are celebrating a silver or golden anniversary, you are welcome to join the team. There will be plenty of guidance from the team leaders. If you're interested, please call Deacon Merle at 973 538-1379 or the Parish Office at 973 538-1418.

## Star of Bethlehem – 2011



Our trees of gift card wishes will be in our church through this weekend. Anyone wishing to contribute to those in need can select an envelope from one of the trees and purchase the gift card requested on the envelope.

Please put the gift card in the envelope and then into one of the boxes under the Christmas trees. Please make sure the amount of the gift is clearly marked on the card.

The last day of donation will be December 11 after the noon Mass.

Thank you to you in advance for your kindness and generosity to those less fortunate during this Christmas season.

## Christmas Flowers

Each year, our flower memorial allows us to offer to God the best of what we can in worship, and it also allows us to remember loved ones. If you wish to remember loved ones (living or deceased) or to make a gift in your family's name, please complete this form and return it to the Parish Office by Monday, December 12. A free-will donation will be accepted.



In memory of / For the special intention of:

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have free time once a month and would be interested in helping to launder and iron the Altar

Linens used at Mass daily and on weekends, we are looking for volunteers to add to our rotating schedule. Please contact Deacon Frank Para at [deacon.frank@att.net](mailto:deacon.frank@att.net) or call the Parish Office if you'd like to help.



No time to bake Christmas cookies?? No worries! Back by popular demand! Purchase cookies baked by St. Paul's Elves at:

### Cookie Walk

Saturday, Dec. 17 9am-2pm

Sunday, Dec. 18 11am-2pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Hillview Avenue at Mountain Way  
Morris Plains

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. As we await His coming, we remember that this is a time of faith in God, hope for the future, and love for one another...

Join us for a special

### ***Advent Penance Service***

As we come together in Christ with fellow churches in the Eastern Morris Deanery

Wednesday, December 14 at 7:30pm

At St. Catherine of Siena

10 Pocono Road, Mountain Lakes

Our deanery churches join hands and spirits as one Church to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, offering us the opportunity to experience again the coming of Jesus as Savior and Redeemer.\*

\* The Diocese of Paterson is divided into 12 ecclesiastical entities called deaneries. Our parish is part of the Eastern Morris Deanery, **along with Our Lady of Mercy, Whippany; St. Ann, Parsippany; St. Catherine of Siena, Mountain Lakes; St. Christopher, Parsippany; St. Peter the Apostle, Parsippany; St. Rose of Lima, East Hanover; and Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel, Cedar Knolls.** The deanery exists in order to foster spiritual development of the faithful locally, and to facilitate communication and mutual support between the parishes.

### ***EVA'S VILLAGE***

#### ***UPCOMING COMMUNITY TOUR!***

Join us for an up close and personal Community Tour of Eva's Village on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 beginning at 10:30am. Community tours are a great way to learn how Eva's advances its mission to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, treat the addicted, and provide primary medical and dental care to the poor. To reserve your space, call Cyndi Roberson at (973) 523-6220 ext. 226.

### ***Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton***

#### ***To Be Honored in Convent Station***

The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth cordially invite you to join them for the Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 7, 2012, at Holy Family Chapel, Convent Station, NJ, at 11am. There will be a light lunch following in the study hall at the Academy of Saint Elizabeth. The Heritage room at the Motherhouse will be open for a display of Mother Seton memorabilia.

### **Prime Time**

Christmas is fast approaching and our plans for celebrating are growing. If you haven't signed up yet, please send your check (no cash) made out to St. Virgil's Prime Time to Jeanne McGuinness, 18 Central Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ, 07905, as soon as possible, so I can have a head count for the caterer. The cost is \$15 and includes our usual delectable menu—lots to eat with the best seniors in NJ! Some of our illustrious bakers promise to put the finishing touch to our meal—How cool is that? So hurry—it's always a happy affair you don't want to miss.

In lieu of food donations to the food pantry, we agreed to put our gift exchange (in cash) in a plain envelope to be presented to the pantry by Deacon Merle. Suggested amount was \$10.

Our January 20, 2012, program will feature out St. Virgil's Appalachian Team. Be sure to mark your new calendar to find out what these wonderful teens have done in 2011 with the able guidance of very generous adults from our parish. We will present them with our annual check to promote their good works in Appalachia 2012.

Our membership lists, which include your baking date, are available to be picked up by you. Keep in mind that if you cannot meet your baking date, you need to call NOW.

Many thanks to all 103 members for your continued interest and support. A blessed Christmas is wished to all. Remember also to keep Christ in Christmas; that's what it's all about.

### **Retired religious need your support!**

By 2019, it is projected that retired religious will outnumber wage-earning religious by nearly four to one. Your gift to the retirement fund for Religious helps ensure that elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests receive the care they so richly deserve, now and in the future. Please give generously to today's second collection.