

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.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 27, 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

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 Intentions for the Week

The Holy Family, December 27, 2020

5:30 Howard Stephens
7:30 Juan Redoblado
9:30 Montecuello & Lewis Families
11:30 Anthony Ameralis, Peter Rogers

Monday, December 28, 2020

8:30 Gerard Patrick Lee
8:30 Larry Figalora, B'day (D)

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

8:30 Thanksgiving for Linda Palmares (L)
8:30 Ana Tumang

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

8:30 Eileen P. McCann

Thursday, December 31, 2020

8:30 Robert Barratt

Vigil Mass, Mary Mother of God

5:30 People of Ascension Parish

Solemnity of Mary, New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2021

8:30 Len Francisco
10:30 Norma Ibanez

Saturday, January 2, 2021

Memorial

8:30 Agnes Jovita Balagot
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 3, 2021

7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Julie & Phil Carbone
11:30 Maria Luisa Cardona

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

December 13, 2020: \$4,152.00
Immaculate Conception: \$ 705.00

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

Readings for Sunday January 3, 2021

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



Many Christmases ago, a poor woman named Eva received a gift of plump, beautiful grapes from the grocer. Eva's first thought was of her son, Edward. 'This is his favorite! I can't wait to give them to him tonight.' At home, Edward's eyes widened, and his mouth did begin to water when he saw the grapes. But he thought immediately of his little sister, Gracie.

Times were hard and Edward pictured just how much Gracie would love the grapes, as she'd had few treats in recent years. Little Grace shrieked when she received the rare treat. But just then she heard her father, Robert, coming in after a long day of searching for work. These grapes would make him smile, she thought! So Grace rushed in and offered him the grapes before he could even take off his coat. 'Here, Daddy—here is a gift for you, from me!'

Robert was so tired, and the very sight of the juicy grapes given to him by his little girl did make him smile. But then he smiled even wider, just thinking of what a wonderful surprise these would make for his wife, Eva. She had given up so much, she deserved something special. He hurried to find her, and put the beautiful bunch of grapes into her hands with a kiss.

So, the gift of beauty, and nourishment, and self-giving love came full circle. Everyone received, and everyone gave. Clearly, marriage, and family, and human relationships are holy and sacramental. But they are not ends in themselves—they point us to the Most Sacred God Who loved us first. So, our 'family ties' in God are meant to FREE us, to let our love burst out and fly beyond all boundaries, to those most in need.

May the miracle of Christmas inspire you to bring the delight of true love to your family and to others—just as you are receiving it every day from the God who loves you so deeply and dearly!

We have printed in the bulletin the schedule of Masses for the Christmas Season. We welcome all of you, those who celebrate with us daily and weekly, and those who have been away for a while. We invite each of you to celebrate with us, and we ask that you please bring a friend or loved one to celebrate with us as well.

I remind you that Ascension Parish offers many ministries and programs. Our parish relies heavily on your generosity, especially in our Christmas collection, to help support the many needs of our parish. I ask that you seek God's guidance in deciding what you can give for your special Christmas gift to your parish and I pray that you will be as generous as your means allow.

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

A truly Merry and Grace-filled Christmas Season to All and Happy New Year 2021!

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

Handwritten signature: Fr. David

DECEMBER 27, 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
- 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 front doors of church

-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.

-Bathrooms will not be open

-Practice social distancing (6 feet apart). We have roped off pews not to be used.

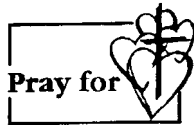
-You may light candles, please refrain from touching other areas in church.

-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



“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, Mario Balducci 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.

“a time to die...”

Margaret Lowe

and a time for every purpose under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:11



ALTAR BREAD and WINE this week are in loving memory of **Robert Barratt**



Holy Family, December 27, 2020

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

Not Livestreamed

Monday, December 28, 2020

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

NEW YEAR'S EVE, Thursday, December 31, 2020

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Vigil of Mass for Mary Mother of God-5:30pm
livestreamed

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Friday, January 1, 2021

Mary Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Masses at 8:30am & 10:30am

in Church only not livestreamed

Saturday, January 2, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

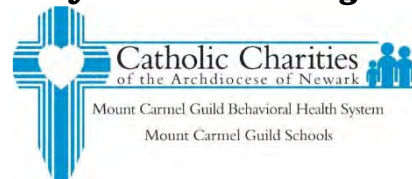
Mass at 5:30pm in Church & livestreamed

Epiphany of the Lord, January 3, 2021

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

Not Livestreamed

“Every end is a new beginning.”



These words are very hopeful and encouraging as we begin the New Year. For some who lack physical necessities and struggle with numerous problems on a daily basis, hope is a fleeting word. The many programs of Catholic Charities aim to restore hope and dignity. Please help us by contributing to the donation bin in the parish. We also need children's books. God Bless.



Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

ROMAN PIZZA & RESTAURANT
201-265-9371

(Look for 15% off coupon in this bulletin)

Please remember to patronize, who help make this bulletin possible



Christmas Masses

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31, 2020

5:30pm

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2021

8:30am and 10:30am

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 2, 2021

5:30pm

Sunday, January 3, 2021

7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Thanks for giving! "We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year", says a Catholic sister. "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters." Thank you for donating to the December 13th second collection. A check in the amount of \$853.00 will be sent to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Child and Youth Protection - How to Report Abuse

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the Archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who need to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do by calling the Victim's Assistance Coordinator of the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
FLYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*BULLETINS
UPCOMING EVENTS
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY
(Holy Day of Obligation)
NEW YEAR'S MASS RESERVATIONS
Please remember to make your reservation
for New Year's Eve: 5:30pm &
New Year's Day: 8:30am & 10:30am
MASSES ASAP



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.



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: _____



THE PARISH CENTER OFFICES
WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY,
JANUARY 1ST, 2021



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

2020

In Memory of:

Vito Morgese
Loretta Brunck
Dolores (Morgese) Ack
Kenneth Brunck
Robert, Joseph & Elizabeth Mozia
Grace Emenike
Marie Stephanie Perez
Helen & Gerard Quinn
Lilia Pineda, Fernin Pineda
Filomena & James Capellupo
Joseph Romeo & Bob
Rooney Family
Rovneyko & Ciszewski Family
Dahl & Sanders Family
Clifford Stahl
Elias & Simeona Capistrano
Pedro & Ronnie Capistrano
Ernesto Capistrano
Benny Santiago
Jean Sapunarich
Michael Sapunarich
Diane Lowery
Sedlak and Lombardelli Families
Sharkey and Figalora Families
Arthur, Sylvia & Theresa Sofia
John & Rose Carbone
Toriano-Roces Families
Mary & James Zadroga
Mary & James Zadroga
Zampella & Massa Families
Fagnoli Family

Donated by:

Mr & Mrs Joseph A Morgese
Mr & Mrs Joseph A Morgese
Mr & Mrs Joseph A Morgese
Mr & Mrs Joseph A. Morgese
Mr & Mrs Augustine Mozia
Mr & Mrs Augustine Mozia
Mr & Mrs Victorino Perez
Mr Robert Quinn
Mr & Mrs Mario Reyes
Marie Romeo
Marie Romeo
Evelyn M. Rooney
Miss Joanne Rovneyko
Mrs Barbara Sanders
Mrs Barbara Sanders
Merlita Sangalang
Merlita Sangalang
Merlita Sangalang
Mrs Sally Santiago
Ms Jeannie Sapunarich
Ms Jeannie Sapunarich
Ms Jeannie Sapunarich
Mr & Mrs Ronald Sedlak
Jack & Serina Sharkey
Roseann & Bob Sofia
Roseann & Bob Sofia
Mr & Mrs Felipe Toriano
Ms Catherine Zadroga
Ms Catherine Zadroga
Mrs Alice Zampella
Mrs Alice Zampella

Flower Offering Donated by:

Mr Frank Aita
Deacon & Mrs Harold Bates
Enrique Blanco
Mr & Mrs Fredy Calle
Dr & Mrs Jojy Cheriyan
Mr & Mrs James Connors
Barry Doll
Ms June Doyle
Mr & Mrs Joseph George
Ms Marie Gibbons
Mr & Mrs Arturo Hermoso
Miss Maria Hocbo
Mr & Mrs P Klocek
Mr & Mrs John Lynam
Mr & Mrs Jose-Medell Manahan
Mr & Mrs Gerardo Miniz
Mr & Mrs John Minko
Mr & Mrs Alberto Mojica
Mr & Mrs Raymond Petro
Ofelia Rodriguez
Mr & Mrs Arthur Scoppa
Ms Irene Shen
Ms Lydia Tababan
Ms Teresa Te
Mr & Mrs Pedro Urgelles

New Year Blessings for 2021

May all who wear glasses have perfect vision this year.

May you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your cardiologist,
your gastro-enterologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your podiatrist,
your psychiatrist, your plumber and the I.R.S..

May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs and your stocks not fall;
and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol,
your white blood count and your mortgage interest not rise.

May New Year's Eve find you seated around the table,
together with your beloved family.

May you find the food better, the environment quieter, the cost much cheaper,
and the pleasure much more fulfilling
than anything else you might ordinarily do that night.

May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them.
May someone love you enough to forgive your faults, be blind to your blemishes,
and tell the world about your virtues.

May the telemarketers wait to make their sales calls until you finish dinner.
May the commercials on TV not be louder than the program you have been watching,
and may your check book and your budget balance -
and include generous amounts for charity.

May you remember to say "I love you" at least once a day to your spouse, your child,
your parent, your siblings; but not to your secretary, your nurse, your masseuse,
your hairdresser or your tennis instructor.

And may we live in a world at peace and COVID-FREE and with the awareness of
God's love in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile, every
lover's kiss, and every wonderful, astonishing, miraculous beat of our heart.

A Happy and Holy 2021 to All!

*Theresa Carbone
Jeannette MacNish
Dena Sedlak*

*Fr. David
Fr. Tim
Elizabeth Delgado
Christopher Cudina*

*Glenn Gordon
Perina Sharkey
Brendan Puter*