

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week



SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY, April 27

5:30 John Carbone
 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
 9:00 Alfred Carbone
 10:30 Ann Frederikson
 12:00 Thanksgiving for the Lobo Family

Monday, April 28, 2014

7:00 Anne Lynch
 8:30 Paul J. Eberhardt

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

7:00 Anne Lynch
 8:30 Mary Hickey

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

7:00 Gorgonia G. Bantay
 8:30 Melvin & Dorothy Evans

Thursday, May 1, 2014

7:00 Pablo Santos
 8:30 Maria Mertola

Friday, May 2, 2014

7:00 Helene Capone
 8:30 Theresa Lacey

Saturday, May 3, 2014

Memorial Mass

8:30 Joseph P. Delaney
 5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Third Sunday of Easter, May 4, 2014

7:30 Anne & Harry Sommo
 9:00 Anna Frederickson, First Anniversary
 10:30 Sarah & Christopher McKenna
 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.

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2014 \$ 8,866.00
Catholic Home Missions: \$ 1,653.00
Good Friday: \$ 1,300.00
Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014 \$24,383.00

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 April 27, 2014

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/
 Jn 20:19-31
 Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36 or
 Gn 1:26--2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17,
 23-24/Mt 13:54-58
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
 Saturday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14
 Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/
 Lk 24:13-35

If last Sunday was the greatest day of the Christian year, you might think we have a pretty hard act to follow today. But we call the next 40 days the Easter season because Easter Sunday was not simply a one-day fireworks display, and then ashes. Easter was the greatest miracle in history, and Jesus wants us to stay firmly fixed in that miracle mindset for life.

Do you feel this dramatic new consciousness? If not so much, don't worry like the apostles, we all still have a great deal to learn about what resurrection means. For example, the apostles knew about the empty tomb wouldn't you think they'd be celebrating that their Savior had risen as he promised? Yet, Jesus finds them all quivering with fear behind closed doors, as if nothing amazing has just happened.

Jesus respects the apostles' and our doubts and fears, because he knows they simply arise out of being human. But scared bunny rabbits hiding behind the furniture cannot preach the amazing power of the resurrection. So Jesus must transform the apostles from fear to courage. First, he breathes peace on them and then he takes Thomas by the hand, literally, and leads him one wound at a time through the mystery of Jesus' wounded but living body.

Thomas realizes the unimaginable miracle God's generous love has transformed death into life. Thomas can only fall on his knees in wonder, "My Lord and my God!" Only this kind of awe and reverence can inspire us to do the healing, proclaiming, and sharing that the apostles then did. Please, I pray that each of us will spend some quiet time in religious imagining. Let Jesus take your hand and lead you, wound by wound, to the miracle of the Resurrection. Then let your renewed spirit live it out joyfully to others, every moment of every day!

✠ 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! Fr. Ernie, our pastoral staff, and our many ministers. Special thanks to all who again celebrated our church. What can I say? **BRAVO!** ¡ absolutely magnificent!! That's what makes our parish such a visible sign of God's love a faith-filled community worshipping and working together! May God bless our Ascension community as we continue together building HIS kingdom.

✠ Here in our own lifetime we have the chance to witness the canonization of two powerful figures in the Church: John XXIII and John Paul II. May this be a special and powerful weekend in your lives! Tune in to CARE TV and EWTN for coverage of the Vigil, Canonization, and Mass of Thanksgiving.

✠ **Five Minutes with the Word for Easter** booklets 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!

✠ Please help us keep flowers around the church for the entire Easter season 5 more weeks. There is still time to donate toward **Easter Flowers**. A form is inserted in the bulletin.

✠ Let us join in special prayer for the children in our parish family who will be receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time next weekend. They and their families have been preparing for this great event for some time now, learning what the Eucharist is all about and what it means to be part of the Eucharistic community. May our children and their families always be eager to receive Jesus at his Table of Life.

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

God Love You!