

Mass  for the Intentions *Week*

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 19, 2017

5:30 Angelo & Vito Cucco

7:30 Peggy Lacey

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Agata, Michelangelo & Rosalia Sberna

Monday, February 20, 2017

7:00 James Peter Jones

8:30 Barbara & James Miele

Tuesday February 21, 2017

7:00 Jerry Nolan

8:30 Maloney Family

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

8:30 Cathy Trimarchi

Thursday, February 23, 2017

7:00 Mary Ann Mallon

8:30 Florencia Dolotina

Friday, February 24, 2017

7:00 Anna John

8:30 Frank & Thomas Tenney

Saturday, February 25, 2017

8:30 Patria Miranda

5:30 People of Ascension Parish

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 26, 2017

7:30 Melvin & Dorothy Evans

9:30 Joseph & Dorothy Meyer

11:30 Aleyamma Abraham

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, February 14, 2016: \$4,609.00

Sunday, February 12, 2017: \$5,894.00

Fuel: \$2099.00

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

**Readings for
Sunday, February 26, 2017**

**Is 49:14-15/Ps 62:2-3, 6-9/
1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34**



How many of us could “offer no resistance to the wicked,” as Jesus tells us to do today? Can you imagine being loving to your killers, instead of fighting back? After all, we live in the age of “The Terminator,” where getting revenge is not only considered right and lawful—it is pursued with gleeful vengeance! But as Jesus describes God’s will today, it is great-hearted and merciful, going far beyond the bare minimum required by law.

So, if mercy is God’s will, why did the old Jewish law state, “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”—doesn’t that sound a little bloodthirsty? No, the purpose of the old law was not vengeance; it was for justice, to “even things out”. The law limited the amount of revenge someone might take against an offender. “An eye for an eye” was actually the beginning of mercy. It meant that if someone stole some of your sheep, you could not just pull out all the big guns and “blow the guy away”, Terminator-style. But then, Jesus provokes anger by saying that even “equal justice” is not all that God wants. Jesus says, go the extra mile, freely give without being asked... so Jesus is announcing a complete reversal of the old way of thinking.

Jesus’ statements, especially “Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you,” are meant to provoke us to imagine a God who is beyond anything we’ve ever known. Yes, Jesus preaches a vision of a NEW world, not just an improvement on the old! Jesus shows us what God’s reign of peace and justice will be.

These shocking examples that overturn the normal order of life “reflect the character of God.” But not everyone is happy to learn that this is how God is! Are you?

✠ Thank you to Josie McEwan and all who helped for the beautiful Marriage Anniversary Liturgy Reception. It was special!

✠ Next weekend we will begin the **Sharing God’s Blessings Annual Appeal for 2017**. Cardinal Tobin has set our 2017 goal at **\$43,000.00**. Please, let’s pray and work together, that with God’s help, we can go over goal and maybe reach our stretch goal. May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts.

✠ I invite all of our parishioners to become a vital part of our 2017 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 bulletin and in the front vestibule of the church.

✠ The Annual Archdiocesan Catholic Men's Conference and Women's Commission Day of Reflection will take place on March 4th, 2017 (for men) and March 11th 2017 (for women) from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. The theme for this year's Men's Conference is: "Be Not Afraid: Becoming Missionary Disciples!" and the theme for the Women's Conference is: "Alive in Christ as Missionary Disciples". We are encouraging all our parishioners to participate fully in this faith-filled event. The cost is \$25 which includes, Registration, Continental Breakfast and Lunch. Further details are in the bulletin. For more information, please contact Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu, at the Rectory.

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

Fr. David



TRANSFIGURATION ACADEMY

Congratulations to the following Transfiguration Academy alumni who have achieved Second Quarter honors at the Academy of the Holy Angels:

Principal's List

Mary Haws

Honor Roll

Shae Baker-Lobo

Samantha Gangi

Haram Kim

Shin Hyung Park

Congratulations to Transfiguration Academy alumnus Justyn-Henry Malloy who achieved Principal's List honors at Saint Joseph's Regional High School.

Scholarship Information

Fr. David Milliken, pastor of the Church of the Ascension in New Milford shared the following scholarship information for a summer program for students in grade 7. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is accepting applications for The Young Scholars Program, a selective pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th grade students with financial need. Please visit <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarship-programs/young-scholars/> for more information.

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.



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: _____



Calendar:

- Sunday, February 19th –No Religious Education
- Monday, February 20th – No Religious Education
- Wednesday, February 22nd -- 9th Grade from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, February 26th – 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.

There will be no Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sunday February 19, 2017



Beginning on Sunday, March 5, 2017 dismissal for the Sunday Religious Education Program will be at 11:45 am. Dismissal procedures will remain the same.

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.

Reminder to all 2017 Confirmation Candidates, Fish and Chip Ticket money is due this Wednesday, February 22, 2017.

The 2017 Confirmation Class will be hosting the Annual Parish Fish and Chip Dinner on Friday, March 10, 2017, anyone interested in tickets may purchase them from the Rectory until Monday, March 6, 2017. The cost is \$8.00 per person

There will be a **Mandatory First Communion Parent** meeting on Sunday, February 26, 2017 at 10:30 in the MPR. At least one parent must attend but both are more than welcome.



† 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

*Church of the Ascension
New Milford, NJ 07646*

Office of the Pastor



Over 60 years of Faith and Service!

February 19, 2017

Dear Ascension Parishioners,

Next weekend the **2017 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal** will begin here at Ascension. Each year, the Annual Appeal provides valuable resources to parishes and schools in need, helps the poor with food, shelter and clothing, supports many pastoral ministries, funds three Archdiocesan seminaries and makes housing and medical care possible for retired priests. The Appeal reminds us that we are one with all the other parishes of our Archdiocese and gives us a chance to work together for God's people by sharing our God-given gifts.

This year's appeal once again reminds us that through sharing the many blessings that we have received we become the beacons of hope for those in need, for some, the very face of God.

Supporting the Annual Appeal is an opportunity to provide hope, faith and love to so many in our community. The appeal helps the hungry, the homeless, and the sick. It also provides for religious education and makes our faith a reality for thousands in Northern New Jersey.

Our 2017 goal is set at **\$43,000.00**. If you have already contributed, I want you to know how grateful I am for your generosity. If you have not yet contributed, I write to you now to ask for your help. I ask that each parish family make a financial commitment to the Annual Appeal so that, with God's help, we may surpass our goal. **Give a lot...Give a little...but, please, Give something for the Glory of God!** It is with great trust in God and in our parishioners that I ask every Ascension family to say "yes" to our Annual Appeal by contributing, at the very least, a one-time donation of \$5.00 or \$10.00, more if your means allow. This would ensure surpassing our goal and receiving a substantial rebate. Perhaps, you could make the Appeal part of your Lenten fasting.

As good stewards of the mysteries and gifts of Jesus Christ, I humbly ask you to join me in making a generous gift to the **2017 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal** and to be the light for so many in our community.

Please, let's pray and work together, that with God's help, we can reach and go over goal again. May God continue to bless **all** at Ascension with generous hearts.

Know that I pray for you and your family each and every day. Please keep me in your prayers.

God Love You!

Rev. David W. Milliken
Pastor

Rectory: 256 Azalea Drive

Telephone: (201) 836-8961

FAX: (201) 836-5896

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Rose D'Eufemia, Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Don Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Theresa Ruocco, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Ana Tumang, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Rose Ann Bottcher, Joan Polis, Elnora Gordon, Thomas Gonzalas, Al Suter, John Thomas, Robert McDonnell, Philip Santore,
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., 29 Palms, CA, and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

President Donald John Trump, our National Leaders
and all World Leaders.

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns
this week in loving memory of
John Scanlan



Altar Flowers for this week are
in loving Memory of
John Scanlan, 100 Birthday



OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one our ushers know, prior to Mass, if you would like to bring the Offertory Gifts up to the celebrant. If Mass intention is one that you have requested or if it is for the intention of your loved one.

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 Communions, 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

FEBRUARY

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 19, 2017

Food Pantry Sunday
Sign-up for Lenten Program
NO Religious Education
Baptism – 1:00pm - Church



Monday, February 20, 2017

Food Pantry Distribution
NO Religious Education
CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

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

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Harrison House
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, February 23, 2017

No events

Friday, February 24, 2017

No events

Saturday, February 25, 2017

Confessions – 11:00am
Children's Choir – 4:15pm – Church
Appeal Weekend
Sign-up for Lenten Program

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 26, 2017

Appeal Weekend
Sign-up for Lenten Program
Children's Liturgy of the Word 9:30am
Religious Education – 10:30am – School
First Eucharist Parent Meeting – 10:30m - School



MINISTRY OF WORSHIP/LITURGY
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 AT 7:30PM
IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM

PLANNED GIVING/Bequests

Imagine a gift that gives forever. That's exactly what a bequest in your Will or making the parish the beneficiary of a life insurance policy can do for our parish endowment. The plans you make now will strengthen our parish family by providing perpetual financial support year after year. Learn more by contacting Theresa Lynch in the Archdiocese of Newark's Planned Giving Office at 973-497-4042.



**TODAY IS FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY
HELP US TO KEEP OUR PANTRY STOCKED**

During these cold winter months, we have seen an increase in need in our community. Our shelves have been greatly depleted. Please help us to re-stock these items which we have little or no stock of. Anything you can donate would be greatly appreciated. God Bless your stewardship!

- Tea, Raisins, Cookies/Crackers, Instant Pudding
- Apple Juice, Cake Mix, Vegetable Juice, Brownie mix
- Cranberry Juice, Icing, Grape Juice, Frosted Flakes
- Hot Cocoa, Corn Flakes, Canned Pineapple, Egg Noodles
- Canned Mandarin Oranges, Mayonnaise,
- Canned Fruit Cocktail
- Peanut Butter, Salad Dressings, Grated Cheese,
- Manhattan Clam Chowder, Chicken Gravy, Apple Sauce

**FATHER DAVID'S
40TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION WEEKEND
JUNE 24 & 25, 2017**

*Commemorative Journal Information
flyer at doors of church or rectory office
What a wonderful way to say
Congratulations to our Pastor!*

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: _____

PARISH TRIP TO THE OUTER BANKS, NC

Our Parish will be sponsoring a 4 day, 3 night trip to the Outer Banks, North Carolina from Monday, May 15th to Thursday May 18th. The price of \$550 ddb/\$675 single occ. Per person includes 4 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, guided tour of Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Roanoke Island Festival Park, Roanoke Adventure Museum, Graveyard of the Atlantic, Wright Brothers National Memorial, Elizabethan Gardens, Bodie Island Lighthouse, Chicamacomico Life Saving Station, bus transportation, luggage handling, all taxes and gratuities. \$100 deposit will hold your reservation. For info. And reservations call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201) 387-2632.



**ARE YOU CELEBRATING YOUR
5th*25th or 50th**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR?

The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating Christian marriage Anniversaries this year. The Anniversary Liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

**April 30, 2017 at 3:00pm
For Five and Twenty-Five Years**

**May 7, 2017 at 3:00pm
For Fifty Years**

Please notify the parish office no later than March 27 if you would like to attend one of the celebrations.

Try Marriage Encounter - For a Change!

Looking for a new way to let your spouse know you love them in the midst of your jobs, car pooling the kids, and trying to keep up with your house and yard? **Tell him or her they're still #1 in your life...** share a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend with each other. To receive an information and registration brochure, contact Mike and Janet Turco at 973 427-7016 or 609 335 6880 or email njwwme@peoplepc.com or check us out on FACEBOOK

Military families, are you getting ready to deploy? Is your family trying to reconnect after deployment? Marriage Encounter offers tools of communication that have kept many military marriages strong and happy throughout the ups and downs of military service. Contact your local chaplain or call Mike and Janet Turco at 973 427-7016 or 609 335 6880.



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