

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.



First Sunday of Lent February 21, 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*

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

5:30 Angelo & Vito Cucco
7:30 Andrew S. Varni, II
9:30 Cherlyan Vengassery
11:30 People of Ascension Paris

Monday, February 22, 2021

8:30 Gerard Patrick Lee

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

7:00 Robert Carucci (Healing)
8:30 Aleyamma Abraham

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

8:30 Thomas Meyer

Thursday, February 25, 2021

8:30 Arnold Aranas
8:30 Catherine Trimarchi

Friday, February 26, 2021

8:30 Patrick Foran
7:30pm Arnold Aranas

Saturday, February 27, 2021

8:30 Angelo DeCarlo
5:30 People of Ascension Parish

Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

7:30 Michael A. Levi
9:30 Fortunata & Romana Tababan
11:30 Jean Sapunarich Birthday (D)

**PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT**

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

February 14, 2021: \$4,021.00
Fuel: \$1,179.00

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

**Readings for Sunday
February 28, 2021**

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/
Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/
Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10



The first Sunday of Lent today shows us how to be both in the water and in the desert—and how both are essential to our journey toward God. First, God covenants with Noah, not only with humans, but with “every living creature... birds, cattle and every wild beast... everything that lives on the earth...” This is a truly inclusive covenant!

As we begin Lent, it’s good to remember that when we are pulled away from God by the swift current of confusion, fear, or self-hatred, God is still here in a covenant of love which lasts forever. We next learn from Jesus that the desert is the place to cement that covenant.

Notice that the Spirit had to “drive Jesus out into the wilderness.” Even Jesus needed divine motivation! But there Jesus becomes intensely aware of “the Spirit within him, as the very source of his life, a life that must break open... for the life of the world.” Only after his desert days is Jesus ready to proclaim God’s kingdom: “Reform your lives, and believe in the gospel.”

That is the definition of our baptismal call, and you have already been through those waters! So—let’s go to the desert with Jesus now. How is God calling each of us to live out our baptism?

✘ Remember, on **Fridays in Lent** we have added a Mass at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross. Also, we have placed “**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2021**” in the vestibule. Please take one for your use during this holy season.

✘ The **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal for 2021** is well underway. Thank you to our parish families who have already contributed to the 2021 Appeal. Cardinal Tobin has set our 2021 goal at \$36,600.00. There is still time to make a pledge. Contribution envelopes are in the vestibule. Please, I ask that all of our parish families contribute to the great good we of Ascension can do with God’s grace when we choose to help the neediest of our Archdiocese. Help us to reach and even surpass our goal. **Give a little; give a lot; but please give something!**

✘ Lenten Fasting and Feasting...

Let us...

- ...fast from complaining and feast on gratitude
- ...fast from harsh judgments and feast on kind thoughts
- ...fast from worry and feast on trust in God to provide
- ...fast from discouragement and feast upon hope
- ...fast from bitterness and feast on forgiveness
- ...fast from hatred and feast upon returning good for evil
- ...fast from anger and feast on patience
- ...fast from pettiness and feast on becoming mature
- ...fast from jealousy and feast on praying for trust
- ...fast from gossiping and feast on controlling your tongue
- ...fast from sin and feast on virtue
- ...fast from giving up and feast on perseverance

✘ One Last Thing...Please... When you leave Mass on weekdays and weekends please pick up any debris that is around you and sanitize your place. Let us keep God’s house safe for everyone. Thank you for your attention to this.

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

P. David

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 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.



Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

**ARMBRUSTER LANDSCAPING
201-967-1489**

Please remember to patronize, who help make this bulletin possible



Calendar:

February 23, 2021 – 1st to 6th grades Chapter 17 reviews are due
 February 24, 2021 – 7th grade Chapter 2- Christ in the New Testament, 8th grade Chapter 9 review due, & 9th grade Chapter 2 – Call to Confirmation (Check email for work).
 February 27, 2021- Confirmation Class of 2022 5:30 pm Mass.



Confirmation Class of 2022 are to all come to the 5:30 pm Mass on Saturday, February 27, 2021 with your letters for Fr. David,

All families are encouraged to come to Mass and to come on a weekly basis, the Church is open and is a safe place as we follow all safety guidelines. Please call Mrs. Carbone to sign up for Mass.

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

FEBRUARY 21, 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). **During Lent will celebrate Mass at 7:30pm on Friday's.** 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).

All Funerals, Weddings, and Baptisms will follow the same protocol.

-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.

-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.

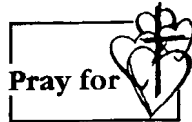
-Children must remain with adults at all times

-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 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION

**FLYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*BULLETINS
UPCOMING EVENTS**

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM



Sunday, February 21, 2021

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

Not Livestreamed

Monday, February 22, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Friday, February 26, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Saturday, February 27, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Mass at 5:30pm in Church & livestreamed

Sunday, February 28, 2021

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

Not Livestreamed

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

This weekend, we will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection at Mass! #JesusInDisguise #1church1mission
www.usccb.org/catholic-relief

Catholic Stewardship in Action 2021 ANNUAL APPEAL

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 50 families/individuals who have made a pledge. To date we have \$9,195.00 in pledges. You may pick up a brochure, which outlines areas of support, at the front vestibule of church or in the parish office. Please prayerfully consider making your gift via pledge or direct donation by check, credit card, matching or planned gift today. There is also a direct link on our website. Thank you for your support.

Lent – Sacrifice - Clothing Bins -Any Connection?

Lent is a time of sacrifice in order to bring us closer to Christ. As we do so, we become more charitable. Would you be willing to sacrifice your time and efforts to go through your closet and donate any used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, and children’s books to the Catholic Charities clothing bin? If you do, you have made the connection and you have moved closer to Christ. Thank you.



REMEMBER DURING LENT

Evening Mass on Friday's at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross.

Also, we have placed "Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2021" on the table in the front vestibule.

Please take one for yourself and another for a friend



PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

During this Lenten season please consider Stewardship, the sharing of your talents and time with any of the many ministries we offer here at your parish. Sing in our Choirs (adult/children)*Become a Eucharistic Minister or Lector at our weekend Masses*Minister at Woodcrest*Help plan our Parish Events*Become an Altar Server (adult/child).

Yes I am willing to share my talent & time, please contact me

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Ministry: _____

(Please print and return to the parish office or in collection basket)



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: _____



**HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY
FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – MARCH 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
- CRACKERS-FROSTED FLAKES-RICE KRISPIES-
- DISH SOAP-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.

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!