

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 or have any changes to your contact information.

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.



**Third Sunday of Lent
March 20, 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

Stations of the Cross – Friday's During Lent – 7:30pm

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

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

Third Sunday of Lent, March 20

- 5:30 Marge Bruno
- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:30 Art Castronova
- 11:30 Fernandez Pena Family

Monday, March 21, 2022

- 8:00 Larry Figalora

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

- 8:00 Xavier Habana, Birthday (L)

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

- 8:00 Robert Sr, Robert Jr. Aponte

Thursday, March 24, 2022

- 8:00 Lerry Pueyo (L)

Friday, March 25, 2022

No Mass

Saturday, March 26, 2022

- 8:30 Reparada Fernandez

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 27

- 5:30 Alfraiz Cajucom
- 7:30 John M. Vo
- 9:30 Anne & Harry Sommo
- 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.

March 13, 2022: \$3,206.00
Social Concerns: \$1,092.00

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

**Readings for Sunday
 March 27, 2022**

Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/2
 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Deserts can be lonely, isolated, and treacherous places. When a person wanders in a desert, they can easily get disoriented, dehydrated, confused, lost, and vulnerable. Temptation is at its peak, especially when confronted with something that may offer some respite or relief, even a mirage. Deserts can bring us to our weakest moment and tempt our faith. The Christian journey can be described as a desert experience as we vacillate back and forth, falling victim to the mirages of our lives versus the true, life-giving water offered by God. We need a burning bush experience in our lives that convinces us of the power of God and reveals Him as the “I am” of all existence.

Moses was leading his flock across the desert when he found himself at Mount Horeb. Mountains give us a fuller perspective of life, a panoramic view of what would otherwise be hidden from the limitations of our sight. That’s when Moses met God. We have to find our way to a mountain experience where our vantage point can take on a wider view of life. Many things can do this for us: the birth of a child, the death of someone we love, the joy that comes from marveling at the beauty of God’s work, the pondering of life’s mysteries, and the ache of longing found deep within our souls. There are many things in life that can wake us up, give us a clearer, better view of things and become occasions where a bush may burn and God’s presence as the eternal uncreated One is revealed.

God is very patient and gives us the time and space we need to figure things out and bear some good fruit. He doesn’t rush to cut us down or get frustrated with our barrenness. But we have to remember that the desert journeys of our lives come with some risks. The major risk is that we will mistakenly believe that the mirages are real. Thus, we fall victim to thinking that the respite and refreshment we seek is discovered in a place other than where it actually is. Our faith and the life of the Church are the safeguards we need to keep us properly orientated so that we don’t get lost or confused and stay on course.

St. Oscar Romero | March 24

When St. Oscar Romero was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977, his country was in chaos. Many people in El Salvador were living in poverty, while a smaller elite group controlled all political and economic power. In 1980, El Salvador broke out in a 12-year civil war that left over 75,000 people dead. St. Oscar Romero set up pastoral programs to assist the victims of oppression. He also became an outspoken advocate for human rights, appealing to the Salvadoran military to stop killing their own citizens.

On March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was murdered while celebrating Mass in El Salvador. A car pulled up outside, and a gunman fired a single shot straight into St. Oscar Romero’s heart.

Calling him a “a martyr for the faith” nearly 40 years later, Pope Francis canonized him in 2018. For the occasion, Pope Francis chose to wear the same blood-stained belt that Romero was wearing at the altar when he died.

Annual Appeal ^{the 2022}

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 89 families/individuals who have made a pledge. So far we have donor pledges amounting to \$27,185.19. 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 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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE UKRAINE

Next weekend we will take up a special voluntary collection for donations in support of the Ukrainian people. The archdiocesan website has a link to Catholic Relief Services where individuals can make online donations for relief in Ukraine. The link can be found at www.RCAN.org by clicking on the link: Urgent Need in Ukraine / Catholic Relief Services (crs.org). Please be as generous as possible as the need is certainly great.



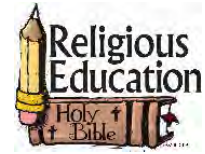
WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING
PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE
FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR
INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS
www.churchoftheascension.net
OR CONTACT DIRECTLY

WeShare Donor Customer Service Phone Number: 800-950-9952 (press #3 and then press #2)

WeShare Customer Service Email: weshare@4lpi.com



Please visit our parish website (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.



Calendar:

Sunday, March 20th –Group A- Please make sure ONLINE work is completed by March 15th

Group B - Please make sure ONLINE work is completed by March 22nd

Monday, March 21st -- 7th & 8th Grade Group B in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

Wednesday, March 23rd – 9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

IMPORTANT:

IF YOU HAVE NOT PICKED UP OR DROPPED OFF YOUR CHILD'S PACKET PLEASE DO SO THIS WEEK. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PACKETS IN THE MAILBOX AS YOU MUST PICK UP NEW PACKET.

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 7th, 8th and 9th 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

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

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

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



APRIL 8TH 2022
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Please join us on Friday, April 8th, for our Annual Lenten Soup Supper
We will have four gourmet soups provided by
Italian Connection to share with fellow worshipers
The cost is \$5 per person; families of 4 or more \$15
Children 12 and under are free

Tickets Will Not Be Sold At The Door

**TO BE FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS
IN THE CHURCH AT 7:30 PM**

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

NAME: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ **AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$** _____

Please Return Completed Form & Payment No Later Than Friday, April 1
Mark Envelope “Lenten Soup Supper”

**This form, along with check or cash can be dropped off to the Parish Center
or into the collection basket.**



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



“To everything there is a season...

“a time to be healed...”

Al Suter, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Marie Oberst, Mary Anne Meyer, Deacon Harold L. Bates, Jr., Rebecca Tababan, Stephen Cronin and those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE SOMEONE ON OUR PRAYER LIST.

***Prayer list will be updated every three months*
Please call office to renew or remove name**

“a time to serve...”

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 **Gerard Patrick Lee**

The **ALTAR BREAD & WINE** offered this week in loving memory of **Marge Bruno**

SANCTUARY CANDLE, BREAD & WINE, AND ALTAR FLOWERS 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.

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.



You shop. Amazon gives.

HELP ASCENSION

WHEN YOU MAKE A PURCHASE ON AMAZON

Now you can shop on Amazon with “Amazon Smile” and benefit your parish (AT NO COST TO YOU!)

Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to our parish.

HOW TO ORDER WITH AMAZON SMILE:

Just go to smile.amazon.com and select “Church of the Ascension, New Milford” as your charity; then make your purchases as you normally would on Amazon. Or use direct link on our parish website.

Thank you!



Partners In Caring



THANK YOU TO NEW MILFORD SHOP RITE FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE ASCENSION PARISH FOOD PANTRY



PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

During this Lenten Season please consider Stewardship, the sharing of your talents and time with any of the many ministries we offer here at your parish. Sing in our Choirs (adult/children)*Help plan our Parish Events*Become an Altar Server (adult/youth).

Yes I am willing to share my talent & time, please contact me

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Ministry: _____

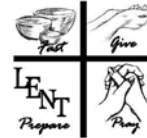
(Please print and return to the parish office or in collection basket)



STATIONS OF THE CROSS
EVERY FRIDAY EVENING
BEGINNING MARCH 4th-APRIL 8th
7:30PM IN THE CHURCH

LENTE PENANCE SERVICE
MONDAY, MARCH 21st AT 7:00PM
ST. MARY'S, DUMONT

LENTE SOUP SUPPER
FRIDAY, APRIL 8th
5:30PM-7:00PM
FR. BENEDICT CENTER/SCHOOL GYM



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: _____

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – MARCH 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.

- BAKED BEANS-COOKIES-CRACKERS
- CRANBERRY JUICE
- JELL-O-SAUERKRAUT-FROSTED FLAKES
- RAISIN BRAN-RICE KRISPIES
- MENS/WOMENS SHAVE CREAM-NAPKINS

ShopRite is giving away hams again this year. No need for you to pick up. If you would like to donate yours please call the parish office with your Price Plus Card Number.

"Don't like to shop-donate a ShopRite Gift Card- we'll do the shopping"

DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE PARISH CENTER
Your continued support of our ministry to the poor is greatly appreciated.

PARISH TRIPS

BUS TRIP TO ATLANTIC CITY MARCH 29, 2022

Ascension Parish will sponsor a trip to Resorts Casino, AC on Tuesday, March 29th 2022. The cost is \$37 pp. with a return of \$20 free play. The bus will leave Ascension parking lot at 9am. You must have ID to get a promotions card.

CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS 5 DAYS, 4 NIGHTS JUNE 20-24, 2022

4 nights lodging at the Fairfield Inn in Hyannis, 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners, admission to 2 Newport mansions including The Breakers, Guided tour of Provincetown, Martha's Vineyard, Sandwich & Hyannis and Kennedy Memorial, a whale watching cruise or dune ride, admission to the Heritage Museum & Gardens and visit to Mohegan Sun Casino. The price of \$1,015pp dbl. occ./\$1298pp single includes all of the above and luggage handling, taxes, gratuities and bus transportation

PENNSYLVANIA'S AMISH HOLIDAY TOUR NOV. 30-Dec.1st, 2022

2 days, 1 night includes 1 night's lodging, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner, "David" at the Sight & Sound Theatre, "Home for the Holidays" performance at the American Music Theatre, tour of President's Buchanan's home "Wheatland" or Strasburg rail road train ride, and Bird in Hand Farmer's Market. Price per person dbl. occ. \$329/398 single occ. Includes all of the above plus luggage handling, taxes, gratuities and bus transportation.

For reservations and info. call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)206-4297



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



LACEY CONSTRUCTION
201-261-1561

Please remember to patronize those who help make this bulletin possible