

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

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.



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 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



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 22, 2024

- 5:30pm People of Ascension Parish
- 7:30 Timothy & Janet Cronin
- 9:30 Marian Pueyo (L)
- 11:30 Gregg Redoblado

Monday, December 23, 2024

- 8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

CHRISTMAS EVE

NO 8:00 Mass

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

- 5:30pm** Donna Brown
- 12 Midnight** People of Ascension Parish

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

- 7:30 Peggy Evans
- 9:30 Albert Suter
- 11:30 Michelle R. Garofalo

Thursday, December 26, 2024

- 8:00 Many Ann Mallon

Friday, December 27, 2024

No Mass

Saturday, December 28, 2024

- 8:30 Teresita Darauay
- 5:30 Peter Buckley

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, December 29, 2024

- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:30 Franzuel Pamittan
- 11:30 Marie Oberst

PARISH **\$**TEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, December 8	\$4,701.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$1,899.00
WeShare Imm. Concept.:	\$ 116.25
December 15	No figures at time of printing

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

Readings for Sunday, December 29, 2024

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10
(see a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

May Christmas this year be a reminder to you of how much God loves you.

May the holy day of our Lord's birth be a Beautiful day of grace for you, for the Lord Came to make you His very own and gave His life for you and to you.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Jim, Fr. Tim
and the Pastoral Staff of Ascension



A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

O God, whose Son was born in Bethlehem, on that wondrous night, lead us to that same place, where Mary laid her tiny child.

As we look on in wonder and praise, make us welcome Him and all new life, and care for His handiwork; the earth, the sky and the sea.

O God, bless us again in Your great love. We pray for this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**"For this day is born to you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David."
(Luke 2:11)**





“JUBILEE 25”

The year 2025 will be a very special year for the catholic church. After 25 years, Pope Francis has declared 2025 a year of jubilee. Jubilee is a special holy year of grace and pilgrimage. It takes place every 25 years. This year’s theme is “Pilgrims of Hope”. A year of hope, prayer, celebration and renewal of our faith.

Pope Francis will open the holy door of St. Peter’s Basilica on Christmas Eve, December 24th, 2024. The opening of the holy door represents the journey from sin to grace for every Christian and marks the beginning of the jubilee year.

Through prayer, may we arrive at the holy door with our hearts ready to welcome the gifts of grace and forgiveness that the jubilee offers us.

Here at Ascension, we will open “Jubilee 25” on January 5th, 2025, the Feast of the Epiphany. The jubilee will offer us an opportunity to participate in the various events that is planned and also in which we may obtain plenary indulgences

We look forward to this holy year here at ascension as we open our door on the feast of the epiphany.

**We Will Start The Jubilee Year Off
With The Following Events**

- *January 26-Word of God Sunday
- *February 16-11:30 Mass for Police, Fire & Armed Forces
- *March 6-Lenten Program begins
- *April 6-11:30 Mass for Health Care Workers
- *May 31-12:30 Mass for the Anointed

More to come!

**PART TIME
MAINTENANCE
OPERATIONS MANAGER
FOR
ASCENSION CHURCH
NEEDED**

**Please see website:
www.churchoftheascension.com
For complete position description**



Calendar:

- Sunday, December 22nd – 1st thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)
- Monday, December 23rd – NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
- Wednesday, December 24th -- NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
- Sunday, December 29th – NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Important:

Reminder:

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 as asked when emailing or calling your child out to please make sure that you give us their name and grade to help make sending the work by email easier.



Confirmation Students and Families

Sponsor Forms were due on December 4, 2024 if you have not handed the Sponsor Form and Sponsor Name and Why, MUST BE HANDED IN on Wednesday 12/16/2024.

Volunteers Needed:

† We have resumed Children’s Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 am Mass, for all children in in the Parish. What a great way to go to Mass as a family. 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 2024-2025 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085

Religious Education Office Hours:

Sunday – 9:15 to 12:15 when class is in session

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm in the Parish Center

Monday & Wednesday Evenings: 6:30pm to 8;15 pm

Calendar:



Christmas Mass Schedule

Blessing of Crèches

Sunday, December 22nd

At all Masses

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

5:30 PM

12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

New Year's Mass schedule

Wednesday, January 1st, 2025

9:30 and 11:30 AM

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 4th

5:30 PM

Sunday, January 5th

7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Saturday, January 11th

5:30 PM

Sunday, January 12th

7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



“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 4, 2025

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.

and a time for every purpose under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns this week in loving memory of Macaluso and Gorman Families



BREAD and WINE this week Donated in loving memory of Luisa and Manuel Garcia



THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25TH 2024



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



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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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



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: _____

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



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.

Please place 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 Clearly

In Memory of: _____
or in Honor of (living) _____
Donated by: _____
Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

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.

Please Notice This



HAVE SOMETHING FOR OUR BULLETIN??
PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ITEMS FOR BULLETIN
NO LATER THAN 9:00AM ON MONDAY
BEFORE PRINTING DATE
(items will be included as space permits)
ascension@optonline.net
Thank you for your cooperation



Please patronize
our advertisers.
They help us GROW.

**BOULEVARD FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE**
(201) 692-0100
www.boulevardfuneralhome.com



A special **Thank You** to everyone who worked on the Bake Sale and to those of you who baked. Because of your efforts, this event was a success and we realized a profit of \$761.

HARRISON HOUSE

We give thanks to the many volunteers who represented our parish by preparing meals for the residents of Harrison House, a residence for person with Aids, once a month during 2024!
Help is needed for 2025...We are seeking people who are willing to prepare a meal at home (one time) for 8 people and deliver it to Harrison House (on the grounds of Bergen Regional Medical Center) for the year 2025. Our parish has the 4th Wednesday of each month. If we have twelve volunteers, this means a family or individual will need to prepare only one meal for the year. Please call Hanna or Mary Lee, Chairpersons of our Aids Ministry, (201) 261-9246. If you can help in this worthwhile ministry. Thank you.



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.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS
REMEMBER TO PURCHASE RELIGIOUS
CHRISTMAS STAMPS

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

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

Our Breaking Bread Hymnals are for in church use only. Please do not remove them from church without request to and permission from Father Jim.



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