

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week



PALM SUNDAY, The Passion of the Lord

5:30 Marilyn Johns
 7:30 Bernard Lombardelli
 9:00 People of Ascension Parish
 10:30 James Lacey
 12:00 Fred McCrea

Monday of Holy Week, March 30, 2015

7:00 Nional Family
 8:30 Fidela Sunga

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31, 2015

7:00 Habana Family
 8:30 Mr. & Mrs. John Duarte

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1, 2015

7:00 Edward F. Delaney
 8:30 Gloria Diaz

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2, 2015

8:30 **Morning Prayer**
 8:00 **Mass of the Lord's Supper**
 11:45 **Night Prayer**

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3, 2015

8:30 **Morning Prayer**
 12:00 **Prayer Service**
 3:00 **Celebration of the Lord's Passion**
 8:00 **Family Stations of the Cross**

HOLY SATURDAY, April 4, 2015

8:30 **Morning Prayer**
 8:15 **Easter Vigil**

EASTER SUNDAY, The Resurrection of the Lord

7:30 **All**
 9:00 **Parishioners**
 10:30 **Living and**
 12:00 **Deceased**

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH



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

Sunday, March 22, 2015: \$7,039.00

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 29, 2015

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening: Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13-53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42
Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ex 14:15-15:1/Is 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-3

Jesus rides into Jerusalem, not in a chariot, but on a donkey. And a few days later, he is tortured and put to death. And yet, it is through his very sufferings that Jesus is known as our king. God's power is shown through one who loves us so much that no suffering is able to stand in the way of that love.

This is the power that is available to each one of us. The love that Jesus showed by his suffering and death on the cross is still present to us at this very moment. The power of Jesus' love did not somehow vanish into thin air after Jesus died. Today's reading of the Passion is a compelling and forceful reminder of how much we are loved. We seem to so easily forget this truth of our faith. Our daily lives with all of their details and distractions often crowd out the deeper truth which envelops our lives.

We are loved as deeply as we could ever be loved. God's love, shown through the suffering and death of Jesus, is the foundation upon which our lives are built. As we meditate on the sufferings of Jesus today, may we allow this truth to rise within us and fill our hearts with the courage and consolation that God wishes for each of us.

In turn, our suffering, when done out of love, can lead to new life for many other people. As we gaze at the figure of the crucified Christ, we are gazing at deep love and genuine power. The crucifix is our strongest reminder that every time we give ourselves to one another in the spirit of a love that is willing to suffer, we enter into the power of God. Our deepest imitation of Christ is the imitation of Christ in his suffering for others. May we open ourselves to receive gratefully this wonderful gift of this unbounded, all-forgiving, totally accepting and comforting love of the God who is Love itself.

✠ We so need to gather together and share in the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter which help us to celebrate in a very sacred way the awesome gift that Jesus Christ is to us. We need to be reminded of the power we share through His Eucharistic presence, His death, His resurrection.

✠ Our **Holy Week and Easter Schedule** has been printed in this week's bulletin. Please keep it handy. Let it be an invitation and reminder for you and your family to participate in the liturgies of this holiest week of the year. We are blessed when you are present. **Please plan on joining us in our celebrations — and bring someone you love with you.**

✠ We will be **decorating our church** for Easter on Holy Saturday, April 4th beginning at 10am after Altar Server Practice. Parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand.

✠ We also need to be reminded of the warm love and concern we share through our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We have included an Easter Offering envelope in your Easter mailing. Please remember the many ministries our parish supports. Remember, too, that we rely heavily upon your donation at Easter to support these ministries and programs. Please, be as generous as your means allow. We so appreciate your good stewardship.

✠ SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL 2015

Thank you so much to our 186 parishioner families who have pledged \$35,965.50 to the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. There is still time to make a pledge. Brochures are in the pews and at the doors of the church. I pray that each parish family will step up and support this beautiful way to answer Jesus' invitation to offer His hope to the poor and needy. **Give a little...Give a lot... But, please, give something!** 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!



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY



As we enter the holiest period of the Liturgical year may the peace and joy of the risen Christ be with us all.

*Transfiguration Academy
Strengthening Faith, Enlightening minds,
Transforming hearts...One Student at a Time*

REGISTRATION

Registration is now open to all children interested in attending Transfiguration Academy, **Pre K2 Plus through 8th grade**, for the 2015/2016 school year. All eligible students may be enrolled by visiting the school office. We will be happy to conduct tours of our facilities and discuss our outstanding curriculum and the latest technological advances which make Transfiguration Academy a leader in Educational Excellence. If you wish to arrange an appointment to tour the facilities and see the school in session, please call the school office: 201-834-3627.

We invite you to visit our website:
www.transfigurationacademy.org



Presence - Care - Service

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. Your financial contribution helps to support the struggling Christian community and to protect Christianity's holiest place. Please be generous.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Rectory & Religious Education Offices will be closed on Good Friday, April 3rd



Calendar:

Sunday, March 29th ó Palm Sunday ó No Religious Education
Monday, March 30th ó No Religious Education
Wednesday, April 1st ó No Religious Education
Sunday, April 5th ó Easter Sunday ó No Religious Education

There will be no Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sunday April 5th. We will resume on Sunday April 12th.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Confirmation Class of 2015- Please remember that your letters to Bishop Marconi are due by April 8, 2015. Please drop them off in the Rectory as soon as possible. There will be no Religious Education on Sunday April 5, 2015. We will resume on Sunday April 12, 2015



Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of **Catechists, Aides and Class Parents** for our Religious Education Program for the 2015 ó 2016 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.

Religious Education Office Hours:

Monday ó Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm ó in the Rectory
Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm ó in the School
Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon ó in the School
Closed: Thursday & Saturday
Other times by appointment

**ASCENSION PARISH'S 15TH PILGRIMAGE
TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF
THE DIVINE MERCY**

**WHEN: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
APRIL 12, 2015**

**WHERE: STOCKBRIDGE, MA
COST: \$35.00 PER PERSON**

**PLEASE PICK UP
REGISTRATION FORM
IN CHURCH VESTIBULE**

Registration Deadline is March 28, 2015

PALM SUNDAY-MARCH 29, 2015

Church of the Ascension

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2015

Masses: 5:30pm (Saturday Vigil)
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am and
12:00 Noon (Principal Mass with Procession)

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2015

Chrim Mass at the Cathedral-Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark 8:00pm

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am
Mass of the Lord's Supper 8:00pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 8:00pm Mass until Midnight
Night Prayer 11:45pm

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2015

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am
Good Friday Prayer Service 12:00 Noon
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00 pm
Family Stations of the Cross 8:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2015

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am
The Easter Vigil 8:15pm

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2015

Masses: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 12:00 Noon

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual Celebrations

Friday, April 11 – 8:00 to 8:45pm
Saturday, April 12 – 11:00am to 11:30am
Tuesday, April 15 – 7:00pm to 7:30pm
Wednesday, April 16 – 7:00pm to 7:30pm

NO CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD ON HOLY SATURDAY.



"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, 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.

õ...a time to die..."

Felicia Finno

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



PALM SUNDAY, March 29, 2015

Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30am, 12:00 Noon

NO Children's Liturgy of the Word

NO Religious Education

Noon Principal Mass with Procession with Palms

Monday of Holy Week, March 30, 2015

NO Religious Education

Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm ó Church

Chrim Mass at Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Tuesday of Holy Week, March 31, 2015

Woodcrest Center, Rosary ó 2:30pm

Confessions ó 7:00pm - Church

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1, 2015

Confessions ó 7:00pm - Church

HOLY THURSDAY, April 2, 2015

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) ó 8:30am ó Church

Altar Server practice ó 9:00am - Church

Mass of the Lord's Supper ó 8:00pm - Church

Adoration until midnight ó Fr. Benedict Center

Night Prayer ó 11:45pm - Father Benedict Center

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3, 2015

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) ó 8:30am - Church

Altar Server practice - 9:00am

Good Friday Prayers Service ó 12 Noon - Church

Celebration of the Lord's Passion ó 3:00pm - Church

Family Stations of the Cross ó 8:00pm - Church

HOLY SATURDAY, April 4, 2015

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) ó 8:30am ó Church

Altar Server Practice ó 9:00am

Church decorating ó 10:00am

NO Confessions

Easter Vigil - 8:15pm - Church



EASTER SUNDAY, April 5, 2015

Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30am, 12 Noon

NO Religious Education

PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday, and the Gospel story of the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem is read as part of the entrance rite. The Gospel tells us that the people cut branches from the trees and laid them in the road in front of Jesus as part of the procession. Palm is used to celebrate this festive entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Palms are from a common tree whose branches are readily available. The palm is blessed and people are given a branch to take home. A year later the palm will be burned to form the ash for Ash Wednesday. In other places, churches use olive branches or pussy willows. The blessing in the Sacramentary uses the generic term "branches."



**A LAUNDRY CHUTE
201-262-WASH (9274)**



A.C. TRIP

Feeling lucky? Come Ride with us to **CAESARS**, Atlantic City. Sponsored by The Filipino Community of Ascension Church. April 19, 2015 (Sunday), departure time 8:45am from Ascension Church Parking Lot. Cost \$35.00 (Casino Voucher back-\$20.00). For further information, please call: Sophie Flores (201)385-2817 or (201) 406-7741.

PALM SUNDAY



Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 186 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$35,965.50 pledged dollars. Please consider making your pledge today. Give a little, give a lot, but please give something for the Glory of God!

This year our Parish Goal is \$53,403.00

Altar Servers

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

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.

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: _____



EASTER FLOWERS



You are invited to make a donation toward the Easter Flowers, which will be used to decorate our Church. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or a special intention. **Each intention donation is \$10.00** please place form & donation in an envelope marked "EASTER FLOWERS" & drop off at the rectory.

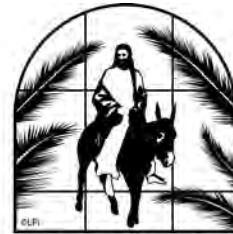
PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY

In Memory of: _____

For the Intention of: _____

Requested By: _____

Phone: _____ **Amount Enclosed:** _____



Palm Sunday

**"Hosanna to the Son of David;
 blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
 Hosanna in the highest."
 And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was
 shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds
 replied, "This is Jesus the prophet,
 from Nazareth in Galilee."
 - Mt 21:9-11**

EASTER DINNER PROMOTION AT SHOP RITE

To All, Shop Rite has a promotion that runs through April 4th. The promotion is as follows: If you spend \$400 in this promotional time frame you become eligible for a "Easter Dinner Favorite" such as a Ham, Turkey or Lasagna. If you would like to donate your "Easter Dinner Favorite" to the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry, we will gladly accept it. You can leave your price plus card number (no name) with the Business Manager at Ascension (phone #201 836-8961) e-mail:ascension@optonline.net). The Food Pantry volunteers will determine what dinner item is most needed. The Food Pantry volunteers will pick up the item for you. There is no need to bring your donated item to the church at specific times/date. Thank you for your generous stewardship.