

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

March 1, 2020

+ 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

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 *for the Week*

First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2020

5:30 Eleanor Parow
7:30 Janet Cronin
9:30 Celia Y. Deleon
11:30 Yolanda DelaMar

Monday, March 2, 2020

7:00 People of Ascension Parish
8:30 Benny Santiago

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

7:00 Roberto Caparas Jr., Fourth Anniv.
8:30 Paul Pearsol

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

7:00 Luzviminda B. Custudio
8:30 Benny Santiago

Thursday, March 5, 2020

7:00 Diane Lowery, Birthday Rememb.
8:30 Josie Cahill

Friday, March 6, 2020

7:00 Michelle Caruso Moyle
8:30 Agnes & Frederick Balagot
7:30 Jose & Dominga Urmatan

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Memorial

8:30 Bogdan Fudali
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Second Sunday of Lent, March 8, 2020

7:30 Roger Ryan
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 John A. Montecucollo, Tenth Anniv.

**PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT**

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

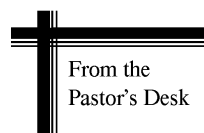
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

February 24, 2019: \$4,469.00
February 23, 2020: \$4,928.00
Central/Eastern Europe: \$1,293.00

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

**Reading for Sunday
March 8, 2020**

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [22]/2
Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



A very overweight man who was on a diet drove a different route to avoid passing his favorite bakery. But one morning he came to work with a coffee cake. His friend asked, "What's up?" He said, "I accidentally drove by the bakery and saw these fantastic cakes in the window. I felt God must have let me drive by for a reason. So I prayed, 'Lord, if you want me to have one of those delicious coffee cakes, let me find a parking space right in front of the bakery.' And sure enough, on the ninth time around the block, there it was!"

Here we have a guy who seemed to really enjoy playing around with temptation—and since cake is involved, we can all understand! But when was the last time you heard someone seriously discuss the struggle they were having with a temptation? To be human is to be imperfect; but I'm referring to the urge to say or do something that leads us away from what God hopes for us. Like Adam and Eve in the Garden, we often can't recognize real temptation. We stay in situations that we know in our guts are a "slippery slope" to making bad choices—maybe it's the internet sites we visit, the friends we hang out with, our attitude towards abortion and euthanasia. But instead of "calling a spade a spade," we start to think every option is equally good. In the Garden Adam and Eve probably said, "It's all good!"

Sin starts with not recognizing temptations for what they are. Satan urged Jesus to give away his freedom; but Jesus trusted his identity as the beloved Son of God. We all have this identity with God—but do we trust it? If so, let us bring it to bear on the problems of our community. When we act out of our true identity, and imitate Christ, it inspires us to resist the evil of selfishness, and make decisions that benefit the whole creation.

✘ **LENT** is all around us in the colors, the absence of flowers, the silence, and the symbols. Our Entrance and Penitential Rite during Lent take on a new form and on **Fridays in Lent** we have added a Mass at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross. A complete schedule for **Lent 2020** and our **Parish Lenten Calendar** are available at the doors of the church. Please keep them handy so that you can take advantage of the many grace-filled opportunities our parish offers during this holy season of Lent. Also, we have placed "**The Word Among Us for Lent 2020**" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend. They are my gift to you this Lent.

✘ Have you considered becoming a part of our 2020 Lenten program? You can still join a group. Lists of the available groups have been placed on the bulletin board in the front vestibule or see Fr. David or call the Parish Office

✘ Don't forget to purchase your tickets this weekend for our **Boy Scouts' Pancake Breakfast** on Sunday, March 1st from 8am to 12 Noon in the Fr. Benedict Center. **Tickets are available at the door.**

✘ Lent is a very good time for us to participate in the **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal for 2020**. Our 2020 goal is **\$37,834.00**. Consider making this part of our Lenten sacrifice. Please, let's pray and work together, that with God's help, we can again surpass our goal. May God continue to bless all at Ascension with generous hearts.

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



Support Catholic Education and indulge in a delicious cheesecake! Transfiguration Academy is selling cheesecakes that will be delivered in time for your Easter celebration. Contact the school office, 201-384-3627, for more information and to order your cake.

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year has begun. For more information and to arrange a tour please call the school office or visit our website,

www.transfigurationacademy.org.

Transfiguration Academy, serving students in grades PreK 2+ through grade 8, is a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools.



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: _____



ARTHUR EIS, DDS
Cosmetic & General Dentistry
201-836-7166
Please remember to patronize,
who help make this bulletin possible



Calendar:

Sunday, March 1st– 1st thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12Noon (SCH)
 Monday, March 2nd – 7th & 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:15 pm (MPR/SCH)

Wednesday, March 4th– 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:15 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, March 8th – 1st thru 6th grade from 10:45am to 12Noon (SCH)
 Daylight Savings Starts- Set Clocks AHEAD One Hour

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.



This week the young people of the parish who are preparing for Eucharist reflected on gathering as a church family. The Church is the assembly of those people, belonging to the Lord Jesus, whom God has called together. How do we as a parish come together to pray and care for one another?

Important:

All 2020 Confirmation Students Letters to Bishop Marconi are DUE on Wednesday, March 4th. Any question please call Mrs. Carbone at 201-836-3085.

On Sunday March 15, 2020 all students are to meet in the Church at **10:40 am Sharp** with their families & Catechists as we will be doing Stations of the Cross before class.

Volunteers Needed:

- † 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.
- † We are in NEED of Catechists and Substitute Catechists 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

Religious Education Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – Parish Center
 Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm – In School
 Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School
 Closed: Thursday & Saturday
 Other times by appointment

Lenten Afternoon at the Movies: Unplanned

March 22 - 2:00 PM - Parish Center

St. Peter the Apostle Church - 445 Fifth Ave - River Edge

Unplanned is the inspiring true story of one woman’s journey of transformation. All Abby Johnson ever wanted to do was help women. Her passion surrounding a woman’s right to choose led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood, fighting to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in. Until the day she saw something that changed everything, leading Abby Johnson to join her former enemies at 40 Days For Life, and become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America. Watch the movie trailer at saint-peter.org. So that we can plan snacks and beverages, please RSVP at saint-peter.org, though last-minute attendance is welcome. Parents: Unplanned is rated R for the realistic depiction of medical scenes. Teens under the age of 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Admission: FREE

MARCH 1, 2020

Msgr. Charles G. McCorristin Assembly 1289



Proudly serving the communities of:
Closter, Cresskill, Emerson, Englewood, New Milford, Oradell, Norwood, Paramus
River Edge & Harrington Park

Eduardo De Azevedo, Faithful Navigator
Telephone: 201-314-7670 Email: kofc1289@gmail.com



BEEFSTEAK DINNER EXTRAVAGANZA
Dinner Catered by Nightingale Catering

DONATION IS \$40.00 PER PERSON
Saturday, April 25, 2020 – 6:30PM – 10:00PM
Location: Church of the Ascension Gym
256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ

For Tickets & Information Please Contact:
Fr. David or Ascension Parish Office (201) 836-8961
SK Robert Garcia (201) 262-7766 Email: rkgarcia115@gmail.com
or SK Eduardo De Azevedo (201) 314-7670 Email: kofc1289@gmail.com

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

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, Ana Tumang, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, Peggy Evans, 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., Yokosuka, Japan, Sr.A 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

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.

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one of our ushers know, prior to Mass, if you would like to bring the Offertory Gifts up to the celebrant. If Mass intention is one that you have requested or if for the intention of your loved one.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
FYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*
UPCOMING EVENTS

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM



First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2020

Parish Maintenance & Repairs

Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-12:00 – Fr. Benedict Ctr.
Children's Liturgy of the Word
Religious Education – 10:45am – 1-6 Grade
Baptism Prep. – 1:00pm – PC/Gathering Room

Monday, March 2, 2020

Pastoral Staff – 9:00am – PC/Gathering Room
Religious Education Grades 7 & 8 – 7:00pm
Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Woodcrest Center Mass – 2:30pm

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Religious Education, Confirmation Prep. – 7:00pm
Novena – 7:30pm – Church
Boy Scouts – 7:30pm – Fr. Benedict Ctr.
Filipino Core Mtg. – 8:00pm – PC/Gathering Room

Thursday, March 5, 2020

No events

First Friday, March 6, 2020

Communion Visits to homebound
Mass/Stations of the Cross – 7:30pm - Church

First Saturday, March 7, 2020

Confession – 11:00am – Church
Children's choir – 4:15pm – Church

Second Sunday of Lent, March 8, 2020

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am
Religious Education – 10:45am – 1-6 Grade

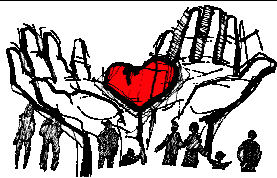
CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Thank you for your generous contributions last week to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe! As a parish, we collected \$1,293.00 to help restore the Church and build the future in more than 20 countries. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

JESUS THE HEALER

"A Living Meditation on Healing"

Presented by The Franciscan Mystery Players
Of Notre Dame Church in North Caldwell
Sunday, March 1, 2020
St. Anthony's Church
199 Walnut St., Northvale
7:30pm
Receive the Gift of Healing this Lent



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)

**SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
2020 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Next weekend is Appeal weekend. This year our parish goal is \$37,834. and 100% of every dollar raised above goal will be returned to our parish. You may pick up a brochure, which outlines areas of support, at the doors 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. Thank you for your support.



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 2020" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend

**HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY
FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – MARCH 16th**

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-HOT COCOA-FRUIT COCKTAIL
- GRATED CHEESE
- PANCAKE MIX-PANCAKE SYRUP
- BREAD CRUMBS
- SALAD DRESSING-TISSUES
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT

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

Brothers and Friends:

Reminder to make your reservations soon!

Only \$35 per Person - Advance ticket sales only!

All are welcome to the St. Patrick's Dinner/Dance

Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 7 PM to 11 PM

St. Joseph Council #3814 Knights of Columbus Hall
199 River Road, New Milford, NJ

Featuring a home-made Corned Beef Dinner, Dessert, Soda, Coffee, Tap Beer, Bagpiper and music by Hot Party Entertainment.

Cash Bar for wine and other liquor drinks.

RESERVATIONS

Frank DeBari (201) 739-8686

Bob Osterlof (201) 370-3404

Help our neighbors in need by bringing a non-perishable food product for our on-going Food Drive.

THE FOLLOWING TRIPS ARE PLANNED FOR 2020

TRIP TO CAPE COD AND RHODE ISLAND, JUNE 8TH – 12, 2020. Price of \$979 per person dbl. occ./\$1198 person single occ. Includes 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners, tour of 2 mansions in Rhode Island, guided tour of Provincetown which includes a whale watching cruise, ferry to Nantucket includes a tour, ferry to Martha's Vineyard, includes a tour, guided tour of Cape Cod National Seashore Visitor's Center, guided tour of Hyannis which includes the John F. Memorial, trip to Mohegan Sun Casino, luggage handling, all taxes and meal gratuities and motorcoach transportation. Deposit of \$100 per person due by March 30th, 2020. Balance due by April 30th, 2020.

TRIP TO LANCASTER, PA. NOVEMBER 18 – 20, 2020. Price of \$439 per person dbl. occ./\$539 per person single occ. includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, "Queen Esther" at Sight & Sound Theatre, "Deck The Halls" at The American Music Theatre, Elva's Chalk Art Presentation at Barnyard Studio, Kitchen Kettle Village, visit to Byers Choice LTD Visitor's Center, Christmas Museum & Creche Collection, luggage handling, all taxes & meal gratuities and motorcoach transportation. Deposit of \$100 per person due by July 1st, 2020. Balance due by Sept. 25th, 2020.

Cancellation insurance is highly recommended. For reservations and info. call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)387-2632. All checks are payable to: Ascension Church, 256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH
SET CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR**

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.

