

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 Second Sunday of Lent
March 16, 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.

Closed 12 noon-1:00pm

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 Week
Intentions

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 16, 2025

- 5:30pm Phyllis Adams
- 7:30 Maria Natividad-Villaluna
- 9:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 11:30 Phyllis Adams

Saint Patrick

Monday, March 17, 2025

- 8:00 McCann Family

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

- 8:00 Alex Galprin

Saint Joseph

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

- 8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Thursday, March 20, 2025

- 8:00 Larry Figalora (20th Anniv.)

Friday, March 21, 2025

No Mass

Saturday, March 22, 2025

- 8:30 Xavier Lawrence Habana (L)
- 5:30 Arthur Babiak

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 23, 2025

- 7:30 Jeannette Tessaro
- 9:30 Phyllis Adams
- 11:30 People of Ascension Parish

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, March 9, 2025: \$5,055.00

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

**Readings for Sunday,
March 23, 2025**

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 (8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



GOSPEL MEDITATION

St. Thomas Aquinas said that friends share three things: time, possessions and secrets. For example, how do I know if you're my friend? Well, let's say we've been to Mexico together, you've tried my shaky attempts at pasta carbonara, and you know what ridiculous costume I wore in a music video I filmed in my early twenties. We, dear reader, are definitely friends. We've shared time, possessions and secrets.

How does friendship with Jesus develop? The same way. Jesus lives and eats with his disciples. Then he takes Peter, James and John to Mount Tabor and there reveals to them his deepest secret: his glorious, divine Sonship. The majesty of God shines from within his humanity in a way that goes beyond description. God the Father confirms this "secret," saying, **"This is my chosen Son, listen to him"** (Luke 9:35). It's all so precious that **"they fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone."** Do we take time to be alone with Christ, to allow him to mystically share this "secret" with us as his dear friends?

Lenten challenge: This week, identify one time when you experienced an awareness of some specific aspect of Jesus — perhaps on a retreat, at Mass, in prayer or in an act of service. Spend ten minutes consciously re-living that experience in your heart. If you can't recall one, set aside at least two hours this Lent as a mini retreat, either alone in nature or in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Focus on him and ask him to share the secrets of his heart with you. He will. Then, as his friend, share the secrets in your heart.

— Father John Muir



EASTER FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Easter Flowers, which will be used to decorate our Church. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or a special intention. You may use the flower donation envelope you received in your Easter mailing or this form. Please place form & donation in an envelope marked "EASTER FLOWERS" & drop off at the parish center or in the collection basket.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY

In Memory of:

For the Intention of:

Requested By: _____

Phone: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____



“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:

- *April 6-11:30 Mass for Health Care Workers
*May 31-12:30 Mass for the Anointed
**June 1 & 8-Afternoon at the movies & pizza
More to come!

As we continue our celebrations for "Jubilee 25" we would like to invite you to an Appreciation Mass for Health Care Workers. This Mass will honor all Nurses, Technicians, Aides, Doctors, Hospital Administrators, care givers and medical professionals.

The appreciation Mass will be held on Sunday, April 6th at 11:30AM. Refreshments will be served at the "Y" after the Mass. Please join us!

If you would like to attend this special Mass, please fill out the form below and drop off at the Parish Center or drop in the collection basket NO LATER THAN MARCH 30th.

Appreciation Mass for Health Care Workers

Name:
Occupation:
Phone:
Number Attending:



Calendar:
Sunday, March 16th – 1th thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)
Monday, March 17th– 6th, 7th & 8th Grades in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
Wednesday, March 19th—9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
Sunday, March 23rd – 1th thru 5th 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 (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.

Parish Lenten Soup Supper:

Lenten Soup Supper Tickets are on sale from any Confirmation Candidate, or in the Parish Center for \$10 each, before 3/21/2025 or at the door for \$15.

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



MARCH 20TH

MARCH 16, 2025



Lenten Penance Services

Monday, March 24 @ 7:00 pm
Saint Mary's, Dumont

Saturday, March 29 @ Noon
Saint John's, Bergenfield

Monday, March 31 @ 7:00 pm
Saint Therese, Cresskill

Monday, April 7 @ 7:00 pm
Saint Peter's, River Edge

Ascension

Confessions

Saturday from 11:00-11:30am

No Confessions on Holy Saturday



Stations
OF THE CROSS

Every Friday evening
7:30pm in the church



Friday, March 28, 2025
In the Gym

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



“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 **Gerard Patrick Lee**



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.

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

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



PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

During this Lenten Season please consider Stewardship, the sharing of your talents and time with any of the many ministries we offer here at your parish.

Sing in our Choirs (adult/children)
Help plan our Parish Events
Become an Altar Server, adult or child

Yes I am willing to share my talent & time, please contact me

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Ministry: _____

(Please print and return to the parish office or in collection basket)

"The next meeting of the 75th Anniversary Jubilee Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, at 7:30 on April 1, 2025. Please Join us as we make plans for this very exciting time to celebrate the History of The Church of Ascension".



ARE YOU CELEBRATING YOUR 5th*25th or 50th

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR?

The Archdiocese of Newark is excited to announce that they are once again preparing for the annual tradition of honoring couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Catholic marriage in the Jubilee Year 2025!

These anniversary liturgy will be held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on **June 1, 2025 at 3:00pm.**

All family members are welcome!

Please stop by the parish office no later than April 25 to complete registration form if you would like to be included in one of the celebrations.

MEMORIALS

If you would like to contribute to this fund in memory of your loved one. Please complete form (in vestibule of church) and stop by the parish office to check availability.

ALTAR BREAD AND WINE	\$25 per week
ALTAR FLOWERS	\$65 (per basket/per week)
SANCTUARY CANDLE	\$15 per week

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

CANCER SUPPORT PRAYER GROUP

We are looking to start a Prayer Group for people who have or have had cancer. If you have or had cancer and are looking for fellowship and support, please email: ascensionprayergroup@gmail.com. This confidential group is looking to begin meeting Tuesday, April 22, 2025 in the Parish Center at 7:30pm. Future monthly meeting dates to be discussed.

SHOP RITE HOLIDAY DINNER DEALS

Do you have a [Shop Rite Holiday Dinner Deal](#) that you would like to donate to the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry? No need to pick it up. If you qualify and would like to donate your free Holiday Dinner item, please complete & drop this form off to the parish office/collection basket.

NAME: _____
 SHOP RITE CARD # _____
 PHONE # _____

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ APPEAL

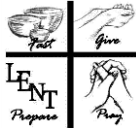
The 2025 Annual Appeal is underway! We have \$22,887.00 already pledged. This is approximately 61% of our goal of \$37,520.12.

The outpouring of support from many parishioners like you helps sustain the important ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark. These programs help to make our own parish a more vibrant place of worship.

If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge envelope or visit www.rcan.org/sharing. Thank you for your prayers and support.

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

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



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

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (Ash Wednesday) last week! As a parish, we collected \$1,661.91 to restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. For more information please visit www.usccb.org/cee. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.



**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

(items will be included as space permits)

ascension@optonline.net

Thank you for your cooperation



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