

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2018

5:30 Kent Raptopoulos
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Reynalda B. Cristi
11:30 Herminigilda Casillan

Monday, February 12, 2018

7:00 Manuel Moya, Jr.
8:30 Lourdes Ruiz

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

7:00 Mary Maldonado
8:30 Frances Bates

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee
8:30 Sharkey & Figalora Families
7:30 Rita Weatherly

Thursday, February 15, 2018

7:00 Teresita Villafranca Sy
8:30 Estrella Cabacoy

Friday, February 16, 2018

7:00 Teresita Villafranca Sy
8:30 Diane Lowrey
7:30 Susan Bogart

Saturday, February 17, 2018

8:30 Teresita Villafranca Sy
5:30 Angelo & Vito Cucco

First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2018

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Barbara & James Miele
11:30 Herman Duro

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

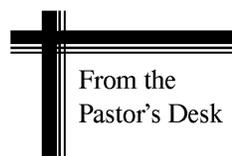
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Amount. February 5, 2017: \$5,695.00; February 4, 2018: \$5,335.00; Maintenance & Repairs: \$2,847.00

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

Readings for Sunday February 18, 2018

Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15



Lepers in Jesus time were required to leave their homes, and be exiled to the hills or the caves, usually until their death. Jesus knew very well what healing would mean. The real miracle may have been that now the man could return from exile in the leper caves, and be reunited with his mother, his wife and children, his church community. Jesus always brings people back from isolation.

We see again how Jesus was not controlled by the religious laws which said "Do not touch lepers." Jesus actually reached out and touched the leper; he tried always to "bring release to the captives... and to set free those who are oppressed."

St. Paul says, "Never do anything offensive to anyone," yet we know we treat insiders and outsiders differently. The simple question for us is, "How do we relate to the outsiders each day?" Do we offer any degree of charity or patience to the "different ones"? Do we glare, look forbidding, or refuse to have eye contact?

If people seem like an annoyance in our lives, we need to picture Jesus touching us, as he touched the leper, freeing us from our disease of disgust... and setting us free to BE the healing of Christ to others. We should be the first example of love and inclusion that anyone meets!

✠ This Sunday we celebrate our Marriage Anniversary Liturgy at the 11:30am Mass. We ask God to bless all married couples with the grace to renew their marriage commitment to each other as man and wife and so witness to the world the freedom they experience in choosing to "love one another"

✠ We have begun the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal for 2018. Thank you to our parish families who have already contributed to the 2018 Appeal. Cardinal Tobin has set our 2018 goal at \$40,546.00. Please, I ask that all of our parish families consider the great good we of Ascension can do with God's grace when we choose to help the neediest of our Archdiocese. Help us to reach and even surpass our goal. Give a lot; give a little; but please give something!

✠ This weekend we end Ordinary Time and enter into the penitential season of Lent. Let us bid farewell to the Easter word, ALLELUIA, as we sing it boldly in our songs this weekend until we sing it again joyfully at Easter.

✠ This Wednesday we begin the Holy Season of Lent as we celebrate ASH WEDNESDAY. We will distribute ashes during Mass at 7am, 8:30am, and 7:30pm. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for our complete Lent 2018 Schedule. We have also inserted our 2018 Lenten Calendar which invites each of us to do a good deed every day in Lent. On the Book Rack in the back of church you will find "Five Minutes with the Word for Lent." Please take a copy and use it during this holy season.

✠ One last item... When you leave Mass on weekdays and weekends please pick up any debris that is around you. It is embarrassing when preparing for a funeral to enter church and I see candy wrappers and the like in the pews and on the floor, especially in the lavatory. Please help to keep our church building clean and neat. It is God's house. Thank you for your attention to this.

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

Handwritten signature of Fr. David



**March for Life 2018**

On Friday, January 19, 2018, 8th grade members of the Junior Rosary Society attended the March for Life in Washington DC. The eleven students walked proudly side by side with people of all ages, including large numbers of young people from across the country. They eagerly participated in the chants for life, and it was a memorable and moving experience for all in attendance. Here are some student quotes:

“The March for Life was a truly life-changing experience. Seeing everyone support a just and righteous cause made a great impact on me.”

“The March for Life felt different than any other march. We marched not just to remove a law or just to protest. We marched for life.”

“It was amazing to get the opportunity to go to this march for an incredible cause with all ages and kinds of people. Everyone was positive, enthusiastic and united by the message.”

“The March for Life was inspiring because it showed a group of all kinds of people standing up for what they believed in.”

“We understood what was going on, but we stayed optimistic, and kept walking and having fun.”

**Upcoming events open to the public (please contact the Academy for more information):**

**Wed, Feb 14:** Ash Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Mass @ St. John’s Church

**Wed, Feb 21, Thu Feb 22, & Fri, Feb 23:** “Tiger for a Day” program Students in grades K – 8 can spend one of those three days at Transfiguration Academy when the local public schools are closed for winter recess. 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. If you want to learn more about Transfiguration Academy, directly from the students, click on this video:

<https://youtu.be/I2bF37YBpbs>

**Registration for the 2017/2018 Academic Year has begun:**

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.**



**FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

**MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED**

**7:00AM, 8:30AM & 7:30PM**

**ASHES WILL ONLY BE DISTRIBUTED**

**AT THESE TIMES**



**Calendar:**

Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> --- Pre- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm going to Mass at 7:30 pm

Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> --- No Children’s Liturgy or Religious Education

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will 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. There will be no Children’s Liturgy of the Word on February 18, 2018.



There is a **Mandatory 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Parent** meeting today February 11, 2018 at 10:45 am in the school. **At least one parent MUST attend, but both are more that welcome.**

**Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday. All 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Graders** are to meet in the School at 7pm. We will be going to Mass at 7:30 pm. Parents are encouraged to meet their child at Mass for Ash Wednesday. Students will be dismissed from the Church.

Please note the change in our hours for classes this school year. Our Sunday Mornings program is from **10:45 to 12 Noon**. **Parents with children in Pre-k/K to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade MUST come in to pick up children at 12 Noon. Please be on time for pick-up.**

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.**

**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

✠ **ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018** ✠

✠ We will celebrate Mass at 7am, 8:30am and 7:30pm. Ashes will be distributed **ONLY** during these liturgies.

A collection for the **Fund for Retired Priests** will be taken up at all the liturgies on Ash Wednesday. An envelope has been provided. Please be as generous as your means allow.

✠ **LENTEN SEASON** ✠

✠ We are all invited to be part of our Lenten program, "**LIVE LENT 2018**," which offers opportunities for parishioners to encounter Christ through integrating the Sunday liturgies, small faith-sharing groups, catechesis, and family activities. It is another opportunity in Lent to meet other parishioners and to let Jesus enter your life more deeply, rekindle the fire of the faith we share, and let the light of Christ shine brightly in our parish!

✠ To remind us of the penitential nature of the season of Lent, the Entrance and **Penitential Act at Mass** will take on a new form for the five (5) Sundays of Lent:

There will be **NO** Entrance Song. The Celebrant and Ministers will enter in silence. The Sign of the Cross, Greeting and Introduction to the Penitential Rite follow. We will kneel for a brief examination of conscience and then together pray the "I Confess...". The Celebrant's conclusion will be followed by a sung "Kyrie", after which we will stand for the Collect.

✠ A **Lenten Calendar** has been inserted in the bulletin which suggests good deeds for each day of Lent.

✠ During Lent we offer an **additional Mass ONLY on Fridays at 7:30pm** after which we will pray the **Stations of the Cross**.

✠ On Friday, March 23, we will join together for our **Family Lenten Evening of Recollection** which will include Stations of the Cross, Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction.

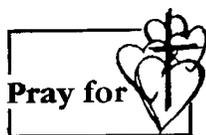
✠ On Saturday, March 3, we will celebrate a **Tri-Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service** at 1 pm at St. John the Evangelist Church in Bergenfield.

✠ **2018 LENTEN REGULATIONS** ✠

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.
2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty\*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2018 to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 27, 2018.**

\*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*"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 Kloeblen, Richard Gabettie, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Charles Hellriegel, John Delaney, Anita Zucconi, Joel Rivera, Albert Ginocchio, Victor Muwonge, 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.

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

**Ecclesiastes 3:11**



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns this week for  
**Sean & Declan Sharkey**  
Birthday Remembrance



### 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.

*Happy Valentine's Day*

### OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one of 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.



### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 11, 2018

#### **Fuel Collection**

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am – Church GR  
Boy Scout Sunday – 9:30  
Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am  
First Eucharist Parent Meeting – 10:45am  
Baptism – 1:00pm – Church

### Monday, February 12, 2018

Religious Education Grade 7 – 7:00pm  
CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room  
Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church

### Tuesday, February 13, 2018

No events



### ASH WEDNESDAY\*Day of Fast & Abstinence

Collection for Retired Priests Fund  
**Mass Celebrated at 7:00 & 8:30am & 7:30pm**  
Woodcrest Center – 3:00pm – Mass/Ashes  
Religious Education grades 7, 8 & 9 meet in school & attend 7:30pm Mass

NO Novena

### Thursday, February 15, 2018

No events

### Friday, February 16, 2018

**Mass & Stations of the Cross & 7:30pm**

### Saturday, February 17, 2018

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

### First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2018

**Food Pantry Sunday**  
**NO Religious Education**



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**A LAUNDRY CHUTE**  
**201-262-WASH (9274)**

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



**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 2018" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend



**ARE YOU CELEBRATING YOUR 5th\*25th or 50th**

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR?**

The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating Christian marriage Anniversaries this year. The Anniversary Liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

**April 29, 2018 at 3:00pm  
For Five and Twenty-Five Years  
\*\*\***

**May 6, 2018 at 3:00pm  
For Fifty Years**

Please notify the parish office no later than March 26 if you would like to attend one of the celebrations.

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

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



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**HELP US TO FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 19TH**

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.



**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....**

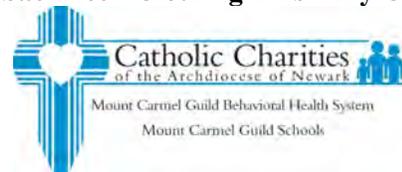
- \_\_\_\_\_ to become a Parishioner
- \_\_\_\_\_ to change my address
- \_\_\_\_\_ to join a ministry
- \_\_\_\_\_ to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lent – Sacrifice - Clothing Bins -Any Connection?**



Lent is a time of sacrifice in order to bring us closer to Christ. As we do so, we become more charitable. Would you be willing to sacrifice your time and efforts to go through your closet and donate any used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, and children's books to the Catholic Charities clothing bin? If you do, you have made the connection and you have moved closer to Christ. Thank you.