

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2016

5:30 Rose Carbone  
7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:00 Margret & Thomas Tenney  
10:30 Joseph Hartney, First Anniversary  
12:00 Maria Luisa Delgado, 86 Birthday (L)

### Monday, February 1, 2016

7:00 In Thanksgiving  
8:30 Maria Carmen Alvarez

### Tuesday, February 2, 2016

7:00 Anne Zale  
8:30 Brian & Regina McCann

### Wednesday, February 3, 2016

7:00 In Thanksgiving  
8:30 Dorothy & George Schaeffer

### Thursday, February 4, 2016

7:00 In Thanksgiving  
8:30 Juana Juarez Chavez

### Friday, February 5, 2016

7:00 Sr. Rose Marie, O.Carm.  
8:30 Luisa Garcia

### Saturday, February 6, 2016

#### Memorial Mass

8:30 Michael Hickey  
Zaida Abanilla  
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 7, 2016

7:30 Ana Zuniga  
9:00 Doris Piro, Tenth Anniversary  
10:30 Joseph Zmudzinski, First Anniversary  
12:00 People of Ascension Parish

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

**Sunday, January 25, 2015: \$6,695.00**  
**Sunday, January 24, 2016: \$2,985.00**  
**Snow Removal: \$ 615.00**

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

### Readings for Next Sunday February 7, 2016

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-5, 7-8/1 Cor 15:1-11  
or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

Each of us is called by God to be a presence of love in the world. Loving should be at the heart of our lives. But there are some things that can prevent us from bringing our love to others. One such thing is fear. We are often afraid to give our love because we are afraid of the consequences. Love can cost us dearly. Love can open us to being hurt by others who might reject us, criticize us, judge us, try to possess us, or just ignore us.

Our first task must be to overcome this fear of loving. In one single life we travel down so many different and unique paths. On most of these paths we find ourselves involved with all kinds of people. We are called by God to love every single one of these brothers and sisters who may cross our path some people only for a few moments or hours, others for a few days, and others who will be part of our lives for the rest of our time on earth. We are called to give our love to all of them. We do not get to choose whom we are going to love, because God calls us to love everyone.

In the Jubilee Year of God's Mercy we so need to expand the circle of our love so that it excludes no one. In other words, we need to love as Jesus loved. He loved all and forgave all. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. If during our life we continue to expand the circle of those whom we love, then no matter what else we may have done or not done with our lives, when we come to the end of our days, we will have lived a full and beautiful life.

As we approach our Lenten journey (less than two weeks away), remember that the Crucifixion of Jesus began here with people's refusal to love the weird stranger, the outcast. Bottom line: Be Jesus toward people whose opinion isn't yours.

✠ Due to last weekend's blizzard, many parishioners were unable to get to Mass. We will have a second collection this weekend for the missed Snow Removal collection from last weekend. Please be as generous as your means allow, because this helps to keep you and your family safe on parish grounds.

✠ Our participation in the ongoing Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones" is vital. This weekend I am asking members of our parish to volunteer for the various tasks which have to be done to assure a great effort is made for the Capital Campaign. We need people to make phone calls, help with receptions, hospitality, and bulletin and mail stuffing. Please, be the good stewards you always are and let God guide you in offering your time and efforts to the Campaign. Also it is very important that parishioners return the reception RSVP cards.

✠ I urge all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **Seeing with God's Eyes**, our 2016 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 available in the front vestibule of the church.

✠ On Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of St. Blase. In his honor we will bless throats at all Masses this weekend.

✠ Married Couples celebrating anniversaries of 5 year multiples in 2016 are invited to celebrate our annual **Marriage Anniversary Mass** on Sunday, February 14th at the 12 Noon Mass. A reception will follow in the Fr. Davis Multi-Purpose Room. Please fill out and return the response form in the bulletin as soon as possible. (Deadline to sign up is Monday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>.)

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



**TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY**

**Transfiguration Academy News**

**Catholic Schools Week**  
**January 31 – March 6**

This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service".

**Expo and Pancake Breakfast**

Come and visit us this weekend, January 31! Learn more about why students attending Transfiguration Academy excel both inside and outside of the classroom. Speak directly with teachers, administrators and school parents to see why so many families choose Transfiguration for their child's education. We believe that testing isn't the only measure of a child's ability and success. Our students represent diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds and we celebrate those cultural differences.

Make a morning of it and join us for a delicious and reasonably priced pancake breakfast between 9 am and 1:00 pm! Just \$5 per person/\$10 per family.

**Pre-K and Kindergarten Showcase**

Please join us next Saturday, February 6 from 9 to 12 and discover the excellence of our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs. A short program will be presented featuring all of our young students showcasing their work and talents. Take advantage of this opportunity to celebrate our students and meet their teachers and hear from parents about their experience of Transfiguration Academy. If you know of anyone who is looking for a quality early learning experience for their child, please share this information and invite them to attend.

Other activities for the week include:

**Monday, February 1: 1:00PM**

Senior Prom

**Tuesday, February 2: 7:00 PM**

Deanery 3 Catholic Challenge, Conlon Hall

**Thursday, February 4: 7:00 PM**

Family Fun Night, Conlon Hall

Transfiguration Academy is located at 10 Bradley Avenue in Bergenfield. For more information or to schedule a tour of the school please call (201)384-3627 or email [principal@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org). Please visit our website at [transfigurationacademy.org](http://transfigurationacademy.org) and follow us on Facebook.



**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR SNOW REMOVAL**

Last Weekend we took up a second collection to help defray the cost of **Snow Removal & Salting** on our parish grounds. This is a collection that provides for your safety throughout the winter months.

The Blizzard made it difficult for many to venture out and our collection amounted to \$615.00. The cost for snow removal and salting for last week-end's Blizzard alone was costly. We ask that you please be as generous as you can to help with this expense. Thank you!



**Calendar:**

Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> - K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15am to 11:45am (SCH)

Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7pm to 8:45pm Church

Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7pm to 8:45pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> to K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15am to 11:45am (SCH)

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

**Important Information:**

There will be a **Mandatory First Communion Parent meeting** on Sunday, February 7, 2016 at 10:15 in the MPR. At least one parent must attend but both are more than welcome.

Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup> all 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders will meet in the school at 7 pm and then go to 7:30 pm Mass. Parents are encouraged to go to this Mass and students will be dismissed from the Church after Mass is over. This is a MANDATORY CLASS for all grades.

Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> will be the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat all 8<sup>th</sup> graders are to report at 1 pm in the Fr. Benedict Center, at 5:20 pm parents are to pick up their child and take them to 5:30 pm Mass. This is a requirement for our Confirmation Program.

**Volunteers Needed:**

Ä We are in need of Catechists for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade program. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet on Monday evenings from 7 pm to 8:45 pm, anyone interested is asked to call the Religious Education Office during the week.

Ä We are in need of Class Parents for ALL GRADES in our Religious Education Program for the 2015-2016 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085

Ä 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 Hours:**

Monday to Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm

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

Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon

Closed: Thursday & Saturday

Other times by appointment



CAMPAIGN  
NEWSLETTER  
Vol. 3

WE ARE  
LIVING  
STONES

Church of the  
Ascension  
January  
30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

## 60 Parishioners Volunteer! *Thank you!*

Last weekend, **Church of the Ascension** conducted Volunteer Weekend for the **We are Living Stones** Capital Campaign. Thank you to the 60 parishioners who volunteered to help with mailings, phone calls, and receptions. Your dedication is greatly appreciated by all! Those who have agreed to help will receive information on volunteer opportunities in the next two weeks.

Remember: Many hands make light work! *The gift of your time and talents for this important endeavor is appreciated and very much needed.*

If you did not have a chance to sign up last weekend, but would like to assist **Church of the Ascension** efforts, please take a volunteer card from the back of the Church or call the Parish Office.

## Your Invitation is Coming Soon!

*We are looking forward to your RSVP*

Over the next month, all registered parishioners of **Church of the Ascension** will receive an invitation to attend a Campaign Reception.

These receptions are social and informative events that will allow Fr. David and members of the Campaign Committee to present to our plan of action for the **We are Living Stones** Campaign. All of our receptions will take place right here on our parish campus.

This is also a chance to take an hour out of your busy schedule and spend some time meeting and communing with each other. Please remember, *you will not be asked to turn in a pledge at these receptions.* Leave your wallets at home, but bring your questions!

This campaign is absolutely vital for the life and growth of our parish and archdiocese. One of the most important things you can do during this campaign is to join us at a reception. When you receive your invitation, please be sure to RSVP as soon as possible!

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*"To everything there is a season..."*

*"a time to be healed..."*

Rose DeEufemia, Dolores Crowley, Shirley Busby, Ann & Jack Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Patricia Burke, Barbara Santore, Marge Bruno, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Jerry Gordon, Marie Oberst, Anthony Triggiano,  
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 to die..."*

**Ellen Fader, Anna Maroccia,  
Zaida Abanilla**

*"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

### IN MEMORY OF...

We have just purchased six new Communion Cups. If you would like to memorialize one in memory of a loved one please speak to Father David or contact the rectory office for more information.

### AVAILABILITY

**SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week.** Please stop by or call the rectory office to check availability.

Blessing  
of  
Throats

### FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

We will commemorate the Feast of St. Blaise with the traditional blessing of throats at all of our weekend Masses. This weekend, January 30 & 31.

*"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other evil."*



### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 31, 2016

Sign-up for Open Our Hearts  
Blessing of Throats at All Masses  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
9:00am ó Church/Gathering Room  
Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School

### Monday, February 1, 2016

Pastoral Staff Meeting ó 9:00am ó Rectory  
Religious Education grade 7, 7:00pm ó School  
CFM ó 7:30pm ó Rectory Meeting Room

### Tuesday, February 2, 2016 – Groundhog Day

Woodcrest Center, Mass ó 2:30pm  
We are Living Stones ó 7:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center

### St. Blaise \* Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Religious Education ó 7:00pm - School  
Novena ó 7:30pm ó Church  
Boy Scouts ó 7:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center  
Filipino Core Mtg. ó 8:00pm ó Gathering Room

### Thursday, February 4, 2016

Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm - Church

### First Friday, February 5, 2016

Communion Visits to Homebound  
Finance Council Meeting ó 7:30pm ó Rectory

### First Saturday, February 6, 2016

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church  
Children's Choir ó 4:00pm ó Church

### February 7, 2016 – Super Bowl Sunday

Parish Maintenance & Repair  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
9:00am ó Church/Gathering Room  
Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School  
First Eucharist Parent Meeting ó 10:15am



**FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5th AT 7:30PM  
IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM**

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter,**

### **Valentine's Day**

Looking for the perfect Valentine's gift for your husband or wife? Why not a romantic weekend away from home falling more in love? A **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** is exactly that kind of getaway. If you would like to find out more or to receive a registration brochure, contact: Mike and Janet Turco at 973 427-7016 or 609 335 6880 [njwwme@peoplepc.com](mailto:njwwme@peoplepc.com)

Happy Anniversary



SAVE THE DATE

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS  
FEBRUARY 14, 2016  
12 NOON MASS

Please pick up flyer in rectory office or on website  
Reception Follows in the Fr. Benedict Center  
Please register to attend

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: \_\_\_\_\_



**The Catholic Church Is Battling Sexual Abuse**

While the majority of media focus over the past ten or more years has been on the incidents of sexual abuse within the Church, little is being said with any consistency about the many positive steps that the Catholic Church has taken to address the issue. Dioceses across the country, and especially the Archdiocese of Newark, have instituted compassionate outreach to victims and support services, training and background checks for staff and volunteers, training for children and youth, codes of conduct, reporting requirements to civil authorities, independent Review Boards to investigate allegations and recommend actions under Canon law for offenders, as well as other initiatives. To date, the Catholic Church is the only youth-serving organization in the country ó private or public -- to undertake such a comprehensive program to create and promulgate safe environments for children and young people. Independent auditors from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops have found the Archdiocese of Newark fully compliant with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in every year since audits began in 2003.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)

**BUS TRIP.....TO ATLANTIC CITY**

Ascension is sponsoring a trip to:

**TAJ MAHAL**

**Monday, February 8, 2016**

The bus will leave the Ascension parking lot at 9:30am. Tickets are available for \$30.00/per person (rebate of \$35.00). Make your checks payable to: Church of the Ascension, and drop off at the rectory in an envelope marked “Atlantic City Trip.” Any questions, please call Marge at (201)265-5675.

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

The Church of the Ascension Food Pantry needs the following items: Apple Juice, Cranberry Juice, Apple Cranberry Juice, Grape Juice, Tomato Juice, Hot Cocoa, Paper Towels and facial tissues. Your generosity enables the Service Ministry to assist those in need.

**A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED CATHOLICS**

All marriages begin in hope, a hope that the couple will love and cherish each other for the rest of their lives. However, it is the sad reality of our times that this hope is not always fulfilled. Marital breakdown is a fact of life and few families are immune. This reality poses a question for the Church about the pastoral response to a situation that we cannot ignore. During the recently concluded Synod on the Family, there was much media attention paid to the question of the status of the separated, divorced, and remarried in the Church. It became clear in these reports that there was a certain amount of confusion about what the Church actually teaches and what people have come to believe. While the Synod may have indicated a different attitude towards the special circumstances of the divorced and separated, it did not change the fundamental doctrine on marriage and the sacraments. Nor did Pope Francis change the doctrine in his *Motu Proprio* which streamlined some Tribunal procedures. As we look forward to the upcoming Jubilee of Mercy, a clarification of the rights of separated and divorced Catholics could be helpful for a better understanding of their place in the Church.

Rights and duties in the Church are acquired through baptism and may be exercised according to one’s state in life unless legitimately restricted by lawful authority. ( Canon 96 )

Any baptized person not prohibited by law can and must be admitted to Holy Communion (Canon 912). Those who are separated and/or divorced are not excommunicated; even those who are remarried civilly are not excommunicated but they would be excluded from communion since the Church does not recognize civil marriage.

Both parties to a marriage which has suffered divorce have the right to approach the Tribunal to ask for an annulment (Canon 1674). While there are fees involved with the Tribunal process, justice is not dependent upon a person’s ability to pay and in cases of hardship, arrangements can be made. Tribunal fees do not cover the whole cost of maintaining the Tribunal; it is subsidized by the diocese.

All persons have the right to attend Mass even if they are prohibited from receiving communion.



**EAST-WEST ELECTRICAL**  
201-384-0125

**END OF BULLETIN**  
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CHURCH NAME: **Church of the Ascension**

CHURCH CITY: **New Milford, NJ**

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FAX NUMBER: **201-836-5896**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Serina Sharkey**

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**Comments:**

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