

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**February 8, 2015**

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
 7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
 9:00 Salvador Yancha  
 10:30 Consolacion Pineda  
 12:00 Anthony Mascia

**Monday, February 9, 2015**

7:00 John Duarte  
 8:30 Andres Calleja

**Tuesday, February 10, 2015**

7:00 Caesar Meneses  
 8:30 John, Trish, Tyler & Brendan (living)

**Wednesday, February 11, 2015**

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee  
 8:30 Augusta Bell Verrett

**Thursday, February 12, 2015**

7:00 Deced. Members of the Oates Family  
 8:30 Consolacion Pineda

**Friday, February 13, 2015**

7:00 Jacqueline Escale  
 8:30 Victoria Flores Daquigan

**Saturday, ♥ February 14, 2015**

8:30 James Farrell  
 5:30 People of Ascension Parish

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 15, 2015**

7:30 Con & Rose Lynch  
 9:00 Apple & Mycah Gallevo  
 10:30 Ann Marie Lopresti, First Anniversary  
 12:00 Gertrude O'Dea, First Anniversary

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP REPORT  
 WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

**Sunday, February 1, 2015: \$6,536.00**  
**Maintenance & Repairs: \$3,024.00**

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 8, 2015

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39  
 Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Mk 6:53-56  
 Tuesday: Gn 1:20--2:4a/Mk 7:1-13  
 Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Mk 7:14-23  
 Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Mk 7:24-30  
 Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Mk 7:31-37  
 Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Mk 8:1-10  
 Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31-11:1/Mk 1:40-45



The success of the Harry Potter fantasy books has been called an ōunbelievable phenomenonö in publishing. Over 450 million copies of the 7 books have been sold. Still, the Bible has sold from 2.5 to 5 BILLION copies. What about those numbers!!

Some churches debate whether the Potter stories introduce children to magic and the occult; or do they actually help children subtly distinguish between forces of good and evil? Well, let's look carefully at how Jesus deals with demons and diseases caused by evil forces.

Today, Jesus comes near to Peter's mother-in law when he learns of her illness, takes her by the hand, and lifts her up. In Harry Potter, evil is usually attacked at a distanceö by pointing a wand and reciting symbolic words. But with Jesus, his very touch brings healing. Why?

There is no evil that Jesus has not penetrated; he is deeply immersed in the swirl and storm of life's good and evil. He was once described as ōA man of sorrows, and acquainted with iniquity.ö There is an intimacy, nothing distant about his care and healing. In fact, he heals those on the margins of societyö women, lepers, those who are thought to be insane.

But above all, Jesus isn't channeling some unknown dark power, such as Lord Voldemort's. Jesus is the Son of God. He has the power of the Creator of all life filling him, lifting him up even from death. There's nothing to fear in Harry Potter, as long as we remember, Jesus does not need to point a magic wand, because he himself IS the conduit of life: He IS the Way.

✠ This weekend we begin the **Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal for 2015**. Thank you to our parish families who contributed to the 2014 Appeal. Although we fell short of our goal, I am indeed proud of all who chose to help the neediest of our Archdiocese. Archbishop Myers has set our 2015 goal at \$53,403.00. Please, let's all pray and work together, that, with God's help, we can reach and even surpass our goal.

✠ This Sunday we celebrate our **Marriage Anniversary Day**. We ask God to bless all married couples with the grace to renew their marriage commitment to each other as man and wife and so witness to the world the freedom they experience in choosing to **"love one another"**.

✠ **LAST CALL...MARDI GRAS 2015/VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER DANCE is next Saturday!!** Please, plan to join usí Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm to 11:30pmí Dinner Dance with DæExecutives Band. As in years past, this promises to be a great evening together! Tickets are available in the front vestibule after all Masses.

✠ I invite all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **Open Our Hearts**, our 2015 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!

*P. David*



**TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY**

**"Snowsical -The Musical"**

The latest triumph for the Transfiguration Drama Club Once again Conlon Hall resounded with applause as our Drama Club demonstrated their outstanding talents as they performed "Snowsical - The Musical".

The music was beautiful, the acting superb, and the evening magical in this latest production.

As other schools and districts cut back or eliminate their arts programs due to budget cuts, we believe that the Arts are an integral part of a child's education, and provides different areas for self-expression, socialization and development. Under the outstanding direction of Mrs. Cristina Bontia, our Drama Club has flourished, and we look forward to many more outstanding performances.

Transfiguration  
*Strengthening Faith, Enlightening Minds and  
Transforming Hearts...One Student at a Time*

Transfiguration Academy  
[www.transfigurationacademy.org](http://www.transfigurationacademy.org)  
201-384-3627

**BUS TRIP.....TO ATLANTIC CITY**

*Ascension is sponsoring a trip to:*



**TAJ MAHAL**

**Thursday, February 12, 2015**

The bus will leave the Ascension parking lot at 9:30am. Tickets are available for \$28.00/per person (rebate of \$30.00). Make your checks payable to: Church of the Ascension, and drop off at the rectory in an envelope marked "Atlantic City Trip." Any questions, please call Marge at (201)265-5675.



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They help us GROW.

**BEAUGARD FUNERAL HOME LLC**  
201-262-5050



**Calendar:**

- Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> -K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)
- Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> ó 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> -- 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> ó K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word has started at the 9 am Mass. All children in K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

**The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes will meet on Monday, February 9, 2015.**

**No Religious Education on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> or Monday, February 16, 2015.**

**ALL 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Graders will meet in the school on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 7 pm and then will attended the 7:30 pm Mass. Parents are encouraged to come to the Mass for Ash Wednesday. Students will be dismissed from the church to a parent.**

There is a **Mandatory** Eighth Grade Parents/Student meeting on **February 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 7:00 pm in the Church. **All students and parents are to attend if your child would like to be in the Confirmation Class of 2016.**

Religious Education Office Location & Hours:

- Location: 356 Azalea Drive
- Monday ó Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm
- Location: 1092 Carnation Drive
- Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm
- Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon
- Closed: Thursday & Saturday
- Other times by appointment



**DONATION TOWARDS SNOW REMOVAL**

If you have not done so please consider making a donation to help defray the cost of **Snow Removal** on our parish grounds.

**This is a very expensive item on our budget & we have already been serviced for eleven snow removal and salting services this season amounting to over \$6,000.00.**

This service provides for your safety throughout the winter months. **Thank you!**

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

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

*Come... Join us...*  
**Mardi Gras Dinner Dance**  
*on Valentine's Day*



Saturday, February 14, 2015

7:30pm to 11:30pm

Church of the Ascension

Fr. Benedict Center / School Gymnasium

1092 Carnation Drive

New Milford

Music by D'Executives Band

\$35.00 per person\*

\* 8 persons to a table

Adults 21 and over ONLY

(Purchase tickets by Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.)

For tickets or information contact:

Brendan Suter (201) 334-6779

Rectory Office (201) 836-8961

Salad

Penne Vodka

Veal Marsala / Roast Pork / Fried Chicken

Vegetable Medley

Beer / Soda

Dessert / Coffee / Tea

BYOB



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

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

Rose DeEufemia, Dolores Crowley, Shirley Busby, Roger Carr, Andrew Comer, Janet Sweeney, Ann & Jack Wall, Eileen Burke, Michael Cullen, Joseph Gorgone, 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, Theresa Ruocco, Kay Harrington, Adem Shavelli, Joseph Albanese, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Jose Diaz, Justine White, Joe Fazio, 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..."*

**Eunice Saldanha, John (Jack) Dillon, Joseph Hartney**

*...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



**Altar Flowers** for this week are  
in loving Memory of  
William & Elizabeth Morris



**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 8, 2015**

**Archbishop's Annual Appeal Pledge at all Masses**  
Sign up for Open Our Hearts  
Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am  
Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School  
Noon Marriage Anniversary Liturgy,  
Reception in Multi-Purpose Room

**Monday, February 9, 2015**

Pastoral Staff Meeting ó 9:00am ó Rectory Mtg. Room  
Religious Ed. Grade 8 ó 7:00pm - School  
CFM ó 7:30pm ó Gathering Room

**Tuesday, February 10, 2015**

Woodcrest Center, Rosary ó 2:30pm  
Parish Events Meeting ó 7:30pm

**Wednesday, February 11, 2015**

Religious Education, Grade 9 ó 7:00pm - School  
Novena ó 7:30pm ó Church  
BS Troop 291 - 7:30pm - Fr. Benedict Center  
Filipino Core Meeting - 8:00pm ó Gathering Room

**Thursday, February 12, 2015 – Lincoln's Birthday**

Parish Trip to Atlantic City, bus departs at 9:30am  
Hackensack Homeless  
Children's Choir ó 3:45pm ó Church  
Combined Choir ó 7:30pm - Choir

**Friday, February 13, 2015**

Set-up FBC for Parish Mardi Gras



**Happy Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14, 2015**

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church  
Set-up for Mardi Gras

**Sign-up for Open Our Hearts**

Mardi Gras Dinner Dance ó 7:30pm

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 15, 2015**

Food Pantry Sunday  
**Sign-up for Open Our Hearts**  
**NO** Children's Liturgy of the Word ó 9:00am  
**NO** Religious Ed. K-6 ó 10:15am ó School  
Baptism ó 1:30pm - Church

**AVAILABILITY**

**SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week**, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communion, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by the rectory office if you would like to check date availability.



**PARISH EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015**  
**7:30PM IN THE GATHERING ROOM**



## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### PARISH TRIP

A Trip is being planned to the Amishlands, Pennsylvania for 3 days from April 15-17, 2015. The price of \$399 per person/\$468 single includes 2 nights lodging, 2 full breakfasts, 2 dinners, ðMosesö at the Millennium Theatre, ðInspireö at the American Music Theatre, guided tour of the Amish Countryside, guided tour of Hershey, with Founderø Hall and Tram ride. Bus transportation, luggage handling, taxes and meal gratuities are included. Cancellation insurance is available upon request and is recommended. A \$50 deposit will hold your reservation and is due by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. For reservations and info. Call Josie, (201) 265-0485 or Anna (201) 387-2632. Please fill in the coupon below and deposit it at the rectory mailbox with your deposit.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME OF PERSON YOU ARE SHARING \_\_\_\_\_  
 A ROOM WITH \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make all checks payable to Ascension Church**



**NEEDS:** Canned meat and fish. Examples would be: Beef Stew, Corned Beef Hash, Spam, Canned Ham, Chicken, Vienna Sausage, Tuna, Sardines, Crab, Salmon. Your donations are much appreciated.

### MEMORIALS

ðTHANK YOUö 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)

<b>MEMORIAL CANDLES:</b>	<b>\$150/1 Year</b>
	<b>\$20/30 Days</b>
<b>ALTAR BREAD AND WINE</b>	<b>\$40 per week</b>
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>(per basket/per week)</b>	
<b>SANCTUARY CANDLE</b>	<b>\$15 per week</b>

#### MEMORIAL FUND

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amt.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Requested: \_\_\_\_\_



### SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS 2015 ANNUAL APPEAL 2015

This yearø Appeal, *Sharing God's Blessings* is a perfect opportunity for us to reflect on Godø generosity to us and to share the blessings we have been given with those around us.

This year, our Parish Goal is \$53,403.00

This yearø Annual Appeal will continue to support the many good works of the ministries throughout the Archdiocese. This yearø Appeal will continue to support the many good works of the ministries throughout the Archdiocese. We are often reminded by our Holy Father Pope Francis and sacred scripture that in order to love one another we must share the blessings which God has provided to us. We are called to similarly share what is granted to us by God and return it to Him so that not one of our brothers and sisters goes without; without the gift of faith, without the essential human needs, and without a personal relationship with Our Lord.

The Annual Appeal provides the poor with food, shelter and clothing; makes religious education, spiritual guidance and CYO programs available for the young; insures the future leadership of the Church with seminarian education and training; and most important, brings Christø Good News to the people of the Archdiocese. ***Our parish also benefits by receiving a rebate from the appeal if it exceeds its goal.***

Thousands of people in the four counties served by the Archdiocese of Newark are assisted each year through various programs and ministries funded by the Appeal. Our parish also benefits by receiving a rebate from the appeal if it exceeds its goal.

Please be sure to watch this yearø Annual Appeal video online at [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing) to see firsthand the impact that YOUR gift makes.

#### BAKED GOODS DONATION

The next Hackensack Walk-In dinner is Thursday, February 12. We are asking for donations of baked goods to serve at the dinner. Please leave Items at the rectory by 2:00 PM Thursday. Thank you for you continued support of this important ministry.

#### CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

Are you 65 years of age or older? A Charitable Gift Annuity may be right for you. It not only benefits you, it also benefits your loved ones and the Church. Find out today how to establish a gift annuity by contacting Theresa Lynch in the Planned Giving Department at (973) 497-4042 or by e-mail at [lynchthe@rcan.org](mailto:lynchthe@rcan.org).

Below are our current gift annuity rates:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Rate</u>
65	4.7%
70	5.1%
75	5.8%
80	6.8%
85	7.8%
90 + up	9.0%