

ASCENSION

Roman Catholic Church 86-13 55th 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.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 21, 2024



From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Ascension Family,

Blessings of peace and good health!

Today's gospel reading shows us the beginning of Jesus' ministry, his public life. He announces a message, and initiates a program of action. The message is "Repent!" The program of action is Jesus' call of his first disciples.

In these two steps we find the dynamics and process of our relationship with the Lord. The first step is the call for repentance, for a change of life and orientation, values, and way of thinking.

To illustrate, let me share a story. There was a man who went searching for the meaning of life. He went to a holy hermit and asked to be enlightened. The holy man invited him into his humble dwelling and began to serve him tea. He filled the man's cup and then kept on pouring so that tea was soon dripping onto the floor. The man watched the cup overflow until he could no longer restrain himself. "Stop! It is full. No more will go in." "Like this cup," said the hermit, "you are full of your own opinions, preconceptions, and ideas. How can I teach you unless you first empty your cup?" The call to repentance is an invitation to empty ourselves and to renounce the things that keep us from loving God and our neighbor.

The second step is Jesus' call to be his disciples sharing in his mission of doing the will of the Father. Every now and then people ask: "How can I know what is the will of God for me?" God gives us many ways of knowing his will.

St. Ignatius, in his Spiritual Exercises, lists three moments that can help in making a decision or in finding God's will. The first moment is when God's call is so clear like when he called the first disciples in today's gospel reading. You may be surprised that even today God sometimes calls us in this way.

Let me share with you the story of a young lady who became a nun. After becoming a Certified Public Accountant, she worked in a prestigious firm. Later, she was offered continue 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: www.ascensionparishelmhurst.org SCHOOL: Saint Adalbert Catholic Academy 52-17 83rd Street, Elmhurst, NY 11373 https://saintadalbertca.org 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)

2nd Sunday @ 5:00 PM (Tagalog)

4th 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 a job by another firm with almost double her current salary. Then, one Holy Week, when she entered the church, she felt the Lord hugging her heart and saying, "I want you to serve me." The young lady thought that was just her imagination, and she ignored it. The following year, the same thing happened. This time, she consulted a priest, who advised her to be open to the call.

The year after that, she was looking for a place to make her retreat. She looked for the nearest retreat house, so that she could escape and run back home if she did not like it. When she entered the retreat house, she immediately felt so at home. There were two groups of retreatants. She intended to join the group that was not discerning about vocation, but somehow she landed in the group discerning their vocation. Looking at the circumstances, God made it so clear as to what he wanted the young lady to do.

For St. Ignatius, the second moment of finding God's will is through the experience of spiritual consolation. A person may consistently be attracted to a certain state of life or profession. Or, a person may consistently experience God's approval and peace, when he thinks of the decision he has to make. On the contrary if what he decided on is not according to God's will, he experiences doubts, restlessness, and the feeling that God is distant.

When the movement of the heart is not clear, the third moment according to St. Ignatius is when a person begins with the use of reason, reflecting on the pros and cons (the reasons for and against) each of the alternatives. Then he decides which of the alternatives is more reasonable. Upon arriving at the tentative decision, he brings the decision to prayer for confirmation. The consistent experience of spiritual consolation means confirmation of the decision. While the consistent experience of desolation will indicate that something is amiss.

The call of God is not just to a state of life, like becoming a priest or religious, or getting married. God calls people to a particular mission. I know of young professionals who responded to God's call by working among the least fortunate. I know of people who give up their best morning time on Sunday to help in the mission of Christ to care for children. I know of people in the medical field who give up some of their money-earning time to serve for free in rural and poverty-stricken places.

What motivated these people? Probably, they heard the voice of Jesus saying, "Come. . . and I will make you fishers of men." Let us spend some time to look back into our lives. Have we ever heard the invitation of Jesus, "Come, follow me . . ."? If we have not, maybe our cup is too full.

Praying for you all,

Fr. Anacleto

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

2nd 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

January 14, 2024 1st Collection - \$5,720.00 2nd Collection - \$1,659.00 (Church Maintenance)

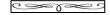
Upcoming Collections

January 21st - Fuel Offering January 28th - Churches in Need

February 4th - Fuel Offering
February 11th - Faith Formation
February 14th - Ash Wednesday
February 18th - Black and Indian Missions
February 25th - Youth Ministry

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 53rd Avenue, (across the street from the firehouse). The classes run from September through June. Classes are for children in grades 1 through 8th. 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

January 28th, Sunday, First Communion Child and Parent meeting at the school at 8:30 AM, followed by Mass at 11:30 AM. At least one parent must attend with child.

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, January 20th

5:00 PM Fernando Velasquez (L)

Sunday, January 21th

8:30 AM People of the Parish

10:00 AM Emma & Rodrigo Rosado

11:30 AM Delma G. Bordeos (L)

1:00 PM Familia Sotamba (L) & Hernandez (L)

Familia Tlachnio (L) & Xochimitl (L)

Diego Alfonso Solis Chavez (L)

Gabriel Arangco

Isaias Altamirano (L); Marcelo Perez (L);

Nicanora Morales (L)

Taurino Diaz Guzman; Taurino Diaz Castillo (L)

Gelasio Codallos (L) & Teresa Silva (L) En Agradecimiento a la Virgen de Altagracia Grupo de Oracion Ministerio Inmenso Dios

4:00 PM Mass - Sto. Niño

Monday, January 22nd - Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection

of Unborn Children

7:00 AM Patrick Dizon 9:00 AM Lina R. Risser

Tuesday, January 23rd - St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr;

St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

7:00 AM Philomena O'Connor 9:00 AM Lorenzo Bernardino (L)

Wednesday, January 24th - St. Francis de Sales, Bishop,

Religious Founder and Doctor

7:00 AM Hidelisa Asuncion (L) 9:00 AM Lea Santoro & Patrick Dizon

Thursday, January 25th - The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

7:00 AM Benedicto Bolisay

9:00 AM Elmira, Gloria and all deceased members of

the Tanoy Family

Friday, January 26^{th-} St. Timothy and St. Titus, Bishops

7:00 AM Jose Rummel Colago (L) 9:00 AM Nubia Aguirre (L)

Saturday, January 27th - St. Angela Merici, Virgin; BVM

9:00 AM Susana Francisco

Restivo Family

Clara Ramos (L) & Joseph Consentino (L)

Luz Pillar Chuquillanqui

William Boetel



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, Cely DeBorja. To add names, please call the Parish Office.

MEMORIALS

January 21 – January 27



Altar Bread and Wine has been donated In Loving Memory of Cecilia Cannon

Sanctuary Lamp will burn In Loving Memory of Susana Francisco





Altar Flowers has been donated In Loving Memory of

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

Altar Candles will burn In Loving Memory of George Tavaris



Memorials are available, kindly contact Rectory Office.

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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.

(discussed here is continuation of the topic on **Preparation of** the Altar)

Purificator and **Pall:** The *purificator* is a rectangular linen cloth, which is placed on the chalice and under the paten, whose purpose is to cleanse the sacred vessels. It is named after the Latin verb "*purificare*" meaning "to purify," because it is used to cleanse the chalice, the paten, and the ciboria, after communion. The *pall*, from the Latin "*palium*" meaning "veil," is a square piece of stiffened linen used to cover the chalice, whose purpose is to prevent dust and insect from falling into the Sacred Species.

Chalice and Paten: The *chalice* is a special cup which contains the precious Blood of Christ. It is named from the Latin word "calix" meaning "cup." The paten, from the Latin "patena" meaning "plate," is the sacred plate which contains the Body of Christ. The chalice, the paten, and all sacred vessels, should be made of solid and noble materials, not resemble everyday kitchenware, and never be used for profane purposes. The inside of the chalice and of the paten should be a non-absorbent material, preferably gold. (Continuation on page of Saint's Corner)



United in Communion, United in Charity

Summary Report as of January 15, 2024

Goal: \$51,617 Pledged: \$66,441,06 Received: \$63,921.06

To donate on-line: https://catholicfoundationbq.org/ annual-catholicappeal/Checks can be made out directly to: Annual Catholic Appeal

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 53rd 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 catequistas 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.

Reunión de Padres y Estudiantes en Preparación para la Primera Comunión

Habrá una reunión para los padres y estudiantes en preparación para la Primera Comunión el domingo, 28 de enero a las 8:30 AM en la escuela, seguido por la Misa de 11:30 AM. Si los dos padres no pueden asistir, un padre deberá de estar presente.

PRAYER GROUPS & DEVOTIONS

Monday: Miraculous Medal Novena

Mondays @ 9:30 AM

Tuesday: Spanish Prayer Group @ 7:00 PM

Wednesday: Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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

Thursday: Rosary Making Ministry - to request supplies and/

or pick up rosaries, please email:

marie panas@msn.com

Friday: Holy Hour / Exposition & Benediction

1st Friday @ 9:30 AM Mass

Our Lady of Fatima | Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

& Black Nazarene

1st Friday – Angelus | Rosary | Novena to Our Lady

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

Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group & Choir

3rd Friday 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM (Lower Church)

Saturday: 2000 Hail Mary

1st Saturday @ 9:30 AM

Lady of Mary Mediatrix of all Grace

2nd Saturday @ 9:30 AM

El Shaddai

2nd, 3rd and 4th Saturday

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

Sunday: Ascension Parish Rosary Society

1st Sunday @10:00 AM

Religious Education Children's Choir

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

AM-12:30 PM

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

Prayer Group

4th 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*

1st, 2nd, 3rd, and if applicable 5th Sunday

@ 2:00 to 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

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

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EVENTS / NEWS & UPDATES

Sto. Niño Feast Day Mass Schedule and Celebration: Sunday, January 21st 3:00 pm Procession; 4:00 pm Concelebrated Mass with Bishop Paul Sanchez. All are welcome.

Free speech and hearing screenings: January 29, 2024 through April 25, 2024 at St. John's University Speech and hearing Center. Please call the center at 718-990-6480 to schedule an appointment. The Speech and Hearing Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike, Flushing, NY 11367.

Statement of Contributions: The Statement of Contributions for 2023 for all registered parishioners is in the process of being prepared. If you need a copy for tax purposes please call the Rectory Office to request one.

Eucharistic Revival (continuation)

Missal: The *Missal* is the book containing the prayers and rubrics for the celebration of Mass. It should not be called Sacramentary, as different from Lectionary, because it does not contain the rites for all the seven sacraments. The Missal is the authoritative source for all liturgical actions of the Mass and must be faithfully followed. The Mass belongs to the whole Church and not to an individual priest or congregation, which have no right to alter the norms and prayers in the Missal according to their whims.

Saint's Corner:

St. Anthony of Egypt January 17

Anthony was born in the village of Koman, Upper Egypt, in the year 251. He came from a wealthy family. His parents died when he was still young and he inherited a great deal of money and land. At the age of 20, when he was in church he heard the gospel reading about the rich young man who asked Jesus what he must do to have eternal life. Jesus told him to sell everything and follow him. Then and there Anthony felt in the depths of his heart that the words of Jesus were addressed to him personally. He took the words of Jesus quite literally. Then he left his village and settled in a secluded place to begin a life of solitude and prayer. He is different from St. Francis of Assisi in that most of Anthony's life was spent in solitude.

In the course of the next 85 years (Anthony died at the age of 105), Anthony lived his life of solitude and prayer in various places, always seeking a deeper solitude because wherever he settled people would always come to him for spiritual guidance. His holiness attracted souls as a magnet attracts iron.

During the first twenty years of his solitary life, Anthony was tempted by the devil under various guises. At times, the devil would represent to him the many good works he might have been able to carry out with his former wealth. Or the devil would constantly bring to his mind all the difficulties of his present condition, thus trying to make him dissatisfied with the vocation God had given him. Or again the devil would assail him with obscene imaginations. At times the devil would appear to him in a visible form, either as a beautiful woman to seduce him or as a threatening black muscleman bent on terrifying him. At other times Satan would frighten him with gruesome noises.

This went on for twenty years. During those long years of spiritual trials Anthony prayed almost night and day for strength to resist the devil's temptations. Obviously his prayer was heard for he eventually was victorious over the onslaughts of the devil. See what prayer can do! After those grueling years of spiritual trials, Anthony emerged from them, purged of all pride, as a man of peace and constant joy.

NEW TO OUR PARISH? WELCOME! PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

New parishioners are to register in the Parish. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes in address or phone number.			
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.

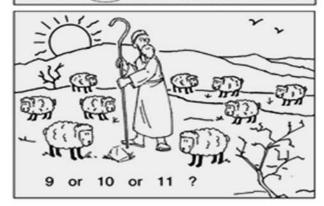
Children's Section:

Moses and the Burning Bush Moses was tending

Moses was tending the flocks in the desert.

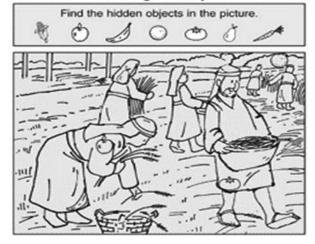
Help Moses count the sheep.

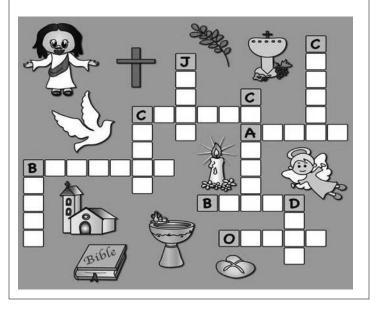
Circle the correct number.





Give thanks to the Lord for all He has given to you.





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