

# PALM SUNDAY

CELEBRATE THE KING



*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.visitationchurch.com

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

### Assisting Priests

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

### Deacons

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

### Staff

**Denise Patetta, Ext. 201**  
Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor  
**Vicki Cottrell, Ext. 216**  
Pastoral/Business Admin  
**Natalie Bencivenga, Ext. 217**  
Music Director/Organist  
**Marie Bottazzi, Ext. 105**  
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  
**Saturday and Sunday:** 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

### Parish Registration

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

### Sacramental Sponsor Certificates

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

### **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*

# “PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD”



<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 28</b>
4:00 PM	Josephine “Josie” Gelesky/req. Family
5:30 PM	Ann Smith/req. Terri & Toni
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 29 PLAM SUNDAY</b>
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
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 30</b>
7:30 AM	Joyce Honeker/req. The Barlowski Family
8:15 AM	Gerald Niziolek/req. Marcie & Jim Keane
7:30 PM	Emily Balinski/req. Irene Triebe
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 31</b>
7:30 AM	Joan Fraraccio/req. The Kelly Family
8:15 AM	Judith Ling/req. Carmella Barry
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 1</b>
7:30 AM	Rose Marie Lafioska/req. The Ryan Family
8:15 AM	Caesar Nagliere/req. Wife
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 2 HOLY THURSDAY</b>
	<b>NO AM MASSES</b>
8:00 AM	<b>PRAYER SERVICE {DAILY CHAPEL}</b>
7:30 PM	<b>MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER</b>
	People of the Parish
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 3 GOOD FRIDAY</b>
	<b>NO AM MASSES</b>
8:00 AM	<b>PRAYER SERVICE {DAILY CHAPEL}</b>
11:00 AM	<b>LIVING STATION OF THE CROSS</b>
3:00 PM	<b>VENERATION OF THE CROSS</b>
8:00 PM	<b>TENEBRAE</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 4 HOLY SATURDAY</b>
	<b>NO AM MASSES</b>
8:00 AM	<b>PRAYER SERVICE {DAILY CHAPEL}</b>
8:00 PM	<b>EASTER VIGIL</b>
	People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 5 EASTER SUNDAY</b>
6:45 AM	People of the Parish
8:00 AM	Diane Szechter/req. Daughter & Family
9:30 AM	The Amato Family/req. Son, John
11:00 AM	Mario Altomare & Thomas Rygiel/req. Terri & Toni
12:30 PM	Barbara Ann Drezek/req. Family

## For the Week of March 29, 2015



**Church Sanctuary Candle** is “No Intentions”  
**Chapel Sanctuary Candle** is “No Intentions”  
**Sacred Heart Candle** is “No Intentions”  
**Blessed Mother Candle** is “God’s Blessings” on  
 The Bock Family/req. The Pandolfi Family

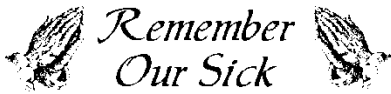
## NO CCD CLASSES THIS WEEK

<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 29</b>	
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 30</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<i>M M &amp; Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM	Daily Chapel
<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM	Daily Chapel
<i>Bell Choir</i>	5:00 PM	Church
<i>Children’s Choir</i>	6:15 PM	Church
<i>Cub Scouts</i>	7:00 PM	Auditorium
<i>MM &amp; Saint Jude Novena</i>	7:30 PM	Daily Chapel
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 31</b>	
<b>NO BINGO</b>		
<i>Lenten Penance Service</i>	2:00 PM	Church
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church
<i>Lenten Penance Service</i>	6:30 PM	Church
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 1</b>	
<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM	Auditorium
<i>Contemporary Stations</i>	7:00 PM	Daily Chapel
<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 2</b>	
<i>Altar Servers Practice</i>	5:00 PM	Church
<i>AA</i>	7:30 PM	Auditorium
<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 3</b>	
<b>NO BINGO</b>		
<i>Living Stations of the Cross</i>	11:00 AM	Church
<i>Altar Servers Practice</i>	1:30 PM	Church
<i>Children of Light Prayer</i>	7:00 PM	Parish Room C
<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 4</b>	
<i>RCIA Prayer Service</i>	9:30 AM	Daily Chapel
<i>Blessing of the Food</i>	1:30 PM	Church
<i>Altar Server Practice</i>	3:00 PM	Church

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11  
**Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
**Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25  
**Thursday:** Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21  
**Lord’s Supper:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15  
**Friday:** Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42  
**Saturday:** a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22;  
 b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11;  
 c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18;  
 d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13;  
 e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6;  
 f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;  
 g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;  
 h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mk 16:1-7  
**Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

## “HOSANNA, HOSSANNA, HOSSANNA”



### I. *Teresa Knight, Annette Caraccia*

“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; *August Vergallito*

### **HOW WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED?**

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

**THE THRIFT STORE WILL BE CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3 AND HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4. THEY WILL RE-OPEN MONDAY APRIL 6 AT 8:30 AM.**

### **BINGO**

**THERE WILL BE NO BINGO TUESDAY, MARCH 31 & FRIDAY APRIL 3. BINGO WILL RESUME TUESDAY, APRIL 7 AT 11:00 AM.**

### **EASTER WEEKEND OFFICE HOURS**

The rectory office will be closed for regular business, Palm Sunday, March 29 & Friday, April 3. We will open on Saturday, April 4 at 8:30 am and closed Sunday & Monday April 5 & 6 in observance of Easter. The office will reopen on Tuesday, April 7 at 8:30 AM.

**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  
ONE COLLECTION.**

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the *Triduum*—three days that are the highlight of the Church year.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus’ passion and death are presented as the consequence of the tension between the Jewish authorities and Jesus. This tension reached its breaking point when Jesus drove the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple. After this event, the chief priests and scribes began seeking a way to put Jesus to death, and yet, this is only the surface explanation for His death.

When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin—the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders—he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews.

When we read Mark’s account of the passion, we begin to comprehend the deeper theological statement being made about Jesus’ death. In his telling of the passion narrative, Jesus understood His death to have been preordained, and He accepted this death in obedience to God’s will. He understood his anointing in Bethany as an anticipation of His burial, and He announced that this story would be told. Jesus predicted His betrayal by Judas as well as Peter’s denial. At His arrest, Jesus acknowledged that the preordained time had arrived. Jesus was both confident and silent before His accusers. After He was sentenced to death, Jesus did not speak again until his final cry from the cross. The Roman centurion affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God. Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in His death on the cross.

During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus’ passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in His obedient suffering and dying, revealed Himself to us as God’s Son.

**HOLY WEEK**



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**LENTE PENANCE SERVICE**

Tuesday, March 31, from  
2:00 to 3:00 PM and 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

**HOLY THURSDAY No AM Masses**

Prayer Service...8:00 AM  
7:30 PM...Mass of the Last Supper

**GOOD FRIDAY No AM Masses**

Prayer Service...8:00 AM  
11:00 AM Living Stations of the Cross  
3:00 PM...Veneration of the Cross  
8:00 PM Tenebrae

**HOLY SATURDAY No AM Masses**

**THERE WILL BE NO SCHEDULED CONFESSIONS**

Prayer Service...8:00 AM  
1:30 PM Blessing of the Food  
8:00 PM Easter Vigil

**EASTER SUNDAY**

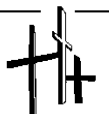
6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM

**LENTE REGULATIONS**

**ABSTINENCE** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on, Good Friday.

**FASTING** is to be observed on Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

**GOOD FRIDAY**



On Good Friday our Parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. Your help is needed to protect the Holy Places of the Holy Land. Your gift will give life to some and hope to others; lighting candles of faith in darkened shrines and lives, even becoming the very bread and wine of our daily Eucharist. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Community in the Middle East. At this sacred time of the year, please respond as generously as you can.

SACRAMENT  
of  
RECONCILIATION



**Ten Steps to Reconciliation**

- 1 Admit and express your feelings.** Write them in a journal; talk them out with an impartial friend. Be honest. Say what you want to say. Get it all out.
- 2 Decide & pray.** Forgiveness is not a matter of *feeling*, but of *decision*. The decision to forgive will not automatically change your feelings, but it's a start. Pray for the *desire* to forgive. Pray that the Lord will change *both* hearts. Forgiveness is a process; it takes time. Be generous with your time and your heart.
- 3 Confess and repent.** Focus on *your* sins, not the other persons'. What did I do to contribute to the situation? No one is ever totally innocent. "*It takes two...*" Rid yourself of resentment; it does no good.
- 4. Let go of fear and anger.** Out of fear, our hearts can harden to protect us from further hurt. We delay reconciliation because of fear of rejection. The longer one waits to reconcile, the more anger and resentment grows. *What are you waiting for?* Start the process. (Read and reflect on Psalm 51).
- 5 Gain a fair perspective.** When hurt, our imagination has "a field day." Exaggeration blossoms. Get grounded. Place yourself in the other person's shoes. Try to understand.
- 6 Imagine the meeting.** Use your imagination in a positive way. Reflect on what you will say and do. Practice smiling. Imagine that Jesus is in the room with both of you. *What is He asking of you?*
- 7 Meet with the other person.** Reach out. Take a risk. What have you got to lose? Choose a time when neither will feel rushed. Have a positive attitude. Begin the meeting with prayer. Each speak about the experience from your own perspective. Be open to another interpretation. There are always three perspectives: yours, the other person's, and the truth.
- 8 Give thanks to God.** If successful, offer thanks to God. If not, give thanks for the opportunity to put Gospel teachings into practice. Remember, we learn from our failures as well as our successes. Most of the time, there will be a tomorrow.
- 9 Deepen the reconciliation.** The process continues. This initial act of forgiveness will need to be ratified by other acts of kindness. Make plans for the next get-together: dinner, shopping; some activity that will allow for communication.
- 10 Be patient.** Few friendships are established in one setting; they develop over time. Reconciliation takes time, too. Be good to yourself and your friend. Let reconciliation grow and develop. You're both worth it.

## ***MARCH 29, 2015***

### **BLESSED PALMS: A SYMBOL OF TRIUMPH**

Blessed palms, an ancient symbol of victory, are distributed in memory of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of the Palm Sunday liturgy. On this day, we are reminiscent of the saints in heaven "wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands" (Rev 7:9). The white robes remind us of baptismal garments, and the palms suggest their triumph over sin and death through the waters of Baptism. Palms may be saved until the following year when they can be burned into ashes for use on Ash Wednesday.

Palm Sunday also marks the start of Holy Week whereby Lent comes to an end before the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. That liturgy begins the Triduum, the great Three Days that celebrate the central mystery of our faith. Triduum rituals invite us all to baptismal renewal, for example:

***Washing of Feet:*** After the homily on Holy Thursday, we imitate our Master in the washing of feet. We are reminded of our baptismal commitment to be servants of one another. Jesus' words to Peter: "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed" (Jn 13:10). Many scholars have seen a baptismal reference in those words.

***Veneration of the Cross:*** As part of our observance of Good Friday, we venerate the cross on which Christ died. The veneration challenges us to be willing to accept the cross, too, for it is the only way to resurrection. Through Baptism, we shared in Christ's death that we might come to new life. We are called to identify with his cross and resurrection.

***Waters of Baptism:*** The core of our celebration of the Easter Vigil is the Baptism of the elect. As we share in their joy on this holy night, we are to renew our own baptismal promises, to live in the joy of life in the Risen One. Lent comes to its fulfillment around the waters of the font.

Jesus is obedient to His Father's Will; He does not refuse to serve and suffer for our sins. His only moment of glory on earth was riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. As He entered Jerusalem, the acclamation of the people, "Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,"(Matt 21:9) clearly reveal that Jesus was hailed as the Messianic King. Yet only days later, our Lord would hear the cry "Crucify!" (Matt. 27:22-23) Pope John Paul II observed in his book, Crossing the Threshold of Hope, that God would go to any lengths to draw us close to Him: "Could God go further in His stooping down, in His drawing near to man, thereby expanding the possibilities of our knowing Him? In truth it seems that he has gone as far as possible. He could not go further. In a certain sense, God has gone too far!"

We too are called upon to serve and do God's Will. Sometimes the demands on us are so great that we find it very difficult to do so. Jesus says to trust and to call on Him. He will be present in our moment of need. Jesus invites us into a close relationship with Himself. He invites us to find time in our life to pray, so that we stay in touch with Him. More than anything else, our daily moments of prayer, our brief but regular going aside with Him, enables us to do even that one more thing.

Palm Sunday should be celebrated, not as a commemoration of an historical event, but as an archetypal mystery and another step in the process of psychological and spiritual transformation. We need to have faith and trust and know that God's power is at work. Faith and trust in Christ will help us to break down the walls of frustration, worry and anxiety. Let us call upon Him today to come into our life. Say, "Yes Lord, whatever Your will is Lord, I will do my best to comply."

Be my Lord and my peacemaker.

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**PREPARING FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

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

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is to be started on Good Friday April 3, for nine days ending on Saturday April 11. In 1935 Our Lord taught Blessed Faustina a special prayer for mercy: "Encourage souls to say the Chaplet. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy...Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will" (Dairy, 1731). Visit: [visitationRCchurch.org](http://visitationRCchurch.org) for the Chaplet of Mercy.

**MARCH 29, 2015**

# **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**Saturday, April 18, 2015**

*Dine in or take out*

Dine in 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Take out starting at 4:00 pm

## **MENU**

Salad

Spaghetti and Meatballs

Dessert

Drink (dine-in only)



**At Door:** Adult \$12.00

Child 6-12 \$ 5.00

Children under 6 free (dine in only)

**Pre-Paid:** Adult \$10.00

Child \$ 5.00



## **TICKETS AVAILABLE**

Narthex (after weekend mass)

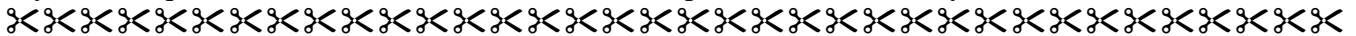
Rectory (normal business hours)

Mail in or drop in collection basket by 4/13/15

## **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, April 26 in the church auditorium during the Community Sunday gathering



**RCIA CORNER**

**TIDBITS FROM THE MUSIC MINISTRY**

“The prayer of the assembly is primarily sung prayer since singing deepens, expresses, unifies, and vitalizes common prayer. Singing in no esthetic shell for the assembly’s prayer together, rather, it is the modality of prayer, the means through which common prayer can best happen”

*The Singing Assembly by Virgil C. Funk*

**LIVING STATIONS**

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

**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.

**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.

**BINGO HELP NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed for Tuesday Bingo from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. If you can assist in any way, or even for a couple of hours, please stop by the Church Auditorium on Tuesday during bingo.

**SILENCING OUR DISAPPOINTMENTS**

As we travel on our Lenten journey we pray and with prayer move into silence. We hold off on the sarcastic comment aimed at our spouse. We silence a cutting remark. We drop the correction before it comes out of our mouths. Neglect the pouting. Stop the stony silence when we are displeased. These behaviors can be long standing and not easy to change. Also, it might take a while before our spouse really trusts these efforts. We will be the ones doing the “giving” for a while.

We are born selfish creatures crying out for someone to take care of our needs. The process of growing in this life seems to be learning how to become less selfish, less self-absorbed. On our good days we can do that, by loving, giving and caring for others before thinking of ourselves. But on our bad days, we look at our spouses and others and grumble about the unfairness: “Why is it always ME who has to do the giving? Why doesn’t my spouse have to care about ME first? Am I always the one who has to apologize first? Ask about the other’s day first? When is it MY turn to be taken care of?”

We are called to love in marriage the way we are loved by Jesus – without figuring out what we will get out of it. “Love one another as I have loved you.” *As I have loved you.* In the same way Jesus loves us – without limits. And so we love our spouse who is crabby and barking. Instead of snapping a response we can ask ourselves, “What does my spouse need right now?” It’s not about giving up my dignity or rolling over to a bully. It’s about loving someone who might not be very loveable right now.

We can wallow in our own self-pity and self-absorption, but it is in that moment that we are being called more deeply into Jesus’ love. We must die to our own needs and our own longing in order to find a new life in Jesus. In a profound way, we are being called to the simplest task: to care about other people before we take care of ourselves. What kind of people would we be if we got everything we wanted? If we never had to move outside of our own needs and desires? Jesus asks us: What good is it for us to get everything we want, if in the process we lose our very selves?

*Taken from “Looking at Marriage During Lent” from Creighton University.*



## ***MARCH 29, 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 29, 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.**