

# 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.

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord March 28, 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 7:45 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](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)



Mass  for the Intentions  for the Week

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord  
March 28, 2021**

5:30 People of Ascension Parish  
7:30 Michael Koch  
9:30 Maureen Bottcher  
11:30 Juvie Maghirang

**Monday of Holy Week, March 29, 2021**

8:30 Natalie Ava Habana, Birthday (L)  
8:30 Fidela Sunga

**Tuesday of Holy Week, March 30, 2021**

8:30 John M. Vo  
8:30 Delfina & John Duarte

**Wednesday of Holy Week, March 31, 2021**

8:30 Mildred Bolcik  
8:30 William Albers

**HOLY THURSDAY, April 1, 2021**

8:30 Morning Prayer  
8:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
11:45 Night Prayer

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 2, 2021**

8:30 Morning Prayer  
12:00pm Prayer Service  
3:00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
8:00 Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 3, 2021**

8:30 Morning Prayer  
8:30pm Easter Vigil

**EASTER SUNDAY of the Resurrection of  
the Lord, April 4, 2021**

7:30 All Parishioners of Ascension  
9:30 Living and  
11:30 Deceased

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP  
REPORT**

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

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

March 21, 2021: \$3,421.00  
Catholic Campaign: \$ 455.00

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

**Readings for Easter Sunday  
April 4, 2021**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  
[24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/  
Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35

Jesus rides into Jerusalem, not in a chariot, but on a donkey. And a few days later, he is tortured and put to death. And yet, it is through his very sufferings that Jesus is known as our king. God's power is shown through one who loves us so much that no suffering is able to stand in the way of that love.

This is the power that is available to each one of us. The love that Jesus showed by his suffering and death on the cross is still present to us at this very moment. The power of Jesus' love did not somehow vanish into thin air after Jesus died. Today's reading of the Passion is a compelling and forceful reminder of how much we are loved. We seem to so easily forget this truth of our faith. Our daily lives with all of their details and distractions often crowd out the deeper truth which envelops our lives.

We are loved as deeply as we could ever be loved. God's love, shown through the suffering and death of Jesus, is the foundation upon which our lives are built. As we meditate on the sufferings of Jesus today, may we allow this truth to rise within us and fill our hearts with the courage and consolation that God wishes for each of us.

In turn, our suffering, when done out of love, can lead to new life for many other people. As we gaze at the figure of the crucified Christ, we are gazing at deep love and genuine power. The crucifix is our strongest reminder that every time we give ourselves to one another in the spirit of a love that is willing to suffer, we enter into the power of God. Our deepest imitation of Christ is the imitation of Christ in his suffering for others. May we open ourselves to receive gratefully this wonderful gift — this unbounded, all-forgiving, totally accepting and comforting love of the God who is Love itself.

✘ We so need to gather together and share in the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter which help us to celebrate in a very sacred way the awesome gift that Jesus Christ is to us. We need to be reminded of the power we share through His Eucharistic presence, His death, His resurrection.

✘ Our **Holy Week and Easter Schedule** has been inserted in this week's bulletin. Please keep it handy. Let it be an invitation and reminder for you and your family to participate in the liturgies of this holiest week of the year. We are blessed when you are present. **Please plan on joining us in our celebrations — and bring someone you love with you. But please, remember to register with the Parish Office.**

✘ We will be **decorating our church** for Easter on Holy Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 10am. Parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand.

✘ We also need to be reminded of the warm love and concern we share through our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We have included an Easter Offering envelope in your Easter mailing. Please remember the many ministries our parish supports. Remember, too, that we rely heavily upon your donation at Easter to support these ministries and programs. Please, be as generous as your means allow. We so appreciate your good stewardship.

✘ Thank you to our 98 parish families who have already contributed \$35,330.00 to the **Archdiocesan Annual Appeal for 2021**. Our goal is \$36,600.00. We are almost there! There is still time to make a pledge or a one-time gift. 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!**

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

*Fr. 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).

**Returning to Grace:**

**A Pastoral Letter on the Eucharist  
By Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, Archbishop of Newark  
Booklets available in the vestibule of church  
or in the parish center office.**

**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)

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

**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.

**A LAUNDRY CHUTE  
201-262-WASH(9274)**

**Please remember to patronize,  
who help make this bulletin possible**



**Calendar:**

March 30, 2021 – 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grades Chapter 22 reviews are due  
March 31, 2021 – 7<sup>th</sup> grade please make sure you have completed up to Chapter 5 in “Christ in the New Testament & 8<sup>th</sup> grade please make sure you have completed up to Chapter 11 in “Christ Reveals God’s Mystery”, & 9<sup>th</sup> grade please make sure that you have submitted through Chapter 6 in Call to Confirmation (Check email for missing work).



**Important:**

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. 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

The 2021/2022 Registration Forms will be emailed out in the near future. Please fill them out and return before June 30<sup>th</sup>. Remember that one form for each student and please make sure that you update your email address and phone numbers.

**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

***OFFICE CLOSED***

The Parish & Religious Education Offices will be closed on Good Friday, April 2nd

**MARCH 28, 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**

#### **PLEASE CALL/E-MAIL TO RESERVE FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY**

- 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](mailto: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).

#### **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.

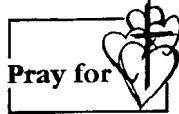
-Children must remain with adults at all times

-**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

## PALM SUNDAY



“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,, Vincent Guido, John Person Amy Irwin, Louis Vallis, Bob Carucci, Danny Allen, John Person, Jerry Speciale 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.

“a time to die...”

Denise Gallagher-Baum, LissyV. Manuel

**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](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)



PALM SUNDAY

**Sunday, March 28, 2021**

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

**Not Livestreamed**

**Monday of Holy Week, March 29, 2021**

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

**Tuesday of Holy Week, March 30, 2021**

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

**Wednesday of Holy Week, March 31, 2021**

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

**HOLY THURSDAY, April 1, 2021**

**In Church & Livestream via Facebook**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am

Mass of the Lord’s Supper – 8:00pm

Adoration until midnight-not livestream

Night Prayer 11:45pm

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 2, 2021**

**In Church & Livestream via Facebook**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am

Good Friday Prayer Service – 12 Noon-not livestream

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion – 3:00pm

Stations of the Cross – 8:00pm

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 3, 2021**

**In Church & Livestream via Facebook**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am

Easter Vigil – 8:30pm



**EASTER SUNDAY, April 4, 2021**

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

Only the 9:30am Mass will be livestreamed

## PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday, and the Gospel story of the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem is read as part of the entrance rite. The Gospel tells us that the people cut branches from the trees and laid them in the road in front of Jesus as part of the procession. Palm is used to celebrate this festive entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Palms are from a common tree whose branches are readily available. The palm is blessed and people are given a branch to take home. A year later the palm will be burned to form the ash for Ash Wednesday. In other places, churches use olive branches or pussy willows. The blessing in the Sacramentary uses the generic term “branches.”



**Presence - Care - Service**

“Living Holy Week, following Jesus means learning to come out of ourselves in order to go to meet others, to towards the outskirts of existence, to be the first to take a step towards our brothers and sisters.” Pope Francis. The Holy Father has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps preserve the sacred shrines. When you make a contribution you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous.



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

**Catholic Stewardship in Action  
2021 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 98 families/individuals who have made a pledge. To date we have \$35,330.00 in pledges. You may pick up a brochure, which outlines areas of support, in 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.

**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](http://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](mailto: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!**

**HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY**

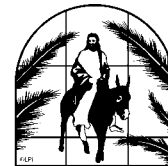
**FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>**

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-PUDDING-HOT COCOA-COOKIES
- CRACKERS-RAISIN BRAN-APPLE SAUCE-INSTANT RICE
- CANNED PINEAPPLE-CANNED PEACHES-FLAVORED RICE
- TOMATO SOUP-RAMEN SOUP-MUFFIN MIX-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.**



**Palm Sunday**

**"Hosanna to the Son of David;**

**blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;**

**Hosanna in the highest."**

**And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied,**

**"This is Jesus the prophet,  
from Nazareth in Galilee."**

**- Mt 21:9-11**