

Hosanna

to the Son of David



Matthew 21:7-9

*Blessed
is he
who comes
in the name
of the Lord!*

*Hosanna
in the
highest!*

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.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**
Natalya 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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



SATURDAY	MARCH 19
4:00 PM	Petosa & Senerchia Families/req. Family
SUNDAY	MARCH 20
6:45 AM	People of the Parish
8:00 AM	Judith Bencivenga/req. Bencivenga Family
9:30 AM	William Cottrell/req. Doug & Vicki Cottrell
11:00 AM	Klisiewicz Family/req. Family
12:30 PM	Philip LaManna/req. Marie Linnus
MONDAY	MARCH 21
7:30 AM	Viola Jane/req. NJ Automotive Employees
8:15 AM	Anthony De Jesso/req. Stiffler Family
TUESDAY	MARCH 22
7:30 AM	Joan Leddy/req. Danny Bond
8:15 AM	Donna D' Ambrosio/req. Gloria D' Ambrosio
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 23
7:30 AM	Patricia Skurat/req. Husband & Family
8:15 AM	Anthony Crai/req. Daughter Linda

THURSDAY	MARCH 24 HOLY THURSDAY
	NO AM MASSES
8:00 AM	PRAYER SERVICE [DAILY CHAPEL]
7:30 PM	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
	<i>People of the Parish</i>
FRIDAY	MARCH 25 GOOD FRIDAY
	NO AM MASSES
8:00 AM	PRAYER SERVICE [DAILY CHAPEL]
11:00 AM	LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS
3:00 PM	PASSION OF THE LORD
8:00 PM	TENEBRAE
SATURDAY	MARCH 26 HOLY SATURDAY
	NO AM MASSES
8:00 AM	PRAYER SERVICE [DAILY CHAPEL]
8:00 PM	EASTER VIGIL
	<i>People of the Parish</i>

SUNDAY	MARCH 27
6:45 AM	People of the Parish
8:00 AM	Mario Altomare & Thomas Rygiel/req. Terri & Toni
9:30 AM	Living Members of the Music Ministry/req. Bencievenga Family
11:00 AM	Amato Family/req. Son
12:30 PM	William J. Mack, Jr./req. Sharon, Erin & Stephanie

NO CCD CLASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	MARCH 20	
<i>Masses</i>		Church
<i>Teaching Creche</i>	7:30 AM	Parish Hall
<i>Community Sunday</i>	After Masses	Parish Hall
MONDAY	MARCH 21	
<i>M M & Saint Jude Novena</i>	8:15 AM	Daily Chapel
<i>Rosary For Life</i>	1:30 PM	Daily Chapel
<i>Cub Scouts.</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church & Parish Hall
TUESDAY	MARCH 22	
<i>Bingo</i>	11:00 AM	Parish Hall
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	6:30 PM	Old Church
<i>Alanon</i>	7:00 PM	Parish Hall
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 23	
<i>Community Lunch</i>	12:00 PM	Parish Hall
<i>Contemporary Stations</i>	7:00 PM	Daily Chapel
<i>Youth Choir Practice</i>	7:30 PM	Church
HOLY THURSDAY	MARCH 24	
<i>Altar Server Practice</i>	5:00 PM	Church
<i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	7:30 PM	Church
<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>	8:30 PM	Parish Hall
GOOD FRIDAY	MARCH 25	
<i>Living Stations</i>	11:00 AM	Church
<i>Altar Server Practice</i>	1:30 PM	Church
<i>Passion of the Lord</i>	3:00 PM	Church
<i>Tenebrae</i>	8:00 PM	Church
HOLY SATURDAY	MARCH 26	
<i>Blessing of the Food</i>	1:30 PM	Church Narthex
<i>Altar Server Practice</i>	3:00 PM	Church
<i>Vigil Mass</i>	8:00 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: 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, 15-16, 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; Lk 24:1-12
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 Lk 24:1-12 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

For the Week of March 20, 2016



Church Sanctuary Candle is "In Loving Memory" of Dad/req. Lily & Ronnie
Chapel Sanctuary Candle is "No Intention Blessed Mother Candle" is "In Loving Memory" of Clara Donaruma/req. Daughter Andrea
Sacred Heart Candle is No Intentions

"HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID"

Welcome into God's Family

Gabriel Gregory Bova, Gemma Noelle Katz
Cody Jett Shershenovich, Nicholas Marotta Sullivan



"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.



I have a close friend who tends to use the word "awesome" a bit more than I prefer. He applies the adjective to everything from a plate of sushi to a ski slope. Friendship trumps grammar, and I would never want to be a curmudgeonly ex-English teacher. So I offer him neither correction nor suggestion. But I did think of my friend's habit as I pondered the Passion of Jesus, and thought to myself: "How awesome!"

This account of God's unparalleled love for us almost baffles the mind, and brings to light how puny our response often is. Or how quickly and often we forget what Jesus endured for our sake.

We know deep down that the lesser characters in the drama act as stand-ins for us and how we act. We betray Him. We deny Him. We run from Him. We're there in the crowd that shouts "Crucify Him!" to Pilate. Maybe often; Maybe seldom. But we do these things in our relationship with God. We need His mercy to survive and start over.

Our guilt is assuaged somewhat by those stout hearts and loyal followers who stayed with Jesus to the end. They were mostly women, who dare us from their vantage point at the foot of the cross, to call them "the weaker sex." Mary His Mother, "Tower of gold and ivory" stands among them, bloodied from His wounds.

The Church holds us back today from letting us hear officially about the events of Easter morning. We stop reading at the point in the gospel where Pilate lets the chief priests and the Pharisees use his soldiers as a guard at the temporary tomb of God.

We will wait out the week ahead and recall and honor the events that will come. The Holy Eucharist and the new priesthood will originate before the nails get driven into His hands and feet. We will watch in our minds' eyes as the story is read to us twenty-one centuries afterward. We will be stunned to see the dark side in each of us contrasted sharply with the holiness of the Nazarene. We will perhaps hear with our imagination the words and music of Handel's "Messiah" as background for our meditation. But at certain points this week we will be compelled to silence in the face of what happened before Easter. It is Holy Week, and it is entirely... awesome.

Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

**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
JOHN PATRICK PUBLISHING**

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; *Florence Christoforo*

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 March 13, 2016

Regular	\$10,135.36
On Line	\$657.00
Total	\$10,792.36

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The thrift store will be closed Good Friday March 25, and Holy Saturday, March 27. They will re-open Monday, March 28 at 8:30 am.

BINGO

There will be no bingo Tuesday, March 22. Bingo will resume Tuesday, March 29 at 11:00 am.

EASTER OFFICE HOURS

The rectory office will be closed for regular business, March 24 thru March 28. The office will reopen on Tuesday, March 29 at 8:30 AM.

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.visitationrchurch.org.



Starting with the Passion Sunday blessing of palms we enter Holy Week, the most sacred time of the Church year. While many attend the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday celebrations, there is so much more that transpires during this week. If you have not done so in the past and are able to attend the Holy Week celebrations, I would certainly invite you to do so.

On Monday, March 21st the **Chrism Mass**, at which the blessing of the holy oils and the sacred Chrism used in the sacraments, will be celebrated at 7PM at St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Freehold. Bishop David O’Connell is the principal celebrant, assisted by many of the diocesan priests and attended by people throughout the diocese – it is truly a wonderful experience in the solidarity of the local Church of Trenton to see so many turn out in common celebration.

On Holy Thursday, March 24th we celebrate the **Mass of the Lord’s Supper** in Visitation church at 7:30PM. This marks the end of Lent and the start of the Easter Triduum (meaning “three days”) commemorating the Paschal Mystery (the suffering, death and resurrection) of Jesus. The Thursday evening Mass observes the *Mandatum* (the washing of the feet) as we remember Jesus instituting the Sacrament of the Eucharist, as a parish we formally receive the oils blessed at Monday’s Chrism Mass, and follow with the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Garden of Repose and silent adoration.

On Good Friday, March 25th (a day of fasting and abstinence) the **Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion and Death** will be held at 3PM in Visitation. This special service (celebration of Masses are forbidden by the Church on Good Friday and on Holy Saturday before the Easter Vigil) vividly recalls Jesus suffering for our sins. Silent veneration of the Cross follows.

On Holy Saturday, March 26th, we mark the Resurrection with the most glorious celebration of the Church: the **Easter Vigil Mass** at 8PM. Beginning with the blessing of the Easter fire and the Celebration of Light, we recount the salvation history – of which we are a part – that culminates with the Light of the World, Jesus Christ himself.

Consider taking part in any or all of these celebrations, as well as the opportunities for 8AM Morning Prayer or 8PM Tenebrae services (the Liturgy of the Hours – the “prayer of the Church”) or the blessing of Food for Easter at 1:30PM on Holy Saturday. There’s so much that happens between Palm and Easter Sunday; make it extra-special this year and be a part of it!

Fr. Ed

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**COMFORT THE SORROWFUL**

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” (Rom 12:16)

In dealing with comforting the sorrowful we must keep in mind that actions speak louder than words. What words of comfort can we offer someone, especially if we haven’t experienced the same form of suffering? It is better to offer our tears and our prayers. St. Francis of Assisi’s instructions on preaching the Gospel says: “Preach the Gospel always and when absolutely necessary, use words.” Preaching and teaching can take on many forms. In dealing with those who grieve maybe we can’t find the right word, because no word is needed. Exercising the virtue of comfort to me then means to be present no matter what is going on with the sorrowful.

Does it take the right word or the write phrase to comfort those who are mourning? No, sometimes it is just our presence with them that offers consolation. We actually could never find the right words. So it is best just not to desert the person who grieves.

The focus of St. Paul’s instruction is to always be yourself. Jesus stands as our model. No matter who the suffering is, we must resist the urge to flee. Maybe all we can offer is our prayer and that in itself is good. Any kind of human kindness and contact works to assist the grieving person.

It is helpful for us to understand that grief is the natural, normal, but necessary response to loss. It is a physical, social, emotional and spiritual reaction. It may cause a variety of reactions including irritability, inability to sleep or wanting to sleep all the time. Grief affects the appetite; some people feel hungry all the time or may not feel hungry at all. It is normal for them to experience feelings of anxiousness. Some people say that they feel like their heart is racing or they can’t catch their breath, some people find it difficult to breathe and feel empty inside. It is difficult for grieving individuals to concentrate on things. Grieving people feel helpless, angry and frightened. Our patience is required. Keep in mind that grief takes time to heal. But remaining with the one who grieves will be a fruitful endeavor on your part. To show mercy is one of the greatest gifts we can accomplish. To those who show mercy, mercy shall be shown. Remember grief takes time.

**HOLY WEEK**



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**HOLY THURSDAY No AM Masses**

Prayer Service...8:00 AM  
7:30 PM...Mass of the Lord's Supper

**GOOD FRIDAY No AM Masses**

Prayer Service...8:00 AM  
11:00 AM Living Stations of the Cross  
3:00 PM...Passion of the Lord  
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**

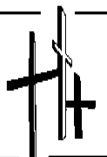
6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM

**LENTEN 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.

**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, March 26, (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.

**LAST CALL-ROSARY ALTAR BUS TRIP**

The Rosary Altar Society is running a bus trip to The Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see the hilarious comedy classic "Rumors". Please join us on Monday, April 25. The bus will leave Visitation parking lot at 8:45 am and return 5:15 pm. There is an \$85 per person (non-refundable) fee which includes the cost of the bus, the show and lunch. For additional information or to make reservations, please call Terri Deegan 732-903-7527 or Marilyn Emery 732-920-9763

**THE LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS.**

On Good Friday, at 11:00 AM, our 7th Graders will follow the road Jesus took from the time He was condemned to where He died. "The Way of The Cross" is our way of remembering the incredible sorrow, pain and love that Jesus took to His death. Please join us. Weather permitting, we will begin in the Narthex of the church then outside and around the entire church to the Cross in the front. For additional information, please call, Nancy Grodberg in the Religious Education Department at 732-477-5217 or email [nancy@visitationchurch.com](mailto:nancy@visitationchurch.com)

**DINE TO DONATE IS BACK**



Just in time for Lent, *Crab Shack*, located at 74 Mantoloking Road in Brick, will donate 10% of your purchase, with coupon, from Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. *Crab Shack* is a "fresh caught" fish market, open 6 days a week, with daily specials available for eat-in or take out. Call 732-477-1115 for hours, specials or fish of the day. Pick up a flyer with coupon at the doors of the church after mass, or print a coupon from our website at [Visitationrchurch.org](http://Visitationrchurch.org).

**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.

**MINISTRY TO FAMILIES, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS**



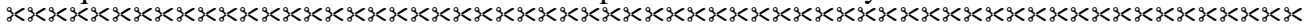
These ministries strive to promote a Catholic understanding of life through faith formation at every stage of human living. They support you and your family, recognizing that your family is "holy, not because it is perfect, but because God's grace is at work in it, helping it to set out anew every day on the way to love." Your gift promotes individuals and family life. Youth events and service opportunities, young adult gatherings, Marriage prep, Baptismal prep, Ministry to separated and divorced persons are just a few of the services offered.

**MARCH 20, 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](mailto: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):**

Apr. Tickets \_\_\_ May Tickets \_\_\_ Jun. Tickets \_\_\_ Jul. Tickets \_\_\_  
Aug. Tickets \_\_\_ Sep. Tickets \_\_\_ Oct. Tickets \_\_\_ Nov. Tickets \_\_\_ Dec. Tickets \_\_\_



## ***MARCH 20, 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*

## ***MARCH 20, 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.***

***MARCH 20, 2016***

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