

Mass Intentions

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, Sunday, January 1, 2012

5:30 Louis A. D'Eufemia
 7:30 Brendan Mulvihill
 9:00 Angelo Lanzilotti (Living)
 10:30 Macaria Magiaqui
 12:00 Robert Mozia

Monday, January 2, 2012

7:00 Matthew Camerlengo
 8:30 Alice Rinaldi

Tuesday, January 3, 2012

7:00 Peg & Pat Mulvihill (Living)
 8:30 Frank Calamari

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

7:00 Frank Calamari
 8:30 Edith Sugenheimer

Thursday, January 5, 2012

7:00 Frank Calamari
 8:30 Jim Bukata

Friday, January 6, 2012

7:00 Anne & Harry Sommo
 8:30 Margaret DelVecchio

Saturday, January 7, 2012

8:30 **Memorial Mass**
 5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8, 2012

7:30 Con & Rose Lynch
 9:00 Patrick J. Delaney
 10:30 Lawrence Watson
 12:00 Lisa Poliseno

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

Last Weekend: **No Figures at time of Printing**
 ParishPay: \$ 903.36
 Christmas ParishPay: \$2,280.00

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

Readings for the Week of January 1, 2012

Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
 Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Jn 1:29-34
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Jn 1:43-51
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 2:1-11
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



When you hear that this is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, what is the first image that comes into your head? Was it that Christmas image of Mary holding the baby Jesus contentedly on her lap with Mary looking unbelievably calm and placid?

We have to remind ourselves that Jesus didn't stay on Mary's lap forever. Many of our Mary images may not be helpful to us as we mature. We need more authentic images to revitalize our prayer. But we don't find all the details we need in the Scriptures. So we have to use our imaginations to picture Mary as the mother of Jesus as a toddler, a teen, and an unpredictable 20-something. In short *his entire life*.

How must Mary have felt as Jesus began to upset the religious authorities? Even though Mary had seen angels, and knew God's presence and love first-hand, she was a human mother who suffered intensely at simply not knowing how it would end. It appeared to end at the cross which is where we see Mary standing, simply accepting the reality of the crucified, dead body of her beloved Son, Jesus.

Many of us have had to stand at the bedside or grave of a beloved one, and were speechless with grief and a lack of understanding why did this have to happen? We wish we could solve all problems. But Mary couldn't solve Jesus's problems she was called to be a presence and a witness of hope in God's ultimate love.

Maybe we, too, need to simply stand in silence with Mary at the worst crosses of our lives, pondering all these things in our hearts.

✠ We welcome all of you, those who celebrate with us daily and weekly, and those who have been away for a while. We invite each of you to celebrate this Christmas Season with us, and we ask that you please bring a friend or loved one to celebrate with us as well.

Next Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany. We will offer a special blessing for children at all weekend Masses.

✠ I remind you that Ascension Parish offers many ministries and programs. Our parish relies heavily on your generosity, especially in our Christmas collection, to help support the many needs of our parish. I ask that you seek God's guidance in deciding what you can give for your special Christmas gift to your parish and I pray that you will be as generous as your means allow.

Happy New Year!

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



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

**A HAPPY & FAITH FILLED
NEW YEAR!
FROM
TRANSFIGURATION
ACADEMY**



*This weekend we celebrate new beginnings!
Let us ask Our Blessed Mother, to
continue to watch over and bless all our
families and the Academy as she watched
over Jesus and as we continue on our
Faith-filled journey through life.*



Thank you to all who served and everyone who donated baked items for 125 guests at the Hackensack Walk-In dinner for the homeless. Your continued support and caring for those less fortunate is greatly appreciated. We wish all of you a very Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Week:

Sunday, January 1st ó No Religious Education Classes
Monday, January 2nd ó No Religious Education Class
Wednesday, January 4th -- 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
Sunday, January 8th ó Pre-K thru 6th grades from 10:15 am to 11:30 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume on Sunday January 8, 2012. All students in Pre-k thru fifth grade are invited to join us. Remember this is a way for families to celebrate Mass together.

Religious Education classes will resume:

Wednesday January 4, 2012 for 9th grade
Sunday, January 8, 2012 for Pre-K to 6th grades
Monday, January 9, 2012 for 8th grade



We in the Religious Education Office wish everyone
A Happy, Healthy and Holy New Year

Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of Catechists, Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program. 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.

Coupons for our Food Pantry ó all families are asked to drop off coupons from the Sunday paper that you do not use to the Religious Education Office or put them in the box in the back of Church. They will be used to purchase need food items for the food pantry.

Office Hours:

Monday thru Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm
Monday and Wednesday Evening: 6:30pm to 8:45 pm
Sunday 10 am to 12 Noon
Other times by appointment

VOCATIONS

"Do you wonder if God is calling you to a life of service? Is it possible that God might be inviting you to consider priesthood as your vocation? Join us for a weekend retreat designed to help us reflect on these questions in a spirit of faith and friendship. The Vocations Office of the Archdiocese of Newark is sponsoring a Vocation Discernment Retreat: 'Stay with Us, Lord' to be held January 6, 7, 8 at Carmel Retreat House, Mahwah NJ. The weekend will include prayer, presentations by priests and seminarians, time for silence, and the opportunity to meet other young men asking the same questions. Please contact Fr. John Gabriel in the Vocations Office for more information and to register. This weekend might change your life? Join us!" gabriejo@rcan.org - (973)497-4365

New Year Blessings

May you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your cardiologist,
your gastro-enterologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your podiatrist,
your psychiatrist, your plumber and the I.R.S.

May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs and your stocks not fall;
and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol,
your white blood count and your mortgage interest not rise.

May New Year's Eve find you seated around the table,
together with your beloved family and cherished friends.

May you find the food better, the environment quieter, the cost much cheaper,
and the pleasure much more fulfilling than anything else you might ordinarily do that night.

May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them.
May someone love you enough to forgive your faults, be blind to your blemishes,
and tell the world about your virtues.

May the telemarketers wait to make their sales calls until you finish dinner.
May the commercials on TV not be louder than the program you have been watching,
and may your check book and your budget balance -
and include generous amounts for charity.

May you remember to say "I love you" at least once a day to your spouse, your child,
your parent, your siblings; but not to your secretary, your nurse, your masseuse,
your hairdresser or your tennis instructor.

And may we live in a world at peace and with the awareness of God's love
in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile, every lover's kiss,
and every wonderful, astonishing, miraculous beat of our heart.

A Happy and Holy 2011 to All!

*Theresa Carbone
Lorraine Montecucollo
Dena Sedlak*

*Fr. David
Fr. Ernie
Deacon Paul
Deacon Harold*

*Glenn Gordon
Serina Sharkey
Pat Puleo*



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Louisa Garcia, Richard Burke, Monica Vivas, Margaret Bitteti, Theresa Ruocco, Kay Harrington, Edward Harrington, Adem Shavelli, Ann Sullivan, Jean Cangelosi, Joanne Albanese, Joseph Albanese, Joe and Edith Hartney, Rev. James Flannigan, Marguerite Morris, Charles and Ann Marie Lopresti

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
All Men and Women serving in our countries
Armed Forces.

"a time for peace..."

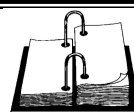
President Barack Obama, our National Leaders
and all World Leaders.

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns
this week in loving memory of
Anne Schrull



The
Week
Ahead

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1, 2012

Masses

7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12 Noon

NO Religious Education

Monday, January 2, 2012

Rectory & Religious Education Office Closed

NO Religious Education

Tuesday, January 3, 2012

Religious Education Office Closed

Woodcrest Center Mass ó 2:30pm

CYO Basketball ó 6:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

CYO Basketball ó 6:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center

Religious Education, Grade 9 ó 7:00pm - School

Novena ó 7:30pm ó Church

Thursday, January 5, 2012

Children's Choir ó 3:45pm ó Church

CYO Basketball ó 6:30pm ó Fr. Benedict Center

First Friday, January 6, 2012

Buildings & Grounds ó 7:30pm ó Rectory Mtg. Rm.

Saturday, January 7, 2012

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church

Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8, 2012

Parish Maintenance & Repairs – second collection

Children's Liturgy of the Word

9:00am ó Church/Gathering Room

Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School

RCIA ó 10:30am ó Gathering Room

Baptism Prep ó 1:15pm ó Gathering Room



Buildings and Grounds Committee

Friday, January 6, 2012

at 7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room



**THE RECTORY OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND.
THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY & TUESDAY
JANUARY 2ND & 3RD, 2012**

Transfiguration Academy is holding a LUCKY CALENDAR RAFFLE. Beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012, you have the chance to win from 35.00 to \$200.00. The cost of a Calendar is \$35.00 and is available now at St. John's Rectory or Transfiguration Academy Main Office during school hours. You may purchase a calendar for yourself, your family or friends. They make outstanding gifts. Each calendar has a 3 digit number. Numbers will be pulled every Sunday at St. John's Bingo for each day of the week, excluding Sunday's and Christmas Day. If your calendar's number (STRAIGHT ONLY) is pulled, you win the dollar amount indicated on the calendar for that day. A check will automatically be mailed to the person who is associated with that calendar number. Numbers will be published in Conlon Hall and St. John's Sunday Bulletin. There will be only 999 calendars sold, so get yours before they're all gone. Remember, Christmas is coming, if you're looking for the perfect gift for that hard to buy for person, consider a LUCKY CALENDAR. NJ LGCC ID #32-5-22014 RA# 1197



Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
New Year's Day

Saturday, December 31, 2011
5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, January 1, 2012
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, and 12:00 Noon



Solemnity of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 7, 2012
5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, January 8, 2012
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 Noon

A Happy and Holy New Year to all!

Thank You
PET GOODS COLLECTION

Thank you to all the pet lovers who generously donated to our shelter collection. Your donations of food, blankets and other items will make the life of one of God's precious creations a little brighter, until they find a love filled home!

GIVING TREE ONCE AGAIN A GREAT SUCCESS!

Thank you to all who so generously donated to our Giving Tree this Christmas. Please know that your gift of kindness helped to make this Christmas a little happier for those in great need. May God continue to bless those who so generously showed their caring spirit!

K of C 50/50 Cash Raffle Results

St. Joseph Council of the Knight of Columbus held their Christmas 50/50 cash raffle on December 3rd. Congratulations are extended to the three prize winners:

- Jim Kelly, Bergenfield, NJ, Ticket 1243, \$1,883
- Kay O'Brien, New Milford, NJ, Ticket 86, \$538
- Rita Barci, New Milford, NJ, Ticket 271, \$269

The Knights appreciate everyone's support of this fundraiser that raised \$1,000 for our 8th Grade Scholarship Program, \$1,000 for local charities (NJ Veteran's Home of Paramus, Several Sources in Ramsey, New Milford Food Pantry, Church of the Ascension, and St. Joseph Parish), and \$200 for our Council Hall improvements. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Christmas trees, wreaths and flowers which will continue to be used to decorate our church throughout this festive season.

Donations may be made in memory of a loved one. Suggested donation: \$10. for each intention. Please put your donation and intention in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and drop it in the collection basket or at the Rectory.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

In Memory of: _____

or the Intention of: _____

Donated

by: _____

Please Print Clearly

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 |
| ALTAR FLOWERS | \$40 (per basket) |
| SANCTUARY CANDLE | \$15 |

MEMORIAL FUND

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Donation Amt.: _____

In Memory of: _____

Date Requested: _____



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who help make this bulletin possible

END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
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CHURCH NAME: **Church of the Ascension**

CHURCH CITY: **New Milford, NJ**

ROUTING CODE: **W**

RUN NUMBER: **6**

FILENAME: **04-0801.06b**

PHONE NUMBER: **(201) 836-8961**

FAX NUMBER: **(201) 836-5896**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Serina Sharkey**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWTD – TEXAS DOUBLE