

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 7, 2016

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
7:30 Ana Zuniga  
9:00 Doris Piro, Tenth Anniversary  
10:30 Joseph Zmudzinski, First Anniversary  
12:00 People of Ascension Parish

### Monday, February 8, 2016

7:00 John Rafferty  
8:30 Elena Fernandez

### Tuesday, February 9, 2016

7:00 Aniano Yabut  
8:30 Andres Calleja

### Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016

7:00 Sean J. Sharkey, Birthday (L)  
8:30 John Duarte  
12:00 Jeanee Thomas, Birthday (L)  
4:00 Liturgy of the Word  
7:30 People of Ascension Parish

### Thursday, February 11, 2016

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee  
8:30 Rose Caruso

### Friday, February 12, 2016

7:00 Edward J. Makowski  
8:30 Declan J. Sharkey, 2nd Birthday (L)  
7:30 Fr. John P. McGovern

### Saturday, February 13, 2016

8:30 Hilda Tumandao  
5:30 Angelo & Vito Cucco

### First Sunday of Lent, February 14, 2016

7:30 Con & Rose Lynch  
9:00 People of Ascension Parish  
10:30 John DeGasperis, First Anniversary  
12:00 Augusta Varrett

## 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**  
**Sunday, January 31, 2016: \$7,665.00**  
**Snow Removal: \$1,527.00**

We thank you very much for your generosity. You always care for and support our Parish programs, ministries and plant maintenance.

### Readings for Next Sunday February 14, 2016

Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-15/  
Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13



Well, today St. Paul tells us about his weaknesses and his ugly past. He persecuted Christians, he refused God's call to him, he did everything he could to stop the gospel of Jesus from being preached. But then, a major conversion happened.

Now Paul says, "I am not fit to preach, I am the last one who should be an apostle but, by the grace of God, I am what I am." Paul knows who he is in the light of day, but he presses forward believing that God has his back now.

Simon Peter has a similar story. Peter is who he is, a rough guy and an expert fisherman. He knows the best time to fish, and he's just spent all night at it, with no results. Now it's morning, and Jesus tells him, "Go back and drop your nets again - put out into deep water." No fisherman would agree to do this against all reason. Peter says, "We tried that. But because YOU tell me to, I will do it." He is trusting something beyond his own experience of fishing, and beyond the evidence of his own eyes.

Do we have what Peter and Paul have? They look deeply at themselves and admit to God exactly who they are, in both their best and their worst qualities. Both of them trust God's call and God's directing of their lives. They listen for God's voice, then they step forward in faith. They don't let the sin of fear or timidity hold them back from being who they are.

Please think about this invitation God is giving you to sink your line into deeper waters - to say, "I am what I am, and I am going to give whoever I am to this cause." God wants us to come just as we are. So don't let guilt over past sins or lack of self-confidence ruin your trust in God's power and love for you. Have faith, as Peter did, that God knows just who you are, and can work with that.

✠ This weekend we end Ordinary Time and will enter into the penitential season of Lent. Let us bid farewell to the Easter word, **ALLELUIA**, as we sing it boldly in our songs this weekend until we sing it again joyfully at Easter.

✠ I urge all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **Seeing with God's Eyes**, our 2016 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. Together, may we let the light of Christ shine even more brightly in our parish! Sign up flyers are available in the front vestibule of the church.

✠ This Wednesday we begin the Holy Season of Lent as we celebrate **ASH WEDNESDAY**. We will distribute ashes during Mass at 7am, 8:30am, 12 Noon and 7:30pm and during a Word Service at 4pm. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for our complete **Lent 2016 Schedule**. We have also inserted our **2016 Lenten Calendar** which invites each of us to do a good deed every day in Lent. On the Book Rack in the back of church you will find "**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent.**" Please take a copy and use it during this holy season.

✠ This weekend is the **last chance** for Married Couples celebrating anniversaries of 5 year multiples in 2016 to sign up for our annual **Marriage Anniversary Mass** next Sunday, February 14th at the 12 Noon Mass and reception. If you plan to celebrate with us, please fill out and return the response form.

✠ Any parishioners who would like to be a character or reader in our parish Living Stations of the Cross which we pray on Good Friday evening, please see Fr. David as soon as possible.

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



**TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY**

**Transfiguration Academy News**

**Thank you!** Thanks to all of the many people who made Catholic Schools Week a success! It was truly a celebration of the outstanding work our teachers and staff do each day, the success our students experience while they are attending Transfiguration Academy and when they move on to secondary schools, as well as a testament to all our parents and the parishioners of our local parishes whose sacrifice is making a tremendous difference in the lives of our children.

A Paint/Wine Party, sponsored by the Home/School Association, will be held on Saturday, February 13 from 7:30 ó 10:00 PM in Conlon Hall. Admission is \$25 per person and includes the canvas, paint, brushes and a glass of wine. Contact Ann at [Ann@regallc.com](mailto:Ann@regallc.com) or call the school office, 201-384-3627 for more information or to purchase tickets.

International Night will be held on Saturday, February 27 at 6:30 PM in Conlon Hall. Come out and support Transfiguration Academy and enjoy an array of food and entertainment that represent the diverse population of our school and community. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for children and seniors. Tickets are available at the school office. No tickets will be sold at the door. Please call 201-384-3627 for more information or to purchase tickets.

Transfiguration Academy is located at 10 Bradley Avenue in Bergenfield. For more information or to schedule a tour of the school please call (201)384-3627 or email [principal@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:principal@transfigurationacademy.org). Please visit our website at [transfigurationacademy.org](http://transfigurationacademy.org) and follow us on Facebook.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION**  
**[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)**



Attention All Confirmed Teens of the Parish - Mrs. Montecuolo is in need of older teens to help with the 8th grade retreat. The retreat will take place on Saturday, February 20th from 1 to 5. We will have on practice the week of the retreat. Please help the future confirmation class get off to a good start and share your faith and experience. Please call the Ascension Religious Ed office, **201-836-3085** and leave your name and cell number with Mrs. Carbone. Mrs. Montecuolo will call and confirm your attendance. Thank you for your help.



**Calendar:**

- Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> -- K thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15 am to 11:45 am (SCH)
- Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup> ó 8<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm Church
- Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> ó-No Religious Education

Children's Liturgy of the Word 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. There will be no Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. We will meet again on Sunday February 21<sup>st</sup>.



**Important Information:**

There will be a **Mandatory First Communion Parent meeting** today, Sunday, February 7 2016 at 10:15 in the MPR. At least one parent must attend but both are more than welcome.

Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup> all 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders will meet in the school at 7 pm and then go to 7:30 pm Mass. Parents are encouraged to go to this Mass and students will be dismissed from the Church after Mass is over. This is a MANDATORY CLASS for all grades.

Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> will be the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat all 8<sup>th</sup> graders are to report at 1 pm in the Fr. Benedict Center, at 5:20 pm parents are to pick up their child and take them to 5:30 pm Mass. This is a requirement for our Confirmation Program.

**Volunteers Needed:**

- Ä We are in need of Catechists for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade program. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet on Monday evenings from 7 pm to 8:45 pm, anyone interested is asked to call the Religious Education Office during the week.
- Ä We are in need of Class Parents for ALL GRADES in our Religious Education Program for the 2015-2016 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085
- Ä 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
- Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm
- Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon
- Closed: Thursday & Saturday
- Other times by appointment



CAMPAIGN  
NEWSLETTER  
Vol. 4

WE ARE  
LIVING  
STONES

Church of the  
Ascension  
February  
6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

You recently received an invitation to attend a reception to inaugurate the **We Are Living Stones** Capital Campaign taking place throughout the Archdiocese of Newark. As your Pastor, I urge you to make every effort to attend this reception and learn more about this exciting endeavor.

As you know, the receptions will be held on the following dates:

**Friday • February 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Gathering Room**

**Or**

**Wednesday • February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in the Fr. Benedict Center**

**Or**

**Friday • February 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Gathering Room**

**Or**

**Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 PM in the Fr. Benedict Center**

*\*Refreshments will be served at all receptions*

If you haven't already done so, please RSVP to the parish office so that we can prepare for the appropriate number of guests.

We are in a challenging and exciting period in our history as a Catholic community. We have an opportunity to be the living stones that we as Catholics are called to be, and to leave a legacy for the faithful that follow. Members of our parish will also present how this tremendous project will directly benefit our own parish.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to being with you at one of our informational campaign receptions.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend David W. Milliken  
Pastor  
Church of the Ascension

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

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

Rose Døufemia, Dolores Crowley, Shirley Busby, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Patricia Burke, Barbara Santore, Marge Bruno, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Jerry Gordon, Marie Oberst, Anthony Triggiano, Judith Gonzalas,

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..."*

Jack Wall

*...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**



### AVAILABILITY

SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week. Please stop by or call the rectory office to check availability.

### IN MEMORY OF...

We have just purchased six new Communion Cups. If you would like to memorialize one in memory of a loved one please speak to Father David or contact the rectory office for more information.



### February 7, 2016 – Super Bowl Sunday

Parish Maintenance & Repair  
Children's Liturgy of the Word  
9:00am ó Church/Gathering Room  
Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School  
First Eucharist Parent Meeting ó 10:15am

### Monday, February 8, 2016

Parish Trip to Atlantic City bus departs 9:30am  
Religious Education grade 8, 7:00pm ó School

### Tuesday, February 9, 2016

No Woodcrest Center  
Ministry of Worship/Liturgy ó 7:30pm ó Gathering Rm.



### ASH WEDNESDAY\*Day of Fast & Abstinence

Collection for Retired Priests Fund  
**Mass Celebrated at 7:00 & 8:30am  
12 Noon & 7:30pm**  
Woodcrest Center ó 2:30pm ó Service/Ashes  
**Word Service – 4:00pm - Church**  
Religious Education grades 7, 8 & 9 meet in school  
& attend 7:30pm Mass  
NO Novena

### Thursday, February 11, 2016

Family Promise Walk In Dinner  
Combined Choirs ó 7:30pm - Church

### Friday, February 12, 2016

We Are Living Stones Reception ó 2pm-Gathering Rm.  
Mass/Stations of the Cross ó 7:30pm

### Saturday, February 13, 2016

Confessions ó 11:00am ó Church  
Set up for Parish Marriage Anniversary Reception  
Fr. Benedict Center  
Children's Choir ó 4:00pm ó Church



### Happy Valentine's Day

### First Sunday of Lent, February 14, 2016

Fuel Collection  
Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election -9:00 Mass  
NO Children's Liturgy of the Word  
NO Religious Education ó 10:15am ó School  
Marriage Anniversary Liturgy ó Noon  
Followed by reception in Fr. Benedict Ctr.

*Ministries*

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP/LITURGY  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016 AT 7:30PM  
IN THE GATHERING ROOM

Happy Anniversary

**MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS**



**NEXT WEEKEND FEBRUARY 14, 2016  
12 NOON MASS**

**Reception Follows in the Fr. Benedict Center  
Please register to attend**



**REMEMBER DURING LENT**

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

Also, we have placed "Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2016" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

The Church of the Ascension Food Pantry needs the following items: Apple Juice, Cranberry Juice, Apple Cranberry Juice, Grape Juice, Tomato Juice, Hot Cocoa, Paper Towels and facial tissues. Your generosity enables the Service Ministry to assist those in need.



**SNOW REMOVAL COLLECTION**  
**IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO WE ASK YOU TO PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION.**  
**TOTAL COST TO DATE IS \$6,155.00.**

**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)

<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 (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: \_\_\_\_\_



**FEBRUARY 10, 2016**

**MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED  
7:00AM, 8:30AM, 12NOON & 7:30PM  
WORD SERVICE AT 4:00PM  
ASHES WILL ONLY BE DISTRIBUTED  
AT THESE TIMES**



**FAMILY PROMISE WALK-IN DINNER**



Our next Hackensack Walk-In dinner is Thursday, February 11. We are asking for donations of baked items for the dinner. All donations may be dropped off at the rectory on Thursday before 2:00 PM. We appreciate your continued help and support.

**KofC Free Throw Contest Results**

St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council #3814 of New Milford/Oradell hosted their Annual Council Free Throw Contest on January 30 at St. Joseph Gym in Oradell. The event was open to all boys and girls in the community ages 9 to 14.

The winners in each age and gender category will compete in the district 16 competition to be held on Saturday February 13 at St. Joseph gym in Oradell with an eye toward moving on to the regional and state competition.

The following are winners from each age category:

Girls: age 11 Kathleen Burke , age 13 Olivia Jones , age 14 Maura Bednarcik.

Boys: age 9 Denis Patrick Sweeny , age 10 William Song , age 11 Nick Schwaka, age 12 Kevin Sweeny , age 13 Ahantya Vempati.

St. Joseph Council is proud of all the participants and wishes luck to the winners advancing to the district competition.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter,**

**Valentine's Day**

Looking for the perfect Valentine's gift for your husband or wife? Why not a romantic weekend away from home falling more in love? A **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** is exactly that kind of getaway. If you would like to find out more or to receive a registration brochure, contact: Mike and Janet Turco at 973-427-7016 or 609-335-6880  
[njwwme@peoplepc.com](mailto:njwwme@peoplepc.com)



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