TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD PARISH

December 6, 2020

23 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904
Phone: 732-572-0977 • Fax: 732-572-7497
Website: transfiguration-parish.com
Parish Email: transfiguration.parish@verizon.net
Religious Education Email: edisonparish@verizon.net

St. Paul the Apostle Church
Corner of 6th & Raritan Avenue
Highland Park, NJ 08904

Guardian Angels Church
37 Plainfield Avenue
Edison, NJ 08817

Vision Statement

The vision of Transfiguration of the Lord Parish is to have an enlightening and transforming experience of God through a greater faith and knowledge of Jesus.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

St. Paul the Apostle
Sunday – 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass
Daily Mass: Mon. Wed. and Fri. – 8:00 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance By Appointment

Guardian Angels
Saturday Vigil–4:00 p.m. Sunday – 8:30 & 11:15 a.m.
Daily Mass: Tues. Thurs. and Sat. 9:00 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance Saturday 3:00 – 3:30 p.m.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION AS ANNOUNCED IN BULLETIN
Devotions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, Wednesday, St. Paul's
Novenas for Miraculous Medal and St. Jude: Tuesday at 9 a.m. Mass, Guardian Angels

Eucharistic Adoration
Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Guardian Angels

Rev. Abraham Lotha, PhD, Pastor
Deacon Edward Krupa
Carol Terzino, Administrative Assistant
Parish Office Hours—Monday through Thursday—9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Friday—9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

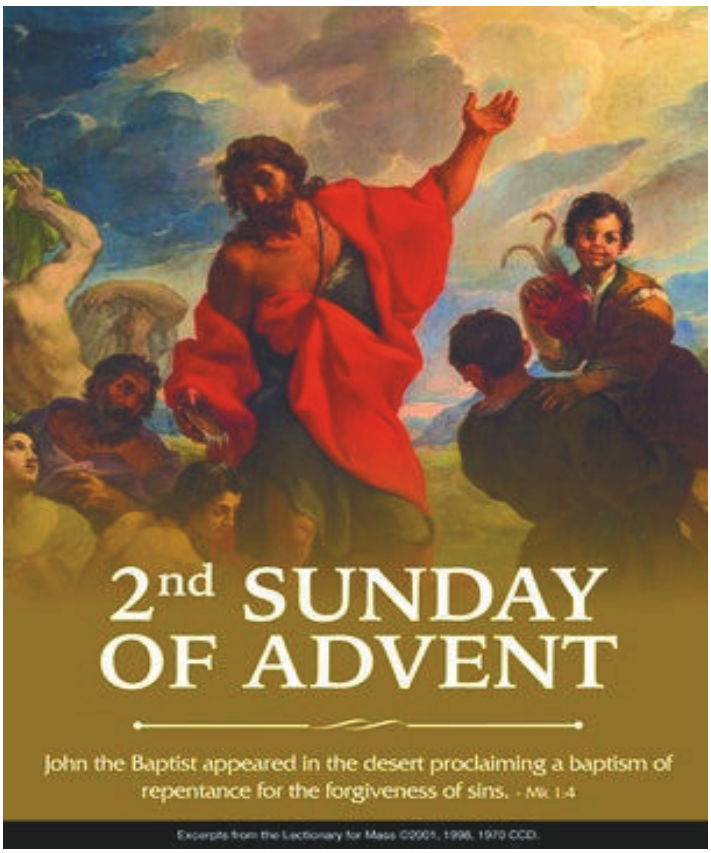
Parish Membership: We welcome new members to our Parish family and request you register in the Parish as soon as possible. Active membership is determined by registration, faithful participation and giving of one's time, talent and resources to this community of faith. **The parish cannot issue certificates of eligibility for sacramental sponsorship, give recommendations or character references if a person is not an active parishioner.**

The Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism is the celebration through which a child is brought into the faith of the Catholic Church. Parents must be registered and practicing members of the parish. Parents and sponsors are required to attend a pre-baptismal class. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics in good standing and able to obtain a certificate of eligibility from their parish.

Sacrament of Matrimony: The Sacrament of Matrimony requires a time of spiritual, intellectual and emotional preparation. Couples should arrange with the Parish Office one (1) year prior to the wedding date. Please call the parish office for an appointment with the pastor prior to making any other wedding plans.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Anyone who feels called by God to become a member of the Catholic Church participates in the RCIA Program. A series of instructions and liturgical ceremonies designed to give total formation in the Catholic Faith.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Any parishioner who is sick, aged or incapacitated may receive the Eucharist at home. Please contact the Parish Office to have a priest visit you at home or in the hospital.



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 7 - St. Ambrose
St. Paul's Church
8:00 a.m. Valeria Fluta†
Requested by: Diane Szumski

Tuesday, December 8 - The Immaculate Conception
St. Paul's Church
8:00 a.m. **The Greater Gerald & Mary O'Connor Family**
Requested by: John O'Connor
Guardian Angels Church
9:00 a.m. Concetta Spadora†
Requested by: Rose & Sons
6:00 p.m. Ed Flanagan & Kevin Riordan†
Requested by: Geri Flanagan

Wednesday, December 9
St. Paul's Church - St. Martin of Tours
8:00 a.m. Madeline Asfour (birthday)
Requested by: Geralyn Evanowski

Thursday, December 10
Guardian Angels Church
9:00 a.m. Catherine McLouglin Scanlon†

Friday, December 11
St. Paul's Church
8:00 a.m. Gregory Herrera†
Requested by: John O'Connor

Saturday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
Guardian Angels Church
9:00 a.m. Carol Rakoncza & Nicole Vila (birthday)
Requested by: Geralyn Evanowski
4:00 p.m. Natividad, Sisinando & Juanita Atienza, Eleanor & Ediblberto Zoleta†
Requested by: Josie Subio

Sunday, December 13—Third Sunday of Advent
St. Paul's Church
10:00 a.m. Elizabeth Levy†
Requested by: Noreen Horvath
Elizabeth Antonelli†
Requested by: Ann Seibert
12:30 p.m. People of the Parish
Guardian Angels Church
8:30 a.m. Christine Suchnek†
Requested by: Family
11:15 a.m. Virginia Garruto†
Requested by: husband, Sam

Donations for Memorial & Intentions 2021

Thank you to all the donors for the following items for our parish for 2021:
Breaking Bread Hymnals - $1,980 - Garlatti Family
Celebremos (Spanish Hymnal) - $276-anonymous
Wine—$500 - Minerva Brizuela & Lourdes Lindaya
Hosts—$1,000—$500 In Memory of William & Arlene Eichler and $500 anonymous
Hosts (Low Gluten)-$75.00-anonymous
Palm Leaves—$250—anonymous
Candles & Candle Oil—anonymous

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed to sell ShopRite Cards during the weekend masses If interested, please call Cathy McComiskey at 732/572-4129. Thank you.

Remember Your Parish

Please remember your parish in your Will. A popular way of remembering your parish is through a bequest in your will or estate plan. This can be handled very easily through your attorney by simply specifying a percentage or a fixed dollar amount of your estate is to be given to your parish.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE
Guardian Angels Worship Site

Saturday, December 12 4:00 p.m.
Lector: Catherine O'Neill
Eucharistic Minister Lilly Ramirez, Norma Padernal
Ushers: R. Marlow, T. Cherepon, M. Cherepon

Sunday, December 13 8:30 a.m.
Lector: Mike White
Eucharistic Minister: Rodel Santos, Angelo Damone
Ushers: A. Damone, J. Markano, C. Suzberic

Sunday, December 13 11:15 a.m.
Lector: Elise Abramik
Eucharistic Minister: Gloria Rada, Hermie Tenchavez
Ushers P. Weir, J. Virrey, T. Sinker

St. Paul the Apostle Worship Site

Sunday, December 13 10:00 a.m.
Lector: Marybeth Iannacone
Eucharistic Minister: Joan McArdle
Ushers: G. Emmett, J. Adadevoh, J. Swamy

Please pray for the sick and homebound,
Peggy Abecker
Ruth Bach
Dorothy Baum
Rita Beckhorn
Alfred Broderick
Carol Byrne
Charles Byrne
Steven Dempsey
Migdalia Diaz
Dee Donnelly
Felipe Elimanco
Ed Firgau
Martha Gutierrez
Mark Iannacone
Sr. Donna Kane
Brittany Knapp
John Kriegl
Kathy Lamela
Nicholas Lawrence
Anthony Lepore
David Lightener
Adam Lubonski
Donovan Mak
Joan McArdle
Paul Millar
Dolores Neumann
Stephanie P.
Paul Pachucki
Ellen Pelosi
Kathy Young Phillips
Antonia Sacristan
Dolores Sadowski
Olga Santiago
Robert F. Santoro
Jack Santos
Mickey Schiavone
Marge Shirley
Camille Silverman
Joseph Skalla
Cathy Roesinger Sloane
Steve & Alice Marie Sloss
Christina Stevenson
Helen Szaranowski
Jean Toth
Frank Valendo
Joe Valendo
William B. Zalek

Please pray for all victims of the coronavirus, doctors, nurses, medical staff, first responders, grocery store workers and families with loved ones suffering from this illness.

Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at Guardian Angels is offered in memory of O'Connell & Garvey Families by Cathy McComiskey

Prayers for Military Personnel

Rear Admiral David G. Manero, Navy
Sgt. Kevin Klemick, Marines
Captain Hayes Cozza, Marines
First Lieutenant Santino Cozza, Air Force
Corporal Thomas G. Monahan, Marines
SPC. Brandon D'Souza
Airman Tamari Bailey, Air Force
Captain Michael Asprocola, Marines
Sgt. Preston Zalek, Army
Chief Petty Officer Joseph M. Zalek, Navy
SR Cullen McArdle, Navy
Please call the Parish Office if you have a family member serving in the Armed Services & would like to be included.

From the Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters,

Advent greetings to all of you!

Because of the ongoing pandemic we canceled the Ministries Appreciation Dinner on December 12th but our gratitude to all the parish volunteers is beyond words. Just like the heroic frontline workers in the society, our parish benefits tremendously from the generosity and sacrifices made by the many volunteers for our various ministries. On behalf of the parish, we thank all the volunteers who help our parish in many ways. **Thank you, thank you, thank you.** May God continue His work in the world and the Church through your stewardship. May God reward you and your families with good health and happiness.

Gratefully yours, Fr Abraham

Holy Day of Obligation—Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule

St. Paul the Apostle 8:00 a.m.
Guardian Angels 9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Parish Office Closed

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Morning worship 5 AM and Spanish Mass at 7 PM both at St. Paul's

Wednesday, December 16 to Thursday 24: Las Posadas at St. Paul's

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Vigil Masses at Guardian Angels 4: 00 PM and 9:00 PM

Friday, December 25: Christmas Day
Mass at St. Paul's 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM (Spanish)
Mass at Guardian Angels 8:30 AM and 11:15 AM

Parish Mass Headcount—November 2020

	7/8	14/15	21/22	28/29	Total
Sat. 4pm	119	114	103	87	423
Sun. 8:30am	69	59	71	73	272
Sun. 10 am	52	51	61	58	222
Sun. 11:15 am	69	58	54	77	258
Sun. 12:30 pm (Spanish)	48	66	62	48	224
Total	**357**	**348**	**351**	**343**	**1,399**

Mass Attendance, 2019 and 2020

Year	Guardian Angels	St. Paul's	Spanish	Total
2019				
Percentage	59.2 %	22.2%	18.6 %	100%
Average Weekly	426	160	134	720
2020				
Percentage	68%	16%	16%	100%
Average Weekly	239	56	56	351

CHRISTMAS TREES WISHES AND MEMORIAL

We wish to thank all who responded to our parish Christmas Tree Project. A total of 102 three were taken. Our churches will be surrounded by beautifully illuminated trees from 3:45 pm, to 11pm during the Advent and Christmas Season. Thank you.

OFFERINGS

Sunday Offertory **11/22/20** - $3,955 & **11/29**—$4,157
ShopRite - **11/22** $1,420—$71 & **11/29** $1,720-$86
Bring a Dollar - **11/22** $165 & **11/29** $148
Works of Mercy 11/22—$944
Mission Co-op 11/29-$684

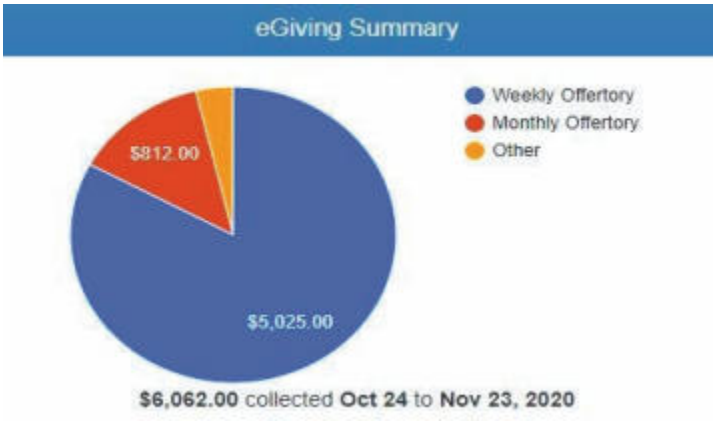
Total Guardian Angels Stove Project To Date- $9,927

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will not be able to use the kitchen stove for the next few months. We are temporarily suspending collections for the stove project. Instead our next project will be for snow removal. Thank you for your generosity.

Snow Removal

As of 11/22 & 29/20

Shop Rite:	$ 602
Bring a Dollar to Church	1,462
Movie Night	250
Donation	25
Total	$ 2,339



SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, December 12th & 13th, there will be a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. The proceeds from this collection will be designated exclusively to support retired religious Sisters and Brother of the United States.

50/50

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Gabriel Grados for winning the 50/50 for the month of November.

E-giving: Faith Direct

During this time of uncertainty, we thank all parishioners who are mailing in or dropping off their weekly offerings. As we to continue to deal with this global pandemic, Transfiguration of the Lord needs your support now more than ever! Our parish has introduced a new and secure way for you to support our parish offertory and second collections: *Faith Direct*. *Faith Direct* enables parishioners to make your Church contributions even when you can't make it to church. Now, through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. You can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments. *Faith Direct* also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket for when we are finally able to come together again for Mass. For this way of giving will continue to be a stable and effective way for the parish to receive your gifts. Please join me in enrolling by responding to the email you will receive or visit faith.direct/**NJ1058** to enroll securely online.

Nuestra Visión Parroquial

La visión de la Parróquia de la Transfiguración del Señor es vivir una experiencia de Dios que nos ilumine y nos transforme a causa de un mejor conocimiento de Jesús y una fé

Coordinatores

Lectores: Tony Martin
Ministros eucarísticos: Maria Pinelo
Servidores de altar: Elizabeth Martinez

El sacramento del bautismo

El bautismo es la celebración a través de la cual un niño es llevado a la fe de la Iglesia Católica. Los padres deben estar registrados y practicando miembros de la parroquia. Los padres están obligados a asistir a una clase pre-bautismal. Los padrinos deben ser católicos practicantes y poder obtener un certificado de elegibilidad de su parroquia.

Membresia Parroquial

Nuevos residents de la comunidad son bienvenidos a registrarse como feligreses. Tambien les pedimos que cualquier combio de direccion, correo electronico o numbero de telefono sea sometido a la oficina de la parroquia con prontitud.

RCIA

Cualquiera que se sienta llamado por Dios para convertirse en miembro de la Iglesia Católica participa en el programa RICA. Una serie de instrucciones y ceremonias litúrgicas diseñadas para dar buena información en la fe católica.

Cuidado pastoral de los enfermos

Cualquier feligrés que esté enfermo, envejecido o incapacitado puede recibir la eucaristía en casa. Por favor llame a la oficina de la parroquia.

Misa Intención Especial

Favor de tener presente que usted puede ofrecer una misa para sus seres queridos o una intención especial. Vea el boletín para las fechas disponibles en abril.

Educación Religiosa

La clases se reunen de 11:00 am a 12:10 pm en el centro de la parroquia aquí en Highland Park. Se requiere asistencia consistente.

From the Pastor:

¡Durante este tiempo de incertidumbre, la Transfiguration of the Lord necesita su apoyo ahora más que nunca! Quiero presentarles una forma nueva y segura de apoyar nuestro ofertorio parroquial y nuestras segundas colecciones: Faith Direct. Faith Direct permite a los feligreses hacer sus contribuciones a la Iglesia, incluso cuando no puede asistir a la iglesia. Ahora, a través de débito directo de su cuenta corriente / de ahorro o de su tarjeta de crédito / débito. Puede aplicar la conveniencia del débito directo a las ofertas de su parroquia de la misma manera que ahora puede usarlo para hacer sus pagos de hipoteca, automóvil o matrícula.

Faith Direct también le ofrece tarjetas de ofertorio personalizadas para reemplazar sus sobres para la canasta de recolección para cuando finalmente podamos reunirnos nuevamente para la misa. Para esta forma de dar seguirá siendo una forma estable y efectiva para que la parroquia reciba sus regalos

Únase a mí para inscribirse respondiendo al correo electrónico que recibirá o visite faith.direct/NJ1058 para inscribirse de forma segura en línea. ¡Dios te bendiga! Rev. Abraham Lotha

EL ENCUENTRO MATRIMONIAL MUNDIAL LOS INVITA A VIVIR LA EXPERIENCIA 3RE.
Worldwide Marriage Encounter invites you to the virtual 3RE experience.

PARROQUIA SAN JOSÉ EN BOUND BROOK PROGRAMA ESPECIAL PARROQUIA SAN JOSÉ EN BOUND BROOK PROGRAMA ESPECIAL PARA ADVIENTO Y NAVIDAD
(Special Advent and Christmas Program - St Joseph Church, Bound Brook) PARA ADVIENTO Y NAVIDAD
(Special Advent and Christmas Program - St Joseph Church, Bound Brook) Los **Lunes** de Adviento **-30 de Noviembre, 7, 14 y 21 de Diciembre- a las 6:00 PM** se ofrecerá la antigua práctica monástica de la Lectio Divina. Durante la temporada de Adviento y Navidad la parroquia ofrecerá una **Misa Dominical** adicional en español a las **6:00 PM, iniciando este Domingo 29 de Noviembre**. Visite la página de la parroquia

CARIDADES CATÓLICAS
OFRECE ASISTENCIA LEGAL GRATUITA PARA SOLICITAR LA CIUDADANÍA

(Catholic Charities are currently providing free legal services for anyone who is eligible for citizenship and wants to apply).

Question for Children: How do you experience God taking care of you, even in times of trouble?
Question for Youth: John went out to announce the good news of the Messiah's coming. How can you be good news to your friends and family this week?
Question for Adults: When you hear Isaiah comfort the people by promising that God is like a shepherd who gathers the lambs into his arms, what is your response?

Youth Ministry

Transfiguration youth group meets on Wednesday for any high school age students! Meetings will be held virtually via Zoom and begin at 7:00 pm. A link to the meeting will be sent out weekly. If you would like to participate please email Sean O'Brien, Youth Minister, at smv.obrien@gmail.com, with your name, grade and school. We will continue to monitor the situation and update everyone when meetings are able to be held in-person.

Amoris Laetitia: Proclaiming the Gospel of the family today

204. The response to the consultation also insisted on the need for training lay leaders who can assist in the pastoral care of families, with the help of teachers and counsellors, family and community physicians, social workers, juvenile and family advocates, and drawing upon the contributions of psychology, sociology, marital therapy and counselling. Professionals, especially those with practical experience, help keep pastoral initiatives grounded in the real situations and concrete concerns of families. "Courses and programmes, planned specifically for pastoral workers, can be of assistance by integrating the premarital preparation programme into the broader dynamic of ecclesial life".235 Good pastoral training is important "especially in light of particular emergency situations arising from cases of domestic violence and sexual abuse".236 All this in no way diminishes, but rather complements, the fundamental value of spiritual direction, the rich spiritual treasures of the Church, and sacramental Reconciliation.

Renewal of our Diocesan consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe

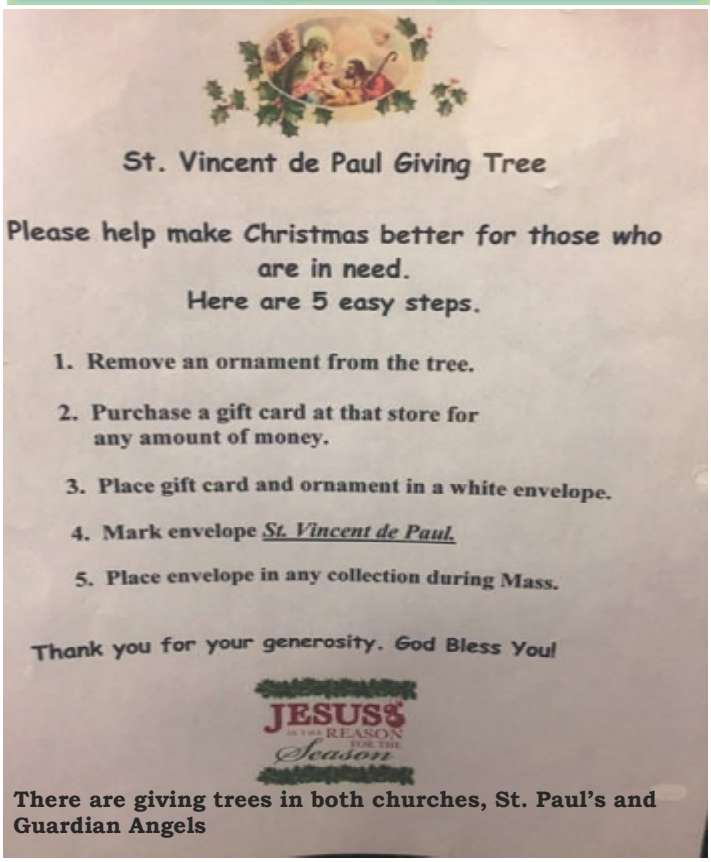
The Bishop is inviting the faithful of our Diocese to virtually join him in praying the rosary and in praying together for a renewal of our consecration on December 11th at 5:00 PM. The event will be livestreamed using our diocesan social media platforms and will also be available on our evangelization website: www.lightingheartsonfire.org. The prayer service is one of the many activities that will take place throughout the week of Dec. 6th – 13th to honor the one-year anniversary of the consecration of our local Church. Please see the website for the full schedule of activities.

Thank You!

Dear parishioners at Transfiguration,

Recently, your pastor, Fr. Abraham, allowed for a Christmas/greeting card collection to occur at your parish for the women incarcerated at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women, in Clinton. Nearly 1,000 cards were collected! Your response to this need was overwhelming and due to your generosity we have been able to provide every woman at Edna Mahan with Christmas cards, with some remaining for next year. We also have a good assortment of general greeting cards to distribute as well. A deep expression of thanks to Brian Szura, for undertaking this project. Words themselves could never express the gratitude of the Chaplains, but more importantly, the gratitude of the women, for your goodness to them. May God reward you a hundred-fold.

Sr. Kathleen Rooney, SSJ, Chaplain, EMCFW



There are giving trees in both churches, St. Paul's and Guardian Angels

Church Humor:

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, 'What are you charged with?' The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.' 'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?' 'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.

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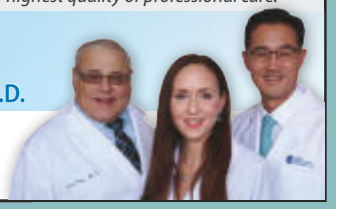

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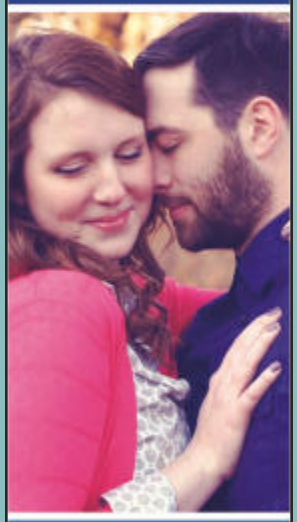

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