

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8, 2017

5:30 James Ochs
7:30 Peggy Lacey
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 Lisa Polisenio

The Baptism of the Lord

Monday, January 9, 2017

7:00 Patrick Delaney
8:30 Angel Cabezudo, Sr.

Tuesday January 10, 2017

7:00 Nellie & Thomas Heavey (L)
8:30 Lena Mazza

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

7:00 Christine Marchello, healing
8:30 Chaku & Varghese Thekkan

Thursday, January 12, 2017

7:00 Belen Jumanan
8:30 Varghese & Annamma Thekkan

Friday, January 13, 2017

7:00 Dong T. Vo
8:30 Caroline Tagle

Saturday, January 14, 2017

8:30 Judy Pieklo
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Sunday, January 15, 2017

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Dionisia Raguindin
11:30 Chacko Joseph

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Additional Christmas 2016: | \$3,588.00 |
| Christmas ParishPay: | \$1,730.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary: | \$1,515.00 |
| ParishPay December: | \$3,303.00 |
| Sunday, January 3, 2016: | \$6,947.00 |
| Sunday, January 1, 2017: | \$5,864.00 |
| Maintenance & Repairs: | \$2,129.00 |

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

**Readings for
Sunday, January 15, 2017**

**Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40/1 Cor 1:1-3/
Jn 1:29-34**



"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you...Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice." Our destiny is to have lives filled with light and lived in freedom. Jesus has come to take away the darkness in our lives. Israel, and we as the new Israel, are being rescued from darkness and given light. Our despair turns to hope, our poverty to well-being. Jesus, our King, has come to set us free.

We have to keep all of this in mind when we stop and think about what is going on in our own world and in our own lives. At times, it feels as if the forces of darkness have taken over our world. It's not always easy to see where the light can be found as we continue to hear horrific stories of violence and destruction. Even our own lives, at times, seem to be filled with dark and murky colors rather than with brightness and sunlight.

The struggle seems to be one of letting the light in — into our world and into our lives. The task seems overwhelming. Who among us can constantly bring more light into the world and into our lives? Only God has that kind of power. But we also have a kind of power. We can block the light coming into our own lives, and, in some way, we can block the light coming into the world. Growing in the light of God often means removing the blinds or barriers that prevent God's light from coming into our lives and into our world. God's light and grace are always present in our universe. We don't need more to be created; we just have to let the light in. May we remove the blinds in our lives and let God's warm bright light shine in and through us.

On this Epiphany Day, as we remember the Wise Men bringing their gifts to the child Jesus, let me thank all who have so generously given of themselves here at Ascension—the many hands that helped long hours making our church so beautiful for the Christmas Season. I offer my thanks to our staff and ministers for helping to make the Christmas liturgies so richly meaningful. Of course, special thanks to our parishioners for your presence in our Ascension family and the good stewardship you continue to show to this parish. Thank you to those who sent gifts, cards, and "goodies" to the Rectory for Christmas. Your kind thoughtfulness is always appreciated.

I always feel so blessed being here among you wonderful people. Know that you are remembered daily at Mass and in my prayers. May God continue to bless us and this parish, that we may continue to be gifts to and for each other.

May our celebration of Epiphany remind us of the gifts we are called to be to one another each and every day!

✠ Archbishop Myers has appointed Fr. Ernie Tibay to be the Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph of the Palisades Church in West New York, NJ. Rev. Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu has been appointed to our parish as our new Parochial Vicar. The change is to occur on January 11, 2017. Let us offer our thanks to Fr. Ernie for his 6 ½ years here at Ascension and get ready to welcome Msgr. Anselm to our parish.

✠ The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Monday, January 9th, concludes the Christmas Season. We will take down our Christmas decorations on Monday, January 9th, after the 8:30am Mass. As always, our parishioners are invited to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.

✠ **Please remember that, beginning this weekend, our Sunday Mass schedule has changed. Our Sunday Mass times are now 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am.**

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



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

Congratulations to the following Transfiguration Academy alumni who have achieved First Quarter honors at Paramus Catholic High School:

President's List

Lucia Castaneda, Antoinette Nabukenya, Julianne Robert, A. Blaise Rossman

First Honors

Angelo Cadiente, Robert Cajucom, M. Jude Rossman, Jeffrey Tharakan

Second Honors

Justine Abriam, Andrew Cadiente, Catherine Gallagher, Sarah Garcia, Raymond Meagher, Elena Nattes, Kelsey Sanders

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. Please visit our website at transfigurationacademy.org and follow us on Facebook.



Epiphany of Our Lord

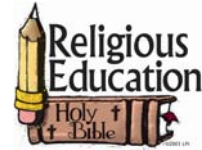
"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow. Each of us is called to open our gifts before Jesus, offering Him what He needs. If you have trouble with this idea, keep one of the Magi from your Nativity set on your desk all year as a reminder to bring your gifts to Jesus.



We sincerely thank **Michael Mittenzwei of Boulevard Funeral Home, New Milford and Beaugard-McKnight Funeral Home, River Edge** for the beautiful parish calendars that were recently distributed. We are very appreciative of their generosity to Ascension parish.



Calendar:

- Sunday, January 8th– Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:30 am to 11:30 am (SCH)
- Monday, January 9th – 7th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, January 11th – 9th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, January 8th– Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:30 am to 11:30 am (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Reminder that the Sunday, Religious Education is from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. It is important that all students are on time for class. Parents with children in Pre-k/K to 3rd grade MUST come in to pick up children at 11:30 am. Please be on time for pick-up.

All First Grade Parents, there is a Mandatory Parent meeting today, January 8, 2017 at 10:30 am. At least one parent must attend.

Volunteers Needed:

- † We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2016-2017 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085
- † 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 in Rectory:

- Monday – Wednesday: 9 am to 3 pm
- Thursday: 9 am to 12 Noon
- Friday: 9 am to 4 pm
- During Religious Education in School:
- Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm
- Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 11:45 am
- Other times by appointment

Ascension Parish offers many opportunities to participate in activities and ministries which fulfill our responsibilities as a faith-filled and supportive Christian Community.

God has blessed you and calls you to share with others. We encourage you to prayerfully consider some of the following ways in which you can share your time and talent in the parish. Please indicate your areas of interest.

Name _____
 (PLEASE PRINT) Last First

Address _____

Phone # (____) _____

Profession/Occupation _____

Envelope # _____

PARISHIONER COMMITMENT

___ I commit/recommit myself as member of Ascension Parish

___ I commit/recommit myself to regular Sunday worship with our parish community. ___ I commit myself to praying for our parish community.

___ I am new in the parish and would like to be a registered parishioner.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE I COULD USE FROM THE PARISH:

- ___ Homebound person desiring a monthly visitation.
- ___ Non-Catholic interested in the Catholic Faith
- ___ Other _____

SKILLS I AM WILLING TO SHARE:

- ___ Baking _____ Clerical Work _____
- ___ Computer Skills _____ Carpentry _____
- ___ Data Entry _____ Handwork _____
- ___ Banner/Sign Making _____ Phone Work _____
- ___ Sewing _____ Plumbing _____
- ___ Painting _____ Landscaping _____
- ___ Rectory Receptionist _____ Masonry _____
- ___ Other _____

COMMITMENT OF TIME AND TALENT:

(Please use "N" for New Commitment or or "A" for Already Active)

Worship: N A

- Children's Liturgy of the Word _____
- Eucharistic Ministers _____
- Lectors/Readers _____
- Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers) _____
- Altar Server (5th Grade & up) _____
- Adult Altar Server (Weekday) _____
- Adult Altar Server for Funerals _____
- Children's Choir (9:30 A.M.) _____
- Contemporary Choir (9:30 A.M.) _____
- Traditional Choir (11:30 A.M.) _____
- Liturgical Planning Committee _____
- Church Decorating _____
- Sacristans _____
- Church/Altar/Sanctuary Care _____

Word: N A

- Catechetical Ministry (K-6) Sunday _____
- Catechetical Aide (K-6) Sunday _____
- Catechetical Ministry (7th-9th) _____
- Christian Foundations for Ministry (CFM) _____

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) _____

- Adult Education _____
- Adult Spirituality Committee _____
- Baptism Preparation Team _____
- Marriage Preparation Team (Pre-Cana) _____

Youth Ministry _____
 Young Adult Group _____

Community Building: N A

- Parish Events Committee _____
- Stewardship Committee _____
- Pilgrimage Committee _____
- Lent Small Christian Communities _____
- Ascension Golden Ministry (Seniors) _____
- Welcoming/Hospitality Ministry _____
- Filipino Community _____

Service: N A

- Advent Giving Tree _____
- Food Pantry _____
- Food Pantry Distribution _____
- Thanksgiving Turkey Drive _____
- Hackensack Walk-In _____
- Harrison House _____
- Bereavement Ministry _____
- Respect for Life Ministry _____
- AIDS Ministry _____

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



PRAY FOR . . .

“To everything there is a season...

a time to be healed...”

Rose D’Eufemia, Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Peggy Evans, Don Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Jerry Gordon, Marie Oberst, Ana Tumang, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Rose Ann Bottcher, Joan Polis, Elnora Gordon, Thomas Gonzalas, Don Hellrigel, 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, Private Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Camp Gieger, NC, and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

President Barack Obama, our National Leaders
and all World Leaders.

“a time to die...”

Angelina Theresa Verdi

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE**
burns this week in loving memory of the
Caroline Tagle



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 or call the rectory office to check availability.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM



Sunday, January 8, 2017

Epiphany of the Lord

New Sunday Mass Schedule Begins

7:30 am, 9:30am and 11:30am

Children’s Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am -Church
Religious Education, Pre K-6 – 10:30am – School
First Grade Parent Mtg. – 10:30am – School
Baptism Prep. – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

Monday, January 9, 2017

Baptism of the Lord

Christmas decorations taken down – 9:30am
Religious Education (7) – 7:30pm – School
CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Woodcrest Center, Rosary - 2:30pm

Ministry of Worship/Liturgy – 7:30pm - Rectory

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm – 8:45pm

Novena – 7:30pm – Church

Boy Scouts – 7:30pm – Fr. Benedict Ctr.

Filipino Core Meeting – 8:00pm – Gathering Room

Combined Choirs – 8:15pm - Church

Thursday, January 12, 2017

No events

Friday, January 13, 2017

Buildings & Grounds – 7:30pm – Rectory Mtg. Room

Saturday, January 14, 2017

Confessions – 11:00am

Children’s Choir – 4:15pm - Church

Sunday, January 15, 2017

Food Pantry Sunday

Children’s Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am -Church

Religious Education, Pre K-6 – 10:30am – School

Sto. Nono Mass 11:30am

Baptism – 1:00pm – Church

Ministries

MINISTRY OF WORD/WORSHIP

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2017

7:30PM IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MEETING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2017

7:30PM IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM

CAN YOU HELP?

We will take down our Christmas decorations on **Monday, January 9th, after our 8:30am Mass.** As always, our parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.

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: _____

HELP US TO REPLENISH OUR FOOD PANTRY

Our stock in the food pantry has been greatly depleted. We would appreciate any items off the following list that you may be able to donate to help us re-stock:

- Hot Coco*Vegetable Juice*Grape Juice
- Asparagus*Mushrooms*Spinach
- Apple Sauce*Raisins*All Canned Fruit
- Frosted Flakes*Rice Krispies*Corn Flakes
- Egg Noodles*Grated Cheese*Tomato Paste
- Peanut Butter*Crackers*Cookies*Flour
- Ketchup*Mustard*Cornd Beef*Tissues

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. God Bless you for your generosity.

WELCOME: Newcomers, Visitors and Parishioners

The priests & ministers of Ascension Parish welcome you. If you would like more information about entering more fully into our parish life & ministry, we ask that you complete the form below. You may return by putting into collection basket, mail or stop by the rectory office. Thank You!

I would like....

- _____ to become a Registered Parishioner
- _____ to change my address
- _____ to advise you that I am moving out of the area
- _____ to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone: _____

**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS
FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP**

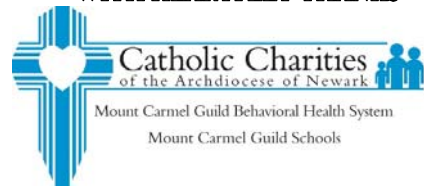
Saint Joseph’s Knights of Columbus is sponsoring the Local Council Championship on Saturday January 14, 2017. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the Council Level competition.

All participants will be recognized for their participation in the event. Each respective age division winner will proceed to the District competition.

All participants are required to provide proof of age (copy of birth cert.) and written parental consent. Age eligibility is determined by the age of the contestant as of January 1, 2017. For additional information contact: Bob Osterlof at 201-370-3404. rosterlof@optonline.net

Date: Saturday January 14, 2017
Time: 2:30 P.M. Registration, 3:00 P.M. START
Place: St. Joseph School Gym, Elm Street Oradell New Jersey.
GIVE IT A SHOT!

**ACCOUNTABILITY
WITH HEARTFELT THANKS**



Catholic Charities received \$1,587 as a result of your clothing donations from June 1st, 2016 to November 30th, 2016. These funds combined with monies from parishes in a similar program throughout the Archdiocese enabled Catholic Charities to provide 93,598 nights of shelter to 1,226 homeless individuals and families (FY 2016). Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ’s love to the most vulnerable in our society.
 P.S. We are in need of novels and children’s books.

**FATHER DAVID’S
40TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION WEEKEND**



JUNE 24 & 25, 2017

additional information will follow



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***look for 15% off coupon in bulletin*
Please remember to patronize,
who help make this bulletin possible**