

Church of the Ascension

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



+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor
Rev. David W. Milliken

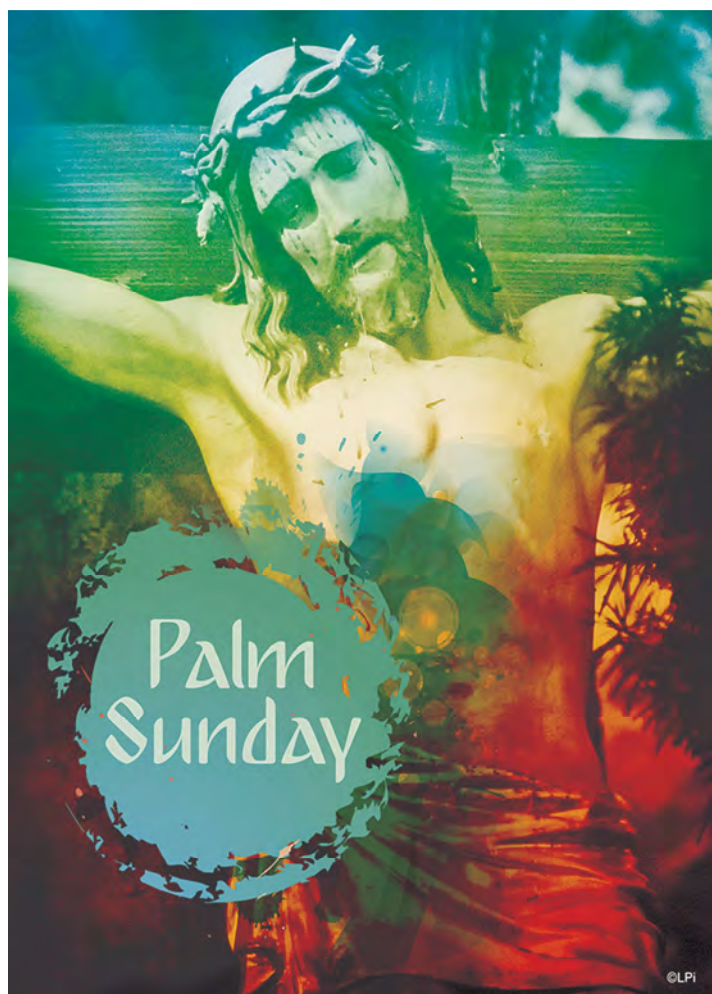
Parish Trustees
Christopher Cudina
Elizabeth Delgado

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



Palm Sunday
Passion of the Lord
March 25, 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

Palm Sunday, Passion of the Lord

March 25, 2018

- 5:30 Gerard Rohrbeck
- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:30 Maureen A. Bottcher, First Anniversary
- 11:30 Vito Cucco

Monday of Holy Week, March 26, 2018

- 7:00 Teresita Villafranca Sy
- 8:30 Anthony John Loonnam

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 27, 2018

- 7:00 Teresa Begley, Healing (L)
- 8:30 Teresita Villafranca Sy

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28, 2018

- 7:00 Natalie Ava Habana, Birthday (L)
- 8:30 Fidela Sunga

HOLY THURSDAY, March 29, 2018

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:00 Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 11:45 Night Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY, March 30, 2018

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
- 12:00 Prayer Service
- 3:00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 8:00 Family Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY, March 31, 2018

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:15 Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY, April 1, 2018

The Resurrection of the Lord

- 7:30 All Parishioners
- 9:30 Living and
- 11:30 Deceased

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

March 19, 2017:	\$6,703.00
March 18, 2018:	\$6,389.00
Food Pantry:	\$1,491.00

WeShare (Parish On Line Giving)

November 2017:	\$2,915.35
December 2017:	\$3,068.28
January 2018:	\$2,733.05
February 2018:	\$2,978.68

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

Reading for Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
[24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or
Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

Jesus rides into Jerusalem, not in a chariot, but on a donkey. And a few days later, he is tortured and put to death. And yet, it is through his very sufferings that Jesus is known as our king. God's power is shown through one who loves us so much that no suffering is able to stand in the way of that love.

This is the power that is available to each one of us. The love that Jesus showed by his suffering and death on the cross is still present to us at this very moment. The power of Jesus' love did not somehow vanish into thin air after Jesus died. Today's reading of the Passion is a compelling and forceful reminder of how much we are loved. We seem to so easily forget this truth of our faith. Our daily lives with all of their details and distractions often crowd out the deeper truth which envelops our lives.

We are loved as deeply as we could ever be loved. God's love, shown through the suffering and death of Jesus, is the foundation upon which our lives are built. As we meditate on the sufferings of Jesus today, may we allow this truth to rise within us and fill our hearts with the courage and consolation that God wishes for each of us.

In turn, our suffering, when done out of love, can lead to new life for many other people. As we gaze at the figure of the crucified Christ, we are gazing at deep love and genuine power. The crucifix is our strongest reminder that every time we give ourselves to one another in the spirit of a love that is willing to suffer, we enter into the power of God. Our deepest imitation of Christ is the imitation of Christ in his suffering for others. May we open ourselves to receive gratefully this wonderful gift — this unbounded, all-forgiving, totally accepting and comforting love of the God who is Love itself.

✠ Thank you to our 9th Grade Confirmation Candidates and to their catechists for hosting and serving our **Parish Lenten Soup Supper** last Friday. Bravo...job well done! Thank you, also, to all who supported this Lenten event.

✠ Last Sunday we celebrated a Day of Reflection for the children of our parish who will be receiving Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time on the weekend of April 22nd. What a delightful and fun time for the children, their families, and especially for me, as I witnessed the enthusiastic faith of these little ones. Thank you so much to Dena Sedlak, our coordinator of the First Eucharist program, to Theresa Carbone, our CRE, and to all who helped, especially, our 8th and 9th Grade Confirmation candidates for making this day such a wonderful experience for our children and their families. Please, let us continue to pray for these children and for our candidates for Confirmation.

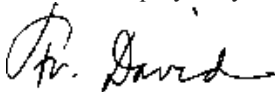
✠ We so need to gather together and share in the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter which help us to celebrate in a very sacred way the awesome gift that Jesus Christ is to us. We need to be reminded of the power we share through His Eucharistic presence, His death, His resurrection.

✠ Our **Holy Week and Easter Schedule** has been inserted 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.**

✠ We will be **decorating our church** for Easter on Holy Saturday, March 31st beginning at 10am after Altar Server Practice. Parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand.

✠ We also need to be reminded of the warm love and concern we share through our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We have included an Easter Offering envelope in your Easter mailing. Please remember the many ministries our parish supports. Remember, too, that we rely heavily upon your donation at Easter to support these ministries and programs. Please, be as generous as your means allow. We so appreciate your good stewardship.

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





Middle Schoolers Walk Out in Prayer

Students in grades five through eight participated in the National School Gun Violence Walk-Out on Wednesday, March 14th. After viewing a video of encouragement to prayerfully participate from Cardinal Tobin and hearing words of focus from Msgr. Arnholts at the Academy's daily morning prayer service, they returned to class until 10 AM, at which time they silently gathered on the front steps of the Academy for a prayer service for peace and nonviolence and in memory of the Parkland, Florida victims, relatives, and survivors, led by religion coordinator Mrs. Michelle Fusilli and upper grade students. To see a short video which captures the spirit of this special gathering, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nj4-Hpa8cYY>.

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

Tue, Mar 27: Science Fair from 5:00–7:00 pm in Conlon Hall
Students in the 6th-8th grades will present an array of different experiments in scientific topics including biology, medicine, astronomy, and physics, just to name a few. A unique factor in our science fair is the judging of projects by outside scientists from surrounding elementary and high schools as well as colleges. Students in the 1st-5th grades are also given the opportunity to participate but are not judged. Awards will be presented by 6:45 pm.

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 of our Academy, please email principal@transfigurationacademy.org or call the school office at 201-384-3627. We also have a video: <https://youtu.be/12bF37YBpbs>

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



Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 135 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$25,873.00 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 \$40,546.00

**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**



Calendar:

Sunday, March 25th --- NO Religious Education
Monday, March 26th – 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
Wednesday, March 28th –No Religious Education
Sunday, April 1st --- Happy Easter -- NO Religious Education

There will be no Children's Liturgy of the Word on March 25th and April 1st. We will resume on Sunday, April 8th at the 9:30 am Mass.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Confirmation Class of 2018:

Reminder that the following paperwork is due on April 11, 2018:

- o Service Hours Due
- o Service Hours Report – Please make sure you type this as you answer the question and not in paragraph form.

First Eucharist: There will be a MANDATORY Rehearsal Tuesday April 17, 2018 in the Church at 7 pm. All First Eucharist candidates and one parent are to meet at 6:50 pm so we can start on time.

Registration for 2018-2019:

Registration forms the 2018-2019 School year have been distributed to all students, please look for them in your child's backpack. Kindly fill out the forms and return them along with the fees to the Religious Education office before June 30th. All families that are new to the program are asked to come to the Religious Education Office and pick up a Registration Form. For more information please call us at 201-836-3085.

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



Church of the Ascension



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018

Masses: 5:30pm (Saturday Vigil)
7:30am, 9:30am and
11:30am (Principal Mass with Procession with Palms)

MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018

Chrim Mass at the Cathedral-Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark 8:00pm

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 (Morning Prayer) 8:30am
Good Friday Prayer Service 12:00 Noon
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00 pm
Family Stations of the Cross 8:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2018

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am
The Easter Vigil 8:15pm

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018

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



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual Celebrations

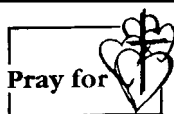
Friday, March 23 – 8:00 to 8:45pm
Tuesday, March 27 – 7:00pm to 7:30pm
Wednesday, March 28 – 7:00pm to 7:30pm



NO CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD ON HOLY SATURDAY.



PALM SUNDAY



"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

PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday, and the Gospel story of the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem is read as part of the entrance rite. The Gospel tells us that the people cut branches from the trees and laid them in the road in front of Jesus as part of the procession. Palm is used to celebrate this festive entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Palms are from a common tree whose branches are readily available. The palm is blessed and people are given a branch to take home. A year later the palm will be burned to form the ash for Ash Wednesday. In other places, churches use olive branches or pussy willows. The blessing in the Sacramentary uses the generic term "branches."

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.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Rectory & Religious Education Offices will be closed on Good Friday, March 30th



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

Monday of Holy Week, March 26, 2018

Religious Education Grade 8 – 7:00pm - School

Combined Choirs with Instruments – 7:30pm – Church

Chrism Mass @ Cathedral Basilica

of the Sacred Heart, Newark – 8:00pm

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 27, 2018

Confessions – 7:00pm - Church

Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28, 2018

Harrison House

NO Religious Education

NO Novena

HOLY THURSDAY, March 29, 2018

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am – Church

Mass of the Lord's Supper – 8:00pm

Adoration until midnight in the Fr. Benedict Center

Night Prayer 11:45pm

GOOD FRIDAY, March 30, 2018

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am – Church

Good Friday Prayer Service – 12 Noon

Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3:00pm

Family Stations of the Cross – 8:00pm – Church

HOLY SATURDAY, March 31, 2018

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am – Church

Church Decorating

NO Confessions

Easter Vigil – 8:15pm - Church



EASTER SUNDAY, April 1, 2018

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

NO Religious Education

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.



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

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

PASSION OF THE LORD



Presence - Care - Service

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps preserve the sacred shrines. When you make a contribution you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous.

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 perminant Prochical Vicar, we will re-instate a second weekday mass.

Knights of Columbus Beefsteak Dinner

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.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM

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 CANDLES \$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: _____



Palm Sunday

**"Hosanna to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest."
And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was
shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds
replied, "This is Jesus the prophet,
from Nazareth in Galilee."
- Mt 21:9-11**

**TRIP TO THE FINGER LAKES, NEW YORK
CELEBRATING OUR PARISH'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY**

A 3 day, 2 night trip to the Finger Lakes, NY is being planned For September 5th-7th, 2018. The price of \$415per person double occ./\$499 single occ. Includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, including Belhurst Castle, Corning Museum of Glass, Willard Memorial Tiffany Chapel, wine tasting at Casa Larga Vineyards, Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion, Wegman's Marketplace, Scenic Lake Cruise, Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack, luggage handling, taxes, meal gratuities and bus transportation. A \$100 deposit per person will hold your reservation and is due by May 16th. Cancellation insurance is recommended. Make all checks payable to Ascension Church and mark the outside of the envelope "Finger Lakes Trip". And can be dropped off at the rectory or mailed. For further info. Call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)387-2632.