

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week

Third Sunday of Lent, March 8, 2015

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris
 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
 9:00 Maria Barsan (living)
 10:30 John Montecucollo, Fifth Anniversary
 12:00 Michael Bruno

Monday, March 9, 2015

7:00 Timmy Curtin
 8:30 Lou Thompson

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

7:00 Joe Manahan
 8:30 Timothy Curtin

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

7:00 Peggy Evans (healing)
 8:30 Paul Mortin

Thursday, March 12, 2015

7:00 Rev. John P. McGovern
 8:30 McEwan & Bitetti Families

Friday, March 13, 2015

7:00 Joseph Zmudzinski
 8:30 Patria Miranda
 7:30 Joyce Poutier

Saturday, March 14, 2015

8:30 Eunice Saldhana
 5:30 Andrew T. Comer

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 15, 2015

7:30 Melvin & Dorothy Evans
 9:00 Salvador Yancha
 10:30 People of Ascension Parish
 12:00 Leonardo & Gloria Diaz

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

Sunday, March 1, 2015: \$7,748.00
Maintenance & Repairs: \$2,794.00

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 8, 2015

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
 Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
 Next Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21



Malls have become social hubs, busy beehives of shopping and eating for millions of us. That was the case, too, when Jews flowed into Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Jesus finds the animal sellers and money-changers doing a brisk business, selling sacrificial animals and changing currency for the travelers. It was a real mall atmosphere.

But the noise was not the real problem. The Temple was a magnificent structure built on the highest mound overlooking the Holy City. God's presence was enshrined here. It was a place of such extreme holiness that even today, Jews turn toward this site in prayer. So we can see why Jesus, the Son of God, would explode with rage at these men who were just doing business as usual. Not only a lack of reverence for the dwelling place of his Father; Jesus was angry and taking a stand against what we might call the mall mentality.

Jesus saw that deepest religious tradition being cheapened and trivialized by greedy, exploitative practices. Is this close to the irreverence and greed of our own culture? When the sacred reality of our God is pushed out of the center of our lives, what becomes our center? The small-mindset Jesus condemns today also describes our obsession with competition, money, eating, shopping and accumulating things.

The Commandments are like markers placed in a river to tell us where to steer to avoid death by drowning. But, let us keep asking ourselves, do we live a faithful life with God's holy commands as the backbone of our behavior?

✠ 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 or from the Rectory Office. **No tickets will be sold at the door.**

✠ Through an arrangement with *Wine and Roses*, we are offering parishioners an opportunity to purchase **PALM CROSSES**. The Crosses, fashioned from palm with a red bow, can be used for grave sites. The price is \$10.00 and the crosses will be distributed after all Masses on March 21/22, the weekend before Palm Sunday. Please complete the form in the bulletin and return it to the Rectory Office on or before **March 16th**.

✠ SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL 2015

Thank you so much to our 147 parishioner families who have contributed \$28,890.50 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!



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

Thank you to all who participated in, or attended the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Showcase on Feb. 28th. The Showcase, now an annual event, showcases our young students' talents which are a direct reflection on excellent programs being taught, by our dedicated and caring teachers and aides in our Early Childhood Center.

Saturday's event also underscores the spirit and sense of community at the school. A large number of Elementary and Middle School teachers voluntarily gave up their Saturday morning to support our PK and Kindergarten staff, by attending the Showcase. Their mutual support of the administration and fellow teachers is a tribute to the teamwork and spirit at Transfiguration, and is the hallmark of an outstanding professional learning community.

May God continue to bless all in our school community. Registration for the 2015/2016 school Year is now open

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

Lenten Fasting and Feasting...

Let us...

- ...**fast** from complaining and **feast** on gratitude
- ...**fast** from harsh judgments and **feast** on kind thoughts
- ...**fast** from worry and **feast** on trust in God to provide
- ...**fast** from discouragement and **feast** upon hope
- ...**fast** from bitterness and **feast** on forgiveness
- ...**fast** from hatred and **feast** upon returning good for evil
- ...**fast** from anger and **feast** on patience
- ...**fast** from pettiness and **feast** on becoming mature
- ...**fast** from jealousy and **feast** on praying for trust
- ...**fast** from gossiping and **feast** on controlling your tongue
- ...**fast** from sin and **feast** on virtue
- ...**fast** from giving up and **feast** on perseverance



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-seven snow removal and salting services this season amounting to over \$18,000.00. This service provides for your safety throughout the winter months. **Thank you!**



Calendar:

- Sunday, March 8th -- K thru 6th grade from 10:15am to 11:45am (SCH)
- Monday, March 9th 6th thru 8th Grade from 7pm to 8:45pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, March 11th 6th thru 9th Grade from 7pm to 8:45pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, March 15th -- K thru 6th grade from 10:15am to 11:45am (SCH)
- 8th Grade to Meet at 11:30 in School

Children's Liturgy of the Word has started at the 9am 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:

Today, Sunday – March 8, 2015 First Communion Retreat—starting with 9 am Mass. This is a Mandatory Retreat. After Mass all First Communion Candidates will go to class and parents will return at 11:45am to continue with the retreat. At least one parent must attend.

Sunday March 15, 2015 all 8th graders are asked to meet in the school with their letters for Fr. David and we will then go over to 12 Noon Mass, at which time you will sit with your parents and Fr. David will call you up to hand in your letters. Please remember to type the letters and sign them when you are done.

Friday, March 20, 2015 the 9th Grade Confirmation Class will host the Parish Fish and Chip Lenten dinner. All 9th grader **MUST** attend and the money for your tickets is due Wednesday March 18, 2015.

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

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.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

FISH AND CHIPS

LENTEN DINNER

Friday, March 20, 2015

5:30pm to 7:30pm

Salad

Fish and Chips

Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate

Dessert

(Sponsored by our parish 9th Grade Candidates for Confirmation, 2015)

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
FR. BENEDICT CENTER
1092 CARNATION DRIVE
NEW MILFORD

Tickets:

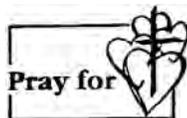
- + available from Confirmation Candidates and in the Rectory Office
 - + must be purchased by March 16th
 - + NO tickets sold at the door
- Donation:
\$8.00 per person

Fish and Chips Lenten Dinner 2015

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of Persons @ \$8.00 per person.....\$ _____

(Please make checks payable to: Church of the Ascension)



"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.

"a time to die..."

Carl Dal Lago

...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



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.



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

Monday, March 9, 2015

Religious Ed. ó Grade 8 - 7:00pm ó School

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Woodcrest Center, Rosary ó 2:30pm

Wednesday, March 11, 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 12, 2015

Children's Choir ó 3:45pm ó Church

Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm - Church

Friday, March 13, 2015

Mass & Stations of the Cross ó 7:30pm ó Church

Saturday, March 14, 2015

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 15, 2015

Food Pantry Sunday

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

Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School

12 Noon Mass 8th Grade

Confirmation program begins

EASTER DINNER PROMOTION AT SHOP RITE

To All, Shop Rite has a promotion that runs from February 22nd, through April 4th. The promotion is as follows: If you spend \$400 in this promotional time frame you become eligible for a "Easter Dinner Favorite" such as a Ham, Turkey or Lasagna. If you would like to donate your "Easter Dinner Favorite" to the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry, we will gladly accept it. You can leave your price plus card number (no name) with the Business Manager at Ascension (phone #201 836-8961/ e-mail:ascension@optonline.net). The Food Pantry volunteers will determine what dinner item is most needed. The Food Pantry volunteers will pick up the item for you. There is no need to bring your donated item to the church at specific times/date. Thank you for your generous stewardship.

THE THIRD 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

PARISH TRIP TO AMISHLANDS, PA

A Trip is being planned to the Amishlands, Pennsylvania for 3 days from April 15-17, 2015. The price of \$399 per person/\$468 single includes 2 nights lodging, 2 full breakfasts, 2 dinners, ðMosesö at the Millennium Theatre, ðInspireö at the American Music Theatre, guided tour of the Amish Countryside, guided tour of Hershey, with Founder's Hall and Tram ride. Bus transportation, luggage handling, taxes and meal gratuities are included. Cancellation insurance is available upon request and is recommended. A \$50 deposit will hold your reservation. For reservations and info. Call Josie, (201) 265-0485 or Anna (201) 387-2632. Please fill in the coupon below and deposit it at the rectory mailbox with your deposit.

NAME _____ PHONE # _____
 NAME OF PERSON YOU ARE SHARING A ROOM
 WITH _____ PHONE # _____
 EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Please make all checks payable to Ascension Church.



**GARDEN STATE AUTO BODY
201-385-5155**



Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 147 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$28,890.50 pledged dollars. Please consider making your pledge today. Give a little, give a lot, but please give something for the Glory of God!

This year our Parish Goal is \$53,403.00



SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND

Our Needs are: Facial Tissue, Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels, Napkins, Razors, Shaving Cream, Shampoo, Conditioner and Bath Soap. Your donations are much appreciated.



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

MEMORIALS

ðTHANK YOUö 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: _____