

Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor

Rev. David W. Milliken

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Tim Graff

Parish Business Manager

Serina Sharkey

Director of Maintenance

Brendan Suter

Director of Music

Glenn Gordon

Parish Trustees

Christopher Cudina

Elizabeth Delgado

Religious Education Center

Theresa Carbone, Coordinator of Religious Education

Jeanette MacNish, Coordinator for Grades 7 & 8

Dena Sedlak, Coordinator of First Penance and

First Holy Communion



+ Our Pastoral Life +

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome all new parishioners to our parish family. Every family participating regularly in the spiritual life of our parish is encouraged to register at the Parish Office. Please inform us if you are moving.

BAPTISM:

It is mandatory to attend a baptism instruction class before scheduling the date for the baptism. Baptism is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents must be registered parishioners and must attend pre-Baptism instruction usually given on the first Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room. Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing. Pre-registration at the Parish Office is necessary prior to the Baptism instruction.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Other times by appointment. Communal Penance Services are celebrated seasonally.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

Please notify the Rectory of any elderly, shut-ins, or sick at home who wish to receive the Eucharist or Anointing of the Sick. Priests of the parish will be happy to visit parishioners in the hospitals in the area. Please notify the Parish Office if someone from your family is in the hospital and wishes a priest to visit.

WEDDINGS:

Please make arrangements at the Parish Office with one of the priests of the parish one year in advance.



The Epiphany of the Lord January 3, 2021

+ Our Parish Mission Statement +

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we, the Catholic Community of the Church of the Ascension, New Milford, commit ourselves to celebrate the Gospel of Jesus in Sacrament and Prayer. We dedicate ourselves to foster a warm and loving parish of concern and service for the individual, family and total community.

+ Our Eucharistic Celebrations +

Saturday

8:30 a.m.

5:30 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday

7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Monday - Friday

One Daily Mass at 8:30am

8:00am Summer

7:30 p.m. (Fridays during Lent)

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.

Please see inside bulletin for Holiday Mass time

+ Our Devotions +

Novena in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Rosary is prayed Monday through Saturday 7:15 a.m.



PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PARISH CENTER/RECTORY

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

(201) 836-8961 • FAX: (201) 836-5896

Website: www.churchoftheascension.com

E-mail: ascension@optonline.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

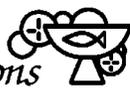
256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

(201) 836-3085 • Fax (201) 836-5896

E-mail: ascensionreled@optonline.net

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 3, 2021

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Julie & Phil Carbone

11:30 Maria Luisa Cardona

Monday, January 4, 2021

8:30 Pat & Peg Mulvihill

8:30 Benny Santiago, First Anniversary

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

8:30 Nicandro Pagarigan

8:30 Matthew Camerlengo

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

8:30 Angel Dizon, Sr.

Thursday, January 7, 2021

8:30 Louise Avdalas

Friday, January 8, 2021

8:30 Nancy Catello

Saturday, January 9, 2021

8:30 Angel Cabezudo, Sr.

5:30 Anne & Harry Sommo

The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

7:30 All Children Baptized in 2020

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Marra, Pallotta Family

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

December 20, 2020:	\$ 2,914.00
Social Concerns:	\$ 822.00
Christmas:	\$18,311.00
Christmas WeShare:	\$ 3,650.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$ 2,146.00
December 27, 2020:	\$ 3,767.00

Thank you very much for your generosity. You always care for and support our Parish programs, ministries and plant maintenance.

Readings for Sunday, January 10, 2021

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10
[11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:
1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/
Mk 1:7-11



To be honest, we really know very little historical information about the three Wise Men. Most of the popular ideas about them came from stories and paintings from much earlier generations. Some recent vivid and joyful images come from the Gian Carlo Menotti operetta, "Amahl and the Night Visitor."

Our images of Mary and Jesus also need refreshment from time to time. Our Holy Father Emeritus, Pope Benedict, when he was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, said, "The images of Christ and the saints are not photographs. Their whole point is to lead us beyond what can be apprehended at the merely material level, to awaken new senses in us, and to teach us a new kind of seeing, which perceives the Invisible in the visible."

These are indeed wise words. In today's world, religious images don't just hang on museum walls, but fly around everywhere from comic books to newspapers, on videos from UTube to Facebook, on late night television, or passed around on people's BlackBerries and cell phones. We may not like all of these images, but we can't live in a fortress, trying to avoid them. We urgently have to develop what the Holy Father calls "a new kind of seeing," going behind the visible to the Invisible, so that we can grab the good and helpful meanings, and leave behind whatever is vulgar, destructive, or simply stupid.

Like us, the Jews of Jesus' time had difficulty looking beyond the visible, to the Invisible: God lies here in the flesh! Christ has finally appeared as the salvation of the whole creation! The Magi symbolize those of us who have eyes to see, who rush to offer our gifts with humility. As the bumper sticker says, "Wise men and women still seek him."

✘ On this Epiphany Day, as we remember the Wise Men bringing their gifts to the child Jesus, let me thank all who have so generously given of themselves this Christmas here at Ascension—

—Thank you to those who helped long hours making our church so beautiful for the Christmas Season and those who contributed for the trees and flowers.

—Thank you to Fr. Tim and Pastoral Staff and to our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Ushers, Liturgy and Worship Committee members, and especially our Choirs for helping to make the Advent and Christmas liturgies so joyful and so richly meaningful.

—Thank you to those who took care of our Giving Tree and the gifts for the needy, and all who spent extra time in our Food Pantry to make sure the less fortunate could celebrate Christmas.

—Of course, special thanks to our parishioners for your presence in our Ascension family and for the generous stewardship of treasure so many of you continue to offer to this parish. I always feel so blessed being here among you wonderful people.

—Thank you to those who sent gifts, cards, and "goodies" to the Rectory for Christmas. Your thoughtfulness is always appreciated!

May Epiphany remind us of the gifts we are called to be to one another each and every day!

✘ Sunday, January 10th, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord which brings the Christmas Season to its conclusion. We will take down our Christmas decorations after the 8:30am Mass. As always, our parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.

✘ Next Sunday, January 10th, we will celebrate Santo Nino, at the 11:30am Mass. We will bless Santo Nino statues during the Mass.

Know that I pray for you every day. Please pray for me, too. God Love You!

Fr. David

HARRISON HOUSE

Help is needed for 2021...We are in need of ONE more person/family who is/are willing to prepare a meal at home (one time) for 8 people and deliver it to Harrison House (on the grounds of Bergen Regional Medical Center) for the year 2021. Our parish has the 4th Wednesday of each month. Please call Hanna or Mary Lee, Chairpersons of our Aids Ministry, (201) 261-9246. if you can help. Thank you.



SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communions, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the parish office to check availability.

BREAKING BREAD

With Daily Mass Propers

Our Hymnals/Missalletes with daily and Sunday readings for the 2021 Liturgical Year are available. You may purchase one for your use the cost \$6.00 each. Please see Father David after mass or call the parish office (201-836-8961).



MEMORIALS

“THANK YOU”...to those who have contributed to our Memorials Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the rectory with the coupon below. When an item is purchased we will notify you which item is in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call Fr. David at the Parish Office (201)836-8961.

Additional Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)

MEMORIAL CANDLES:	\$ 150/1 Year
	\$20/30 Days
ALTAR BREAD AND WINE	\$40 per week
ALTAR FLOWERS	\$50
	(per basket/per week)
SANCTUARY CANDLE	\$15 per week

MEMORIAL FUND

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Donation Amt.: _____
 In Memory of: _____
 Date Requested: _____



Calendar:

- January 3, 2021 – Packet Drop off/ Pick up from 9 am to 10:30 am
- January 4, 2021 – Packet Drop off / Pick up from 6:30 pm to 7:30pm
- January 5, 2021 – 1st to 6th grades Chapter 11 reviews are due
- January 7, 2021 – 7th grade Chapter 9 review due, 8th grade Chapter 3 review due, & 9th grade Chapter 9 review due.

Important:

I will keep all families posted on whether or not we will begin In-Person class starting in February.

Parents are reminded to have their children do their weekly assignments and submit to Mrs. Carbone the on-line work for the Sunday Program by Tuesday and the Monday & Wednesday Program by Wednesday of each week. 9th Grade Parents please check your emails for the weekly Chapter reviews. Anyone that has any questions please contact Mrs. Carbone. Please make sure that all directions are followed on all sheets in the packet.



Volunteers Needed:

- † We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2020-2021 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085
- † Children’s Liturgy of the Word Team member. This is a great opportunity for college students or student teachers to gain experience sharing their faith and working with students in a relaxed atmosphere. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

Religious Education Office Hours:
 Monday – Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – In Parish Center
 Other times by appointment

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
 FLYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*BULLETINS
 UPCOMING EVENTS
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM**

JANUARY 3, 2021

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

UP-DATED Directives for Parish Liturgical Celebrations during the Covid 19 Pandemic

The guidelines below, given by Cardinal Tobin, apply to all churches and must be observed without exception.

1. Cardinal Tobin continues to dispense the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday & Holy Days.
2. In accord with national, state and local health directives, those who show symptoms of COVID-19, who have been exposed to an infected person, or have traveled to unsafe places listed on the CDC.gov website, are not permitted to enter the church for 14 days. *It is recommended that before Mass, everyone should check their temperature at home before coming to Church.*
 - Those who are at risk because of an underlying health issue are strongly encouraged to avoid the risks posed by attendance at public celebrations of the Mass
3. Masks must be worn by all individuals while in the church.
4. Individuals must maintain social distancing (six feet) between each person while in the church.
5. A household may be seated together and not observe social distancing.

A household is defined as those people who have been living together under the same roof in close proximity throughout the quarantine. It does not include relative from other addressed or other extended family.

Note: There still will be a risk for anyone who attends a public Mass. Even with best health practices and strict social distancing, anyone who enters a public space should recognize there is a risk of contracting the coronavirus.

In addition, here at Ascension until further notice, these additional directives must be followed for your safety:

Daily Mass and Week-End Mass Schedule and directives are as follows

- Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis.
You may reserve for daily & Sunday Mass for multiple weeks
Please call or E-mail by 3:00pm on Friday.
 - **Full names of those attending, date/time of mass & phone #**
201-836-3085 or ascensionreled@optonline.net
- One Mass will be celebrated at **8:30am** in the Church (Monday-Friday). Our daily Mass will continue to be Livestreamed via Facebook.
- Saturday morning Mass will be celebrated & Livestreamed at **8:30am** in the Church.
- **Saturday Evening Mass will be celebrated in the Church at 5:30pm and on Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am. Only the 5:30pm Mass will be Livestreamed via Facebook.**
 - Attendance will be taken and no one will be admitted after Mass begins (doors will be locked). There is a limited capacity of 80 people.

All Funerals, Weddings, and Baptisms will follow the same protocol. (80 person capacity)

-Enter front doors of church-hand sanitizer will be available for your use

-All visitors, including children, must wear masks, have and use their own wipes.

Please wipe down area you have used and take with you any items you use.

-Bathrooms will not be open

-Practice social distancing (6 feet apart). We have roped off pews not to be used.

-You may light candles, please refrain from touching other areas in church.

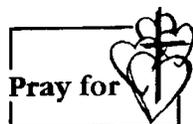
-Children must remain with adults at all times

-Please No gathering or socializing in church or on church property

Confessions, please call the parish office, 201-836-8961, to make an appointment.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during these difficult times. God Bless

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be born...”
Madeline Rae Las

“a time to be healed...”

Angelita Villaluna, Elnora Gordon, Al Suter, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Eileen Kloeblen, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, Peggy Evans, Neil Magbanua, Cardinal Antonio Tagle, Vincent Guido, John Person Amy Irwin, Louis Vallis, Bob Carucci and those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

“a time to serve...”

Cpt. Jack Massingale, U.S. Air Force, Afghanistan, Sr. A James Penser, Beale AFB, CA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

For all of our Emergency, Medical & First Responders.

“a time for peace...”
President Donald John Trump,
our National Leaders and all World Leaders.

and a time for every purpose under heaven”
Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE**
burns this week in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



BREAD and WINE this week
Donated in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



Altar Flowers for this week
Donated in loving Memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



Epiphany of the Lord, January 3, 2021

Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am in Church

Not Livestreamed

Monday, January 4, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Thursday, January 7, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Friday, January 8, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Saturday, January 9, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

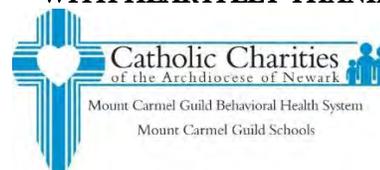
Mass at 5:30pm in Church & livestreamed

Baptism of the Lord, January 10, 2021

Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am in Church

Not Livestreamed

**ACCOUNTABILITY
WITH HEARTFELT THANKS**



Catholic Charities received a payment of \$1,953 as a result of your donations from June 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020. These funds combined with monies from parishes throughout the Archdiocese enabled Catholic Charities to provide 72,685 nights of shelter to 1,342 to homeless individuals and families (FY 19/20). Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society.



Please patronize
our advertisers.
They help us GROW.

A LAUNDRY CHUTE
725 River Road, New Milford
201-262-WASH (9274)
Please remember to patronize,
who help make this bulletin possible



WELCOME: Newcomers, Visitors and Parishioners

The priests & ministers of Ascension Parish welcome you. If you would like more information about entering more fully into our parish life & ministry, we ask that you complete the form below. You may return by putting into collection basket, mail or stop by the parish center office. Thank You!

I would like....

- _____ to become a Parishioner
- _____ to change my address
- _____ to join a ministry
- _____ to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



Epiphany of Our Lord

“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow. Each of us is called to open our gifts before Jesus, offering Him what He needs. If you have trouble with this idea, keep one of the Magi from your Nativity set on your desk all year as a reminder to bring your gifts to Jesus.



We sincerely thank **Michael Mittenzwei of Boulevard Funeral Home, New Milford and Beugard-McKnight Funeral Home, River Edge** for the beautiful parish calendars that were recently distributed. We are very appreciative of their generosity to Ascension parish.

Thank you to all who have continued making their weekly donations, it is truly appreciated.

Please consider the following:

WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING
PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE
FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR
INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS

www.churchoftheascension.net

OR CONTACT DIRECTLY

WeShare Donor Customer Service Phone Number:

800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2)

WeShare Customer Service Email: weshare@4lpi.com

WeShare Donor FAQ: [WeShare Donor Support](#)

Please remember that during this crisis our monthly financial responsibilities continue.

If you are unable to come to church for Mass
Please mail in or drop off
(in door slot of parish center not black box)
your weekly contributions.

Thank you & God Bless!



FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – JANUARY 18th

The following are items most needed to restock our shelves this month. Any item or items you can purchase for our pantry would be greatly appreciated. God Bless you for your continued support of this most important ministry to the poor.

- ICED TEA-LEMONADE MIX-GRAPE JUICE-JELL-O
- CRANBERRY JUICE-CANNED PEARS-BROWN RICE
- VEGETARIAN CHILI-CLAM CHOWDER-LENTIL SOUP
- CANNED SAUERKRAUT-CAKE ICING
- SHAMPOO-CONDITIONER-PAPER TOWELS
- NAPKINS-TISSUES
- WOMENS/MENS DEODORANT
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- WOMENS/MENS SHAVE CREAM-DISH SOAP

DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE PARISH CENTER
Your continued support of our ministry to the poor is greatly appreciated.