

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



## Divine Mercy

### Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3, 2016

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
7:30 John Ochs, Jr.  
9:00 Thanksgiving, Ludivina Fineza  
10:30 Stefan Ferenc, First Anniversary  
12:00 People of Ascension Parish

### Monday, April 4, 2016

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee  
8:30 Maria Luisa Alvarez

### Tuesday, April 5, 2016

7:00 Percy Habana, Birthday (L)  
8:30 Gloria Diaz

### Wednesday, April 6, 2016

7:00 Marge Bruno  
8:30 John L. Chaffiotte

### Thursday, April 7, 2016

7:00 Marge Bruno  
8:30 Nestor Bautista

### Friday, April 8, 2016

7:00 Gloria Aponte  
8:30 John McKeon

### Saturday, April 9, 2016

8:30 David Jenkins  
5:30 Boylan & Cudina Families

### Third Sunday of Easter, April 10, 2016

7:30 Con & Rose Lynch  
9:00 John Trimarchi  
10:30 People of Ascension Parish  
12:00 Ciro & Arminia Marra & Family

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Easter Sunday 2015:	\$23,523.00
Easter Sunday 2016:	\$21,041.00
Easter Flowers:	\$ 2,227.00
Good Friday:	\$ 1,751.00

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

### Readings for Sunday, April 10

Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/  
Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/Rv 5:11-14/  
Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

When Thomas touches Jesus's body, he believes—but Jesus isn't too impressed with this expression of faith. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe!" Jesus must have been envisioning us—all of the future believers who might need courage and imagination to believe, centuries later.

Do we think we're blessed, lucky, or happy to be encountering Jesus in a different way from the apostles? Probably not. If anything, we may feel as if we're quite distant—detached, even—from the bold, alive spirit that filled Jesus. His followers were thrilled, amazed, excited to be close to him. But it is clearly more of a challenge for us.

There is no doubt that the real core of faith comes down to us from those fervent believers who were closest to Jesus Christ. We Catholics are linked to THAT community of believers, who passed eyewitness accounts down through history.

We may not have perfect faith—but our questions and doubts, Jesus is saying, are not to be feared. It takes only a mustard seed of faith. Thomas isn't rejected because of his doubt; but he IS being asked to believe in a different way, a more adult way, that doesn't require hanging on to the physical.

Here is the crux of it all: we must believe in Jesus without demanding physical proof—but we must prove our faith by getting very physical about it. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you!"—Jesus sends us into a world that is desperate to be touched—touched with kindness, with compassion, love, patience, generosity. Mother Teresa with the dying, Father Damian with the lepers, St. Francis with the poor—they all said that to touch the poor and hold the sick, they first had to believe it was Jesus himself they were touching.

✠ Today, on this eighth and last day of the Octave of Easter, we celebrate **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Based on the revelations from Jesus to St. Maria Faustina, the focus of this feast is on God's unbounded love and mercy for us shown so visibly in Jesus's Paschal Mystery and continually poured out upon us through the sacraments of Baptism, the Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

As we bring mercy to others, we will experience the Divine Mercy that our loving God wishes us to receive with open and grateful hearts. **Ask for Mercy. Receive Mercy. Be Merciful!**

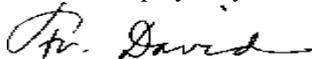
✠ **THANK YOU...** to all who helped to make our Triduum and Easter celebrations so very special! Fr. Ernie, our pastoral staff, and our many ministers. Special thanks to our choirs and to all who again "Eastered" our church, especially to all who so generously donated for the Easter flowers that proudly adorn our church. What can I say!—once again it is absolutely magnificent!! That's just some of the ways that make our parish such a visible sign of God's love—a faith-filled community working together for the Lord! May God bless our Ascension community as we continue together building HIS kingdom.

✠ Because so many parishioners have commented positively about the Five Minutes with the Word Lenten booklets, **Five Minutes with the Word for Easter** are available for you in the book rack in the back of the church. Please take one for yourself and feel free to take a couple to share with your friends. They'll appreciate the thought!

✠ Any Ascension liturgical minister (Altar Server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister) who has a family member receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time and/or the Sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to serve in the liturgy, please call Fr. David at the Rectory as soon as possible.

Happy Easter!!!

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





**TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY**

**Transfiguration Academy News**

**Mulan, Jr.**

**April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> ~ 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is \$1500 and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>, \$20 after May 6<sup>th</sup> and at the door, and \$10 for children (dinner only) if purchased before May 6<sup>th</sup>, \$12 after May 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org). Please visit our website at [transfigurationacademy.org](http://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.



**Calendar:**

Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> -- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)  
Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)  
Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)  
Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> -- No Religious Education today

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:**

**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 and any other missing paperwork.



**Volunteers Needed:**

- 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.
- 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
- 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

APRIL 3, 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!**

# DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



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

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

Rose Døufemia, 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.

*"a time to die..."*

**Helen Rice**

*...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**



**Altar Flowers** for this week are  
in loving Memory of  
**William & Elizabeth Morris**

## 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.



## Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3, 2016

Diving Mercy Pilgrimage  
Parish Maintenance & Repairs  
Children's 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

## Monday, April 4, 2016

Pastoral Staff Meeting ó 9:00am ó Rectory Mtg. Rm.  
Religious Education Grade 7 ó 7:00 pm ó School

## Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Woodcrest Center, Mass ó 2:30pm  
Ministry of Word ó 7:30pm ó Gathering Room

## Wednesday, April 6, 2016

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

## Thursday, April 7, 2016

Traditional Choir ó 7:30pm - Church

## Friday, April 8, 2016

No event

## Saturday, April 9, 2016

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

## Third Sunday of Easter, April 10, 2016

Catholic Home Missions  
NO Children's Liturgy of the Word  
NO Religious Education



**MINISTRY OF WORD MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 5TH AT 7:30PM  
IN THE GATHERING ROOM**



## **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](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)

**A NOTE FROM ARCHBISHOP HEBDA**

March 24, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to extend my deepest gratitude for the support, feedback, and friendship with which I was blessed in the time that I served in the Archdiocese of Newark. I consider myself privileged to have been welcomed into the life of your local Church. Please believe me when I say that I would have been thrilled to serve the rest of my days in the four counties of the Archdiocese and then to await the Lord's return in the crypt of the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. You have left an indelible impact on my ministry as a priest and bishop and for that I will always be most grateful.

While I cannot pretend to understand the reasoning behind my reassignment, I have great confidence in Pope Francis and his discernment and I trust that the Lord will bring to Newark precisely the shepherd that you need to lead you forward once Archbishop Myers begins his well-deserved retirement. I am sorry that I was not able to be of more assistance to him in the last nine months when flying back and forth to the Twin cities. I will always be indebted to Archbishop Myers for his friendship, patience and support in the course of the past three years. It was a privilege to be able to collaborate with him in his ministry in the Archdiocese of Newark.

I hope that there will be opportunities to express my gratitude to all of you in person before I begin my new assignment in Minnesota on May 13th. Please know that the Church of Newark will always be in my prayers. I ask that you, already knowing so well my weaknesses, might be so kind as to pray not only for me but also for the faithful of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. May the Lord richly bless both Archdioceses in this Year of Mercy.

In Christ,  
Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda

**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**

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 FLOWERS**

You are invited to make a donation toward the Easter Flowers, which will be used to decorate our Church throughout the Easter Season. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**NIAGARA FALLS TRIP**

Cancellation Insurance is available and is strongly recommended. Forms are available for pickup at the rectory or call Anna, 201-387-2632 or Josie 201-265-0485. Forms must be submitted asap for pre-existing conditions. Balance of payment due, May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested in going on this trip and have not submitted a deposit, you may put your name on the waiting list by calling Josie or Anna.

**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)

<b>MEMORIAL CANDLES:</b>	<b>\$150/1 Year</b>
	<b>\$20/30 Days</b>
<b>ALTAR BREAD AND WINE</b>	<b>\$40 per week</b>
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	<b>\$50 (per basket/per week)</b>
<b>SANCTUARY CANDLE</b>	<b>\$15 per week</b>

**MEMORIAL FUND**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amt.: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Requested: \_\_\_\_\_



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