

# 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.



**The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**January 26, 2025**

## + 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](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

Mass  for the Intentions  Week

**The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday, January 26, 2025**

- 5:30pm Theresa & Vincent Guido
- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:30 Emiliana Guce
- 11:30 Corazon Abalos

**Monday, January 27, 2025**

- 8:00 Renee A. Chavez

**Tuesday, January 28, 2024**

- 8:00 Vincent Guido

**Wednesday, January 29, 2025**

- 8:00 Amado Sevilla

**Thursday, January 30, 2025**

- 8:00 V.X. Ignatius

**Friday, January 31, 2025**

No Mass

**Saturday, February 1, 2025**

Memorial

- 8:30 Aleyamma Abraham
- 5:30 People of Ascension Parish

**The Presentation of the Lord**

**Sunday, February 2, 2025**

- 7:30 Ada Senerchia
- 9:30 Arthur Babiak
- 11:30 Rose Carbone

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

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

**Sunday, January 19, 2025: \$5,401.00**

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

**Readings for Sunday, February 2, 2025**

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, “Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news.” “Actually,” they said, “she burst into tears. She wanted a baby *sister!*” How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don’t approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is “**fulfilled in your hearing**” (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize *this man* is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God’s word announces the fulfillment of God’s promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What’s required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God’s gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad?

— Father John Muir

**BLESSING OF CANDLES ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD NEXT WEEK-END**

**FEBRUARY 1-2 AT ALL MASSES**

Please place candle (with your name on it) on table in vestibule of church prior to mass

**ANNUAL <sup>2025</sup> APPEAL**

The 2025 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](http://rcan.org/sharing), scanning the QR code, or join us for In-Pew Weekend on March 1 and 2.





### “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 opened the holy door of St. Peter’s Basilica on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 opened “Jubilee 25” on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 Will Start The Jubilee Year Off With The Following Events:

- \*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!**

### R.S.V.P.

One of the celebrations for “Jubilee 25” will be an Appreciation Mass for members of the Armed Forces, Firefighters, Police, and Ambulance that will held on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM. Refreshments will follow in the cafeteria at the “Y”. If you would like to attend, please fill out the form below and drop off at the Parish Center or drop in collection basket.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_  
 NUMBER ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF  
**ACTIVE MILITARY**  
**TO BE INCLUDED IN OUR FEB. 16th MASS**  
 NAME & RANK: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name/contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*please mark on envelope-“Active Military”\***



#### Calendar:

- Sunday, January 26th – 1th thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)
- Monday, January 27th – Confirmation Parent / Student Meeting (NO 6th & 7th Grade Class)
- Wednesday, January 29th-- 9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
- Sunday, February 2nd – 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 27, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel, located in the Parish Center. All students and parents in 8th grade are to attend if your child would like to be in the Confirmation Class of 2026. All attendees will enter in the door the students enter for class.

#### First Eucharist Parent Meeting:

Mandatory 1st Eucharist Parent meeting on February 10, 2025 at 7:30 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 the students enter for class.

#### 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.

#### 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 – 9:00 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

**Ascension Church  
256 Azalea Dr  
New Milford, NJ 07646**

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Position:** Maintenance Operations Manager  
**Department:** Church  
**Reports To:** Pastor  
**Classification:** Part Time Non-exempt

**General Description**

The Maintenance Operations Manager is responsible for the upkeep and continued maintenance of the Parish Facilities.

**Specific Duties/Responsibilities**

The following specific responsibilities are representative of duties required in this position. They may be unilaterally but reasonably changed based on the working environment and departmental needs.

- Schedule and oversee regular maintenance of parish facilities
- Review all outside contractor contracts, including: Landscaping, HVAC, inspections, Etc.
- Oversee and coordinate decorating of Church for various celebrations, including but not limited to: Advent, Christmas, Easter, etc. Some of which would require a Saturday.
- Order Flowers, trees, hay etc. for Church
- Set up and clean up for various parish events
- Make sure all parish facilities and grounds are kept in good order and clean.
- Coordinate and collect any bids needed for parish projects.
- Be on call in the event of an emergency
- Other duties as assigned.

**Qualifications/Skills**

- Previous maintenance experience a plus
- Knowledge of maintenance in the fields of carpentry, electrical work, cement work, plumbing, sanitation, grounds maintenance and janitorial care
- Ability to understand a variety of technical subjects relating to maintenance
- Ability of communicate effectively
- Ability to make minor repairs.

**Education and/or Experience**

High School graduate or better.  
Previous experience in the maintenance/construction fields

**Physical Demands**

The physical demands are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Send Resume and References to: [Ascensionpastor86@gmail.com](mailto:Ascensionpastor86@gmail.com) or mail to above address.

## 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 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

### EASTER PASCAL CANDLE

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

### California Wildfires Collection

If you would like to make a donation towards the relief efforts for those effected by the California Wildfires please place your donation in an envelope marked “California Wildfires”.

Or you may use the following link for direct contributions to Catholic Charities USA:

<https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org>

### PARISH EVENTS MEETING

**Tuesday, February 4th**

**7:30pm in our Parish Center**

**Please join us-**

**As we look forward & begin planning the 75<sup>th</sup>**

**Anniversary Celebration**

**of Ascension parish.**

**All are welcome!**

### Marriage Anniversary Liturgy

We will honor couples in our parish on

Sunday, February 9th at all masses

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

Today we take up the collection for the *Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC)*. Your support helps CCC connect Catholics with Christ in the United States 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. The other half supports the Bishops and some projects across the United States and abroad. Be part of this campaign to spread the gospel message. Support the collection today!

To learn more, visit [www.uscch.org/ccc](http://www.uscch.org/ccc).

### 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.



### 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 be prayed for or receive Communion

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\*must be self or family member

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION**



**END OF YEAR DONATION STATEMENT**

If you would like a copy of your 2024 Year Donation Statement please complete the following & return to parish office.

**Please Do not call/e-mail to make request**

**Please Print Clearly**

**NAME ON DONATION ENVELOPE:**

-----  
**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ENVELOPE #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Return this request to Parish Office  
*before January 31, 2025***

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

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**

**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.**



Please patronize  
our advertisers.  
They help us GROW.

**SHAW'S Lock & Door Service  
201-387-0021**



**PALM PALM**

Beginning Sunday, February 2 until Sunday, March 2 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 March 5th.

**ACCOUNTABILITY WITH HEARTFELT THANKS**



Catholic Charities received \$1,566 as a result of your generosity to our Donation Bin(s) at your Church from June 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024. These funds combined with monies from other parishes in the same program throughout the Archdiocese enable Catholic Charities to provide shelter to 590 people every night at our seven homeless shelters throughout the Archdiocese (FY23/24). The advent of the cold weather increases the demand for our services at these shelters. Thank you for being our partner and enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society.

**OUR PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP**

We are in great need for the next few months of personal hygiene items. We could really use some help with donations of shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, tooth paste, shaving cream and bar soap. Please keep an eye out for sales for these items and help us if you can. Even just one item can help us to supply these to those in need. Thank you once again for your generosity to this most important ministry to those in need!



**WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING  
PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE  
FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR  
INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS**  
**[www.churchoftheascension.net](http://www.churchoftheascension.net)**

**VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE  
FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
FLYERS\*FORMS\*SCHEDULES\*BULLETINS  
UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)**