

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.



**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
April 13, 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*

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Sunday, April 13, 2025

5:30pm William & Elizabeth Morris
7:30 Jovita Balagot
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 Donna Brown

Monday of Holy Week, April 14, 2025

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 15, 2025

8:00 Michael T. Minko

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 16, 2025

8:00 Consuelo Calleja

Holy Thursday, April 17, 2025

8:00 Morning Prayer

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

10:45pm Night Prayer

Friday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 Morning Prayer

3:00pm Good Friday Liturgy

8:00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025

8:00 Morning Prayer

8:30pm **Easter Vigil**

People of Ascension Parish

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, April 20, 2025

7:30 Thomas Carter

9:30 Cristino Fabro

11:30 Philomena Adams

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, April 6, 2025:	\$5,151.00
Maintenance & Repairs:	\$2,917.00
WeShare Maint. & Repairs:	\$1,379.84

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

Readings for Easter Sunday 2025

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17,
22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/
Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12



**"Hosanna to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest."
And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was
shaken and asked, "Who is this?"
And the crowds replied,
"This is Jesus the prophet,
from Nazareth in Galilee."
- Mt 21:9-11**

GOSPEL MEDITATION

"As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road." (Luke 19:36)

Consider how useless it is to spread your clothes on the ground for a donkey to walk on. The clothes get smeared with hooves, and who knows the grimy places where they've been? The animal may leave some unsavory presents on them. They may get stolen by a thief looking to make a buck. The thorns, thistles, rocks and muck of the road will leave stains. The clothes may never be useful again, and you'll probably walk home shivering without your normal covering. Yet this is precisely the gesture the people employ to welcome Jesus and his donkey. Why does this detail matter?

Wastefulness is an essential part of celebration. Consider the unnecessary extravagance of Christmas decorations, confetti and ticker tape parades, baseball players spraying each other with bottles of champagne after a victory, birthday gifts for kids and so on. This wastefulness signals celebration and therefore participation in higher identities (as believers, winners, and parents, to mention the above examples). That's what the wasted cloaks are all about. Those who donate their cloaks participate in Christ's kingship in Jerusalem — and we savor it two thousand years later.

The lesson? Learn how to "waste" money, time, clothes, and food on Christ. We do this at Mass, but in so many other ways, too, like serving the poor, going on retreats, and doing prayerful study. When we practice this holy wastefulness, Jesus will ride into our lives and we'll be more deeply members of his kingdom.

— Father John Muir



“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:**

- *May 31-12:30 Mass for the Anointed
 - *June 1 & 8-Afternoon at the movies & pizza
- [More to come!](#)

MASS FOR THE ANOINTED

“Are there any sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the church, let them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick person and the Lord will raise them up...” (James 5:14-15)

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick was called “Extreme Unction” or “Last Rites.” This sacrament is not only for those who are at the point of death but for those who are gravely ill, having serious surgery or the elderly as their health begins to change.

On Saturday May 31 we will celebrate and Mass of Anointing here at Ascension at 12:30 PM.

Those who meet the criteria for the reception of the sacrament are asked to register for the Mass.

Pre-registration is required. “Walk-ins” will not be admitted to the sacrament.

Name of person to be anointed: _____

Name of Aide: _____

Contact Phone: _____

**Will you be attending the light lunch after Mass? _____
How Many? _____**

Would you like to be added to the Communion Call List? _____

Please return to parish office no later than May 19



Calendar:

- Sunday, April 13th – Palm Sunday – No Religious Education
- Monday, April 14th – No Religious Education
- Wednesday, April 15th – No Religious Education
- Sunday, April 20th – Easter Sunday

Reminder:

All On-Line Work should be completed by now. Parents PLEASE check your email for any missing ON-LINE REVIEW.

1st Communion Rehearsal:

Reminder that we have rehearsal for all Communion Candidates on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7 pm in the Church. The Candidate and ONE Parent only must be here by 6:55 pm.

First Communion will be on Saturday, April 26, 2025 at the 5:30 pm Mass, please meet in the Parish Center at 5:00 pm for Mass.

Confirmation Rehearsals:

We have rehearsal for all Confirmation Candidates on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6:55 pm in the Church for Candidate only and on Friday, April 25, 2025 at 6:55 pm must be here by 6:55 pm, for Candidates and Sponsors.

Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at the 11:30 am Mass, please meet in the Parish Center at 11:00 am for Mass.

Religious Education 2025-2026

New Registration forms for the 2025-2026 School year were sent home to all families already in the program. Please check with your child. If you have a child that is entering the 1st Grade in the Fall and wish to register your child in our program, please call 201-836-8961 or stop by the Religious Education Office in the Parish center during office hours- 9am to 4 pm daily.

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

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

APRIL 13, 2025

Church of the Ascension

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE 2025

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Masses: 5:30pm (Saturday Vigil)
7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am

Easter Triduum



HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Morning Prayer 8:00am
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm
Transfer of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Adoration until 11:00pm
Night Prayer 10:45pm

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Morning Prayer 8:00am
Choral Meditations at 2:30pm
Good Friday Liturgy 3:00pm
Stations of the Cross at 8:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Morning Prayer 8:00am

THE EASTER VIGIL 8:30PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Masses: 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am

No Confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday



“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.

“a time to die...”

Donald Hellriegel

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

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.



Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name a few.

The pandemic hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. The war made their situation even more dire. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit: www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org.

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

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

MEMORIALS

If you would like to contribute to this fund in memory of your loved one. Please stop by the parish office to check availability. Forms in church, parish office & website.

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

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

ANNUAL APPEAL 2025

The 2025 Annual Appeal is underway! We have \$31,077.00 already pledged. This is approximately 82% 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.

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.

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



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....

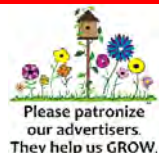
- ___ to become a Parishioner
- ___ to update my contact information
- ___ to join a ministry
- ___ *to let the Parish know of someone who is ill, or homebound & would like to receive Communion

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

***Must be a family member**



ROMAN PIZZA & RESTAURANT
201-265-9371

PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday, and the Gospel story of the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem is read as part of the entrance rite. The Gospel tells us that the people cut branches from the trees and laid them in the road in front of Jesus as part of the procession. Palm is used to celebrate this festive entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Palms are from a common tree whose branches are readily available. The palm is blessed and people are given a branch to take home. A year later the palm will be burned to form the ash for Ash Wednesday. In other places, churches use olive branches or pussy willows. The blessing in the Sacramentary uses the generic term "branches."



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 the celebration.

SPRINGTIME BINGO BASH

The New Milford Women's Club is hosting a Springtime Bingo Bash on Friday, May 2, at the Armenian Brotherhood/St. Matthew's Church, 225 Center St., New Milford. Doors open at 6pm, Bingo starts at 7pm. Your donation of \$25. (advance purchase only) per ticket includes a dauber and a 4-game packet for 9 games, 15 gift card raffle tickets, door prize, coffee, tea and refreshments. Cash prizes for Bingo winners, 50/50, and gift card raffle. Proceeds will enable the Women's Club to continue supporting the local community, including scholarships. For tickets, email janetd1014@aol.com.



OFFICE CLOSED

All Parish Offices/Parish Center will be closed at Noon on Holy Thursday, All Day on Good Friday & Easter Monday