



*Baptism
of the
Lord*

*Church of the Visitation
Mantoloking Road, Brick, New Jersey*

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

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Weekend: Saturday 4:00

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)

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.visitationrcchurch.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

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 Education

Vicki Cottrell, Ext. 216

Pastoral/Business Admin

Dee DeTuro, Ext 219

Religious Education Asst.

Natalie Bencivenga, Ext. 217

Music Director/Organist

Dale Zanetti, Ext.214

Christie Winters, Ext. 105

Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation

Youth Ministry Leader

Christie Winters 732-746-3456

Director of Visitation Relief Center

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Closed 12:30 – 1:30 for Lunch

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.

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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



SATURDAY	JANUARY 9
4:00 PM	Rob Kalp/req. Maureen & Jerry Shiapiro
SUNDAY	JANUARY 10
6:45 AM	People of the Parish
8:00 AM	Living & Dec'd. Members of The Holy Name Society
9:30 AM	John Polacek/req. Mary Karpowich
11:00 AM	Salvatore Polone/req. Diane & Jim Kilkenny
12:30 PM	Richard Mahnken/req. Bob & Arlene Stewart
MONDAY	JANUARY 11
7:30 AM	Frank Zikar/req. Tuesday Bingo Workers
8:15 AM	Gloria Chiarello/req. Mary Jane & John Malone
TUESDAY	JANUARY 12
7:30 AM	George M. Vorhees/req. Aunt Ginny & Anna
8:15 AM	Bobbi Pocher/req. Husband, Charlie
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 13
7:30 AM	Rita & John Milesnick/req. Donna & Roger Peterson
8:15 AM	Alfred Fuime/req. Mary Wilson
THURSDAY	JANUARY 14
7:30 AM	Frank Zickar/req. The Syvertsen Family
8:15 AM	Wallace Gluck/req. Rebar Family
FRIDAY	JANUARY 15
7:30 AM	Peter Barna/req. Barna Family
8:15 AM	Denise Szczeba/req. Cheryl Salsano
SATURDAY	JANUARY 16
7:30 AM	Jean Balle/req. Barbara Godbold
8:15 AM	Martha McSherry/req. Carolyn & Paul McEvoy
4:00 PM	Angela, Nicky & Dolly Giglio/req. Terri & Toni
SUNDAY	JANUARY 17
6:45 AM	Anna Vermitsky/req. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sweador
8:00 AM	Mary Ann Ammerato/req. Family
9:30 AM	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Bird/req. Mr. & Mrs. William Bliss
11:00 AM	People of the Parish
12:30 PM	Frank Zickar/req. Smith Family

SUNDAY	JANUARY 10
Masses	Church
MONDAY	JANUARY 11
<i>M M & Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM Chapel
<i>Rosary Altary Society Mtg</i>	12:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM Daily Chapel
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:00 PM Room A,B & C
<i>Cub Scouts</i>	6:30 PM Parish Hall & Old Church
<i>Liturgy Team Mtg.</i>	7:15 PM Parish Room B
TUESDAY	JANUARY 12
<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM Parish Hall
<i>CCD Classes</i>	6:00 PM Room A & C
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM Old Church
<i>2nd Grade CCD Parent Mtg.</i>	7:00 PM Church
<i>Alanon</i>	7:00 PM Parish Hall
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 13
<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:00 PM Room A & C
<i>Youth Choir Practice</i>	7:30 PM Church
THURSDAY	JANUARY 14
<i>Bible Study</i>	9:45 AM Parish Hall
<i>St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.</i>	1:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>CCD Classes</i>	6:00 PM Room A & C
<i>Adult Choice Practice</i>	7:15 PM Church
<i>AA</i>	7:30 PM Parish Hall
FRIDAY	JANUARY 15
<i>Children of Light Prayer</i>	7:00 PM Parish Room A
SATURDAY	JANUARY 16
<i>RCIA Teaching</i>	5:00 PM Parish Hall

Readings for the Week

Monday:	1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday:	Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

REMINDER: THERE WILL NO LONGER BE MONDAY EVENING MASS OR 5:30 PM MASS ON SATURDAY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2016

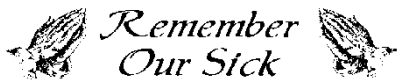
For the Week of January 10, 2016



Church Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Eleanor Villani/req. Family
Chapel Sanctuary Candle is "No Intentions"
Blessed Mother Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Jerry Gray/req. Wife, Joan
Sacred Heart Candle is "In Loving Memory" of

Manuel Gonzalez/req. Family

“O BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL”



III. Geraldine Fischer, Mary Lillis

“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; Kathleen Sanzone, Robert Cooper, Lena Cisaretto, Umberto DiLauro Jr., and Joseph Ilaria.



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.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Offering for the Week of December 13, 2015

Regular	\$10,870.47
On Line	\$601.00
Total	\$11,471.47

Offering for the Week of December 20, 2015

Regular	\$10,692.79
On Line	\$781.00
Total	\$11,473.79

Offering for the Week of December 27, 2015

Regular	\$9,848.62
On Line	\$602.00
Total	\$10,450.62

Offering for the Week of January 3, 2016

Regular	\$11,079.00
On Line	\$946.00
Total	\$12,025.82

Christmas Offerings \$42,864.75

*Reflections for
The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*



Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response,

John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another “epiphany.” On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism. *Loyola Press*

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.
THEY MAKE OUR BULLETIN POSSIBLE.**

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

SILVERTON MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

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

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



This week marks the 48th official celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year's theme is **Called to proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord** (cf. 1 Peter 2:9).

As Christians, we share in the great responsibility of working towards bringing God's plan of salvation to fruition. Christ has laid the foundation, but what rises upon it depends on the work of each builder. How will we each use the gifts that God gives us? St. Paul makes reference in his first letter to the Corinthians that there is a variety of gifts and services given but that it is the same Lord who bestows them. This diversity is given by the same Spirit for the common good and for unity of the body. These gifts must then be used appropriately for the work of furthering the Good News throughout the world and of building bridges as a sign of hope and the fruit of unity in Christ. In the past, the various communities may at times been caught up with themselves and in their agendas, and not with tending to the proclamation of Christ crucified and risen as the foundation of Christian life. However, ultimately we are accountable before God for what we accomplish. In the same way, the various churches and ecclesial communities need to be accountable not only before God but to each other as co-workers in His service. In this way will the world be able to recognize us by our fruit, the quality of our discipleship.

Lord Jesus, you have made our hearts burn within us, and have sent us back upon the road towards our brothers and sisters, with the Gospel message on our lips. Help us to see that hope and obedience to your commands always lead to the greater unity of your people. Amen.



VISIT THE IMPRISONED

Although it takes a certain special type of person to be able to visit the imprisoned we can comply by supporting the person who does the visiting. Supplying their needs and the needs of those they encounter.

People are imprisoned for different reasons. When we talk about being captive it may not be in a physical prison but some may be trapped by physical incapability, emotions, spiritual blocks or phobias and such. We need to respect the dignity of every person and accept and support these people in any way we can. Most of all we need to let them know how much God loves them.

In Mercy in the City, author Kerry Weber wrote about her experience of visiting San Quentin prison. She said, "I expected to visit prisoners or criminals -- but I didn't expect to visit fellow human beings." Sr. Helen Prejean who ministers to those in jail as well as their victims has said, "People are more than the worst thing they have ever done in their lives." These things tell us that the criminal is not just that but is a human being capable of greater things. They can be rehabilitated. They can be shown that they can have a better life. We can help them develop their spiritual lives and let them know how much Jesus loves and how this can change them and offer them other possibilities.

We can also educate ourselves better about this subject in our community and our world. The US Bishops have released a statement Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, and they write:, "A Catholic approach begins with the recognition that the dignity of the human person applies to both victim and offender."

We should all become more informed about prison issues in our area and most definitely not forget them when we pray – victim and offender. "Who is a God like you, who removes guilt and pardons sin for the remnant of his inheritance; who does not persist in anger forever, but instead delights in mercy.. (Micah7:18).

“LORD GIVE ME PATIENCE. NOW”

Followers of Jesus are called to treat everyone with love. Yet many of us find that it is hard to be patient with others, but patience is a key ingredient necessary to showing love. To acquire it, practice makes patience.

Exercise.

Patience is like a muscle. We need to exercise it every day, but in a society of instant everything, we are losing opportunities. Find ways to practice such as reading a book all the way through without skipping to the end.

Plant a seed and care for it until it blooms. Cook from scratch. Then patience will be available when you need it.

Learn your warning signs.

Take note of events that make your heart race, your palms sweat, or your breath quicken so that you can identify and anticipate challenges to your patience before they happen.

Flip it around.

Impatience with others often comes from imposing our ideas on them. What if you were expected to live or act according to someone else’s ideas or opinions? You probably wouldn’t like it. Try practicing acceptance of others instead.

Step out of it.

Often we get annoyed because we assume what others do is meant to offend. In fact, it is likely that others actions are intended to be personal. Give people the benefit of the doubt from the first.

MARCH FOR LIFE IN WASHINGTON, DC
FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016



We need our voices to be heard and our presence to be felt in Washington. The bus will be departing from St. Peter’s, Point Pleasant Beach 7:00 AM, returning approximately 9:00 PM.

Bring lunch and snacks. We will be stopping for a buffet dinner at the Golden Coral on the return trip at your own expense. Cost per person is a donation of \$15.00; checks made payable to St. Peters Church. The March begins with a rally on the mall, or you are free to move about on your own. We board the bus for home at 3:45 and depart at 4:00 PM sharp. Reserve your seat by calling Ellen Conaghan at 732-899-7322.



WORLD MARRIAGE DAY DINNER DANCE

All married couples in the Diocese of Trenton are invited to attend the 2016

World Marriage Day Dinner Dance to be held at St. Pius X Parish in Forked River, NJ, on Saturday, February 13, 2016, 4 pm to 10 pm. This special event to honor the lifelong commitment of married couples begins with the celebration of Mass with the Pius X community at 4:00 pm, followed by a host of festivities - a wine and cheese reception, special guest speaker, buffet dinner, DJ and dancing (BYO welcome), and so much more.

Visit www.dioceseoftrenton.org/worldmarriageday to reserve a table, register online or by mail, or call Jossie at 609-403-7151.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER OF OUR DECEMBER 50/50

Eileen Cox was the winner of \$599. She purchased her ticket at church. The next drawing will be held January 24, 2016.

ROSARY ALTAR MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Rosary Altar Society will be on January 11th at noon. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES



For a truly meaningful Christmas present, one that lasts long after the decorations have been put away, why not give your spouse the gift of a Marriage Encounter Weekend? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held January 15 - 17. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Phone **1-732- 904-9636** for registration and information. Visit us at: www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for more information.

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



This Sunday is The Feast of The Baptism of the Lord. It marks the end of the Christmas Season. Gloria In Excelsis Deo. "Glory to God in high heaven." The greeting of the angels at the birth of Christ. This greeting is an announcement to

humanity that the Savior of the world has been born. The Word made flesh dwelling among his people. Like us in all ways except sin. Jesus was first made visible to those witnesses in Bethlehem, the angels, the shepherds, the Magi, Mary, and Joseph all gave testimony to his arrival. John's baptism in the Jordan was that of preparing the way for the manifestation of Jesus.

When Jesus was baptized, God sent down the Holy Spirit descending like a dove, while he proclaimed "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." At that moment, Christ instituted the Sacrament of Baptism, the mysterious way in which we come to meet Jesus for the first time just as those witnesses in Bethlehem at the manger. At baptism, a person is "cleansed from original sin, and incorporated in Christ and made a member of His Body the Church; he is infused with sanctifying grace and receives the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit; and this enables him to receive the other sacraments effectively." This is precisely why Catholics baptize newborn babies.

PRAYER:

God of mercy, you wash away our sins in Water, you give us new birth in the Spirit, and redeem us in the Blood of Christ. As we celebrate Christ's resurrection increase our awareness of these blessings, and renew your gift of life within us.

END OF YEAR TAX STATEMENT



If you would like an end of the year tax contribution statement, please call Denise Patetta at the rectory office at ext. 201 or e-mail your request to dee@visitationchurch.com If

you have received a statement in the past you will automatically receive one this year in the mail around January 30, 2016.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

If someone you know is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the Rectory Office at 732-477-0028 ext 216 during office hours so that we can schedule a Eucharistic Minister to visit the home.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

We turn to Jesus for understanding and healing through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. This sacrament is for adults and children who are suffering from serious physical or mental illness, or about to undergo surgery. Please call the Rectory Office for more information.

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

If you are admitted to Ocean Medical Center, please alert the Admissions Clerk that you are a parishioner at Visitation; so that our hospital ministers can care for you spiritually.

HOUSE BLESSING

If you wish to have a blessing of your home, please contact the rectory office 732-477-0028 ext. 201 to schedule a time for a Priest or Deacon to visit.

FLOCKNOTES

We are truly excited to extend a very special gift this year and we hope that you consider accepting it. Advances in technology have allowed us to become better connected. We want to take advantage of that connectedness by inviting you to become a member of our on-line parish e-Community. You may do so by visiting the e-Community on the Web at www.flocknote.com/churchofthevisitation or, more simply, by texting **VisitationBrick to 84576** on your cellphone and join us! Using this, we will provide important information on Church and parish events, offer opportunities to discuss matters of faith and get your opinion on important church matters. We will do so with respect to your privacy and your time; we promise not to overwhelm you with messages and you can unsubscribe at any time.

JANUARY 10, 2016

**It's not too late to be entered in
Church of the Visitation Monthly 50/50
Annual Subscriptions Available for 2016**



**Annual subscriptions make a great gift for
yourself, family, friends, and others (i.e. hairdresser,
teacher, paper carrier, etc.).
It's a gift they'll remember all year long.**

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 one ticket in each monthly drawing 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 vicki@visitationchurch.com.

Number of subscriptions for Purchaser (self) _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Number of Gift subscriptions _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Purchaser:

Name: _____ Phone _____

Street: _____ City/St/Zip _____

Each subscription has 12 chances to win -1 for each monthly drawing. Use a separate piece of paper for
additional gifts.

All ticket holders must be 18 years of age or over.

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Gift Recipient Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Account Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Discover

Billing Address * _____

Visa

City, St., Zip * _____

Master Card

E-mail Address ** _____

American Express

Signature _____

* If different than ticket mailing address **Credit Card Receipt will be e-mailed to this address

A full year's annual subscription can be purchased thru January 22, 2016

JANUARY 10, 2016

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Liturgical Ministries

CHILDREN'S CHOIR see Youth Ministry

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION distribute Holy Communion at Masses, as well as to 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 sings 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*

JANUARY 10, 2016

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 Stranieri 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.