

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

## Mass Intentions for the Week



### Sunday, February 23, 2014

5:30 Angelo Cucco, Fiftieth Anniversary  
7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:00 Cathy Trimarchi  
10:30 Frank & Thomas Tenney  
12:00 Patria Miranda

### Monday, February 24, 2014

7:00 Aleyamma Abraham  
8:30 Cathy Trimarchi

### Tuesday, February 25, 2014

7:00 Liberato Meneses  
8:30 Reparada Fernandez

### Wednesday, February 26, 2014

7:00 Michael Bruno  
8:30 Joseph Meyer

### Thursday, February 27, 2014

7:00 John & Jennie Ochs  
8:30 Mary Hickey

### Friday, February 28, 2014

7:00 Peggy Evans, healing  
8:30 Guieb Family

### Saturday, March 1, 2014

#### Memorial Mass

8:30 Mary Hickey  
5:30 Eric Comer, First Anniversary

### Sunday, March 2, 2014

7:30 Albert Logan  
9:00 Segundino Orquiza  
10:30 Ramon Villordon (living)  
12:00 People of Ascension Parish

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

### NO FIGURES AT TIME OF PRINTING

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 23, 2014

Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48  
Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Mk 9:14-29  
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Mk 9:30-37  
Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17/Mk 9:38-40  
Thursday: Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:41-50  
Friday: Jas 5:9-12/Mk 10:1-12  
Saturday: Jas 5:13-20/Mk 10:13-16  
Next Sunday: Is 49:14-15/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34

How many of us could “offer no resistance to the wicked,” as Jesus tells us to do today? Can you imagine being loving to your killers, instead of fighting back? After all, we live in the age of “The Terminator,” where getting revenge is not only considered right and lawful—it is pursued with gleeful vengeance! But as Jesus describes God’s will today, it is great-hearted and merciful, going far beyond the bare minimum required by law.

So, if mercy is God’s will, why did the old Jewish law state, “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”—doesn’t that sound a little bloodthirsty? No, the purpose of the old law was not vengeance; it was for justice, to “even things out”. The law limited the amount of revenge someone might take against an offender. “An eye for an eye” was actually the beginning of mercy. It meant that if someone stole some of your sheep, you could not just pull out all the big guns and “blow the guy away”, Terminator-style. But then, Jesus provokes anger by saying that even “equal justice” is not all that God wants. Jesus says, go the extra mile, freely give without being asked... so Jesus is announcing a complete reversal of the old way of thinking.

Jesus’ statements, especially “Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you,” are meant to provoke us to imagine a God who is beyond anything we’ve ever known. Yes, Jesus preaches a vision of a NEW world, not just an improvement on the old! Jesus shows us what God’s reign of peace and justice will be.

These shocking examples that overturn the normal order of life “reflect the character of God.” But not everyone is happy to learn that this is how God is! Are you?

✠ Thank you to Josie McEwan and all who helped for the beautiful Marriage Anniversary Liturgy Reception. It was special!

✠ We have begun the **Archbishop’s Annual Appeal for 2014.**

Archbishop Myers has set our 2014 goal at **\$53,400.00**. Please, let’s pray and work together, that with God’s help, we can go over goal and maybe reach our stretch goal. May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts.

✠ **MARDI GRAS 2014 is almost here!!!** Please...Mark your calendars...Save this date...Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> ...7:30pm to 11:30pm...Mardi Gras Beefsteak Dinner/Comedy Night with comedian, Bill Ervolino. There will also be dancing with music by our DJ, Abe Aquino. As in years past, this promises to be a great evening together! Tickets will be available soon. Please plan to be with us. The deadline for tickets is Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

✠ I invite all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **Open Our Hearts**, our 2014 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 bulletin and 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

"Catholic schools are called to a renewal of purpose and reorganization. The goals appropriate to today's Catholic educational efforts, and to today's Catholic school are in some ways more challenging than in the past, including the need to prepare young men and women to be witnesses to the faith during an era of instability and at the same time to act as agents of creative change for which adequate models hardly exist." (To Teach As Jesus Did, #124)

Transfiguration Academy stands ready to accept these challenges, and considers them more of an opportunity to build on our past successes, as well as being the role model to help our young boys and girls successfully meet the challenges of a changing society, with hope, faith and charity.

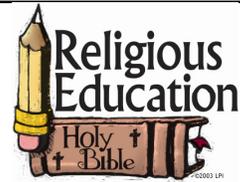
Our Academy is not just buildings. It is the place where children know they are loved, protected and nurtured. They learn to respect each other and love God. The school exists not only to teach academics, but to partner with parents in educating the mind, body and spirit of our students.

Registration for next school year is open. Call us to make an appointment to visit the school at 201-384-3627.



### SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR PARISH ENERGY THIS WEEKEND

As you know this winter has been extremely cold with temperatures below freezing on many days. Even with new boilers and our effort to conserve energy by lowering the thermostats costs for energy continues to be astronomical. Our main concern is keeping the church at a comfortable temperature for services throughout the remainder of the winter season. **Please be as generous as you can with this weeks special collection** so we can all continue to enjoy the warmth in our parish church.



#### CALENDAR:

Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> -- Pre-K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)  
Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> -- 7th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)  
Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> -- 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)  
Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> -- Pre-K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

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



#### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**February 23, 2014**—Today there will be a Mandatory Parent meeting for all candidates for the sacrament of First Eucharist at 10:15 am in the Fr. Davis Multi-Purpose Room.

**Ash Wednesday** – March 5, 2014 All 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> graders will meet in the school at 7 pm and go to Mass with their class, Attendance will be taken. All families are encouraged to join us at this Mass.

Sign-Ups for Our Lenten Journey for teens is open to all teens in 7<sup>th</sup> grade thru 12<sup>th</sup>. We will meet on Thursday evenings in the school. Please see the Bulletin for further information or contact the Religious Education office

#### Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm  
Monday and Wednesday Evenings: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm  
Sunday: 10 am to 12 pm (Noon)  
Closed; Thursday & Saturday  
Other times by appointment



**Please remember to patronize,  
NATURE'S WAY IRRIGATION, INC.  
201-265-8367  
who help make this bulletin possible**

Parishioners of Church of the Ascension  
Invite YOU to...

Eat...Drink...Laugh...Dance the Night Away!!

**MARDI GRAS**  
**BEEFSTEAK / COMEDY**  
**NIGHT**

with **Bill Ervolino**

Saturday, March 1, 2014

7:30pm to 11:30pm

Church of the Ascension, New Milford

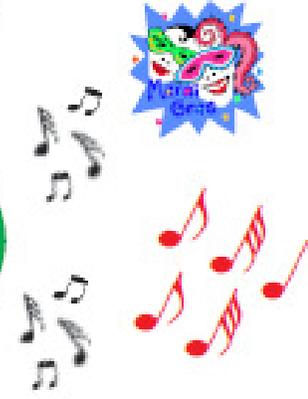
Fr. Benedict Center

Donation: \$35.00 per person

(Purchase tickets by Monday, February 24th.)

Adults 21 and over ONLY

- Salad
- Beefsteak catered by Nightingale
- French Bread
- French Fries
- Beer / Soda / Set-ups
- Decort / Coffee / Tea
- BYOB



2014 Mardi Gras Beefsteak/Comedy Night  
Ticket Reservations

(Return by Monday, February 24, 2014)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Tickets @ \$35.00\*  
\* 8 people to a table

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed



*"To everything there is a season..."*

*"a time to be born..."*

**Aiden James Cobb, Eleazer Bantug Cancio**

*"a time to be healed..."*

Peggy Evans, Janet Sweeney, Anna Gorgone, Frances Lanzilotti, Anita Zucconi, Jack Wall, Peggy Lacey, Eileen Burke, Michael Cullen, Joseph Gorgone, John Burke, Sue Figalora, Bob Stasi, Peggy Funesti, Denis Mullins, Patricia Burke, Eleanor Pompeo, Alyssa Brady, Theodore DeSteno, Dolores DeMatteo, Barbara Riley, Alex Kuhr, Jim Crowley, Linda Krahling, Barbara Santore, William Schettinger, Yvonne Payne, Rosemarie Salimbene, Marge Bruno, Jim Keane, Monica Vivas, Margaret Bitetti, Theresa Ruocco, Kay Harrington, Adem Shavelli, Joseph Albanese, Joe Hartney, 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..."*

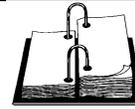
President Barack Obama, our National Leaders  
and all World Leaders.

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns  
this week in loving memory of  
**Angelo Cucco, Fiftieth Anniversary**



**The  
Week  
Ahead**

**Sunday, February 23, 2014**

Parish Energy Collection  
Lenten Program Sign-Up after All Masses  
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9:00am  
Church/Gathering Room  
Religious Education - 10:15am - School  
First Eucharist Parents' Meeting - 10:15am - School  
CFC-FFL - 1:30pm - Multi Purpose Room

**Monday, February 24, 2014**

Religious Education Grade 7 - 7:00pm - School  
CFM - 7:30pm - Gathering Room

**Tuesday, February 25, 2014**

Woodcrest Center, Rosary - 2:30pm

**Wednesday, February 26, 2014**

Harrison House  
Religious Education grade 9 - 7:00pm  
Novena - 7:30pm - Church  
Filipino Core Meeting - 8:00pm - Gathering Room

**Thursday, February 27, 2014**

Children's Choir - 3:45pm - Church  
RCIA - 7:00pm - Gathering Room  
Combined Choirs - 7:30pm - Church

**Friday, February 28, 2014**

Set up FBC for Parish Mardi Gras/Beefsteak/Comedy

**Saturday, March 1, 2014**

Confessions - 11:00am - Church  
Set up for Mardi Gras - 11:00am - FBC  
Lenten Program Sign-Up after 5:30pm Mass  
Mardi Gras Beefsteak/Comedy Night- 7:30pm - FBC

**Sunday, March 2, 2014**

Parish Maintenance & Repairs  
Lenten Program Sign-Up after All Masses  
Children's Choir - 9:00am  
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9:00am  
Church/Gathering Room  
Religious Education - 10:15am - School



**SUPPORT GROUP**

The needs of fathers who have suffered the loss of a son or daughter are unique. The Office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark invites all grieving fathers to a special place of understanding and healing. The Support Group for Fathers Whose Children Have Died will meet on **Saturday, March 8, 2014** at Notre Dame RC Church (Parish Center), 359 Central Avenue, North Caldwell, at 10:00 AM. Pre-registration is requested. Please call the Office of Family Life Ministries at 973-497-4327, or email [mccormja@rcan.org](mailto:mccormja@rcan.org) for information, directions and registration.

**CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY**

Giving back to your parents with a Charitable Gift Annuity  
Are you looking for the perfect gift for your aging parents that would guarantee income for life? Consider opening up a charitable gift annuity with the Archdiocese of Newark. A charitable gift annuity can provide payments with direct deposit to your aging parents now and a gift to their parish later, all while providing you with both peace of mind and an income tax deduction. If you would like information on this unique gift, please contact Theresa Lynch, Planned Giving Manager, Archdiocese of Newark (973) 497-4042 or by e-mail at [lynchthe@rcan.org](mailto:lynchthe@rcan.org).

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### FAITH & SAFETY WEBSITE

There is a new website from USCCB for helping keep children and families safe online: [www.faihandssafety.org](http://www.faihandssafety.org). The website is a partnership with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and it is designed to be a place where families learn to see technology through the eyes of faith and stay safe online. The site offers guidance how to use the Internet, cell phones and video games safely, as well as protecting children's privacy.

We have been asked to share this information with families in our parish and school. One of the interesting sections has to do with geotagging of pictures posted on the internet. Parents and other caring adults don't realize that pictures they post may be giving away the exact location where the picture was taken. This could put their family at risk. The article is under the Learn Tab, under Cell Phones and Kids.

You are encouraged to explore this site, as technological tools are a primary way that child predators get into the lives of children. Let us remember keeping our children safe is our primary concern and responsibility.



### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” MATTHEW 5:44*

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from “me” and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for “our enemy”. When we pray for others, even “our enemies”, maybe it softens their hearts as well.



### 2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2014

**“When I called, you answered”**

**Thank you to the many parishioners who have made pledges to the 2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. With your help, we can reach and hopefully surpass our goal of \$53,400.00.**

**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.**

### BE NOT AFRAID!

The Men's Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark will be holding its sixth annual Men's Conference on Saturday, March 15, 2014, at Seton Hall University.

Speakers: His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Fr. Larry Richards, Gregory Floyd, Pablo Bayona, Miguel Rosa and Enrique Lugo.

Men of Ascension parish who want to participate may register with our contact person, Fr. Ernie Tibay at (201) 836-8961.



### 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 2014. These liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers and held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 6, 2014

3:00pm – 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
All Counties

May 4, 2014

3:00pm -- 25<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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, March 24, 2014**