

Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor

Rev. David W. Milliken

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Tim Graff

Parish Business Manager

Serina Sharkey

Director of Maintenance

Brendan Suter

Director of Music

Glenn Gordon

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 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 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 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 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.



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14, 2021

+ 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

One Daily Mass at 8:30am

8:00am Summer

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 7:15 a.m.



PARISH CENTER

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

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

PARISH CENTER/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 Intentions for the Week

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14, 2021

- 5:30 Napolitano Family
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Relyilgio Lazaro
11:30 Brian & Eileen McCann

Monday, February 15, 2021

- 8:30 Percy & Erlinda Habana (L)

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

- 8:30 Carlos Cruz

ASH Wednesday, February 17, 2021

- 8:30 Msgr. Thomas Ivory
7:30pm People of Ascension Parish

Thursday, February 18, 2021

- 8:30 Andrew A. Comer
8:30 Peter Thomas

Friday, February 19, 2021

- 8:30 Peggy Mulvihill (L)
7:30pm Arnold Aranas

Saturday, February 20, 2021

- 8:30 Heather Bates
5:30 Angelo & Vito Cucco

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

- 7:30 Andrew S. Varni, II
9:30 Cherlyan Vengassery
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.

February 7, 2021: \$2,225.00
Maintenance & Repairs: \$2,177.00

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

Readings for Sunday February 21, 2021

Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10] /1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Lepers in Jesus time were required to leave their homes, and be exiled to the hills or the caves, usually until their death. Jesus knew very well what healing would mean. The real miracle may have been that now the man could return from exile in the leper caves, and be reunited with his mother, his wife and children, his church community. Jesus always brings people back from isolation.

We see again how Jesus was not controlled by the religious laws which said "Do not touch lepers." Jesus actually reached out and touched the leper; he tried always to "bring release to the captives... and to set free those who are oppressed."

St. Paul says, "Never do anything offensive to anyone," yet we know we treat insiders and outsiders differently. The simple question for us is, "How do we relate to the outsiders each day?" Do we offer any degree of charity or patience to the "different ones"? Do we glare, look forbidding, or refuse to have eye contact?

If people seem like an annoyance in our lives, we need to picture Jesus touching us, as he touched the leper, freeing us from our disease of disgust... and setting us free to BE the healing of Christ to others. We should be the first example of love and inclusion that anyone meets!

This Sunday we celebrate our Marriage Anniversary Liturgy at the 11:30am Mass. We ask God to bless all married couples with the grace to renew their marriage commitment to each other as man and wife and so witness to the world the freedom they experience in choosing to "love one another".

The 2021 Annual Appeal has begun. Our goal this year is \$36,600.00. I encourage all of you to make a pledge. Please place your pledge envelopes in the basket in the vestibule, bring it to the Parish Center, mail it directly to the Archdiocese, or go online: RCAN.org/sharing. If you have not received a letter in the mail, I encourage you to pick up an envelope/brochure in the vestibule. We ask that every parish family participate in the annual appeal. Give a little; give a lot; but please, give something. Thank you for your support.

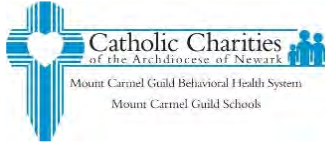
This weekend we end Ordinary Time and enter into the penitential season of Lent. Let us bid farewell to the Easter word, ALLELUIA, as we sing it boldly in our songs this weekend until we sing it again joyfully at Easter.

This Wednesday we begin the Holy Season of Lent as we celebrate ASH WEDNESDAY. We will distribute ashes during Mass at 8:30am, and 7:30pm. We will also distribute ashes from 4:00-5:00pm in the church. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for our complete Lent 2021 Schedule. We have also inserted our 2021 Lenten Calendar which invites each of us to do a good deed every day in Lent. On the table in the front vestibule you will find "Five Minutes with the Word for Lent." Please take a copy and use it during this holy season.

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

Fr. David

Be a Sweetheart



What better way to share your heart with someone than to help a person in time of need? Would you be willing to take few moments and look in your closet today? The Catholic Charities Donation Bin accepts clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, toys, knickknacks, and Children's books. Thank you with all our heart.

BREAKING BREAD

With Daily Mass Propers

Our Hymnals/Missalletes with daily and Sunday readings for the 2021 Liturgical Year are available. You may purchase one for your use the cost \$6.00 each. Please see Father David after mass or call the parish office (201-836-8961).

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 Parish Office (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: _____



Calendar:

February 23, 2021 – 1st to 6th grades Chapter 17 reviews are due
 February 24, 2021 – 7th grade Chapter 2- Christ in the New Testament, 8th grade Chapter 9 review due, & 9th grade Chapter 2 – Call to Confirmation (Check email for work).

Important:

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17th, 2021

Mass schedule is as followed: 8:30 am Mass- Ashes distributed at Mass 4 pm Word Service – Ashes distributed at this time 7:30 pm Mass- Ashes distributed at Mass
NO ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT ANY OTHER TIME.
 All families are encouraged to come to Mass and to come on a weekly basis, the Church is open and is a safe place as we follow all safety guidelines. Please call Mrs. Carbone to sign up for Mass.

Parents are reminded to have their children do their weekly assignments and submit to Mrs. Carbone the on-line work for the Sunday Program by Tuesday and the Monday & Wednesday Program by Wednesday of each week. 9th Grade Parents please check your emails for the weekly Chapter reviews. Anyone that has any questions please contact Mrs. Carbone. Please make sure that all directions are followed on all sheets in the packet.

Please make sure that all NEW work in the packet is returned on the return date and all old work that is returned is taken out of the packet.

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
- † Children's Liturgy of the Word Team member. This is a great opportunity for college students or student teachers to gain experience sharing their faith and working with students in a relaxed atmosphere. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

Religious Education Office Hours:
 Monday – Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – In Parish Center
 Other times by appointment

Please Notice This



OUR PARISH OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT THE ASCENSION PARISH CENTER. THE PARISH CENTER BUILDING IS LOCATED TO THE LEFT OF THE CHURCH & THE ENTRANCE IS BEHIND THE STATUE OF JESUS. PLEASE VISIT US HERE FOR ALL YOUR PARISH AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEEDS. CENTER OPENS AT 9:00AM MONDAY-FRIDAY. ALL OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

**Catholic Stewardship in Action
 2021 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 50 families/individuals who have made a pledge. To date we have \$9,195.00 in pledges. You may pick up a brochure, which outlines areas of support, at the front vestibule of church or in the parish office. 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 websiste. Thank you for your support.

✠ **ASH WEDESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021** ✠

✠ We will celebrate Mass at 8:30am and 7:30pm and a Service at 4pm. Ashes will be distributed ONLY during these liturgies. **You MUST sign up for these services through the Parish Office by Tuesday at 4pm. Church doors will be locked when Mass/Service begins.**



Distribution of Ashes in Time of Pandemic:

The priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: “Will you repent, and believe in the Gospel?” The priest then sanitizes his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him by sprinkling them on the head of each one without saying anything.

✠ **LENTEN SEASON** ✠

✠ To remind us of the penitential nature of the season of Lent, the Entrance and **Penitential Act at Mass** will take on a new form for the five (5) Sundays of Lent:

There will be NO Entrance Song. The Celebrant and Ministers will enter in silence. The Sign of the Cross, Greeting and Introduction to the Penitential Rite follow. We will kneel for a brief examination of conscience and then together pray the “I Confess...”. The Celebrant’s conclusion will be followed by a sung “Kyrie”, after which we will stand for the Collect.

✠ A **Lenten Calendar** has been inserted in the bulletin which suggests good deeds for each day of Lent. **Five Minutes with the Word in Lent** booklets are available in the vestibule.

✠ During Lent we offer an **additional Mass ONLY on Fridays at 7:30pm** after which we will pray the **Stations of the Cross**.

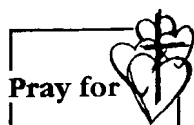
✠ On Friday, March 26, we will join together for our **Family Lenten Evening of Recollection** which will begin with Stations of the Cross, Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, opportunity for sacramental Reconciliation, and Benediction.

✠ **2021 LENTEN REGULATIONS** ✠

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.
On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.
On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.
2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence “substantially”, or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021 to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021.**

*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be healed...”

Angelita Villaluna, Elnora Gordon, Al Suter, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, 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, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, Peggy Evans, Neil Magbanua, Cardinal Antonio Tagle, Vincent Guido, John Person Amy Irwin, Louis Vallis, Bob Carucci 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, Sr. A 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...”

our National and all World Leaders.

and a time for every purpose under heaven”

Ecclesiastes 3:11



Happy Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 14, 2021

Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am in Church

Not Livestreamed

Presidents Day

Monday, February 15, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed



ASH WEDNESDAY*Day of Fast & Abstinence

February 17, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Service at 4:00pm

Mass at 7:30pm

Thursday, February 18, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Friday, February 19, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Saturday, February 20, 2021

Mass at 8:30am in Church & livestreamed

Mass at 5:30pm in Church & livestreamed

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am in Church

Not Livestreamed

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.



FEBRUARY 17, 2021

**MASSES WITH DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES
WILL BE CELEBRATED AT**

8:30AM & 7:30PM

4:00pm Service

HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – FEBRUARY 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.

LEMONADE MIX-GRAPPE JUICE-APPLE

JUICE-JELL-O-CRANBERRY JUICE

CANNED PEARS-BROWN RICE

CLAM CHOWDER-LENTIL SOUP-BEEF GRAVY

CHICKEN GRAVY-OATMEAL-INSTANT OATMEAL

SHAMPOO-CONDITIONER-TOOTHPASTE-

PAPER TOWELS-NAPKINS-TISSUES-

WOMENS/MENS DEODORANT

WOMENS/MENS SHAVE CREAM

LAUNDAY DETERGENT

DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE PARISH CENTER

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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION

FLYERS*FORMS*SCHEDULES*BULLETINS

UPCOMING EVENTS

WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM



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 2021" on the table in the front vestibule. Please take one for yourself and another for a friend

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: _____

Thank you to all who have continued making their weekly donations, it is truly appreciated.

Please consider the following:

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

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

WeShare Donor FAQ: [WeShare Donor Support](#)

Please remember that during this crisis our monthly financial responsibilities continue.

If you are unable to come to church for Mass

Please mail in or drop off

(in door slot of parish center not black box)

your weekly contributions.

Thank you & God Bless!

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK
Directives for Parish Liturgical Celebrations
during the Covid-19 Pandemic

The guidelines below, given by Cardinal Tobin, apply to all churches and must be observed without exception.

1. Cardinal Tobin continues to dispense the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday & Holy Days.
2. In accord with national, state and local health directives, those who show symptoms of COVID-19, who have been exposed to an infected person, or have traveled to unsafe places listed on the CDC.gov website, are not permitted to enter the church for 14 days. *It is recommended that before Mass, everyone should check their temperature at home before coming to Church.*
3. Masks must be worn by all individuals while in the church.
4. Individuals must maintain social distancing (six feet) between each person while in the church.
5. A household may be seated together and not observe social distancing.

In addition, here at Ascension until further notice, these additional directives must be followed for your safety:

- Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis.
- **Full names of those attending, date/time of mass & phone Call: #201-836-3085 or ascensionled@optonline.net**
- One Mass will be celebrated at **8:30am** in the Church (Monday-Friday). Our daily Mass will continue to be Livestreamed via Facebook.
- Saturday morning Mass will be celebrated & Livestreamed at **8:30am** in the Church.
- **Saturday Evening Mass will be celebrated in the Church at 5:30pm and on Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am. Only the 5:30pm Mass will be Livestreamed via Facebook.**
 - Attendance will be taken and no one will be admitted after Mass begins (doors will be locked).
 - Enter front doors of church-hand sanitizer will be available for your use
 - **All visitors, including children, must wear masks, have and use their own wipes.**

Please wipe down area you have used and take with you any items you use.

-Restroom is open

-Practice social distancing (6 feet apart). We have roped off pews not to be used.

-You may light candles, please refrain from touching other areas in church.

-Children must remain with adults at all times

-**Please** No gathering or socializing in church or on church property
Confessions, please call the parish office, 201-836-8961, to make an appointment.

Thank you for your understanding & cooperation.