

Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor

Rev. James T. Brown, M. Div.

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. David W. Milliken

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Tim Graff

Director of Music

Glenn Gordon

Parish Business Manager

Serina Sharkey

Director of Maintenance

Brendan Suter

Parish Trustees

Christopher Cudina
Elizabeth Delgado

Religious Education

Theresa Carbone, Coordinator of Religious Education

Jeanette MacNish, Coordinator for Grades 7 & 8

Dena Sedlak, Coordinator of First Penance and
First Holy Communion



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 seasonally on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. Parents should 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 Parish Center 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 Parish Office 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 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21, 2024

+ 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 - Thursday

One Daily Mass at 8:00 a.m.

No daily Mass on Friday

Holy Days: 8:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Holiday Mass: 8:00am

+ Our Devotions +

Rosary is prayed Monday-Thursday & Saturday after Mass



PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PARISH CENTER

PARISH OFFICE

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 *Week*

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, January 21, 2024**

5:30pm Theresa & Vincent Guido
7:30 Rev. John P. McGovern
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 Mary & Enrique Blanco (L)
Wedding Anniversary

Monday, January 22, 2024

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

8:00 Carmen Aurimnea

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

8:00 Ester & Judith Nional

Thursday, January 25, 2024

8:00 Martin Mattie McNicholas

Friday, January 26, 2024

No Mass

Saturday, January 27, 2024

8:30 Joan Craviolo

5:30 Emiliana Guce

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, January 28, 2024**

7:30 Sr. Mercy Marie (L) Sp. Occasion

9:30 Theresa & Vincent Guido

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.

January 14, 2024: \$5,730.00
Social Concerns: \$ 892.00
WeShare Social Concerns: \$ 250.57

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

**Readings for Sunday,
January 28, 2024**

Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/
1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

GOSPEL MEDITATION

We start telling lies around the age of three, the experts tell us. It's understandable. Lying is a god-like power. Whatever I want, I need only *say* it, and the world rearranges itself accordingly. It's amazing at first. But soon reality snaps back and I'm faced with a dilemma. If I remain committed to my lie I start to fracture into pieces. My words and reality drift apart, and I find myself lost in a lonely world of further falsehoods and fear of being found out.

How marvelous, then, that Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming: **"Repent!"** We tend to think it means "stop doing bad things" but it doesn't. It literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Think in a new way. It's painful to admit, but some portion of my mind is addicted to lie-telling, usually to protect my ego or make life easier. To repent means to admit this tendency, to say, "I'm done lying," and to move beyond my split mind into a complete commitment to the truth. Perhaps that's why at Mass we together proclaim, "I have sinned in my *thoughts*, and in my *words*..." Repentance and truth-telling work together.

Those who know the twelve-step process of addiction recovery know this process well. The fourth step requires radical truth-telling: listing our moral defects. This isn't being scrupulous. Rather it is freedom from falsehood, and entrance into the real world. This week, I invite you to join me in this practice. Get your phone or piece of paper. Answer the question: what are your true moral defects? Write them down. Remember, the Lord knows them already and loves you. We have a sacrament where this truth-telling is celebrated: Confession. Perhaps it is finally time to go beyond our childish lies.

— Father John Muir

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁴ APPEAL

The 2024 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese. Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning the QR code, or join us for In-Pew Weekend on February 3rd-4th.





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 update my contact information
- _____ 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: _____

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

OUR 5:30PM MASS ON SATURDAY IS LIVE STREAMED AND APPEARS ON YOU TUBE FOR OUR HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS TO VIEW.



SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR SNOW REMOVAL – THIS WEEKEND

This Weekend we will take up a second collection to help defray the cost of **Snow Removal** on our parish grounds. This is a collection that provides for your safety throughout the winter months. So far our cost for salting of lots & walk-ways is over \$6,000.00. So we ask each parish family to be as generous in this collection as your means allow. **Thank you!**



WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING
PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE
FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR
INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS
www.churchoftheascension.net



Calendar:

Sunday, January 21st – 1th thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

Monday, January 22nd —6th, 7th & 8th Grades in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm.

Wednesday, January 24th -- 9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm.

Sunday, January 28th – 1th thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

Important:

There is a Mandatory Eight Grade Parents & Student meeting on January 29, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Church. All students and parents in 8th grade are to attend if your child would like to be in the Confirmation Class of 2025. All attendees will enter in the door on the YMCA side of the Church.

Mandatory 1st Eucharist Parent meeting on January 30, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel of the Parish Center. You will receive a notice in the mail and in your email concerning this meeting. All attendees will enter in the door that the students enter for class.

Please remember that all On-Line Work is due on the following days:

For Sunday Program (1st to 5th Grades) by Wednesday of each week
For Monday Night Program (6th to 8th Grades) by Thursday of each week

For Wednesday Night Program (9th Grade) by Friday of each week.
Parents Please Remember that this work MUST be completed each week.

All families are encouraged to come to Mass each week and parents as also asked to review ALL PRAYERS with your child, they can be found in the back of each book.

Volunteers Needed:

In order for Children’s Liturgy of the Word to start we are in need of volunteers to help with it at the 9:30 am Mass. This is a wonderful was in families can go to Mass together each week and is open to all children in in the Parish. If you would like to help PLEASE call Mrs. Carbone in the Parish Center. 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 Substitutes for our Religious Education Program for the 2023-2024 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 – Parish Center

Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon -- Parish Center

Closed: Thursday & Saturday

Other times by appointment

Sign-Up for Small Christian Communities for Lent 2024

Sign-Up will be the
February 10 /11,

I would like to
Season by
Small Faith Sharing
once a week for
Lent.



February 3 / 4 and
2024

start off the Lenten
participating in a
Group that meets
the six weeks of

The groups that available are:

Fr. Jim, which meets on Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center Chapel.
Starting on Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

Theresa Thomas, which meets on Thursday Mornings at 9:00am in the Parish Center Gathering Room
Starting on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

Dena & Ron Sedlak, which meets on Thursday Evenings at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center Chapel.
Starting on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

Mary & Enrique Blanco, which meets on Thursday Evenings at the Blanco's Home at 7:30 pm.
Starting on Thursday, February 15, 2024

Beth Delgado & Sally Santiago, which meets on Friday Evenings in the Parish Center at 7:30 pm.
Starting on Friday, February 16, 2024

Josie McEwan, which meets on Saturday afternoons- location to be announced at 2 pm.
Starting , Saturday, February 17, 2024

Lenten Faith Sharing Group 2024 Sign-Up

Name: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Group Name _____

*****PLEASE DROP IN COLLECTION BASKET
OR OFF AT THE PARISH CENTER*****

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be healed...”

Marguerite Morris, Mary Anne Meyer, Rebecca Tababan, Stephen Cronin, Kaitlin Abreu, Gerard Lee and those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

Family Members: PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE SOMEONE ON OUR PRAYER LIST.

Prayer list will be updated every three months

Next renewal date February 5, 2024

Please call office to renew or remove name

“a time to serve...”

Staff Sgt. James Penser, Langley AFB, VA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

For all of our Emergency, Medical & First Responders.

“a time for peace...”

All of our National and World Leaders.

“a time to die...”

Marie Oberst, Ludivina Fineza

and a time for every purpose under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:11



Please help us to keep our shelves stocked over these cold winter months by donating one or more of the following most needed items:

PAPER TOWELS, NAPKINS, FACIAL TISSUES, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, APPLE JUICE, CRANBERRY JUICE, GRAPE JUICE, KETCHUP, MUSTARD, MAYONNAISE, COFFEE, TEA, HOT COCOA, COOKIES, CRACKERS SALAD DRESSINGS. FLOUR, RAISIN BRAN CEREAL, BAKED BEANS, BEEF GRAVY, CHICKEN GRAVY, FRUIT COCKTAIL, RAISINS, MANDARIN ORANGES, APPLESAUCE.

Your continued generosity to our ministry is very much appreciated. God bless!

EASTER PASCAL CANDLE

If you would like to memorialize this year’s Easter Pascal Candle please contact the parish office for complete information.

PARISH EVENTS MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

7:30PM

IN THE PARISH CENTER

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Open House
Saint Joseph School
Oradell, NJ
Igniting Faith, Illuminating Minds!
January 28, 2024
1:00pm-3:00pm

- Meet our caring faculty and staff
- National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
- Small class sizes
- Learn self discipline
- STEM activities
- National Junior Beta Club
- Before and After Care
- Academic Excellence in a Faith-Based Environment
- Middle States Accreditation

A PreK 2 (NEW!) to Grade 8 school of the Archdiocese of Newark

visit our website
www.sjsusa.org



Can't make it? Call us for a tour!

201-261-2388

SANCTUARY CANDLE, BREAD & WINE, AND ALTAR FLOWERS for the week, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communions, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Weddings Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the parish office to check availability.



WILLIAM BASRALIAN
FUNERAL SERVICE
201-261-0222

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PALM PALM

Beginning Sunday, January 21 until Sunday, February 4 a box will be in the front vestibule of church for you to deposit any palm you would like to dispose of.

It is imperative that you remove all staples, string, rubber bands etc. from palm branches, as they will be burned and used for Ash Wednesday on February 14.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next week our special collection supports the *Catholic Communication Campaign*. This campaign engages and build Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Archdiocese of Newark to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! To learn more, visit www.uscch.org/ccc.



MEMORIALS

If you would like to contribute to this fund in memory of your loved one. Please call the Parish Office (201) 836-8961 or stop by the office (located in the Parish Center-256 Azalea Drive)) to check availability.

Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)

- ALTAR BREAD AND WINE \$25 per week
- ALTAR FLOWERS \$65 (per basket/per week)
- SANCTUARY CANDLE \$15 per week

MEMORIAL CANDLES:

___ SACRED HEART	___ BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
\$25/1 month	\$100/5 months
\$45/2 months	\$120/6 months
\$65/3months	\$200/1 year
\$85/4months	

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF: _____

DATE REQUESTED: _____

REQUESTED BY: _____

Phone: _____ Donation Amount: _____

Please return completed form with your check made payable to Ascension Church



END OF YEAR DONATION STATEMENT

If you would like a copy of your 2023 Year Donation Statement please complete the following & return to parish office.

Please Do not call to make request

Please Print Clearly

NAME ON DONATION ENVELOPE:

ADDRESS: _____

ENVELOPE#: _____ **PHONE#:** _____

Please Return this request to Parish Office

before January 31, 2024

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one 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.

HELP US FEED THOSE IN SHELTERS

Our Service Ministry supplies dinner every other month to the Homeless Shelter in Hackensack. Along with dinner, we need to supply 175 desserts for those without homes. As we cannot bring home baked desserts since the beginning of COVID, we are sending "Snack Packs" of cookies, chips, or similar items like those you would pack in a lunch. If anyone would like to help out and donate some of these they can be left in the large brown box located outside the pantry. Our next date to bring dinner is on Thursday, February 15th.. As always, your help would be greatly appreciated in securing these items.

Please Notice This



HAVE SOMETHING FOR OUR BULLETIN??

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ITEMS FOR BULLETIN NO LATER THAN 9:00AM ON MONDAY BEFORE PRINTING DATE

ascension@optonline.net

Thank you for your cooperation

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

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM

