

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Third Sunday of Lent, February 28, 2016

5:30 Michael Bruno  
7:30 Melvin & Dorothy Evans  
9:00 People of Ascension Parish  
10:30 Gus & Viola Bell  
12:00 Fortunata & Romana Tababan

### Monday, February 29, 2016

7:00 Jack Wall  
8:30 Theresa Staunton

### Tuesday, March 1, 2016

7:00 Noli Regis  
8:30 Eric Comer

### Wednesday, March 2, 2016

7:00 Peggy Evans, healing  
8:30 Sugundino Orquiza

### Thursday, March 3, 2016

7:00 Julian Roncal Monteyor  
8:30 Anne M. Scanlan

### Friday, March 4, 2016

7:00 Joan Polis, healing  
8:30 David Kampt  
7:30 Howard & May Stephens

### Saturday, March 5, 2016

#### Memorial Mass

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

### Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 6, 2016

7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:00 Michael Bruno  
10:30 John Montecucollo  
12:00 Jose Z. Garcia

## 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
Sunday, February 21, 2016:	\$7,304.00
Food Pantry:	\$1,240.00

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 March 6, 2016

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-7/2  
Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

“Will you repent and believe in the Gospel?” We all said YES to this on Ash Wednesday. Jesus reminds us today that we must repent from living unproductive lives — lives that are so focused on our own needs, our own fun, our own bank accounts, that we get into a rut of living a life that is not bearing any spiritual fruit...and is maybe not that much fun after all.

This process of questioning and reflecting upon how we might do more or do better in our lives is a big part of what it means to repent. Again, Jesus says today that we must repent, we must change our lives in ways that continually make us bear more and better fruit, of the kind that builds the kingdom of peace and justice.

In the Lord’s Prayer, recall that the words “Forgive us our trespasses” are immediately followed by “as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Forgiveness usually requires some major change of heart and mind. Of course it’s painful — our egos are involved! But it’s best for us to remember that there will BE no forgiveness for us, if we are not actively forgiving others. Any honest person knows it’s never enough simply to avoid breaking the 10 Commandments — that is only the least we can do. But if we are focused on reviewing in a thoughtful way our goals and ideals, our lifestyle, and our habits, with an eye toward producing more fruit — the Commandments usually take care of themselves.

It is all about the big picture, our overall mindset, or should I say, “heartset.” Good ideas come naturally the more we ask questions such as, “How does my life show good works? Am I aware of other people’s needs? Do people around me benefit from my being alive; or do I use others?” Bearing the best fruit means that we try to understand those who touch our lives. By helping them on life’s journey, we ourselves become ever-bearing trees who will live forever.

✠ Thank you so much to our parishioners who attended one of the receptions for the “We Are Living Stones” Capital Campaign. This weekend at all Masses we will see the Campaign video. I pray that with open minds and hearts, we will all be able to see with God’s eyes the many needs of the people of our Archdiocese, including our own parish, that the campaign will help.

✠ Remember, during Lent we have added a Mass on Fridays at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross. Also, we have placed “Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2016” in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend.

✠ Don’t forget to purchase your tickets this weekend for our Parish Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Fr. Benedict Center. This will be hosted by our 9<sup>th</sup> 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.**

✠ We are offering parishioners an opportunity to purchase PALM CROSSES. The Crosses, fashioned from palm with an attractive purple, red or yellow bow, can be used for grave sites or for our homes. The price is \$10.00 and the crosses will be distributed after all Masses on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, the weekend before Palm Sunday. Please complete the form in the bulletin and return it to the Rectory Office by March 11<sup>th</sup>.

✠ **Italian Treasures** await you! Celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy walking as pilgrims through the Doors of Mercy. Enjoy great times together, great food, and great sights. Come home with many great memories. Our parish will travel to the cities of Milan, Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi and Rome in **October of 2016**. Please see brochures at doors of church or stop by the rectory.

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

*Fr. David*



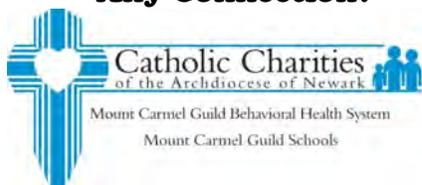
**TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY**

**Transfiguration Academy News**

The next meeting of the Transfiguration Academy Home and School Association will be held on Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria.

Parents wishing to provide their children with a quality Catholic education are encouraged to consider Transfiguration Academy, 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.

**Lent – Sacrifice - Clothing Bins - Any Connection?**



Lent is a time of sacrifice in order to bring us closer to Christ. As we move closer to Christ, we become more charitable. Would you be willing to sacrifice your time and efforts to go through your closet and donate any unwanted clothing, shoes, small appliances, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, and books (no reference books) for the Catholic Charities clothing bin? If you do, you have made the connection.



Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

**BEAUGARD-McKNIGHT FUNERAL HOME**  
201-262-5050



**Calendar:**

- Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> -- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)
- Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> ó 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm Church
- Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> ó 9<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> -- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9 am 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:**

**Friday, March 4, 2016** the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class will host the Parish Fish and Chip Lenten dinner. All 9<sup>th</sup> grader MUST attend and the money for your tickets is due Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please remember that you must be here at **4:30 pm**, and dress nice.

**Wednesday March 30, 2016** : 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat will start at 4pm til 10 pm.. All candidates are to report to the Fr. Benedict Center by 4 pm. This is a Mandatory retreat and all must be here. No one will be excused.

**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 ó 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. 7

WE ARE  
LIVING  
STONES

Church of the  
Ascension  
February  
27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

## Parish Needs

### Support of Local Parish Projects

The main purpose of the *We Are Living Stones* Campaign is to strengthen our parish communities. The physical needs of our parish now and into the future are of great concern.

It is projected that the parishes of the Archdiocese will need almost \$125 million over the next ten years to ensure that the 1,100 church, school and rectory buildings, parish centers, ministry offices and other buildings where we engage in the work of the Church are kept in good condition.

Once a parish has reached their *Works of Mercy* target, 50% of all funds raised will be return back to the parish while simultaneously funding additional case elements that both directly and indirectly benefit our parishes.

The indirect parish support is as follows:

- Parish Renewal Fund
- Tuition Assistance Endowment
- Retired Priest Care and Medical Needs Endowment
- Seminarian Support Endowment

When combined with the direct \$40 million in support to the parishes, these items make up over 80% of the funding that will be generated by this Campaign.

### What will we do with our portion of the campaign proceeds?

Church of the Ascension's participation in the *We Are Living Stones* Campaign:

**Total Campaign Goal: \$592,239**

After Church of the Ascension reaches its *Works of Mercy* target of \$50,000 our parish will receive 50% of every dollar raised up to our Total Campaign Goal of \$592,239 and 60% of every dollar raised over our Total Campaign Goal.

Here at Church of the Ascension, we have the potential to receive at least \$269,620 if we reach our Total Campaign Goal.

We will use our proceeds to address the following needs:

- Entrance Vestibule Enlargement with ADA (handicapped accessible) Restroom. -\$58,875
- Main Chiller Compressor Replacement (Church). -\$11,110
- Five-Ton Air Handler in Church. -\$12,350
- Replace windows in Rectory. -\$28,000

Our parish has been generous to our Archdiocese through the Annual Appeal in the past. Please keep in mind as you make your commitment, that the Annual Appeal will not be conducted separately in 2016. However, the Sharing God's Blessings Appeal will return in 2017.

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



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

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

Rose DeEufemia, Dolores Crowley, Shirley Busby, Ann 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, Ana Tumang, 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..."*

**Dorothy Denzler**

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE**  
burns this week in loving memory of  
**Scanlan & Langan Families**

### 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.

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

### 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.



### **Third Sunday of Lent, February 28, 2016**

Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am  
Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School  
RCIA Scrutiny 1 ó 10:30am Mass

### **Monday, February 29, 2016**

Religious Education grade 8 ó 7:00pm - School

### **Tuesday, March 1, 2016**

Woodcrest Center, Mass ó 2:30pm

### **Wednesday, March 2, 2016**

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

### **Thursday, March 3, 2016**

Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm - Church

### **First Friday, March 4, 2016**

Communion Visits to homebound  
Set up FBC for Parish Fish & Chips Lenten Dinner  
Lenten Fish & Chips Dinner ó 5:30pm - FBC  
Mass/Stations of the Cross ó 7:30pm

### **First Saturday, March 5, 2016**

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church  
Children's Choir ó 4:00pm ó Church  
Orders taken for Palm Crosses

### **Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 6, 2016**

Peter's Pence  
Orders taken for Palm Crosses  
Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am  
Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School  
RCIA ó Scrutiny 2 ó Noon Mass

PLACES TO VISIT IN



### **Italian Treasures** await you!

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, our parish will travel from October 4 to 13, 2016 to the cities of Milan, Venice, Padua, Florence, Assisi and Rome. What a wonderful time for our pilgrimage with opportunities to enter many Holy Doors of Mercy during our travels. Please see brochures at the doors of the church or stop by the rectory to pick one up for complete information.



**ARE YOU CELEBRATING YOUR FIFTH♥TWENTY-FIFTH OR FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR?**

The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating Christian marriage Anniversaries this year.

The Anniversary Liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

**May 1, 2016 at 3:00pm  
For Fifty Years**

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**April 24, 2016 at 3:00pm  
For Twenty-Five and Five Years**

Please notify the parish office no later than April 4 if you would like to attend one of the celebrations.



**REMEMBER DURING LENT**

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

Also, we have placed "Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2016" in our parish book rack.

Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend

**Holiday Dinner Favorite**

Shop Rite is offering a free "Holiday Dinner Favorite" when \$400 is spent using a Shop Rite Price Plus Card. The offer period starts on Sunday, February 14 and ends on Saturday, March 26. If you would like to donate your Holiday Dinner Favorite to the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry we will gladly accept it. The items that are offered for free are: Shank Half Ham (up to 12 lbs), Frozen Turkey Breast (6-9 lb average), Shop Rite Turkey (10-14 lb Average) as well as Stouffer Lasagna( 90-96 oz). Also if you would like someone from the Service Ministry to pick up your donation at Shop Rite, please leave your Shop Rite Price Plus number at the Rectory.

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

You may have noticed at Mass during Lent that we used the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed. The origins of the Apostles' Creed are believed to predate the Nicene Creed. It is universally recognized by many Christians as a shared statement of our faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Apostles' Creed may be used at any Sunday Mass, but the church particularly recommends its use during Lent and Easter Time. Why? Because the words of this ancient Creed have been used for centuries as the basis of our baptismal promises, and the seasons of Lent and Easter put a strong focus on baptism. During Lent we prepare those who will be baptized at Easter while readying ourselves to renew our own baptismal promises. As we recite the Apostles' Creed, it will stir up in our hearts our commitment to Christ which was first made at our own baptisms and prepare us to renew our promises this Easter.



**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: \_\_\_\_\_