

# Church of the Ascension

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



## + Our Pastoral Staff +

**Pastor**  
Rev. David W. Milliken

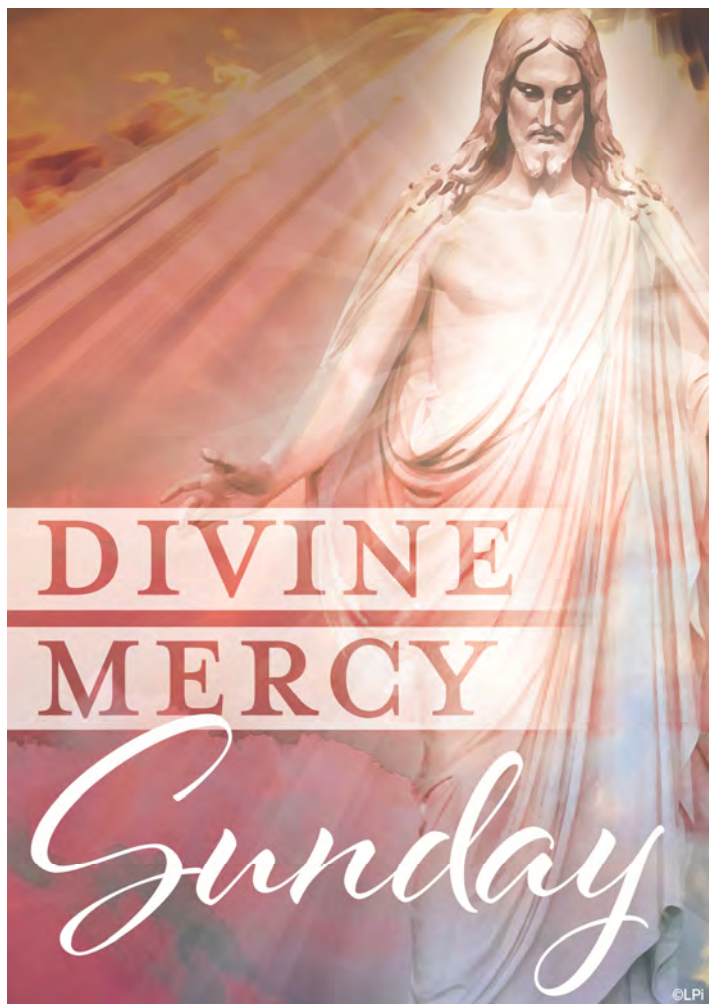
**Parish Trustees**  
Christopher Cudina  
Elizabeth Delgado

**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



**Divine Mercy Sunday**  
**April 8, 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](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)  
E-mail: [ascension@optonline.net](mailto:ascension@optonline.net)

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

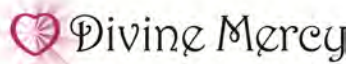
256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646  
(201) 836-3085 • Fax (201) 836-5896  
E-mail: [ascensionreled@optonline.net](mailto:ascensionreled@optonline.net)

#### 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](http://www.transfigurationacademy.org)  
E-mail: [principal@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org)



**Divine Mercy Sunday, April 8, 2018**

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
 7:30 Rose D'Eufemia, First Anniversary  
 9:30 People of Ascension Parish  
 11:30 Alphonse Giella

**Monday, April 9, 2018**

7:00 Teresita Villafranca Sy  
 8:30 Margaret & Dorothy Meyer

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

7:00 Marci Virtue  
 8:30 Gervasio Ruiz

**Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

7:00 Teresita Villafranca Sy  
 8:30 Oates Family

**Thursday, April 12, 2018**

7:00 Msgr. Francis A. Fox  
 8:30 Robert, Sr. & Robert, Jr. Aponte

**Friday, April 13, 2018**

7:00 Melvin & Dorothy Evans  
 8:30 Jovita Balagot

**Saturday, April 14, 2018**

8:30 Teresita Villafranca Sy  
 5:30 People of Ascension Parish

**Third Sunday of Easter, April 15, 2018**

7:30 Con & Rose Lynch  
 9:30 Barbara & Thomas Meyer  
 11:30 Ramon Abuedo

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

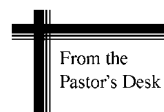
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

Easter 2017:	\$21,111.00
Easter 2018:	\$21,711.50
Easter Flowers:	\$ 2,415.00
Good Friday:	\$ 1,042.00

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

**Reading for Sunday, April 15, 2018**

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1  
 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48



The Apostle Thomas in today's gospel, like many of us, is a bottom-line realist: "Unless I see the wounds, I will not believe." So, how dramatic it must have been for Jesus suddenly to appear in the locked room, and invite Thomas to touch his wounded hands and side. Jesus challenges him directly: "Do not doubt but believe."

If I took a survey right now, how many of us would be willing to admit that we have doubts about God, Jesus, and our faith. Belief in God IS difficult, once we have suffered enough in life. After we have lived through deception, loss of employment and income, violence, war, illnesses, deaths--isn't our experience of God's presence more often an experience of God's absence? Certainly all of the great saints have said this was true for them.

Jesus' first words are usually "Peace be with you!" because he totally understands our fears and doubts. Jesus doesn't want fear and doubts about the future to destroy our belief in life itself. This seems to be happening, for example, in the case of abortion. It is often easier to think of ending a life for which we cannot see a future. But God has an eternal vision for each beloved life, which we cannot see. Remember the old saying, "Seeing is believing"? Not true for Jesus. He says, "Believing is seeing."

Our faith shouts to the world that, thank God, there is a sacred beginning, a blessed middle, and a joyful end to every life! We should not let our doubts drag us into the mud of inaction. Through loving our selves and one another, even in our doubts, we will move even deeper into relationship and unity with God.

Together in faith and hope we have journeyed and rejoiced at the empty tomb. As we celebrate this Second Sunday of Easter, may the Risen Jesus meet us, invite us closer to him and increase our faith so that with Easter ears we can readily hear him say to us: **"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."**

✠ Today, on this eighth and last day of the Octave of Easter, we celebrate **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Based on the revelations from Jesus to St. Maria Faustina, the focus of this feast is on God's unbounded love and mercy for us shown so visibly in Jesus' Paschal Mystery and continually poured out upon us through the sacraments of Baptism, the Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

As we bring mercy to others, we will experience the Divine Mercy that our loving God wishes us to receive with open and grateful hearts. **Ask for Mercy. Receive Mercy. Be Merciful!**

✠ **THANK YOU...** to all who helped to make our Triduum and Easter celebrations so very special—our pastoral staff, and our many ministers. Special thanks to our choirs and to all who again "Eastered" our church, especially to all who so generously donated for the Easter flowers that proudly adorn our church. What can I say...it is absolutely magnificent!! That's just some of the ways that make our parish such a visible sign of God's love—a faith-filled community working together for the Lord! May God bless our Ascension community as we continue together building HIS kingdom.

✠ Because so many parishioners have commented positively about the Five Minutes with the Word Lenten booklets, **Five Minutes with the Word for Easter** are available for you in the book rack in the back of the church. Please take one for yourself and feel free to take a couple to share with your friends. They'll appreciate the thought!

✠ Our parish Boy Scout Troop 291 will sponsor a pancake breakfast for us next Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, from 8am to 1pm. Tickets are available as you leave church today. See the flier in the bulletin for more information. Please support our Scouts.

✠ Our New Milford Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Beefsteak Dinner on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30pm to 10:00pm in the Fr. Benedict Center. Dinner will be catered by Nightingale Catering. Donation is \$35.00 per person. For Tickets please contact John Landers (201) 986-1332.

✠ Any Ascension liturgical minister (Altar Server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister) who has a family member receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time and/or the Sacrament of Confirmation, and would like to serve in the liturgy, please call the Rectory as soon as possible.

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



**“Poetry Night 2018: “Psalms: Songs for the Soul”**

This past March 22nd, Transfiguration Academy presented its annual Poetry Night. This year’s theme was “Psalms: Songs for the Soul.” Students in 5th – 8th grade focused on experiencing God’s presence and love through the spoken word, song, and dance. It told the story of how a person’s search for meaning in life is made whole in one’s relationship with God. The students of Transfiguration Academy made this experience possible through their dedication and commitment. Their objective was for those watching to experience God through them.

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

**Fri, May 4 & Sat, May 5: “Beauty and the Beast, JR.”** ~ Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice, Book by Linda Woolverton ~ Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth ~ Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions.

Transfiguration Academy’s Drama Club will be presenting “Beauty & the Beast” at 7 p.m. in Conlon Hall. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Students enter the program in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and have four years of formation to prepare them for high school programs. For example, alumni Blaise Rossmann will be playing the role of Jesus in Paramus Catholic’s Apr 26-28 presentation of “Godspell.” For more information about the Drama Club, contact Mrs. Bontia - [cbontia@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:cbontia@transfigurationacademy.org)

**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](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org) or call the school office at 201-384-3627. We also have a video: <https://youtu.be/l2bF37YBpbs>

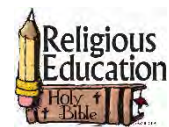
**Transfiguration Academy: Strengthening faith, Enlightening minds, and Transforming hearts...one student at a time.**



**You are invited** on April 8, 2018 at St. Joseph Church (Oradell) & the Legion of Mary invite you to join them for Divine Mercy Sunday at 1:30pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, Rosary, short talk on the Divine Mercy by Fr. Roy Regaspi. Service will conclude 3:15pm.



**REINER, Heating\*Air Conditioning**  
**201-768-7880**  
**Please support those**  
**who make this bulletin possible**



**Calendar:**

Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> --- Pre- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – 8th Grades from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> –9th Grades from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, April 15<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.

**First Eucharist:**

This week the young people of the parish who are preparing for Eucharist reflected on Jesus’ presence with us in the Eucharist. Through our sharing the one bread and one cup we are made one with Jesus and one with his Body, the Church. How are we as a parish living as peacemakers to show that Jesus is with us?

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

**Confirmation Class of 2018:**

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

- Service Hours Due
- 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 for 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 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 2018-2019 School year. Anyone interested, please call Mrs. 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

APRIL 8, 2018

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

We welcome you all to our celebration of **Easter 2018** here at Ascension.

We especially welcome those who have been away from Ascension due to school, illness or living elsewhere for whatever reason. It is good to have you home again. Welcome to all visitors.

Thank you for choosing to celebrate your Easter with us.

Easter is the most beautiful and holiest time of year, when we celebrate Jesus' new life shared with us at Easter and all throughout the year – the gift of life, the gift of faith, and the gift of each other.

We invite you to share in many important celebrations of Jesus' new life shared with us during the seven weeks of the Easter Season and beyond.

On the weekend of April 22, we will celebrate **First Holy Communion** at specific weekend Masses.

On Sunday, May 6th, during the 9:30am Mass we will celebrate our **Crowning of our Blessed Mother**.

We will celebrate our **Parish Feast Day, Ascension Thursday**, May 10th. Mass will be celebrated at 7am and 8:30am.

We will open our Parish 65th Anniversary Year with great fanfare as we celebrate the 7:30pm Mass, which is followed by our **"Make your own Ice Cream Sundae."**

What a special day for us!

On Saturday, May 12th at 1pm, we will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of our young men and women in the **sacrament of Confirmation**.

We will observe **Mother's Day** on May 13th and we will celebrate the **Blessing of Mothers** at all weekend Masses.

On May 20th, the **Solemnity of Pentecost**, we celebrate the special presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We end the Easter Season on the weekend of May 27th, **Most Holy Trinity Sunday**.

On Sunday, June 3rd, we will celebrate **Corpus Christi** at 11:30am Mass followed by our annual Corpus Christi Procession.

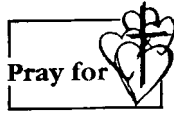
We will observe **Father's Day** on this weekend of June 17th with the **Blessing of Fathers** at all weekend Masses.

I encourage you to immerse yourself in the spirit and graces of the season by participating in these special celebrations and I ask that you bring someone you love with you.

My prayer is that the Risen Christ may live in your hearts and in your homes throughout this season.

**A Most Blessed Easter!**

## DIVINE MERCY 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, Janice P., 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..."*

Edward Breslin, Nancy Popp, Thomas Seifert Jr.

*...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**



### 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.

# APRIL

Diving Mercy

**Sunday, April 8, 2018**

**Parish Pilgrimage to the National Shrine  
Parish Maintenance and Repairs**

Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:30am

Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am

Baptism Prep. – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

**Monday, April 9, 2018**

Pastoral Staff Meeting – 9:00am – Rectory

Religious Education Grade 8 – 7:00pm – School

CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

Ministry of Word – 7:30pm – Gathering Room

**Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

Parish Trip to PA

Religious Education, Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm -

Novena at 7:30pm in Church

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

Filipino Core Meeting – 8:00pm – Gathering Room

Combined Choirs – 8:15pm - Church

**Thursday, April 12, 2018**

Hackensack Homeless

**Friday, April 13, 2018**

No events

**Saturday, April 14, 2018**

Confessions at 11:00am in Church

Children's Choir – 4:15pm – Church

Knights of Columbus Beefsteak – 6:30pm - FBC

**Sunday, April 15, 2018**

Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:30am

Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am

Baptism – 1:00pm - Church



**MINISTRY OF WORD  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018  
AT 7:30PM IN THE GATHERING ROOM**

### Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 144 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$28,593.00 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**

### 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 please contact John Landers (201) 986-1332.



**ADDITIONAL EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS**

**IN MEMORY OF**

Frank G. Lenge  
 Judi Sexton  
 Edward & Gertrude O’Dea  
 Departed Family Members  
 Rose D’Eufemia  
 Tababan & Tobias Family  
 Thanksgiving Ruiz & Ursal families  
 Elias, Simeona, Capistrano  
 Ernesto, Pedro Capistrano  
 Romulo Capistrano  
 Phil Dino  
 Helen & Gerard Quinn  
 Agapito & Dalaga Hontanosas

**DONATED BY**

Mrs Jenny Lenge  
 Mr & Mrs P. Klocek  
 Stephanie Fehnel  
 Vic & Grace deJesus  
 Mr E. D’Eufemia  
 Ms Lydia Tababan  
 Miss Araceli Ruiz  
 Merle Capistrano Sangalang  
 Merle Capistrano Sangalang  
 Merle Capistrano Sangalang  
 Mrs Philip Dino  
 Robert Quinn  
 Mr&Mrs B.Santiago

**DONATED BY**

Deacon & Mrs Harold Bates  
 Leopoldo Coronel  
 Mr Gerard Harty  
 Mr & Mrs Anel Sotomayor-Rivera  
 Maria Elena Develleres  
 Mrs Alicja Lada  
 Joseph Algieri  
 Mr & Mrs Gerardo Miniz

**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**

**FOOD PANTRY APRIL 15TH**

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.

- Coffee\*Tea\*Apple Juice\*Powdered Milk\*Corned Beef Hash\*
- Instant Oatmeal\*Egg Noodles\*Grated Cheese\*Cake Mix\*
- Cake Icing\*Jam\*Pancake Mix\*Pancake Syrup\*
- Jell-O Pudding\*Crackers\*Cookies\*Hamburger Helper\*
- Salad Dressing\* Toothpaste\*
- Manhattan Clam Chowder\*Napkins\*
- New England Clam Chowder\*Paper Towels\*Bathroom Tissue\*
- Hair Conditioner\*Tissues\*Deodorant.

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

**TRIP TO THE FINGER LAKES, NEW YORK  
 CELEBRATING OUR PARISH’S 65<sup>TH</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup>. 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.