

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week

First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 2014

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris
 7:30 Claudia Costello
 9:00 Michael Bruno
 10:30 People of Ascension Parish
 12:00 Herminda Rebutillo

Monday, March 10, 2014

7:00 Mr. & Mrs. Federico Avena
 8:30 Mary Hickey

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

7:00 Errol Matig-a
 8:30 Patrick Murphy

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

7:00 Procesa de Castro
 8:30 Mary Hickey

Thursday, March 13, 2014

7:00 Bobby, Mary & all Marra family
 8:30 Patrick Mangosing

Friday, March 14, 2014

7:00 Gerard P. Lee
 8:30 Michael Bowe
 7:30 Mary Hickey

Saturday, March 15, 2014

8:30 Andrew T. Comer
 5:30 Maria Caridad Eustauio

Second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2014

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
 9:00 Alfred Carbone
 10:30 Lourdes & Antonio Cruz
 12:00 Alfraiz Cajucom

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

March 2, 2014:	\$7,499.00
Parish Pay:	\$ 851.74
Repairs & Maintenance:	\$2,036.00

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 March 9, 2014

Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19
 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
 Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/
 Mt 7:7-12
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48
 Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/
 Mt 17:1-9

FROM THE PASTOR

A very overweight man who was on a diet drove a different route to avoid passing his favorite bakery. But one morning he came to work with a coffee cake. His friend asked, "What's up?" He said, "I accidentally drove by the bakery and saw these fantastic cakes in the window. I felt God must have let me drive by for a reason. So I prayed, 'Lord, if you want me to have one of those delicious coffee cakes, let me find a parking space right in front of the bakery.' And sure enough, on the ninth time around the block, there it was!"

Here we have a guy who seemed to really enjoy playing around with temptation—and since cake is involved, we can all understand! But when was the last time you heard someone seriously discuss the struggle they were having with a temptation? To be human is to be imperfect; but I'm referring to the urge to say or do something that leads us away from what God hopes for us. Like Adam and Eve in the Garden, we often can't recognize real temptation. We stay in situations that we know in our guts are a "slippery slope" to making bad choices—maybe it's the internet sites we visit, the friends we hang out with, our attitude towards abortion and euthanasia. But instead of "calling a spade a spade," we start to think every option is equally good. In the Garden Adam and Eve probably said, "It's all good!"

Sin starts with not recognizing temptations for what they are. Satan urged Jesus to give away his freedom; but Jesus trusted his identity as the beloved Son of God. We all have this identity with God—but do we trust it? If so, let us bring it to bear on the problems of our community. When we act out of our true identity, and imitate Christ, it inspires us to resist the evil of selfishness, and make decisions that benefit the whole creation.

✠ **LENT** is all around us in the colors, the absence of flowers, the silence, and the symbols. Our Entrance and Penitential Rite during Lent take on a new form and on **Fridays in Lent** we have added a Mass at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross. A complete schedule for **Lent 2014** and our **Parish Lenten Calendar** are available at the doors of the church. Please keep them handy so that you can take advantage of the many grace-filled opportunities our parish offers during this holy season of Lent. Also, we have placed "**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2014**" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend. They are my gift to you this Lent.

✠ Have you considered becoming a part of **Open Our Hearts**, our 2014 Lenten program? You can still join a group. Lists of the available groups have been placed on the bulletin board in the front vestibule or see Fr. David or call the Rectory Office.

✠ Again, I offer a great big **THANK YOU** to **all** who helped in so many ways to make our Parish **MARDI GRAS Beefsteak and Comedy Night** last Saturday such a fun time and great experience for all!! People are still talking about the great time they had!! What a festive Mardi Gras. Special thanks to the Chairperson Brendan Suter and to all who helped with ticket sales, set up and clean up.

✠ In honor of St. Patrick, our parishioners will once again be offering homemade **Irish Soda Bread**. **Each loaf is \$10.00**. Please fill out the order form provided in the bulletin this weekend and hand it in with your payment at the table in the front vestibule of the church or bring it to the Rectory Office. Bread will be available for pick up in the vestibule after Masses on March 15th and 16th.

✠ Don't forget about our invitation to march in the **Bergenfield St. Patrick's Day Parade** next Sunday, March 16th Line-up begins at 1:30pm. Please contact me if you will join us in honoring St. Patrick.

✠ Don't forget to purchase your tickets this weekend for our **Parish Lenten Fish and Chips Dinner** on Friday, March 21st from 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Fr. Benedict Center. This will be hosted by our 9th Grade Confirmation Candidates. **Remember, tickets (\$8.00) must be purchased in advance**. Tickets are available from our Confirmation Candidates, in the front vestibule of the church, or from the Rectory Office. **No tickets will be sold at the door**.

✠ Lent is a very good time for us to participate in the **Archbishop's Annual Appeal for 2014**. Our 2014 goal is **\$53,400.00**. Fasting and Almsgiving are essential parts of our Lenten sacrifice. Please, let's pray and work together, that with God's help, we can again surpass our goal. May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts.

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

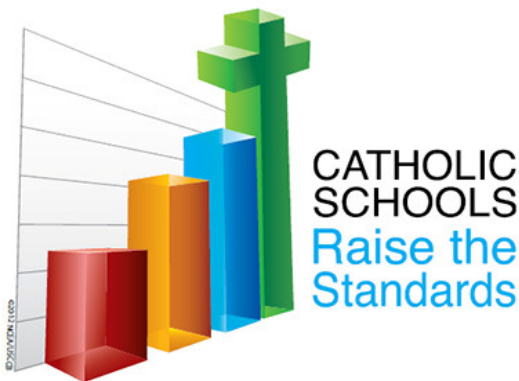
Fr. David



**TRANSFIGURATION
ACADEMY**

**TOP 10 Reasons
To Choose Catholic Schools**

- 1 Catholic tradition and academic excellence in a community grounded in faith
- 2 Balanced curriculum that includes art, music and fitness
- 3 Emphasis on moral development, service to others and leadership skills
- 4 A 99 percent graduation rate
- 5 Strong preparation for further education
- 6 Safe and disciplined environment
- 7 Exceptional faculty who help students reach their highest potential
- 8 Individual attention in a caring community
- 9 Commitment to technology use to enhance education
- 10 Good stewardship of resources



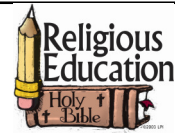
Yet another **10 Good** reasons to send your child to Transfiguration!

We would be happy to make individual appointments for you to tour the school and discuss the benefits of sending your child/children to Transfiguration. Call us at 201-384-3627.

**Our Food Pantry Collection takes place
Next Weekend March 15th & 16th
We are in need of the following items:**

- Paper Towels*Toilet Tissue*Shampoo*Conditioner*
- Razors*Soap*Corned Beef Hash*Canned Chicken*
- Pork and Beans*Salad Dressing*Tomato Juice*
- Grape Juice*Pineapple Juice*
- Instant Coffee*Beets*Raisin Bran

**Thank you for your continued support
of this outreach ministry.**



CALENDAR:

- Sunday, March 9th -- Pre-K thru 6th grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)
- Monday, March 10th – 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, March 12th –9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, March 16th -- Pre-K thru 6th 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 5th grades. Remember this is a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Friday --March 21, 2014—Parish Fish and Chip Lenten Supper from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Please see our 9th Grade Confirmation Candidates or the Rectory for a ticket. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Sunday – March 30, 2014 First Communion Retreat- starting with 9 am Mass—This is a Mandatory Retreat. After Mass all First Communion Candidates will go to class and parents will return at 11:45 am to continue with the retreat. At least one parent must attend. If you are in need of Child Care PLEASE call the Religious Education Office by Tuesday March 25, 2014, so we can arrange for help.

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

Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of Catechists, Aides and **Class Parents** for our Religious Education Program for the 2014 – 2015 School year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085 during office hours.

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.

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



Church
of the
Ascension
presents...

Homemade \$10.00

Irish Soda Bread

Weekend of March 8/9, 2014
*in the church vestibule
after all Masses*

HAPPY
St. Patrick's DAY



Detach and return Form below

IRISH SODA BREAD
PRE-SALE ORDER FORM



Name _____

Telephone No. _____

Number of Loaves at \$10.00 each _____ Total Amount Enclosed _____

Fill out and return this response form after Mass on March 8/9.



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Andrew Comer, Marcella Sweeney, Matthew Sammon, Peggy Evans, Janet Sweeney, Anna Gorgone, Frances Lanzilotti, Anita Zucconi, Jack Wall, Eileen Burke, Michael Cullen, Joseph Gorgone, John Burke, Sue Figalora, Bob Stasi, Peggy Funesti, Patricia Burke, Eleanor Pompeo, Alyssa Brady, Dolores DeMatteo, Barbara Riley, Alex Kuhr, 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. 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.

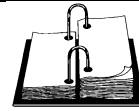
...and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns
this week in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris

BREAD and WINE this week
are in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



The
Week
Ahead

First Sunday of Lent, March 9, 2014

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Peter's Pence Collection
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9:00am
Church/Gathering Room
Religious Education - 10:15am - School
CFC-FFL - 1:30pm - Multi Purpose Room

Monday, March 10, 2014

Religious Education Grade 7 - 7:00pm - School

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

Woodcrest Center, Rosary- 2:30pm

Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Religious Education Grade 9 - 7:00pm - School
Novena - 7:30pm - Church
Filipino Core Meeting - 8:00pm - Gathering Room

Thursday, March 13, 2014

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

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mass with Stations of the Cross - 7:30pm - Church

Saturday, March 15, 2014

Bake Irish Soda Bread in School kitchen
Confessions - 11:00am - Church
Distribute Irish Soda Bread

Second Sunday of Lent, March 16, 2014

Food Pantry Sunday
Distribute Irish Soda Bread
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9:00am
Church/Gathering Room
Religious Education - 10:15am - School



**FINDING OUR WAY THROUGH LENT WITH JOSEPH
THE MAN WHO RAISED JESUS**

Saint Joseph Church, Oradell/New Milford, NJ is sponsoring three very special evenings--**March 17-18-19 from 7:30-9 pm**--featuring **Fr. Gary Caster**, author of *Joseph, the Man Who Raised Jesus* (Franciscan Media © 2013).

Join us for one (or all) of the evenings as Fr. Caster helps us come to understand, appreciate and grow closer to this remarkable saint--the "pillar of families," the "hope of the afflicted"-- as we journey with him through Lent.

In addition to prayer and refreshments each evening, confessions will be heard on Tues., Mar. 18. The Solemnity of Saint Joseph Wed., Mar. 19--will include Mass and a Saint Joseph Sharing Table. *All are welcome!* Saint Joseph Church is located at 300 Elm Street, Oradell, NJ 07649. For more information call Diane at [201-261-0148](tel:201-261-0148) or email her at hellriegeld@sjcnj.org



REMEMBER DURING LENT

Mass on Friday's at 7:30pm
followed by Stations of the Cross.

Also, we have placed "**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2014**" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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: _____

ATTENTION ALL SCRAPPERS AND CRAFTERS

New Concepts Children’s Disabled Foundation will be holding an all day Scrapbooking Fundraiser Crop, “Scrap for a Cause” on Saturday, April 26th, at Assumption Parish Center in Emerson, NJ, making crafts or scrapbooking the day away! All proceeds benefit for people with disabilities. Enjoy uninterrupted scrapping, breakfast lunch and dinner, raffle baskets, door prizes, shopping, free gift bags all for only \$75.00 for all day and into the night. There is no better way to preserve our cherished memories and photos than building a scrapbook that will become a family heirloom. If you don’t know how to scrapbook, come and we’ll show you. If you don’t want to scrapbook or make crafts you can just come in for free and shop while helping a worthy cause. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Beahm at 201-843-3427 or email at lbeahm@ncfl.net.



1st Sunday of Lent

“It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.” MATTHEW 4:10

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from power and riches and put God at the center of our lives.



**Please remember to patronize,
WOODCREST HEALTH CARE**

201-967-1700

who help make this bulletin possible



2014 Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2014 “When I called, you answered”

Thank you to the 232 parishioners who have made pledges amounting to \$44,125.00 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 – 5th Wedding Anniversary
All Counties

May 4, 2014

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, March 24, 2014