

## The Church of the Ascension

Rockville Centre, New York

## Hello Everyone!!

Welcome to Lent!! We kicked off Lent with our Ash Wednesday services. And in leu of our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, we combined it with our Children's Prayer Breakfast and had Parish Pancake Breakfast. And how delicious it was!! Father Kevin than took the children into the church and spoke to them about Lent and the litany procession that we were going to have that day. The children stayed in church for the beginning of the service and participated in the litany with the congregation.

During Lent, we will hear the stories that lead us up to Holy Week and talk about focusing on what we can do better, rather than sacrificing or giving something up. The kids have been asked to set a goal for themselves for the next 40 days. They were given a stone walkway to color in each day and return on Easter Sunday before the Easter egg hunt. We are also continuing our annual Lenten project of coin boxes. The boxes were handed out on Ash Wednesday, as well as the first Sunday in Lent (there are still extra available in the basket in the Sunday School), this is to collect change and bring the box back on Good Friday and they be sent to Jerusalem. We will also spend time each week during Lent learning the 10 Commandments. We will be doing our Mary Brennan Inn Collection this Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please bring in a non-perishable item (can goods).

During Lent the parish has a soup and scripture session, where Father Kevin leads a scripture study of the gospel of Matthew. This is open to everyone in the parish and is on Wednesdays at 6:00pm in the parish hall.

Holy Week will be a busy time for the parish. We will kick it off with a very special Palm Sunday this year, so please be sure to attend and stay tuned for the announcements for the activities for the day!

On Thursday, March 28th, at 6pm: Maundy Thursday Agape Dinner followed by the service. The children will participate in the service, please let me know if you will be able to attend.

Friday, March 29th 12pm Good Friday Service

Sunday, March 31st: Easter Sunday, Regular Services, NO SUNDAY SCHOOL. The Easter Egg Hunt following 10:30am service, bring your Easter baskets!!

In April and during May we will start our communion instruction classes. The first communion instruction class will be offered to any child that is in 3rd grader or higher. The instruction will be given during the Sunday School classes on Sunday April 21st, April 28th, May 5th and 12th. The children must attend all classes. There will be homework for this preparation. Communion Sunday will be on Sunday, May 19th during the 10:30am service. Please let me know by Sunday, April 7th if your child will be participating. As always, if you have any questions, please let me know.

Blueberry will continue his adventures, please be sure to email pictures of your kids with him so we can add them to our Instagram Wall.

Please be sure to follow the church on Facebook (Church of the Ascension-Rockville Centre), on Instagram (ascensionrvc) and check out the new website <a href="http://www.ascensionrvc.org/">http://www.ascensionrvc.org/</a> for updates and pictures.

As always, if you have any questions, please let me know. If you have any suggestions for fun or would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact myself or Father Kevin.

Sincerely, Lisa Chiara