

# 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 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 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 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday, February 23, 2025**

5:30pm Kim Nguyen

7:30 Eugene Pueyo (L)

9:30 Cathy Trimarchi

11:30 People of Ascension Parish

**Monday, February 24, 2025**

8:00 Celerina Frio

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025**

8:00 Anna John

**Wednesday, February 26, 2025**

8:00 Alex Abes

**Thursday, February 27, 2025**

8:00 Kimberly Ann Kelly-Bianco

**Friday, February 28, 2025**

No Mass

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**

Memorial

8:30 Mariamma Kurian

5:30 People of Ascension Parish

**The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday, March 2, 2025**

7:30 Stacey Longden

9:30 Arthur M. Babiak

11:30 JoAnn J. Labrador

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP  
REPORT

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

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

**Sunday, February 16, 2025: \$4,714.00**

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

**Readings for Sunday,  
March 2, 2025**

Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16  
(see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/  
Lk 6:39-45

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

One of my favorite new singers/songwriters is Noah Kahan. I'm a little biased because, like me, he is originally from Vermont. In a fine song entitled "Stick Season," he sings of his hope to "cancel out the darkness I inherited from dad." This lyric articulates his painful recognition of a dark spiritual "inheritance" from his father, and his hope to be free of it. We all inherit some degree of evil from our earthly forebears. It's easy to feel doomed to repeat their darknesses.

But we're not so doomed, thank God. This week's Gospel proclaims this. Whatever good or bad we received from our parents, we have a more definitive and perfect inheritance in God. Jesus commands us, "**Be merciful just as your Father is merciful**" (Luke 6:36). We have a perfect Father in heaven and are destined to inherit and reflect *that* perfect and merciful love. We have an inheritance of light, not darkness, and thus a whole new possibility of magnanimous love. Like any inheritance, this is a free gift to us.

What are we destined to repeat? Not the darkness of our earthly parents. We are destined to be a reflection of *God's* life. Jesus liberates us from the inevitability of repeating whatever evils and imperfections are in our familial or cultural upbringings. It's time to claim that perfect inheritance.

— *Father John Muir*

## ANNUAL <sup>2025</sup> APPEAL

Please respond to the most recent Annual Appeal mailing and join us in supporting the vital ministries that can only be done together. We are grateful to share that we have already received \$16,090.00 in pledges—thank you to all who have given so generously! Your support of the 2025 Annual Appeal helps sustain the mission of Christ in our Archdiocese.

Our goal of \$37,520.12 can only be reached through your generosity and sacrifice. If you have not yet made your gift, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so today. To make an online gift, please visit [rcan.org/sharing](http://rcan.org/sharing).

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your faithful support of our Catholic mission. May God bless you abundantly!



“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 look forward to this holy year here at ascension.

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

- \*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!

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. Also, mayonnaise, mustard, Jell-O and laundry detergent. 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!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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



Calendar:

Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>- 1<sup>th</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1<sup>th</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

Important Reminder:

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

For Sunday Program (1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grades) by Wednesday of each week

For Monday Night Program (6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grades) by Thursday of each week

For Wednesday Night Program (9<sup>th</sup> 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



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ARMBRUSTER LANDSCAPING 201-967-1489



## Ascension Annual Soup Supper

March 28, 2025

From 5:30 pm to 7 pm

Location: Fr. Benedict Center (YMCA GYM)

Cost: \$10.00 per person

Tickets can be purchased  
from any Confirmation Student,  
or from Mrs. Carbone in the Parish Center  
during regular Office Hours.

Last day to purchase tickets in advance  
will be March 21, 2025.

Tickets at the door will be \$15.00.



**THE SEVENTH 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 May 1, 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 **John Edward Rooney**



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



Altar Flowers for this week Donated in loving Memory of **John Edward Rooney**

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

Please see website: [www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)  
For complete position description



**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

**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.

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

## CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

### Empty Bowls

Fighting to end world hunger, one bowl at a time.

Friday, March 14th 5-8pm in the New Milford High School Cafeteria. With live music by the Ugly George Show @the\_ugly\_george\_show

\$15 for a student-made bowl  
and all you can eat soup, bread, and dessert.  
Dine in only!

Children under 5 are \$10!

payment and Donations must be Cash or  
Check made out to the "NMHS Activity Fund"

Join us for an evening of all you can eat soup and live music as we support the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry of New Milford. We will be accepting non-perishable and non-expired food items.



### 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



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



**SIGN-UP FOR**  
**LENT FAITH SHARING GROUPS**  
In church this and next weekend after mass

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### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday evening  
March 7th-April 11<sup>th</sup>  
7:30pm in the church

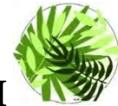
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### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, March 11th at 7:00pm  
St. Joseph, Oradell

### Jubilee Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 25th  
in the Parish Center, 7:30pm



### PALM PALM

Please deposit any palm you would like to dispose of in box in the front vestibule of church. Box will be there until March 2. 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.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next week we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that are still struggling to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your contribution restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week.

You can find more information at [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee). #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.

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](mailto:ascension@optonline.net)  
**Thank you for your cooperation**