

Church of the Ascension

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.



First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 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

7:00 a.m. and 8:30am

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 for the Intentions *for the Week*

First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris
7:30 Con & Rose Lynch
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 Perla Roque

Monday, December 3, 2018

7:00 Frederick Balagot
8:30 David Jenkins

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

7:00 P.J. O'Sullivan
8:30 Bebing D. Ruiz (L)

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

7:00 John F. O'Sullivan
8:30 Eve Boschker

Thursday, December 6, 2018

7:00 Bridie O'Shea
8:30 Nicholas Delaney & Family (L)

Friday, December 7, 2018

7:00 Teresa O'Shea
8:30 Arthur Milliken

Vigil Mass for The Immaculate Conception

7:30 Helen Chaffiotte

Saturday, December 8, 2018

The Immaculate Conception

8:30 Margaret M. O'Brian
5:30 James & Mary Zadroga

Second Sunday of Advent, December 9

7:30 Richarad Rosko
9:30 Luisa Bautista
11:30 Mario & Rosauero Cajucom

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

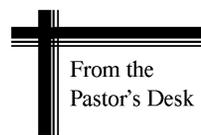
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

November 26, 2017:	\$5,430.00
November 25, 2018:	\$5,212.00
Fr. Hilary Scholarship:	\$ 768.00

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

Reading for Sunday December 9, 2018

Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil
1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6



From the
Pastor's Desk

Advent opens our eyes to the most exciting journey of our lives — why we are Christians and where our life is heading. The Christian faith stands for the truth that history is going somewhere. We are not like adult-sized mice on an eternal treadmill. All of history has a goal-line, and it is Jesus Christ, Lord of all creatures. Advent reminds us that we are women and men living in a constant state of expectation. As the baby in Mary's womb is growing, all of our hopes for healing, wholeness, and new life are growing, too. You know how you jump off the couch, on full alert, watching your team seconds before the winning touchdown? That's the spirit of expectation we should have while waiting for Jesus! He says, watch it! Don't let your hearts get drowsy "from carousing and drunkenness, and the anxieties of daily living."

The world says, "be successful, make money, 'have it your way'." But Jesus turns this upside down: expect my return--get ready to meet me face to face! Keep the excitement, but wait with a mellow spirit. In the 1960's, people mellowed out on drugs. But we're talking about being balanced and steady.

A content and mellow person takes in everything happening around them, "the good, the bad, and the ugly," but sees the bigger picture, and keeps a compassionate spirit. Be like a wise bee-keeper who moves meditatively around his or her bees. If you are too fast and jerky, you'll be stung!

Let us not be "fast and jerky" with the people and life around us, but quietly alert for the coming of the One we owe our life to! Above all, let us remember and proclaim in all we say or do: "**Jesus is the Reason for the Season!**"

✠ Please take some time to review the information from last week's bulletin about our **2018 Parish ADVENTure**. So many opportunities are offered to help each of us to prepare for the Lord's coming. We have inserted our **Advent Calendar of Good Deeds** in the bulletin and the ushers will distribute **Calendars for 2019** graciously donated by Michael Mittenzwei of Boulevard Funeral Home.

✠ Our **Advent Giving Tree** has been prepared to help us to Share the Spirit of Christmas! Further information is in this week's bulletin. Also, don't forget to take a copy of **Five Minutes with the Word for Advent**. Copies are in the book rack at the entrance to the church.

✠ Our Service Ministry is sponsoring a Jewelry Sale in the Gathering Room after all Masses this weekend. The proceeds will be used to buy winter coats for children in cooperation with the Knights of Columbus.

✠ **Ireland—the Land of Saints and Leprechauns** awaits you! Our parish will travel to the cities of Shannon, Killarney, Blarney, Cork, Knock (special Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Ireland), and Galway from May 12th to 20th. Let Fr. David know if you are interested and he will give you a brochure, or stop by the rectory. We will have an informational meeting with Ann Breslin (Great Experiences) in January 2019.

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

FATHER DAVID MILLIKEN WILL ESCORT A GROUP TO IRELAND-MAY 12-20, 2019

You are invited to come away to the magical land of Ireland! Father David will be the escort during a tour which he will celebrate Mass on some days in special sites (such as the Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Ireland in Knock). In addition, sightseeing by a professional guide will include sites in and around Killarney, Blarney, Cork, Dublin, and Galway. Included in the cost of \$3,150.00 per person-two in a room or \$3,800.00 - single occupancy. Round-trip transportation from Church of the Ascension to Newark International Airport, round-trip non-stop Economy airfare and all departure taxes, all transportation and sightseeing by private motor-coach with the services of a professional guide/driver. 7 nights hotel accommodations in First Class hotels, full breakfast and dinner daily, entrance fees, hotel baggage handling, taxes and service charges, tip to the guide/driver.

Brochures with complete details may be obtained in the parish office.

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 AND 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: _____

OFFERTORY GIFTS

If Mass intention is one that you have requested or if it is for the intention of your loved one. Please let one our ushers know, prior to Mass, if you would like to bring the Offertory Gifts up to the celebrant.

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.

Congratulations to the following Transfiguration Academy alumni who achieved Honor Roll at Paramus Catholic High School for the first quarter:

Principal's List

Lilliana Alava, Aidan Icasiano, Rachel Cajucom, Gabriella Macre, Kenneth Calle, Julianne Robert

First Honors

Robert Cajucom, Jarid O. Chappell, Emily Tharakan



Calendar:

Sunday, December 2nd – 1st thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Monday, December 3rd -- No Religious Education

Wednesday, December 5th -- 9th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)

Sunday, December 9th – 1st thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass. All children in Pre-K to 5th grade are welcomed to join us. What a great way for families to celebrate Mass together.

Reconciliation: Pardon and Peace: Our parish children preparing for First Reconciliation will be learning this week about contrition and God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All parishioners can join these children in spirit by praying and thinking about ways in which we all are called to sincere sorrow for our sins and to God's forgiveness through this sacrament of healing and mercy.

Reminder:

December 8, 2018 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation- Masses will be celebrated on Friday night at 7:30pm and Saturday at 8:30 am.

First Reconciliation Parents and Candidates, Reconciliation will take place on Saturday, **December 15, 2018** at 11 am in the Church. We ask that all families please meet in the Church by 10:45 am so we can start on time.

Confirmation Candidates please remember your SPONSOR Forms are due on December 12th.

Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2018-2019 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa 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 – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – In Rectory
 Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm – In School
 Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School
 Closed: Thursday & Saturday
 Other times by appointment



Holy Day of Obligation

**Friday, December 7, 2018 Vigil Mass at 7:30pm
 Saturday, December 8, 2018 one Mass at 8:30am**

DECEMBER 2, 2018

Come and Join us...
Church of the Ascension
New Milford

St. John's Church
Bergenfield

St. Mary's Church
Dumont

Invite You to Gather Together and Celebrate...

Advent Communal Penance Service
with Individual Confession

*We look forward to celebrating the mystery of Christ's coming
on the feast of Christmas.*

*Let us pray that when he comes
he may find us awake and ready to receive him.*

Monday, December 10, 2018
St. Mary's Church, Dumont
7:00 P.M.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

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 Kloebler, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, John Delaney, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Benny Santiago, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Ana Tumang, 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.

"a time to die..."

James Keane, Terrance McGoldrick

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
offered in loving memory of
William & Elizabeth Morris



Altar Flowers for this week are
in loving Memory of the
William & Elizabeth Morris



First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018

Religious Retirement Fund

Advent Giving Tree
Jewelry Sale in Gathering Room
Children's Liturgy of the Word -9:30am
Religious Ed. - 10:45am - School
Baptism Prep - 1:00pm - Gathering Room

Monday, December 3, 2018

Pastoral Staff Meeting - 9:00am - Rectory
Religious Education Grade 8 - 7:00pm - School
Combined Choirs - 7:30pm - Church

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Woodcrest Mass 2:30pm

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Confirmation Prep - 7:00-8:45pm
Novena - 7:30pm - Church
Boy Scouts - 7:30pm - Fr. Benedict Center
Filipino Core Mtg. - 8:00pm - Gathering Room

Thursday, December 6, 2018

No events

First Friday, December 7, 2018

Communion Visits to Homebound
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass 7:30pm

Immaculate Conception - Saturday, December 8, 2018

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass 8:30am
Confessions - 11:00am - Church
Children's Choir - 4:15pm - Church
Blessing & Lighting of Outside Christmas Decorations
after 5:30pm Mass

Second Sunday of Advent, December 9, 2018

Parish Maintenance & Repairs

Children's Liturgy of the Word -9:30am
Religious Ed. - 10:45am - School

SUPPORT ELDERLY RELIGIOUS

Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to *work*." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. **Please support this week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.**



**BLESSING & LIGHTING OF OUR PARISH
OUTSIDE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS
NEXT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
AFTER 5:30pm MASS**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to make a donation toward the Christmas trees, wreaths and flowers which will be used to decorate our church this festive season.

Donation \$15.00 for Each Intention

One intention for each donation will be listed on the Christmas Flower Donations bulletin insert

Please put your donation and intention in the **Christmas Flower Envelope** (at doors of church) or you may use this form. Please drop it in the collection basket or in the black mail box outside the rectory door. **Please Print all information clearly on form or envelopes.** Thank you!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Please Print

In Memory of: _____

or the Intention of: _____

Donated by: _____

Phone: _____

Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 191 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$43,045.00 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: _____



**Please remember to patronize
who help make this bulletin possible,
REINER*Heating*Air Conditioning
201-794-3700**

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION'S GIVING TREE

This Weekend we invite you to *Share in the Spirit of Christmas* by participating in our parish's traditional **Giving Tree** outreach program. Besides our own local gift giving to children in the area, we also provide gifts to local nursing homes, homeless shelters, a local shelter for unwanted teenage boys, and to children in communities who would, were it not for our program, receive nothing for Christmas. **Please note that due to the requirements of our charities, and our delivery teams, all gifts will be due back by Sunday, December 16th, after the 11:30 Mass. The only exception will be food certificates donated for distribution to our own pantry clients. Please do not bring in gifts after this time as they may not be delivered to the various charities. It is important you do not take an ornament that cannot be returned on time as this may result in someone not receiving a gift this year. Please also remember to securely attach your ornament to the package so that the gift will go to the correct recipient.**

Details on what each ornament means are in flyer in this week's bulletin. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to help deliver some of these gifts, please call Joan Stephens @ 201-836-6684. May God continue to bless you for your generous support of this ministry of love and care.

****Please note that unwrapped toys will be given to the Bergen County Sheriff's Department for distribution to local children in need. Please do not wrap these items.**

HELP KEEP CHILDREN WARM THIS WINTER

Our Service Ministry has partnered with The Knights of Columbus to sponsor a Jewelry Sale with all proceeds going to purchase coats for children. A representative from *Premier Designs Jewelry* will be in the gathering room after all masses the weekend of December 1st and 2nd. What a great way to purchase some Holiday gifts for a family member, friend, someone special or yourself and also help to keep children warm this winter.

Come browse and enter a free jewelry raffle—no purchase necessary.

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED MAKE OUR TURKEY DRIVE A BIG SUCCESS!

Members of the Service Ministry would like to thank all that stopped by to donate a turkey to our annual Turkey Drive. Special thanks goes to the following organizations for helping to make it a great success: Fairway Market (60 turkeys), Shop-Rite (40 turkeys), Woodcrest (12 turkeys), Inserra (gift cards to purchase turkeys), Wegman's (gift cards to purchase turkeys) and Costco (gift card). Also, a big thanks goes to all our volunteers who braved the cold early morning temperatures to receive the donations. God bless and Happy Thanksgiving to all!

HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – DECEMBER 17th

The following are items most needed to restock our shelves this month. Any item or items you can purchase for our pantry would be greatly appreciated. God Bless you for your continued support of this most important ministry to the poor.

- HOT COCOA-APPLE SAUCE-MAYONNAISE-OLIVES
- CANNED MUSHROOMS-CANNED SPINACH-RAISINS
- GRATED CHEESE-INSTANT RICE-JAM-COOKIES
- MANDARIN ORANGES-PANCAKE SYRUP-ICE TEA MIX
- FROSTED FLAKES-RICE CRISPIES-CORN FLAKES
- BATHROOM TISSUE-NAPKINS-TISSUES

Your continued support of our ministry to the poor is greatly appreciated.

**SANTA COMES TO NEW MILFORD SUNDAY DEC. 9TH
NEW MILFORD FIRE DEPT ANNUAL TOY DRIVE**

