

# ASCENSION

Roman Catholic Church 86-13 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue Elmhurst, NY 11373

# Parish Mission Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we, the people of Ascension, strive to be united in Christ through worship and prayer, grow in Christ through God's word and the sacraments, and serve Christ in one another by sharing time, talent and treasure.

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 31, 2023



From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Ascension Family,

On behalf of the Ascension family, I and the entire parish staff would like to express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to the many people - individuals and families, who shared their time, talent and

treasures to make our celebration of Christmas, which started with the Simbang Gabi Masses, fruitful and meaningful. In a special way, we would like to thank the Parish Pastoral Council chaired by Romy Quiblat, the different parish ministries, the various parish choral groups, and the Religious Education Program led by Sr. Genevieve. Again, thank you very much for your unwavering support and care for our parish family.

A grace-filled New Year to all! The beginning of the year is usually the time we look at all the blessings God has given us during the past year, and we ask him to bless the new year. The Church dedicates the first day of the new year to the Virgin Mary, Mother of God. Being called "blessed" among women, let us look at the meaning of the word "blessing" in the Scripture. The Bible talks about blessing in four different ways: First, it talks about God blessing people. Thus God blesses Adam and Eve, saying, "Be fertile and multiply." The purpose of the blessing is to confer something special upon them: the power to reproduce themselves.

Second, the Bible talks about people blessing God. Thus St. Paul says to the Ephesians, "Blessed be the God who has blessed us." The purpose of the blessing is to thank and praise God for the undeserved blessings God gives us.

Third, the Bible talks about people blessing people. Thus Isaac blesses his son, Jacob. The purpose of the blessing is to ask God to confer on his son somecontinue next page

### **Rectory Office Hours: Monday - Friday**

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Telephone: (718) 335-2626 | Fax: (718) 335-4181

Email: ascensionrcchurch@gmail.com | Website: <a href="www.ascensionparishelmhurst.org">www.ascensionparishelmhurst.org</a> SCHOOL: Saint Adalbert Catholic Academy 52-17 83<sup>rd</sup> Street, Elmhurst, NY 11373 <a href="https://saintadalbertca.org">https://saintadalbertca.org</a> 718-424-2376 / Fax: 718-898-7852

# **MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday - Friday: 7:00 & 9:00AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM

: 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 8:30 | 10:00 | 11:30AM

1:00 PM (Spanish)

1st Sunday @ 5:00 PM (Cebuano)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ 5:00 PM (Tagalog)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 5:00 PM (Divine Mercy)



Rev. Anacleto S. Asebias, Jr. Pastor

Rev. Kyrian C. Echekwu Parochial Vicar

Sr. Mary Genevieve Ofori-Atta, HDR Director of Religious Education

**Peter Roland** Music Director

**Terry Guevara** Parish Secretary

Romulo Quiblat

Parish Council Chair

Maryann Nepomuceno Parish Finance Chair

Fernando Velazquez Maria San Pedro Parish Trustees

Yolanda De Castro Director of Stewardship thing special. As we invoke God in blessing, we remember that God is in charge of the world. Even more, we remember that God loves us all.

Fourth, the Bible talks about people blessing things. Thus Jesus blesses bread. The purpose of the blessing is to make bread holy in a special way for the benefit of his followers.

In short, then, when God blesses us it is to give us something special. When we bless God, it is to thank and praise God for some undeserved gift.

This leads us to two practical conclusions: First, as we close out the old year, we should thank God for blessing us during the past year. This brings us to the second practical conclusion. Aside from counting our blessings from God during the year, we should consider sharing some of our blessings with others throughout the new year. This is how we bless God for having blessed us.

It is in this spirit that we should welcome the new year, with new opportunities to share God's blessings in order to serve our beloved parish family of Ascension. It is encouraging to remember that the first solemn feast we celebrate on the first day of the new year is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. It is very symbolic, for it means that the Blessed Mother ushers us into the beginning of the year, reassuring us that as a mother she will be with us through thick and thin. Mary as our mother is someone we can turn in time of need. She is someone who wants to help us. All we need to do is to turn to her. If we are looking for a New Year's resolution, we could do no better than to resolve to give the Blessed Mother a bigger role in our life.

Let us close with a prayer that St. Bernard used to pray daily to Mary:

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we turn to you, O Virgin of virgins our Mother. To you we come before you we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us.

Praying for you all, Fr. Anacleto

# **SACRAMENTS**

# **Baptism**

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month @ 11:00 AM, Baptism Class is the last Saturday of the month preceding the baptism @ 9:00 AM, pre-registration is needed, available in English & Spanish instruction. Please call the rectory to schedule, at least one month ahead of desired date. For further information and for the requirements of the godparents, please call the Rectory office.

### Confession

Saturday @ 4:00 – 4:40 PM and by appointment

#### Marriage

Couple should contact the rectory office for information and registration at least 6 months prior to the date of marriage.

# **Anointing of the Sick**

Call the rectory to arrange for a Priest's visit



### CHURCH OFFERING

December 17<sup>th</sup>
1st Collection - \$5,999.00
2nd Collection - \$2,457.00 (My Christmas Gift to My Church)

December 24<sup>th</sup>
December 25<sup>th</sup>
1<sup>st</sup> Collection - TO BE PROVIDED
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - AT A LATER DATE

### **Upcoming Collections**

December 31st - Upkeep of Rectory & Grounds

January 7<sup>th</sup> - Diocesan Mission January 14<sup>th</sup> - Church Maintenance January 21<sup>st</sup> - Fuel Offering January 28<sup>th</sup> - Churches in Need

### **Online Giving**

If you are interested in donating online, please visit the parish website. Parishioners can schedule their contribution to be made weekly, bi-weekly or monthly.



#### **Religious Education**

Faith Formation Classes are held Sundays from 8:45 AM to 11:00 AM. Classes take place at the Ascension School, 86-37 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, (across the street from the firehouse). The classes run from September through June. Classes are for children in grades 1 through 8<sup>th</sup>. Proof of baptism is required for children who are being registered for the first time, as well as birth certificate. For further information on registration please call the Rectory Office at 718-335-2626.

**Volunteers Needed:** If you would be interested in volunteering for the Faith Formation Program, please call the Parish Office at 718-335-2626

or e-mail ascensionfaithformationoffice@gmail.com

#### **Religious Education Calendar**

Classes for the students in the Religious Education Program will resume on January 7<sup>th</sup> at the school.

# Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Are you an unbaptized adult but want to be baptized in the Catholic church? Or, are you baptized non-Catholic who desires to be a Catholic? Or, are you baptized Catholic in need of the Sacrament of Confirmation? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is the place for you. Registrations are presently being accepted at the Rectory Office. For further information please call the Rectory office at 718-335-2626.



# Saturday, December 30th

5:00 PM Julius Gomes (L) & Family

# Sunday, December 31st

8:30 AM Christmas Mass Remembrance

Marilyn Manahan (L) & Family

10:00 AM Noelle Wynn Nepomuceno (L) &

Xavier Max Moreno (L)

11:30 AM In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1:00 PM Emma Ramos

5:00 PM In Honor of Jesus Black Nazarene

Monday, January 1st - The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy

Mother of God

9:00 AM Marilyn Manahan (L) & Family

10:00 AM Cesaria Alonzo

11:30 AM Mayor Family (L)

1:00 PM Albert N. Brajuha

Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> - Ss. Basil the Great and Nazianzen,

Bishops and Doctors

7:00 AM Severiano & Florencia Madlambayan

9:00 AM Juanito Buenviaje

Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

7:00 AM Sebastian & Pauline Tavaris

9:00 AM Manuel Galvez, Sr.

7:00 PM In Honor of Jesus Nazarene

Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup> - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

7:00 AM Robert & George Tavaris 9:00 AM Emmanuel Velayo, Jr.

Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> St. John Neumann, Bishop

7:00 AM Tauro Family

9:00 AM Avrie (L) & Leana (L) Padron 7:00 PM In Honor of Jesus Nazarene

Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM Purgatorial

Please pray for:

Deceased members of our families

# Car Despect

#### Pray for the Sick:



Rosa Tan, Carmen Moredo, Sandra P. Carvajal. Julissa Martinez, Luis Arnulfo, Elizabeth Yee, Elie Fornilda, Jose Reynel Vigoya, Joel Rivera, Sursatti Shaw, Gloria Patricia Rios, Harold, Diego y Kennedy Gomez, Elisa Marquina, Maria Daulo, Jose M. Rosado, Karla Nicole

Paredes, Romelia Arenas, Rubiela Arenas, Enrique Soto, Eduardo D. Soto, Teresita Danseco, Evangeline & Victoria Danseco, Nazarette Serion, Greta Tasayco, Nerissa Infante, Laura Kreft, Shirley Ann Gundran, Egbert Nuñez, Avelina Quilung, Dennis Anthony Calimlim, Exelito Valencia, Bonifacio Guiab, Margie Bulwag, Egbert Nuñez, Maria Dala Rosa George, Renato Go, Leticia Maranan, Denise Giglio, Rustico Castellano, Beth Bagnol Enriquez, Agnes Paredes. To add names, please call the Parish Office.

# **MEMORIALS**

December 31 - January 6



Altar Bread and Wine has been donated In Loving Memory of Purgatorial Society

# Sanctuary Lamp will burn for

Lety and Terry Maranan and Family Requested by: a friend





### Altar Flowers has been donated In Loving Memory of

(please contact the Rectory Office to request a flower memorial)

# Altar Candles will burn for

Fernando Velasquez Requested by: Maranan Family



Memorials are available, kindly contact Rectory Office.



# EUCARISTIC REVIVAL 2022-2024 EXPLANATION OF THE MASS

After a series of short catechesis on the sacrament of the Eucharist, we will now have a series of short explanation of the different parts of the Mass.

Rules for the Homily: The *Homily* is required on Sundays and holy days of obligation at all Masses and cannot be omitted without a serious reason. It is recommended on other days, especially on the weekdays of Advent, Lent, and the Easter Season. The homilist must be an ordained clergy (deacon, priest, or bishop), not only because they are supposed to have a sufficient theological knowledge, but because they have received the grace to speak in persona Christi. Even St. Francis of Assisi, despite of his holiness, was required to be ordained as deacon in order to preach during the Mass. The purpose of the homily is to explain the readings and make them relevant for the present day. The priest gives the homily standing at the ambo or another suitable place, or seating at the chair. After the homily, there may be a period of silence. A well prepared homily should not last more than 10 minutes, as the famous Archbishop Fulton Sheen said: "If you want me to speak for an hour, I am ready; if you want me to speak for 10 minutes, I need a week of preparation." As the old saying goes: "Short homilies move the hearts; long homilies move the chairs."

**Creed:** The *Creed*, or Profession of Faith, is the synthesis of our Christian faith, and it is structured in three parts, in accordance with the Three Persons of the Trinity. The word *Creed* comes from the Latin *credo*, meaning "I believe." During the profession of faith all make a profound vow at the words, "By the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary." There are two versions of the Creed - the **Nicene Creed** and the **Apostles' Creed**. The *Nicene Creed* is the profession (*Continuation on page of Saint's Corner*)



# United in Communion, United in Charity

Summary Report as of December 18, 2023

Goal: \$51,617

Pledged: \$50,379.42 Received: \$46,795.78

To donate on-line: https://catholicfoundationbq.org/ annual-catholic-appeal/Checks can be made out directly to:

Annual Catholic Appeal Diocese of Brooklyn P.O. Box 310 Kensington, CT 06037-0310

Remember, that no gift is too small. Thank you.

# **Spanish Corner:**

#### El Sacramento del Bautismo

Tenemos Bautismo en español el tercer sábado del mes a las 11:00 AM La clase pre-bautismal será el sábado antes del bautismo a las 9:00 AM Se requiere inscripción previa para la clase y el Bautismo, lo menos con un mes de anticipación. Llamar a la oficina parroquial para más información y para los requisitos de los padrinos.

## Clases de Educación Religiosas Para Adultos

La Orden de la Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (OICA) son clases para adultos necesitados de recibir los sacramentos de Bautismo, Comunión o Confirmación. Las clases de OICA también son para adultos que no son Católicos, pero están interesados en ser Católico.

Para información sobre el programa y atención en español, llamar al 718-335-2626, en el horario de día de lunes a viernes.

## Clases De Educación Religiosa para Niños/Jóvenes

Las clases de Educación Religiosa para los niños/jóvenes del primero a octavo grado toman lugar los domingos de 8:45 AM a 11:00 AM de septiembre a junio. Las clases toman lugar en la Escuela Asunción, 86-37 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, (frente la estación de bomberos). Se requiere prueba de bautismo y acta de nacimiento para todo niño registrado por primer vez. Para más información en español llamar al 718-335-2626, en el horario de día de lunes a viernes.

Nuestra parroquia necesita categuistas y voluntarios para el programa de educación religiosa. Animamos a los que puedan a compartir su fe Católica, su tiempo y talento. Si le interesa, favor de llamar a la Oficina Parroquial, 718-335-2626.

# Campaña Católica Anual Del 2023 Unidos en Comunión Unidos en Caridad

Más que nunca, necesitamos su ayuda para difundir la luz de Cristo en nuestra ciudad y vecindarios contribuyendo a la Campaña Católica Anual del 2023. Su participación lo une en la fe con otros en la iglesia para hacer buenas obras durante tiempos desafiantes con nuevas formas innovadoras:

Haga su donación hoy en Annual Catholic Appeal.org o envié un texto con las siglas ACA al 917-336-1255. Para donar en línea: https://catholicfoundationbq.org/ annual-catholic-appeal/

Recuerden que cualquier cantidad será aceptada. Gracias.

# Registro Parroquial

Si asiste a esta Iglesia le sugerimos que se regístrese como miembro de nuestra parroquia. Formularios de inscripción están disponibles en la oficina parroquial. Los sobres de donación vienen con registro y utilizándolos nos permiten darle un informe de sus contribuciones para fines impositivos. Tener su nombre en nuestros registros es la única manera que tenemos de certificar que usted es un católico practicante, ya que tenemos que hacer para personas que se les pide que sirvan de patrocinadores (padrinos) de bautismo o confirmación.

# Horario de Misa en Español Solemnidad de Santa María, Madre de Dios

Misa por la Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios: Lunes, 1º de enero 1:00 pm La Oficina Parroquial estará cerrada el lunes 1º de enero.

### Calendario de Educación Religiosa

Clases para los estudiantes en el Programa de Educación Religiosas comienzan el 7 de enero en la escuela.

#### PRAYER GROUPS & DEVOTIONS

Miraculous Medal Novena Monday:

Mondays @ 9:30 AM

Tuesday: Spanish Prayer Group @ 7:00 PM

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help** Wednesday:

Novena @ 9:30 AM | Novena Mass @ 7:00 PM (1st Wednesday)

Rosary Making Ministry - to request supplies and/ Thursday:

or pick up rosaries, please email:

marie panas@msn.com

Friday: Holy Hour / Exposition & Benediction

1<sup>st</sup> Friday @ 9:30 AM Mass

Our Lady of Fatima | Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

& Black Nazarene

1<sup>st</sup> Friday – Angelus | Rosary | Novena to Our Lady

of Fatima @ 6:00 PM & Mass @ 7:00 PM

**Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group & Choir** 

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM (Lower Church)

2000 Hail Mary Saturday:

1st Saturday @ 9:30 AM

Lady of Mary Mediatrix of all Grace

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday @ 9:30 AM

El Shaddai

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Lower Church)

**Sunday: Ascension Parish Rosary Society** 

1st Sunday @10:00 AM

**Religious Education Children's Choir** 

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and if applicable 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 11:15

AM-12:30 PM

**Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group and God the Father of All Mankind Devotion** 

Praver Group

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (Lower Church)

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (Church) 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (Lower Church)

CFC Christian Life Program\*

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and if applicable 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 2:00 to 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month @ 3:00 to 6 PM (Lower Church)

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### **EVENTS / NEWS & UPDATES**

Holy Mother of God Mass Schedule: Sunday, December 31st: 5:00 pm Vigil Mass in English

Monday, January 1st: 9:00 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:30 am in English; 1:00 pm Spanish Mass

The Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our Lord Jesus the Black Nazarene: Novena will start on Sunday, December 31st with 4:00 pm Rosary/Jesus Nazarene Novena 5:00 pm Mass

Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>: 4:00 pm Rosary/Jesus Nazarene Novena; 5:00 pm Mass

Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> through Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>: 6:00 pm Rosary/Novena 7:00 pm Mass

Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 pm Feast Day Mass; 8:00 pm Procession/offering flowers

Senyor Santo Niño: Novena and Mass will start on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm followed by the Mass at 7:00 pm until Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. **Feast Day:** Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 3:00 pm Procession followed by the Mass at 4:00 pm.

# Eucharistic Revival (continuation)

of faith compiled at the Council of Nicea in 325 AD, which was summoned by Emperor Constantine to define the Dogma of the Blessed Trinity (God is one Divine Nature in three Divine Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), and the two natures of Christ (Christ is one divine person in two natures: human and divine). It was confirmed by the Council of Constantinople in 381, and finalized at the Council of Chalcedon in 451. At first the Creed was to be proclaimed during Baptism, either in the form of questions and answer or in the narrative form, but starting the 6th century it became a part of the Sunday Mass. The Apostles' Creed is the baptismal symbol of the Roman Church. It was introduced in the Roman Missal of 1975 as an alternative to the Nicene Creed, to be used especially during Lent and Easter Time. It is named after the Apostles because it is rightly considered to be a faithful summary of the apostles' faith.

#### Saint's Corner:

#### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is one of the keystones of the American Catholic Church. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. She opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage. All this she did while raising her five children.

Elizabeth Ann Bailey was born in New York City in 1774, two years before the Declaration of Independence. Reared a staunch Episcopalian by her mother, she learned the value of prayer, Scripture and nightly examination of conscience. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, did not have much use for churches but was a great humanitarian, teaching his daughter to love and serve others.

The early death of her mother in 1777 and her baby sister in 1778 gave Elizabeth a feel for eternity and the temporariness of life on earth. Far from being brooding and sullen, she faced the difficult situations with hopeful cheerfulness. She married William Seton, a wealthy businessman, when she was nineteen. Together they had five children. Later, William's business went bankrupt and his health failed. They went to Italy hoping that the climate would bring improvement. Instead, William's illness worsened and he died.

Elizabeth had been drawn to Catholicism while in Italy and joined the Catholic Church when she returned to New York. Many of her family and friends rejected her when she became a Catholic in March 1805.

Elizabeth suffered great trials of sickness, misunderstanding, and the death of loved ones (her husband and two daughters). With God's grace, she wove all the difficulties in her life into a life of great service to the Church. Her life shows us how God can use the threads of our life, good and bad, to weave a great tapestry of faith and holiness. She died January 4, 1821, and became the first American-born citizen to be beatified (1963) and then canonized (1975).

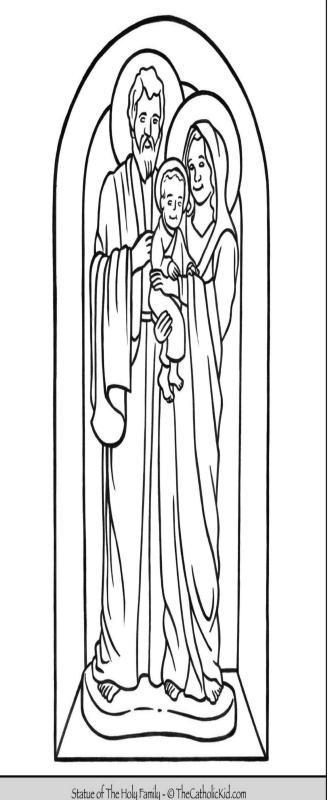
# **NEW TO OUR PARISH?** WELCOME! PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

WEEGONIEV THRUSH WEEKEE			
New parishioners are to register in the Parish. Please notify the Parish			
Office of any changes in address or phone number.			
Name			
Address			
Phone:			
Email			
I wish to receive a registration form			
I have an address change			
I am moving out of the Parish			
Please cut out and return to Parish office or drop in the collection			

basket. Thank you.



# Sunday Gospel Activities



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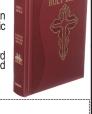
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