

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.



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 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

Email: Secretary@churchoftheascension.com

Website: www.churchoftheascension.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

Email: reled@churchoftheascension.com

(201) 836-3085 • Fax (201) 836-5896

Mass for the
Intentions Week

Grandparent's & Elderly

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, September 7, 2025

5:30pm Eileen McCann-5th Anniv.

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Courtney Villaluna (L)

11:30 Philomena Adams

Monday, September 8, 2025

8:00 Rolly & Dona Viduya Family (L)

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

8:00 Angelita Villaluna (L)

Patriot Day, Thursday, September 11, 2025

8:00 All Victims of 9/11

Friday, September 12, 2025

No Mass

Saturday, September 13, 2025

8:30 Alice Dimaano

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sunday, September 14, 2025

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 Joseph Cotter

11:30 Manuel Garcia

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

**NO FIGURES
AT TIME OF PRINTING**

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

**Readings for Sunday
September 14, 2025**

Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37,
38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Luke 14:25-33

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven—his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— Father John Muir



Blessing for the Fallen of 9-11

**God of mercy,
in your word of Scripture, you instruct us to
"Do to others as you would have them do to you."**

**Give us today the courage to assist those around us
who may need our assistance.**

Give us patience when we become impatient.

**Remind us to pray for all those who perished on
United Airlines 93, American Airlines 11,
United Airlines 175, American Airlines 77,
and those in the Twin Towers and Pentagon.**

**Give us a heart
thankful for those who gave their lives
as first responders, as did the men and women
who ran into danger to be of aid.**

**We ask all this in the name of the One
who first responded to our need for a savior,
Jesus the Christ.**

Amen.



“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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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

NEW BULLETIN EMAIL ADDRESS

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)

bulletin@churchoftheascension.com

NOTE: All submissions must go to this email address

Thank you for your cooperation

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 for the intention of your loved one.



Important Dates:

September 14, 2025 – Open for Last Minute Registration
Monday, September 15th --6th, 7th & 8th Grades Parent/Student Meeting- MANDATORY for both

BOTH in the CHURCH at 7 pm SHARP

Wednesday, September 17th -- 9th Grade Parent/Student Meeting- MANDATORY FOR BOTH in the CHURCH at 7 pm SHARP

Sunday, September 21st –Catechetical Sunday Mass at 9:30AM

Sunday, September 21st -- Mandatory Parent Meeting 1st- 5th grades at 10:45 am in YMCA

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

New Registration forms for the 2025-2026 School year were given out to all families already in the program. All registration was due on July 31st and now there is a Late Fee of \$10 per student. If you wish to register your child or know anyone who wishes to register in our program and are in need of a registration form, please call 201-836-3085 or stop by the Religious Education Office in the Parish center during office hours- 9am to 3:30 pm daily. Forms can also be found on the parish website, www.churchoftheascension.com.



Volunteers Needed:

We in need of help with Children’s Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 am Mass, which will restart in the Fall, for all children in the Parish. If you would like to help, PLEASE call Mrs. Carbone in the Parish Center. This is a wonderful opportunity for college students or student teachers to gain experience, share their faith and work with students in a relaxed atmosphere.

We need Substitutes for our Religious Education Program for the 2023-2024 school year. Anyone interested, please call Theresa Carbone, our Coordinator of Religious Education at (201) 836-3085.

Religious Education Office Hours:

Monday – Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 3:30 pm – Parish Center

Sunday Mornings: 10:15am to 12:15 am

Monday and Wednesday Evenings: 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

7:30PM IN THE PARISH CENTER

GATHERING ROOM

**PRAYER FOR THE
FIFTH WORLD DAY FOR
GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY**

**“Blessed are those who have not lost hope”
(Sir 14:2)**

**How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord!
Help us to continue our pilgrimage
through time,
animated by the hope that comes from You!
Help us in this divisive world,
to bring the hope of communion.
Help us in this world, wounded by wars,
to bring peace.
Help us to be, for our grandchildren,
for our loved ones
and for everyone we meet,
the memory of your tenderness.
Help us to bring,
in a world distracted from You,
the Hope of a new life that only You can give!**

**For in You, Lord, nothing is lost
For in You, Lord, everything begins again!**

Amen.

**Dicasterium
Pro Laicis, Familia Et Vita
(Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life)**



PRAY FOR ...

"To everything there is a season..."

"a time to be healed..."

Marguerite Morris, Rebecca Tababan, Stephen Cronin, Kaitlin Abreu, Gerard Lee, Marguerite Raptopoulos 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 November 1, 2025

Please call office to renew or remove name

"a time to serve..."

Tech 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 our National and World Leaders.

and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11



The SANCTUARY CANDLE

burns this week in Celebration of

Rosa & Angel Gutierrez Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary



BREAD and WINE this week

Donated in Celebration of

Mr. & Mrs. Juan Gutierrez Tenth Wedding Anniversary



Altar Flowers for this week

Donated in Celebration of

Rosa & Angel Gutierrez Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary



"New Way to Donate to Our Food Pantry:

As our food collections have dwindled quite a bit, we thought we might try something new.

Each month we will publish four items as "Item of the Week". Just think, if every family donated one of the items, we would have enough to provide them to our client for several months! Items can be dropped in our pantry bin during any week of the month. This way you can check on sales wherever you do your shopping. And for a hint, places like dollar stores sometimes have prices way lower than grocery stores! So lets give it a try!

September

Week-2 Mayo

Week 3-Instant Mashed Potatoes

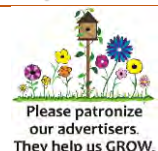
Week 4-Tissues

As always, we are grateful to have such a giving parish that supports our very important ministry to our neighbors in need. God bless all who help us! "

SPECIAL COLLECTION

This Weekend, the (arch)diocese will take up the National Collection for **The Catholic University of America**. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education. The University's various research and training initiatives support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. A few examples of how the University serves the Church and nation include The Catholic Project, an initiative that aims to heal the breach of trust many have experienced as a result of the crisis in the Church; a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management; and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers. Please give generously. visit: collection.catholic.edu to learn more.

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.



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

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

PART TIME MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR ASCENSION CHURCH NEEDED

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

TOUR OF THE SACRED HEART BASILICA IN NEWARK TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 BUS LEAVES AT 10:00AM FROM ASCENSION \$50.00 PER PERSON

Includes buffet lunch afterwards
(Limited seating, first come, first served)
Please call the parish office for reservations

DO YOU LIKE TO BUILD THINGS WITH WOOD?
We need someone who is handy with wood to build us a new Creche for outside. If this is you please call the Parish office.

MEMORIALS

If you would like to contribute to this fund in memory of your loved one. Please call the Parish Office (201) 836-8961 or stop by the office (located in the Parish Center-256 Azalea Drive)) to check availability.

Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)

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

<u>Donation Amount</u>	
\$25/1 month	\$100/5 months
\$45/2 months	\$120/6 months
\$65/3months	\$200/1 year
\$85/4months	

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF: _____

DATE REQUESTED: _____

REQUESTED BY: _____

Phone: _____ Donation Amount: _____

Please return completed form with your check
made payable to Ascension Church

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE
FOR PARISH INFORMATION
FLYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*BULLETINS
UPCOMING EVENTS

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM

ARE YOU COMPUTER SAVVY?

We are looking for a couple of people who know their way around websites. If this is you, please call the Parish office. We are looking for a couple of people who are able to update our parish website in a timely manner. This does not require a lot of time. Once the site is mastered you would put up and take down information and keep the site current and attractive.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

Have you been baptized Catholic and are missing a sacrament (Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation)?

Have you been baptized in another denomination and would like to join the Catholic Church?

Are you unbaptized and would like to become Catholic?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then please give the parish office a call. We would like to begin classes as soon as possible.



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