



Sunday, February 19, 2012

- 5:30 Angelo Cucco
- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:00 Barbara & Bill Miele
- 10:30 Grace, Emanule, Scholar Emenike
- 12:00 Patrick Mangosing

Monday, February 20, 2012

- 7:00 Michael Spoljaric (living)
- 8:30 Anne Marie Mayr

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

- 7:00 Edith Thomas Hartney
- 8:30 Natividad & Felix Villaluna

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012

- 7:00 Gerard P. Lee
- 8:30 Candelaria Ciron
- 12:00 Patria Miranda
- 4:00 **Liturgy of the Word**
- 7:30 Sumole Mattappillil, Birthday (living)

Thursday, February 23, 2012

- 7:00 Caesar Meneses
- 8:30 Frank & Thomas Meyer

Friday, February 24, 2012

- 7:00 Charles Lopresti
- 8:30 Catherine Trimarchi-White
- 7:30 Alegamma Abraham

Saturday, February 25, 2012

- 8:30 Anna John
- 5:30 Melvin & Dorothy Evans

First Sunday of Lent, February 26, 2012

- 7:30 Michael Bruno
- 9:00 Joseph Meyer
- 10:30 Reparada Fernandez
- 12:00 Antonio Speciale

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP REPORT
WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



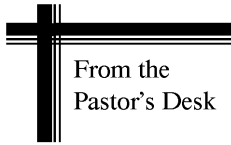
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

Last Weekend:	\$8,830.99
ParishPay:	\$ 868.36
Philippines Emergency Collection:	\$1,443.00

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 February 19, 2012

- Sunday: Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2
Cor 1:18-22/Mk 2:1-12
- Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
- Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
- Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/
Mk 1:12-15



From the
Pastor's Desk

I remember being in Las Vegas many years ago and seeing one of the magic shows put on by Siegfried and Roy. I'm sure that anyone who was there was utterly amazed as tigers and other huge animals disappeared into thin air! And the more childlike and open your spirit is, the more deeply you felt the astonishment. It's a great feeling to rub your eyes and say, "That can't be possible! I don't believe what I just saw!"

Jesus evokes a similar astonishment in today's reading as the formerly disabled man picks up his mat and walks home. The crowd praises God in sheer amazement: "We have never seen anything like this!" The Scribes, however, show a jealous and bitter response: "Who does this Jesus think he is? How dare he say, 'Your sins are forgiven'?" Tragically, they are unable to allow their hearts to be lifted by the Good News.

Jesus healed by saying "Your sins are forgiven." So, how can we, in everyday life, show this astonishing forgiveness to the world?

✠ Thank you to Josie McEwan, Anna Gorgone, and Marguerite Raptopoulos for the beautiful Marriage Anniversary Liturgy Reception last Sunday. It was truly special!

✠ 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, 12 Noon and 7:30pm and during a Word Service at 4pm. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for our complete **Lent 2012 Schedule**. We have also inserted our **2012 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.

✠ I invite all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **Disciples on the Journey**, our 2012 Lenten program which offers opportunities for parishioners to meet Jesus more personally through the Lenten Scriptures, our Sunday liturgies, small faith-sharing groups, catechesis, and activities. In addition to the usual Adult Sharing Groups, Family and Teen Groups are also available. I hope and pray that we will respond to Jesus' call and take an active part in this process. Together, may we let the light of Christ shine even more brightly in our parish! Sign up flyers are in the front vestibule of the church.

Know that I pray for you every day. Please pray for me, too.

God Love You!



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

Excerpts from: "From Math Helper to Community Organizer"

By Laura Pappano as printed in Harvard Education Letter Volume 28, Number 1, with Permission to Reprint.

Is the student who organizes tag during recess or chooses to help a classmate with math on track to be a senator, a CEO, or a community leader? He-or she-may well be.

***Initiative and Everyday Leaders**

children as young as two reveal temperaments that predict

for later leadership. "Some hold off, some withdraw, some engage." Those who engage, "tend to become more extroverted, socially engaging and become everyday leaders." It also mattered that a child invested in and committed to the new activity if permitted to pursue it, said Ronald E. Riggio, Henry R. Kravis Professor of Leadership and Organizational Psychology at Claremont McKenna College. Equally important was the parent's support in fostering new passions and interests noting that the same issue arises in classrooms between students and teachers, that support can be essential to fostering a key leadership quality.

***More than IQ**

The data showed that stronger motivation trumped higher IQ in winning top roles in clubs. "The motivationally gifted were significantly more likely to be the leaders" according to Adele Gottfried, professor of educational psychology at California State University at Northridge. "We need to be creating people who are visionaries, who are risk takers, who know how to adopt a challenge and pursue it over time."

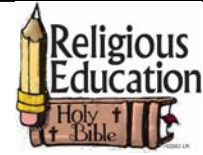
***Cultivating Leadership**

The studies show that schools must become "intentional and purposeful" in creating opportunities for students to connect with real-world experiences, to fail and pick themselves up, and to connect with passions they can pursue and master, according to Tim Wagner, executive director of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. "While some students are naturally more inclined to be leaders...that doesn't mean others can't learn."

Transfiguration Academy, prepares students to face the challenges of a changing society and become the leaders of tomorrow through, strengthening faith, enlightening minds and transforming hearts, one student at a time.

For more information, or to arrange a tour of the Academy, or to register, please call us at: 201-384-3627, or visit us at 10 Bradley Ave., Bergenfield.

"Begin the Transformation"



This Week:

Sunday, February 19th – No Religious Education

Monday, February 20th – No Religious Education

Wednesday, February 22nd – 7th, 8th & 9th Grades will meet in School and go to Mass

Thursday, February 23rd -- Disciples on the Journey – 7th thru 9th grades 7:00 pm (SCH)

Sunday, February 19th- Pre-K thru 6th grades from 10:15 am to 11:30 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 9 am Mass for the children in Pre-K to 5th grades. Remember this is a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.

Reminders:

On Wednesday, February 22, 2012, ASH WEDNESDAY, all 7th and 8th graders will meet in the library and then proceed to Church with their Catechists. Parents are encouraged to meet with the classes in the Church for 7:30pm Mass. Students will be released from the Church at the end of Mass.

On Thursday, February 23, 2012, "Disciples on the Journey" will begin for all interested 7th, 8th and 9th graders in the Fr. Davis Multi-purpose room. We will begin at 7 pm. Hope to see you there.

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—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

✠ **ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22, 2012** ✠

✠ We will celebrate Mass at 7am, 8:30am, 12 Noon, 7:30pm and a Liturgy of the Word at 4pm. 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 invite all parishioners to become part of **Disciples on the Journey** 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**.

✠ On Fridays in Lent we will pray the **Stations of the Cross** after the 7:30pm Mass.

✠ On Friday, March 23 we are invited to our **Parish Fish and Chips Dinner**. Tickets: \$10.00 per person.

✠ On Friday, March 30, we will join together for our **Family Lenten Evening of Reflection** which will include a Soup Supper (Free Will Donation), Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, Holy Hour, opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction.

✠ On Saturday, March 31, we will celebrate a **tri-parish Lenten Communal Penance Service** at 1 pm here at Ascension.

✠ **2011 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 26, 2012 to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, June 3, 2012.**

*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.*



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Patrick Boselli, Richard Burke, Monica Vivas, Margaret Bitteti, Theresa Ruocco, Kay Harrington, Edward Harrington, Adem Shavelli, Ann Sullivan, Jean Cangelosi, Joanne Albanese, Joseph Albanese, Joe Hartney, Rev. James Flannigan, Marguerite Morris, 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.

"a time to die..."

Margaret Beckert, Louis Esposito, Ana Dohne

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns
this week in loving memory of
Gerard P. Lee

THE FABRIC OF OUR LIVES

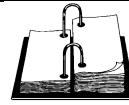
Ascension's 60th Anniversary Quilt Banners. Prepared packets with materials and instructions for squares for our parish anniversary quilt banners are ready for you to take home. We encourage every household in the parish who has not done so, to make a square or even updated their present square. The square can be quite simple done. Make sure your family is represented. Packets are available in the front vestibule of the church, in the Rectory or in the Religious Education Office.

ADULT ALTAR SERVERS

We are in need of several Adult Altar Servers to assist in Funeral Masses. If interested, please contact the Rectory (201) 836-8961 and sign-up for a training class.

CHRUCH BILL BOARDS

*"You may party in hell
But you will be the barbeque!"*



The
Week
Ahead

Sunday, February 19, 2012

Food Pantry Sunday

Lenten Program Sign-Up after all Masses
Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:00am – Church/Gathering Room
Religious Education – 10:15am – School
RCIA – 10:30am – Gathering Room
Baptism – 1:30pm – Church
CFC-FFL – 2:00pm – Fr. Benedict Center

President's Day * Monday, February 20, 2012

Atlantic City Parish Trip
CYO Basketball – 6:30pm – Fr. Benedict Center
NO Religious Education

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Woodcrest Center Communion Service – 2:30pm
CYO Basketball – 6:30pm – Fr. Benedict Center
Liturgy/Worship Committee – 7:30pm – Rectory/Church

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Masses: 7, 8:30am, 12 Noon, 7:30pm,
Word Service at 4pm
Religious Education, Grade 7, 8, 9 – 7:30pm Mass
NO Novena – 7:30pm – Church
Combined Choirs – 8:30pm - Church

Thursday, February 23, 2012

Children's Choir – 3:45pm – Church
CYO Basketball – 6:30pm – Fr. Benedict Center

Friday, February 24, 2012

Mass/Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm

Saturday, February 25, 2012

Confessions – 11:00am – Church
RCIA: Call to Conversion, Sacred Heart Cathedral

First Sunday of Lent, February 26, 2012

Children's Liturgy of the Word
9:00am – Church/Gathering Room
Religious Education – 10:15am – School
RCIA – 10:30am – Gathering Room
RCIA: Rite of Election, Sacred Heart Cathedral
CFC-FFL – 2:00pm – Fr. Benedict Center



Liturgy & Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 21, 2012
at 7:30pm

In the Rectory Meeting Room



Please remember to patronize,
BERGENFIELD EXXON, Automotive Repairs

201-384-0078

who help make this bulletin possible



ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL - 2012

Thank you to the 176 parishioners who have made pledges totaling \$34,059.00 to the 2012 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. With your help, we can reach and hopefully surpass our goal of \$46,841.01.

If you have not done so, please remember to return your completed pledge envelope for the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. You may place the envelope in the collection basket or bring it to the office. For those who have already made a gift, thank you for your support.

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: _____

ARCHBISHOP JOHN J. MYERS JOINS IN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES

Once again, the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual celebration honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five or fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2012. These liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers and held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

May 6, 2012
3:00pm - 50th Wedding Anniversary
Bergen County

June 3, 2012
3:00pm -- 25th & 5th Wedding Anniversary
All Counties

It is our desire to have every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. The presence of a large number of couples will give favorable witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.

If you are celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries, contact the rectory at (201) 836-8961 for registration.

Deadline for reservations: Monday, April 16, 2012

Conscience Rights, Religious Liberty Violated by Sweeping HHS Contraceptive Mandate

Last weekend a flyer regarding Conscience Rights, Religious Liberty Violated by Sweeping HHS Contraceptive Mandate was inserted into the Bulletin. This additional information was received from the Office of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops this past week:

"On February 10, President Obama stated that he would retain HHS's nationwide mandate of insurance coverage of sterilization and contraception, including some abortifacients, and then he announce some changes in how that mandate will be administered, which is still unclear in its details."

"This does not change the urgent need for legislation to correct the mandate's threats to religious liberty and conscience rights." **ACTION** on your part is required. Please see last weeks insert for contact information. www.usccb.org/conscience.

TRIP TO NORFOLK VIRGINIA

2012 AZALEA FESTIVAL AND NORFOLK HOME & GARDEN TOUR
 The Parish Events Committee will sponsor a trip to Norfolk, Virginia from Wed., April 25th-Sat., April 29th. The price of \$599. per person double occup./\$778. single includes 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, 3 full course dinners including the Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise, admission to 6 Norfolk Homes & Gardens, The Virginia International Tattoo Show, Reserved seats for the Parade of Nations, NATO Fest, Hermitage House & gardens, Norfolk Botanical Gardens Tram Tour, Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk Naval Base Tour, MacArthur Memorial, Evening Entertainment, Luggage Handling, taxes and gratuities except for bus driver, bus transportation. \$100. deposit per person will hold your reservation. Balance due March 31st. Cancellation insurance is recommended. For further info. Call Josie, 201-265-0485 or fill in coupon below and drop off at rectory with deposit. Make all checks payable to Ascension Church.

Name: _____ Phone # _____
 # of People _____ Amount Enclosed _____



The Fabric of Our Lives Project, can you help? Seamstresses needed to help sew the final banners together. Please call Theresa Carbone at 201-836-3085 if you would like to join this team.



Ash Wednesday, February 22nd
Mass Schedule
7:00am, 8:30am
12 Noon & 7:30pm
Word Service at 4:00pm

**END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

CHURCH NAME: **Church of the Ascension**

CHURCH CITY: **New Milford, NJ**

ROUTING CODE: **W**

RUN NUMBER: **6**

FILENAME: **04-0801.13b**

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

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

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Serina Sharkey**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWTD – TEXAS DOUBLE