

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week



Sunday, March 2, 2014

5:30 Eric Comer, First Anniversary
 7:30 Albert Logan
 9:00 Segundino Orquiza
 10:30 Ramon Villordon (living)
 12:00 People of Ascension Parish

Monday, March 3, 2014

7:00 Mary Hickey
 8:30 Rudy Gonsalves

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

7:00 Mary Hickey
 8:30 Dominic Iemma

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2014

7:00 Anna John
 8:30 Dorothy & Melvin Evans
 12:00 Mary Hickey
 4:00 Liturgy of the Word
 7:30 Dorothy Cole

Thursday, March 6, 2014

7:00 Tarciana Villamor
 8:30 Mary Hickey

Friday, March 7, 2014

7:00 Nicholas Lanza
 8:30 Agnes Balagot
 7:30 Mary Hickey

Saturday, March 8, 2014

8:30 Sharon Hartlein
 5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 2014

7:30 Claudia Costello
 9:00 Michael Bruno
 10:30 People of Ascension Parish
 12:00 Herminda Rebutillo

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

February 9, 2014:	\$7,174.00
ParishPay:	\$ 851.74
February 16, 2014:	\$6,297.00
ParishPay:	\$ 851.74
Food Pantry:	\$ 984.00
February 23, 2014:	\$8,059.00
ParishPay:	\$ 851.74
Fuel:	\$2,197.00

We thank you very much for your generosity. You always care for and support our Parish programs, ministries and plant maintenance.

Readings for the Week of March 2, 2014

Sunday:	Is 49:14-15/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34
Monday:	1 Pt 1:3-9/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	1 Pt 1:10-16/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

In today's gospel, Jesus seems to be telling the apostles not only to take the long view of their lives, but to have a completely different and larger perspective than the Gentiles or non-believers. When Jesus says, "I'm telling you not to worry about your life or your body, what to eat or what to wear..." this is not just a command to live a carefree life, with a "Don't worry, be happy" attitude. Or is it? Jesus knows that the basics of how to provide food, shelter, and clothing for ourselves and our families are always going to be on the apostles' minds—and on ours. There is nothing evil in that—we are not angels without bodies.

But Jesus gives us an "either-or" challenge: The time and energy we invest in working and spending for our daily needs can be seen either as a way of serving God—or a way of pursuing wealth. In doing our tasks, we can trust God, or we can fret over the bank balance; we can seek God's rule over our lives, or we can worry endlessly about tomorrow.

If you are stressed-out juggling two mortgages and four kids, you call this a "pie in the sky" solution! Are you saying, "Show me the money"? But this is one of those situations where seeing is not believing. Rather, Jesus is saying the reverse: "Believe, and you will see."

Jesus reminds us that we can place our total trust in God, because we only have to look at the flowers and all of the beauty God has already given freely to the world. Is this too crazy for you? Yes, it calls for a radically new perspective on our life—to give up our fear, and pursue God's reign wholeheartedly, even joyfully, by trusting that only God is giving us absolutely everything we need.



This weekend we end Ordinary Time and enter into the penitential season of Lent. Let us bid farewell to the Easter word, **ALLELUIA**, as we sing it boldly in our songs this weekend until we sing it again joyfully at Easter.



This Wednesday is **ASH WEDNESDAY**. We begin the Holy Season of Lent. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for our **Lent 2014 Schedule**. We have also inserted our **2014 Lenten Calendar** which invites each of us to do a good deed every day in Lent. On the Book Rack in the back of church you will find "**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent.**" Please take a copy and use it during this holy season.



I invite all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **Open Our Hearts**, our 2014 Lenten program which offers opportunities for parishioners to meet Jesus more personally through the Lenten Scriptures, our Sunday liturgies, small faith-sharing groups, catechesis, and activities. In addition to the usual Adult Sharing Groups, Family and Teen Groups are also available. I hope and pray that we will respond to Jesus' call and take an active part in this process. Together, may we let the light of Christ shine even more brightly in our parish! Sign up flyers are in the bulletin and in the front vestibule of the church.



We have begun the **Archbishop's Annual Appeal for 2014**.

Archbishop Myers has set our 2014 goal at **\$53,400.00**. Please, let's pray and work together, that with God's help, we can go over goal and maybe reach our stretch goal. May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts.

Know that I pray for you every day. Please pray for me, too. God Love You!

P. David



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

The theme for Catholic Schools Week was Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service. During this Lenten Season, we must ask how do we as individuals, reflect this idea.

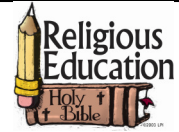
As young Catholic School students of the 1950's and early 60's, we were taught that Lent was a time of self-sacrifice through which we would develop self-discipline. Who among us has not taken that idea and used it to give up our favorite desert not so much as an act of faith, but as a self-imposed diet to lose that winter weight?

Vatican II brought with it a number of changes. One subtle change was a shift from the idea of giving something up to one of doing something positive.

The two ideas of sacrifice and doing something positive are not mutually exclusive. Often to do something positive one must be willing to give up something else. Giving to those less fortunate may require us to not buy or to postpone buying something we want. Being there for a friend in need to help them or just to listen may mean giving of your time. Being pleasant to someone you would not ordinarily speak to or would normally avoid may require a great deal of sacrifice.

So when we go to Easter Sunday Mass which is the person do you think Our Lord really wants to see? The person who is slightly thinner, or the person of Faith who is secure in the Knowledge of His teachings and who has followed His example of sacrifice and Service?

Remember, these ideas are not mutually exclusive. you could do Both!!



CALENDAR:

Sunday, March 2nd -- Pre-K thru 6th grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)
Monday, March 3rd – 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
Wednesday, March 5th – Ash Wednesday- 7th, 8th & 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
Sunday, March 9th -- Pre-K thru 6th grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 9 am Mass for the children in Pre-K to 5th grades. Remember this is a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



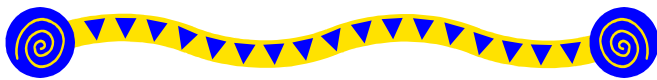
IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Ash Wednesday – March 5, 2014 All 7th, 8th, and 9th graders will meet in the school at 7 pm and go to Mass with their class. Attendance will be taken. All families are encouraged to join us at this Mass.

Sign-Ups for Our Lenten Journey for teens is open to all teens in 7th grade thru 12th. We will meet on Thursday evenings in the school. Please see the Bulletin for further information or contact the Religious Education office

Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm
Monday and Wednesday Evenings: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm
Sunday: 10 am to 12 pm (Noon)
Closed; Thursday & Saturday
Other times by appointment



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME MARCH 9TH* MARCH 9TH



ATTENTION ALL SCRAPPERS AND CRAFTERS

New Concepts Children's Disabled Foundation will be holding an all day Scrapbooking Fundraiser Crop, "Scrap for a Cause" on Saturday, April 26th, at Assumption Parish Center in Emerson, NJ, making crafts or scrapbooking the day away! All proceeds benefit for people with disabilities. Enjoy uninterrupted scrapping, breakfast lunch and dinner, raffle baskets, door prizes, shopping, free gift bags all for only \$75.00 for all day and into the night. There is no better way to preserve our cherished memories and photos then building a scrapbook that will become a family heirloom. If you don't know how to scrapbook, come and we'll show you. If you don't want to scrapbook or make crafts you can just come in for free and shop while helping a worthy cause.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Beahm at 201-843-3427 or email at lbeahm@ncfl.net.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

✠ ASH WEDNESDAY, March 5, 2014 ✠

✠ We will celebrate Mass at 7am, 8:30am, 12 Noon, 7:30pm and a Liturgy of the Word at 4pm. Ashes will be distributed **ONLY** during these liturgies.

A collection for the Fund for Retired Priests will be taken up at all the liturgies on Ash Wednesday. An envelope has been provided. Please be as generous as your means allow.

✠ LENTEN SEASON ✠

✠ We invite all parishioners to become part of **Open Our Hearts** which offers opportunities for parishioners to encounter Christ through integrating the Sunday liturgies, small faith-sharing groups, catechesis, and family activities. It is another opportunity in Lent to meet other parishioners and to let Jesus enter your life more deeply, rekindle the fire of the faith we share, and let the light of Christ shine brightly in our parish!

✠ To remind us of the penitential nature of the season of Lent, the Entrance and **Penitential Act at Mass** will take on a new form for the five (5) Sundays of Lent.

There will be **NO** Entrance Song. The Celebrant and Ministers will enter in silence. The Sign of the Cross, Greeting and Introduction to the Penitential Rite follow. We will kneel for a brief examination of conscience and then together pray the "I Confess...". The Celebrant's conclusion will be followed by a sung "Kyrie", after which we will stand for the Collect.

✠ A **Lenten Calendar** has been inserted in the bulletin which suggests good deeds for each day of Lent.

✠ During Lent we offer an **additional Mass ONLY on Fridays at 7:30pm** after which we will pray the **Stations of the Cross**.

✠ On Friday, March 21 we are invited to our **Parish Fish and Chips Dinner**. Tickets: \$8.00 per person.

✠ On Saturday, April 5, we will celebrate a **Tri-Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service** at 1pm at St. Mary's Church in Dumont.

✠ On Friday, April 11, we will join together for our **Family Lenten Evening of Recollection** which will include a Soup Supper (Free Will Donation), Stations of the Cross, Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction.

✠ 2014 LENTEN REGULATIONS ✠

1. The days of both **Fast and Abstinence** during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of **Abstinence**.
On a day of **Fast**, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
On a day of **Abstinence**, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.
2. The obligation to observe the laws of **Fast and Abstinence** "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the **Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*)** extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 2014 to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 15, 2014.**

*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Marcella Sweeney, Matthew Sammon, Peggy Evans, Janet Sweeney, Anna Gorgone, Frances Lanzilotti, Anita Zucconi, Jack Wall, Eileen Burke, Michael Cullen, Joseph Gorgone, John Burke, Sue Figalora, Bob Stasi, Peggy Funesti, Patricia Burke, Eleanor Pompeo, Alyssa Brady, Dolores DeMatteo, Barbara Riley, Alex Kuhr, Barbara Santore, William Schettinger, Yvonne Payne, Rosemarie Salimbene, Marge Bruno, Jim Keane, Monica Vivas, Margaret Bitetti, Theresa Ruocco, Kay Harrington, Adem Shavelli, Joseph Albanese, Joe Hartney, Marguerite Morris.

And those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

"a time to serve..."

Cpt. Jack Massingale, U.S. Air Force, Afghanistan
All Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

"a time for peace..."

President Barack Obama, our National Leaders
and all World Leaders.

"a time to die..."

**Ann-Marie Lopresti, Paul J. Eberhardt
Gertrude O'Dea, Nicoletta Falgiano**

...and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11

SUPPORT GROUP

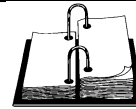
The needs of fathers who have suffered the loss of a son or daughter are unique. The Office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark invites all grieving fathers to a special place of understanding and healing. The Support Group for Fathers Whose Children Have Died will meet on **Saturday, March 8, 2014** at Notre Dame RC Church (Parish Center), 359 Central Avenue, North Caldwell, at 10:00 AM. Pre-registration is requested. Please call the Office of Family Life Ministries at 973-497-4327, or email mccormja@rcan.org for information, directions and registration.



REMEMBER DURING LENT

Mass on Friday's at 7:30pm
followed by Stations of the Cross.

Also, we have placed **"Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2014"** in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend



**The
Week
Ahead**

Sunday, March 2, 2014

Parish Maintenance & Repairs
Lenten Program Sign-Up after All Masses
Children's Choir - 9:00am
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9:00am
Church/Gathering Room
Religious Education - 10:15am - School

Monday, March 3, 2014

Pastoral Staff Meeting - 9:00am - Rectory Office
Religious Education Grade 8 - 7:00pm - School
Combined Choir's - 7:30pm - Church

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Woodcrest Center, Mass - 2:30pm
Ministry of Worship/Liturgy - 7:30pm - Rectory/Ch.



ASH WEDNESDAY*Day of Fast & Abstinence

Collection for Retired Priests Fund

Mass Celebrated at 7:00 & 8:30am

12 Noon & 7:30pm Word Service at 4:00pm

Religious Education grades 7, 8 & 9 meet in school
& attend 7:30pm Mass

NO Novena

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Children's Choir - 3:45pm - Church
RCIA - 7:00pm - Gathering Room

First Friday, March 7, 2014

Communion Visits to homebound
Mass with Stations of the Cross - 7:30pm - Church
Buildings & Grounds Committee Mtg. - 8:00pm-Rectory

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Confessions - 11:00am - Church
Orders for Irish Soda Bread

First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 2014

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Peter's Pence Collection
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9:00am
Church/Gathering Room
Religious Education - 10:15am - School
CFC-FFL - 1:30pm - Multi Purpose Room

Ministries

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP/LITURGY MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 2ND AT 7:30PM
IN THE RECTORY OFFICE

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 8:00PM
IN THE RECTORY OFFICE



EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MEMORIALS

“THANK YOU”...to those who have contributed to our Memorials Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the rectory with the coupon below. When an item is purchased we will notify you which item is in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call Fr. David at the Rectory (201)836-8961.

Additional Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| MEMORIAL CANDLES: | \$150/1 Year |
| | \$20/30 Days |
| ALTAR BREAD AND WINE | \$40 per week |
| ALTAR FLOWERS | \$50 (per basket/per week) |
| SANCTUARY CANDLE | \$15 per week |

MEMORIAL FUND

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Donation Amt.: _____
 In Memory of: _____
 Date Requested: _____



Members of the Hickey family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the many friends of Ascension Parish who offered their prayers, sympathy and condolences during the past weeks for their dearly departed wife and mother, Mary Grace.



8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (material wealth).” MATTHEW 6:24

Do you have other “gods” in your life (job, money, power, ego, possessions)? Do you put them before the Lord? A stewardship lifestyle means putting God first, in all things! It means living stewardship 7 days a weeks, 24 hours a day and not just the time that I go to Church or participate in my parish ministry. It means re-prioritizing and putting God first.



**Please remember to patronize,
 ARMBRUSTER LANDSCAPING
 201-967-1489
 who help make this bulletin possible**



2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2014
“When I called, you answered”

Thank you to the 218 parishioners who have made pledges amounting to \$40,805.00 to the 2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. With your help, we can reach and hopefully surpass our goal of \$53,400.00.

If you have not done so, please remember to return your completed pledge envelope for the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. You may place the envelope in the collection basket or bring it to the office. For those who have already made a gift, thank you for your support.

BE NOT AFRAID!

The Men's Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark will be holding its sixth annual Men's Conference on Saturday, March 15, 2014, at Seton Hall University.

Speakers: His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Fr. Larry Richards, Gregory Floyd, Pablo Bayona, Miguel Rosa and Enrique Lugo.

Men of Ascension parish who want to participate may register with our contact person, Fr. Ernie Tibay at (201) 836-8961.



ARCHBISHOP JOHN J. MYERS
JOINS IN CELEBRATION OF
MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES

Once again, the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual celebration honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five or fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2014. These liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers and held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 6, 2014

3:00pm – 50th Wedding Anniversary
All Counties

May 4, 2014

3:00pm -- 25th & 5th Wedding Anniversary
All Counties

It is our desire to have every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. The presence of a large number of couples will give favorable witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.

If you are celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries, contact the rectory at (201) 836-8961 for registration.

Deadline for reservations: Monday, March 24, 2014

**END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
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EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Serina Sharkey**

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Comments:
