

# 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.



## **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**March 27, 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](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

**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  
**Monday, March 28, 2022**  
 8:00 Juvie Maghirang  
**Tuesday, March 29, 2022**  
 8:00 Natalie Ava Habana, B'day (L)  
**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**  
 8:00 Delfina & John Durante  
**Thursday, March 31, 2022**  
 8:00 Mildred Bolcik  
**Friday, April 1, 2022**  
 No Mass  
**Saturday, April 2, 2022**  
**Memorial**  
 8:30 Justo & Adelaida Barredo  
 Joseph Meyer, Gloria Scoppa,  
 Aurora Paguntalan  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 3, 2022**  
 5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
 7:30 Norma Sieglen  
 9:30 John Trimarchi  
 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 20, 2022: \$4,851.00**  
**Catholic Relief Services: \$ 773.00**

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

**Readings for Sunday  
 April 3, 2022**

Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/  
 Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

God's love story reveals itself in our stories, experiences, and aspirations. We are all prodigal sons and daughters. There are many times in our lives when we would "sell our souls" in order to pursue our passions. We pursued what we wanted without regard for others or God. We have sowed our oats, thrown ourselves into careless pleasures, spent what we know we ought to have saved, turned our backs on those we love and abused gifts we have been given. We even hit bottom and realized the silliness and self-destruction of it all. We needed to come home. We knew we erred and needed a gentle presence to show us God's unconditional love. This wayward journey home changed us.

As much as we need to be welcomed, we are also the one who needs to do the welcoming and mercy giving. Those we love need our guidance, but they don't always take it. We know that what they are doing is off the mark, self-destructive and wrong. We have to let them go and let it happen, even though they might get hurt. As we wait and hope, they choose to make their way back to us. They don't need us to judge them. They have done enough of that to themselves. We immediately embrace them and are just happy they're home. God uses us to help heal them. Knowing how much we craved understanding and forgiveness ourselves, we can now freely give it away. God uses what he has taught us to teach others.

We are also the entitled ones. At least we "think" we are entitled. After all, we work hard for what we have. We cannot get our heads around the idea that someone can get something that I really deserve! If I do what I'm supposed to do, I ought to be rewarded for that, right? If I do something wrong, I ought to pay the consequences. This is justice, isn't it? This is not God's justice. God is all about love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. God's justice is love freely given without merit. We carry the stories of the prodigal son, the unconditional forgiving father, and the entitled angry brother with us. When we make friends with all three, humbly telling those stories to others makes us Christ's ambassadors.

St. Rupert of Salzburg | March 28

St. Rupert of Salzburg is also known as the "Apostle of Bavaria and Austria." Although mostly legend, it is believed that he was born sometime around 660 in Gaul, which is now part of France. It is possible that he is a descendant of the Merovingian royal line. Not much is known about the saint's early life.

We do know that Rupert was first appointed as Bishop of Worms in present-day Germany and despite many good works there, the pagan population eventually beat him and forced him from the city. Rupert retired to Rome for a time until Duke Theodo of Bavaria asked him to come to help establish the Church more firmly in Bavaria. Rupert agreed and brought with him a group of priests. Rupert traveled the region, effecting conversions, miracles, healing.

Eventually Rupert chose to settle at Juvavum an old Roman city mostly in ruins. He renamed the city Salzburg or "Salt Castle," and established there a great cathedral and monastery under the Rule of St. Benedict. His niece became abbess of the Benedictine convent he founded nearby. Rupert was the first bishop of Salzburg, serving also as abbot of the monastery.

St. Rupert is usually portrayed carrying a vessel of salt, as he helped establish the salt mining industry for which he named the city. It is said that Rupert died on Easter Sunday though sources disagree on the year, which could have been around 710 or possibly as late as 718.

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

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 104 families/individuals who have made a pledge. So far we have donor pledges amounting to \$27,384.19. 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.



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).

## 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.

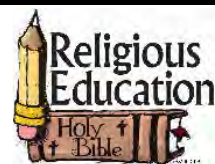
Please consider this ministry—give it a try you might be surprised. Please call the office to sign up.



**ASCENSION PARISH YouTube CHANNEL IS UP AND RUNNING**

You can view our Sunday 5:30pm Vigil Mass celebration.

Go to [YouTube.com](http://YouTube.com) and sign into: [ascensionchurchnewmilfordnj](http://ascensionchurchnewmilfordnj)



## Calendar:

Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> –Group A- Please make sure ON-LINE work is completed by March 29<sup>th</sup>

Group B - Please make sure ONLINE work is completed by April 5<sup>th</sup>

Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> -- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Group A in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

## IMPORTANT:

**FIRST COMMUNION WORK MUST BE RETURNED BY APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> , THIS INCLUDES THEIR BANNERS>**

Reminder that we have rehearsal for all Communion Candidates on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 7 pm in the Church. The Candidate and ONE Parent only must be here by 6:55 pm. First Communion will be on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at 9:30 am for Group A and 11:30 am for Group B. Each group must be in the Parish Center a half hour before Mass.

## 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

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



**APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> 2022**  
**5:30 – 7:00 PM**

Please join us on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 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**

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**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 FOURTH 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

**SANCTUARY CANDLE, BREAD & WINE, AND ALTAR FLOWERS** for the week, are available for memorial or special occasions, such as First Communion, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Weddings Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the parish office to check availability.



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**HELP ASCENSION**

**WHEN YOU MAKE A PURCHASE ON AMAZON**

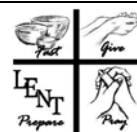
Now you can shop on Amazon with “Amazon Smile” and benefit your parish (AT NO COST TO YOU!)

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

**HOW TO ORDER WITH AMAZON SMILE:**

Just go to [smile.amazon.com](http://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!



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



**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)



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

\*\*\*\*\*

LENTE PENANCE SERVICE  
MONDAY, MARCH 28th AT 7:00PM  
ST. PETER'S, RIVER EDGE

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



**FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – APRIL 11th**

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
- SAUERKRAUT-FROSTED FLAKES-RAISIN BRAN-SUGAR
- RICE KRISPIES-MUFFIN MIX-CAKE ICING-CANNED YAMS
- INSTANT OATMEAL-FLAVORED RICE-EGG NOODLES
- MENS/WOMENS SHAVE CREAM-NAPKINS-DISH SOAP

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.



**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)

**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

**2022 ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES**

We are excited to announce we are once again preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of valid marriage for the Catholic faithful in the year 2022!

These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

**April 24, 2022\*3:00 PM\*5 years & 25 years**

**May 15, 2022\*3:00 PM\*50 years**

It is our desire that every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. The presence of a large number of couples will be a tender witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.

Since we were unable to host these celebrations in 2020 and 2021, any couple who would have celebrated their Silver or Gold Anniversary in those years can also join us. Whether the milestone anniversary took place in 2020, 2021 or 2022, the certificates will still say Silver or Gold, not 26, 51 etc.

**Please call the parish office, 201-836-8961 to register.**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR PARISH INFORMATION  
FLYERS\*FORMS\*SCHEDULES\*BULLETINS  
UPCOMING EVENTS**

[WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM](http://WWW.CHURCHOFTHEASCENSION.COM)