

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the Week*

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2018

5:30 Camilo C. Libanan, First Anniversary
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Gloria DaCruz, First Anniversary
11:30 Thomas McGuiness

Monday, January 29, 2018

7:00 Kyle Viduya (L)
8:30 Margaret & Frank Tenney

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

7:00 Valarie Viduya
8:30 Frank Vidal

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

7:00 Elizabeth Pezzatti
8:30 Maria Luisa Delgado, 88th Birthday (L)

Thursday, February 1, 2018

7:00 C & Edgar DeMesa
8:30 Con & Rose Lynch

The Presentation of the Lord

Friday, February 2, 2018

7:00 Clarissa Hamilton
8:30 Dymphna O'Shea

Saturday, February 3, 2018

Memorial Mass

8:30 Marietta T. Magno, Chacko Joseph
Aleyamma Abraham, Eddie Aponte
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Felicia Henry-Long
11:30 Thomas McGuiness

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP
REPORT**

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

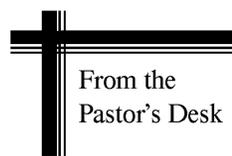
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

January 22, 2017:	\$5,727.00
January 21, 2018:	\$6,640.00
Food Pantry:	\$1,538.00

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

**Readings for Sunday
February 4, 2018**

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf.
3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39



How do you think you'd react if you were confronted by the deranged man in the gospel today? Maybe terrified, irritated—or just relieved that Jesus was dealing with it! There's nothing wrong with feeling our honest feelings. But today we are almost overcome with people on TV and radio, crying out for relief and help on every side. How can we deal with all this pain?

Yet the Psalm today says "Don't harden your hearts" to God's voice! Notice how Jesus deals with demands for help? When others walk away, Jesus approaches, and listens. He doesn't fear the evil; once he lets it speak, he can set the person free.

Silence allows us to look, to see, to contemplate what is happening right in front of our eyes. Silence allows us to LISTEN to God's urgings. This is why, even when we are tired, troubled in spirit, and want to give up, it is important to keep our connection to God open.

Jesus must have often been worn out by the effects of evil. But he took time away, nurtured his communication with God, so he could face the reality of sin and evil squarely, so that the sick person could then be healed.

Like all unclean spirits, our sin also wants to hide from the light. But Jesus wants us to confess it into his light, so that he can drive the evil away forever. Then we too can be grace for another's unclean spirits to "come out of them."

✠ I invite all of our parishioners to become a vital part of **LIVE LENT!**, our 2018 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.

✠ Saturday, February 3rd, is the Feast of St. Blaise. We will bless throats at our weekend Masses.

✠ Married Couples of Ascension Parish celebrating anniversaries of 1 year, 5 year multiples, and all married couples 50 years and more in 2018 are invited to celebrate our annual **MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY LITURGY** on Sunday, February 11th at the 11:30am Mass. A reception will follow in the Fr. Benedict Center in our School Building. Please fill out and return the response form in the bulletin as soon as possible. (Deadline to sign up is Sunday, Feb. 4th.)

✠ Next weekend we begin the **Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal for 2018**. Thank you to our parish families who contributed to the 2017 Appeal. Although we fell short of our goal, I am indeed proud of all who chose to help the neediest of our Archdiocese. Our 2018 goal is \$40,546.00. Please read further in the bulletin for information on the 2018 Appeal.

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



Catholic Schools Week Begins Today!

Last week, we focused on the statistics, the hard data, why Catholic schools are a good investment for the Church and her families. This week, we're providing the soft data, the actual words of our students, why you should encourage the families you know to consider a Catholic education for their children.

Here are excerpts from a speech given by a student:

"Transfiguration Academy sets us on the road to success. It has been instrumental in our development, transforming us into children of God and the leaders of tomorrow. I would not miss a day of school for anything else in the world! I am currently studying in the eighth grade. As I progress into high school, I will miss all my wonderful friends and teachers. At Transfiguration, we are a family, brothers and sisters in Christ. We receive a good education and are always being challenged to try our best. We also have lots of fun and are enthusiastic to learn more.

Despite my complaints of too much homework and having to get up so early, without Transfiguration, I would never have gotten to where I stand today. We are taught by the best teachers and in a variety of subjects from science to the humanities. Students are offered several extracurricular activities including Band, Drama Club, Dance Team, and many more. As this is a Christian institution, we are also given the opportunity to study the word of God and grow in faith. Transfiguration Academy molds our character and teaches us the basic life principles. In addition to academics, we learn to interact with each other and make friends. I have met students from all around the world. We learn about their culture and to respect its traditions and values."

Here is a link to a two minute video prepared in conjunction with our students: <https://youtu.be/I2bF37YBpbs>

Our Catholic Schools Week schedule of events is available on our website www.transfigurationacademy.org.

Registration for the 2017/2018 Academic Year has begun To learn more about our academic, athletic, and fine arts curriculum for grades PreK2 through 8 or to schedule a tour of our Academy, please email principal@transfigurationacademy.org or call the school office at 201-384-3627.

Transfiguration Academy: Strengthening faith, Enlightening minds, and Transforming hearts...one student at a time.

Blessing
of
Throats

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

On Saturday, February 3rd, we will commemorate the Feast of St. Blaise with the traditional blessing of throats at our 8:30 morning Mass.

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other evil."



Calendar:

Sunday, January 28th-- Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)
 Monday, January 29th – 7th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
 Wednesday, January 31st— 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
 Sunday, February 4th -- Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (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 is a **Mandatory 1st Eucharist Parent** meeting on February 11, 2018 at 10:45 am in the school. **At least one parent MUST attend, but both are more than welcome.**

Please note the change in our hours for classes this school year.

Our Sunday Mornings program is from **10:45 to 12 Noon**. **Parents with children in Pre-k/K to 3rd grade MUST come in to pick up children at 12 Noon. Please be on time for pick-up.**

The 7th and 8th graders meet on Monday evenings and 9th graders on Wednesday from 7 pm to 8:45 pm. Students are asked to be here by **6:55 pm in order to start at 7 pm sharp.**

Volunteers Needed:

† We are in NEED of Substitute Catechists and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2017-2018 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:

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

JANUARY 28, 2018

*Church of the Ascension
New Milford, NJ 07646*

Office of the Pastor



Sharing 65 years of Faith and Service!

January 28, 2018

Dear Ascension Parishioners,

Next weekend the **2018 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal, "One Body, One Mission,"** will begin throughout the Archdiocese of Newark. 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 2018 goal is set at **\$40,546.00**. 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.

Please prayerfully consider making a gift to the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. The practice of Catholic stewardship puts our faith into action. God has blessed each of us in a variety of ways. I know that everyone has unique life circumstances. Only you can decide what gift is right for you, your family, and your budget.

Thank you for your kind consideration! May God bless you for your generosity!

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

God Love You!



Rev. David W. Milliken
Pastor

Rectory: 256 Azalea Drive

Telephone: (201) 836-8961

FAX: (201) 836-5896



PRAY FOR . . .

“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be healed...”

Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Don Evans, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Joan Polis, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Deacon Jim Stumbar, Eileen Kloebler, Richard Gabettie, Judith & Tom Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Charles Hellriegel, John Delaney, Anita Zucconi, Joel Rivera, Albert Ginocchio, 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, PFC Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Cherry Point, NC, Airman First Class James Penser, Goodfellow, AFB, Texas and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

“a time to die...”

Helen Chaffiotte

“a time for peace...”

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

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11

JANUARY

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 28, 2018

Snow Removal Collection

Sign up for Lent Program

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

Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am

Monday, January 29, 2018

Religious Education Grade 7 – 7:00pm

CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

No events

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm

Novena – 7:30pm – Church

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

Combined Choirs – 8:15pm - Church

Thursday, February 1, 2018

No events

First Friday, February 2, 2018*Groundhog Day

Presentation of the Lord

Communion Visits to Homebound

Finance Council – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

First Saturday, February 3, 2018*St. Blaise

St. Blaise, Blessing of Throats at 8:30am Mass

Confessions 11:00am – Church

Children’s Choir – 4:15pm – Church

Sign up of Lent Program

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 4, 2018

Parish Maintenance & Repairs Collection

Sign up for Lent Program

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

Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am

Baptism Preparation – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

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.



FRIDAY*FEBRUARY 2ND

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one of 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.



FINANCE COUNCIL

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND AT 7:30PM
IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM**



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who help make this bulletin possible**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM**



**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY LITURGY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018**

Church of the Ascension will once again honor couples in our parish who celebrate a Wedding Anniversary in multiple of 5 years in 2018 (1,5,10,15, 20, 25, etc., and any anniversary 50 years and over)

A special Marriage Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at 11:30am with a reception following in the Fr. Benedict Center.

If you wish to celebrate with us, please complete this form and return to rectory no later than February 4

Name: _____
Phone: _____
Anniversary celebrated in 2018: _____
Anniversary Date: _____
Please Print



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 Parishioner
- _____ to change my address
- _____ to join a ministry
- _____ to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

Full Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____



Live Lent, our 2018 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! **Anyone interested in leading a group or offering their home for a group to meet please see Father David.** Sign up flyers are in the front vestibule of the church, in the rectory office or on our website



**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR
SNOW REMOVAL – JANUARY 27 & 28**

This Weekend we will take up a second collection to help defray the cost of **Snow Removal** on our parish grounds. This is a collection that provides for your safety throughout the winter months. So far our cost for snow removal and salting of lots & walk-ways is over **\$6,000.00**. So we ask each parishioner family to be as generous in this collection as your means allow. **Thank you!**

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: _____