

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

Director of Music

Glenn Gordon

Director of Maintenance

Brendan Suter

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Tim Graff

Parish Business Manager

Serina Sharkey

Parish Trustees

Elizabeth Delgado
Todd Henderson

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 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 1, 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

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*

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, September 1, 2024

5:30pm Scott G. Gorman

7:30 Theresa Lacey

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Misty Marie Wolf

Monday, September 2, 2024

8:00 Keith Bachmann

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

8:00 Paul L. Von Arx

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

8:00 Eileen McCann, Fourth Anniv.

Thursday, September 5, 2024

8:00 Peg & Pat Mulvilhill (L)

Friday, September 6, 2024

No Mass

Saturday, September 7, 2024

Memorial

8:30 Evelyn Lawlor, Minda Reyes

Mary D. Costello, Dolores Emery

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, September 8, 2024

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Courtney Villaluna (L)

11:30 Albert Suter

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, August 25, 2024: \$4,852.00

Social Concerns: \$ 822.00

Social Concerns WeShare: \$ 150.47

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

**Readings for Sunday
September 8, 2024**

Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1B)
/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Purity isn't popular at the moment. Or is it? Look at a rack of health magazines or at popular podcasts. You'll see an infinite ocean of regulations and rituals of diets, intermittent fasting, morning sun rituals, intense juice detox practices, lists of dangerous foods, mental practices, as well as long lists of dos and don'ts for the proper cleaning of clothes, dishes, cars, houses, pets, and children. Like it or not, we long to be pure, clean, and without blemish.

This question of purity haunted people in Jesus' day, too. The Pharisees and scribes (the leading purity authorities of the day) criticize Jesus, asking, "**Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?**" (Mark 7:5). Jesus responds by saying, "**There is nothing outside the person that can defile him if it goes into him; but the things that come out of the person are what defile the person**" (Mark 7:15). What does he mean, and how can it help us be pure?

We've probably all heard the somewhat shopworn interpretation that Jesus replaces the ritual, exterior notion of purity with a moral, interior one. Christianity is thus seen as a kind of moral re-tooling, as if religion doesn't make us pure. Good moral intentions do. But this doesn't take the rest of Jesus' ministry seriously enough, nor our obsession with purity. The better reading is that Jesus audaciously offers himself as the ultimate source of human purity — from *within* each human heart. Both our religious ritual practices and our moral actions are meant to flow from this encounter with Jesus the Lord. When we are in friendship with him, everything becomes pure for us.

-Father John Muir

Prayer for Students

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the gift of learning!

I want to grow closer to you
in everything I do at school.

In math and science, help me to see
your beautiful plan in the world.

Help me to discover new stories
and values as I read and write.

In arts and music, help me to be creative.

In sports, help me to treat my teammates
and my opponents fairly.

Help me to learn new skills
in technology.

Jesus, you are the perfect teacher.

Help me to listen with open ears,
an open heart, and an open mind
to all my teachers at school.

Help me to treat my classmates
with care, kindness, and respect.

Thank you, Jesus, for school!

Amen.



JUBILEE YEAR 2025

2025 is a Jubilee year, every 25 years this happens. In Rome for the opening of the Jubilee Year the Pope will unseal the Jubilee Door on St. Peter's. At the end of the year he will reseal it. Pope Francis has selected the theme of "Hope" for the Jubilee. It would be good if we as a parish can mark this year in a special way.

I would like to gather a group of people to brainstorm some ideas. For us we will open the Jubilee Year on January 5, the Feast of the Epiphany and close it on the following Epiphany. Please join us on Tuesday, September 17 at 7:30pm in the Parish Center to begin the planning.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

We are in need of someone to step up to chair our events committee. This is an important part of our parish life. Maybe 2 people could co-chair it. If you are thinking but not sure please feel free to contact Fr. Jim for a discussion.

Upcoming events we need to keep in mind:
Our Parish's 75th Anniversary is coming up in 2028
250th Anniversary of the United States in 2026

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.

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



LABOR DAY OBSERVANCE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2024
ONE MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 8:00AM
PARISH CENTER OFFICES
WILL BE CLOSED



Important:

New Registration forms for the 2024-2025 School year have given out to all families already in the program. All registration were due by July 31st and now there is a Late Fee of \$10 per student. If you wish to register your child or know anyone who wishes to register in our program and are in need of a registration form, please call 201-836-3085 or stop by the Religious Education Office in the Parish center during office hours- 9am to 4 pm daily. Forms can also be found on the parish website, www.churchoftheascension.com.

Please know that the Religious Education Center will be open on Sunday, September 8, 2024 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am for anyone who wishes to come in for last minute registration,

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:

We in need of help for Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 am Mass, which will restart in the Fall, for 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 – Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – Parish Center

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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

Church of the Ascension Food Pantry has been selected again by the Store Leadership Team as a **Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program Nonprofit Partner!** This time, your organization will receive \$1 for each specially marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during the month of **September 2024** at:
20 Washington Avenue, Dumont NJ

Religious Education

2024-2025 ASCENSION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Please know that the Religious Education Center will be open on Sunday, September 8, 2024 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am for anyone who wishes to come in for last minute registration.

PLEASE NOTE: All registrations will be charged an Additional \$10.00 late fee per student after July 31, 2024.

If you intend to have your son/daughter continue with his/her religious education at Ascension Parish, kindly complete a Registration form and return to the Religious Education office or Parish Center as soon as possible.

A Registration form is enclosed and additional forms are available in the Parish Center or can be downloaded from the parish website www.churchoftheascension.com.

THANK YOU

The Ascension Religious Education Staff:

**Theresa Carbone, Coordinator of Religious Education
Jeanette MacNish, Coordinator for Grades 7th & 8th
Dena Sedlak, Coordinator of First Penance
and First Holy Communion**



“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 November 4, 2024

Please call office to renew or remove name

“a time to serve...”

Staff Sgt. James Penser, Ramstein AFB, Germany. 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...”

Elia Antonucci

and a time for every purpose under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** burns this week in loving memory of **John Edward Rooney**



BREAD and WINE this week Donated in loving memory of **John Edward Rooney**



Lourdes Pilgrimage

Reservations are now open for our pilgrimage to Lourdes April 29 to May 9, 2025. In addition to Lourdes we will visit Avignon, Chartes, Lisieux and Notra Dame, which is scheduled to reopen this December.

Brochures at doors

Parish Trustee

After many years of service as a parish trustee Chris Cudina has stepped down. We thank him for his many years of service and his continued commitment to our parish.

Congratulations to Todd Henderson who has been appointed our new Parish Trustee.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next Weekend (Sept. 7- 8), the (arch)diocese will take up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education. The University's various research and training initiatives support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. A few examples of how the University serves the Church and nation include The Catholic Project, an initiative that aims to heal the breach of trust many have experienced as a result of the crisis in the Church; a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management; and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers. Please give generously. visit: collection.catholic.edu to learn more.

WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING

PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS

www.churchoftheascension.net

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



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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



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: _____

*Must be a family member

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Can you help? Weekly our purificators (purificator is a white linen cloth used to wipe the chalice after each communicant receives communion) need to be laundered. Washed and ironed.

We are in need of someone to volunteer for the month of May beginning 2025. Please contact the parish office, 201-836-8961, for more details and if you would like to volunteer your time and talents. Thank you!

HELP ANIMALS IN NEED

The Service Ministry has been contacted by two animal shelters who are in need of used sheets, towels, small rugs, and thin blankets. Some of you may have read about flooding in one local shelter that caused damage in their outdoor cat shelters. If you have a linen closet stuffed with items you no longer use, you can drop them in our pantry box, or leave a message for Joan in the office and we will see that items get to the proper shelters. Thank you for all the support you offer to this Ministry!

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 or _____ BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Donation Amount

\$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

THE FOOD PANTRY CONTINUES TO NEED YOUR HELP!

First I would like to thank all who have been dropping off needed donations in our pantry box.

We greatly appreciated your help!

At this time, we are in dire need of coffee and tea for our clients. I am sure that most can agree, it can be hard to start your day without that warming cup in the morning. Other items include crackers, apple juice, apple sauce, ketchup and tissues.

Below are the items which are most in need for our Pantry at this time.

Crackers, Coffee, Tea, Apple Juice, Cranberry Juice, Ketchup, Flour, Sugar and Canned Yams. We can also use any personal hygiene or paper products you might like to donate, in addition to Size 6 diapers.

We would like to express a special "Thank you" to those who have been dropping off the most needed items into our pantry box, and to those who donated during New Milford's National Night Out. May God bless you for your generosity!

FOOD PANTRY DROP BOX

Please note: our pantry is not manned every day. Therefore, it is imperative that you do not leave any perishables in the Pantry Box outside of the pantry. If you have a perishable to donate, call the parish office and they will contact a staff member to get back to you and arrange a time that you can drop it off to us. Thank you for your cooperation.

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

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM