

# Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

## + Our Pastoral Staff +

**Pastor**  
Rev. David W. Milliken

**Director of Music**  
Glenn Gordon

**Weekend Assistant**  
Rev. Tim Graff

**Parish Business Manager**  
Serina Sharkey

**In Residence**  
Rev. Brian G. Plate

**Director of Maintenance**  
Brendan Suter

**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 Rectory. 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 Rectory 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 Rectory if someone from your family is in the hospital and wishes a priest to visit.

### WEDDINGS:

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



## The Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2019

## + 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**

7:00 a.m. and 8:30am

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 7:45 a.m.



### RECTORY & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### RECTORY

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646  
(201) 836-8961 • FAX: (201) 836-5896

Website: [www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)  
E-mail: [ascension@optonline.net](mailto: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](mailto:ascensionreled@optonline.net)

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

## Mass for the Intentions *for the Week*

### The Epiphany of the Lord, January 6

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Gloria Ramos

11:30 Lisa Polisenio

### Monday, January 7, 2019

7:00 Joan Dolan

8:30 Richard Thomas

### Tuesday, January 8, 2019

7:00 Jean Datiles

8:30 Joseph Testa

### Wednesday, January 9, 2019

7:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

8:30 Angelito Barredo

### Thursday, January 10, 2019

7:00 People of Ascension

8:30 Michael Madden

### Friday, January 11, 2019

7:00 John J. Jennings

8:30 Carl Dal Lago

### Saturday, January 12, 2019

8:30 German Natividad, Jr.

5:30 Grace Margaret Gunnell

### The Baptism of the Lord, January 13

7:30 Renato Santos

9:30 Thomas Hopkins

11:30 Dong T. Vo

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

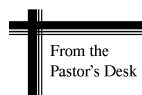
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

December 24, 2017:	\$ 4,726.00
December 23, 2018:	\$ 5,772.00
Christmas 2017:	\$22,572.00
Christmas 2018:	\$23,084.00

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

### Reading for Sunday January 13, 2019

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



The word “epiphany” means “the showing forth” or the “shining forth” of Jesus to the world, as the light and life of the entire cosmos, for all time. But we modern Christians don’t understand how this “big reveal” of Jesus as a helpless baby is a shock right from the start, because it is the last thing the Jews expected their Messiah to be.

Like many of us, the Jews of Jesus’ time seemed unable to get beyond the visible, to the Invisible. But the Wise Men say: God lies here in the flesh! Christ has finally appeared as the light of all nations, and the salvation of the whole creation! The Magi symbolize those of us who have eyes to see, who rush to bow down in wonder and gratitude, offering our gifts with humility. As the bumper sticker says, “Wise men (and women) still seek him.”

Our Lord’s epiphany challenges us to see that humility is the foundation of any true community: a marriage, a small prayer group, a parish, or the entire Church. Only by facing the whole truth about ourselves can we serve others with mercy, compassion and honesty. So when we picture the wealthy and privileged Magi, bowing down in homage, bringing precious gifts to this tiny Baby, we see how it should always be for Christians—a life of service, but not as in the world, with the poor bowing and scraping to the rich. Jesus again turns the tables!

Finally, although the Magi prepared for their journey, it had a surprise twist. They planned to return to Herod, but were warned in a dream not to. So they returned to their home country “by another route.” How many times have we had a life plan, when we had to “take another route” — maybe it is a surprise visitor, an unplanned child, a proposal, an illness, a new job. Then we can only trust—as God leads us on a “detour”, taking us home by a route we might not have chosen.

✘ 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 to make our church so beautiful for the Christmas Season and to those who contributed for the trees and flowers.

—Thank you to our Clergy 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 our good and faithful Sunday and Monday money counters.

—Thank you to all the members of the Ministry of the Word, to our Religious Education coordinators, catechists and aides, to those who lead our Children’s Liturgy of the Word, to our parents who entrust their children to our care, and to our children who joyfully receive God’s Word through our Religious Education program.

—Thank you to those who took care of our Giving Tree, all who donated gifts for the needy, and to all in our Food Pantry who helped 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!

✘ The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 13<sup>th</sup>, concludes the Christmas Season. We will take down our Christmas decorations on Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, after the 8:30am Mass. As always, we invite our parishioners to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.

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

*Fr. David*



**Donated By**

Natividad Family  
 Natividad Family  
 Mary Ann Abuedo  
 Mr R Azores  
 Robert Quinn  
 Jay Catral & Family  
 Ruiz Family  
 M/M Richard Suarez  
 M/M Richard Suarez  
 Mrs Marguerite Raptopoulos  
 M/M Andres Villaluna  
 M/M Andres Villaluna  
 Mr & Mrs Jesus Empleo  
 Ms Veronica Capone  
 Mr & Mrs Randy Andal  
 Wetzel Family  
 Mr Danny Castro  
 Ms Catrinah Viola  
 Their Loving Family  
 Donald Hellriegel  
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 Joyce Gillman  
 Chris & Jim Block  
 Paul & Phyllis Adams  
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**In Memory Of**

Aquino Family  
 Natividad Family  
 Ramon Abuedo  
  
 Helen & Gerard Quinn  
 Catral & Marquez Family  
  
 A&L Crisostomo  
 A & D Suarez  
  
 Andres S. Villaluna  
 Honoratto Meyo  
  
 Eduard A. Wetzel  
  
 J & J Lostoski  
 Marlene Hellriegel  
 Stephen Hellriegel  
 The McCaffrey Family  
 Block & Setzer Families  
 Daniel & Doris Piro  
 Rosemarie Piro  
 Vincent & Filomena Piro  
 Katherine & Virgil Adams  
 Rose & John Dulgres  
 Marge Bruno

**MEMORIALS**

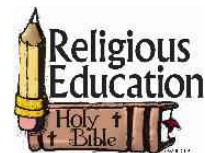
“THANK YOU”...to those who have contributed to our Memorials Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the rectory with the coupon below. When an item is purchased we will notify you which item is in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call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

Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)  
 Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup> -- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)  
 Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> -- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)  
 Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcomed to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together. There will be No Children’s Liturgy on December 23<sup>rd</sup> or December 30<sup>th</sup>. We will resume on January 6, 2019.



**Reminder:**

**First Grade Parent Meeting:** All First Grade Parents, there is a **Mandatory Parent** meeting today, January 6, 2019 at 10:45 am. At least one parent must attend.

When your child/ren are going to be absent from class you must call the Religious Education office and let us know. We will call the home is you do not call us, so **PLEASE** make sure you have a working home or cell number that we can contact you especially in the event of an emergency.

**Volunteers Needed:**

We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2018-2019 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 share their faith and work with students in a relaxed atmosphere. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

**Religious Education Office Hours:**

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – In Rectory  
 Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm – In School  
 Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School  
 Closed: Thursday & Saturday  
 Other times by appointment

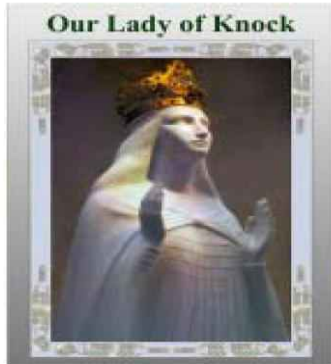
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)

In Honor of our 65th Anniversary,  
Ascension Parish will visit...



# Ireland

— the Land of Saints and Leprechauns —



Our Lady of Knock



May 12th to 20th, 2019

Come and visit...

Shannon, Adare, Killarney, Ring of Kerry,  
Glenbeigh, Cahirciceen, Waterville, Sneem,  
Kinsale, Blarney, Cork, Cobh, Glendalough,  
Dublin, Knock (Mass at the Shrine of Our  
Lady Queen of Ireland), Galway, and  
Connemara.



Included in the cost of \$3,150.00 per person-two in a room or \$3,800.00 - single occupancy:  
Round-trip transportation from Church of the Ascension to Newark International Airport,  
round-trip non-stop Economy airfare and all departure taxes, all transportation sightseeing  
by private motor-coach with the services of a professional guide/driver. 7 nights hotel accom-  
modations in First Class hotels, full breakfast and dinner daily, entrance fees, hotel baggage  
handling, taxes and service charges, tip to the guide/driver.



I am interested in the Ireland Trip

(Return ASAP)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



*"To everything there is a season..."*

*"a time to be healed..."*

Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Joan Polis, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Deacon Jim Stumbar, Eileen Kloebler, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, John Delaney, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Benny Santiago, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Ana Tumang, Mary Anne Meyer, 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, PFC Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Cherry Point, NC, A1C James Penser, Beale AFB, CA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

*"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, Sunday, January 6, 2019**

**Parish Maintenance & Repairs**  
Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am  
Religious Education – 10:45am – School  
First Grade Parents' Meeting  
Baptism Prep – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

**Monday, January 7, 2018**

Pastoral staff meeting – 9:00am - Rectory  
Religious Education, Grade 7 – 7:00pm  
CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room  
Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

Woodcrest Center Mass – 2:30pm

**Wednesday, January 9, 2019**

Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm  
Novena – 7:30pm – Church  
Boy Scouts- 7:30pm – Fr. Benedict Center  
Filipino Core Mtg. – 8:00pm – Gathering Room

**Thursday, January 10, 2019**

No events

**Friday, January 11, 2019**

No events

**Saturday, January 12, 2019**

Confessions – 11:00am – Church  
Children's Choir – 4:15pm - Church

**The Baptism of the Lord, Sunday, January 13, 2019**

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am  
Religious Education – 10:45am – School  
Sto. Nino Mass 11:30am followed by Reception  
In the Father Benedict Center  
Baptism – 1:00pm - Church

**NOTICE** we are now accepting mass intentions for the **2019 Mass Book** for week-day morning masses for either 7:00 or 8:30am. There are **NO** week-end masses available. As always our first Saturday of each month Memorial Mass at 8:30am is always available. Please stop by the office to make your request. Sorry **NO** telephone or e-mail requests.

**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 rectory office to check availability.



**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.



**CAN YOU HELP?**

We will take down our Christmas decorations on **Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, after our 8:30am Mass.** As always, our parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand. Many hands make for less work for all.



All are invited to attend to celebrate **Transfiguration Academy** being named a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence on Sunday, January 27. Our celebration will begin with the 12:00 Mass at St. John’s Church presided by Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R. A reception with light refreshments will follow in Conlon Hall. Please R.S.V.P by calling the school office, 201-384-3627, or by emailing [lciccia@transfigurationacademy.org](mailto:lciccia@transfigurationacademy.org) on or before January 21<sup>st</sup> so that we may have an accurate count.



Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

**ROMAN PIZZA & RESTAURANT**  
**201-265-9371**

**\*look for 15% off coupon in bulletin\***  
**Please remember to patronize,**  
**who help make this bulletin possible**



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**HELP US TO**  
**FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – JANUARY 20TH**  
**PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – JANUARY 21ST**

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.

- COFFEE-ICED TEA-HOT COCOA-APPLE SAUCE-OLIVES
- CANNED MUSHROOMS-CANNED SPINACH-RAISINS
- GRAPE JUICE-INSTANT RICE-JAM-CHICKEN BROTH
- MANDARIN ORANGES-PANCAKE SYRUP-BEEF BROTH
- FROSTED FLAKES-BATHROOM TISSUE-NAPKINS-TISSUES

Your continued support of our ministry to the poor is greatly appreciated.



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



**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 rectory 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:** \_\_\_\_\_