

Second Sunday in Lent

"This is my chosen Son; listen to Him"

Luke 9:35



Church of the Visitation

755 Mantoloking Road, Brick, N. J. 08723



Welcome!

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

Rectory Office Phone: 732-477-0028
Religious Education: 732-477-5217
Rectory Fax: 732-477-1274
Rectory Address: 730 Lynnwood Ave. Brick, NJ
Website: www.visitationcRChurch.org

REV. EDWARD BLANCHETT, PASTOR, EXT. 201
REV. JAMES O'NEILL, PAROCHIAL VICAR, EXT. 220

Assisting Priests

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

Deacons

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

Staff

Denise Patetta, Ext. 201 **Nancy Grodberg Ext. 219**
Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor Coordinator of Religious
Vicki Cottrell, Ext. 216 Education
Pastoral/Business Admin **Dee DeTuro, Ext 219**
Natalie Bencivenga, Ext. 217 Religious Education Asst.
Music Director/Organist **Dale Zanetti, Ext.214**
Christie Winters, Ext. 105 Coordinator of Adult Faith
Youth Ministry Leader Formation
Christie Winters, 732-746-3456
Director of Visitation Relief Center

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Closed for Lunch 12:30 to 1:30 PM

Parish Registration

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

Sacramental Sponsor Certificates

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

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Weekend: Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday: 6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM
Daily: Monday-Saturday 7:30 and 8:15 AM (Daily Chapel)
Holy Days: See Current Bulletin
Holy Hour: First Fri. of the month 7:00 to 8:00 PM (Church)

Baptism

Parents or legal guardians are encouraged to register 2 months in advance to schedule a baptism. Parents and Guardians are required and sponsors are encouraged to attend the Baptismal Formation Session prior to the Baptism. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays following the 12:30 Mass at 1:45 PM. Please contact Deacon Sal Vicari at ext. 218 to make arrangements.

Marriages

The Sacrament of Marriage requires a time of spiritual preparation. According to the Common Policy adopted by the Bishops of New Jersey, this preparation requires sessions with a priest or deacon, Focus review and attendance at a Marriage Preparation Programs such as Pre Cana. Therefore couples should make arrangements with the Church at least 1 year before the planned wedding date and finalizing any social plans. Couples must also verify freedom to marry before dates and arrangements can be made. Please contact Deacon Sal Vicari at ext. 218 to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick

Please notify the Parish Office when serious illness occurs and when the sick, aged, or incapacitated are confined to home for extended period. In an emergency call Parish office anytime.

Penance/Reconciliation

Saturday from 3:15 to 3:45PM in the Church or anytime by appointment. A Penance Service is held during Advent and Lent.

Religious Education (CCD)

Our Religious Education and sacramental preparation for our children meets on Sunday from 9:15 to 10:30 AM in Lake Riviera Middle School, weekday classes in the Church Rectory. Pre-registration is required. Please call Nancy Grodberg at 732-477-5217.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

This is the process by which adults become full, active, participating members of the Catholic Church. Please call Dale Zanetti at ext. 214 for more information.

Elevator is located on the side of the Church near the Bell Tower

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



SATURDAY	February 20				
4:00 PM	Petosa, DiMattea Families/req. Family				
SUNDAY	February 21	SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 21		
6:45 AM	God's Blessings on Dee Lusko/req. Husband Tom	Masses		Church	
8:00 AM	People of the Parish	MONDAY	FEBRUARY 22		
9:30 AM	Linda Lutkiewicz req. Joe Coutant	<i>MM & Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM	Church	
11:00 AM	Frank Zickar/req. Dee DeTuro	<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM	Daily Chapel	
12:30 PM	Dolores Lisa/req. Peter & Cheryl Cassie	CCD	4:30 PM	Rooms A, B, C	
MONDAY	February 22	<i>Cub Scouts.</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church & Parish Hall	
7:30 AM	Mary Marciano/req. Marie Juliano	TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 23		
8:15 AM	Janusz Filip/req. Sister	<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM	Parish Hall	
TUESDAY	February 23	CCD	6:00 PM	Rooms A & C	
7:30 AM	Anne May McAuley Quiery/req. Jim & Sue Aymar	<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church	
8:15 AM	Carol Ann Ceglia/req. Syvertsen Family	<i>Alanon</i>	7:00 PM	Parish Hall	
WEDNESDAY	February 24	<i>Event Development Mtg.</i>	6:30 PM	Room B	
7:30 AM	Robert Santoli/req. Rebar Family	WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 24		
8:15 AM	Robert Udet II/req. Mother, Marilyn	<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM	Parish Hall	
THURSDAY	February 25	CCD	4:30 PM	Rooms A & C	
7:30 AM	Aria Kwasnik/req. Michele & Jim Evans	<i>Contemporary Stations</i>	7:00 PM	Daily Chapel	
8:15 AM	Celene Mancini/req. Fausto & Mary Falsetta	<i>Youth Choir Practice</i>	7:30 PM	Parish Room C	
FRIDAY	February 26	THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 25		
7:30 AM	Frank A. Silla/req. Jeff Thelen	<i>Bible Study</i>	9:45 AM	Parish Hall	
8:15 AM	Lorraine Kozak/req. Jeremiah, Cindy & Seiler Hitt	<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	1:00 PM	Parish Hall	
SATURDAY	February 27	CCD	6:00 PM	Rooms A & C	
7:30 AM	Ida Caputo/req. Mary Ann Britton	<i>Adult Choir Practice</i>	7:15 PM	Church	
8:15 AM	Gaston Vaglio/req. Wanda Karlson	<i>Open Our Hearts</i>	7:30 PM	Room B	
4:00 PM	Jean DiGrazio/req. Charlotte & Louis	AA	7:30 PM	Parish Hall	
SUNDAY	February 28	FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 26		
6:45 AM	Jerry Gilrain/req. Susan Gilrain	<i>Traditional Stations</i>	4:00 PM	Church	
8:00 AM	People of the Parish	<i>Children of Light Prayer</i>	7:00 PM	Parish Room A	
9:30 AM	Frank Zickar/req. Nancy Grodberg	<i>Parents</i>	7:00 PM	Daily Chapel	
11:00 AM	Dominick Mazzara/req. wife	<i>Baptism Formation Mtg.</i>	SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 27	
12:30 PM	Ellen Prisco/req. Lee Scaturro	Wedding Fair	12:00 PM	Church	
		RCIA Teaching	5:00 PM	Parish Hall	

Readings for the Week

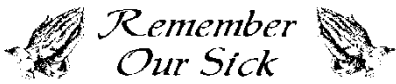
Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

For the Week of February 21, 2016



Church Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" Helen Car/req. Lily Hughes & Ronnie Cotton
Chapel Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" Colin Maher/req. Grace Maher
Blessed Mother Candle is No Intentions
Sacred Heart Candle is No Intentions

"THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION"



“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.

The Second Sunday in Lent

The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James and John. Only Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as his appearance changes to bright white. The three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion and death.

As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus' continuity with the Law and the Prophets. Only Luke's Gospel explains that this conversation is about Jesus' later accomplishments in Jerusalem. Luke describes this as his exodus, connecting Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection with the Israel's Exodus from Egypt.


On witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Having just awoken, perhaps Peter's offer was made in confusion. We also notice that Peter reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus “master” instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding that the disciples listen to him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism which, in Luke's Gospel, spoke directly to Jesus as God's Son.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, the disciples keep secret what they have seen. Not until they also witness his Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus' Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection even as we prepare to remember Jesus' Passion and death. *Loyola Press*

NEXT WEEKEND THERE WILL BE TWO COLLECTIONS. PLEASE PLACE YOUR REGULAR WEEKLY ENVELOPE IN THE FIRST BASKET AND THE ENVELOPE FOR DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT IN THE SECOND BASKET

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS. ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK FORBES LIQUORS

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

 *In Your Charity* please pray for the happy repose of the souls of deceased members of the Parish, your friends, relatives and benefactors especially; *Modesto Raymond and James Carolan*



HOW WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED?

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

SACRIFICIAL GIVING


Offering for the Week of February 21, 2016

Regular	\$9,016.36
On Line	\$609.00
Total	\$9,625.36

PARISH eCOMMUNITY

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

ONLINE GIVING

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



Dear Parishioners,

Last weekend, those who attended the 11:00 Mass were treated to a celebration of the *Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election by the Bishop*. That afternoon, I was privileged to assist during the *Rite of Election* at the Cathedral in Trenton as Bishop O’Connell welcomed from all parishes in the Diocese those being presented for Election into the Catholic Church.

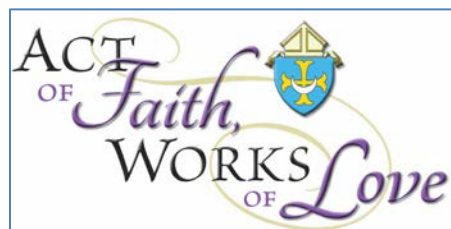
On this second Sunday of Lent I would like to bring you up to date on the individual at Visitation Parish for whom this season holds a particular importance: the catechumenate member (now known as “the Elect”) of our RCIA (“Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults”) who is seeking to receive her sacraments of initiation. This year, we are blessed to be helping **Nicole Kindnerski** on her journey to Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church. God willing, she will be Baptized, Confirmed and receive First Eucharist at the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday night, March 26th. She has been attending our RCIA sessions and receiving instruction in the Catholic faith. During the weekends of Lent we as a parish will be joining her in prayer as she strives to complete the process of formal catechesis (teaching in the faith). This includes Nicole’s reception of the *Scrutinies*, an ancient series of rites in which she is further invited to reflect on her journey and what Christ means to her in the life of faith.

If you see Nicole at the 4 o’clock Mass, in addition to keeping her in your prayers, I would also ask you to reflect upon your own journey in the faith this Lent. One point that our catechists stress to the RCIA members is that we never *really* finish learning about our Catholic faith. Much like our love for God upon which our faith is based, it is a process that literally takes all of our lives and beyond. Whether you joined the Church through the RCIA or you have been a Catholic since your parents brought you to Church for Baptism soon after birth, it’s a mistake to ever think we’ve “graduated” from the school of faith formation. Just as our soon-to-be initiated member is doing, I invite you, if it’s been a while, to once again inquire about *your* faith, ask the questions you may have and do your best to seek the answers. I think that in this way we can re-capture the beauty and relevance of our faith and be better prepared to witness to it in a world that has lost its way. What a great gift to give to yourself and those around you in preparing for the joy of Easter!



THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL – IN ACTION!
Pastoral Care

Rooted in the Gospel invitation to share in the healing mission of Jesus Christ, we advance the compassionate and competent spiritual, pastoral and sacramental care of God's suffering people by resourcing the clergy, pastoral ministers, healthcare professionals and caregivers who serve them. Those who offer pastoral care communicate God's love and compassion 'person-to-person' by offering spiritual and sacramental support, including the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick offered by a priest. We connect with healthcare institutions, medical professionals, chaplains and clergy by providing extensive consultation and resources for the holistic health and well-being of Catholic patients. Your gift helps you to live and spread the Gospel.



LENT INSTRUCTION

The days of **fast and abstinence** are **ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY**.

The other **Fridays of Lent** are **DAYS OF ABSTINENCE**.

Those between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine are obliged to fast. By this obligation, the individual is permitted only one full meal a day.

At the age of fourteen, people are obliged to abstain. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.

Missing abstinence on any one (1) Friday is not a serious sin. Missing abstinence most of the Fridays of Lent (or more than half of them) is a serious sin that needs to be confessed & absolved.

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

PALM



With Palm Sunday just around the corner, some of you may be wondering what you should do with last year's palm once you receive this year's. There will be a basket for Palm in the narthex of the church. You may drop off your old Palm to be burned at this year's Easter Vigil.



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

SOME ACTIVITIES DURING LENT

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

Saturday Masses: 4:00

Sunday Masses: 6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM.

Mondays: Miraculous Medal and St. Jude Novena 8:45 AM Daily Chapel.

Mondays: Rosary for Life 1:30 PM Daily Chapel

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

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

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

LENTEN CONCERT

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

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

HELPING OUT

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

Thought for Second Week of Lent. We are constantly calling upon God with our troubles. And rightly so, his promise is that he will in due time deliver us, the believer, out of trouble, but also remain with us during times of difficulty. **Let our voices say with the psalmist: "The Lord is my light and my salvation."**



RCIA CORNER

INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT

This is an extremely important category today. There are so many people who are confused by what the Church teaches and about what is and what is not sin. They want to know what constitutes a real marriage; what birth control methods are approved or disapproved; what is the church teaching on Euthanasia and so forth. We should make certain that we are informed so that when asked we can offer a true explanation. There are many sources where we can enlighten ourselves. There are many Catholic books, including the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Matthew Kelly – Discovering Catholicism/Discovering Jesus, etc. There are also many internet sights, such as Catholic.com, Catholicnet.com, USCCB.org, Beliefnet.com and such. Or there is always the method of asking someone who should know like our Priests and Deacons.

Especially in this year of Mercy we need to make certain we know the truth about what the church teaches and to profess that truth in the marketplace. People are being led astray by what the world is teaching them. We need to gently, quietly call them back to the truth. “If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31)

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

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



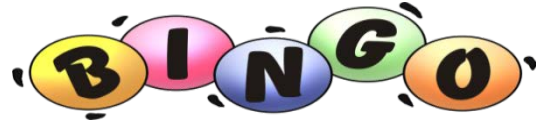
The Rosary Altar Society Bake Sale will be held the weekend of March 12 and 13 after all masses. The proceeds from the sale will go towards new carpet in the Church Worship Space. For more information please contact

Dee Deturo at deed@visitationchurch.com.



sandwiches.

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



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

LENT HAS BEGUN



flowers when they arrive!

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

**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 5, 12, 19, 26 & May 3, 10, & 17. Please call Deacon Rich Johnston at 732-477-7059 ext. 221 if you're planning on attending or for additional information.



A special thank you from St. Vincent de Paul for all the loving donations given in the month of January.

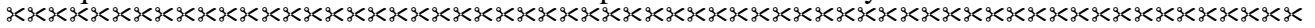
“Extend mercy towards others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping, for what hope is there for us if God should withdraw His mercy from us.

FEBRUARY 21 2016

FLOWERS/DECORATIONS ENHANCE OUR WORSHIP

As the Easter Season begins to unfold, much of our thoughts are of others. Let us remember those who have touched our lives in some way. Parishioners and guests at Church of the Visitation will have the opportunity to honor family or friends by making a donation toward the purchase of the beautiful Easter flowers/decorations that adorn the altar and sanctuary. If you would like to make a donation in memory/honor of a loved one, envelopes are located in the vestibule of the church. or use the form provided below. Please complete all information on the envelope and place it in the collection basket along with your donation. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!** A list of donors along with their loved ones names will be published in the bulletin shortly after the Easter Season.

If you have questions or need additional information please call the rectory office ext. 201.



EASTER FLOWER/DECORATION DONATION

I would like to make a donation toward the beautification of the Church for the Easter Season

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN THANKSGIVING FOR: _____

PLEASE SELECT ONE FROM THE ABOVE

GIVEN IN LOVE BY: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please drop in collection basket or return to parish office.

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



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

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

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

Payment Method
 Cash
 Check # _____
 Credit card

Purchaser:

Name: _____ Phone _____

Street: _____ City/St/Zip _____

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

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

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

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

FEBRUARY 21 2016

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Liturgical Ministries

CHILDREN'S CHOIR see Youth Ministry

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

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

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

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

MUSIC MINISTRY spiritually enhances the celebration of the Liturgy. We are always seeking individuals who would like to share their gift of music through songs and prayers. **Adult Choir** assists and encourages the congregation in singing. Practice is on Thursday evenings at 7:15 PM in the Church. Adult choir sings on Sundays at 9:30 am Mass. **Youth Choir** welcomes all from ages 13 – 18 years of age to share their gift of music through songs and prayers. The Youth Groups sing on Sundays at 11:00 AM Mass.

Bell Choir is open to all ages. 732-477-9672, ext. 217 - *Natalya Bencivenga or natalie@visitationchurch.com*

USHERS promote hospitality by assisting parishioners, taking up collections and preparing Offertory gifts for presentation at Mass. 732-262-4186 – *Kathy Cifelli*

VISITATION ALTAR SERVERS TEAM see Youth Ministry

Sacrament Preparation

BAPTISMAL TEAM assists the Priests and Deacons with Baptismal Formation Sessions, as well as the actual ceremony. 732-477-9028 - *Donna Stawicki or SewSimple@aol.com*

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is the process used to welcome those who wish to complete some or all of the sacraments of initiation in the Church. 732-477-9672, ext. 214 - *Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

Education and Evangelization Ministries

ADULT FAITH FORMATION provides educational and growth opportunities for parish adults. 732-477-9672, ext. 214 - *Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

BIBLE SHARING offers day sessions to all who wish to deepen their understanding of Scripture. Meetings are held on Thursdays at 9:45 AM in the Church Auditorium. 732-477-9672 ext. 214 - *Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

EVANGELIZATION TEAM promotes and fosters evangelization in all ministries by reaching out and encouraging all to live life as active Catholics. 732-477-9672, ext. 218 - *Deacon Salvatore Vicari or ext. 214 - Dale Zanetti or dale@visitationchurch.com*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD) meets on Sunday from 9:15 to 10:30 AM in the Lake Riviera Middle School and weekdays in the church rectory during the school year. Pre-registration is required. 732-477-5217- *Nancy Grodberg or nancy@visitationchurch.com*

Prayer Groups

CHILDREN OF LIGHT CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meets every Friday at 7:00 PM in Parish Room C to pray and work for spiritual renewal. 732-255-2728 - *Paul Rollis or paulr63@juno.com*

ROYAL HEART OF JESUS & MARY CATHOLIC PRAYER GROUP meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Parish Room A. All are welcome. 732-742-2600 – *Joellen Arrabito – 732-262-3938 – Mary Casella or mnick123@aol.com*

PRAYER CHAIN is for anyone who feels the need for prayer or would like to join the group. 848-373-4239.

Pastoral Care Ministries

BEREAVEMENT TEAM provides support and meets Spring and Fall. 732-477-9672, ext. 221- *Deacon Richard Johnston*.

On-going support to grieving families is available- *Linda Conroy 908-902-2741 or lconroy58@verizon.net*

FUNERAL LITURGY MINISTRY helps plan liturgy for funeral masses. 732-367-5329 – *Rosemary Russell*.

VISITATION CAREGIVERS provide supportive services to the frail elderly and homebound in our community such as friendly visits, food shopping, transportation to medical appointments and respite care for families. 732-505-2273 ext. 211- *Mary Malagiere or marym@caregivervolunteers.org*

Services

ANNULMENT TEAMS are available to assist a parishioner in rectifying his/her marital status in accordance with the law of the Catholic Church and enable parish members to participate in a full Christian life. 848-333-2671- *Eleanor Troiano ~ 732-477-7059* ext. 218 – *Deacon Salvatore Vicari*

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION is offered to anyone in the community who yearns to deepen their relationship with God. 732-477-9672, ext.221 *Deacon Richard Johnston*

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Social Ministries/Activities

BINGO is held in the church auditorium on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM. 732-477-9672 ext. 201 – Tuesday *Cindy Maguire*;
EVENT DEVELOPMENT TEAM meets as needed to develop and implement social activities (such as the Gift Auction and Wine Tasting/Art Auction) for the purpose of raising money for the building fund. 732-477-9672, ext. 216 – *Vicki Cottrell-vicki@visitationchurch.com*

Social Concerns

COMMUNITY LUNCH (SOUP KITCHEN) provides lunch Wednesdays each week to members of the parish and community. 732-255-2835 - *Isabel Kronicz or fkronicz@comcast.net*

RESPECT LIFE focuses on pro-life issues and needs through education and support of other organizations in support of pro-life issues. The group gathers every Monday in the church at 1:30 PM to recite the Rosary. 732-262-2047 – *Charles Pocher*

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL operates the Thrift Shop in the old church and manages the funds from the poor boxes to assist the needy in our parish and the surrounding community. Hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM. 732-477-9672, ext. 160

VISITATION FOOD BANK accepts donations of nonperishable food at the VRC location and in Church. These donations assist the hungry of our community. 732-746-3456 - *Visitation Relief Center*

Youth Ministries/Activities

CHILDREN'S CHOIR welcomes all from 3 to 12 years of age to share their love for Jesus through music. The choir sings monthly at the 12:30 PM Mass and performs at various community events. No tryouts are required. 732-477-9672 ext. 217 - *Jim Daniels*

CYO BASKETBALL TEAM practices at Lake Riviera Middle School. They were the 2007 Ocean County CYO champs. 201-522-3679 – *Coach or doug_roman4@yahoo.com*

VISITATION ALTAR SERVERS TEAM provides assistance to the Priest in celebration of the Mass and other liturgical celebrations Open to all adults and boys and girls third grade and higher who have received their Holy Communion. 732-458-1492 - *Sue Straneri or stranieri.sue@gmail.com*

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

Temporal Welfare

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

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

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

Organizations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bulletin Deadline

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