

Mass  for the  
Intentions *Week*

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Sunday, January 7, 2018**

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
7:30 Judy Valderama  
9:30 People of Ascension Parish  
11:30 Lisa Polisenio

**Baptism of the Lord**

**Monday, January 8, 2018**

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee  
8:30 Devin Devine

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018**

7:00 Lorenza Acuna  
8:30 Vilma Martin

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

7:00 Margaret Morrow  
8:30 Con & Rose Lynch

**Thursday, January 11, 2018**

7:00 Ann & P.J. Burke  
8:30 Carole Gorman

**Friday, January 12, 2018**

7:00 Patrick Delaney  
8:30 German Natividad, Jr.

**Saturday, January 13, 2018**

8:30 Clifford Hendrickson  
5:30 Rose Carbone

**Sunday, January 14, 2018**

7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:30 Felicia Henry-Long  
11:30 Dong T. Vo

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP  
REPORT**

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

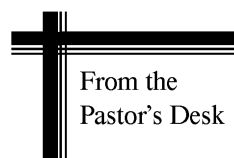
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

<b>December 25, 2016:</b>	<b>\$ 6,904.00</b>
<b>December 24, 2017:</b>	<b>\$ 4,726.00</b>
<b>January 1, 2016:</b>	<b>\$ 5,864.00</b>
<b>December 31, 2017:</b>	<b>\$ 7,151.00</b>
<b>Solemnity of Mary:</b>	<b>\$ 2,634.00</b>
<b>Christmas 2016:</b>	<b>\$22,836.00</b>
<b>Christmas 2017:</b>	<b>\$22,572.00</b>
<b>Additional Christmas:</b>	<b>\$ 2,002.00</b>

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

**Readings for Sunday January 14, 2018**

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10  
[8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/  
Jn 1:35-42



To be honest, we really know very little historical information about the three Wise Men. Most of the popular ideas about them came from stories and paintings from much earlier generations. Some recent vivid and joyful images come from the Gian Carlo Menotti operetta, "Amahl and the Night Visitor."

Our images of Mary and Jesus also need refreshment from time to time. Our Holy Father Emeritus, Pope Benedict, when he was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, said, "The images of Christ and the saints are not photographs. Their whole point is to lead us beyond what can be apprehended at the merely material level, to awaken new senses in us, and to teach us a new kind of seeing, which perceives the Invisible in the visible."

These are indeed wise words. In today's world, religious images don't just hang on museum walls, but fly around everywhere from comic books to newspapers, on videos from UTube to Facebook, on late night television, or passed around on people's BlackBerries and cell phones. We may not like all of these images, but we can't live in a fortress, trying to avoid them. We urgently have to develop what the Holy Father calls "a new kind of seeing," going behind the visible to the Invisible, so that we can grab the good and helpful meanings, and leave behind whatever is vulgar, destructive, or simply stupid.

Like us, the Jews of Jesus' time had difficulty looking beyond the visible, to the Invisible: God lies here in the flesh! Christ has finally appeared as the salvation of the whole creation! The Magi symbolize those of us who have eyes to see, who rush to offer our gifts with humility. As the bumper sticker says, "Wise men and women still seek him."

✠ On this Epiphany Day, as we remember the Wise Men bringing their gifts to the child Jesus, let me thank all who have so generously given of themselves this Christmas here at Ascension—

—Thank you to those who helped long hours making our church so beautiful for the Christmas Season and those who contributed for the trees and flowers.

—Thank you to Fr. Tim and Pastoral Staff and to our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Ushers, Liturgy and Worship Committee members, and especially our Choirs for helping to make the Advent and Christmas liturgies so joyful and so richly meaningful.

—Thank you to those who took care of our Giving Tree and the gifts for the needy, and all who spent extra time in our Food Pantry to make sure the less fortunate could celebrate Christmas.

—Of course, special thanks to our parishioners for your presence in our Ascension family and for the generous stewardship of treasure so many of you continue to offer to this parish. I always feel so blessed being here among you wonderful people.

—Thank you to those who sent gifts, cards, and "goodies" to the Rectory for Christmas. Your thoughtfulness is always appreciated!

May Epiphany remind us of the gifts we are called to be to one another each and every day!

✠ Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which brings the Christmas Season to its conclusion. We will take down our Christmas decorations after the 8:30am Mass. As always, our parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.

✠ Next Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Santo Nino, at the 11:30am Mass. We will bless Santo Nino statues during the Mass and share refreshments in the Father Benedict Center after Mass.

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

*P. David*



**12<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas concert**

On Tuesday, December 19th, Transfiguration Academy held its annual Christmas Concert. This year, in addition to our usual musical offerings, the second half of the program featured a Nativity Play. Under the direction of Mrs. Canlas, the story of the birth of Jesus was told and acted out by our students. A very special thanks to all who attended the concert and especially Mrs. Canlas, Ms. Lorenzo, Mr. Aragon, and Mrs. Fucilli along with the entire faculty and staff who assisted and attended the concert. The Nativity Play will become a permanent feature of our annual concert. On this Feast of the Epiphany, the entire Transfiguration Academy wishes all many gifts and blessings during the coming year.

**Upcoming events (open to the public):**

**Sun, Jan 7:** Charli Robert's Memorial Alumni Brunch to benefit the Sr. Trinity scholarship fund

**Sat, Jan 27:** Beefsteak Dinner and Silent Auction

**Sun, Jan 28:** Beginning of Catholic School's Week. This year's theme is:

**Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.**

You can find detailed information on our website [transfigurationacademy.org](http://transfigurationacademy.org) or Facebook page

**Registration is ongoing:** Parents wishing to provide their children with a quality Catholic education and those looking for alternatives to public school are encouraged to consider Transfiguration Academy. To learn more about our academic, athletic, and fine arts curriculum for grades PreK2 through 8 or to schedule a tour of our Academy, please email [principal@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org) or call the school office at 201-384-3627.

**Transfiguration Academy: Strengthening faith, Enlightening minds, and Transforming hearts...one student at a time.**



**Epiphany of Our Lord**

*"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."*

MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow. Each of us is called to open our gifts before Jesus, offering Him what He needs. If you have trouble with this idea, keep one of the Magi from your Nativity set on your desk all year as a reminder to bring your gifts to Jesus.



**Calendar:**

Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>-- Pre- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> — 9<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> --- Pre- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (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:**

**First Grade Parent Meeting:** All First Grade Parents, there is a **Mandatory Parent** meeting today, January 7, 2018 at 10:45 am. At least one parent must attend.

**Please note the change in our hours for classes this school year.**

Our Sunday Mornings program is from **10:45 to 12 Noon**.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet on Monday evenings and 9<sup>th</sup> graders on Wednesday from 7 pm to 8:45 pm. Students are asked to be here by **6:55 pm in order to start at 7 pm sharp**.

**Confirmation Class 2018:**

**Volunteers Needed:**

† We are in NEED of Substitute Catechists and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2017-2018 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 – In Rectory

Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm – In School

Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School

Closed: Thursday & Saturday

Other times by appointment

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

Ascension Parish offers many opportunities to participate in activities and ministries which fulfill our responsibilities as a faith-filled and supportive Christian Community.

God has blessed you and calls you to share with others. We encourage you to prayerfully consider some of the following ways in which you can share your time and talent in the parish. Please indicate your areas of interest.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT) Last First

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Profession/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

**PARISHIONER COMMITMENT**

\_\_\_ I commit/recommit myself as member of Ascension Parish  
\_\_\_ I commit/recommit myself to regular Sunday worship with our parish community. \_\_\_ I commit myself to praying for our parish community.  
\_\_\_ I am new in the parish and would like to be a registered parishioner.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE I COULD USE FROM THE PARISH:**

\_\_\_ Homebound person desiring a monthly visitation.  
\_\_\_ Non-Catholic interested in the Catholic Faith  
\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**SKILLS I AM WILLING TO SHARE:**

\_\_\_ Baking \_\_\_\_\_ Clerical Work \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Computer Skills \_\_\_\_\_ Carpentry \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Data Entry \_\_\_\_\_ Handywork \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Banner/Sign Making \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Work \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Sewing \_\_\_\_\_ Plumbing \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Painting \_\_\_\_\_ Landscaping \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Rectory Receptionist \_\_\_\_\_ Masonry \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITMENT OF TIME AND TALENT:**

(Please use "N" for New Commitment or or "A" for Already Active)

**Worship:**

Children's Liturgy of the Word \_\_\_\_\_ N A  
Eucharistic Ministers \_\_\_\_\_  
Lectors/Readers \_\_\_\_\_  
Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers) \_\_\_\_\_  
Altar Server (5<sup>th</sup> Grade & up) \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Altar Server (Weekday) \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Altar Server for Funerals \_\_\_\_\_  
Children's Choir (9:30 A.M.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Contemporary Choir (9:30 A.M.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Traditional Choir (11:30 A.M.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Liturgy Planning Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Church Decorating \_\_\_\_\_  
Sacristans \_\_\_\_\_  
Church/Altar/Sanctuary Care \_\_\_\_\_

**Word:**

Catechetical Ministry (K-6) Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ N A  
Catechetical Aide (K-6) Sunday \_\_\_\_\_  
Catechetical Ministry (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>) \_\_\_\_\_  
Christian Foundations for Ministry (CFM) \_\_\_\_\_

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

Adult Education \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Spirituality Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Baptism Preparation Team \_\_\_\_\_  
Marriage Preparation Team (Pre-Cana) \_\_\_\_\_  
Youth Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Young Adult Group \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Building:**

Parish Events Committee \_\_\_\_\_ N A  
Stewardship Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Pilgrimage Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
Lent Small Christian Communities \_\_\_\_\_  
Ascension Golden Ministry (Seniors) \_\_\_\_\_  
Welcoming/Hospitality Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Filipino Community \_\_\_\_\_

**Services:**

Advent Giving Tree \_\_\_\_\_ N A  
Food Pantry \_\_\_\_\_  
Food Pantry Distribution \_\_\_\_\_  
Thanksgiving Turkey Drive \_\_\_\_\_  
Hackensack Walk-In \_\_\_\_\_  
Harmon House \_\_\_\_\_  
Beravement Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Respect for Life Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
AIDS Ministry \_\_\_\_\_





PRAY FOR . . .

*“To everything there is a season...*

*“a time to be healed...”*

Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Don Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Joan Polis, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Deacon Jim Stumbar, Eileen Kloebler, Richard Gabettie, Judith & Tom Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Charles Hellriegel, John Delaney, Anita Zucconi, Joel Rivera, Albert Ginocchio, 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, PFC Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Cherry Point, NC, Airman First Class James Penser, Goodfellow, AFB, Texas and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

*“a time for peace...”*

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

*“a time to die...”*

**James Mulligan**

*...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 Donated in loving memory of **William & Elizabeth Morris**



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



**The Epiphany of the Lord, Sunday, January 7, 2018**

**Parish Maintenance & Repairs**

Children’s Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am – Church GR  
Rel Ed Pre-K-6 – 10:45am  
First Grade Parents Meeting – 10:45am  
Baptism Prep. – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

**Baptism of the Lord, Monday, January 8, 2018**

Christmas decorations taken down after 8:30 mass  
Religious Education (7) – 7:30pm – School

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018**

No events

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018**

Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm  
Novena – 7:30pm – Church  
Boy Scouts – 7:30pm – Fr. Benedict Ctr.  
Filipino Core Meeting – 8:00pm – Gathering Room  
Combined Choirs – 8:15pm - Church

**Thursday, January 11, 2018**

No events

**Friday, January 12, 2018**

No events

**Saturday, January 13, 2018**

Confessions 11:00am – Church  
Children’s Choir – 4:15pm - Church

**Sunday, January 14, 2018**

Children’s Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am – Church GR  
Rel Ed Pre-K-6 – 10:45am  
Santo Nino Mass 11:30am followed by reception in  
The Father Benedict Center  
Baptism – 1:00pm - Church



**CAN YOU HELP?**

We will take down our Christmas decorations on **Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, after our 8:30am Mass.** As always, our parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.



**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.



**TRIP TO SIGHT & SOUND'S PERFORMANCE OF "JESUS"**

Our Parish will sponsor a 3 day/2night trip to the Amish Lands, Pa. April 11-13, 2018. The price of \$415pp/\$497 single includes 2 nights lodging at the Heritage Hotel, Lancaster, 2 full buffet breakfasts, dinner at Hershey Farm Restaurant, "Jesus" at the Millennium Theatre, dinner and performance of "Showboat" at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, guided tour of Amish Countryside, Kitchen Kettle Village, trip to Longwood gardens. On our way home, we will make a stop at the Sands Casino with a bonus of \$20 slot free pay & \$5 meal voucher. Bus transportation, luggage handling, taxes and meal gratuities are included. Cancellation ins. is recommended. A \$100 deposit will hold your reservation and is due by January 15<sup>th</sup>. For info. Call Josie (201) 265-0485 or Anna (201) 387-2632. Please fill in the coupon below and drop off at Rectory with your deposit. Please make all checks payable to "Ascension Church".

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF PERSON YOU ARE SHARING A ROOM WITH \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**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 Parishioner
- \_\_\_\_\_ to change my address
- \_\_\_\_\_ to join a ministry
- \_\_\_\_\_ to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



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**ROMAN PIZZA & RESTAURANT**  
201-265-9371

**\*look for 15% off coupon in bulletin\***  
Please remember to patronize, who help make this bulletin possible

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



We sincerely thank **Michael Mittenzwei of Boulevard Funeral Home, New Milford and Beaugard-McKnight Funeral Home, River Edge** for the beautiful parish calendars that were recently distributed. We are very appreciative of their generosity to Ascension parish.



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**HELP US TO** **FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – JANUARY 21ST**

The following are items most needed to restock our shelves this month. Any item or items you can purchase for our pantry would be greatly appreciated. God Bless you for your continue support of this most important ministry to the poor.

- COOKIES-CRACKERS-TOILET TISSUE
- PAPER TOWELS-TISSUES-NAPKINS
- HAIR CONDITIONER-RAZORS-SHAVE CREAM
- DEODORANT-TOOTH PASTE-TOOTH BRUSHES
- BATH SOAP-BODY WASH-MOSITURIZER

Your continued support of our ministry to the poor is greatly appreciated.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING**

<b>In Memory of</b>	<b>Donated By</b>
Maria Brito	Rich & Madalena Hayes
Mr & (late) Mrs Tomas Catral	Catral Family
Mr & Mrs Narciso Marquez	Marquez-Catral Family