

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.



Divine Mercy Sunday

April 11, 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

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

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week



Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11, 2021
 5:30pm William & Elizabeth Morris
 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
 9:30 Enrique & Sandy Blanco, Anniv.(L)
 11:30 Alphonse Giella Family

Monday, April 12, 2021
 8:30 Msgr. Francis A. Fox
 8:30 Andrew Comer

Tuesday, April 13, 2021
 8:30 Daniel Kemp
 8:30 Jovita Balagot

Wednesday, April 14, 2021
 8:30 Gerard Patrick Lee
 8:30 Carol Britske

Thursday, April 15, 2021
 8:30 Eric Comer
 8:30 Arceli Pagkatiquan

Friday, April 16, 2021
 8:30 Michael Eugene McVey
 8:30 Arlene Aubert

Saturday, April 17, 2021
 8:30 Victoriano Salazar
 5:30pm Sommo & Lanza Families

Sunday, April 18, 2021
 7:30 Renato Aglipay
 9:30 Consuelo Calleja
 11:30 People of Ascension Parish

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH
 Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

March 30, 2021:	\$ 4,309.00
Easter Sunday:	\$16,735.00
Easter Flowers:	\$ 1,541.00
Good Friday:	\$ 1,278.00
Maintenance & Repairs:	\$ 2,504.00

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

Readings for Sunday April 18, 2021

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9
 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

The Apostle Thomas in today's gospel, like many of us, is a bottom-line realist: "Unless I see the wounds, I will not believe." So, how dramatic it must have been for Jesus suddenly to appear in the locked room, and invite Thomas to touch his wounded hands and side. Jesus challenges him directly: "Do not doubt but believe."

If I took a survey right now, how many of us would be willing to admit that we have doubts about God, Jesus, and our faith. Belief in God IS difficult, once we have suffered enough in life. After we have lived through deception, loss of employment and income, violence, war, illnesses, deaths--isn't our experience of God's presence more often an experience of God's absence? Certainly all of the great saints have said this was true for them.

Jesus' first words are usually "Peace be with you!" because he totally understands our fears and doubts. Jesus doesn't want fear and doubts about the future to destroy our belief in life itself. This seems to be happening, for example, in the case of abortion. It is often easier to think of ending a life for which we cannot see a future. But God has an eternal vision for each beloved life, which we cannot see. Remember the old saying, "Seeing is believing"? Not true for Jesus. He says, "Believing is seeing."

Our faith shouts to the world that, thank God, there is a sacred beginning, a blessed middle, and a joyful end to every life! We should not let our doubts drag us into the mud of inaction. Through loving our selves and one another, even in our doubts, we will move even deeper into relationship and unity with God.

Together in faith and hope we have journeyed and rejoiced at the empty tomb. As we celebrate this Second Sunday of Easter, may the Risen Jesus meet us, invite us closer to him and increase our faith so that with Easter ears we can readily hear him say to us:

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

✠ Today, on this eighth and last day of the Octave of Easter, we celebrate **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Based on the revelations from Jesus to St. Maria Faustina, the focus of this feast is on God's unbounded love and mercy for us shown so visibly in Jesus' Paschal Mystery and continually poured out upon us through the sacraments of Baptism, the Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

As we bring mercy to others, we will experience the Divine Mercy that our loving God wishes us to receive with open and grateful hearts. **Ask for Mercy. Receive Mercy. Be Merciful!**

✠ **THANK YOU...** to all who helped to make our Triduum and Easter celebrations so very special—Fr. Tim, our pastoral staff, and our many ministers. Special thanks to our choirs and to all who again "Eastered" our church, especially to all who so generously donated for the Easter flowers that proudly adorn our church. What can I say...it is absolutely magnificent!! That's just some of the ways that make our parish such a visible sign of God's love—a faith-filled community working together for the Lord! May God bless our Ascension community as we continue together building HIS kingdom.

✠ Because so many parishioners have commented positively about the Five Minutes with the Word Lenten booklets, **Five Minutes with the Word for Easter** are available for you in the book rack in the back of the church. Please take one for yourself and feel free to take a couple to share with your friends. They'll appreciate the thought!

✠ Thank you to the 136 parishioner families who have made a pledge to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. To date we have \$42,315.00 in pledges. We have surpassed our parish goal of \$36,600.00. Our Parish now receives a portion of all donations. We ask every parish family to make a pledge or one time gift. **Give a little...Give a lot... But, please, give something!** Brochures are in the church vestibule and there is a direct link to the Appeal on our website. Thank you for your support.

Happy Easter!!! 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)

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



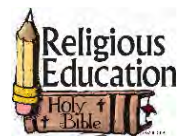
OUR PARISH OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT THE ASCENSION PARISH CENTER. THE PARISH CENTER BUILDING IS LOCATED TO THE LEFT OF THE CHURCH & THE ENTRANCE IS BEHIND THE STATUE OF JESUS. PLEASE VISIT US HERE FOR ALL YOUR PARISH AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEEDS. CENTER OPENS AT 9:00AM MONDAY-FRIDAY. ALL OTHER TIMES BY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



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Calendar:

April 13, 2021 – 1st to 6th grades Chapter 23 reviews are due
 April 14, 2021 – 7th grade Chapter 6- Christ in the New Testament, 8th grade Chapter 12 review due, & 9th grade Chapter 7 – Call to Confirmation (Check email for work).

Important:

1st Communion Families, please remember that all banners and 1st Communion packets are due in the Religious Education office by April 15, 2021. This includes Chapters 4, 5, 6, & 7.

Reminder that we have rehearsal for all Communion Candidates on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7 pm in the Church. The Candidate and ONE Parent only must be here by 6:55 pm.

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.

The 2021/2022 Registration Forms have been emailed out. Please fill them out and return before June 30th. Remember that one form for each student and please make sure that you update your email address and phone numbers. If you know anyone who would like to enroll their child(ren) in our program please have them call me in the office.

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

APRIL 11, 2021

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We welcome you all to our celebration of **Easter 2021** here at Ascension.

We especially welcome those who have been away from Ascension due to school, illness or living elsewhere for whatever reason. It is good to have you home again. Welcome to all visitors.

Thank you for choosing to celebrate your Easter with us.

Easter is the most beautiful and holiest time of year, when we celebrate Jesus' new life shared with us at Easter and all throughout the year – the gift of life, the gift of faith, and the gift of each other.

We invite you to share in many important celebrations of Jesus' new life shared with us during the seven weeks of the Easter Season and beyond.

We will keep you informed of our live-streaming on Facebook.

On Sunday, April 25th, we will celebrate **First Holy Communion**.

On Sunday, May 2nd, during the 9:30am Mass we will celebrate our **Crowning of our Blessed Mother**.

On Saturday, May 15th, we will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of our young men and women in the **sacrament of Confirmation**.

We will observe **Mother's Day** on May 9th and we will celebrate the **Blessing of Mothers** at all weekend Masses.

We will celebrate our **Parish Feast Day, Ascension Thursday**, May 13th. * Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am and our solemn celebration at 7:30pm.

What a special day for us!

*If the Cardinal changes the holiday to a Sunday, we'll let you know.

On May 23rd, the **Solemnity of Pentecost**, we celebrate the special presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We end the Easter Season on the weekend of May 30th, **Most Holy Trinity Sunday**.

On Sunday, June 6th, we will celebrate **Corpus Christi** at 11:30am Mass.

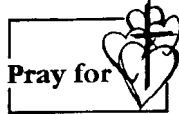
We will observe **Father's Day** on this weekend of June 20th with the **Blessing of Fathers** at all weekend Masses.

I encourage you to immerse yourself in the spirit and graces of the season by participating in these special celebrations and I ask that you bring someone you love with you.

My prayer is that the Risen Christ may live in your hearts and in your homes throughout this season.

A Most Blessed Easter!

DIVINE MERCY 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 Kleck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Eileen Kloebler, 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, Nate Hall, Paul Figalora 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



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

APRIL



Divine Mercy

SUNDAY, April 11, 2021

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

In church ONLY not livestream

Monday, April 12, 2021

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Friday, April 16, 2021

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Saturday, April 17, 2021

Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Vigil mass at 5:30 in Church & livestream via FB

Sunday, April 18, 2021

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

In church ONLY not livestream

Catholic Stewardship in Action

2021 ANNUAL APPEAL

WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL!

Thank you to the 136 families/individuals who have made a pledge. To date we have \$42,315.00 in pledges. We have reached our parish goal of \$36,642.00. If you haven't done so, 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.

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



FEED THE HUNGRY

**HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY
FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – APRIL 19th**

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.



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: _____



In Memory of:

Maura & Iluminado Merjudio
Charles OConnor

Ciriaco & Zoilo Cabrera
Elizabeth Morris
Grace Morris
William Morris
Alta Milliken
Arthur Milliken

Donated by:

Mr & Mrs Vicotino Perez
Mrs Laura OConnor
Mr & Mrs Arturo Hermoso
Miss Leonora Cabrera
Marguerite Morris
Marguerite Morris
Marguerite Morris
Marguerite Morris
Marguerite Morris



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!