

# 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

### Director of Music

Glenn Gordon

### Director of Maintenances

Brendan Suter

### Weekend Assistant

Rev. Tim Graff

### Parish Business Manager

Serina Sharkey

### Parish Trustees

Christopher Cudina

Elizabeth Delgado

### 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



## + 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 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 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 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 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 6, 2022**

## + 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 OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### PARISH CENTER

#### PARISH OFFICE

256 Azalea Drive, New Milford, NJ 07646

(201) 836-8961 • FAX: (201) 836-5896

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

E-mail: [ascension@optonline.net](mailto: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](mailto:ascensionreled@optonline.net)

Mass  for the  
Intentions *Week*

**Sunday, February 6, 2022**

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
7:30 Rose, Ouseph Varghese  
9:30 Doris Piro  
11:30 People of Ascension Paris

**Monday, February 7, 2022**

8:00 Mr & Mrs Duarte

**Tuesday, February 8, 2022**

8:00 James Zadroga

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022**

8:00 Andres Calleja

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

**Friday, February 11, 2022**

No Mass

**Saturday, February 12, 2022**

8:30 Frio & Faderugao Family

**Sunday, February 13, 2022**

5:30 Art Castronova  
7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:30 Juanita Santiago  
11:30 Remigio Lazaro

**PARISH \$ STEWARDSHIP  
REPORT**

***WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH***

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

**January 23, 2022: \$2,662.00**  
**Social Concerns: \$ 753.00**  
**January 30, 2022: \$2,542.00**

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

**Readings for Sunday  
February 13, 2022**

Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 [40:5a]/1  
Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

“Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man,” these words, uttered by Simon Peter, can be found on any one of our lips. What real significance do I have in the big picture of God’s Divine plan? Even though we try our best to hide it, we all suffer from a lack of faith. We get tired, confused, and often lack any sincere desire to put anything into our relationship with God. It’s easier to simply reap whatever benefits the world has to offer and call it a day. Floating along on the superficial currents of life doesn’t require much effort and seems to get us through the day. Confronting our own infidelity, apathy, weakness of spirit, and doubt in God’s providence, how can we even remotely be considered a worthy vessel of God’s presence or credible voice for His message?

This is the irony of faith. God doesn’t seek the perfect vessels. He likes the broken ones. There is something to be said about living honestly and sincerely, and wrestling with sin, imperfection, and weakness rather than skipping through the peripheries of life with pretention, arrogance, and mendacity. If we believe ourselves to be our own “god” and serve only ourselves, we close the door to ever being used by the real and only True God. But, if we at least acknowledge that there is One greater than ourselves, then even in our deepest poverty and lowliness, God can enter.

Lessons are best learned from those who suffer. Only someone who has been lonely and lost can attest to the beauty of both Divine and human friendship. Only those who have really lost their way know what happens when they are found. Only those who are afraid know what it is to be calmed by God. The Gospel is messy because life is messy. There are no black and white solutions to problems and challenges that are hazy and gray. When our hesitancy to encounter God gets replaced by friendship with God, we become more aware of our dignity and the fact that we are loved just as we are. We cannot be afraid to share our struggles, reservations, fears, and sinfulness with others. Our genuineness and sincerity will speak of the God who blesses us in our weakness.

St. Josephine Bakhita - February 8

The story of St. Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947) is a story that many people taken into slavery have experienced. Born in the Darfur region of Sudan, she was kidnapped at the age of 8 and sold into slavery many times. As she passed from owner to owner, she experienced the moral and physical humiliations associated with slavery. It was only at the age of 13 that her suffering was alleviated after she was bought for the Italian Consul in Sudan. It was here that she was fortunate to receive kindness, respect, and peace from her new master.

She was later handed over to the Canossian Sisters when she made the case that slavery had been outlawed in Italy for years. She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church in 1890, where she took the name Josephine. She later entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later.

St. Josephine Bakhita’s next 50 years were spent serving people through cooking, sewing, embroidery, and housekeeping. She was a source of encouragement and her constant smile won people’s hearts, as did her humility and simplicity. Today she is known as the patron saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.



**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 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: \_\_\_\_\_



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**HELP US TO**

**FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – FEBRUARY 21st**

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.

- EGG NOODLES-CANNED YAMS
- LEMONADE MIX-BAKED BEANS
- JELL-O-PUDDING-VEGETARIAN CHILI
- MENS SHAVE CREAM
- SHAMPOO-CONDITIONER-WOMENS DEODORANT

**DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE PARISH CENTER**

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



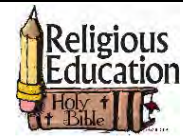
Please patronize our advertisers. They help us GROW.

**EAST – WEST**

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.**

**201-384-0125**

Please remember to patronize those who help make this bulletin possible



**Calendar:**

Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup> – Group A on line work due by Tuesday, February 08, 2022

Group B on line work due by Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> –7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades- Group A in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>– 9<sup>th</sup> Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm.

**IMPORTANT:**

**Mandatory 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Parent** meeting on **February 22, 2022** at 7:00 pm in the Church. You will receive a notice in the mail and in your email concerning this meeting. All social distancing guidelines will be followed. All attendees will enter in the side door by the Rectory and be directed to a seat. Everyone must wear a mask.

**REMINDER to All:**

**Reminder that Mrs. Carbone will be in the Parish Center for any family that may need assistance with their child’s work from 9:30 to 11:30 am. She can be reach at 201-836-8961 only.**

All 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders are asked to be here at 6:55 pm as Classes start at 7 pm sharp. Please meet Mrs. Carbone in the Courtyard of the Statue of Mary.

**Volunteers Needed:**

† We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2021-2022 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 4 pm – Parish Center

Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm – Parish Center

Closed: Thursday & Saturday

Other times by appointment



**THANK YOU** to continue to give so generously to help defray the cost of **Snow Removal** on our parish grounds. This is a collection that provides for your safety throughout the winter months. So far our cost for snow removal and salting of lots & walk-ways is over **\$9,000.00**. If you haven’t done so, please consider making a contribution today. Thank you!



Pray

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may  
journey together to eternal life

and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

We ask special blessings on the Church of Newark.

May we cherish this opportunity to pray, listen, and discern so that we may continue  
the mission of Christ as missionary disciples.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

Please visit our parish website ([www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)) and go to our direct link to access the Vatican and Archdiocesan Synod websites and view Cardinal Tobin's video message. Or you can go directly using [www.rcan.org/synod2023](http://www.rcan.org/synod2023).





“To everything there is a season...

“a time to die...

Vincent Guido, Dorothy Adashefski

“a time to be healed...”

Marian Pueyo, Al Suter, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Eileen Kloeblen, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Evelyn Lawler, Mary Anne Meyer, Neil Magbanua, Amy Irwin, Louis Vallis, Jerry Speciale, Sari Contreras, Deacon Harold L. Bates, Jr., Pete Malatesta, Jean Thomson 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, Staff Sgt. James Penser, Beale AFB, CA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

**For all of our Emergency, Medical & First Responders.**

“a time for peace...”

All of our National and World Leaders.

**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 Donated in loving memory of **William & Elizabeth Morris**



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



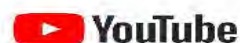
Beginning Sunday, **February 6** until Sunday, February 20 boxes will be in the front vestibule of church for you to deposit any palm you would like to dispose of. It is imperative that you remove all staples, string, rubber bands etc. from palm branches, as they will be burned and used for our Ash Wednesday Services on March 2.

## Annual Appeal <sup>the 2022</sup>

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 25 families/individuals who have made a pledge. So far we have donor pledges amounting to \$5,239.19. You may pick up a brochure, which outlines areas of support, at the front vestibule of church, in the parish office or direct link on our parish website. You may also visit [rcan.org/sharing](http://rcan.org/sharing) to make a gift today. Please prayerfully consider making your gift via pledge or direct donation by check, credit card, matching or planned gift today. There is also a direct link on our website. Give a little, give a lot, please give something.

Thank you for your support.

**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 parish office to check availability.



**ASCENSION PARISH YouTube CHANNEL IS UP AND RUNNING**  
You can view our Sunday 5:30pm Vigil Mass celebration.  
Go to **YouTube.com** and sign into: **ascensionchurchnewmilfordnj**

### COVID DIRECTIVES FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

#### “The Communion Rite

\*The Sign of Peace should be offered but continue to be made without physical contact.

\*Communicants will continue to receive Communion in the hand. If not fully vaccinated, they lower their masks to consume the host, then replace their masks. The chalice is still prohibited for the assembly.”

Please note: the only option for receiving communion at this time is in the hand.

**Thank you for your cooperation & understanding.**

**LIVE LENT 2022**

Sign-up for our Lenten Groups will take place after all masses on the weekend of February 12/13. All are welcome!



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

WeShare Donor Customer Service Phone Number: 800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2)  
WeShare Customer Service Email: [weshare@4lpi.com](mailto:weshare@4lpi.com)

**Adult Altar Servers for Funerals Needed**

This is a great ministry for anyone who has a free day, are retired or works from home with flexible hours.

- When we have a funeral you will get a phone call asking if you are available; if you are you say yes if not no.
- You will be trained and commissioned.
- This ministry gives a lot of comfort to families during very difficult moments of their lives.

Please consider this ministry—give it a try you might be surprised. Please call the office to sign up.



**MEMORIALS**

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to the parish center with the coupon below. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office (201) 836-8961.

Please 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: \_\_\_\_\_

*“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?’ ‘Here I am,’ I said, ‘send me!’” (ISAIAH 6:8)*

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, “Whom shall I send?” Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or to say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. God is always talking to us; we just need to pay more attention. When you hear God calling have the courage to walk through the door and say “Here I am, Lord.”

**Marriage Anniversary Liturgy  
2022**

Church of the Ascension  
will once again honor couples in our parish  
who celebrate  
a Wedding Anniversary  
in multiple of 5 years in 2022  
(1,5,10,15,20,25, etc., and  
any anniversary 50 years and over)  
A special Marriage Anniversary Mass  
will be celebrated on  
Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 11:30am

Coffee & Cake will follow,  
(for couples only, due to Covid)  
in the Msgr. Fox Gathering Room  
in our parish center

*If you wish to celebrate with us, please fill out the form below or download from website and return to the Parish Center Office no later than Sunday, February 6, 2022*

**Church of the Ascension  
Marriage Anniversary Liturgy  
Sunday, February 13, 2022**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anniversary celebrated in 2022: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anniversary Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form to the Parish Center Office no later than Sunday, February 6, 2022*

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