

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass for the Intentions *for the Week*

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Felicia Henry-Long

11:30 Thomas McGuinness

Monday, February 5, 2018

7:00 Catherine Moran

8:30 Ramon Abuedo

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

7:00 Sr. Rose Marie, O'Carm

8:30 Luisa Garcia

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

7:00 Melvin & Dorothy Evans

8:30 Jesus Limsiaco

Thursday, February 8, 2018

7:00 Nellie Olsomer

8:30 Andres Calleja

Friday, February 9, 2018

7:00 June Lee

8:30 John Duarte

Saturday, February 10, 2018

8:30 Leonila DeJusto, healing (L)

5:30 Kent Raptopoulos

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2018

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Reynalda B. Cristi

11:30 Herminigilda Casillan

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

January 29, 2017: \$5,944.00

January 28, 2018: \$4,662.00

Maintenance & Repairs: \$1,805.00

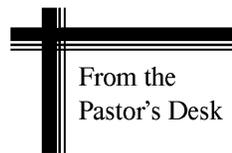
Thank you very much for your generosity. You always care for and support our Parish programs, ministries and plant maintenance.

Readings for Sunday

February 11, 2018

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1

Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45



From the
Pastor's Desk

The success of the Harry Potter fantasy books has been called an “unbelievable phenomenon” in publishing. Over 450 million copies of the 7 books have been sold. Still, the Bible has sold from 2.5 to 5 BILLION copies. What about those numbers!!

Some churches debate whether the Potter stories introduce children to magic and the occult; or do they actually help children subtly distinguish between forces of good and evil? Well, let's look carefully at how Jesus deals with demons and diseases caused by evil forces.

Today, Jesus comes near to Peter's mother-in law when he learns of her illness, takes her by the hand, and lifts her up. In Harry Potter, evil is usually attacked at a distance—by pointing a wand and reciting symbolic words. But with Jesus, his very touch brings healing. Why?

There is no evil that Jesus has not penetrated; he is deeply immersed in the swirl and storm of life's good and evil. He was once described as “A man of sorrows, and acquainted with iniquity.” There is an intimacy, nothing distant about his care and healing. In fact, he heals those on the margins of society—women, lepers, those who are thought to be insane.

But above all, Jesus isn't channeling some unknown dark power, such as Lord Voldemort's. Jesus is the Son of God. He has the power of the Creator of all life filling him, lifting him up even from death. There's nothing to fear in Harry Potter, as long as we remember, Jesus does not need to point a magic wand, because he himself IS the conduit of life: He IS the Way.

✠ This 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.

Cardinal Tobin has set our 2018 goal at \$40,546.00. Please, let's all pray and work together, that, with God's help, we can reach and even surpass our goal.

✠ **LAST CALL...** 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** next 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.)

✠ 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.

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



Statewide Future Cities Competition

Last week, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. This was an opportunity for us to celebrate all of the ways our school community of faculty, families, and parishes collectively enable us to strengthen faith, enlighten minds, and transform hearts...one student at a time.

One of the ways we enlighten minds is our Future Cities engineering program. Transfiguration Academy was well represented at the statewide Future Cities competition which was held at Rutgers University in Piscataway. This competition gives students an opportunity to do the things that engineers do - identify problems; brainstorm ideas; design solutions; test, retest and build; and share their results. This process is called the engineering process. This year's theme was "the age-friendly city". Our students won the award for the best use of open public space, which was the theme of this year's competition.

Upcoming events open to the public (please contact the Academy for more information):

Fri, Feb 9: Mardi Gras Family Karaoke Night @ 7:00 p.m. in Conlon Hall

Wed, Feb 14: Ash Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Mass @ St. John's Church

Wed, Feb 21, Thu Feb 22, & Fri, Feb 23: "Tiger for a Day" program Students in grades K – 8 can spend one of those three days at Transfiguration Academy when the local public schools are closed for winter recess. Each student visitor will be partnered with a student ambassador from the Academy, attend all classes for his or her grade level, receive a complimentary lunch and take home a small gift in remembrance of their "Tiger for a Day" experience. Attendees will get to meet and interact with our students and faculty on a one-to-one basis. If you want to learn more about Transfiguration Academy, directly from the students, click on this video:

<https://youtu.be/l2bF37YBpbs>

Registration for the 2017/2018 Academic Year has begun:

Parents wishing to provide their children with a quality Catholic education and those looking for alternatives to public school are encouraged to consider Transfiguration Academy. 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.



Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

**EAST – WEST
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.
201-384-0125**

Please remember to patronize, who help make this bulletin possible



Calendar:

Sunday, February 4th -- Pre- K thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Monday, February 5th – 7th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, February 7th -- 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, February 11th -- 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.**

Wednesday, February 14th is Ash Wednesday. All 7th, 8th and 9th Graders are to meet in the School at 7pm. We will be going to Mass at 7:30 pm. Parents are encouraged to meet their child at Mass for Ash Wednesday. Students will be dismissed from the Church.

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

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

*Church of the Ascension
New Milford, NJ 07646*

Office of the Pastor

February 3, 2018

Dear Ascension Parishioners,



Sharing 65 years of Faith and Service!

Cardinal Joseph Tobin says that we are often reminded by our Holy Father Pope Francis and Sacred Scripture that in order to love one another we must share the blessings which God has provided to us.

*“Be of One Mind: share each other’s troubles with mutual affection;
be compassionate and humble.” 1 Peter 3:8*

As Catholics, we are called to serve our neighbors with compassion and humility. This weekend we begin the **2018 Sharing God’s Blessings Annual Appeal, “One Body, One Mission,”** which offers each of us the opportunity to share in the troubles endured by our brothers and sisters in Christ by funding ministries and programs which provide social, educational and spiritual support to thousands of people each year.

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.

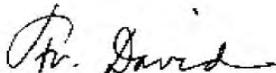
May we grow in faith, hope and love; inspire us to be generous in supporting the Sharing God’s Blessings Appeal; and allow us to see the face of Jesus in all those we serve.

Only you can decide what gift is right for you in light of your circumstances and in light of the blessings God has given you. The ideal way to give is to select a gift that you can manage on a monthly basis rather than a one-time gift. Pledging a monthly gift enables you to give more generously in balance with other important economic responsibilities. Thank You for your consideration!

Please, consider Sharing God’s Blessings. 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 Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Charles Hellriegel, John Delaney, Anita Zucconi, Joel Rivera, Albert Ginocchio, Victor Muwonge, 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...”

Bernard Kenny

“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



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**



Altar Flowers for 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, 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.

FEBRUARY

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

Monday, February 5, 2018

Pastoral Staff Meeting – 9:00am – Rectory Meeting Rm

Religious Education Grade 8 – 7:00pm

CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Woodcrest Center Mass

Ministry of Service – 7:00pm – Gathering Room

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm

Novena – 7:30pm – Church

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

Filipino Core Mtg. – 8:00pm – Gathering Room

Combined Choirs – 8:15pm - Church

Thursday, February 8, 2018

Hackensack Homeless

Friday, February 9, 2018

French Academy FBC

Saturday, February 10, 2018

Confessions 11:00am – Church

Set up Fr. Benedict Ctr. for Marriage Anniv. Reception

Children’s Choir – 4:15pm – Church

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 11, 2018

Fuel Collection

World Marriage Day

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

Boy Scout Sunday – 9:30

Religious Education Pre-K-6 – 10:45am

First Eucharist Parent Meeting – 10:45am

Baptism – 1:00pm – Church



Meetings

MINISTRY OF SERVICE

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 AT 7:00PM
IN THE GATHERING ROOM**

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.

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: _____



**ANY EASY WAY YOU CAN HELP
THOSE IN NEED**

BECOME A VOLUNTEER BAKER!

Every other month the Service Ministry of Ascension visits the Hackensack shelter to feed dinner to those in need. We always bring with us home-baked goods, which are a big hit with the clients. As we normally feed up to 150 people, we need help from volunteer bakers. All you need to do is to bake a cake, pie, brownies, cupcakes or cookies and drop them off at the rectory by 2 pm on the day of our serving. If a daytime drop is not possible, they can be dropped off the night before. (If you cannot bake, we will also accept store bought goods!)

Our next date is on Thursday, February 8th.

We could sure use your help.

Thank you in advance for supporting our very important ministry!



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

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: _____

