

Church of the Ascension

Welcomes You and
Invites You to Share with us. . .



+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor
Rev. David W. Milliken

Parish Trustees
Christopher Cudina
Elizabeth Delgado

Business Manager
Serina Sharkey

Director of Maintenance
Brendan Suter

Director of Music
Glenn Gordon

Religious Education Center
Theresa Carbone, Coordinator of Religious Education
Jeanette MacNish, Coordinator for Grades 7 & 8
Dena Sedlak, Coordinator of First Penance and
First Holy Communion



+ Our Pastoral Life +

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome all new parishioners to our parish family. Every family participating regularly in the spiritual life of our parish is encouraged to register at the Rectory. Please inform us if you are moving.

BAPTISM:

It is mandatory to attend a baptism instruction class before scheduling the date for the baptism. Baptism is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents must be registered parishioners and must attend pre-Baptism instruction usually given on the first Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room. Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing. Pre-registration at the Rectory is necessary prior to the Baptism instruction.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Other times by appointment. Communal Penance Services are celebrated seasonally.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

Please notify the Rectory of any elderly, shut-ins, or sick at home who wish to receive the Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick. Priests of the parish will be happy to visit parishioners in the hospitals in the area. Please notify the Rectory if someone from your family is in the hospital and wishes a priest to visit.

WEDDINGS:

Please make arrangements at the Rectory with one of the priests of the parish one year in advance.

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 18, 2018

+ Our Eucharistic Celebrations +

Saturday
8:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Monday - Friday
7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m.
7:30 p.m. (Fridays during Lent)

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.

+ Our Devotions +

Novena in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Rosary is prayed Monday through Saturday 7:45 a.m.



RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

RECTORY

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646
(201) 836-8961 • FAX: (201) 836-5896
Website: www.churchoftheascension.com
E-mail: ascension@optonline.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646
(201) 836-3085 • Fax (201) 836-5896
E-mail: ascensionreled@optonline.net

CONVENT

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646
(201) 836-4398

TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

10 Bradley Avenue, Bergenfield, NJ 07621
(201) 384-3627 • Fax (201) 384-0293
Website: www.transfigurationacademy.org
E-mail: principal@transfigurationacademy.org

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week

Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 18, 2018

5:30 Howard & May Stephens
7:30 Jeffrey Cronin
9:30 Bernard Hebda, First Anniversary
11:30 People of Ascension Parish

Monday, March 19, 2018

7:00 Gutierrez & Garcia Families
8:30 Fernandez Pena Family

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee
8:30 Rose DiPippo

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

7:00 Joseph Plog
8:30 Larry Figalora, 13th Anniversary

Thursday, March 22, 2018

7:00 Xavier Lawrence Habana, Birthday (L)
8:30 Cindy Ruiz

Friday, March 23, 2018

7:00 Teresita Villafranca Sy
8:30 Mildred Cybulski
7:30 Jim Lacey

Saturday, March 24, 2018

8:30 Teresita Villafranca Sy
5:30 Gerard Rohrbeck

Palm Sunday, Passion of the Lord March 25, 2018

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Maureen A. Bottcher, First Anniversary
11:30 Vito Cucco

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

March 12, 2017:	\$5,392.00
March 11, 2018:	\$5,412.00
Peter's Pence:	\$1,416.00

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

Palm Sunday, Passion of the Lord March 25, 2018 Holy Week Begins

Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/
Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/
Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1--15:47 or 15:1-39



When Jesus tells us that we must lose our life in order to gain it, he is not playing mind games with us. On the contrary, he is giving us words that could make the difference between life and death. If we ignore his words, we could find ourselves in a kind of living death. But if we take his words into ourselves and live by them, we could start to experience life as Jesus wished us to experience it.

There are many things we tend to cling to, but one thing that many of us cling to are **our ideas—right or wrong**. In our lives, many of us cling to destructive, or simply false, ideas that prevent us from really living healthy and full lives. Clinging to old and outworn ideas is the surest way to prevent growth in our lives, and, in fact, such clinging prevents growth in understanding of one another and of life, in general. It can also put a roadblock in our love for one another.

Clinging to old and outworn ideas can also prevent proper and life-giving respect for our environment. It can hinder progress and keep us enslaved to inefficient and backward ways of doing things. Actually it is hard to imagine the wide-ranging and devastating effect that such clinging can have in our lives and in our world.

If it is true that we carry around within us so many unexamined ideas about our lives, then why don't we just stop, examine our ideas and then change our lives accordingly? Why? Because the cost is too high. If we really looked closely at many of our ideas, we would soon see that our false ideas protect us. They protect us from being just, compassionate, kind, human, understanding and so forth. May we all have the wisdom to look closely at the many ideas which push us through life, and the courage to let die what needs dying, and to embrace what gives life.

✘ This weekend is the last chance to purchase tickets for our **Parish Lenten Soup Supper** on Friday, March 23rd, from 5:30pm to 6:45pm in the Fr. Benedict Center. Hosted by our 9th Grade Confirmation Candidates, dinner includes Salad, Soup, Beverage, and Dessert. Remember, tickets (\$6.00) must be purchased in advance. Tickets are available from our Confirmation Candidates, in the front vestibule of the church, or from the Rectory Office. **No tickets will be sold at the door.**

✘ Please plan to be with us this Friday, March 23rd for our **Parish Lenten Evening of Recollection** which will include Stations of the Cross, Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for individual sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction. The full schedule is provided in the bulletin.

✘ Our **Holy Week and Easter Schedule** has been sent to you in the mail and is printed in this week's bulletin. Please keep it handy. Let it be an invitation and reminder for you and your family to participate in the liturgies of this holiest week of the year. We are blessed when you are present. **Please plan on joining us in our celebrations — and bring someone you love with you.**

✘ Our pool of **funeral servers and readers** is dwindling. Perhaps you can volunteer to become a server or reader for our parish funerals. This ministry is so comforting to families in their time of loss. Please consider this Corporal Work of Mercy. Please see Fr. David for details and training.

✘ We have begun the **Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal for 2018**. Thank you to our 113 parish families who have already contributed to the 2018 Appeal. Cardinal Tobin has set our 2018 goal at \$40,546.00. Our pledges to date amount to \$22,033.00. There is still time to make a pledge. Brochures are in the pews and at the doors of the church. 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!**

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



Transfiguration Academy First Grade Students Became Published Authors

Transfiguration Academy has announced that 22 of its students have become published authors through a national student publishing program. As part of the publishing process, students in First Grade planned, wrote and illustrated their own books using a free publishing kit provided by Studenttreasures Publishing. The topic of their books was “My Favorite Christmas Memories” The students of Mrs. Sambora’s class worked very hard on their books for many weeks. The idea for their book started because of the Christmas Holiday and what it means to our class. Publishing a book in the classroom engages students through hands-on learning and inspires a love of reading and writing. The best part? A classroom full of proud, smiling young authors, with a memory that lasts a lifetime, plus, a full-color, deluxe hardcover book for the teacher or school library.

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

Thursday, March 22: Poetry Night @ 7:00pm in Conlon Hall
Poetry Night @ Transfiguration is a celebration of the different expressions of a person. It showcases the inner beauty of oneself through words, song, dance, or any form the person wishes to use. This year’s Poetry Night entitled “Psalms: Songs of the Soul” brings to life the different talents of Elocution, Dance, and Hymns. Let this night be a celebration of the joy of finding God in our lives and nourishing our souls.

Monday, April 2 through Friday, April 6: Easter Camp from 8:00am to 6:00pm for children ages 4 and up. The cost is \$190 per child with sibling discount available. Some of the activities include outdoor playground fun, indoor sports and games, storytelling, reading, movies, interactive games, arts & crafts, music & dance, and daily prayer. The registration deadline is March 23.

Do you want to learn more? 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, please email principal@transfigurationacademy.org or call the school office at 201-384-3627. We also have a video: <https://youtu.be/l2bF37YBpbs>

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



Calendar:

Sunday, March 18th --- Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)
Monday, March 19th – 7th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
Wednesday, March 21st –9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
Sunday, March 25th --- NO Religious Education

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at the 9:30 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.



This week the young people of the parish who are preparing for Eucharist reflected on what Jesus celebrated at the Last Supper. The Eucharistic prayer is the Church’s great prayer of thanksgiving. At the Eucharist through the power of the Holy Spirit we join with the living Christ to give praise and glory to the Father. How are we as a parish gathering to remember and celebrate Jesus?

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

All Parents:

When calling your children out for Religious Education on Sundays, please make sure that you call the Religious Education phone number 201-836-3085. If you call the Rectory number, we do not receive that message until either Monday Morning or the next day.

Sunday, March 18, 2018: 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.

On Friday, March 23, 2018 our 2018 Confirmation Class will be hosting the Parish Lenten Soup Supper starting at 5:30 pm. Tickets are available from any Confirmation Candidate or in the Rectory during regular office hours until Sunday March 18, 2018. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

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

MARCH 18, 2018



Church of the Ascension

New Milford, New Jersey

Invites You to Gather Together and Share...

A Parish Lenten

Evening of Recollection

(Sponsored by our parish 9th Grade Candidates for Confirmation, 2018)

Friday, March 23, 2018

5:30-6:45pm...Lenten Soup Supper (Fr. Benedict Center)

(Salad, Soup, Bread, Beverage, Dessert)

(\$6.00 per person. + NO tickets sold at the door.)

7:00pm...Stations of the Cross

7:30pm..Mass followed by

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Holy Hour

Opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation

8:45pm...Benediction

Please detach and return form below by Sunday, March 18th



Church of the Ascension

Parish Lenten Evening of Recollection

Lenten Soup Supper (Fr. Benedict Center)

Friday, March 23, 2018

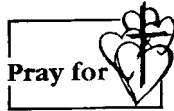
Name _____ *Phone* _____

_____ *Number of Persons @ \$6.00 per person Amount enclosed \$* _____

(Please make checks payable to: Church of the Ascension)

Please return form by Sunday, March 18th

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



"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, Victor Muwonge, Bob Quinn, Benny Santiago, Aldo Guerra, 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 in loving memory of **Bienvenida Otero**



BREAD and WINE this week are offered in loving memory of **Bienvenida Otero**

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.



BEEFSTEAK DINNER EXTRAVAGANZA

On Saturday, April 14, 2018 6:30pm-10:00pm. Dinner catered by Nightingale Catering. Donation is \$35. Per person. Will be held in Ascension's Father Benedict Center. For Tickets and information please contact John Landers (201) 986-1332.



Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 18, 2018

Food Pantry Sunday

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am – Church GR
First Eucharist Retreat Day – 10:30am
Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am

St. Joseph Day*Monday, March 19, 2018

Food Pantry Distribution
Religious Education Grade 7 – 7:00pm - School
Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church

Spring Begins*Tuesday, March 20, 2018

No events

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

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

Thursday, March 22, 2018

No events

Friday, March 23, 2018

Lenten Evening of Recollection & Lenten Soup
Supper at 5:30pm Fr. Benedict Center
Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm
Mass with Exposition at 7:30pm, Holy Hour with
Individual Confession
Benediction at 8:45pm

Saturday, March 24 2018

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

PALM SUNDAY



March 25, 2018

Masses: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am
NO Religious Education
11:30 Principal Mass with Procession with Palms
Family Stations Practice – 7:00pm

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.



THE ITALIAN CONNECTION

201-385-2226

Please remember to patronize,
who help make this bulletin possible



Palm Sunday-March 25, 2018

5:30pm (Saturday vigil)

7:30am-9:30am

11:30am (Principal Mass with Procession)

Holy Thursday-March 29, 2018

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am

Mass of the Lord's Supper 8:00pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 8:00pm Mass until Midnight

Night Prayer 11:45pm

Good Friday-March 30, 2018

Tenebrae 8:30am

Good Friday Prayer Service 12:00 Noon

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm

Family Stations of the Cross 8:00pm

Holy Saturday-March 31, 2018

Tenebrae 8:30am

The Easter Vigil 8:15pm

Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

Masses: 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am

2019 MASS BOOK 2019

Our 2019 Mass Book is now open. Please use form (at doors of church, in rectory on website) for your mass requests. Please see flyer for very important information regarding changes in weekday mass schedule. Please note, if our parish is assigned a permanent Prochical Vicar, we will re-instate a second weekday mass.

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: _____



EASTER FLOWERS



You are invited to make a donation toward the Easter Flowers, which will be used to decorate our Church. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or a special intention. You may use flower donation envelope you received in your Easter mailing or this form. Please take note that **Each intention donation is \$15.00** form & donation in an envelope marked "EASTER FLOWERS" & drop off at the rectory. **One intention will be noted for each donation of \$15.00. All others will be noted as donations.**

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY

In Memory of: _____

For the Intention of: _____

Requested By: _____

Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____



REMEMBER DURING LENT

Evening Mass on Friday's at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross.

ASCENSION PARISH'S 18TH PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

**WHEN: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
APRIL 8, 2018**

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

**PLEASE PICK UP
REGISTRATION FORM
IN CHURCH VESTIBULE OR RECTORY
Registration Deadline is April 4, 2018**



HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – MARCH 18TH

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.

