

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 of Lent
March 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.

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
Intentions *Week*

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 23, 2025

- 5:30pm Arthur Babiak
- 7:30 Jeannette Tessaro
- 9:30 Phyllis Adams
- 11:30 People of Ascension Parish

Monday, March 24, 2025

- 8:00 Jim Lacey

The Annunciation of the Lord

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

- 8:00 Annamma & Varghese Thekkan

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

- 8:00 Leandro Cabacoy

Thursday, March 27, 2025

- 8:00 Juvie Maghirang

Friday, March 28, 2025

No Mass

Saturday, March 29, 2025

- 8:30 Natalie Habana (L)
- 5:30 John M. Vo

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 30, 2025

- 7:30 Bernard Lombardelli
- 9:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 11:30 Mary Buckley

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, March 16, 2025:	\$4,688.00
Social Concerns:	\$1,459.00
WeShare Social Concerns:	\$ 166.11

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

**Readings for Sunday,
March 30, 2025**

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2
Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



GOSPEL MEDITATION

My childhood best friend was Xander Price. He was the fastest runner in school, an excellent baseball player and Jewish. Though his family wasn't intensely religious, I felt totally at home with them despite our religious differences. Everything about their Judaism seemed to undergird and strengthen my own experience of being a Catholic. I knew they didn't believe in Jesus like my family did, but I intuited somehow that Jesus was "hiding" in their religion. Like a cat moving under a blanket, ready to emerge at any moment, the Lord was hidden there in a special way.

In the Gospel for this third Sunday of Lent, Jesus says, "**For if you had believed Moses, you would have believed me, for he wrote of me**" (John 5:46). Stunning words, those. Moses wrote about Jesus. The way therefore that we come to know and believe in Jesus is to discover him lurking in Moses' writings. The Hebrew Scripture is the wonderful womb in which Jesus gestates within a host of images: Adam, Isaac, David, Melchizedek, the Temple, sacrificed lambs, prophets and so on. Right now, in your parish's OCIA program, soon-to-be baptized people are carefully studying where Jesus is in the writings of Moses, so that they may believe in him. This works for all of us, too, who wish to deepen our knowledge and love of Jesus.

Lenten challenge: Take some time to prayerfully study one of the images of Jesus listed above in the Old Testament. Identify which one you find compelling and consider why this is so. If you don't know where to start, begin with the prophet Jeremiah as an image of Jesus.

— 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 Mas, 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 23rd - 1st thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)
Monday, March 24th- 6th, 7th & 8th Grades in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
Wednesday, March 26th-9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
Friday, March 28th - Lenten Soup Supper - 5:30 pm to 7:15 pm
Sunday, March 30th- 1st 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 available at the door for \$15. All Confirmation Candidates MUST meet in the YMCA Gym at 5:00 pm SHARP.

Volunteers Needed:

We have resumed Children’s Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 am Mass, for all children 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

Lent - Sacrifice - Donations Bins - Any Connection?

Lent is a time of sacrifice in order to bring us closer to Christ. As we move closer to Christ, we become more charitable. Would you be willing to sacrifice your time and efforts to go through your closet and donate any unwanted items to the Catholic Charities Donation Bins located on the property? If you do, you have made the connection.

MARCH 23, 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 THIRD 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 **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.

"a time to die..."

Jennifer M. Bie

and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns this week in loving memory of **Aroon Al Rasheed Singh**



BREAD and WINE this week Donated in loving memory of **Aroon Al Rasheed Singh**

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.**

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

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

"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".

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.



**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!

The 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 the celebration.

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

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁵ APPEAL

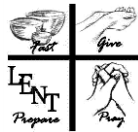
The 2025 Annual Appeal is underway! We have \$23,787.00 already pledged. This is approximately 63% of our goal of \$37,520.12.

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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Nearly 38 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face in bringing permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd.



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



LACEY CONSTRUCTION
201-261-1561

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 or in the collection basket.

NAME: _____
SHOP RITE CARD # _____
PHONE # _____



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)



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

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

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