

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.



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 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

Mass  for the
Intentions *Week*

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2021

5:30 Rose Carbone
7:30 Maria Luisa Delgado, 91 B'Day. (L)
9:30 Frank and Margaret Tenney
11:30 Elisa Caparas, Fortieth Day of Death

Monday, February 1, 2021

8:30 People of Ascension Parish

The Presentation of the Lord

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

8:30 Martha Canavari

Feast of St. Blaise

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

8:30 Carlos Cruz

Thursday, February 4, 2021

8:30 Doris Piro, Fifteenth Anniv. (D)

Friday, February 5, 2021

8:30 Luisa Garcia

Saturday, February 6, 2021

Memorial

8:30 Liway Caragay
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 7, 2021

7:30 People who have died from Covid
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 Eileen McCann

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP
REPORT**

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

January 24, 2021: \$2,623.00
Snow Removal: \$ 798.00

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

**Readings for Sunday
February 7, 2021**

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]
/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39



How do you think you'd react if you were confronted by the deranged man in the gospel today? Maybe terrified, irritated—or just relieved that Jesus was dealing with it! There's nothing wrong with feeling our honest feelings. But today we are almost overcome with people on TV and radio, crying out for relief and help on every side. How can we deal with all this pain?

Yet the Psalm today says "Don't harden your hearts" to God's voice! Notice how Jesus deals with demands for help? When others walk away, Jesus approaches, and listens. He doesn't fear the evil; once he lets it speak, he can set the person free.

Silence allows us to look, to see, to contemplate what is happening right in front of our eyes. Silence allows us to LISTEN to God's urgings. This is why, even when we are tired, troubled in spirit, and want to give up, it is important to keep our connection to God open.

Jesus must have often been worn out by the effects of evil. But he took time away, nurtured his communication with God, so he could face the reality of sin and evil squarely, so that the sick person could then be healed.

Like all unclean spirits, our sin also wants to hide from the light. But Jesus wants us to confess it into his light, so that he can drive the evil away forever. Then we too can be grace for another's unclean spirits to "come out of them."

✠ This weekend we will welcome Jerry D'Imperio, Grand Knight of our St. Joseph/Ascension Council, who will invite the men and women of our parish to membership in the Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes. Please give him and his message a warm welcome.

✠ Wednesday, February 3rd, is the Feast of St. Blaise. In anticipation of the feast, we will bless throats as the Closing Blessing at all Masses this weekend. (Due to COVID-19, we cannot bless individually with candles.)

✠ Next Sunday, February 7th, Bishop Michael Saporito, our Regional Bishop, will be with us at the 11:30am Mass. He will bless our new vestibule and be the principal celebrant of the Mass. Please give Bishop Michael a warm welcome!

✠ Married Couples of Ascension Parish celebrating anniversaries of 1 year, 5 year multiples, and all married couples 50 years and more in 2018 are invited to celebrate our annual **MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY LITURGY** on Sunday, February 14th at the 11:30am Mass. Due to COVID-19, we are not able to host a reception this year. Please fill out and return the response form in the bulletin as soon as possible. (Deadline to sign up is Sunday, Feb. 7th.)

✠ The **2021 Annual Appeal** has begun. Our goal this year is \$36, 600.00. I encourage all of you to make a pledge. Please place your pledge envelopes in the basket in the vestibule, bring it to the Parish Center, mail it directly to the Archdiocese, or go online: RCAN.org/sharing.

If you have not received a letter in the mail, I encourage you to pick up an envelope/brochure in the vestibule. In the coming weeks, we will be holding a special collection for the Annual Appeal. Thank you for your support.

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

Blessing
of
Throats

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

On Wednesday, February 3rd, we will commemorate the Feast of St. Blaise as the closing blessing at our Weekend Masses.

The Blessing will be over the congregation not individual.

“Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other evil.”

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: _____



Please patronize
our advertisers.
They help us GROW.

GRACE DRIVING SCHOOL
201-967-2922

Please remember to patronize,
who help make this bulletin possible



Calendar:

February 2, 2021 – 1st to 6th grades Chapter 15 reviews are due
February 3, 2021 – 7th grade Unit two Review, 8th grade Chapter 7 review due, & 9th grade Unit 2 Review due.
February 7, 2021 – Packet Pick-Up and Drop Off from 9 am to 10:15 am All Grades
February 8, 2021—Packet Pick-Up and Drop Off from 6:30 pm to 7:30 Pm All Grades

Important:

Mandatory Eight Grade Parents & Student meeting on **February 1, 2021** at 7:00 pm in the Church. **All students and parents in 8th grade are to attend if your child would like to be in the Confirmation Class of 2022.** All social distancing guidelines will be followed. All attendees will enter in the side door by the Rectory and be directed to a seat. Everyone must wear a mask, bring hand sanitizer, and wipes to wipe down your seat at the end of the meeting.

Mandatory 1st Eucharist Parent meeting on **February 9, 2021** at 7:00 pm in the Church. You will receive a notice in the mail and in your email concerning this meeting. All social distancing guidelines will be followed. All attendees will enter in the side door by the Rectory and be directed to a seat. Everyone must wear a mask, bring hand sanitizer, and wipes to wipe down your seat at the end of the meeting.

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.

Please make sure that all NEW work in the packet is returned on the return date and all old work that is returned is taken out of the packet.

Volunteers Needed:

† We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2021-2022 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



TUESDAY*FEBRUARY 2ND

JANUARY 31, 2021

Marriage Anniversary Liturgy

2021



*Church of the Ascension
will once again honor couples in our parish
who celebrate*

*a Wedding Anniversary
in a multiple of 5 years in 2021*

*(1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, etc., and
any anniversary 50 years and over).*

*A special Marriage Anniversary Mass
will be celebrated on*

Sunday, February 14, 2021 at 11:30am.

*Due to COVID-19, we are unable
to host a reception this year.*



*If you wish to celebrate with us, please fill out and return the form below
to the Parish Center no later than Sunday, February 7, 2021.*



*Church of the Ascension
Marriage Anniversary Liturgy
Sunday, February 14, 2021*



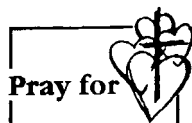
Name _____ Phone _____

Anniversary celebrated in 2021: _____ Anniversary Date: _____

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to host a reception this year.

Please return this form to the Parish Center no later than Sunday, February 7, 2021

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“To everything there is a season...

“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...”

our National and all World Leaders.

and a time for every purpose under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:11

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 Communion, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the parish office to check availability.

Please Notice This



OUR PARISH OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT THE ASCENSION PARISH CENTER. THE PARISH CENTER BUILDING IS LOCATED TO THE LEFT OF THE CHURCH & THE ENTRANCE IS BEHIND THE STATUE OF JESUS. PLEASE VISIT US HERE FOR ALL YOUR PARISH AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEEDS. CENTER OPENS AT 9:00AM MONDAY-FRIDAY. ALL OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

FEBRUARY

Sunday, January 31, 2021

**Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am in Church
Not Livestreamed**

Monday, February 1, 2021

**Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed
The Presentation of the Lord,**

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

**Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed
Feast of St. Blaise, Wednesday, February 3, 2021**

**Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed
Thursday, February 4, 2021**

**Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed
Friday, February 5, 2021**

**Masse at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed
Saturday, February 6, 2021**

**Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed
Mass at 5:30pm in Church & livestreamed**

Sunday, February 7, 2021

**Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am in Church
Not Livestreamed**



**HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY
FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – FEBRUARY 15th**
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.

- LEMONADE MIX-GRAPE JUICE-APPLE JUICE-JELL-O-CRANBERRY JUICE
- CANNED PEARS-BROWN RICE
- CLAM CHOWDER-LENTIL SOUP-BEEF GRAVY
- CHICKEN GRAVY-OATMEAL-INSTANT OATMEAL
- SHAMPOO-CONDITIONER-TOOTHPASTE-
- PAPER TOWELS-NAPKINS-TISSUES-
- WOMENS/MENS DEODORANT
- WOMENS/MENS SHAVE CREAM
- LAUNDAY DETERGENT

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

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

**NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021
 WE WELCOME BISHOP MICHAEL SAPORITO
 TO ASCENSION PARISH.
 BISHOP SAPORITO WILL BE
 THE MAIN CELEBRANT
 AT THE 11:30AM MASS
 WHERE HE WILL BLESS OUR
 NEW CHURCH VESTIBULE**



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: _____

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!**

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

**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.*
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.

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

- Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis.
- **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.
- -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.

- Restroom is 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.

Annual Appeal ^{the 2021}

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I greet you in the peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ at the start of this new year.

Though different in many ways, our recent celebration of Christmas, reminded us so powerfully that Christ is the Light that shines in the darkness.

In more ways than one, this past year seemed to be covered by shadows and dimmed by the dramatic global pandemic that continues to affect our world. Despite the uncertainty and adversity, the People of God remain steadfast in their witness and stewardship, and for this I am grateful.

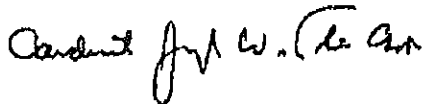
As is customary for this time of year, I would like to humbly ask your support for the 2021 Annual Appeal which will fund essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in our four counties – namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care of the poor and those on the margins.

Now more than ever, especially during this health crisis, our ministries and programs need your support. Will you prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2021 Annual Appeal?

I can assure you that 100% of your contribution will fund the case for support outlined in the enclosed brochure. The gifts we receive are used exclusively to serve the mission of the Church and nothing more.

Once again, thank you for your faithfulness. May Mary, Mother of our Redeemer and our Mother, protect you and lead you ever closer to her Son.

Sincerely in Christ the Redeemer,



Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

To make a gift online, visit rcan.org/sharing



Archdiocese of Newark

171 Clifton Avenue | Post Office Box 9500 | Newark, New Jersey 07104-0500



*“Through Him
was Life, and
this Life was
the light of the
human race. The
light shines in the
darkness, and the
darkness has not
overcome it.”*

John 1:4-5