

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.



**The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 12, 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

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time-October 12, 2025**

5:30pm William & Elizabeth Morris
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Guido Family
11:30 Margaret McEwan Bitetti

Monday, October 13, 2025

8:00 Barney Mallon

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

8:00 Sandy Blanco

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

8:00 German Jr. & Clara Natividad

Thursday, October 16, 2025

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Friday, October 17, 2025

No Mass

Saturday, October 18, 2025

8:30 Lorelei Habana (L)

5:30 Duc Nguyen

Twenty-Ninth Sunday

in Ordinary Time-October 19, 2025

7:30 Peg Lacey

9:30 People of Ascension Parish

11:30 Ramon Collado

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Sunday, October 5, 2025	\$4,824.00
Maintenance & Repairs:	\$2,743.00
WeShare Maint. & Rep.:	\$1,448.40

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

**Readings for Sunday
October 19, 2025**

Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
(see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Luke 17:11-19

Dorothy Day, the great Catholic activist, doubted God's existence. At least in her early adult years. But something changed when after giving birth to her daughter, she experienced an overwhelming gratitude. She later described how, as she held her daughter, the only appropriate response was a kind of unlimited gratitude. She had done nothing to deserve such a gift — this tiny, miraculous life — but there she was, flooded with gratitude, completely undone by the love of such a Giver. Something similar occurs in Luke 17:19 when Jesus tells a healed leper, **“Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.”** This man had already received physical healing through his faith. But the moment of an even deeper transformation came when he turned back, fell at Jesus' feet, and gave thanks. Like Dorothy, this man's gratitude led him to encounter the Giver.

Isn't that what we want, too? Gratitude to God has the power to break our chains of sadness, bitterness, and disenchantment. It empowers us to step out of the prison of self-pity and into the reality of God's abundant love. It shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have received, from what wounds us to what heals us.

Where do we learn this? The Mass. The priest prays: “It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks.” Always. Everywhere. Not just when life is easy. Not just when prayers are answered as we expect. Gratitude is not a passive feeling; it is an act of faith. In the eucharist, we remember that Christ himself has given everything for us. And in this act of gratitude, we are healed.

— Father John Muir



WE ARE HIS
WITNESSES

Parish listening sessions

1. Monday October 20, 6PM to 8 PM
 2. Wednesday October 22, 6PM to 8PM
- Meet in the Church**

You are invited to participate in a parish listening session as part of the We Are His Witnesses pastoral planning process. Cardinal Tobin encourages all of the faithful to participate. Registration QR Code on flyer insert or you may go to our parish website www.churchoftheascension.com to a direct registration link.



“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.

January 4, 2026 – Pilgrims of Hope Concert

PARISH TRIP TO SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL



An International Food Festival will be held on
Sunday, October 19th at 2pm in the
Fr. Benedict Center (YMCA GYM)

International Food Festival

Yes, I would like to make an ethnic dish.

NAME _____

PHONE # _____

NAME OF ETHNIC DISH _____



Calendar:

Sunday, October 12th – 1st thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

Monday, October 13th – NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wednesday, October 15th -- 9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

Sunday, October 19th – 1st thru 5th grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

Important:

Please remember that all On-Line Work is due on the following days:

† For Sunday Program (1st to 5th Grades) by Wednesday of each week

† For Monday Night Program (6th to 8th Grades) by Wednesday of each week

† For Wednesday Night Program (9Th Grade) by Friday of each week.

Parents, Please Remember that this work MUST be completed each week. - All ON-LINE REVIEWS are to be sent to reled@churchoftheascension.com

Registrations are still being accepted for this school year. 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 4 pm daily. Forms can also be found on the parish website, www.churchoftheascension.com.

All families are encouraged to come to Mass each week and parents as also asked to review ALL PRAYERS with their child; they can be found in the back of each book.

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

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.

OCTOBER 12, 2025

Church of the Ascension
256 Azalea Drive
New Milford, New Jersey

Dear Friend,

We, of Ascension Parish, feel that it is important for us to remember in our prayers those who have gone before us, those persons who have touched our lives and whose presence we miss.

On Sunday, November 2, 2025, we will celebrate All Souls Day, at all masses, with our annual PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE for all who have died during this past year (November 2024-October 2025).

We extend an invitation to you and your family to participate in this parish celebration.

Please return the bottom portion reply information on or before October 24, 2025 indicating if you will/not participate in the Mass. (You may return by mail, in collection basket or drop off to parish office.)

We look forward to being with you on Sunday, November 2.

In the Lord's Peace,

Fr. Jim and Your Ascension Parish Family

Annual Prayer of Remembrance

My Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Name of Loved One _____

Relationship to Me _____ Date of Death in 2024-25 _____

____ Yes, I will participate in the Prayer of Remembrance

____ No, I will not be able to participate. Please remember my loved one.

Please, return no later than October 24, 2025

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL "ALL SOULS" OFFERINGS ARE ALLOCTED TO OUR PARISH PRIEST



"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 3:1



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



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

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

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



RESPECT LIFE RAFFLE TICKETS
ON SALE

AFTER ALL MASSES
THIS WEEKEND-OCTOBER 11 & 12

SAVE THE DATE!

On Sunday, January 4th 2026, at 4 pm,

our Parish will host a Choir Concert,
directed by Glenn Gordon, entitled

Pilgrims of Hope

The concert will celebrate the closing of our *Jubilee Year of Hope* and will feature choirs from Ascension,

St. John's, and St. Mary's.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

More information is coming soon.

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.

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

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

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.



MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025
PARISH CENTER OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
MASS CELEBRATED AT 8:00AM

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

PART TIME MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR ASCENSION CHURCH NEEDED

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

HARRISON HOUSE

We give thanks to the many volunteers who represented our parish by preparing meals for the residents of Harrison House, a residence for person with Aids, once a month during 2025!

Help is needed for 2026...We are seeking people who are willing to prepare a meal at home (one time) for 8 people and deliver it to Harrison House (on the grounds of Bergen Regional Medical Center). Our parish has the 4th Wednesday of each month. If we have twelve volunteers, this means a family or individual will need to prepare only one meal for the year. Please call Hanna or Mary Lee., (201) 566-4187. If you can help in this worthwhile ministry. Thank you.

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

Donation Amount

\$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



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!

October:

Week 2-Brownie Mix

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! "

World Mission Sunday, October 19: A Call to Hope

Each October, the Church invites us to rediscover our missionary vocation. This year, Pope Leo XIV, following the inspiration of Pope Francis, calls us to become "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples," inspired by St. Paul's words: "Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" (Rom 5:5). In the 50th anniversary year of Evangelii Nuntiandi, we are reminded that "modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers" (41). Through prayer, sacrifice, and giving, we too become witnesses—bringing the hope of Christ to those who long for love, justice, and peace. Let us begin this month with open hearts, ready to respond to the Church's call to support the 1,124 mission territories where the Church is young, growing, and often persecuted. Together, may we be bearers of hope where it is needed most.

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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