

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 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 9, 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

E-mail: 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*

World Marriage Day

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 9, 2025

5:30pm William & Elizabeth Morris

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Mr & Mrs Duarte

11:30 Andres Calleja

Monday, February 10, 2025

8:00 James Zadroga

Tuesday, February 11, 2024

8:00 Kathleen Janz (Foran)

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

8:00 Fred Honfanosas

Thursday, February 13, 2025

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Friday, February 14, 2025

No Mass

Saturday, February 15, 2025

8:30 Percy & Erlinda Habana

50th Wedding Anniversary (L)

5:30 Vito & Angelo Cucco

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, February 16, 2025

7:30 Thomas Carter

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Remigio Lazaro

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, February 2, 2025: \$6,373.00

WeShare January 2025: \$4,278.28

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

**Readings for Sunday,
February 16, 2025**

Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6, (40:5a)/1 Cor
15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

GOSPEL MEDITATION

My parents' garage is full of old junk that no longer serves any purpose in my life. As a 46-year-old man, I admit that's pretty lame. Either due to my sentimentality or laziness (or both, probably), I just couldn't get myself to throw things away. But a few days ago, by a grace of God, I thought: "I'll hire my nephew Ryan to throw a bunch of my stuff away — he couldn't care less about my junk!" And you know what? It worked. In one day, Ryan chucked the majority of his uncle's useless stuff. I feel so free, ready for a new junk-free chapter in my life.

This kind of thing happens in this Sunday's Gospel. Peter's net is full of useless junk. Luke says he and the others are cleaning their nets after catching no fish. Imagine them dejectedly and impatiently removing a nasty assortment of seaweed, sticks and muck. The Lord teaches and calls them once their nets are cleared out. So it goes with us. Spiritual life begins by removing that which is useless and merely taking up space in our hearts, minds and lives. Then Jesus teaches and acts in a marvelous way in our lives, too.

So what's junking up your net? What habits, attachments, possessions, preoccupations? If, like me, you struggle to clean your nets by yourself, ask the Lord to send you someone like my nephew to be your "Peter" and help you clean it out. It is well worth it. Once Peter's net is clean, he is free to make a wonderful catch.

— Father John Muir



**We will honor couples in our parish
This Sunday, February 9th at all masses**

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ 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, 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 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 opened “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.

**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 16th 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 ***no later than February 10.***

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, February 9th – 1th thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)
- Monday, February 10th– 6th, 7th & 8th Grades in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
- Wednesday, February 12th—No Religious Education
- Sunday, February 16th– No Religious Education

Important:

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:

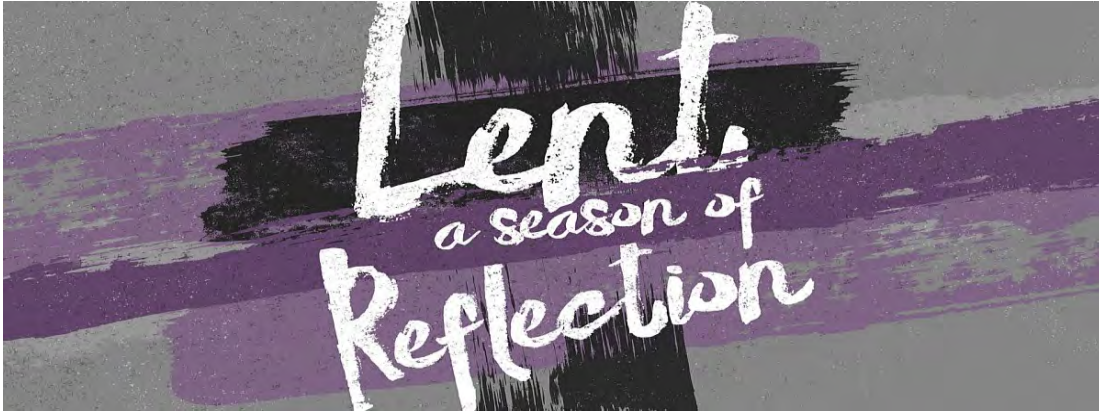
- † We have resumed Children’s Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 am Mass, for all children in in the Parish. What a great way to go to Mass as a family. If you would like to help PLEASE call Mrs. Carbone in the Parish Center. This is a great opportunity for college students or student teachers to gain 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

STOP & SHOP-BLOOMIN’ 4 GOOD PROGRAM

This program allows shoppers to combat the hunger crisis with every floral bouquet sold. For every Bloomin’ 4 Good Bouquet sold, \$1.is donated to a hunger relief organization local to the store in which it was purchased. Church of the Ascension Food Pantry just received a check for \$88.00 for it’s participation in this program. Thank you to all who have made this possible.



Sign-Up for Small Christian Communities for Lent 2025

Sign-Up will be the February 22/23 and March 1/ 2, 2025

I would like to start off the Lenten Season by participating in a Small Faith Sharing Group that meets once a week for the six weeks of Lent.

The groups that available are:

**Fr. Jim, which meets on Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center Chapel.
Starting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025.**

**Theresa Thomas, which meets on Thursday Mornings at 9:00am in the Parish Center Gathering Room
Starting on Thursday, March 6, 2025.**

**Dena & Ron Sedlak, which meets on Thursday Evenings at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center Chapel.
Starting on Thursday, March 6, 2025.**

**Mary & Enrique Blanco, which meets on Thursday Evenings at the Blanco's Home at 7:30 pm.
Starting on Thursday, March 6, 2025.**

**Beth Delgado & Sally Santiago, which meets on Friday Evenings in the Parish Center at 7:30 pm.
Starting on Friday, March 7, 2025.**

**Josie McEwan, which meets on Saturday afternoons- location to be announced at 2 pm.
Starting , Saturday, March 8, 2025.**

**Lenten Faith Sharing Group 2025
Sign-Up**

**Name: _____ Email: _____
Phone _____
Group Name _____**

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

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be healed...”

Marguerite Morris, 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 May1, 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 **William & Elizabeth Morris**



BREAD and WINE this week
Donated in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



Altar Flowers for this week
Donated in loving Memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris

“We Are His Witnesses”

A Pastoral Letter to the Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Archdiocese of Newark

“*We Are His Witnesses* provides our archdiocese a chance to prepare for the opportunities and challenges that confront us as a missionary Church that is synodal and co-responsible in its pastoral leadership. By following the guidance of the Holy Spirit and by listening carefully to the Word of God and the voices of all our sisters and brothers, we hope to be faithful witnesses to our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.”

*Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark*

Please refer to our website:

www.churchoftheascension.com for the complete letter



Thank you to those who gave so generously towards our yearly Snow Removal Collection. As of this date the cost to insure all of our parishioners have safe access to our church property has surpassed \$10,000.00. Please consider making a donation to help defer the cost and cover any additional snow removal expenses. Thank you for your consideration.

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

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



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

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.

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!

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



**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

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

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM

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.



**BOULEVARD FUNERAL HOME
& Cremation Service
201-692-0100**



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.



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

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



**Church of the Ascension Music Ministry
Come Join the Choirs!!
(Youth Choir Rehearses Saturdays at 4:00pm)
To sign up or to receive more information,
Contact Our Director of Music
Glenn Gordon after Mass.**