

# 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-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 19, 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](mailto:Secretary@churchoftheascension.com)

Website: [www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE**

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

Email: [reled@churchoftheascension.com](mailto:reled@churchoftheascension.com)

(201) 836-3085 • Fax (201) 836-5896

Mass  for the  
Intentions Week

**World Mission Sunday**

**October 19, 2025**

5:30pm Duc Nguyen  
7:30 Peg Lacey  
9:30 People of Ascension Parish  
11:30 Ramon Collado

**Monday, October 20, 2025**

8:00 Dennis O'Shea

**Tuesday, October 21, 2025**

8:00 Nazario Contreras

**Wednesday, October 22, 2025**

8:00 Mary Zadroga

**Thursday, October 23, 2025**

8:00 Paul J. Figalora, 36<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

**Friday, October 24, 2025**

No Mass

**Saturday, October 25, 2025**

8:30 Leo Aparri  
5:30 Peter Buckley

**Thirtieth Sunday**

**in Ordinary Time-October 26, 2025**

7:30 Andres Villaluna, Sr.  
9:30 Corazon Anunciacion  
11:30 People of Ascension Parish

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP REPORT

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

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

Sunday, October 12, 2025 \$4,745.00  
Social Concerns: \$1,121.00  
WeShare Social Concerns: \$ 163.14

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

**Readings for Sunday  
October 26, 2025**

Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19,  
23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

**Luke 18:1-8**

A woman in my parish has an adult son who has rejected his faith. She prays for him every day. She lights candles, says rosaries, and asks God again and again to bring him back. But nothing changes. Is God listening? Is He delaying? She told me once that she feels like the widow in Jesus' strange parable — crying out for justice, but hearing only silence. And yet, she said, she is at peace. I asked why. She responded, "God is *already* answering. I just can't see it yet."

She embodies something of the mystery in Jesus' parable this week in Luke 18. A powerless widow demands justice from a corrupt judge. This isn't about wearing God down until He gives in. It's about faith in the justice that is already coming. The widow isn't just persistent; she believes that justice is inevitable. And when Jesus points to the judge's words — his fear of being "struck" — He hints at something deeper: God's justice does not creep in gradually. It strikes. It comes like lightning.

Blessed Mary is, of course, the ultimate widow demanding justice. At the foot of the cross she stands before what looks like the ultimate injustice — the brutal execution of her son. But she did not despair. She did not beg for a last-minute rescue. She knew that justice was not delayed. In fact, it was happening. The power of the cross was already unleashing justice upon the world — suddenly, decisively, like a blow that would topple every corrupt power, making even the most corrupt fear her strike.

This parable asks us: will the Son of Man find faith on earth? Or will we mistake God's silence for absence? The cross proves that justice is not slow. It is only hidden. The lightning has already struck. In the cross, justice is speedily being done.

— Father John Muir



**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 or you may go to our parish website [www.churchoftheascension.com](http://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 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 5<sup>th</sup>, 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**

## SAVE THE DATE!

On **Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:bulletin@churchoftheascension.com)

**NOTE: All submissions must go to this email address**

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE  
FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
FLYERS\*FORMS\*SCHEDULES\*BULLETINS  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)



## Calendar:

Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)  
Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm  
Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm  
Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grades) by Wednesday of each week

For Monday Night Program (6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grades) by Wednesday of each week

For Wednesday Night Program (9<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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 2025-2026 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

OCTOBER 19, 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.

"a time to die..."

**Anthony DeGeorge, Louis Araneo  
Dora DePalo**

**and a time for every purpose under heaven"**  
Ecclesiastes 3:1



The SANCTUARY CANDLE  
burns this week in loving memory of  
**Michelle Garofalo**



## 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.

## 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. Throughout this month let us open our 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.

## 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.

**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.

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



**WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING**  
**PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE**  
**FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR**  
**INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS**  
**[www.churchoftheascension.net](http://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**



## 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.



## 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**

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>\$25/1 month</b>  | <b>\$100/5 months</b> |
| <b>\$45/2 months</b> | <b>\$120/6 months</b> |
| <b>\$65/3months</b>  | <b>\$200/1 year</b>   |
| <b>\$85/4months</b>  |                       |

## 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:**

### October

#### Week 3-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! "



## 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**



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