

A wooden cross is centered in the image, with a vibrant purple cloth draped over its top horizontal beam. The cloth hangs down on both sides, pooling at the base. The background is a wall of irregular, light-colored stones. The lighting is warm, highlighting the textures of the wood, stone, and fabric.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

*"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



Welcome!

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

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.visitationcRChurch.org

REV. EDWARD BLANCHETT, 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
Rev. 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**
Natalya Bencivenga, Ext. 217 Religious Education Asst.
Music Director/Organist **Dale Zanetti, Ext.214**
Christie Winters, 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
Closed for Lunch 12:30 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.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 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)
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 to 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 IN LENT



SATURDAY	March 5
4:00 PM	Angelo & Margaret Narciso/req Helen & Jim McTernan
SUNDAY	March 6
6:45 AM	Jerry Gilrain/req. Joaquin Family
8:00 AM	Living & Dec'd Members of the Rosary Altar Society
9:30 AM	Jane Zaccardo/req. Brother
11:00 AM	People of the Parish
12:30 PM	Martha Murolo/req. Andres & Louis Abeal
MONDAY	March 7
7:30 AM	Lil Byrne/req. Michael & Jeannie McGowan
8:15 AM	Henry S. Knight/req. Brother, Steven
TUESDAY	March 8
7:30 AM	Mary Rose/req. Margaret Thorogood
8:15 AM	Patrick Barry/req. Rose Colciaghi
WEDNESDAY	March 9
7:30 AM	Sophia Zamemba Dzwilewski/req. Steven Knight
8:15 AM	Marie Cresanti/req. Husband
THURSDAY	March 10
7:30 AM	Dorothy Culhane/req. Jim, Anthony & Frank
8:15 AM	Robert Malloy/req. Edward Pawlowicz
FRIDAY	March 11
7:30 AM	Catherine Monohan/req. McDonnell Family
8:15 AM	Joann Dillon/req. Elaine & Rusty
SATURDAY	March 12
7:30 AM	Mary Fucci/req. Mary Helik
8:15 AM	Marco Capasso/req. Helen & Bart Oliva
4:00 PM	Richard Rowand/req. Elizabeth & Taylor Bott
SUNDAY	March 13
6:45 AM	God's Blessing on Dee Lusko/req. Husband, Tom
8:00 AM	Living & Dec'd Members of the Holy Name Society
9:30 AM	Frank Zickar/req. Marilyn & George Emery
11:00 AM	Richard Rowand/req. Salvato Family
12:30 PM	People of the Parish

SUNDAY	MARCH 6
<i>Masses</i>	Church
<i>Lenten Concert</i>	3:00 PM Church
MONDAY	MARCH 7
<i>M M & Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM Church
<i>Rosary Altar Mtg.</i>	12:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM Daily Chapel
<i>CCD</i>	4:30 PM Rooms A, B, C
<i>Cub Scouts.</i>	6:30 PM Old Church & Parish Hall
TUESDAY	MARCH 8
<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM Parish Hall
<i>CCD</i>	6:00 PM Rooms A & C
<i>Banner Night</i>	6:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM Old Church
<i>Event Development Mtg.</i>	6:30 PM Room B
<i>Alanon</i>	7:30 PM Parish Hall
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 9
<i>Newark Retired Priest</i>	10:00 PM Daily Chapel
<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>CCD</i>	4:30 PM Rooms A & C
<i>Contemporary Stations</i>	7:00 PM Daily Chapel
<i>Youth Choir Practice</i>	7:30 PM Church
THURSDAY	MARCH 10
<i>Bible Study</i>	9:45 AM Parish Hall
<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	1:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>CCD</i>	6:00 PM Rooms A & C
<i>Adult Choir Practice</i>	7:15 PM Church
<i>Open Our Hearts</i>	7:30 PM Room B
<i>AA</i>	7:30 PM Parish Hall
FRIDAY	MARCH 11
<i>Traditional Stations</i>	4:00 PM Church
<i>Children of Light Prayer</i>	7:00 PM Parish Room A
SATURDAY	MARCH 12
<i>Bake Sale</i>	3:30 PM Narthex
<i>RCIA Teaching</i>	5:00 PM Parish Hall

For the Week of March 6, 2016



Church Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Gert Catalano/req. Mr. & Mrs. Peter Netti
Chapel Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Gert Catalano/req. Pat & Lou La Rocca
Blessed Mother Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Gert Catalano/req. Mr. & Mrs. Tomkiewicz
Sacred Heart Candle is "in Loving Memory" of Carrie & Steve Turner/req. Aunt Blanche & Uncle Matt

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: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
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: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; THERE IS NOTHING I SHALL WANT”

Welcome into God's Family

Jane Marie Atkins, Hannah Rose Centrella

Wedding Banns

II. Christopher Zaborny & Katie Lynn Mulligan



“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; *Peter Fitzpatrick, Rose Venticinque, Jacqueline Bauer*

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.

We are grateful for the bequest that we recently received in the amount of \$13,313.75. Gifts like this will help your legacy live on at Visitation.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Offering for the Week of March 6, 2016

Regular	\$10,090.96
On Line	\$591.00
Total	\$10,681.96

ELECTRONIC GIVING

In place of the cards that had been provided for our parishioners who support Visitation through On-line Giving we now have a place for you to check your donation and place the envelope into the collection basket. For those unfamiliar with On-Line Giving, please see our parish Website or call the Rectory for details.

ONLINE GIVING

Eliminate the hassle of writing checks and getting your donation envelope ready before rushing to church! Sign up now and have complete control over your On-line Giving by visiting us on the World Wide Web at www.visitationrcchurch.org.



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior of the father.

First we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another. *Loyola Press*

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MARCH 6, 2016

FROM THE DESK OF

Fr. Jim O'Neill

HOW IS LENT GOING?

As the first word of the entrance antiphon says, we "Rejoice" even in the middle of Lent. But how can we rejoice when Lent is a time of penance, fasting, and almsgiving? Are we rejoicing because Lent is more than half over, and we won't have to keep giving up what we've been giving up? Rather, our Lenten practices are for preparing for the great celebration of the Easter Triduum. We sacrifice so that we might draw closer to God as we draw closer to Easter.

Consider that on this Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday, the priests and deacons may wear rose colored vestments. Rose (or pink) is the color of the sky before the sun rises. We rejoice because we are anticipating the rising of the Son.

We can look at the natural element of light in order to better see (with the eyes of faith) that supernatural light God shines on us. Next Sunday, we will spring forward our clocks by one hour so that we may enjoy sunlight for one hour longer in the evening. We can already notice that the days are getting brighter, and we're looking forward to warmer weather with sunlit days.

It's supposed to be like this with supernatural light. How we're doing this Lent or where we are in the spiritual life will have an impact on how we experience supernatural light.

Let's consider how we experience natural light. Suppose we're in a dark cave. The bright lights immediately go on. Even though we're immersed in light, we're blinded and tortured. What if we're inside our homes with the lights on? We can see everything satisfactorily. We see some of the dirty places and clean them. Now suppose we've gone to a park on a bright sunny day. The natural setting leaps out at us in all its splendid glory. The setting is vibrant. We feel fully alive.

Let's make an analogy to Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven. If God's supernatural light was experienced in Hell, it would be blinding and painful. In Purgatory, it brings to light our imperfections that need to be cleansed by God. In Heaven, we see God face to face in all his glory. We see our neighbors more beautifully and wonderfully than ever before.

While on the way to the Father's house, we can experience God's supernatural light in similar ways. If we are attached to a particular sin that we choose not to give up, the light upon the sin is blinding and tortuous. If we are entering into the Lenten practices, we experience some pain when we see that we need God's mercy. Yet, we rejoice because He is making us more alive as we say, "Yes," to him. At the celebration of Easter, we will rejoice even more as we are even more immersed in God's light and love.

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL – IN ACTION!

MINISTRY OF CATECHESIS, LAY FORMATION AND EVANGELIZATION

Each parish and Catholic school is unique and offers religious education in ways that meet the needs of over 50,000 students in the local community. Some program structures are very traditional; others are innovative. About 300 adults are brought to full initiation with the Church in our diocese each year. Many opportunities for the enrichment of faith are found in events and activities in parishes throughout the diocese, such as Bible Study, parish missions, lecture series, and online learning. These ministries help with adult faith enrichment by providing support for parish leaders and access to resources. Your gift, in essence, builds up our Catholic faith. These programs along with our website, radio and TV, social media and The Monitor reach out to 830,000 Catholics yearly.

Mercy

LENT INSTRUCTION

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, 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.

The obligation of receiving the Eucharist at least once a year should still be fulfilled during the period from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 14, to Trinity Sunday, May 22**. However, the Code of Canon Law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at another time during the year when there is a just cause.

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 year's. There will be a basket for Palm in the narthex of the church. You may drop off your old Palm to be burned at this year's Easter Vigil.



The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the US Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church or if know of someone who was, you can report the abuse through the diocesan **ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965** or via e-mail at **abuseline@diocesoftrenton.org**. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to the local enforcement authorities.

SOME ACTIVITIES DURING LENT

Daily Mass: 7:30 and 8:15 AM Daily Chapel.

Saturday Masses: 4:00

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 Daily Chapel.

Mondays: Rosary for Life 1:30 PM Daily Chapel

Wednesdays: Contemporary Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM Daily Chapel.

Thursdays: Open Our Hearts Lenten program 7:30 PM Room B

Fridays: Traditional Stations of the Cross, 4:00 PM Church Worship

LENTEN CONCERT

The Visitation Church Music Ministry will present "Christ Be Our light" Lenten Concert on Sunday, March 6th at 3:00 PM in the Church. Donations will be accepted to benefit our Visitation Community Luncheon and Visitation Relief Center (VRC).

Let's perform the corporal works of Mercy by feeding the hungry in this year of Mercy. Come to support our community.

HELPING OUT

Lent is more about just repenting of our sins; it is about being transformed and in the process transforming others. One way we can do that is by serving our parish. This could be something that changes our parish, our community and our world. Alone we can do good things, but together we can do great things. Everyone can be reached at the parish office, just dial 732-477-7059 and then dial their extension. See the list of Ministries and Organizations at the end of the bulletin for opportunities:

THOUGHT FOR FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

By now we are well on our way in our Lenten practices becoming holy as He is holy. Preparing our hearts by penance and charitable works. St. Paul tells us we are created anew, our hearts are not merely set right, but we are a new creation; we are God's masterpiece. Let us make certain we are acting like it.

RCIA HOSPITALITY

I want to take just a moment to give you some thought about why we do what we do. Today I am talking about our half hour social refreshment time we do before the sessions begin whether it be RCIA sessions or Adult Confirmation. Preparing people for a sacrament takes more than creating and presenting a teaching. It first takes making them feel comfortable with us, with the place, with the format. It takes being present for people; sharing our own stories and life events. It means letting them ask questions and trying to answer their questions. Gathering the information we need from them to proceed in a suitable manner. It all takes time and patience. We can do that when we socialize first with them. Socializing is important. Some say socializing should be 50% of your life (we are only doing it for a ½ hour). Humans are social-creatures. It is very difficult for us to survive on our own unless we form common bonds with others who share your same hopes and dreams.

We provide a half hour of refreshments, not just to feed them, but to let them have some “down time” with us and each other. A lot can happen over a cup of coffee and a donut. They can get to know each of us and each other and to bond. We open up and share more readily with people we know and care about. Also the likelihood of friendships forming is greater. It is much more comfortable for them to share their faith, attend Church or a Church event with a friend. It will help in getting them to return after their sacraments. After all we are not looking to just sacramentalize them but to foster a conversion in each and every one.

Jesus showed us how to form disciples. He ate and drank with them to show us that this was important. He shared all he was with them, but first they ate. When he called the tax collector, he went to his house for dinner. This is what we too are called to do.

God did not just choose us alone. He chose us to be in community. We develop community by sharing ideas and by joining together with others who have the same principles and values. We need that half hour of fellowship and food to get to know each other and share our stories and to take care of any business (like do I have all the Baptismal/Sponsor Certificates and such).

So we are learning as a team to be comfortable with that half hour as we use it to make a better connection with our participants. This half hour is in attached to our program; it is the beginning of the program and not just added “fluff.” It will assist them on their journey to conversion.

One thing that is missing in completing our RCIA/Adult Confirmation Ministry is someone to prepare these refreshments for us. In requires that you arrive before 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, set up the coffee and put out the other accessories. If you would be willing to serve on just one Saturday a month please contact, Dale Zanetti, at the Adult Faith Formation Ministry at 732-477-7059 ext. 214 or dale@visitationchurch.com.

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Rosary Altar Society will be Monday March 7. As always we will meet in the Church Worship Space at 11:30 to recite the Rosary. The meeting will begin at 12:00 in the Parish Hall. Remember the Rosary Mass is Sunday March 6 at the 8:00AM Mass. See you there.



The Rosary Altar Society Bake Sale will be held the weekend of March 12 and 13 after all masses. The proceeds from the sale will go towards new carpet in the Church Worship Space. For more information please contact Dee

Deturo at deed@visitationchurch.com.

PARISH eCOMMUNITY

Have you joined our electronic community yet? Members received notice of events and cancellations with plenty of time to plan as well as great information about our faith! You can choose how you want to receive the information (text or e-mail) and what topics you wish to follow. Simply text VisitationBrick to 84576 or visit our parish Website www.visitationRCchurch.org to join and receive great information about our faith!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER OF
OUR FEBRUARY 50/50**



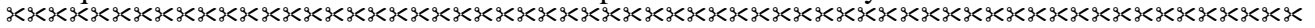
Rosemary Huff was the winner of \$653. The next drawing will be March 20, in the church auditorium after the 12:30 PM mass.

MARCH 6, 2016

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.

**It's not too late to get your
Monthly 50/50 Annual Subscriptions for 2016**



Annual subscriptions make great, Birthday, Anniversary or thank you gifts. The proceeds from this major fundraiser are used for a wide variety of maintenance and renovation projects including upgrades to the parking lot. A \$20 annual subscription gives you 12 tickets for monthly drawings of your choice throughout 2016. **All ticket holders must be 18 years of age or over.**

Simply mail back, bring to the rectory or place in the collection basket. **A certificate with your raffle number (for yourself and/or gift recipients) will be mailed to you.** For questions or more information, call 732-477-7059 ext. 216 or e-mail vcottrell@visitationRCchurch.org.

Number of subscriptions for Purchaser (self) _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____
Number of Gift subscriptions _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____
Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Payment Method
 Cash
 Check # _____
 Credit card

Purchaser:

Name: _____ Phone _____

Street: _____ City/St/Zip _____

Each subscription has 12 chances to win – you select how the 12 tickets are to be distributed.

Gift Recipient Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Months and # of ticket request for each month (total of 12):

Mar. Tickets ___ Apr. Tickets ___ May Tickets ___ Jun. Tickets ___ Jul. Tickets ___
Aug. Tickets ___ Sep. **Tickets** ___ Oct. Tickets ___ Nov. Tickets ___ Dec. Tickets ___

MARCH 6, 2016

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. – *Fr. Ed* 732-477-9672, ext. 201

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. **Adult Choir** assists and encourages the congregation in singing. Practice is on Thursday evenings at 7:15 PM in the Church. Adult choir sings on Sundays at 9:30 am Mass. **Youth Choir** welcomes all from ages 13 – 18 years of age to share their gift of music through songs and prayers. The Youth Groups sing on Sundays at 11:00 AM Mass.

Bell Choir is open to all ages. 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. 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*

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Social Ministries/Activities

BINGO is held in the church auditorium on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM. 732-477-9672 ext. 201 – Tuesday *Cindy Maguire*;
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. Hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM. 732-477-9672, ext. 160

VISITATION FOOD BANK accepts donations of nonperishable food at the VRC location and in Church. 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 stranieri.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 – *Christie 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. - *Fr. Ed* 732-477-9672, ext. 201

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.

AL-ANON MEETINGS are held on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM in the Church Auditorium. Call Ann at 732-861-9051 or email annern508@comcast.net.

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 Rectory Room B. 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.