

Church of the Ascension

Welcomes You and
Invites You to Share with us . . .



+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor
Rev. David W. Milliken

Director of Music
Glenn Gordon

Weekend Assistant
Rev. Tim Graff

Parish Business Manager
Serina Sharkey

In Residence
Rev. Brian G. Plate

Director of Maintenance
Brendan Suter

Parish Trustees
Christopher Cudina & Elizabeth Delgado

Religious Education Center
Theresa Carbone, Coordinator of Religious Education
Jeanette MacNish, Coordinator for Grades 7 & 8
Dena Sedlak, Coordinator of First Penance and
First Holy Communion



+ Our Pastoral Life +

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 Rectory. 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 on the third Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents must 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 Gathering Room. Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing. Pre-registration at the Rectory 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 Rectory 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 Rectory if someone from your family is in the hospital and wishes a priest to visit.

WEDDINGS:

Please make arrangements at the Rectory with one of the priests of the parish one year in advance.

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist June 24, 2018

+ 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 - Friday

8:00 a.m.

7:30 p.m. (Fridays during Lent)

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.

Please see inside bulletin for Holiday Mass time

+ Our Devotions +

Novena in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Rosary is prayed Monday through Saturday 7:45 a.m.



RECTORY & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

RECTORY

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

E-mail: ascensionreled@optonline.net

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, June 24, 2018

5:30 Rev. Msgr. James F. Bouffard

7:30 Louis D'Eufemia

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Roberto Caparas, Sr.

Summer Schedule

Monday, June 25, 2018

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

8:00 Jim Lacey

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

8:00 Tara & Joe Delaney (L)

Thursday, June 28, 2018

8:00 Nancy Busacca

Friday, June 29, 2018

8:00 Laurence Walsh McDonough

Saturday, June 30, 2018

8:30 Fernando Fernandez

5:30 John Iuliano

Sunday, July 1, 2018

7:30 Con & Rose Lynch

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Brian & Regina McCann

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

June 18, 2017: \$5,637.00

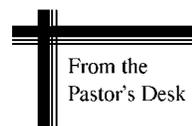
June 17, 2018: \$6,569.00

Food Pantry: \$1,379.00

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

Reading for Sunday, July 1, 2018

Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 [2a]/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43



On June 24th we celebrate the birthday of John the Baptist. It is good for us to be able to celebrate this solemnity on a Sunday this year. The Church has celebrated feasts in honor of John the Baptist since the fourth century. In the early Church, John was held in high esteem along with the apostles and St. Stephen. A little background may help us to better understand this celebration of our salvation.

Because of its proximity to the summer solstice, this day is sometimes called "Midsummer Day." It is also sometimes called "Summer Christmas" because, six months before Christmas, it celebrates the birth of the one who prepared the way for Jesus.

John is called "the dream of midsummer day." His birth is one of three "births into this world" we celebrate during the Church's liturgical year — Jesus', at midwinter and Mary's, in September. John, who is acclaimed the "greatest man born of woman" by Jesus himself, is the last of the dreams and promises that lead to the Incarnation. Even in the womb of his mother Elizabeth, John, filled with the Holy Spirit leaps for joy in the presence of his Savior in Mary's womb. Born in the high light of the Scripture, John points out the Savior to us and to the world: "Behold the Lamb of God!"

On this summer solstice—the longest day of the year—we celebrate John the Baptist, the greatest of the Hebrew prophets. Tomorrow, however, the days begin to shorten, for as John prophesied, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30). Once his job is well done, his light fades into the light of Christ. When the days are shortest, at the winter solstice, we celebrate the birth of the Light of the World, to whom John pointed.

A little bit of trivia. Do you know why June became the special month for weddings? Well, in pagan traditions, weddings were celebrated during the summer solstice, which was the middle of the fertile growing season. Fermented honey was drunk as part of the celebration. The term "honeymoon" originates in this pagan tradition and remains to this day.

The Scriptures tell us that John not only looked different from others by the way he dressed, but his message was different from that of the spiritual leaders of his time. It was strong, clear, life-giving and uncompromising. He was his own person in the best possible way. Authority, when it was not exercised properly, did not frighten him. If we think about it for a moment, John the Baptist is a perfect model for the kind of saint we need today.

Our task is to recognize and name those areas which our culture is asking us to accept as normal, but which go against all that we stand for as believers in Jesus. We are to march to the sound of a different drum. That's always a difficult task. It means that, at times, we need to take a stand on issues which seem to go against what most people in our society hold as normal.

✠ Congratulations to Isabel Barratt and Rosa Gutierrez, our parishioners, who graduated last Saturday from the Christian Foundations for Ministry Program. I am so proud of Isabel and Rosa and our Ascension parishioners who choose to continue learning about their faith with renewed enthusiasm. They show us so well, what Ascension Parish is all about. Again, Congratulations!

✠ On behalf of all Ascension parishioners, thank you so much to Kensho Arcari and Boy Scout Troop 291 for their planning and building the new gazebo and landscaping at the entrance of the church. It is a beautiful Eagle Scout project for Ascension that will last for years to come. Thank you!

✠ Until July 4th we will celebrate "Fortnight for Freedom" a special time of prayer, fasting, education, and witness for a new birth of religious freedom in our beloved country. Let us join together to celebrate our freedom!

✠ On June 21st, the St. Joseph/Ascension Knights of Columbus honored our parishioner, Joanne Lennon, for her outstanding dedication to Ascension Parish and enthusiasm as a Cantor and Choir Member for 28 years. Our parish Music Ministry has become such a special part of Ascension. Thank you to all who are part of this beautiful ministry of music in Jesus' name. Congratulations, Joanne, and Thank You!

Know that I pray for you every day. Please pray for me, too. God Love You!



“Saying goodbye to our graduates”

The 8th Grade Class of 2018 graduated earlier this month. The day began with a 9:00am Baccalaureate Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church. The graduates processed in full uniform, served as lectors, and brought up the gifts.

In the evening, the graduates returned to St. John's Church to receive their diplomas and awards. Our commencement speaker was Dr. James D. Kennedy, retired principal of Charles A. Selzer School in Dumont and member of our Advisory Board. Afterwards, he mentioned how moved he was by the moment because it was the first time in decades that he was able to mention God to a graduating class and their families.

Before the end of ceremony, the graduates gathered in front of the altar to sing a song written and accompanied by our English teacher, Mr. Angeles. “Thank You” was a musical embrace of all those who journeyed with them to this moment: friends, family, Academy faculty, and clergy.

As you head off to different high schools, we wish you continued success and happiness. May God's grace be with you as you enter the next phase of your academic pursuits. We look forward to keeping in touch with you over the coming years. You will always have a family and home at Transfiguration Academy. #FOREVERTIGERS

Here are some of the high schools they will be attending:

Bergen County Academies
Bergen Academy Paramus
Bergen Catholic
Bergenfield
Paramus Catholic
St. Joseph

EVERY graduate received a scholarship offer. WOW!

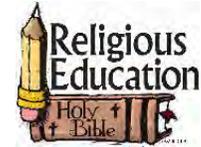
Do you want to learn more?

Parents wishing to provide their children with a quality Catholic education and those looking for alternatives to public school are encouraged to consider Transfiguration Academy. To learn more about our academic, athletic, and fine arts curriculum for grades PreK2 through 8 or to schedule a tour of our Academy, please email

principal@transfigurationacademy.org or call the school office at 201-384-3627.

We also have a video: <https://youtu.be/I2bF37YBpbs>

**Transfiguration Academy: Strengthening faith,
Enlightening minds, and Transforming hearts...one
student at a time.**



Registration for 2018-2019:

Registration forms for the 2018-2019 School year have been distributed to all students, please look for them in your child's backpack. Kindly fill out the forms and return them along with the fees to the Religious Education office before June 30th. All families that are new to the program are asked to come to the Religious Education Office and pick up a Registration Form. For more information please call us at 201-836-3085.

First Communion Families may pick up the child's banner anytime during regular office hours.



Volunteers Needed:

† We are in **NEED** of Substitute Catechists and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2018-2019 School year. Anyone interested, please call Mrs. Carbone, our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085.

† Children's Liturgy of the Word Team member. 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. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

Religious Education Office Hours:

Monday – Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – In Rectory
Other times by appointment

Thanks

Thank you to all who gave so generously to last weekend's Food Pantry Collection. Your continued support of this most important ministry is greatly appreciated. May God Bless you!



Church of the Ascension

New Milford, New Jersey

***2018 Summer
Mass Schedule***

Monday, June 25th to Monday, September 3rd

Weekdays:

Monday through Friday...8am

Saturday...8:30am

Weekends:

(NO Changes)

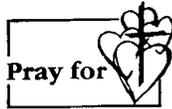
Saturday...5:30pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Holy Days: 7am, 8:30am, 7:30pm

Civil Holidays: 8:30am

THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be healed...”

Dolores Crowley, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Jim Keane, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Joan Polis, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Deacon Jim Stumbar, Eileen Kloeblen, Richard Gabettie, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Charles Hellriegel, John Delaney, Anita Zucconi, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Bob Quinn, Benny Santiago, Aldo Guerra, Janice P., and those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

“a time to serve...”

Cpt. Jack Massingale, U.S. Air Force, Afghanistan, PFC Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Cherry Point, NC, A1C James Penser, Beale AFB, CA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

“a time for peace...”

President Donald John Trump,
our National Leaders
and all 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



Sunday, June 24, 2018

**Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Fortnight for Freedom
Fr. Hilary’s Scholarship Fund
(Second Collection)**

Monday, June 25, 2018

**Summer Mass Schedule Begins
One Mass at 8:00 a.m.**

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

**Fortnight for Freedom
Parish Events – 7:30pm – Gathering Room**

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

**Fortnight for Freedom
Harrison House
Novena – 7:30pm - Church**

Thursday, June 28, 2018

Fortnight for Freedom

Friday, June 29, 2018

Fortnight for Freedom

Saturday, June 30, 2018

**Fortnight for Freedom
Confession – 11:00am – Church
Food for the Poor at all Masses
Fr. Paul Wilderotter**

Sunday, July 1, 2018

**Maintenance & Repairs Collection
Fortnight for Freedom**



**PARISH EVENTS MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018 AT 7:30PM
IN THE GATHERING ROOM
“NEW MEMBERS WELCOME”**

AVAILABILITY

SANCTUARY CANDLE (\$15.), BREAD & WINE (\$40.), AND ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50. each basket) for the week, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communions, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the rectory office to check availability.

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 it is for the intention of your loved one.



Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 182 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$32,045.00 pledged dollars. **Please consider making your pledge today.** Give a little, give a lot, but please give something for the Glory of God!

This year our Parish Goal is \$40,546.00



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 rectory office. Thank You!

I would like....

- _____ to become a Parishioner
- _____ to change my address
- _____ 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: _____



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SUMMER

Are you planning and packing for your vacation!!! School is closed, vacations are scheduled, be sure to include God in your plans. Remember the expenses of the church continue during the vacation months. Please continue to use your envelopes and if you are going away, please put in your envelope the week before or the week your return.
HAVE A HAPPY, SAFE AND HEALTHY SUMMER!

MEMORIALS

“THANK YOU”...to those who have contributed to our Memorials Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the rectory with the coupon below. When an item is purchased we will notify you which item is in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call Fr. David at the Rectory (201)836-8961.

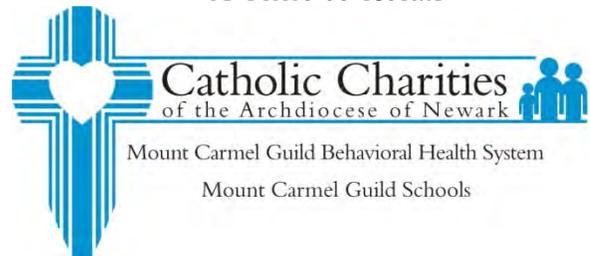
Additional Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)

MEMORIAL CANDLES:	\$150/1 Year
	\$20/30 Days
ALTAR BREAD & WINE	\$40 per week
ALTAR FLOWERS	\$50 (per basket/per week)
SANCTUARY CANDLE	\$15 per week

MEMORIAL FUND

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Donation Amt.: _____
 In Memory of: _____
 Date Requested: _____

A Time to Relax



Mount Carmel Guild Behavioral Health System
Mount Carmel Guild Schools

Summertime is a time to relax. During this leisure time, would you be willing to go through your closets to get rid of all those unwanted heavy winter clothes and shoes which served you so well during the winter season? Please donate them to the Catholic Charities bin located on the Church grounds. Thank you for helping Catholic Charities continue its mission.

