

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.

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 31, 2019

+ 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

8:00am July & August

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 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

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the Week*

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31, 2019

5:30 John M. Vo
7:30 Donald Evans
9:30 Peter Thomas
11:30 Cesare Naboa

Monday, April 1, 2019

7:00 Dolores Crawley
8:30 Billy, Jessica & Lorenzo Albers (L)

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

7:00 The Dalton Family
8:30 Connie Martorano

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

7:00 Joe Edwards
8:30 Deacon Jim Stumbar

Thursday, April 4, 2019

7:00 Renato Aglipay
8:30 Margaret Billy

Friday, April 5, 2019

7:00 Eva Liza
8:30 Percy Habana, Birthday (L)

Saturday, April 6, 2019

Memorial

8:30 Lucille Tamayo
5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 7, 2019

7:30 Rose D'Eufemia
9:30 People of Ascension Parish
11:30 Alphonse Giella, Birthday (D)

**PARISH  STEWARDSHIP
REPORT**

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

March 24, 2019: \$5,076.00
Fr. Hilary Scholarship: \$ 808.00

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

**Reading for Sunday
April 7, 2019**

**Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/
Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11**



Today we hear a story about a dramatic family situation which for centuries has been called "The Prodigal Son." We all know who that refers to, right? The wayward, "wild child" who squandered his dad's money on wine, women, and song (and I don't mean the "Ave Maria").

Well, maybe not. Some theologians suggest that perhaps this story should be re-named "The Prodigal Father." Fr. Andrew Greeley goes so far to suggest that this story be re-named "The Nutty Father." Because the word "prodigal" can refer to a wasteful spendthrift or to someone who is extravagant in their generosity and love—forgiving beyond all boundaries, as the father in this story did. It is this last definition that gave the Pharisees problems.

They asked Jesus, "How can you eat and drink with sinners?" For Jesus, the merciful love of God is almost the opposite of their ideas of how a good, "righteous" Jewish father should behave. Because the father's forgiving actions were very shocking to Jesus' listeners.

In the Middle East, if a son demands his share of the inheritance early, it is his way of wishing his father dead. So, in the story, when the son finally crawls home, no one can believe it—the father sees the son and runs to him, and as the gospel says, "Then the celebration began."

What about the older son's jealousy? All of us at some point are both of those brothers. We can also be the Father, the forgiver for the troubled one who needs extra understanding, and for the jealous one. God always says to us both "Welcome home" AND "Beloved, you are with me always, and everything I have is yours."

"Why do you eat with sinners?" Jesus answers: Because God rejoices and invites us to rejoice, too. Will I join in the rejoicing? One moment of true repentance, or of true forgiveness, is all that is needed.

✘ Please plan ahead to be with us on Friday, April 12th. We will join together for our **Parish Lenten Evening of Recollection** which will begin at 5:30pm with a Lenten Soup Supper served by our 9th grade Confirmation candidates. Tickets are \$8.00 per person. At 7pm we will pray the Stations of the Cross followed by Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for individual sacramental Reconciliation, and at 8:45pm we will conclude with Benediction. What a beautiful way to prepare ourselves for the holiest week of the year!

✘ Remember, we have placed "**Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2019**" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend.

✘ Thank you so much to our 83 parishioner families who have pledged to the "**Sharing God's Blessings**" Annual Appeal. I pray that with open minds and hearts, we will all be able to that the appeal will help the many needs of the people of our Archdiocese, including our own parish.

Cardinal Tobin has set our 2019 goal at \$39,161.00. Our pledges to date amount to \$19,328.00. There is still time to make a pledge. Brochures are in the pews and at the doors of the church. Please, I ask that all of our parish families consider the great good we of Ascension can do with God's grace when we choose to help the neediest of our Archdiocese. Help us to reach and even surpass our goal. **Give a lot; give a little; but please give something!**

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



Pocketbook Bingo will be held on Friday, April 12 in Conlon Hall. Doors open at 6:30 PM and the 1st game will begin at 7:00 PM. Admission price is \$35 and includes 1 board for each of the 12 games. Proceeds will go towards the renovation of the Conlon Hall restrooms. Bring your own food and drink and enjoy an evening of fun and prizes!

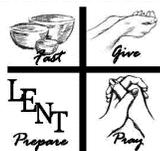
Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade boys' team, our 7th and 8th grade girls' team and our 5th and 6th grade girls' basketball teams for winning the championship in their respective divisions. Special thanks to all of the coaches and students on all of our basketball teams as well as our Athletic Director Craig Von der Osten for a successful season. Go Tigers!

Tiger for a Day Are you considering Transfiguration Academy for the next school year? Transfiguration Academy is a United States Department of Education 2018 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and is accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges. Have your child spend the day with us during the upcoming public school spring break. Be a "tiger for a day" on Monday, April 15 or Tuesday, April 16 and find out what makes Transfiguration Academy a great place for academic, spiritual and social growth. Please call the school, 201-384-3627 or email principal@transfigurationacademy.org for more information, to arrange a tour or to have your student spend the day with us.

AN EASY WAY YOU CAN HELP THOSE IN NEED – BECOME A VOLUNTEER BAKER!

Every other month the Service Ministry of Ascension visits the Hackensack shelter to feed dinner to those in need. We always bring with us home-baked goods, which are a big hit with the clients. As we normally feed up to 150 people, we need help from volunteer bakers. All you need to do is to bake a cake, pie, brownies, cupcakes or cookies and drop them off at the rectory by 2 pm on the day of our serving. If a daytime drop is not possible, they can be dropped off the night before. (If you cannot bake, we will also accept store bought goods)

Our next date is on Thursday, April 11th. We could sure use your help. Thank you in advance for supporting our very important ministry.



WELCOME: Newcomers, Visitors and Parishioners

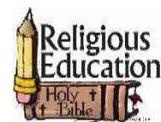
The priests & ministers of Ascension Parish welcome you. If you would like more information about entering more fully into our parish life & ministry, we ask that you complete the form below. You may return by putting into collection basket, mail or stop by the rectory office. Thank You!

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: _____



Calendar:

- Sunday, March 31st – 1st thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)
- Monday, April 1st – 8th Grade from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Wednesday, April 3rd – 9th Grade 7 pm to 8:15 pm (MPR/SCH)
- Sunday, April 7th -- 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.



This week the young people of the parish who are preparing for Eucharist reflected on the first Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Reborn of the Holy Spirit, all the baptized have been called and empowered to live as true witnesses of Christ and to spread the faith by word and deed. How are we as a parish living as disciples and followers of Jesus?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

On **Wednesday April 10, 2019** the 2019 Confirmation Class will have a MANDATORY Retreat. All students must be here by 4 pm. No one will be excused.

On Friday, April 12, 2019 our 2019 Confirmation Class will be hosting the Parish Lenten Soup Supper starting at 5:30 pm. Tickets are available from any Confirmation Candidate or in the Rectory during regular office hours until Sunday April 7, 2019. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.

Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of Catechists for our 9th grade program and Substitute Catechists and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2019-2020 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

MARCH 31, 2019



Church of the Ascension

New Milford, New Jersey

Invites You to Gather Together and Share...

A Parish Lenten

Evening of Recollection

(Sponsored by our parish 9th Grade Candidates for Confirmation, 2019)

Friday, April 12, 2019

5:30-6:45pm...Lenten Soup Supper (Fr. Benedict Center)

(Salad, Soup, Bread, Beverage, Dessert)

(\$8.00 per person. + NO tickets sold at the door.)

7:00pm...Stations of the Cross

7:30pm..Mass followed by

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Holy Hour

Opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation

8:45pm...Benediction

Please detach and return form below by Sunday, April 7th



Church of the Ascension

Parish Lenten Evening of Recollection

Lenten Soup Supper (Fr. Benedict Center)

Friday, April 12, 2019

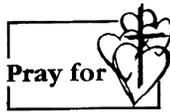
Name _____ *Phone* _____

_____ *Number of Persons @ \$8.00 per person Amount enclosed \$* _____

(Please make checks payable to: Church of the Ascension)

Please return form by Sunday, April 7th

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, 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, Eileen Kloeblen, 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, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, 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..."

Deacon James Stumbar

and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** burns this week
in loving memory of
The Dalton Family



The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE** this week
in loving memory of
John M. Vo



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 Communion, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the rectory office to check availability.



Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31, 2019

Catholic Relief Services

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am
Religious Education – 10:45am – School

Monday, April 1, 2019

Pastoral Staff Meeting – 9:00am - Rectory
Religious Education, grade 8 – 7:00pm
Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

Woodcrest Center Mass 2:30pm
Ministry of Service – 7:00pm – Gathering Room

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

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

Thursday, April 4, 2019

No events

First Friday, April 5, 2019

Communion Visits to homebound
KofC set-up – 7:00pm – Fr. Benedict Center
Mass & Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm

First Saturday, April 6, 2019

Confessions – 11:00am – Church
KofC set-up – 3:00pm – Fr. Benedict Center
Children's Choir – 4:15pm – Church
Knights of Columbus – Beefsteak – 6:30pm - FBC

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 7, 2019

Maintenance and Repairs

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 9:30am
Religious Education – 10:45am – School
Baptism Prep – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Please let one of 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 for the intention of your loved one.

ASCENSION PARISH TRIP

Ascension Parish will sponsor a 5 day trip to Vermont & New Hampshire from June 7th – 11, 2019. The price of \$825 (dbl.) \$949 (single) includes 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, Luncheon at the Trapp Family Lodge, 3 dinners, including dinner on the Winnepesaukee Scenic Railroad, 2 welcome receptions, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Factory tour, Stowe Village, Quechee Gorge, Narrated cruise on Squam Lake where "On Golden Pond" was filmed. Loon Mountain Gondola Ride, Lake Winnepesaukee Scenic Railroad ride, Luggage & Handling, taxes & gratuities, motorcoach transportation. \$100 deposit will hold your reservation. Cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available upon request. For info. & reservations, call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)387-2632.



REMEMBER DURING LENT

Evening Mass on Friday's at 7:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross.

Also, we have placed "Five Minutes with the Word for Lent 2019" in our parish book rack. Please take one for yourself and even another for a friend

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS APPEAL

Please consider making a donation to this year's Annual Appeal For information about the appeal or to make a donation you can visit website at: <http://rcan.org/sharing>

MEMORIALS

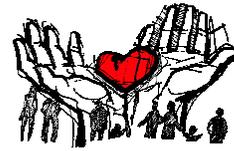
"THANK YOU"...to those who have contributed to our Memorials Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the rectory with the coupon below. When an item is purchased we will notify you which item is in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, please call 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: _____



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)*Become a Eucharistic Minister or Lector at our weekend Masses*Minister at Woodcrest*Help plan our Parish Events*Become an Altar Server (adult/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)

HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – APRIL 15th

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.

- COFFEE-ICED TEA-APPLE JUICE-RAISINS-JAM
- INSTANT RICE-CHICKEN BROTH-BEEF BROTH
- PANCAKE SYRUP-PANCAKE MIX-CORN FLAKES
- CHILDRENS CEREALS-CHICKEN GRAVY
- BATH SOAP-TOOTHPASTE-TOOTHBRUSHES

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

BERGENFIELD GOVERNMENT DAY

Bergenfield's 125TH Anniversary

OPEN HOUSE

APRIL 7, 2019

1:00PM TO 4:00PM

BERGENFIELD.COM



Mass intentions available for the **2019 Mass Book** for week-day morning masses for either 7:00 or 8:30am. There are **NO** week-end masses available. As always our first Saturday of each month Memorial Mass at 8:30am is always available. Please stop by the office to make your request. Sorry **NO** telephone or e-mail requests.

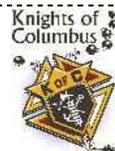


Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

RIEWERTS MEMORIAL HOME INC.

201-384-0700

Please remember to patronize, who help make this bulletin possible



BEEFSTEAK DINNER EXTRAVAGANZA

On Saturday, April 6, 2019 6:30pm-10:00pm. Dinner catered by Nightingale Catering. Donation is \$35. Per person. Will be held in Ascension's Father Benedict Center. For Tickets and information please contact Paul Noonan (201) 265-4452.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION
FYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*UPCOMING EVENTS**

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM

