

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2014

5:30 Anne & Harry Somo
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:00 Mary Hickey
10:30 Ann Frederikson
12:00 Rosario Flores

Monday, December 1, 2014

7:00 Luz Dizon
8:30 Anthony Poli

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

7:00 Patrocinio E. Quijano
8:30 Eve Boschker

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

7:00 Maria Caridad Bracero
8:30 Regina & Brian McCann

Thursday, December 4, 2014

7:00 Eileen Hopkins
8:30 Nick, Roseann & Logan (living)

Friday, December 5, 2014

7:00 Yolanda & Arthur Castranova
8:30 Fortunata Tababan

Saturday, December 6, 2014

Memorial Mass

8:30 Gregory Poli, Ted Chayka,
Raju Thomas

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2014

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:00 Arthur Milliken
10:30 Mario & Rosauro Cajucom
12:00 Chacko Pallath

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



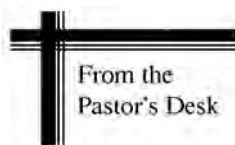
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

NO FIGURES AT TIME OF PRINTING

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 November 30, 2014

Sunday:	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday:	Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



Time seems to rule everyone's lives, doesn't it? None of us can live for one day without clocks keeping us in line! We wear wrist watches. Our computers and our cars, our iPads and our iPhones all tell us the time constantly! A person who does not obey clocks is called unprofessional or unreliable.

But the readings for First Sunday of Advent today look at time in a different way. From the long-ago past, long before Jesus was born, Isaiah reminds us that the people of God have been waiting. "God, why have you let us wander away from you? you're always catching us doing something wrong, and we feel guilty and tired. Why are you leaving us in this mess?"

Yet, God's people admit, "No ear or eye has ever heard or seen anything like your awesome deeds. We are the clay, but you are the potter!"

This is the basic Advent theme: we are waiting for God's patient love to come again in its fullness, so that all that is broken in this world can be made whole again. But this isn't useless waiting, as if we're at the doctor's office or in the check-out line. This is expectant, eager waiting, the way a woman waits for childbirth.

Something wonderful is going to come of this waiting! Jesus says, "Be watchful! The moment is coming soon!" God is already among us, and yet God is coming—the already, and the not yet.

The time is ripe, so let's wait joyfully!

✠ Thank you to all who donated, collected, and delivered turkeys for our **Thanksgiving Turkey Drive**. Also, thank you to all who participated in our **39th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving**. Special thanks to those who participated, especially, to Glenn Gordon and our choir members for leading us in song-filled thanks to God.

✠ Thank you to Brian Driscoll and our friends at **THE BAKERY** in Bergenfield, for their generous donation of bread for our Thanksgiving Day celebration. It is always such a treat!

✠ Please take some time to review the information from last week's bulletin about our **2014 Parish ADVENTure**. Our **Advent Giving Tree** has been prepared to help us to Share the Spirit of Christmas! Further information is in this week's bulletin. Also, don't forget to take a copy of **Five Minutes with the Word for Advent**. Copies are in the book rack at the entrance to the church. These and so many other opportunities help each of us to prepare for the Lord's coming.

✠ Advent would not be complete without a very special opportunity to "make straight the way of the Lord" in our hearts and in our lives. Please plan to join us on Monday evening, December 15th at 7:30pm, at St. Mary's Church in Dumont for our **Tri-Parish Advent Celebration of Reconciliation with Individual Confession**. Come and experience this beautiful sacrament as one of God's grace-filled Advent moments. What a treat God has in store for us!

✠ Please remember to make your final payments for the **2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal** in order that our parish may get the proper credit. **We still need \$5,391.50 to fulfill our pledges.**

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

Fr. David



**TRANSFIGURATION
ACADEMY**

Congratulations to Yashaar Hafizka

Transfiguration Class of 2012

Yashaar is one of 4 students from Bergen County Academies who will be paired with professionals at leading research companies in New Jersey, and work together on a yearlong program to collaborate with each other, the R & D Council and the Department of Education to ensure the advancement of STEM skills in New Jersey's high schools, colleges and schools of higher education. This is a terrific honor and we are very proud of our member of the Transfiguration Class of 2012. Yashaar was also a member of Team Tesla, the Transfiguration "Future City" team that placed in the Top 10 of all the cities entered in the New Jersey Region competition in 2012. Transfiguration teams placed in the Top 10 in 4 consecutive years, and has won 11 Awards in its 9 years of competition. Transfiguration is one of the few elementary schools to have a formal Engineering and Technology Program (EnTech).

**Begin the Transformation.
Begin learning lessons for a successful life.
Transfiguration Academy
201-384-3627
www.transfigurationacademy.org**



The Service Ministry would like to thank all who donated to our Turkey Drive. It was a huge success!



TOYS FOR TOTS

Boulevard Funeral Home will be collecting new unwrapped toys this holiday season for Toys for Tots. Donations can be dropped off at 1151 River Road, New Milford from 9-4 daily. All donations will stay local. Please contact 201-692-0100 with any questions.



Calendar:

Sunday, November 30th ó 1st Sunday of Advent -- NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Monday, December 1st ó 7th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, December 3rd ó 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, December 7th ó K thru 6th grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Monday, December 8th ó Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception ó Holy Day of Obligation 7th & 8th Graders will meet at 7 pm and go to 7:30 pm Mass.

There will be NO Children's Liturgy of the Word Sunday, November 30, 2014. We will meet again on Sunday, December 7, 2014

Reconciliation: Pardon and Peace: As our parish children prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, they are learning about the rite of the sacrament. This week the children will discuss contrition, confession, penance, and absolution. All parishioners are invited to think about how important the Sacrament of Reconciliation is in our own lives as we seek pardon and peace in the words of absolution. Please continue to keep these children in your prayers.

**IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR 7TH & 8TH GRADES:
CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2014**

Monday December 1, 2014 -- 7th Grade will meet

Monday December 8, 2014 -- 7th & 8th Grades will meet -- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception -- All will be going to Mass at 7:30 pm

Monday December 15, 2014 -- 8th Grade will meet



Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of Class Parents for ALL GRADES in our Religious Education Program for the 2014-2015 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085

Children's Liturgy of the Word Team member. This is a great opportunity for college students or student teachers to gain experience share their faith and work with students in a relaxed atmosphere. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

Religious Education Office Location & Hours:

New Location: 356 Azalea Drive

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm

Location: 1092 Carnation Drive

Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm

Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon

Closed: Thursday & Saturday

Other times by appointment

ADVENT

WATCH

LISTEN

REJOICE

PREPARE

WEEK ONE

Be on watch ... pray constantly ...

Advent's first week is a wake-up call! The Scripture readings assigned to each day continue the theme of Sunday, pleading with us to awaken from our slumber, to pay attention and pray, to be vigilant and watch for the Lord's coming, even in our midst right here, right now.

Sunday

Mark 13:33-37

Watch for surprises! Jesus is coming into our lives in ways we can never predict.

"Wake up!" says today's Gospel. Will Jesus come to us in our homes, in the faces of those we love, or from an acquaintance or stranger? All of the above!

Pay special attention this week to those whom you normally ignore.

Weekdays

Pray that God will open your eyes. This week we hear stories of the blind receiving vision. Pay attention to the sunrise this week. Watch the dawn for a few minutes or a half hour one day and reflect on the changes that come with light. Then read and pray over two stories of sight:

Isaiah 29:17-24 and Matthew 9:27-31.

Advent Feast Day

Feast of St. Nicholas (December 6)

Give and receive. The real St. Nicholas, bishop of ancient Smyrna, protected children from abuse, starvation and slavery. His rosy cheeks came from Roman persecution.

St. Nicholas of annual tradition is full of goodness and generosity.

We leave a shoe out; he leaves something good in it.

Put out your shoe of need today for someone to fill. And do something good for a child.

Family Advent Wreath Prayer

Good and gracious God, you give us a new season, the season of Advent,
so that we can prepare for your coming among us.

As we light the first candle of our Advent wreath, we ask you to bless our preparations for Christmas.

Help us to welcome you as you come to us each day and as you will come again in glory.



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Charles Brown, Rose Dæufemia, Dolores Crowley, Jose Ignacio Zuniga, Frank Mottola, Shirley Busby, Roger Carr, Rev. John McGovern, Andrew Comer, Janet Sweeney, Jack Wall, Eileen Burke, Michael Cullen, Joseph Gorgone, 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, 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.

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11

AVAILABILITY

SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communions, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by the rectory office if you would like to check date availability.



INVITATION TO A CHRISTMAS PARTY

St. Joseph Council #3814 KofC will have its Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 6th from 6:30pm to 10:00pm at the Council Hall (Coogan Hall) 199 River Rd., New Milford. All members are invited as well as men interested in membership and their families. This is a great way to meet the KofC Family. Membership is open to any practicing Catholic men at least 18 years of age. Food will be served.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Just a reminder for those who made a pledge to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal for 2014. We need \$5,391.50 to fulfill our pledges. If you have not fulfilled your pledge please do so. Every fulfilled Pledge Counts! Thank you.



First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2014

Advent Giving Tree
NO Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am
NO Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School

Monday, December 1, 2014

Pastoral Staff Meeting ó 9:00am ó Rectory Mtg. Room
Transfiguration Academy Confessions ó 1:00pm
Religious Education Grade 7 ó 7:00pm - School

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

Woodcrest Center, Rosary ó 2:30pm
Ministry of Word - 7:30pm ó Gathering Room

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Religious Education Grade 9 - 7:00pm - School
Novena ó 7:30pm- Church
BS Troop 291 ó 7:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center
BS Committee ó 7:30pm ó Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Children's Choir- 3:45pm ó Church
Ministry of Service ó 7:00pm ó Gathering Room
Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm - Church

First Friday, December 5, 2014

Communion Visits to homebound

Saturday, December 6, 2014

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church
Maharajah Christmas Party ó 7:00pm - Fr. Benedict Ctr.

Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2014

Religious Retirement Fund Collection
Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am
Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School
Baptism Prep. ó 1:15pm ó Gathering Room



Ministry of Word

Tuesday, December 2nd
7:30pm in the Gathering Room

Ministry of Service

Thursday, December 4th
7:00pm in the Gathering Room

GIVE THANKS FOR RELIGIOUS

A parishioner writes, "We thank God today and every day for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's, but also to love God. Share your gratitude for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION'S GIVING TREE

This weekend we invite you to *Share in the Spirit of Christmas* by participating in our parish's traditional **Giving Tree** outreach program. Besides our own local gift giving to children in the area, we also provide gifts to local nursing homes, homeless shelters, a local shelter for unwanted teenage boys, and to children in communities who would, were it not for our program, receive nothing for Christmas. **Please note that due to the requirements some of our charities, and our delivery teams, most gifts will be due back by Sunday, December 14th.** However, some will be due back at an earlier date. *It is imperative that you observe the dates we will publish in next week's bulletin for the return of gifts. Please do not bring in gifts after this time as they may not be delivered to the various charities.* It is important you do not take an ornament that cannot be returned on time as this may result in someone not receiving a gift this year. Please also remember to securely attach your ornament to the package so that the gift will go to the correct recipient.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to help deliver some of these gifts, please call Joan Stephens @ 201-836-6684. May God continue to bless you for your generous support of this ministry of love and care.

****Please note that unwrapped toys will be given to the Bergen County Sheriff's Department for distribution to local children in need. Please do not wrap these items.**

HAVE YOU NOTICED SOMETHING NEW??

As you may have noticed, we recently installed on our property a donation bin for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark. All of the clothing, shoes, and small household items that you generously donate will be sold and the proceeds will be used to support the many programs for the needy as provided by Catholic Charities. Tax receipts are available, either paper or to your smartphone.

Catholic Charities will report periodically to us on the amount of money generated from our donation bin. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a larger pick up, please call toll free @ 877-343-3651.



Please patronize
our advertisers.
They help us GROW.

GRACE DRIVING SCHOOL
201-967-2922



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Christmas trees, wreaths and flowers which will be used to decorate our church this festive season.

Please print clearly on all requests.

Donation \$15.00 for Each Intention
One intention for each donation will be listed on the
Christmas Flower Donations bulletin insert

Please put your donation and intention in the **Christmas Flower Envelope** that you received in the mail or pick one up at doors of church and drop it in the collection basket or in the black mail box outside the rectory door.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

In Memory of: _____

_____ , _____
or the Intention of: _____

Donated by: _____

Phone: _____

23RD ANNUAL TOY DRIVE OF NEW MILFORD

On Sunday, December 14th the New Milford Fire Department, will be collecting unwrapped toys or gift certificates (no stuffed animals please) rain, snow or sun at the following locations: **305 GRAPHIC BLVD. @ 1PM; BROOKCHESTER SHOPPING CENTER @ 1:20PM; SHOPRITE @ 1:45PM; NMF D CO.#2 @ 2:10PM; PERRONE'S FARM @ 2:30PM; B.F. GIBBS SCHOOL @ 2:50PM; 70 RIVER RD. @ 3:05PM; NMF D CO. #1 @ 3:25PM.** Thank You for giving to those less fortunate.

MEMORIALS

ōTHANK YOUō 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: _____