

LIGHT TO GUIDE OUR FEET
INTO THE PATH OF PEACE.

- LUKE 1:79

Peace



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Nativity of Our Lord

Monroe Township, New Jersey

Second Sunday of Advent – December 8, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday December 9th

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

8:30 a.m. Thomas Lynch by Wife Joanne Lynch

7:00 p.m. Joseph Michael Gyulay by the Agana Family

Tuesday December 10th

Advent Weekday - Our Lady of

8:30 a.m. Loreto

Angelo Perfetto by Cathy Agosta & Family

Wednesday December 11th

St. Damasus I, Pope

8:30 a.m. Anna Ocasio by Emily Cook

Thursday December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 a.m. Varghese Chakkunny by From the Parishioner

Friday December 13^h

St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Hanna & Indyk Family by Gene & Mickey Indyk

Saturday December 14th

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

4:00 p.m. Dorothy Crimmins by Linda Gressel

Sunday December 15th

Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. Joe Gualtieri by Malilyn Callahn

9:00 a.m. Mauro Guida by Wife Vita Maria Guida and Children

11:00 a.m. In Loving Memory of Carmen & Angie Galasso by Daughters

The Collections for the Weekend of

November 24 - \$13,960

December 1 - \$13,441

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Remembering in Prayer



Kindly contact the office if you know of a parishioner who is sick, having surgery or in need of pastoral care. We would like to remember them in our prayers and care for their spiritual needs.

CANDLE OFFERING

Sanctuary: For Donna & Tom Clarke by Lillian Augustine

BVM: Victoria Peterson (Living Intension) by Mom, Harriet Helmstadt

St. Jude: Robert Cavall by Grace Ryan

St. Theresa: George Graul by Doug Graul & Family

Padre Pio: Romanella Family by Angie Romanella

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: 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 Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

“My prayer is that your love may more and more abound, both in understanding and wealth of experience, so that with a clear conscience and blameless conduct you may learn to value the things that really matter, up to the very day of Christ. It is my wish that you may be found rich in the harvest of justice which Jesus Christ has ripened in you, to the glory and praise of God.”

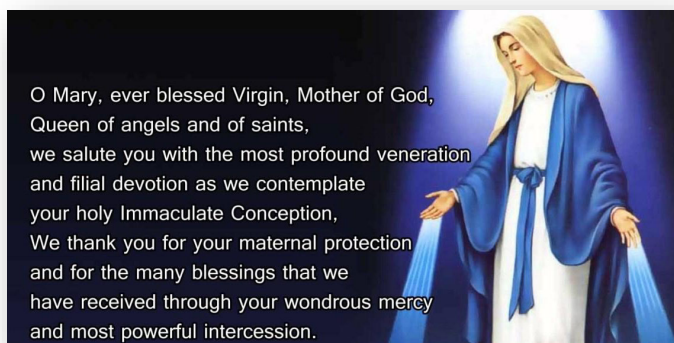
As I take the prayer of Paul, and apply it to my life today, may I learn to live what really matters. Try to ignore the commercials telling me what I need to buy for someone else, pray this prayer for them. Try to look deep into your heart and discover what really matters for you. What is my wish for my family, how grateful am I for the gift of health, faith, family and friends? How concerned am I for someone who is ill, who has real material or physical needs, who needs my welcoming hand? This is the real Christmas list.

Paul sent this greeting card to help and encourage. May you too be found richly endowed with real gifts that matter for others in your greetings for others.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Day of Obligation : Dec. 9, 2024

Mass times: 8:30 am and 7:00 pm



SIMBANG GABI AT THE NATIVITY

Nativity’s Filipino-American Association will be hosting the 6th day of the Simbang Gabi on the **20th of December, Friday, at 6:00 pm.** . We are inviting all our parishioners to join us for this solemn celebration, which will be followed by a simple gathering at our church basement. If you want to actively participate in our preparations, please contact **Carmille Agana (908-392-0152)**. For a full list of the churches participating, please visit the Facebook page of the Diocese: **@diometuchenfa**.

Parish Calendar

Dec. 8 (Sun)	Immaculate Conception
	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
	Feast of Nativity after 11:00 am Mass Hall
	Catechumenate and/or Mystagogy and/or Adult Confirmation C. 1 & 11
	Children’s Liturgy 11:00 am RR
Dec. 9 (Mon)	Immaculate Conception: 8:30 am & 7:00 pm
	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
	K of C Meeting 6:30 pm Hall
	Inquiry or Adult Confirmation 6:00 pm—7:30 pm RR
	C of P Vow of Renewal
Dec. 10 (Tue)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
	Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Hall
Dec. 11 (Wed)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
Dec. 12 (Thu)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
	Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
Dec. 13 (Fri)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
Dec. 14 (Sat)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
Dec. 15 (Sun)	Giving Tree Collection (box in Narthex)
	Catechumenate and/or Mystagogy and/or Adult Confirmation C. 1 & 11
Dec. 16 (Mon)	Inquiry or Adult Confirmation 6:00 pm—7:30 pm RR



Ministries

St. Vincent DePaul – If you are experiencing financial hardship due to a temporary loss of employment, illness, or disability, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is available to aid with your everyday needs such as food, utility assistance, or agency referrals. Please dial the parish number 609-371-0499, then press 4, and leave a message with your name and phone number. Someone will return your call. All calls are handled in strict confidence.

Homebound Ministries - Eucharist Ministers bring communion to the homes of those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or other circumstances. Please call **Marge Nadolny** at **609-409-6164** or email **margen21@comcast.net**.

Helping Hands: Help Wanted! Our Helping Hands Ministry needs volunteers! We help parishioners with small household tasks such as changing smoke detector batteries, lightbulbs, opening & closing vents, etc. If you are able to volunteer, please call **Esther Wolff** at **732-521-6019** for more information.

Giving Tree: This year our Parish is again providing Christmas Gifts to many needy families in our local area, our Diocese and in Perth Amboy as well as homebound senior citizens through our giving tree program. We will be collecting gift cards next through December 10th. Gift cards to Shop Rite, Stop and Shop, Target, Walmart, Kohls, Amazon, etc are greatly appreciated. Please make sure to mark the amount on the gift cards.

We still have some families and children who need Christmas Gifts. If you are interested in adopting a family or a child for Christmas this year or helping with the program, please contact **Karen Kuech** at **Kuechs@comcast.net** or **Linda Schilling** at **LMS652@gmail.com** for more information.

Thanksgiving Food Collection: Thank you so much for your generosity! We provided overflowing bags to our local families in need complete with turkeys and a pie. Thank you also to the religious education families for their generosity and the Companions of Pauline for their help preparing the bags. Thank you also to Bill Tronolone for his help moving all the food. We also were able to bring a large carload of food and turkeys to a local church where they were making baskets for 500 families.

Companions of Pauline: Companions of Pauline will renew their vows at the 8:30am mass on Monday, Dec 9, 2024. Breakfast will follow.

Initiation Ministry



Imagine St. Paul is saying this about you:

I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.

We all ARE partners with St. Paul, with the other Apostles, with the Saints, with the whole church of Christ in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. What is that good news? That Jesus loves us, came to save us and teach us how to live, and continually helps us to return home to the Father. As partners, then, let's roll up our sleeves and take our work seriously. Let's spread that good news by the way we live and by the invitation we offer to those who are seeking meaning and hope. Our Church has a vibrant process (the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults – OCIA) by which people seek the Lord through the Catholic Christian tradition. Is there someone you might invite to “come and see”? Those who are unbaptized, baptized into another Christian denomination, or baptized Catholic but have never received BOTH sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist are all welcome to explore the Catholic faith through the OCIA. For information, contact **JoLynn Krempecki** at **732-690-2610**. (jollynkrempecki@msn.com).

A MUSICAL CHRISTMAS TREAT

The music ministry will begin preludes on **December 15 - Gaudete/Rejoice** Sunday morning starting at **10:30 am** prior to the **11:00 am** mass. The community is invited to attend early to hear some of this special Advent music!



Eucharistic Ministers Needed
for The Gardens At Monroe

1) We are in need of additional Eucharistic Ministers to visit Catholic residents at the Gardens (next door to church) to distribute Holy Communion each Sunday. EMs arrive at about 10AM and visit the residents (list provided each week) in their rooms. This takes about 30-40 minutes. We have a few teams so that an EM would visit residents about every third or fourth Sunday. I will arrange for you to shadow an EM currently doing this for training.

2) We also need EMs to lead a Eucharistic Service at the Gardens about once each month. This involves bringing some materials (missal, communion, Prayer of the Faithful) and reading most of the prayers of the mass and distributing Communion to residents gathered in the Activities Room at the Gardens. Again, I will arrange for you to shadow and EM currently doing this.

3) Lastly, I need someone to replace me to do the quarterly schedule of EM assignments, recruit new EMs and be the contact person for the Gardens and EMs when needed. I have been doing this for nearly 30 years and it's time I handed this off to another parishioner.

If interested in assisting in this ministry in any of these roles, please contact **Deacon John Shelton** at email: **spmcucc@aol.com** and put "GARDENS" as the subject.



ADVENT CANDLES

Orders are being accepted for Advent Candles and Advent Wreaths. Please complete the form below and leave it in the parish office or place it in an envelope for the collection basket at Mass. Please include your payment with your order. Orders may be picked up in the parish office.

Name:	_____
Tel. No.	_____ Cell No. _____
Amount \$23.00	Check # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Candle Sets	\$5.00 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Candles & Wreath	\$20.00 _____



CHRISTMAS 2024 SCHEDULE

SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION



SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

1:00PM & 7:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

4:00pm and midnight

Masses are all live streamed

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

8:00AM and 10:00AM

Masses are all live streamed

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

4:00PM

Mass will be live streamed

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

9:00AM

Mass will be live streamed



Rosary for Life - January 24, 2025

Come Pray a Rosary for Life (in solidarity with those at the March for Life in Washington, DC and across the country). Bishop Checchio is scheduled to attend! Friday, January 24, 2025 at 1:00 pm on Main Street in Woodbridge. Park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 pm (369 Amboy Ave, Woodbridge, NJ) There is a 12:10 pm daily Mass at St. James for those who wish to attend. For more information, contact **amarshall@diometuchen.org** or call **732-562-1543**.



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH IN FR. CONGDON HALL

A children tableau of the Nativity will take place following the 11:00 mass with the feast starting immediately afterwards. The feast will include food, games and music.

As is our tradition, we would like to display a variety of nativity scenes on tables around the perimeter of the hall. This is a way for you to share a part of your family with our church family (you do not have to bring in the whole nativity and creche, part of it is welcomed.) From the tiniest nativity scene to more elaborate all are appreciated. If you would like to participate, please bring to Fr. Congdon Hall on **Dec. 7 before the 4:00 mass or any time before 11:00 on Sunday.**

If you would like to bring your favorite cookies to share, please follow the same instructions as for the nativity scenes above. Cookies may be a favorite recipe or store bought.

So mark your calendar and come celebrate our beautiful feast day.

Any questions contract **Donna Maguire at 732-690-2019.**



NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus Assembly #1848

Nativity of our Lord Church

185 Applegarth Road Monroe Twp., NJ

\$85 pp

Shore Bet Band

Cold Antipasto Platter on every table

Buffet Style dinner and some gluten-free dinners available and dessert

Soda, Water and **BYOB**

Tables of up to 8 people

Doors open 7:30 Sharp

Mail checks and form to:

Nativity of our Lord Church

K of C Assembly 1848 Att: Joe Charmello

185 Applegarth Road Monroe Twp., NJ 08831

Any Question: please call **Joe at:732-236-8515** or E-mail **Joe at: jac910@comcast.net**

Please print all names as you want them to appear on the place cards.



NO REFUNDS AFTER DECEMBER 15, 2024

Name _____ Phone# _____

Name _____ Phone# _____

Name _____ Phone# _____

Name _____ Phone# _____

Name _____ Phone# _____

Add Additional Names on back **NEED ONE E-MAIL ADDRESS**

LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL J. ZIRRITH LLC

Estate Planning (Wills) • Municipal Court (Traffic)
Labor & Employment (Disability & Pensions)
Litigation & Business Law

Office: 732-521-5900

E-mail: DZirrih@ZirrihLaw.com

241 Forsgate Drive • Suite 109 • Monroe Township, NJ 08831

FIorentini FAMILY DENTISTRY

Located on Applegarth Road
directly across from Clearbrook!

- Comprehensive Dentistry
- Implants
- All-on-Four
- Sleep Apnea Therapy
- Veneers

294 Applegarth Road • Monroe
609-655-1023 • www.FiorFamDent.com

LAW OFFICES OF

JOHN T. BAZZURRO, LLC

Areas of Practice:

PERSONAL INJURY
NURSING HOME NEGLECT
MUNICIPAL COURT
GENERAL CIVIL LITIGATION
WILLS • REAL ESTATE LAW

JOHN T. BAZZURRO, ESQ

Certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Civil Trial Lawyer

200 MECO DR., MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08535
732-410-5350 • www.bazzurrolaw.com

HEAT UP YOUR BUSINESS!

Join the family of sponsors who help support our weekly parish bulletin.

ADVERTISING HELPS TO BUILD AWARENESS!

CALL TODAY FOR OUR SPECIAL HOLIDAY DISCOUNTS!

For More Information

TOM ZUKOFSKI

732-236-4251



The Gardens AT MONROE

Healthcare and Rehabilitation

SUBACUTE NURSING CARE
SHORT-TERM REHABILITATION
LONGTERM CARE
RESPIRE CARE

PLEASE CONTACT OUR ADMISSIONS OFFICE
TO SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!

189 Applegarth Road, Monroe Township (609)448-7036
(next door to Nativity of Our Lord Church)

ROOFING • CHIMNEYS MASONRY • GUTTERS

We Find & Fix Leaks!



\$1100 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement

20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200, Bonded & Insured • 20+ Yrs.

732-589-9967 Serving All of New Jersey

CALL US TODAY!

YOUR AD HERE!



Reserve Your Space Today!

- Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
- Build Trust and Credibility • Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
- Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls

Contact our advertising team at 800-883-4343.

Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in our community.

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

Please Support Our ADVERTISERS
They Support Our Parish

GARVEY PEST.COM

(609) 448-0900



o no! Type o donors
needed now!



24/7 Helpline
800.272.3900

alzheimer's association



WREATHS across AMERICA

Sponsor a veterans' wreath
at a cemetery near you.

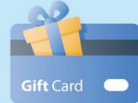
wreathscrossamerica.org

Never pay anyone who insists you pay with cryptocurrency, a wire transfer, or a gift card.

That's how scammers want you to pay.

Learn more:

ftc.gov/imposters



#FTCTopFrauds

ReportFraud.ftc.gov



ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

AB carpet & flooring



Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm • Sat. 10am-3pm

SENIOR DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

- ✓ CARPETS ✓ WOOD
- ✓ SAND & REFINISH
- ✓ LUXURY VINYL FLOORS

OVER 30 YEARS OF SERVING YOU!!!

609-395-5588



\$250 OFF
ANY SALE OF \$2500-\$4000
FLOORING PURCHASE

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offers or prior purchases.

\$500 OFF
ANY SALE OVER \$4000 or
MORE FLOORING PURCHASE

With coupon. Cannot be combined with any other offers or prior purchases.

CONCORDIA SHOPPING CTR. • 1600 PERRINEVILLE RD., MONROE TWP.



LAWRENCEVILLE FOOT CARE

Podiatric Medicine and Surgery

Michael Banh, DPM Dan Phan, DPM, MPH
132 Franklin Corner Rd., Suite C-1, Lawrenceville

609.512.1381 • LawrencevilleFootDoctors.com

D LATT'S PERFORMANCE LUS, INC.
Personalized Auto Service
 46 Lincoln Ave., Jamesburg

Old Fashioned Service...
 Plain & Simple

800-595-1978
PRIVATE INSPECTION FACILITY & EMISSIONS REPAIR FACILITY
 LIC #011853 LIC #000723

WE SERVICE ALL MAKES & ALL MODELS · NJ STATE INSPECTION
FREE Pick-Up & Delivery Service for Local Residents



♿ "TOTALLY BARRIER FREE" **M. David**

Over 40 Years of Compassionate Service in
 Monroe Township's Only Funeral Home

(732) 521-0555
 www.demarcofuneralhome.com

DeMarco
 Funeral Home, Inc.

Thomas J. DeMarco, Manager, N.J. Lic. No. 4651
 M. David DeMarco, President, N.J. Lic. No. 3203
 Jennifer L. Burry, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 5172
 Peter S. Winther, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 4763

205 RHODE HALL ROAD
 MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831

THE CHELSEA AT FORSGATE
 ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE • RESPITE STAYS

We are Open For Admissions & Tours
 Following all Covid Safe Guidelines

319 Forsgate Drive • Monroe, NJ 08831

TANGO
 Handyman Service
 NO JOB TOO SMALL
732-759-5897

HairCrafters
 HAIR & NAIL SALON
 609.655.0100
 1600 Perrineville Road • Monroe

Act now to help end hunger.

In the United States, one in nine people face hunger.

feedingamerica.org

FEEDING AMERICA

BLF
Brennan Law Firm
 A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
 73 North Main Street
 Cranbury, NJ 08512

- ESTATE PLANNING
- WILLS & TRUSTS
- LAND USE
- REAL ESTATE

609-395-5533
 www.brennanlaw.org

ERA REAL ESTATE CENTRAL LEVINSON

349 Applegarth Rd., Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
 Office: 609.655.5535 • Fax 609.655.0207

SUZANNE 'SUE' NADWODNY
 Broker Associate
 609.313.4864 cell
 Sue@LevinsonERA.com
 NJ REALTOR® Circle of Excellence® Gold 2021, Silver 2020
 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

Real Estate is Local. Contact your Local Real Estate Agent.

A Funeral Home of Choice For Monroe Township Residents Since 1965

GREGORY S. LESTER, MANAGER, NJ Lic. # 3364
 DAVID L. LESTER, DIRECTOR, NJ Lic. # 3483

Lester Memorial Home
 ~ Thoughtful, Personal, Dignified Services ~

732-521-0020
 16 West Church Street • Jamesburg, NJ
 www.LesterMemorialHome.com

GOD BLESS AMERICA

GENERAL HOME SERVICES, LLC
 Gas Fireplace Service & Maintenance
 Call: 732-615-8298
 Email: service@general-homeservices.com

SPRING - SUMMER FALL & CHRISTMAS

COUNTRYVIEW FARM NURSERY
 601 Buckleaw Ave (Rt 522E), Monroe Twp
732-675-3865

APRIL 1 - JULY 31 www.COUNTRYVIEWFARMNURSERY.COM SEPT 1 - DEC 31

Ageless Moments Adult Social Daycare

"Specialized Senior Care Tailored Just for You"

209 Applegarth Road
 Monroe Township, NJ 08831

- Social Activities
- Physical Activities
- Educational Programs
- Personal Care Services

Scan to view our website Call Today for a Tour 609-642-8950

Est. 1956 Lic. #13VH00345100

Valiant HOME REMODELERS

Family Owned & Operated Since 1956

"Let Our Family Work For Your Family"
 Doors • Windows • Siding • Roofing • Gutters
 Sunrooms • Awnings & Screens • Patio Covers
 Carpentry • Interior Renovations • Storm Repairs

732-541-7966 www.valianthome.com

Please Support Our **ADVERTISERS**
 They Support Our Parish

ROSA'S CLEANING
 Homes • Condos
 Offices • Apartments
862-224-9068

TOMATO PIES
 Pizzeria & Italian Kitchen

BEHIND THE APPLGARTH CVS
 4 Research Way
 Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
609-664-2804
 Open Monday - Saturday
FREE DELIVERY
 ORDER ONLINE: WWW.TOMATOPIESNJ.COM

@ThymeforFlowers Sweet William & Thyme Florist

SWEET WILLIAM & THYME
 Flowers For Your Special Day
 And Every Day
 www.ThymeForFlowers.com

732-521-2355
 ThymeForFlowers@aol.com
 teleflora® 19 E. Railroad Ave. • Jamesburg, NJ 08831