

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

- 5:30 Steven LePage
- 7:30 Con & Rose Lynch
- 9:00 Jack Wall
- 10:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 12:00 Richard Mechler, First Anniversary

Monday, December 12, 2016

- 7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee
- 8:30 John McKeon

Tuesday December 13, 2016

- 7:00 Josephine Licitra
- 8:30 Paz Alburo

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

- 7:00 Inday Troping U. Ruiz
- 8:30 Anthony Bonacarti Jr

Thursday, December 15, 2016

- 7:00 James Sullivan
- 8:30 Robert Barratt, First Anniversary

Friday, December 16, 2016

- 7:00 Julian Bayani Habana, Second Bday(L)
- 8:30 Members of the Brunck Family

Saturday, December 17, 2016

- 8:30 Alfonso Flores
- 5:30 Peter Buckley, Sixty-Second Anniv.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:00 Montecuolo & Lewis Families
- 10:30 Andrew & Eric Comer
- 12:00 Candelaria Ciron

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

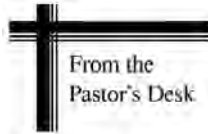
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

December 6, 2015:	\$6,590.00
December 4, 2016	\$6,790.00
Retired Religious:	\$1,996.00

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

Readings for Sunday, December 18, 2016

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/
Mt 1:18-24



Today, the prophet, Isaiah paints a fantastic dream of the fulfillment of all the hopes we could have: no more illness, death, injustice, or violence. Right now, we live in a world gone wild with problems. But Isaiah is saying, that's all temporary. Because here is the ultimate truth of how things are: "Here is your God (who) comes to save you! The justice and mercy of God is coming to take eternal victory over all of our problems: ***"Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; Then will the lame leap like a stag, the tongue of the dumb sing."***

Isaiah reminds us *to envision the impossible becoming actual* which is exactly what is going to happen at Christmas. Jesus made this dream come alive in real-time. God gave Isaiah this vision, so that we could take hope, and see the future with God's eyes. God can make all things new. This is what we celebrate today. Now the trick is to take that wonderfully hopeful idea and allow it to enter our communal and individual world. God needs hearts and imaginations that are wide open and unafraid. Together, let's wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ! We so need this encouragement desperately.

✠ Thank you to **Dena Sedlak**, our Coordinator of First Sacraments, Theresa Carbone, our CRE, our catechists, and all who helped to make our children's first experience of the Sacrament of Reconciliation so beautiful and joyful (and sweet, too). Many thanks to the parents and children who made the day special!

✠ Our **Advent Giving Tree** has been prepared to help us to Share the Spirit of Christmas! We ask that all gifts be brought in this Sunday (Dec. 11th) by 1pm for delivery. Also, please take a copy of "Give Us This Day" and "Five Minutes with the Word for Advent". Copies are in the book rack at the entrance to the church.

✠ Please plan ahead and try to spend a little time with our Eucharistic Lord on Wednesday, December 14th at our **Parish Advent Eucharistic Day**. The principal **Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** will be at 8:30am. **Adoration** will follow all day until 7:30pm when we will celebrate **Solemn Evening Prayer and Benediction**. Just one more experience of God's amazing Advent grace! Come, let us together climb the mountain of the Lord. Please come out and join us.

✠ Our "**O Antiphons**" will return for this Saturday and will be proudly displayed to help us during our final countdown to Christmas from December 17th to 23rd.

✠ Don't forget our parish **Simbang Gabi** celebration, the Filipino Christmas Preparation. Mass will be at our 5:30pm on Saturday, December 17th. Refreshments in the Fr. Benedict Center will follow after Mass.

✠ We will celebrate our **Tri-Parish Advent Communal Penance Service with Individual Confessions** on Monday evening, December 19th, at 7:00pm at St. Mary's Church in Dumont. Please join us.

✠ Please plan ahead! On **Thursday, December 22nd**, we will put up and decorate the Christmas trees which will adorn our church. We invite any parishioners who would like to help to join us at 6:00pm in the church for this special project.

On **Friday, December 23rd**, beginning at 6pm, we will decorate our church for the Christmas season. We invite any parishioners who would like to help to join us in the church for this special project.

✠ Please remember that, beginning on **Sunday, January 8th, 2017**, our **Sunday Mass schedule will change**. We will celebrate Mass at **7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am**.

✠ Archbishop Myers has appointed Fr. Ernie Tibay to be the Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph of the Palisades Church in West New York, NJ. Rev. Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu has been appointed to our parish as our new Parochial Vicar. The change is to occur on January 11, 2017. Let us offer our thanks to Fr. Ernie for his 6 1/2 years here at Ascension and get ready to welcome Msgr. Anselm to our parish.

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

Fr. David



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

The students of Transfiguration Academy raised \$200 to donate to Rachel's Vineyard, a retreat run by the Archdiocese of Newark ministering to those who have undergone an abortion.

Christmas Concert: Our annual Christmas concert will be held this Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 PM in Conlon Hall. All are invited to attend.

Shopping at Barnes & Noble? Use Book Fair ID Number: **11832391** when you purchase on-line between December 10 to 16.

Discover why our students thrive in and outside the classroom:

- É Call to pick up registration for a tour: **201-384-3627**
- É **Email: principal@transfigurationacademy.org**
- É **Visit our website: transfigurationacademy.org**
- É **Visit us on Facebook** to experience how engaged our students and families are

Transfiguration Academy is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools and serves students in Grades PreK 2+ through Grade 8.



TOYS FOR TOTS

Boulevard Funeral Home will be collecting new unwrapped toys this holiday season for Toys for Tots. Donations can be dropped off at 1151 River Road, New Milford from 9-4 daily. All donations will stay local. Please contact 201-692-0100 with any questions.



**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS
REMEMBER TO PURCHASE RELIGIOUS
CHRISTMAS STAMPS**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM**



Calendar:

- Sunday, December 11th to 6th Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:30 am to 11:30 am (SCH)
- Monday, December 12th to 7th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, December 14th to 6th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, December 18th to 6th Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:30 am to 11:30 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at the 9 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.

Reconciliation: Pardon and Peace: Now that our parish children have celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, they will come together this week to think about the significance of the sacrament. They will reflect on the experience of going to confession and receiving God's forgiveness. They will remember what they did and how they felt on this special day. Please continue to pray for them, and encourage our young children as they begin a lifelong practice of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Confirmation Candidates:

Reminder to all Confirmation Students that Sponsor forms, Sponsor Name and Why you chose your sponsor are **DUE on December 14, 2016. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Reminder that the Sunday Religious Education is from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. It is important that all students are on time for class. Parents with children in Pre-k/K to 3rd grade MUST come in to pick up children at 11:30 am. Please be on time for pick-up.

All 7th, 8th and 9th graders are asked to be here at 6:55 pm as Classes start at 7 pm sharp

It has come to the attention of the Religious Education office that when a **HOME or EMERGENCY** phone numbers are called, these numbers are not being answered. It is **Very important that we have a number that will be answered in the event of a true emergency; we are not able to consent to treatment for any child that may need emergency treatment. Please make sure that we have a number that will be answered.**

Volunteers Needed:

- Ä We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2016-2017 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 in Rectory:
Monday to Wednesday: 9 am to 3 pm
Thursday: 9 am to 12 Noon, Friday: 9 am to 4 pm
During Religious Education in School:
Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm
Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 11:45 am
Other times by appointment

Church of the Ascension

New Milford, New Jersey

Invites You to Gather Together and Share...

An Advent Eucharistic Day

...a special day to prepare ourselves for Christmas

...a special day of faith and hope

...a special day of prayer for peace

...a special day with our Eucharistic Lord

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

8:30am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration all day

7:30pm Evening Prayer and Benediction



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Rose Dœufemia, Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Don Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Jerry Gordon, Marie Oberst, Ana Tumang, Marcella Sweeney, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Rose Ann Bottcher, Joan Polis, Elnora Gordon, Thomas Gonzalas, Don Hellrigel, 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, Private Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Camp Gieger, NC, and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

President Barack Obama, our National Leaders
and all World Leaders.

"a time to die..."
Lois Born

...and a time for every purpose under heaven"
Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE**
burns this week in loving memory of the
Angelito Barredo



Altar Flowers for this week are
in loving Memory of the
Angelito Barredo



Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2016

Parish Maintenance & Repairs

Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am - Church
Religious Education Pre-K-6 ó 10:30am ó School

Monday, December 12, 2016

Religious Education Grade 7 ó 7:00pm - School

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Woodcrest Center, Rosary - 2:30pm
Parish Events ó 7:30pm ó Gathering Room

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Advent Eucharistic Day 8:30am Mass

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &
Adoration All Day**

Confirmation Prep (grade 9) ó 7:00pm - School

Novena & Closing of Eucharistic Day - 7:30pm

Boy Scouts ó 7:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center

Filipino Core Meeting ó 8:00pm ó Gathering Room

Combined Choirs ó 8:15pm - Church

Thursday, December 15, 2016

No events

Friday, December 16, 2016

No events

Saturday, December 17, 2016 – O Wisdom

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church

Children's Choir ó 4:15pm ó Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2016

O Lord God of Power and Might

Food Pantry Sunday

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

Religious Education Pre-K-6 ó 10:30am ó School

Baptism ó 1:30pm - Church



**PARISH EVENTS MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 7:30PM
IN THE GATHERING ROOM**

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 or call the rectory office to check availability.





**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION'S
GIVING TREE**

ALL GIFTS DUE BACK THIS WEEKEND

Please note that starting on Sunday, December 11, after the 12 noon Mass, we will commence with distribution of all gifts received. **PLEASE DO NOT PLACE ANY GIFTS UNDER THE TREE AFTER THIS TIME.**

THEY WILL NOT BE DELIVERED!

As previously stated, we can receive Food Gift Cards at any time. Please hand these to Father David or Father Ernie if they are coming in after December 11.

The Service Ministry would like to thank everyone for their generosity once again this year. We sincerely wish a Blessed Christmas Season and Happy New Year to you all! God bless you!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Christmas trees, wreaths and flowers which will be used to decorate our church this festive season.

Donation \$15.00 for Each Intention

One intention for each donation will be listed on the Christmas Flower Donations bulletin insert

Please put your donation and intention in the **Christmas Flower Envelope** (at doors of church) or you may use this form. Please drop it in the collection basket or in the black mail box outside the rectory door. **Please Print all information clearly.**

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Please Print

In Memory of: _____

or the Intention of: _____

Donated by: _____

Phone: _____



**SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN
BY FIRE TRUCK SUNDAY DEC. 11**

New Milford's Fire Dept. 25TH ANNUAL Toy Drive.

From 1-4pm. Call Fire Co. 1 at 201-265-1712 or

Fire Co. 2 at 201-265-1631 for a Schedule of locations & times.

RELIGIOUS GIVES THANKS

Thank you for supporting senior religious. A sister from Indiana writes, "Because of your kindness, our elderly sisters will have the comfort, security, and joy of living out their remaining years here in their home. You truly honor them and their many years of service by your generosity." Religious across the United States offer sincere thanks for your generosity to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.



Please Notice This



**BEGINNING ON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2017
OUR SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE WILL CHANGE
WE WILL CELEBRATE MASS AT
7:30AM, 9:30AM, AND 11:30AM**

**FATHER DAVID'S
40TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION WEEKEND**



JUNE 24 & 25, 2017

additional information will follow



**Please patronize
our advertisers.
They help us GROW.**

**ADT Home Security Team
1-888-862-6429**

**Please remember to patronize,
who help make this bulletin possible**



WELCOME: Newcomers, Visitors and Parishioners

The priests & ministers of Ascension Parish welcome you. If you would like more information about entering more fully into our parish life & ministry, we ask that you complete the form below. You may return by putting into collection basket, mail or stop by the rectory office. Thank You!

I would like....

- ___ to become a Registered Parishioner
- ___ to change my address
- ___ to advise you that I am moving out of the area
- ___ to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____