

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

## Mass for the Intentions *for the Week*

### Third Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2017

5:30 People of Ascension Parish

7:30 Peggy Lacey

9:30 Vincent Gianfredi

11:30 Gutierrez & Garcia Father's

### Monday, March 20, 2017

7:00 Constanza Zuniga

8:30 Fernandez Pena Families

### Tuesday, March 21, 2017

7:00 Camilo C. Libanan Sr

8:30 Larry Figalora, Twelfth Anniversary

### Wednesday, March 22, 2017

7:00 Xavier Lawrence, Birthday (L)

8:30 Richard Link

### Thursday, March 23, 2017

7:00 Michael O'Connell

8:30 Theresa Naplipano

### Friday, March 24, 2017

7:00 Philip Santore, Healing

8:30 Bridget Calia

7:30 John & Anne Scanlan

### Saturday, March 25, 2017

8:30 James P. Jones

5:30 People of Ascension Parish

### Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 26, 2017

7:30 Melvin & Dorothy Evans

9:30 James C. Lacey

11:30 John Montecuoello

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

**March 13, 2016: \$5,813.00**

**March 12, 2017: \$5,392.00**

**Peters Pence: \$1,521.00**

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

### Readings for Sunday, March 26, 2017

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-6/  
Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9,  
13-17, 34-38



Today, we see the symbolism of water at the heart of some significant life changes. A woman with a mysterious past honestly reveals her deep thirst, not only for water, but for spiritual fulfillment. So she is given the invitation to become a disciple to the people around her, a proclaimer of the truth of Jesus Christ. And she grabs it with both hands and runs with it!

It's almost impossible for us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to get how incredibly shocking Jesus' actions were in this gospel. First, it was unheard of for Samaritans and Jews to associate—they were the "Hatfields" and the "McCoys" of Jesus' time. They hated each other so much, they would not even use the same water dipper, much less stop and chat around the same community well.

But even more shocking was Jesus approaching a woman in public for a conversation. Even the apostles "were astonished" to see it. So, in one conversation with the woman, Jesus has broken through the barriers of ethnic race and gender.

By treating the Samaritan woman as a respected person, and a beloved child of God, Jesus defeats the hatred and injustice of the past: he tells one of the excluded, forgotten people that she is valuable, and that she belongs. He makes her his disciple.

Why? Because she is willing to admit that she is thirsty. She asks for the living water, and is open to receiving it. She has hope in her heart about Jesus: "Could he be the Messiah?" She is not full of the pomposity, the certainty, and the arrogance of those who think they know it all.

Do we have the vulnerability to include the stranger and the outcast? If so, never fear to ask Jesus for his living and eternal water!

✠ Thank you to our 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Candidates and to their catechists for hosting our annual **Parish Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner** on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Bravo...job well done!

✠ Don't forget that on **Fridays in Lent** we have added a Eucharistic Holy Hour and adoration at 1pm and a Mass at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross.

✠ Next weekend let us give a warm welcome to Rev. Richard Kunzman who will preach at all Masses. He will ask our participation in the Cross Catholic Outreach.

✠ Please plan ahead to be with us on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. We will join together for our **Parish Lenten Evening of Reflection** which will begin at 7pm with Stations of the Cross followed by Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for individual sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction. What a beautiful way to prepare ourselves for the holiest week of the year!

✠ Lent is a very good time for us to participate in the **Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal for 2017**. Our 2017 goal is **\$43,000.00**. To date we have received \$9,400.00 in pledges from 36 donors. Consider making this part of our Lenten sacrifice. Please, let's pray and work together, that with God's help, we can again surpass our goal.

There is still time to make a pledge. Brochures are at the doors of the church. Please consider making a pledge and pray about it. I pray that each parish family will step up and support this beautiful way to "Serve God by Serving Others." May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts.

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



### TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

Thank you to everyone who supported **International Night** by donating their time, talent and/or delicious multicultural cuisine. The hard work of many parents and staff, and the outstanding performances by our exceptionally talented students made the night a success. Visit our school Facebook page for photos and videos from International Night and learn more about why so many families choose Transfiguration for its excellent academics, strong sense of community and diversity.

**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.

**TIGER FOR A DAY** - Transfiguration Academy invites you to see why our students excel both in and outside of the classroom. On April 10th and 11th, your child has an opportunity to experience Transfiguration Academy firsthand by being a “Tiger for a Day.”

Students in grades K – 8 can spend one of those two days at Transfiguration Academy when the local public schools are closed for the spring break. Each student visitor will be partnered with a student ambassador from the Academy, attend all classes for his or her grade level, receive a complimentary lunch and take home a small gift in remembrance of their “Tiger for a Day” experience. Attendees will get to meet and interact with our students and faculty on a one-to-one basis.

Transfiguration Academy is located at 10 Bradley Avenue in Bergenfield. For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, email [principal@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org) or call (201)384-3627.

Please visit our website at [transfigurationacademy.org](http://transfigurationacademy.org) and follow us on Facebook.



### Calendar:

- Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Pre- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:30 am to 11:45 am (SCH)
- Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> – 7th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 9th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – Pre- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:30 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Sunday, March 26, 2017: First Communion Retreat**- starting with 9:30 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.

**Sunday, dismissal for the Sunday Religious Education Program will be at 11:45 am. Dismissal procedures will remain the same.**

**Reminder that the Sunday, Religious Education is from 10:30 am to 11:45 am. It is important that all students are on time for class. Parents with children in Pre-k/K to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade **MUST** come in to pick up children at 11:45 am. Please be on time for pick-up.**

### Volunteers Needed:

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 – 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: 9:30 am to 12:00 noon

Other times by appointment

### **ANY EASY WAY YOU CAN HELP THOSE IN NEED BECOME A VOLUNTEER BAKER!**

Every other month the Service Ministry of Ascension visits the Hackensack shelter to feed dinner to those in need. We always bring with us home-baked goods, which are a big hit with the clients. As we normally feed up to 150 people, we need help from volunteer bakers. All you need to do is to bake a cake, pie, brownies, cupcakes or cookies and drop them off at the rectory by 2 pm on the day of our serving. If a daytime drop is not possible, they can be dropped off the night before. (If you cannot bake, we will also accept store bought goods!)

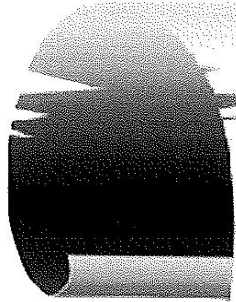
**Our next date is on Thursday, March 30th.**

We could sure use your help. Thank you in advance for supporting our very important ministry!

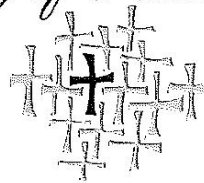
### **CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH**

Father Richard Kunzman will be visiting our parish next week to speak at all the Masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priest and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

MARCH 19, 2017



*Celebrate with us!*  
*40th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination*



*A Mass of Thanksgiving*

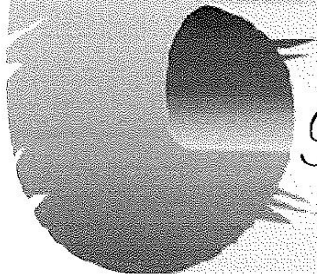
*on Saturday, June 24, 2017*

*10:00 AM*

*Church of the Ascension*

*256 Azalea Dr.*

*New Milford, NJ*



*Rev. David W. Milliken*

TICKETED RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MASS  
AT THE TERRACE 293 PARAMUS ROAD, PARAMUS, NJ

----- (Detach here) -----

Name \_\_\_\_\_

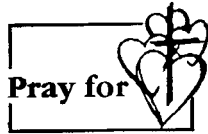
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets @ \$45.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

No tickets will be sold after June 9th

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Pray for

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

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

Rose D'Eufemia, Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Don Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Ana Tumang, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abburzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Rose Ann Bottcher, Joan Polis, Elnora Gordon, Thomas Gonzalas, Al Suter, John Thomas, Robert McDonnell, Philip Santore, John Donohue, Jose Caylao Jr., 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., 29 Palms, CA, and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

President Donald John Trump, our National Leaders and all World Leaders.

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns this week in loving memory of  
**Doris & Rosemarie Piro**

**BREAD and WINE** this week  
are in loving memory of  
**Marge & Michael Bruno**



### Third Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2017

#### **Food Pantry Sunday**

Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30am

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

### Monday, March 20, 2017

Deanery 3 Priest's Mtg. – 1:00pm

Food Pantry Distribution

Religious Education Grade (7) – 7:00pm - School

### Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Parish Events Mtg. – 7:30pm – Gathering Room

### Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Harrison House

Confirmation Prep 7:00-8:45pm

Novena – 7:30pm – Church

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

Filipino Core Mtg. – 8:00pm – Gathering Room

Combined Choirs – 8:15pm - Church

### Thursday, March 23, 2017

No events

### Friday, March 24, 2017

Holy Hour & Adoration – 1:00pm - Church

Mass & Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm - Church

### Annunciation\*Saturday, March 25, 2017

Confessions – 11:00am

Children's Choir – 4:15pm – Church

**Cross Outreach Ministry**

### Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 26, 2017

**Cross Outreach Ministry**

Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30am

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

First Eucharist Retreat Day (begins with 9:30 Mass)

### ASCENSION PARISH'S 16TH PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

**WHEN: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY  
APRIL 23, 2017**

**WHERE: STOCKBRIDGE, MA  
COST: \$35.00 PER PERSON**

**PLEASE PICK UP  
REGISTRATION FORM  
IN CHURCH VESTIBULE OR RECTORY  
Registration Deadline is April 19, 2017**



**ROMAN PIZZA & RESTAURANT  
201-265-9271**

**\*\*15% Off Coupon with Bulletin Ad\*\*  
who help make this bulletin possible**

### OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one our ushers know, prior to Mass, if you would like to bring the Offertory Gifts up to the celebrant. If Mass intention is one that you have requested or if it is for the intention of your loved one.

### 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 Communion, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the rectory office to check availability.

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



**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 2017" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend

**ADORATION**

Our church is committed to providing many opportunities for us to enhance our lenten experience. Beginning Friday, March 10th, we will have an adoration hour with exposition from 1:00-2:00pm. It is a special hour of encounter with the Lord. I encourage all who can to please do so.

**TRI-PARISH LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE**

Ascension, St. John's, Bergenfield and St. Mary's, Dumont will celebrate our **Tri-Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service with Individual Confessions** at St. John's, Bergenfield on Saturday, April 1, 2017.

**EASTER HAMS**

If anyone would like to donate money to buy a ham for Easter dinner for one of our pantry clients, we would greatly appreciate your help. You may put your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Ham" and give it to one of our Priests, or place it in the collection basket. Let's try and make this most sacred holiday a blessed one for all of those we help each month. God bless you for your generosity!

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

**MEMORIAL FUND**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amt.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Requested: \_\_\_\_\_



**Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal**

Thank you to the 36 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$9,400.00 pledged dollars. Please consider making your pledge today. Give a little, give a lot, but please give something for the Glory of God!

**This year our Parish Goal is \$43,000.00**



**SUNDAY, MARCH 19TH**

COFFEE \* TEA \* VEGETABLE JUCIE \* GRAPE JUICE  
 CRANBERRY JUICE \* CANNED SPINACH \* APPLE SAUCE  
 CANNED PINEAPPLE \* FRUIT COCTAIL \* MANDARIN  
 ORANGES \* RAISINS \* DICED TOMATOES \*, EGG NOODLES  
 GRATED CHEESE \* CHICKEN GRAVY \* JELL-O PUDDING  
 CRACKERS \* COOKIES \* PANCAKE SYRUP \* LENTIL SOUP  
 MANHATTAN CLAM CHOWDER \* PAPER TOWELS  
 TOOTHPASTE \* HAIR CONDITIONER \* DEODORANT

Once again, may God bless you for your generosity.

**PARISH TRIP TO THE OUTER BANKS, NC**

Our Parish will be sponsoring a 4 day, 3 night trip to the Outer Banks, North Carolina from Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> to Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>. The price of \$550 dbl/\$675 single occ. Per person includes 4 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, guided tour of Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Roanoke Island Festival Park, Roanoke Adventure Museum, Graveyard of the Atlantic, Wright Brothers National Memorial, Elizabethan Gardens, Bodie Island Lighthouse, Chicamacomico Life Saving Station, bus transportation, luggage handling, all taxes and gratuities. \$100 deposit will hold your reservation. For info. and reservations call Josie(201)265-0485 or Anna(201)387-2632.

**FATHER DAVID'S  
 40<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY**

**JUNE 24, 2017**

**Mass of Thanksgiving**

**&**

**Reception**

**Reception information & reservation  
 flyer on page 3  
 (please return to rectory office)**

*Commemorative Journal  
 (Journal information at doors of church)  
 What a wonderful way to say  
 Congratulations to our Pastor!*