

A large wooden cross is the central focus, set against a clear blue sky. A purple cloth is draped over the horizontal beam of the cross. The cross is made of weathered wood and stands tall. The purple cloth is draped over the horizontal beam, with one end hanging down and the other tucked under. The sky is a deep blue with some light clouds.

Lent

Fourth Sunday

*"So we are ambassadors
for Christ,
as if God were appealing
through us"
2 Corinthians 5:20*

Church of the Visitation

Church of the Visitation

755 Mantoloking Road Brick, N.J. 08723



Rectory Office Phone: 732-477-0028
Religious Education: 732-477-5217
Rectory Fax: 732-477-1274
Rectory Address: 730 Lynnwood Ave. Brick, NJ
Website: www.visitationchurch.com

REV. ALBERT RICCIARDELLI, PASTOR, EXT. 201
REV. JAMES O'NEILL, PAROCHIAL VICAR, EXT. 220

Assisting Priests

Rev. James Sauchelli Rev. Bernard Mohan
Rev. Msgr. Ricardo Gonzalez Rev. Msgr. Vincent Doyle
Msgr. Philip Franceschini Rev. Richard Carlson

Deacons

Salvatore Vicari, Ext. 218 **Nicola Stranieri, Ext. 102**
Richard Johnston, Ext. 221 **Edward Fischer**

Staff

Denise Patetta, Ext. 201 **Nancy Grodberg Ext. 219**
Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor Coordinator of Religious
Vicki Cottrell, Ext. 216 Education
Pastoral/Business Admin **Dee DeTuro, Ext 219**
Natalie Bencivenga, Ext. 217 Religious Education Asst.
Music Director/Organist **Dale Zanetti, Ext.214**
Marie Bottazzi, Ext. 105 Coordinator of Adult Faith
Youth Ministry Leader Formation
Christie Winters, 732-746-3456
Director of Visitation Relief Center

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Saturday and Sunday: 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Parish Registration

The Church of the Visitation is obliged to serve and minister to all baptized Catholics living in our local area. **PLEASE REGISTER** – it assists the staff in knowing you as a parishioner, providing for your needs, informing you of parish programs and activities, and utilizing your gifts and talents in service of the Church and one another. Envelopes for weekly contributions are available to you once you are registered. Please contact Deacon Sal Vicari at ext. 218 to register.

Sacramental Sponsor Certificates

The following is required by Canon Law to be a Catholic Godparent/Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. 1. Be at least 16 years of age. 2. Have completed the Sacraments of the Initiation. (Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation) 3. Be a registered and active parishioner living a life of faith. If married, have a marriage that is canonically valid and recognized by the Catholic Church.

Welcome!

The entire parish community extends a warm welcome to all visitors and new parishioners

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 and 5:30 PM
Sunday: 6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM
Daily: Monday-Saturday 7:30 and 8:15 AM (Daily Chapel)
Monday Evenings: 7:30 PM
Holy Days: See Current Bulletin
Holy Hour: First Fri. of the month 7:00 to 8:00 PM (Church)

Baptism

Parents or legal guardians are encouraged to register 2 months in advance to schedule a baptism. Parents and Guardians are required and sponsors are encouraged to attend the Baptismal Formation Session prior to the Baptism. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays following the 12:30 Mass at 1:45 PM. Please contact Deacon Sal Vicari at ext. 218 to make arrangements.

Marriages

The Sacrament of Marriage requires a time of spiritual preparation. According to the Common Policy adopted by the Bishops of New Jersey, this preparation requires sessions with a priest or deacon, Focus review and attendance at a Marriage Preparation Programs such as Pre Cana. Therefore couples should make arrangements with the Church at least 1 year before the planned wedding date and finalizing any social plans. Couples must also verify freedom to marry before dates and arrangements can be made. Please contact Deacon Sal Vicari at ext. 218 to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick

Please notify the Parish Office when serious illness occurs and when the sick, aged, or incapacitated are confined to home for extended period. In an emergency call Parish office anytime.

Penance/Reconciliation

Saturday from 3:15 to 3:45PM in the Church or anytime by appointment. A Penance Service is held during Advent and Lent.

Religious Education (CCD)

Our Religious Education and sacramental preparation for our children meets on Sunday from 9:15~10:30 AM in Lake Riviera Middle School, weekday classes in the Church Rectory. Pre-registration is required. Please call Nancy Grodberg at 732-477-5217.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

This is the process by which adults become full, active, participating members of the Catholic Church. Please call Dale Zanetti at ext. 214 for more information.

Elevator is located on the side of the Church near the Bell Tower

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



SATURDAY	MARCH 14
4:00 PM	William & Mary Zabiga/req. The Kozak Family
5:30 PM	Rachael Lacitignola/req. John Kuenstle
SUNDAY	MARCH 15
6:45 AM	God's Blessings on Dee Lusko/req. Husband Tom
8:00 AM	People of the Parish
9:30 AM	Patricia F. Twomey/req. Husband, Denis
11:00 AM	Francis E. McCoy/req. Family
12:30 PM	Lena Mazza/req. Maryann
MONDAY	MARCH 16
7:30 AM	Lena Mazza/req. Ann Mesgleski
8:15 AM	Gerald Niziolek/req. Maureen O'Keefe
7:30 PM	Loretta Civitarese/req. Jan, Joe & Maryann
TUESDAY	MARCH 17
7:30 AM	Ann Fahey/req. The Bergans Family
8:15 AM	Patrick Barry/req. Mother
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 18
7:00 AM	Carmella Buttacavolli/req. Mary & Kelly Mc Coy
8:15 AM	Judith Ling/req. Maureen O'Keefe
THURSDAY	MARCH 19
7:30 AM	Loretta Bergin Drane/req. Helen Bergin
8:15 AM	Petosa & Di Matteo Families/req. Family
FRIDAY	MARCH 20
7:30 AM	Ellen Lankewicz/req. Stephanie Kissam & Michael Schade, Jr.
8:15 AM	Connie Buttacavolli/req. Barbara Godbold
SATURDAY	MARCH 21
7:30 AM	Donald N. Clark/req. Dottie & Doug Smith
8:15 AM	Joan Fraraccio/req. Richard & Carol Stanisz
4:00 PM	Neal Esposito/req. Marie Ciffelli
5:30 PM	Josephine Hung/req. The De' Almeida Family
SUNDAY	MARCH 22
6:45 AM	Carol Auriemma/req. Phillip & Steven Esposito
8:00 AM	People of the Parish
9:30 AM	Pearl Cook/req. The Bencivenga Family
11:00 AM	William Eugene Wheeler/req. Ray DeTuro
12:30 PM	Janusz Filip/req. Margaret

SUNDAY	MARCH 15	
<i>C.C.D. Classes</i>	9:15 AM	Lake Riviera MS
MONDAY	MARCH 16	
<i>M M & Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM	Daily Chapel
<i>Community Lunch Planning</i>	9:00 AM	Auditorium
<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM	Daily Chapel
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
<i>Bell Choir</i>	5:00 PM	Church
<i>Children's Choir</i>	6:15 PM	Church
<i>Cub Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Auditorium
<i>M M & Saint Jude Novena</i>	7:30 PM	Daily Chapel
TUESDAY	MARCH 17	
<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM	Auditorium
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 18	
<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM	Auditorium
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
<i>Contemporary Stations</i>	7:00 PM	Chapel
THURSDAY	MARCH 19	
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
<i>Adult Choir</i>	7:15 PM	Church
<i>AA</i>	7:30 PM	Auditorium
<i>Royal Hearts of Jesus & Mary</i>	7:30 PM	Parish Room A
FRIDAY	MARCH 20	
<i>Traditional Stations</i>	4:00 PM	Church
<i>Children of the Light Prayer</i>	7:00 PM	Parish Room C
<i>Bingo</i>	7:30 PM	Auditorium
SATURDAY	MARCH 21	
<i>Altar Server Meeting</i>	11:00 AM	Parish Room C
<i>Lenten Retreat</i>	5:00 PM	Auditorium

For the Week of March 8, 2015



Church Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of James Nasatka/req. Dorothy Fletcher

Chapel Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Rev. Robert Schulze/req. Fr. Al & Staff

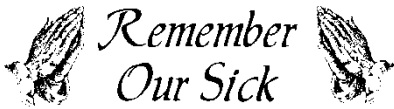
Blessed Mother Candle is "In Loving Memory" of James Nasatka/req. Robert Rohrer

Sacred Heart Candle is "In Loving Memory" of James Nasatka/req. Marie Benner

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33
 Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

“LET MY TONGUE BE SILENCED, IF I EVER FORGET YOU”



III. Teresa Knight

“REMEMBERING OUR SICK” LIST IS FOR THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO ARE IN NEED OF SPECIAL PRAYERS. THEY WILL REMAIN ON THE LIST FOR FOUR WEEKS. IF EXTENDED PRAYERS ARE NEEDED, PLEASE CONTACT VISITATIONS PRAYER CHAIN AT 848-373-4239.



In Your Charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of deceased members of the Parish, your friends, relatives and benefactors especially; *Joao Lopes*



HOW WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED?

Please consider “Creating a Legacy” that will last for generations to come. When you remember Church of the Visitation in your will, you will help to provide for the many organizations and ministries after you are gone. For more information, please contact the Parish office at 732-477-7059 ext. 216.



The Community Luncheon is open every Wednesday 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. The third Wednesday of the month we will serve our hot luncheon; on the remaining Wednesdays of the month we will serve soup, salads or sandwiches.



Smokeless bingo is held here in the Visitation Auditorium on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am and Friday evenings at 7:30 pm.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS. THEY MAKE OUR BULLETIN POSSIBLE.
ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK
PRIMERICA

For bulletin advertising information, please call John Patrick Publishing Company 800-333-3166



Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

Loyola Press

NEXT WEEKEND THERE WILL BE TWO COLLECTIONS. PLEASE PLACE YOUR REGULAR WEEKLY DONATION IN THE FIRST BASKET AND THE ENVELOPE FOR THE ASSESSMENT IN THE SECOND BASKET.

LENTEN PARISH RETREAT



March 21, 2015 – beginning at 4:00 Mass in the Church proper until 8:30 pm. As we pass through the days of Lent and reflect on and pray about Jesus’ promise of salvation, we are assured that his ways are love and truth to those who keep his covenant. We will join as believers and servants of the Lord on March 21, 2015 beginning at the 4:00 pm Mass to recall the power and purpose of our journey. Come and share with each other the unconditional love and friendship of God in our Lenten Parish Retreat. There will be a presentation, prayer, discussion, directed prayer and many other inspirations. A light dinner will be served and the retreat will continue after Mass in the church auditorium, please bring a dessert. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated so we can prepare the appropriate materials and food. Contact the Adult Faith Formation Office. 732-477-7059 ext. 214 or email at dale@visitationchurch.com

SOME ACTIVITIES DURING LENT

- Daily Mass:** 7:30 and 8:15 AM Daily Chapel.
- Saturday Masses:** 4:00 and 5:30 P.M.
- Sunday Masses:** 6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM.
- Mondays:** Miraculous Medal and St. Jude Novena 8:45 AM and during the 7:30 PM Mass Daily Chapel.
- Mondays:** Rosary for Life 1:30 PM Daily Chapel
- Wednesdays:** Contemporary Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM Daily Chapel.
- Fridays:** Traditional Stations of the Cross, 4:00 PM Church Worship.

LENT HAS BEGUN



To observe this season of austerity and simple reflection is by not having flowers on the altar during the 40 days of Lent. We hope this absence of flowers during Lent will amplify the resurrection message of the Easter flowers when they arrive!

LENT INSTRUCTION

With the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent, the Church proclaims anew Christ’s call to penance and conversion of life.

“If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me”
(Matthew 16:24).

The days of **fast and abstinence** are **ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY**.

The other **Fridays of Lent** are **DAYS OF ABSTINENCE**.

Those between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine are obliged to fast. By this obligation, the individual is permitted only one full meal a day.

At the age of fourteen, people are obliged to abstain. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, (beast & fowl) but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat. Missing abstinence on any one (1) Friday is not a serious sin. Missing abstinence most of the Fridays of Lent (or more than half of them) is a serious sin that needs to be confessed & absolved.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

God who created me, You offer me new life through your Son and through the gift of your sacraments. While I see new life all around me, I don't always recognize the new life you offer me. Help me to grow this Lent in an awareness of the gifts you place in my life and in a greater appreciation for your care. Give me the courage to ask for help.

What new gifts have you discovered?

During these 40 days, let me put away all my pride. Let me change my heart and give up all that is not good within me. Let me love God with all that I am and all that I have.” -- Genesis Grain

PEACE BE WITH YOU



It has been a practice for many of us to shake hands with our neighbors in church during the sign of the peace. For those who feel uncomfortable with the shaking of hands, an alternative form for the sign of peace maybe instituted; instead of a hand shake, a smile and a bow of the head with the words, ***“Peace of Christ be with you”*** is acceptable.

HEALING MASS

In Honor of the Feast of the Annunciation
Sacred Heart Church, 751 Main Ave., Bay Head
Saturday, March 28 at 8:30 AM

If you are suffering from an illness or experiencing the stress of life and its burdens, please join us on Saturday March 28th at 8:30am for a Mass with Healing Prayer. We will seek the intercession of Our Blessed Mother for Jesus Healing as we come together and pray for one another.

Light refreshments will immediately follow mass in the parish hall. Please come and bring a friend or family member. For further info contact DawnRusinko@yahoo.com or call the parish office at 732-899-1398

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Our Spring Bereavement Consolation Group will be meeting on Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 AM in the Daily Chapel on: April 7, 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 12, & 19. Please call Deacon Rich Johnston at 732-477-7059 ext. 221 if you're planning on attending or for additional information.

Holy Water will remain in the fonts during the Season of Lent. It will be removed Holy Thursday (after the Mass of the Last Supper,) Good Friday and Holy Saturday. We will fill the fonts once again during the Easter Vigil.

ANNULMENT INFORMATION EVENING

For many people, the process of marriage annulment is very mysterious, often accompanied by considerable misinformation. In order to dispel misconceptions, the diocese sponsors Annulment Information Evenings annually. Please join us on Wednesday, March 25, 7:30-9:00 PM at St. Aloysius, Jackson. For information, call 609 406-7434 or e-mail rmoore@dioceseoftrenton.org.

USHERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to usher for the 12:30 PM Mass on Sunday. If you think this may be something you would enjoy doing, please call Kathy Cifelli at 732-262-4186.



THE GRACE OF THE FAMILY



Fr. Bill Halbing is a popular conference speaker who has taught throughout the world. He is a very polished biblical teacher who

speaks to children as well as adults. He has preached at places like Steubenville and the Grand Auditorium in Ocean Grove. He has been a retreat master and preached at conferences as well as days of recollection in many countries. He is a member of the Fraternity of Priests and he has been active in the Charismatic Renewal since 1975. He is a priest alive with the Holy Spirit and he wants every person to be renewed in the Holy Spirit! He is currently serving at Saint Mary's parish in Middletown.

Fr. Bill is coming here to Visitation Parish on Tuesday, March 24, 2015- 7:00 to 9:00 pm to deliver a powerful teaching on the Grace of the Family. Refreshments will be available. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated so we can prepare the appropriate materials and food. Contact the Adult Faith Formation Office at 732-477-7059 ext. 214 or email at dale@visitationchurch.com.

CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

Our Choir is extending an invitation for new members to join us. The youth choir practices on Thursday at 5:00 pm in the church and sings at 11:00 am Mass on Sunday. The adult choir practices on Thursday at 7:15 pm in the church and sings on Sundays at 9:30 am Mass. For more information please contact our Music Director Natalya at 732-477-7059 ext. 217.

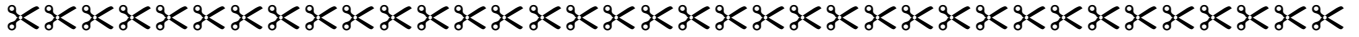
EASTER MEALS TO GO

St. Martha's Knights of Columbus council #7926 will cook and box up complete Easter meals for either pick up or delivery on the morning of Saturday, April 4 (11:00 AM-12:30 PM). Anyone who would like a free dinner for Easter Day please call St. Martha parish office at 732-295-3630 and leave; your name and phone number, whether you want delivery or pick-up, your address for delivery, how many meals you need, and if you want pasta or ham as a main course.

FLOWERS/DECORATIONS ENHANCE OUR WORSHIP

As the Easter Season begins to unfold, much of our thoughts are of others. Let us remember those who have touched our lives in some way. Parishioners and guests at Church of the Visitation will have the opportunity to honor family or friends by making a donation toward the purchase of the beautiful Easter flowers/decorations that adorn the altar and sanctuary. If you would like to make a donation in memory/honor of a loved one, envelopes are located in the vestibule of the church. or use the form provided below. Please complete all information on the envelope and place it in the collection basket along with your donation. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!** A list of donors along with their loved ones names will be published in the bulletin shortly after the Easter Season.

If you have questions or need additional information please call the rectory office ext. 201.



EASTER FLOWER/DECORATION DONATION

I would like to make a donation toward the beautification of the Church for the Easter Season

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN THANKSGIVING FOR: _____

PLEASE SELECT ONE FROM THE ABOVE

GIVEN IN LOVE BY: _____ **PHONE NUMBER:** _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please drop in collection basket or return to parish office.



RCIA CORNER

March Lent seems to be the ideal time to look at marriage. How does our Lenten journey shape what we are called to do in marriage?

A few decades ago, the word "obey" was removed from wedding vows. Instead we promised to love, honor and cherish each other. Many years later, Jesuit philosopher John Kavanaugh, S.J. lamented how much we had lost by dropping the word "obey" from wedding vows. He said that the root of the word "obey" simply means to put the needs of another ahead of our own.

Obedience in this context has nothing about one dominating another - only two people pledging to put the needs of the other ahead of their own. What a wonderful idea. It seems that this is exactly what we are called to in a gospel-based marriage. *Lent* "Looking at Marriage during from Creighton University.



Join Us For Coffee, Donuts and Conversation

COMMUNITY SUNDAY

is next Sunday, March 22 after all Masses and will be hosted by the Prayer, Bereavement, and Bible Groups. Please join us downstairs for fellowship with new and old friends.

If anyone is interested in helping ease the financial burden of Community Sunday, please stop by or call the rectory office (ext. 201) and speak with Denise Patetta. You can subsidize a month with a donation of \$100 or more or you can sponsor a month for a donation of \$300. You can honor either a living or deceased loved one.



50/50 TICKETS are available in the vestibule of the Church.

The drawing for March will take place after the 12:30 Mass on Sunday, March 22 in the church auditorium during the Community Sunday gathering.

MARCH 19, FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH



St. Joseph's Day is a Roman Catholic feast day commemorating the life of St. Joseph, the stepfather of Jesus and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The feast day of St. Joseph, celebrated on March 19 every year, is said to be St. Joseph's birthday. During a famine in Sicily, when food was scarce and many people were starving, the poor people had only their faith to rely on. St. Joseph was known as the protector of the Holy Family and Italians had strong family relationships, so they prayed for St. Joseph to intercede for them so they could have successful crops. Their prayers were answered, and the famine came to an end. In gratitude, people promised to make annual offerings of their most precious possession – food – in St. Joseph's honor. Today, the faithful erect "St. Joseph Tables," which are set to honor St. Joseph. They are filled with beautiful and often elaborate foods, including meatless dishes such as stuffed artichokes, pasta and fish, as well as breads, cookies, pastries, cakes and other delicacies. Each table is blessed by a priest and presided over by a statue of St. Joseph. A stalk of lily blossoms, votive candles and a lace tablecloth are other typical items used to decorate the feast table. When you visit a St. Joseph's table, you often receive gifts of fava beans and breads. Fava beans play an integral part of the celebration because this was the food that saved the Sicilians from starvation. The bean is said to bring good luck, and it is believed that if the St. Joseph's bread is kept in the home, the family will never starve.

PALM

With Palm Sunday just around the corner, some of you may be wondering what you should do with last year's palm once you receive this years. There are boxes at all the doors of the church for Palm. You may drop

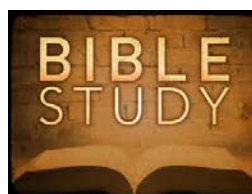
off your old Palm to be burned at this year's Easter Vigil.



Fr. Al & Staff wish our parishioners a Happy St. Patrick's Day

LIVING STATIONS

The Living Stations of the Cross will be enacted by our CCD students on Good Friday, April 3 at 11:00 AM beginning in the narthex of the Church and then outside, weather permitting. If you would like to participate, please call Nancy at 732-477-5217.



Our Thursday Morning Bible Study is postponed until **April 16, 2015**. New and exciting things have been added. There will still be Scripture reading and commenting but added to

that will be:

- discussion groups to better understand the scripture and how we can use it to direct our lives.
- intercessory prayer for our friends and loved ones, meditative prayer (for us), prayers for peace.
- questions and answers on different topics, like "how to deal with annoying people", and "weight lifting for your soul".

Find out why we are "pestering" God (and if we should continue). Don't miss the "boat", even though Jesus appears to be asleep in it, He is not and He is calling us to more.....so much more.

Everyone is welcome even if you have no experience in reading or praying scripture. Don't have a Bible – we can provide one for you. Want to know more about your faith? Want to know what Jesus says as opposed to the world about what is going on today? Come and join us Thursday mornings starting April 16, 2015 at 9:45 am until 11:00 am. Refreshments are served. For more information contact Dale Zanetti in the Adult Faith Formation Office at 732-477-7059 ext. 214.

MARCH 15, 2015

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Liturgical Ministries

CHILDREN'S CHOIR see Youth Ministry

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION distributes Holy Communion at Masses, as well as to the homebound, hospitalized, nursing home, and Senior Housing residents. 732-477-9672, ext. 216 – *Vicki Cottrell or Vicki@visitationchurch.com*

LECTORS enhance the community's celebration of the Mass by meaningful reading of God's Word and by providing direction and overviews during the Liturgy. 732-477-9672, ext. 216 – *Vicki Cottrell or vicki@visitationchurch.com*

LITURGY TEAM meets monthly to plan liturgical and worship services that are meaningful and spiritual.

ART AND ENVIRONMENT TEAM visually enhances the celebration of the Mass by providing decorations that highlight the liturgical seasons. 732-477-9672, ext. 201 – *Fr. Al or fral@visitationchurch.com*

MUSIC MINISTRY spiritually enhances the celebration of the Liturgy. We are always seeking individuals who would like to share their gift of music through songs and prayers. 732-477-9672, ext. 217 - *Natalya Bencivenga or natalie@visitationchurch.com*

USHERS promote hospitality by assisting parishioners, taking up collections and preparing Offertory gifts for presentation at Mass. 732-262-4186 – *Kathy Cifelli*

VISITATION ALTAR SERVERS TEAM see Youth Ministry

Sacrament Preparation

BAPTISMAL TEAM assists the Priests and Deacons with Baptismal Formation Sessions, as well as the actual ceremony. 732-477-9028 - *Donna Stawicki or SewSimple@aol.com*

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is the process used to welcome those who wish to complete some or all of the sacraments of initiation in the Church. 732-477-9672, ext. 214 - *Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

Education and Evangelization Ministries

ADULT FAITH FORMATION provides educational and growth opportunities for parish adults. 732-477-9672, ext. 214 - *Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

BIBLE SHARING offers day sessions to all who wish to deepen their understanding of Scripture. Meetings are held on Thursdays at 9:45 AM in the Church Auditorium. No meeting during July & August. 732-477-9672 ext. 214 - *Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

EVANGELIZATION TEAM promotes and fosters evangelization in all ministries by reaching out and encouraging all to live life as active Catholics. 732-477-9672, ext. 218 - *Deacon Salvatore Vicari or ext. 214 - Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD) meets on Sunday from 9:15 to 10:30 AM in the Lake Riviera Middle School and weekdays in the church rectory during the school year. Pre-registration is required. 732-477-5217- *Nancy Grodberg or nancy@visitationchurch.com*

Prayer Groups

CHILDREN OF LIGHT CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meets every Friday at 7:00 PM in Parish Room C to pray and work for spiritual renewal. 732-255-2728 - *Paul Rollis or paulr63@juno.com*

ROYAL HEART OF JESUS & MARY CATHOLIC PRAYER GROUP meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Parish Room A. All are welcome. 732-742-2600 – *Joellen Arrabito – 732-262-3938 – Mary Casella or mnick123@aol.com*

PRAYER CHAIN is for anyone who feels the need for prayer or would like to join the group. 848-373-4239.

Pastoral Care Ministries

BEREAVEMENT TEAM provides support and meets Spring and Fall. 732-477-9672, ext. 221- *Deacon Richard Johnston.*

On-going support to grieving families is available- *Linda Conroy 908-902-2741 or lconroy58@verizon.net*

FUNERAL LITURGY MINISTRY helps plan liturgy for funeral masses. 732-367-5329 – *Rosemary Russell.*

VISITATION CAREGIVERS provide supportive services to the frail elderly and homebound in our community such as friendly visits, food shopping, transportation to medical appointments and respite care for families. 732-505-2273 ext. 211- *Mary Malagiere or marym@caregivervolunteers.org*

Services

ANNULMENT TEAMS are available to assist a parishioner in rectifying his/her marital status in accordance with the law of the Catholic Church and enable parish members to participate in a full Christian life. 848-333-2671- *Eleanor Troiano ~ 732-477-7059 ext. 218 – Deacon Salvatore Vicari*

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION is offered to anyone in the community who yearns to deepen their relationship with God. 732-477-9672, ext.221 *Deacon Richard Johnston*

MARCH 15, 2015

Social Ministries/Activities

BINGO is held in the church auditorium on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM and Fridays at 7:30 PM 732-477-9672 ext. 201 – Tuesday *Cindy Maguire*; Friday - *Anna Tortoriello*

EVENT DEVELOPMENT TEAM meets as needed to develop and implement social activities (such as the Gift Auction and Wine Tasting/Art Auction) for the purpose of raising money for the building fund. 732-477-9672, ext. 216 – *Vicki Cottrell-vicki@visitationchurch.com*

Social Concerns

COMMUNITY LUNCH (SOUP KITCHEN) provides lunch Wednesdays each week to members of the parish and community. 732-255-2835 - *Isabel Kronicz or fkronicz@comcast.net*

RESPECT LIFE focuses on pro-life issues and needs through education and support of other organizations in support of pro-life issues. The group gathers every Monday in the church at 1:30 PM to recite the Rosary. 732-262-2047 – *Charles Pocher*

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL operates the Thrift Shop in the old church and manages the funds from the poor boxes to assist the needy in our parish and the surrounding community. 732-477-9672, ext. 160

VISITATION FOOD BANK accepts donations of nonperishable food at the VRC location and in Church the second weekend of the month. These donations assist the hungry of our community. 732-746-3456 - *Visitation Relief Center*

Youth Ministries/Activities

CHILDREN'S CHOIR welcomes all from 3 to 12 years of age to share their love for Jesus through music. The choir sings monthly at the 12:30 PM Mass and performs at various community events. No tryouts are required. 732-477-9672 ext. 217 - *Jim Daniels*

CYO BASKETBALL TEAM practices at Lake Riviera Middle School. They were the 2007 Ocean County CYO champs. 201-522-3679 – *Coach or doug_roman4@yahoo.com*

VISITATION ALTAR SERVERS TEAM provides assistance to the Priest in celebration of the Mass and other liturgical celebrations Open to all adults and boys and girls third grade and higher who have received their Holy Communion. 732-458-1492 - *Sue Straneri or straneri.sue@gmail.com*

VISITATION TEEN MINISTRY provides a safe place for high school teenagers to come together, meet new people, and have fun while serving God and the community. For additional information please contact 732-477-7059 ext. 105 – *Marie Bottazzi or youthministry@visitationchurch.com*

Temporal Welfare

BUILDING AND GROUNDS TEAM works to improve and enhance the appearance and safety of the existing church, former church, rectory building, and the associated grounds. The goal of this team is to adhere to all current safety and building codes and ensure that the house of God is maintained in an appropriate manner. 732-477-0028 – *Fr. Al or fral@visitationchurch.com*

FINANCE COUNCIL oversees the financial aspects of the parish 732-477-9672, ext. 216 – *Karen Smith*

FUTURES TEAM assesses and implements the needs of the parish to ensure that we are prepared for the future. The various teams coordinate all activities pertaining to the development of the Faith Formation Center. 732-477-9672, ext. 216 - *Vicki Cottrell-vicki@visitationchurch.com*

Organizations

AA MEETINGS are held on Thursdays at 7:30 PM in the church auditorium.

CUB SCOUT PACK #38, sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society, meets on Mondays at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium. No meeting during July & August. 732-451-0252 *Kim Gorman or kimmyg627@aol.com*

BOY SCOUT TROOP #38, sponsored by the Holy Name Society, meets Tuesdays at 7:00 PM in the old church. 732-262-8977 - *Matt Powell or matthewapowell@verizon.net*

HOLY NAME OF JESUS SOCIETY promotes respect for the Holy Name of Jesus and His Holy Catholic Church. Society members attend the 8:00 AM Mass the second Sunday of the month and meet the Tuesday following the second Sunday at 7:15 pm in the Auditorium. There are no meeting July & August, however members still attend mass. 732-239-2449 – *Deacon Nick Stranieri or deaconnick@visitationchurch.com*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #836 work with the local parish and contribute many hours of volunteer work to our community annually. They meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Council Home on the corner of Cedarbridge Avenue and Route 70 East.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY honors the Blessed Virgin Mary to secure her patronage through the daily recitation of the Rosary for the spiritual benefit of the parish community. Members attend the 8:00 AM Mass on the first Sunday of the month. The Monday following the first Sunday of the month they meet at 11:30 AM in the Church Worship for the Rosary. The meeting will follow at 12:00 noon in the Church Auditorium. There are no meeting July & August, however members still attend mass. 732-232-7132 – *Dee DeTuro or deed@visitationchurch.com*

Bulletin Deadline

Bulletin & Announcement Deadline: Ten days prior to publication weekend as space allows.