

*Lent*

IT IS FINISHED

***Fifth Sunday***

*"Let the one among you who is  
without sin be the first to  
throw a stone"*

*John 8:7*

***Church of the Visitation***

*the hope of Easter begins*

# 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 Cannon 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***

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 21</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 22</b>	
4:00 PM	Neal Esposito/req. Marie Ciffelli	<i>Community Sunday</i>	After All Masses	Auditorium
5:30 PM	Josephine Hung/req. The De' Almeida Family	<i>C.C.D. Classes</i>	9:15 AM	Lake Riviera MS
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 22</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 23</b>	
6:45 AM	Carol Auriemma/req. Phillip & Steven Esposito	<i>M M &amp; Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM	Daily Chapel
8:00 AM	People of the Parish	<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM	Daily Chapel
9:30 AM	Pearl Cook/req. The Bencivenga Family	<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
11:00 AM	William Eugene Wheeler/req. Ray DeTuro	<i>Bell Choir</i>	5:00 PM	Church
12:30 PM	Janusz Filip/req. Margaret	<i>Children's Choir</i>	6:15 PM	Church
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 23</b>	<i>Cub Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Auditorium
7:30 AM	Joan Fraraccio/req. Tom & Venus Leahy	<i>M M &amp; Saint Jude Novena</i>	7:30 PM	Daily Chapel
8:15 AM	Judith Ling/req. Mary Kelleher	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 24</b>	
7:30 PM	Patricia Skurat/req. John Skurat & Family	<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM	Auditorium
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 24</b>	<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
7:30 AM	Anthony Busby/req. The Rosenfeld Family	<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church
8:15 AM	Anthony Crai/req. Daughter, Linda	<i>Grace of the Family</i>	7:00 PM	Auditorium
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 25</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 25</b>	
7:00 AM	Joyce Honeker/req. Dr. Elizabeth Garcia & Angie D' Ambola	<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM	Auditorium
8:15 AM	Nancy Spinelli/req. Husband, Tom	<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 26</b>	<i>Contemporary Stations</i>	7:00 PM	Chapel
7:30 AM	Michael Petzinger/req. The Ryan Family	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 26</b>	
8:15 AM	Petosa & Di Matteo Families/req. Family	<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:30 & 6:30 PM	Parish Rooms. A, B & C
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 27</b>	<i>Youth Choir</i>	5:00 PM	Church
7:30 AM	Frances & Michael Kelly/req. Carl Kelly	<i>Adult Choir</i>	7:15 PM	Church
8:15 AM	Joan Fraraccio/req. Carmella Barry	AA	7:30 PM	Auditorium
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 28</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 27</b>	
7:30 AM	Joyce Honeker/req. John Genz	<i>Traditional Stations</i>	4:00 PM	Church
8:15 AM	Joan Fraraccio/req. Terri Walsh	<i>Children of the Light</i>	7:00 PM	Parish Room C
4:00 PM	Josephine "Josie" Gelesky/req. Family	<i>Prayer</i>	7:30 PM	Auditorium
5:30 PM	Ann Smith/req. Terri & Toni	<i>Bingo</i>	<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 28</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 29</b>	<i>Cub Scout Pack Night</i>	6:30 PM	Auditorium
6:45 AM	Josephine "Josie" Gelesky			
8:00 AM	Diane Arrobato/req. Daughter, Joeleen			
9:30 AM	William J. Mack, Jr./req. Sharon, Erin, & Stephanie			
11:00 AM	Lena Mazza/req. Carole Newton			
12:30 PM	People of the Parish			

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

**Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 [15:1-39]

## For the Week of March 22, 2015



**Church Sanctuary Candle** is "In Loving Memory" of Claire Garvey Butler/req. Fr. Al & Staff

**Chapel Sanctuary Candle** is "No Intentions"

**Blessed Mother Candle** is "In Loving Memory" of Ann Smith/req. Terri & Toni

**Sacred Heart Candle** is "No Intentions"


## “CREATE A CLEAN HEART IN ME, O GOD”

### Welcome into God's Family

Peyton Andrea Alvarez  
Madison Rose Loffredo,  
John Joseph Werbeck Shipley, Jr.  
Annabelle Kathryn Tarbox



“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; *Harry Russell, Theodore Poli, William Norris*



### 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.



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  
ENDICOTT ENGINEERING, LLC**

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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.

*Loyola Press*

**NEXT WEEKEND THERE WILL BE  
ONE COLLECTION.**

**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.

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

God of love, I know that you are the source of all that is good and graced in my life. Help me to move from the life of sin to which I so often cling, into the new life of grace you offer me. You know what I need to prepare for your kingdom. Bless me with those gifts.

What have you let go of today?

***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.

**IS GOD CALLING YOU?**



Whether you are seriously discerning God's Call to the priesthood, or just curious about how God is calling you to serve Him in some aspect of your life, come and join us to learn more about this exciting and powerful approach to life in the Lord.

If you are a faithful, single, Roman Catholic man, between the ages of 18 and 40, and you are asking yourself whether God is calling you to be a priest, you are cordially invited to attend this month's discernment meeting on March 29, 2015, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at Holy Eucharist Church at 520 Medford Lakes Road, Tabernacle, New Jersey. Join Rev. Andrew Jamieson as he shares in his ministry of the priesthood, great conversation, and a meal. Evening concludes with a celebration of the Liturgy marking the beginning of the most solemn time of the Church year. Please register with Diocese of Trenton Vocation Office by calling (609) 406-7449, or [vocations@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseoftrenton.org). Join us at this exciting time as you discover this awesome way of serving the Lord and respond to His invitation! We look forward to seeing you!

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**MARCH 22, 2015**

**SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**Saturday, April 18, 2015**

*Dine in or take out*

Take out starting at 4:00 pm

Dine in 5:00 – 8:00 pm

**MENU**

Salad

Spaghetti and Meatballs

Dessert

Drink (dine-in only)



**At Door:** Adult \$12.00

Child 6-12 \$ 5.00

Children 5 and under free (dine in only)

**Pre Paid:** Adult \$10.00

Child \$ 5.00



**TICKETS AVAILABLE**

Narthex (after weekend mass)

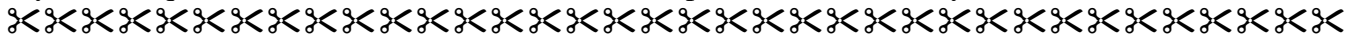
Rectory (normal business hours)

For more information or to volunteer call 732-477-7059 ext. 216 or vicki@visitationchurch.com

**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.

**RAFFLE**

**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

**TIDBITS FROM THE MUSIC MINISTRY**



Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful be led to that full conscious and active participation in liturgical

celebrations, which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people is their *right and duty* by reason of their baptism.

*Constitution of Sacred Liturgy*

**PREPARING FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

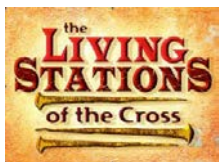
Mass and Devotions April 12, 2015, 3:00 PM

**The Spiritual Works of Mercy:**

1. Admonish sinners.
2. Instruct the uninformed.
3. Counsel the doubtful.
4. Comfort the sorrowful.
5. Bear wrongs patiently.
6. Forgive offenses.
7. Pray for the living and the dead.

**The Corporal Works of Mercy:**

1. Feed the hungry.
2. Give drink to the thirsty.
3. Clothe the naked.
4. Shelter the homeless.
5. Comfort the imprisoned.
6. Visit the sick.
7. Bury the dead.



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.



**RCIA CORNER**

**CALLED BY JESUS TO BE UNSELFISH**

During these weeks of Lent we are taking some time to examine our marriages. Do we love as deeply as we had originally intended when we first made our vows? As unselfishly? Whether we've been married 3 years or 30, this sacred season could be the start of a renewed relationship with our spouse, shaped by our experience of Lent.

We are invited by Jesus to put the needs of another ahead of our own. We can deepen our commitments in marriage and even change the dynamics within our relationships through unconditional love. In loving this way, we transform not only our spouses but more importantly, ourselves.

For those of us who are parents, we have probably always put the needs of our children first – but our spouse? Yes, we care for each other, but do we put the other's needs ahead of our own? And yet how profoundly would our marriages change if we simply lived that vow for a while?

During Lent, we can make "obeying" the special focus of our lives. What if each day during Lent, we asked for the grace to be more unselfish in our marriage? As a first step, what if tomorrow, before we got out of bed, we asked God to help us love our spouse more? To put the needs of this life partner of ours ahead of our own?

*Taken from "Looking at Marriage During Lent" from Creighton University.*

**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 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.

*"Whoever serves me must follow me, say the Lord; and where I am, there also will be my servant"*  
*John 12:26*



## ***MARCH 22, 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 22, 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.**