

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



Mass Intentions for the Week

EASTER SUNDAY

The Resurrection of the Lord

8:15pm Easter Vigil
7:30 All
9:00 Parishioners
10:30 Living and
12:00 Deceased

Monday, March 28, 2016

7:00 James Zadroga

8:30 James Lacey

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

7:00 Francis X. White

8:30 Protection of Unborn

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

7:00 Gloria Aponte

8:30 Fidela Sunga

Thursday, March 31, 2016

7:00 Leonardo & Gloria Diaz

8:30 Mr. & Mrs. John Duarte

Friday, April 1, 2016

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

8:30 Edward Delaney

First Saturday, April 2, 2016

Memorial Mass

8:30 Miguela Barredo, Raymunda Catral

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3, 2016

7:30 John Ochs, Jr.

9:00 Thanksgiving, Ludivina Fineza

10:30 Stefan Ferenc, 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.

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015: \$9,551.00

Palm Sunday, March 27, 2016: \$7,089.00

ParishPay February 2016: \$3,255.63

Food Pantry: \$1,224.00

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

Readings for Divine Mercy Sunday April 3, 2016

**Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/
Jn 20:19-31**

Alleluia! Alleluia!! Alleluia!!! By his death and Resurrection, Jesus has destroyed sin and death forever!! He has done it, not by brute force and violence, but by being the Suffering Servant who willingly laid down his life so that we and every creature loved into life by God would have that life forever. Who would not want to say ðAmen! Alleluia!ö to that?

Today, Jesusðbeloved friend, Mary Magdalene, comes as a seeker, needing closure and proof of what seems unbelievable. She is desperately grieving and longing to see her Lordí . Just as we feel when someone we love has died. We have that sense of unreality, ðI can't believe they're really gone.ö But today we learn that Jesus and all of our loved ones are still alive! It is like a dream that we almost can't believe!

Mary came to the tomb, looking for the dead Jesus. But through the miracle of Easter, she finds the living Lord. Or, better, the living Lord finds her. Because, even if we are grieving, disillusioned with life, or filled with fear or shame at something in our lifeð God never stops calling us by name.

And that is exactly why we are all here today. We gather together to ðre-memberö the Body of Christö to re-tell the stories of faith, to eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus, ðin memory of Him.ö Mary said, ðI have seen the Lord.ö Let us hold these words of life close to our hearts as we celebrate with joy this Easter feast.

We find the Easter Jesusð words of life where we find men and women alive with love for neighbors, near and afar. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life when we see people caring for each other in all of the difficulties that life can bring, the many storms we weather in our own daily lives. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in our parish priests and our pastoral staff who care for us in our need. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in the many ministers who serve us so faithfully at our Eucharistic Liturgies: altar servers, lectors, special ministers of the Eucharist, leaders of our Children's Liturgy of the Word, cantors, choirs, ushers, liturgy planners, decorators, and sacristans. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in our parish ministers who visit the homebound and those in nursing homes and hospitals. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in the members of our Word, Worship, Community Building and Service Ministries. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in the members of our parish Finance Council and Buildings and Grounds Committees. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in our parishioners who minister to us through social events that allow us to see the Risen Jesus not only in the confines of the church building, but in all of our parish life, especially during this year of our Parish 60th Anniversary. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in our parishioners who serve the hungry poor through our parish Food Pantry, and Hackensack walk-in for the homeless. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in the caring, concern, and faith sharing of our catechists, parents, and students of our Religious Education Programs and Transfiguration Academy. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life when we see parents taking care of their children, even though it means giving up so much, so often. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in our parishionersð lively faith and generous stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure, like the hours spent in preparing liturgical ceremonies, decorating our church for special Holy Days, and our generous response to the ðWe Are Living Stonesö Capital Campaign. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life in the leaders and participants of our parish ðSeeing with God's Eyesö Lenten Program.

Easter calls us to live with a hope-filled, positive and encouraging attitude. We find the Easter Jesusð words of life whenever you and I bring some genuine life to another person. There are so many ways in which we can bring new life to our family and friends. It seems we can never get enough gentle and genuine encouragement in our lives. When we live Jesusð Easter words, we are helping people to believe in the new life that Jesus offers through the earth-shattering event we call the Resurrection. On this Easter day I offer a special **THANK YOU** to all who allow the risen Jesus to bring new life to Ascension. May we, in turn, speak Jesusð Easter words of new life to one another. May the risen Jesus continue to Easter in each of us.

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

A Blessed and Joyous Easter to you and your family!



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

Transfiguration Academy News

Mulan, Jr.

April 15th and 16th ~ 7pm Conlon Hall

Transfiguration Academy Drama Club presents *Mulan, Jr.* Based on Disney's Oscar-nominated film, *Mulan Jr.* is a heartwarming celebration of culture, honor and the fighting spirit. Come see the wonderful talent of our actors, musicians and dancers! It's the perfect opportunity to introduce young children to live theater. We hope to see you all there. Advance tickets are available at the school office.

Tuition Raffle: Do you or someone you know have tuition bills to pay? Buy a raffle ticket - you could win a prize to help pay that tuition bill. First prize is \$2500, 2nd prize is \$1500 and 3rd prize is \$1000 - payable to any accredited school/institution of the winner's choice. Each ticket is \$5 and can be purchased at the school office during school hours. The drawing will be held on April 15 after the 7 PM performance of *Mulan, Jr.*

Save the Date: The annual HSA Tricky Tray/Pasta Dinner will be held on Friday, May 13 in Conlon Hall. Tickets are \$18 before May 6th, \$20 after May 6th and at the door, and \$10 for children (dinner only) if purchased before May 6th, \$12 after May 6th or at the door. Please come out for a night of great prizes and delicious food to support our school. For more information please contact Ann Gangi at 201-349-3870.

"Tiger for a Day" during spring break: Find out about our Tiger for a Day program - let your child spend a day with us during the upcoming spring break and experience all that we have to offer. For more information and/or to schedule a tour of the school please call (201)384-3627 or email us at principal@transfigurationacademy.org. Please visit our website at transfigurationacademy.org and follow us on Facebook.

Altar Servers

We are in need of several Adult Altar Servers to assist at Funeral Masses. If interested, please contact the Rectory (201) 836-8961 and sign up for a training class.



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.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Alleluia, Alleluia He is Risen

Calendar:

Sunday, March 27th -- No Religious Education - Easter Sunday

Monday, March 28th - 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, March 30th - 9th Grade Confirmation Retreat 4 pm to 10 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, April 3rd -- K thru 6th 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 5th grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.

Important Information:

Wednesday March 30, 2016 : 9th 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.

Today Sunday, April 3, 2016: 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 11:45 am to continue with the retreat. At least one parent must attend.

Confirmation Candidates: Service Hours and Service Hours Report due, Wednesday April 6, 2016.

Volunteers Needed:

- Ä We are in need of Catechists for our 7th and 8th Grade program. The 7th and 8th 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 - 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

MARCH 27, 2016

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We welcome you all to our celebration of **Easter 2016** here at Ascension.

We especially welcome those who have been away from Ascension due to school, illness or living elsewhere for whatever reason. It is good to have you home again. Welcome to all visitors.

Thank you for choosing to celebrate your Easter with us.

Easter is the most beautiful and holiest time of year, when we celebrate Jesus' new life shared with us at Easter and all throughout the year – the gift of life, the gift of faith, and the gift of each other.

We invite you to share in many important celebrations of Jesus' new life shared with us during the seven weeks of the Easter Season and beyond.

On the Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 17th, we will celebrate **Communal Anointing of the Sick** during Mass at 12:00 Noon.

On the weekend of April 24, we will celebrate **First Holy Communion** at specific weekend Masses.

On Sunday, May 1st, during the 9am Mass we will celebrate our **Crowning of our Blessed Mother**.

We will observe **Mother's Day** on May 8th and we will celebrate the **Blessing of Mothers** at all weekend Masses.

We will celebrate our **Parish Feast Day, Ascension Thursday**, May 5th with great fanfare as we celebrate the 7:30pm Mass, which is followed by our **"Make your own Ice Cream Sundae."** What a special day for us!

On Saturday, May 14th at 11am, we will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of our young men and women in the **sacrament of Confirmation**.

On May 15th, the **Solemnity of Pentecost**, we celebrate the special presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We end the Easter Season on the weekend of May 22nd, **Most Holy Trinity Sunday**.

On Sunday, May 29th, we will celebrate **Corpus Christi** at 12:00 Noon Mass followed by our annual Corpus Christi Procession.

We will observe **Father's Day** on this weekend of June 19th with the **Blessing of Fathers** at all weekend Masses.

I encourage you to immerse yourself in the spirit and graces of the season by participating in these special celebrations and I ask that you bring someone you love with you.

My prayer is that Christ, whose resurrection we now celebrate, may dwell in your hearts and in your homes throughout this season of joy.

A Most Blessed Easter!

EASTER SUNDAY



"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, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Jerry Gordon, Marie Oberst, Ana Tumang, Marcella Sweeney, Tom Crispino, 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



Our beautiful Investiture, *Coronation of Christ*, Paschal Candle this year is donated in loving memory of Theresa Lacey requested by Christopher Lacey & sons.



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.



EASTER SUNDAY, March 27, 2016

Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30am, 12 Noon

NO Religious Education

Monday, March 28, 2016

Religious Education Grade 8 ó 7:00 pm ó School
Baptism Prep Team Meeting ó 7:30pm - Gathering

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Woodcrest Center, Rosary ó 2:30pm

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Confirmation Retreat ó 4-10pm

No Novena

Retreat Talk/Confessions ó 8:00pm - Church

Thursday, March 31, 2016

No events

First Friday, April 1, 2016

Communion Visits to homebound

First Saturday, April 2, 2016

8:30 Mass followed by Divine Mercy Novena

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church

Eagle Scout Recognition Celebration ó FBCtr.



Divine Mercy

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Diving Mercy Pilgrimage

Parish Maintenance & Repairs

Childrens Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am

First Communion Retreat Day

Religious Education, Grades K-6 ó 10:15am-School

Baptism Preparation ó 1:15pm ó Gathering Room

WE ARE LIVING STONES

Happy Easter to All! Thank you to the many generous parishioners who have made their commitment to the We Are Living Stones campaign.

Our Parish Goal: \$592,239.00

Number of Pledges: 88

Total Pledged: \$180,000.00

Remember our plan is to use the We Are Living Stones proceeds to address the following needs for our parish.

*Entrance Vestibule Enlargement with ADA Restroom

*Main Chiller Compressor Replacement (Church)

*Five-Ton Air Handler in Church

*Replace windows in Rectory

Our goal is within reach! With each additional sacrifice, our goal becomes that much more attainable. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help us plan for the future of our parish.



EASTER PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
This Easter,
may we remember
why this season is celebrated
above all others.
When we see eggs and rabbits,
remind us of the joys
brought by all new life,
both through springtime in nature,
and eternal life through
Your resurrection.

When we see bright
ribbons and colors,
may we remember the
joy of this season,
at the conclusion of Lent.
Above all, help us remember
the greatest gift of all,
Your conquest of death and sin,
which saved all of us
from eternal death
and opened heaven's gates
for us all.
Amen.



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.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM



EASTER FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Easter Flowers, which will be used to decorate our Church. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or a special intention. **Each intention donation is \$15.00** please place form & donation in an envelope marked "EASTER FLOWERS" & drop off at the rectory.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY

In Memory of: _____

_____, _____

For the Intention of: _____

_____, _____

Requested By: _____

Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

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: _____



**MANY THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS
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AND CREMATION SERVICE**

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who help to make this bulletin possible