

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week



Second Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2015

5:30 Eric J. Comer
 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
 9:00 Michael Bruno
 10:30 Mary Lewis, First Anniversary
 12:00 Cathy Trimarchi

Monday, March 2, 2015

7:00 Richard Mesiano
 8:30 Jeanee Thomas (living)

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

7:00 Norman Mintz
 8:30 John Thomas & Family (living)

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

7:00 Luann Troia
 8:30 St. Anthony, Thanksgiving

Thursday, March 5, 2015

7:00 Timothy J. Curtin
 8:30 Angela Dal Lago

Friday, March 6, 2015

7:00 Ester & Judith Nional
 8:30 Timothy Curtin

7:30 Mary Jane Severini

Saturday, March 7, 2015

Memorial Mass

8:30 Agnes Balagot, Aleyamma Abraham
 5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Third Sunday of Lent, March 8, 2015

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
 9:00 Maria Barsan (living)
 10:30 John Montecucollo, Fifth Anniversary
 12:00 Michael Bruno

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT
 WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

Sunday, February 22, 2015: \$4,720.00
Priest's Retirement: \$1,797.00
Fuel: \$1,899.00

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 1, 2015

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
 Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Death, and taxes, and many things in-between terrify us every day of our lives. All of us live with some degree of anxiety, fatigue, or depression. This can make trusting God very difficult—too much can go wrong! But even those closest to Jesus weren't quick to trust.

In the gospel today, Jesus frightens the apostles with quite an other-worldly experience. First, they see Jesus blindingly transformed by light. Then they see Jesus talking with two ancient prophets, Moses and Elijah, who had been dead for over 1000 years! Peter was speechless, and it says "They were terrified."

But Jesus doesn't rush to comfort or reassure them, because he knows that they don't yet see the whole picture—they are terrified only because they do not yet believe they can trust the unknown to God. The answer to all of our stress and worry lies in God's own words today: "This is My Beloved Son" *listen to him!*

First, we might have to add "Stop" and "Look." **Stop** the inner chatter, and the outer noise, just for a while. **Look**, really look with time and focus and attention, at the person talking to you, the task at hand, the cat in your lap. Now, you can **Listen**: Listening is a decision to receive with open hands whatever God is giving you.

Jesus did not explain every detail to the apostles, because he knew that the God of all life was trustworthy—and that is enough, for them, and for us. Yes, we will have fears, because there is evil in the world. But Jesus trusted God with the deepest and most vulnerable places of his heart. If we listen, Jesus will teach us how to trust that way.

✠ Remember, on **Fridays in Lent** we have added a Mass at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross. Also, we have placed "**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2015**" in our parish book rack. Please take one for your use during this holy season.

✠ Our pool of **funeral servers and readers** is dwindling. Perhaps you can volunteer to become a server or reader for our parish funerals. This ministry is so comforting to families in their time of loss. Please consider this Corporal Work of Mercy. Please see Fr. David for details and training.

✠ Don't forget to purchase your tickets this weekend for our **Parish Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner** on Friday, March 20th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Fr. Benedict Center. This will be hosted by our 9th Grade Confirmation Candidates. Remember, tickets (\$8.00) must be purchased in advance. Tickets are available from our Confirmation Candidates, in the front vestibule of the church, or from the Rectory Office. **No tickets will be sold at the door.**

✠ **SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL 2015**

Thank you so much to our 123 parishioner families who have contributed \$20,259.50 to the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. There is still time to make a pledge. Brochures are in the pews and at the doors of the church. Letters will soon go out to parishioners inviting them to consider making a pledge. I pray that each parish family will step up and support this beautiful way to answer Jesus' invitation to offer His hope to the poor and needy. 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!

Fr. David



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

11,000 Acts of Kindness

A Positive Approach to Lent

Transfiguration students have accepted a Lenten challenge. The Administration has challenged each student to do one act of kindness a day for the 40 days of Lent. If each of our 276 students does this, then we have 276 students doing 40 acts of kindness or 11,040 kind deeds during Lent.

More importantly, it will instill in them the habit of doing good deeds throughout the year, and hopefully throughout their lives.

Just imagine the kind of world we can have if everyone did just one Act of kindness a day.

Transfiguration
*Strengthening Faith, Enlightening Minds and
Transforming Hearts...One Student at a Time*



DONATION TOWARDS SNOW REMOVAL

If you have not done so please consider making a donation to help defray the cost of **Snow Removal** on our parish grounds.

This is a very expensive item on our budget & we have already been serviced for twenty-four snow removal and salting services this season amounting to over \$14,000.00.

This service provides for your safety throughout the winter months. **Thank you!**



**NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH
SET CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. Mary's parish will have Mass honoring St. Patrick on Sunday March 14 at 10 a.m. Present and past grand marshals of the Bergenfield Parade will join us as well as the Clan Na Vale Pipe and Drum Band. Following the liturgy there will be a tea and soda bread social featuring entertainment from the McLoughlin School of Irish Dance and Clan Na Vale.



Calendar:

Sunday, March 1st -- K thru 6th grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Monday, March 2nd 6th & 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, March 4th 6 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, March 8th -- K thru 6th grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word has started at the 9 am Mass. All children in K to 5th grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Monday March 2, 2015—Both 7th and 8th grades will have class. Please be on time.

Sunday – March 8, 2015: Mandatory First Communion

Retreat- starting with 9 am Mass & After Mass all First Communion Candidates will go to class and parents will return at 11:45 am to continue with the retreat. At least one parent must attend. If you are in need of Child Care **PLEASE** call the Religious Education Office by Tuesday March 3, 2015, so we can arrange for help.

Religious Education Office Location & Hours:

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



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 2015**" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend



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*Church of the Ascension
New Milford, NJ 07646*

Office of the Pastor

March, 2015

Dear Ascension Parishioners,



The **2015 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal** has begun. Each year, the Annual Appeal provides valuable resources to parishes and schools in need, helps the poor with food, shelter and clothing, supports many pastoral ministries, funds three Archdiocesan seminaries and makes housing and medical care possible for retired priests. The Appeal reminds us that we are one with all the other parishes of our Archdiocese and gives us a chance to work together for God's people by sharing our God-given gifts.

This year's appeal once again reminds us that through sharing the many blessings that we have received we become the beacons of hope for those in need, for some, the very face of God.

Supporting the Annual Appeal is an opportunity to provide hope, faith and love to so many in our community. The appeal helps the hungry, the homeless, and the sick. It also provides for religious education and makes our faith a reality for thousands in Northern New Jersey.

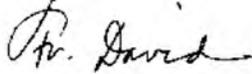
Our 2015 goal is set at **\$53,403.00**. If you have already contributed, I want you to know how grateful I am for your generosity. If you have not yet contributed, I write to you now to ask for your help. I ask that each parish family make a financial commitment to the Annual Appeal so that, with God's help, we may surpass our goal. **Give a lot...Give a little...but, please, Give something for the Glory of God!** It is with great trust in God and in our parishioners that I ask every Ascension family to say "yes" to our Annual Appeal by contributing, at the very least, a one-time donation of \$5.00 or \$10.00, more if your means allow. This would ensure surpassing our goal and receiving a substantial rebate. Perhaps, you could make the Appeal part of your Lenten fasting.

As good stewards of the mysteries and gifts of Jesus Christ, I humbly ask you to join me in making a generous gift to the **2015 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal** and to be the light for so many in our community.

Please, let's pray and work together, that with God's help, we can reach and go over goal again. May God continue to bless **all** at Ascension with generous hearts.

Know that I pray for you and your family each and every day. Please keep me in your prayers.

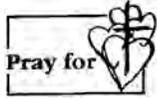
God Love You!


Rev. David W. Milliken
Pastor

Rectory: 256 Azalea Drive

Telephone: (201) 836-8961

FAX: (201) 836-5896



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Rose DeEufemia, Dolores Crowley, Shirley Busby, Roger Carr, Andrew Comer, Janet Sweeney, Ann & 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, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Jose Diaz, Justine White, 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



The SANCTUARY CANDLE
burns this week in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



BREAD and WINE this week
are in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



Because of your generosity our collection last week for Fuel amounted to **\$1,899.00**.
Thank you to all who contributed towards this special collection so we can all continue to enjoy the comfort of warmth in our parish church throughout this extremely cold winter season.



Second Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2015

Parish Maintenance & Repairs

Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast 8:00am-12 Noon
Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am
Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School

Monday, March 2, 2015

Pastoral Staff Meeting ó 9:00am ó Rectory Mtg. Room
Religious Ed. ó Grade 7 & 8 - 7:00pm ó School

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Woodcrest Center, Mass ó 2:30pm
Parish Events Mtg. ó 7:30pm ó Gathering Room

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Religious Education grade 9 ó 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
Filipino Core Mtg. - 8:00pm ó Gathering Room

Thursday, March 5, 2015

Children's Choir ó 3:45pm ó Church
Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm - Church

First Friday, March 6, 2015

Communion Visits to Homebound
Mass & Stations of the Cross ó 7:30pm ó Church
Buildings & Grounds Mtg. ó 8:00pm ó Rectory

First Saturday, March 7, 2015

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church

Third Sunday of Lent, March 8, 2015

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Peter's Pence

Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am

First Communion Retreat Day

Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School



PARISH EVENTS MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015
IN THE GATHERING ROOM

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2015
IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM

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.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



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 2015. 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 19, 2015

3:00pm – 50th Wedding Anniversary

May 3, 2015

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

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 30, 2015



NEEDS

Facial Tissue, Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels, Napkins, Razors,
Shaving cream, Shampoo, Conditioner and Bath Soap.

Your donations are much appreciated.

MEMORIALS

øTHANK YOUø 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: _____



Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal 2015 Appeal Testimonials

This year our Parish Goal is \$53,403.00

øIt is important to me and my family to support the Annual Appeal simply because we have been so blessed as family and in my opinion; it is our job to help others be able to receive the same blessings that we have.ø

- Mr. & Mrs. Rosario, Belleville, NJ

“I support the Annual Appeal because it is something that I believe everyone should do. It is a way to give back to the community that covers a wide range of areas and programs throughout the Archdiocese. I think it is important to fund the programs through the Annual Appeal because these programs are making a real difference in the greater Church of Newark.ø

-Ms. Mary Brown, Newark, NJ

øGod has blessed us all with different gifts and He calls everybody to participate in one way or another, and so I'd like to say thank you for answering that call and for saying -YESø to that call that was put in your heart to give to contribute to the Annual Appeal. It means the world to us. God put in my heart to become a priest and that opportunity *would not* be possible without your generosity; so I would just like to say thank you and I hope to make you proud one day as a priest of this Archdiocese.ø

- Jesse M.; Seminarian

øTo me, we are all channels of God's distributive love. I believe that whatever God has given to us, whatever we have, belongs to God. God intends to use us as instruments for the distribution of his compassion and grace.ø

- Monsignor Nwaorgu, Pastor

øWhat counts above all else is øfaith working through loveø (Gal 5:6). Works of love directed to one's neighbor are the most perfect external manifestation of the interior grace of the Spirit.ø

-Pope Francis

øThe community and those in need within in the Archdiocese of Newark would be lost without Catholic Charities. Our priests, our church, everyone looks to Catholic Charities to continue to support those in need. And without Catholic Charities, I don't know where else those people who need help would find it.ø

-John W., Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark

øCollege students throughout the Archdiocese are directly impacted by the work of our Campus Ministers. We have the opportunity to give students a place where they give voice to their questions about the faith; their questions about Jesus Christ, about his mission, why it's important, why it continues to be important, and why Jesus continues to have something to say to them and to the world. These students are the future business leaders, the future people working in politics, future homemakers, etc. If we are able to be with them at this pivotal time in their lives, at this very unique time, we are really making an investment in the future of the Church.ø

-Fr. Sheridan, Campus Ministry

To learn more about the ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, please visit www.rcan.org/sharing, like us on facebook at -Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newarkø or tweet us at @NwkArchdiocese!