

# 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 Advent

November 29, 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

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](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 *Week*

**First Sunday of Advent, November 29**

5:30 People of Ascension Parish  
7:30 Mary Karwoski  
9:30 Rosario Flores  
11:30 Peter Buckley

**Monday, November 30, 2020**

8:30 Gerard Patrick Lee  
8:30 Annamma Thomas

**Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

8:30 Elvira Castillo  
8:30 Margaret Capone

**Wednesday, December 2, 2020**

8:30 Maria Luisa Dascu  
8:30 Ana Tumang

**Thursday, December 3, 2020**

8:30 Thanksgiving  
8:30 David Jenkins

**Friday, December 4, 2020**

8:30 Amorosa Dela Victoria  
8:30 Julio Gutierrez, First Anniversary

**Saturday, December 5, 2020**

**Memorial**

8:30 Jean Sapunarich  
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 6**

7:30 Janet Cronin  
9:30 People of Ascension Parish  
11:30 Mario & Rosauro Cajucom

**PARISH  STEWARDSHIP  
REPORT**

***WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH***

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

**November 15, 2020: \$2,714.00**

**Social Concerns: \$ 653.00**

**No Figures at time of printing  
for November 29, 2020**

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

**Readings for Sunday  
December 6, 2020**

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]  
/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



**Advent** starts our new year of waiting for the cycle of Jesus' birth, life, and death to unfold. I particularly want to wake you up to two realities—that God loves you, and that God is faithful in loving you.

With the present condition of Covid-19 in our country and the general state of events in our world, maybe some of you are feeling, "God's not real to me—I don't think God really knows or cares one little bit about me or what decisions I make." Or maybe you're floundering—or don't feel you've done much with that potential life within you. But Isaiah says, "God has called you **BY NAME**." Before you were born, your name was carved on the palm of God's hand—the way we carved the initials of the person we loved in the tree as kids. We tend to forget, so remind yourself daily: You are precious—God loves you—and God is faithful. As God says in the song of Hosea, "Come back to me—don't let fear keep us apart!"

How are you doing hearing and responding to God's call? To any teenage readers—how is this making a difference in how you make decisions for your life? If "God is Faithful", and you have been bonded and joined to Jesus by God's love, then it's going to have to have an effect on what you decide to do with your friends tonight. For all of us, it's going to make a difference in how we spend our money – how we talk and act toward people – what we decide NOT to do - who we choose to spend time with.

The point today is that God calls us by name every day. When Jesus says, "Keep awake!" he is telling us to "keep on keeping on" responding to God's call. Don't fall asleep...because we're not the only ones who are waiting. Just remember God's love song to all of us: "Long have I waited for your coming home to me, and living deeply our new life!"

✘ Thank you to our Service Ministry and to all who donated, collected, and delivered food to St. John the Baptist Parish, Fairview and to our Food Pantry Clients for Thanksgiving. Also, thank you to all who participated in our **45<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving**. Special thanks to those who participated, especially, to Glenn Gordon and our choir members for leading us in song-filled thanks to God.

✘ Please take some time to review the information about our **2020 Parish ADVENTure**. Our **Advent Giving Tree** has been prepared to help us to Share the Spirit of Christmas! Further information is in this week's bulletin. Also, don't forget to take a copy of **Five Minutes with the Word for Advent**. Copies are at the entrance to the church and in the Parish Center. These and so many other opportunities help each of us to prepare for the Lord's coming.

✘ Please remember to make your final payments for the **2020 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal** in order that our parish may get the proper credit.

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



**FOR TURKEY DONATIONS**

Members of our Service Ministry thank all who donated to our annual Turkey Drive via their Price Plus card numbers for us to pick up their earned turkeys at ShopRite. May God bless you for your generosity to our mission to serve the poor. We wish you all a blessed Christmas Season to Come!

**2021 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN**

Even though the Mass schedule for next year is still unable to be determined, we have decided to open the 2021 Mass Book for your intentions. Forms are available at the side entrance to the church or on our parish website, [www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com).

Please follow instructions on form.

Please fill out the request form to the best of your ability, and either mail it or drop it off in the slot in the Parish Center with your check donation. Please do not use cash. Thank you for your cooperation!

**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 beginning this weekend (Nov. 7-8), 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)

<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: \_\_\_\_\_



**Calendar:**

Please make sure all past work is completed and submitted as soon as possible.

December 6, 2020 – 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Grades Packet Drop off / Pick Up from 9 am to 10:30 am. December 7, 2020 – 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Grades Packet Drop off/ Pick Up from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

December 12, 2020- First Reconciliation 11 am in Church- Reconciliation Candidate and Parents only invited.

**Important:**

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.

**NEXT PACKET PICK UP –is Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 9 am to 10:30 and Monday December 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.**

**Volunteers Needed:**

† We are in need of Aides and Class Parents 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

† 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



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
 FLYERS\*FORMS\*SCHEDULES\*BULLETINS  
 UPCOMING EVENTS**

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



NOVEMBER 29, 2020

## 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](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). There is a limited capacity of 80 people.

**All Funerals, Weddings, and Baptisms will follow the same protocol.** (80 person capacity)

-Enter side door near rectory

**-All visitors, including children, must wear masks, have and use their own hand sanitizer and 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

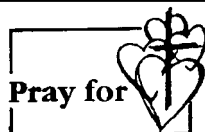
-Bathrooms will not be open

**-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

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to Love...”

Ryan Delgado & Stella Paz

“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 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 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...”

President Donald John Trump,  
our National Leaders and all World Leaders.

**and a time for every purpose under heaven”**

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE**  
offered this week in loving memory of  
**Gerard Patrick Lee**  
(Birthday Remembrance)



**First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2020**

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

**Monday, November 30, 2020**

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

**Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

**Wednesday, December 2, 2020**

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

**Thursday, December 3, 2020**

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

**Friday, December 4, 2020**

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

**Saturday, December 5, 2020**

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Mass at 5:30pm in Church & livestreamed

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 6, 2020**

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



**WE'VE REACHED OUR GOAL!  
SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST  
2020 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Our parish goal this year is \$37,834. and **100% of every dollar raised above goal will be returned to our parish.** We have passed our goal. We have received \$38,760.00 in pledges. **Thank you** to the 143 families for your donations!

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 and generosity. God bless.**



Please patronize  
our advertisers.  
They help us GROW.

**Please remember to patronize  
who help make this bulletin possible,  
RIEWERTS Memorial Home Inc.  
201-384-0700**

**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.**



## CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us especially the needy in our community. Once again, we invite you to share in the *Spirit of Christmas* by participating in our annual Christmas Giving Tree Program. However, in order to ensure the safety of our community and ourselves, we've made necessary modifications to the program.

### GIFT CARD CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

We are asking that all donations made to our Christmas Giving Tree Program be made by gift cards. If you prefer to make a cash donation we will purchase the gift cards for you. Please be guided by the following:

- Gifts for families of St. John's Parish, Fairview: \$10. or \$20. gift cards for Target or Walmart.
- Gifts for residents of N.J. Buddies Harrison House: \$10. or \$20. gift cards for Target.
- Macy's, Walmart or ShopRite.
- Gifts for local families: \$10. or \$20. gift cards for Target.
- Gifts for Ascension Food Pantry clients: \$10. ShopRite gift cards.

Please bring your gift cards to the Parish Center during regular hours or give them to Fr. David. Please place gift cards in envelopes marked "Christmas Giving Tree Gift Card" St. John; Harrison House; local families or Food Pantry. **All cards must be brought in by Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.**

We *thank you* for your continued support and wish you good health and peace during this Christmas Season.

### HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY

#### FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – DECEMBER 21st

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.

- ICED TEA-COOKIES-INSTANT RICE-BREAD CRUMBS
- JELL-O-RAISINS-CANNED PEACHES-CANNED PEARS
- CANNED MUSHROOMS-CANNED BEETS-BEEF STEW
- APPLE JUICE-GRAPE JUICE-CRANBERRY JUICE
- LEMONADE MIX-CHICKEN BROTH-GRATED CHEESE
- CANNED WHITE POTATOES-VEGETARIAN CHILI
- BLACK BEANS-PAPER TOWELS-NAPKINS-DISH SOAP
- WOMENS/MENS SHAVE CREAM

**DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE PARISH CENTER**

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



### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Christmas trees, wreaths and flowers which will be used to decorate our church this festive season.

**Donation \$15.00 for Each Intention**

**One intention for each donation will be listed on the Christmas Flower Donations bulletin insert**

Please put your donation and intention in the **Christmas Flower Envelope** or you may use this **form**. Please drop it in the collection basket or in the door mail slot at the parish center. **Please Print all information clearly on form or envelopes.** Thank you!

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

**Please Print**

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

or the Intention of: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



### 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: \_\_\_\_\_