

We have seen His star
in the East, and have
come to worship Him
Matthew 2:2



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. 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

Christie Winters, Ext. 105

Youth Ministry Leader

Nancy Grodberg Ext. 219

Coordinator of Religious Education

Dee DeTuro, Ext 219

Religious Education Asst.

Dale Zanetti, Ext.214

Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation

Christie Winters 732-746-3456

Director of Visitation Relief Center

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

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

Closed 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 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



SATURDAY	JANUARY 2
4:00 PM	Joseph Cutruzzula/req. Marcie & Jim Keane
SUNDAY	JANUARY 3
6:45 AM	People of the Parish
8:00 AM	Living & Dec'd. Members of The Rosary Altar Society
9:30 AM	Laura Serrano/req. Mr. & Mrs. William Bliss
11:00 AM	Leo Garreffa/req. Family
12:30 PM	Jason Austin/req. Fairchild Family
MONDAY	JANUARY 4
7:30 AM	Theresa Nelson/req. Mary Jo Balasie
8:15 AM	Lillian Mueller/req. Constance Lord Wojciak
TUESDAY	JANUARY 5
7:30 AM	Rose Leahy/req. Leahy Family
8:15 AM	Larry Tobia/req. Thelma DiMatteo
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 6
7:30 AM	McGinley Family/req. McDonnell Family
8:15 AM	Joseph J. Hammell/req. Wife, Mary
THURSDAY	JANUARY 7
7:30 AM	Eileen Shea/req. Alice Oricino
8:15 AM	Betty Meyers/req. NJCJAL
FRIDAY	JANUARY 8
7:30 AM	Joan & Bernie Lewis/req. Di Matteo Family
8:15 AM	Lucille DeGeorge/req. Petit Family
SATURDAY	JANUARY 9
7:30 AM	Mary Rasmussen/req. Jim & Michele Evans
8:15 AM	Erica Pietera/req. Sandy Callaghan
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

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 3, 2016



Church Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Carl Casano/req. Mr. & Mrs. Peter Netti

Chapel Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Joyce Honeker/req. Sister

Blessed Mother Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Bebel & Wentworth Families/req.

Margie Bebel

Sacred Heart Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Carrie & Steve Turner/req. Aunt Blanche & Uncle Matt

NO CCD CLASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	JANUARY 3
<i>Masses</i>	Church
MONDAY	JANUARY 4
<i>M M & Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM Chapel
<i>Rosary Altar Mtg.</i>	12:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM Daily Chapel
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:00 PM Rooms A, B & C
<i>Cub Scouts.</i>	6:30 PM Parish Hall & Old Church
TUESDAY	JANUARY 5
<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM Parish Hall
<i>CCD Classes</i>	6:00 PM Rooms A, B & C
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM Old Church
<i>Alanon</i>	7:00 PM Parish Hall
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 6
<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM Parish Hall
<i>CCD Classes</i>	4:00 PM Rooms A & C
<i>Youth Choir Practice</i>	7:30 PM Church
THURSDAY	JANUARY 7
<i>Bible Study</i>	9:45 AM Parish Hall
<i>CCD Classes</i>	6:00 PM Rooms A & C
<i>Adult Choir Practice</i>	7:15 PM Church
<i>AA</i>	7:30 PM Parish Hall
FRIDAY	JANUARY 8
<i>Children of Light Prayer</i>	7:00 PM Parish Room A
SATURDAY	JANUARY 9
<i>6th Grade Penitential</i>	11:00 AM Church
<i>RCIA Teaching</i>	5:00 PM Parish Hall

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38

"LORD, EVERY NATION OF EARTH WILL ADORE YOU"



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.

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.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"The Church of the Visitation is a Roman Catholic Community. We are committed to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for the needs of people, through prayer, service, friendship and love. Our commitment is expressed in Sacramental and Gospel interaction. Through Ministry and Stewardship we give greater glory to God."

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, 2015.

DUE TO EARLY TRANSMITTAL OF THE BULLETIN THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING IS NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27, 2015

*Reflections for
The Epiphany of the Lords*

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.



We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. *Loyola Press*

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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 ENVELOPE IN THE FIRST BASKET AND THE ENVELOPE FOR LATIN AMERICA IN THE SECOND BASKET

FROM THE DESK OF
Fr. Jim O'Neill

Dear Parishioners,

Many of us are making New Year's resolutions. This laudable practice in our secular culture often requires us to form new habits. If we're trying to lose weight and decide to exercise regularly, then the habit of regular exercise helps us to reach our weight goal. It is said that once we do something 17 times, it becomes a habit. When the good habit of regular exercise leads to us reaching our weight goal, we often experience an epiphany. The exercise wasn't just good for our weight, it also leads to greater energy and stamina and a better outlook on life. Exercise improves our physical and psychological well-being.

It can also have an impact on our spiritual life. That good habit of exercise shows us that good spiritual habits will not only benefit us in a way we anticipate, but we may experience an epiphany. We might really begin to understand that God loves us dearly and wants to give us wonderful gifts including the gift of Himself.

Suppose we go to Sunday Mass for 17 Sundays in a row, then it becomes a good spiritual habit. We'll attend Mass even if we don't feel like it. And the spiritual benefits will abound. Recently, we were getting reading for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. We continue to celebrate the Christmas season with today's celebration of the Epiphany. The wise men saw more clearly God's plan when they met Him face to face. God revealed Himself to these wise men, and He reveals Himself to us. And we rejoice.

What if we were to attend daily Mass for 17 days in a row? It would become a wonderful spiritual habit. We would begin to see how present God is to us in our daily lives even if we don't feel His presence. We would also recognize God's work in others' lives as well. Tomorrow, we celebrate the memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton of New York and Emmitsburg. We can relate to her story in many ways. On Tuesday, we'll remember St. John Neumann of Philadelphia. This fourth bishop of Philadelphia established St. Peter's in Riverside where Fr. Ed served as a pastor and I served as a transitional deacon. On Wednesday, we celebrate St. André Bessette, the "Miracle Man of Montreal." It's a saint filled week with St. Raymond of Peñafort on Thursday. He's the patron saint for canon and civil lawyers.

Imagine attending Mass daily over the course of a year. We'll learn so much more from the Bible about God and how He loves us. We'll experience Him more intimately in the reception of Holy Communion daily. We'll be surprised by various epiphanies, God revealing Himself to us. I invite you to join us for daily Mass in the chapel. We recently replaced the rugs, painted the walls, and added chairs. The chapel is now more conducive to worshipping the God who lovingly reveals Himself to us.

MUSIC MINISTRY CONCERT

Once again, our Music Ministry Christmas Concert, under the direction of Natalya Bencivenga was a huge success. This very talented group of people never disappoints us. Thank you for a beautiful afternoon of music and many thanks to our loyal parishioners who joined us. We sing praise to you!!!



RCIA CORNER

Have we visited an infirmed person lately? Some of the excuses we may tell ourselves is that we don't have enough time in the day to do what we do now or that we are uncertain about what to say to someone who is seriously ill, or perhaps it is just because it is uncomfortable to visit those who are ill or injured. And then again, it actually may remind us of our own immortality and how vulnerable we are to our own injury, disease or death.

But like Jesus tells us to take care of the poor, we are also called to care for the sick - to pray for them, to minister to them, to recognize their dignity. Sometimes just a visit will help the person to forget for a moment or two how sick they are and just to enjoy the company of the person visiting. This may help them to focus not so much on their illness or injury but on other things. We should also not miss the opportunity to pray for them, for their healing and comfort. Sickness can be a great time of spiritual healing and enlightenment and wouldn't that be great if we helped them through that.

If we do not personally know anyone who is sick or injured here at Visitation we are connected to the Ocean County Health Caregivers and we also have Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who visit the sick and injured and bring the Eucharist to them. If you are interested in serving in any of these worthwhile ministries check the bulletin for more information. Psalm 145: 17 says: "The LORD is just in all his ways, merciful in all his works."

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON



COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

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

BINGO



Smokeless bingo is held here in the Visitation Parish Hall on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am.

ROSARY ALTAR MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Rosary Altar Society will be on January 4th at noon. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

HOUSE BLESSING

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

Are you a homebound senior or do you know one? Caregiver Volunteers at Visitation Parish are available to help you!

Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey, (CVCJ) a non-profit inter-faith agency active in Ocean County is committed to enabling the frail and elderly of Ocean County remain living independently in their home. In partnership with Visitation Parish, volunteers are available to help neighbors, over 60 years old who are no longer driving. The service is FREE and there is no income eligibility. Volunteers are available to provide transportation to your medical appointments (1 per week, advance notice required); grocery shopping (volunteers shop for you); make reassuring phone calls, friendly and pet visits to reduce social isolation; and respite care for families caring for loved ones with chronic illness, dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Be assured that if you have been receiving assistance from "Visitation Visitors", your service will continue! We have formed this partnership so that we can help more seniors living in our community.

If you, or a senior you know needs assistance or more information, please call Mary Malagiere at 732-505-2273 ext. 211.

REMINDER

WE WILL NO LONGER HAVE BINGO ON FRIDAY EVENINGS BEGINNING IN 2016. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR TUESDAY MORNING BINGO AT 11:00 AM!

WHY USE ENVELOPES?

God calls us to be good stewards. In the spirit of good stewardship we are reminded to be generous in offering our time, talent and treasure. Our treasure, no matter how great or how small is donated each week through the regular use of the Sunday envelopes. The faithful use of these envelopes makes us conscious of your presence at worship with our Parish Family.

Knowing you are a practicing Catholic is very important in decisions that are made to enter into marriage in the Church or to have your baby baptized. It is extremely important for us to know this when you request a letter of recommendation for sponsorship, either as a godparent at Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation. The Catholic Church, not just Visitation Parish, requires that signs of good faith commitment be present when people request to be sponsors. As a sponsor, you are being asked to give witness to your Catholic faith; to be a model for the person you sponsor.

In addition to sponsorship, using the envelopes the Parish provides confirms the fact that you are a practicing Catholic, participating at Mass, and contributing to the support of the Church. These components are necessary in order to enroll your child in our religious education or sacramental programs and to obtain a favorable tuition rate at a Catholic School.

Joining our Parish Family on Sunday at Mass and using your envelopes enables us to thank you and to provide you with a record of your contributions for tax purposes. If you don't have envelopes, but would like to have them, or if you think you may not be registered in the Parish, please call the Parish Office at 732-477-0028 Ext. 201.

LITURGY NEWS

Is an upcoming Sunday Mass being offered for your departed loved one? If so, it would be especially meaningful for your family to present the gifts during the Offertory Procession of that Mass. Arrive early for Mass on that date; please identify yourself to the Greeters and tell them you would like to bring up the gifts. They will assist you with the necessary instructions.

JANUARY 3, 2016

BLESS YOUR DOOR ON EPIPHANY



The gospel tells us that the magi found Christ “on entering the house.” The door to your home is a holy threshold. You can bless those who come in and go out by inscribing above the door in chalk the first two numbers of the year +C+M+B+ the last two numbers of the year. (20+C+M+B+16) Tradition tells us that the letters stand for the names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. Adolph Adam points out that it may also mean “Christus mansionem benedicat” or “May Christ bless this dwelling.” It’s appropriate to bless your door in January—janua means “door” and the first month is the door to the New Year. After inscribing the doorway, say this prayer:

God of Bethlehem and Cana,
God of Jordan’s leaping waters,
in baptism you bring us
into your family.

You wed us and embrace us
as your beloved.

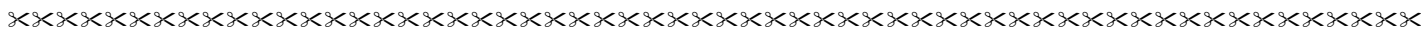
May we fill this place
with kindness to one another,
with hospitality to guests,
and with abundant care
for every stranger.

By the gentle light of a star,
guide home all who seek you
on paths of faith, hope and love.

Then we will join the angels in
proclaiming your praise:
Glory in heaven and peace on earth,
now and forever. Amen.



Then sing a Christmas carol.



RCIA

Have you just returned to the Catholic Church? Welcome! We are so glad to have you back. We have sorely missed you. Your presence makes the Church much more complete. Would you like someone to contact you? Do you have questions about the Church/Faith/Changes? If you would like someone to get in touch with you please complete the following and place in the collection basket:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Email Address: _____

For additional information please call Adult Faith Formation Office at 732 477-7059 ex 214

JANUARY 3, 2016



**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 the parking lot upgrade.

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 vcottrell@visitationRCchurch.com.

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

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Gift Recipient Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Billing Address * _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Visa
City, St., Zip * _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Master Card
E-mail Address ** _____		<input type="checkbox"/> 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 3, 2016

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Liturgical Ministries

CHILDREN'S CHOIR see Youth Ministry

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

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

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

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

MUSIC MINISTRY spiritually enhances the celebration of the Liturgy. We are always seeking individuals who would like to share their gift of music through songs and prayers. **Adult Choir** assists and encourages the congregation in singing. Practice is on Thursday evenings at 7:15 PM in the Church. Adult choir sings on Sundays at 9:30 am Mass. **Youth Choir** welcomes all from ages 13 – 18 years of age to share their gift of music through songs and prayers. The Youth Groups 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 3, 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 Straneri or stranieri.sue@gmail.com*

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

Temporal Welfare

BUILDING AND GROUNDS TEAM works to improve and enhance the appearance and safety of the existing church, former church, rectory building, and the associated grounds. The goal of this team is to adhere to all current safety and building codes and ensure that the house of God is maintained in an appropriate manner. - *Fr. Ed* 732-477-9672, ext. 201

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

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

Organizations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bulletin Deadline

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