



ASCENSION

Roman Catholic Church
86-13 55th Avenue Elmhurst, NY 11373

Pastoral 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.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 19, 2026



From the Pastor's Desk

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 19, 2026
Matthew 13:24-43

Dear Ascension Family,

Blessings of peace and good health! I hope that somehow you are enjoying the summer and able to do simple but relaxing activities with your loved ones. Indeed, each day is a brand new opportunity to enjoy God's goodness and to rise above from our daily anxieties of life.

The gospel reading we have on this Sunday are about three parables: the parable of the weeds, the parable of the mustard seed, and the parable of the yeast. Let us reflect on them.

Most of those who do a bit of gardening expect to have a weed-free garden. They see weeds as something to be got rid of. But probably some of them may have discovered that their zeal to get rid of weeds can have unfortunate consequences. I knew of someone who once sprayed a lawn that had weeds among the grass with a weed killer. He succeeded only in killing off the grass; the weeds seemed to have gotten a new lease of life. In going after weeds, we can do a certain amount of unintended collateral damage.

We can easily identify with the servants in the gospel reading who were poised to pull up the weeds that an enemy had sown in the wheat field of their master. The owner of the field, however, was a more patient man. He allowed them to let them grow together until harvest time.

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 Nicoló
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 | Fax: (718) 335-4181

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

SCHOOL: Saint Adalbert Catholic Academy

<https://saintadalbertca.org>

What in effect is Jesus teaching us through the parable? Our God, personified by the farm owner, is a patient God. He is not as impulsive as we are. He is a God of the second chance. If God immediately punished Saul for persecuting the early Christians, we would not have a St. Paul who spread the Gospel of Jesus to more places and nations than all the apostles put together. Had God immediately punished Peter who denied him before the servant of the chief priests, we would not have a St. Peter who became the head of the Church and a martyr for the faith. Only at the end, there will be a judgment and a reckoning for everyone.

A weed-free garden may be highly desirable, but the coexistence of good and bad in the world is a reality we have to live with. Good and bad people are with us in church, in our workplaces and even at home. And this reveals to us the reason why Jesus came: not as Judge but as Savior. Of course, he will be our Judge, too, but later, at the Last Judgment. The separation of the wheat and the weeds - the good and the bad - will come at harvest time, at judgment time. Meanwhile, God continues to remain ever patient and forbearing. He will give us warning signs or wake - up calls, which are moments of grace and signs of his love, so that we will not have ourselves condemned to eternal damnation.

The parable also tells us that in the same field on which the sower sows good seeds are also found the seeds of weeds. In other words, the evil that we speak out against and want to eradicate in others also thrives in us - in our hearts. We find this hard to accept since we often think that we are the good guys and others, the bad guys. But all we have to do is to look deep into our hearts to discover how wrong we are. In our hearts, as in the hearts of others, we also find anger, pride, lust and what have you. Each of us is a mixture of wheat and weed. We are each tainted by sin and yet touched by grace.

The difference between the good and the bad does not consist in the fact that the good have no weaknesses at all or do not commit sins. Rather, the good recognize their shortcomings and sins and work hard to slowly overcome them. For his part, God continually sends them the grace to succeed in their efforts.

If we fight the evil inside us, then with God's help, good deeds will come out from within us. Then there will be less evil in the world, less evil done by people to one another.

The parable of the mustard seed directs our attention to the doing of good, no matter how small. The parable of the yeast tells us that we must be pro-active. We cannot just wait for things to happen. We must make them happen, of course, with God's grace. Our calling is to grow in grace before God and others.

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

July 12th, 2026

1st Collection - \$5,053.00

2nd Collection - \$1,852.00 (Air Conditioning)

Upcoming Collections

July 19th - Church Maintenance

July 26th - Upkeep of Rectory and Grounds

August 2nd - Air Conditioning

August 9th - Church Maintenance

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 Spirit too helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought."

Do you approach the Lord in prayer with the confident strength given by the Holy Spirit asking that He make known your unique vocation? If God may be inviting you to consider the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org



**Saturday, July 18th**

5:00 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, July 19th9:30 AM Rene Clert Baterbonia
Ann Ploser Darby (L)
Rosa Tan (L)11:30 AM Ruth B. Dioquino
Peter Blum1:00 PM Josafat Palacios
Spanish Ministers of Hospitality (L)
Pedro Merlo, Ricardo Castro &
Esperanza Castro Ramirez**Monday, July 20th** - St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr8:00 AM Errol & Juliet Fern and Family
Gerardo and Marilyn Tan
Pilar Lopez & Family (L)**Tuesday, July 21st** - St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest andDoctor of the Church
8:00 AM Felciana Geronimo
Carlo & Danica Duero (L)**Wednesday, July 22nd** - St. Mary Magdalene8:00 AM Jose M. Canlas
Liza Urrutia (L)
Ruth B. Dioquino**Thursday, July 23rd** - St. Bridget, Religious8:00 AM Milagros & Javier Maranan
Liza Urrutia (L)**Friday, July 24th** - St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest8:00 AM Teresita C. Maranan (L)
Tina R. Colago (L)**Saturday, July 25th** - St. James, Apostle8:00 AM Elmira, Gloria & all deceased members
of the Tanoy Family
Daryl Guangco

Please pray for:

Deceased members of our families

**MEMORIALS**

July 19- July 25

**Altar Bread and Wine has been donated**
In Loving memory of
Richard C. Stoike**Sanctuary Lamp will burn in**
Loving Memory of
Joseph Cossentino**Altar Flowers has been donated for:**
Dolly Thwe Lee**Altar Candles will burn in**
Loving Memory of
Tom Colago**Memorials are available, kindly contact Rectory Office****Pray for the Sick:**

Rosa Tan, Lydia Go, Remedios Sico Louie, Julissa Martinez, Luis Amulfo, Elizabeth Yee, Joel Rivera, Gloria Patricia Rios, Harold, Diego y Kennedy Gomez, Elisa Marquina, Maria Daulo, Karla Nicolo Paredes, Ramella Arenas, Rubelia Arenas, Enrique Soto, Eduardo D. Soto, Teresita Rustia Dansco, Evangeline & Victoria Dansco, Nazarete Serion, Nerissa Infante, Laura Kref, Shirley Ann Gundran, Avelina Quilung, Dennis Anthony Calimlin, Exelito Valencia, Bonifacio Guingab, Margie Bulwag, Egbert Nuez, 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, Lizzette Sanchez Ricardez, Aquino Zapanta, Antonio Miele, Ruby Tan, Ben Gil, Jevonn Christoff Tan, Julieta Mercado, Renato Mercado, Ivan Tasyco, Mario Tasyco, Margarita Vasquez, Arlene Mary Ruth Rustia-Songcuan and Hans Aristolite Rustia, Jenny Chua, Wena Chua, Catherine Fraser, Victoriano Arroyo Barrientos, Emesio Tapia, Sergie Jensen Tan, Juliana Tan, Lele Uy, Francen Ong, Maria Fe De Jesus, Dina Mandap Niestemski, Lucia Vasquez and Marites Dansco, Maria Lopez, Matthew and Mary DiGiorgi, Angela Z. Reddin, Alba Lucia Vigoya, Esperanza Ortega de Moreno, Josie Licas and Ashley Martinez Morales. 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 July 13, 2026

Goal: \$56,228.00

Pledged: \$44,494.00

Received: \$25,443.00

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**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 con un mes de anticipación. Llamar a la oficina parroquial para más información.

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 Católicos.

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

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 más información en español llamar al 718-335-2626, en el horario de día de lunes a Sábado.

Horario de Clases para Septiembre 2026

Todos los estudiantes inscritos en las clases de Educación Religiosa deben de estar en el edificio de la escuela (86-37 53 Ave.) a las 9:00 AM. Asistencia será a las 9:15 AM seguido por Oración, lectura del Evangelio dominical y discusión. Las clases serán de 9:30 AM a 10:45 AM. Después de clases: 10:45 AM a 11:00 AM los estudiantes recogen sus libros y caminan hacia la Iglesia con sus maestros para la Misa de 11:30 AM, Misa de familia. Después de la Misa los niños son despedidos y pueden ser recogidos por sus padres.

Inscripciones para el programa del próximo año escolar se están actualizando al presente. Favor de pasar por la Oficina Parroquial para recoger la registración o para más información.

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, inició 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
Spanish Prayer Group @ 7:00 PM
- Tuesday:**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Novena @ 8:30 AM | Novena Mass
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 Hall Mary
1st Saturday @ 8:30 AM
Lady of Mary, Medatrix 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 Class Schedule for September 2026

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.

Registrations for Faith Formation are presently being accepted at the Rectory Office for classes from: 1st - 8th Grades. Proof of baptism and birth certificate is required for children who are being registered for the first time. For further information on registration please call the rectory office at 718-335-2626.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OICA)

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. Henry

July 13

The 19th-century English historian and statesman Lord Acton (1834-1902) wrote a famous phrase that is often repeated in reference to politics and politicians. It goes like this: "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Many people would probably agree that this phrase contains a lot of truth. But not all powerful people become corrupted by their power.

A good example of such an exception is today's saint. Although for 22 years he was Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, therefore the most powerful man of his time, crowned by no less than Pope Benedict VIII himself, nevertheless he managed not only to avoid becoming corrupt by his great power but also to become a canonized saint. Given the many temptations accompanying his exalted position, that is no mean achievement.

Henry was born in Germany in 973. He was the son of the Duke of Bavaria. He received a good Christian education. In 995 he succeeded his father as Duke of Bavaria, and in the year 1002 was elected Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire.

As emperor Henry concentrated his efforts in two directions: the establishment of a lasting peace in Europe and the reform of the Church. To achieve his first objective, Henry had to crush rebellions and feuds. This involved him in many battles, especially in Italy. To achieve his second objective, he gave substantial financial support to the dioceses and monasteries, and supported a general reform movement in the Church. According to the custom of his time, which allowed him to appoint bishops, he chose good and competent men as much as possible. He also founded many monasteries. He also took part in numerous synods aimed at reforming the Church.

Henry did his job as best as he could. Unavoidably, he was a man of his times and therefore suffered from the limitations of those times. For example, he did not understand as clearly as we probably do what are the respective roles of Church and State. Maybe, too, he used force when diplomacy and peaceful means might have succeeded just as well. But, granted such limitations, he remains a model king in many respects. At any rate, the least that can be said of him is that he has shown to the world that holiness is possible even in the busy life of layman engaged in a profession. He was canonized in 1146 by Pope Eugene III.

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.



SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITIES

He spoke to them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

Matthew 13: 33



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"The Family That Prays Together, Stays Together" - Venerable Patrick Peyton
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