



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.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD APRIL 5, 2026



From the Pastor's Desk

Easter Sunday
April 5, 2026
John 20:1-9

Dear Ascension Family,

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter! We begin the celebration of Easter with the Easter Vigil on the night of Holy Saturday. St. Augustine described the Easter Vigil as the "Mother of all Vigils" because it is the greatest and most important liturgical celebration of the entire Church year, from which all other vigils and feasts take their meaning.

The Easter Vigil proclaims the Resurrection of Jesus Christ - the foundation of Christian faith. The Vigil begins after nightfall, emphasizing the theme of light overcoming darkness and life emerging out of death.

The Easter Vigil is richly symbolic, and typically divided into four main parts:

1. **Service of Light** (Lucernarium): The celebration begins outside the church with the blessing of a new fire. From this fire, the Paschal Candle is lit, representing Christ as the Light of the World. The candle is processed into the church while the congregation gradually lights their own candles, illuminating the church. The ancient hymn *Exsultet* (Easter Proclamation) is then sung, rejoicing in Christ's victory over death.

2. **Liturgy of the Word:** A series of readings from Scripture recounts key moments in salvation history - from creation in Genesis to the resurrection. These readings highlight God's enduring love for his people. Psalms and prayers follow each reading, creating a reflective and meditative atmosphere.

3. **Liturgy of Baptism:** This portion celebrates new life in Christ. Catechumens (those preparing to join the Church) are baptized, confirmed, and welcomed into the faith. At least water is blessed if there is no baptism. The congregation renews their baptismal promises, and the priest sprinkles holy water over the people.

4. **Liturgy of the Eucharist:** The Vigil culminates in the celebration of the Eucharist, making the first Mass of Easter. It is a joyful transition, with the return of the "Alleluia," which had been omitted during Lent.

continue next page

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM

Saturday : 8:00 AM

: 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

1:00 PM (Spanish)

1st Saturday @ 5:00 PM (Cebuano Choir)

2nd Saturday @ 5:00 PM (Tagalog Choir)

**3rd Saturday @ 5:00 PM (God the Father
of all Mankind with El Shaddai Choir)**

4th Saturday @ 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

Darlene Bastillada Wilson
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Edna Mosquera
Parish Secretary

Romulo Quiblat
Parish Council Chair

Diona Nicolo
Finance Council Chair

Maria San Pedro
Parish Trustees

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon | 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM - 12 Noon | 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Telephone: (718) 335-2626 | Mobile: (718) 737-6232 | Fax: (718) 335-4181

Email: ascensionrc@aol.com | Website: www.ascensionparishelmhurst.org

SCHOOL: Saint Adalbert Catholic Academy <https://saintadalbertca.org>

In essence, the Easter Vigil stands as a powerful expression of Christian faith - celebrating that even in the deepest darkness, new life and light will prevail. This is the truth the gospel reading today proclaims in terms of the “mystery of the empty tomb.”

Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early morning and found it empty. She ran and went to Peter and John and told them what she discovered. Both Peter and John rushed to the tomb, and found it empty. But Mary Magdalene thought that Jesus’ body was stolen.

Explaining the fact of Christ’s resurrection, St. John Chrysostom said: “If the body was stolen, the thieves would not have removed the linen; it would have been easier to carry the body with the linen than without the linen. Besides, it would be less suspicious to carry a covered body than a naked, dead body. If the body was stolen, the thieves would not have taken the leisure of folding and rolling the linen cloth and setting them neatly apart. The way the linen was arranged showed that there was no haste. At one glance, the message was clear... the man wrapped in these linen leisure stood up, removed the linen, folded it neatly and calmly walked out, that is, Christ has resurrected.”

Easter is a declaration of the victory of life over death. Death, however, never loses its power to shake us up. The loss of lives from violence never fails to shock us. The legalization of abortion and “assisted suicide,” advocating euthanasia or “mercy killing” as a right to terminate one’s suffering, the war in the Middle East and in Ukraine, the recent mass shooting in Austin, Texas, and the deadly shooting at Old Dominion University in Virginia, are horrifying. In a society promoting the culture of death, the Risen Christ, who brings life where there was death, hope where there was despair, asks us to take a stand for life.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, rose at a particular moment in history. He desires to rise again in our personal lives. Whenever a heart conquers hatred and selfishness, Christ rises again. Whenever forgiveness is offered to someone in need, Christ rises again. Whenever peace results from active commitment to justice, Christ rises again. Whenever a person dies after living a life of faith, hope and love, the Risen Christ celebrates a final victory.

May the joy of Easter fill our hearts, strengthen our faith, and inspire us to share the good news: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Praying for you all,
Fr. Anacleto

ENSURING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

The Diocese of Brooklyn has reached an agreement with the New York State Attorney General to enhance child safety measures. This agreement required updated training for all clergy, employees, and volunteers who work with children. The new training is designed to provide valuable information to help adults ensure the safety of children and adults during interactions.

If you are working with children in any capacity, please log in to your account at Virtus.org and complete any of the outstanding training items. If you have any questions, please contact 718-965-7300 X6076.

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

March 29th, 2026

1st Collection - \$6,339.00

2nd Collection - \$4,555.00 (My Easter Gift to my Church)

Upcoming Collections

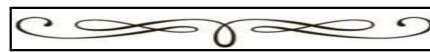
April 2nd - Holy Thursday

April 3rd - Holyland Sanctuaries

April 5th - Retired Priests

Online Giving

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



JESUS NEEDS YOU

(Priestly & Religious Vocations)

“The Lord is risen, it is true!”

Through our baptism He calls us to proclaim new life to the world. Pray for those who herald the Good News as priests, brothers and sisters. If you think God may be inviting you to such a vocation, contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org





Saturday, April 4th

8:00 PM Easter Vigil
People of the Parish

Sunday, April 5th

9:30 AM Ascension Parish Rosary Society (L) & (D)
Joventino and Angeles Maranan
Florence Irving
11:30 AM Anthony George (L)
Angelica Domingo (L)
Benjamin Napiza Sr & Benjamin Napiza Jr
1:00 PM Josafat Palacios
Felix Contreras
Beatriz Pena
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

Monday, April 6th -

8:00 AM Easter Mass Remembrance
Severiano & Florencia Madlambayan
Priscilla Napiza
Romeo Napiza Jr. & Romeo Napiza Sr.
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

Tuesday, April 7th -

8:00 AM Easter Mass Remembrance
Felipe A. Darnayla
Mark Lester Comia
Venancio & Mamerta Garabitez
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

Wednesday, April 8th -

8:00 AM Easter Mass Remembrance
Jovani Centina
Emeterio (L) & Rebecca Navarro (L)
Aura Gil (L)
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

Thursday, April 9th -

8:00 AM Easter Mass Remembrance
Rustico L. Castellano
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

Friday, April 10th -

8:00 AM Easter Mass Remembrance
Joventino and Angeles Maranan
Vilma Lao (L) & Crispiria Farillas (L)
Zelda Prichard (L)
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

Saturday, April 11th -

8:00 AM Easter Mass Remembrance
Elmira, Gloria and all Deceased Members of
the Tanoy Family
Leonardo Silverio
7:00 PM Divine Mercy

MEMORIALS

April 5 - April 11



**Altar Bread and Wine has been donated
In Loving memory of
Josafat Palacios**

**Sanctuary Lamp will burn in
Loving Memory of
Joseph Cossentino**



**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 Honor of
Richard C. Stoike**



**Paschal Candle will burn
In Loving Memory of
Joventino and Angeles Maranan**

Memorials are available, kindly contact Rectory Office



Pray for the Sick:



Rosa Tan, Lydia Go, Remedios Sioco Louie, Julissa Martinez, Luis Arnulfo, Elizabeth Yee, Joel Rivera, Gloria Patricia Rios, Harold, Diego y Kennedy Gomez, Elisa Marquina, Maria Daulo, Karla Nicole Paredes, Romelia Arenas, Rubiela Arenas, Enrique Soto, Eduardo D. Soto, Teresita Rustia Danseco, Evangeline & Victoria Danseco, Nazarette Serion, Nerissa Infante, Laura Kreft, Shirley Ann Gundran, Avelina Quilung, Dennis Anthony Calimlim, Exelito Valencia, Bonifacio Guingab, Margie Bulwag, Egbert Nuñez, Maria Dala Rosa George, Leticia Maranan, Denise Giglio, Beth Bagnol Enriquez, Cely DeBorja, Teresa Reale, Janet P. Cordi, Cristian Ardila, Rey Garcia, Susan, Elena Rivera, Lizzete Sanchez Ricardez, Aquino Zapanta, Jose Luis Peralta, Antonio Miele, Ruby Tan, Ben Gil, Jevonn Christoff Tan, Julieta Mercado, Renato Mercado, Ivan Tasayco, Mario Tasayco, Ruth Dioquino, Margarita Vasquez, Arlene Mary Ruth Rustia-Songcuan and Hans Aristotle Rustia, Jenny Chua, Ruena Chua, And Catherine Fraser, Victoriano Arroyo Barrientos, Ernesto Tapia, Josafat Palacios, Sergie Hasen Tan, Lele Uy, Damian Rudy Hernandez Velasquez, Francen Ong, Maria Fe De Jesus, Dina Niestwmpski, Lucia Vasquez and Marites Danseco, Maria Lopez, Matthew and Mary DiGiorgi. To add names, please call the Parish Office.

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal

One Church. Diverse Ministries. United Mission.

The 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the mission of our parish and the daily work of the Church in Brooklyn and Queens.

Once we exceed our goal, we will then receive 100% of all funds raised above this figure directly back to our parish for operations and improvements. Donations for this year are being accepted. Donate at Annual Catholic Appeal.org or text ACA to 917-336-1255.

Summary Report as of Marc 30, 2026

Goal: \$56,228.00

Pledged: \$18,055.00

Received: \$6,063.00

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

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 Religiosa 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 septiembre a junio. Se requiere prueba de bautismo y acta de nacimiento para todo niño registrado por primer vez. Para mas información en español llamar al 718-335-2626, en el horario de día de lunes a viernes.

Garantizando un Lugar Seguro Para Todos

La Diócesis de Brooklyn ha llegado a un acuerdo con la Fiscalía General del Estado de Nueva York para reforzar las medidas de seguridad infantil. Este acuerdo exige entrenamiento actualizado para todo el clero, empleados y voluntarios que trabajan con niños. El nuevo entrenamiento está diseñado para proporcionar información valiosa que ayuda a los adultos a garantizar la seguridad de niños y adultos durante las interacciones.

Si trabaja con niños, inicie sesión en su cuenta en Virtus.org y complete cualquiera de los elementos de entrenamiento pendientes. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese al 718-965-7300 X6076.

PRAYER GROUPS & DEVOTIONS

- Monday:** **Miraculous Medal Novena**
Mondays @ 8:30 AM
- Tuesday:** **Spanish Prayer Group @ 7:00 PM**
- Wednesday:** **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**
Novena @ 8:30 AM | Novena Mass
- Friday:** **Holy Hour / Exposition & Benediction**
1st Friday @ 8:30 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
Parish Choir Practice
3rd Friday 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (Lower Church)
Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group Choir Practice
4th Friday 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (Lower Church)
Religious Education Children's Choir
2nd, 3rd, 4th and if applicable 5th Friday @ 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (Lower Church)
- Saturday:** **2000 Hail Mary**
1st Saturday @ 8:30 AM
Lady of Mary Mediatrix of all Grace
2nd Saturday @ 8:30 AM
God the Father of All Mankind Devotion Prayer Group
3rd Saturday @ 4:00 PM Novena (Church)
followed by the 5:00 PM Mass
Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group
4th Saturday @ 4:00 PM Novena (Church)
followed by the 5:00 PM Mass
El Shaddai
2nd and 3rd Saturday
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Lower Church)
Youth Ministry
4th Saturday
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM (Lower Church)
- Sunday:** **Ascension Parish Rosary Society**
1st Sunday @ 9:30 AM (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 6:00 PM (Lower Church)
Rosary Making Ministry
To request supplies and/or pick up rosaries,
please email: marie_panas@msn.com



Religious Education Classes for Children Change in Class Schedule for September 2025

All students enrolled in Faith Formation classes are to be at the school building (P.S. 211Q Grand Avenue) at 9:00 AM, 9:15 AM Attendance
General opening prayers/Sunday Gospel reading and sharing
Class 9:30 AM—10:45 AM
10:45 AM—11:00 AM students gather their belongings
11:00 AM students and teachers walk to the Church
11:30 AM Mass with parents
After the Mass children are dismissed and can be picked up by parents.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

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 Order of Christian Initiation for Adults is the place for you. For further information please call the rectory office at 718-335-2626.

Saint's Corner:

St. Stanislaus

April 11

Stanislaus was born in 1072 in Kracow of parents who had been childless for many years and who had prayed perseveringly for the gift of a child. His parents devoted him from his birth to the service of God, and encouraged in every way the piety which he showed from early childhood. He was ordained a priest in Kracow and became the bishop of Kracow. He was saintly and an eloquent preacher that brought about a great reformation of morals among his penitents - clergy as well as laity flocking to him from all quarters for spiritual advice.

Stanislaus nurtured a special concern for the poor. It is said that after he had become a bishop, his house was always crowded with the poor, and he kept a lot of widows and other distressed persons to whom he systematically distributed gifts. Stanislaus' efforts as a religious reformer were aimed at ensuring greater justice and charity within society.

Stanislaus was a humble man. When he was still only a priest, his bishop, Lampert Zula, wanted to resign the episcopal office in his favor, but Stanislaus refused to consider the suggestion. And after Lampert's death, Stanislaus accepted to succeed him in the office of Kracow only because the population of the city exerted great pressure on him and Pope Alexander II gave him a formal order to accept the episcopal office.

Stanislaus was courageous. He lived under an immoral king, King Boleslaus II, a man of unbridled lust and savage cruelty. The young bishop courageously remonstrated with the king, first in private and then in public. And after Boleslaus kidnapped the beautiful wife of a nobleman, an act which caused a general outrage among the population, Stanislaus threatened him with excommunication. But the king persisted in his evil ways and in the end Stanislaus had no other choice than to carry out his threat. Boleslaus became so enraged at Stanislaus that he sent men to kill him. When he suspected that they were hesitant to carry out his order, he himself went to the church where Stanislaus was celebrating Mass and hacked him to pieces with his own hand.

Stanislaus was canonized in 1253 by Pope Innocent IV. He was later declared patron saint of Poland.

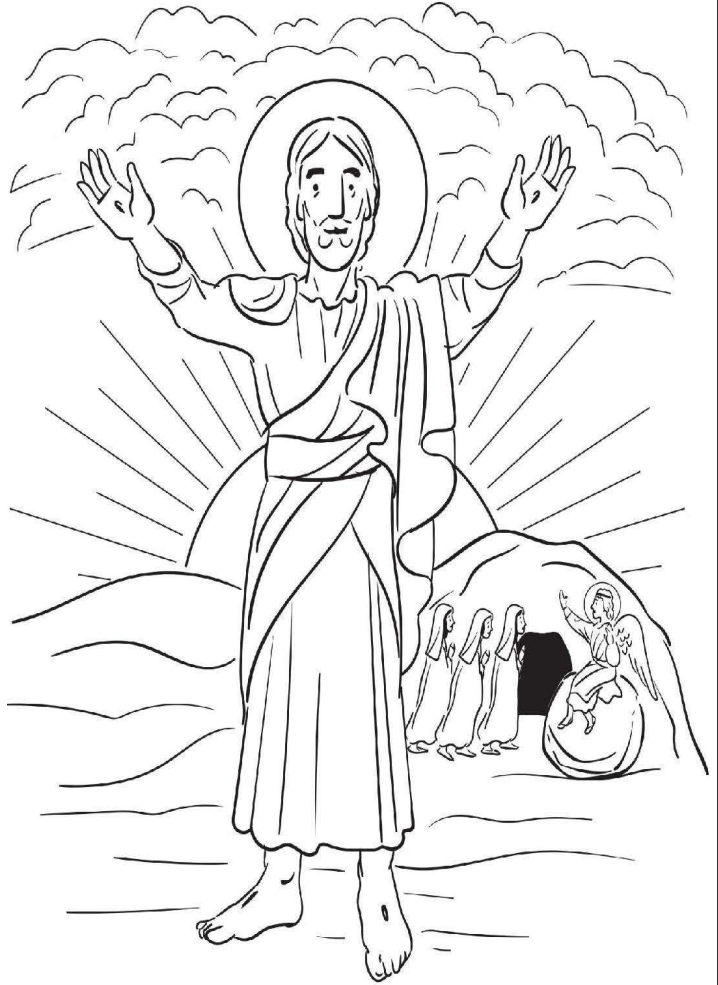
The life of St. Stanislaus illustrates a well-known fact: it is dangerous to speak the truth to the powers that be. Yet, a Christian cannot remain silent when these powers use their high position to inflict all kinds of miseries on innocent people. As the Irish statesman Edmund Burke once said: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." We may be hated for telling the truth, but by so doing we will be pleasing to God. And in the end that is really the only thing that matters.

Children's Section:



SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITIES

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. John 20:8



Visit CatholicMom.com for more resources for you and your family.
"The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together." - Venerable Patrick Peyton
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**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.

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.

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