

# Church of the Ascension

*Invites You to Share with us. . .*



## + Our Pastoral Staff +

<b>Pastor</b> Rev. David W. Milliken	<b>Director of Music</b> Glenn Gordon
<b>Weekend Assistant</b> Rev. Tim Graff	<b>Parish Business Manager</b> Serina Sharkey
<b>In Residence</b> Rev. Brian G. Plate	<b>Director of Maintenance</b> Brendan Suter
<b>Parish Trustees</b> 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 Rectory. 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 Rectory 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 Rectory if someone from your family is in the hospital and wishes a priest to visit.

### WEDDINGS:

Please make arrangements at the Rectory with one of the priests of the parish one year in advance.

**Palm Sunday**  
**April 14, 2019**

## + 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

7:00 a.m. and 8:30am

8:00am July & August

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 7:45 a.m.



### RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**RECTORY**  
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*

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

**April 14, 2019**

- 5:30 Jovita Balagot
- 7:30 Thomas J. Seifert, Jr.
- 9:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 11:30 George Hill

**Monday of Holy Week, April 15, 2019**

- 7:00 Glenn Haas
- 8:30 Bridget O'Shea

**Tuesday of Holy Week, April 16, 2019**

- 7:00 Deacon Jim Stumbar
- 8:30 Estrella Cabacoy

**Wednesday of Holy Week, April 17, 2019**

- 7:00 Joseph & Maureen Meyer
- 8:30 Deacon Jim Stumbar

**HOLY THURSDAY, April 18, 2019**

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:00 Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 11:45 Night Prayer

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 19, 2019**

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
- 12:00 Prayer Service
- 3:00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 8:00 Family Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 20, 2019**

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:30 Easter Vigil

**EASTER SUNDAY of the Resurrection  
of the Lord, April 21, 2019**

- 7:30 All Parishioners
- 9:30 Living and
- 11:30 Deceased

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP  
REPORT**

***WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH***

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

**April 7, 2019 (Palm Sunday): \$5,547.00**  
**Maintenance & Repairs: \$2,590.00**

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

**Reading for Easter Sunday**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/  
Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12 or Lk 24:13-35

Why did Jesus die? Why did he have to not only die, but die such a horrible and humiliating death? What is the point of it all? It seems that no matter how one approaches this question, there is only one adequate answer, only one answer that even begins to satisfy us. Jesus suffered and died because he loved us more than we can ever imagine and **nothing less could move us**. This answer may not satisfy you if you are looking for a logical explanation for suffering and death. But Jesus' suffering and death are not matters for the head; they are concerns of the heart.

"There is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends." When Jesus told us that, he was trying to tell us, in the most direct possible way, that his love for us was as wide and boundless as the ocean and as far reaching as the furthest galaxy. This same Jesus Christ is still loving us today at this very moment, with that same unbounded and limitless love.

In the human face of Jesus we see the face of God. And so today, even though we are faced with the suffering of Christ, we, in faith, look beyond that suffering and see the limitless love that endured that suffering. And this love is once again calling out to us for our acceptance. Even God cannot force love on us. May we open ourselves to receive gratefully this wonderful gift—this unbounded, all-forgiving, totally accepting and comforting love of the God who is Love itself.

Gathered and united in Jesus' love, we continue our Lenten journey to Calvary. May we press on with faith and hope and love ready to rejoice at the empty tomb with the risen Christ.

✠ We so need to gather together and share in the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter which help us to celebrate in a very sacred way the awesome gift that Jesus Christ is to us. The events of Holy Week remind us that the victory of Jesus can be ours if our lives find their model in Him. We need to be reminded of the power we share through His Eucharistic presence, His death, His resurrection. Our **Holy Week and Easter Schedule** has been inserted in this week's bulletin. Please keep it handy. Let it be an invitation and reminder for you and your family to participate in the liturgies of this holiest week of the year. We are blessed when you are present. **Please plan on joining us in our celebrations — and bring someone you love with you.**

We, the Priests and Pastoral Staff of Ascension Parish, invite you to celebrate this most holy time with us, and we ask that you **please bring someone you love to celebrate with us as well.**

✠ We will be **decorating our church** for Easter on Holy Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Parishioners are welcome to come and lend a hand.

✠ We also need to be reminded of the warm love and concern we share through our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We have included an Easter Offering envelope in your Easter mailing. Please remember the many ministries our parish supports. Remember, too, that we rely heavily upon your donation at Easter to support these ministries and programs. Please, be as generous as your means allow. We so appreciate your efforts.

✠ Thank you so much to our 91 parishioner families who have pledged to the "Sharing God's Blessings" Annual Appeal. I pray that with open minds and hearts, we will all be able to that the appeal will help the many needs of the people of our Archdiocese, including our own parish.

Cardinal Tobin has set our 2019 goal at \$39,161.00. Our pledges to date amount to \$20,833.00. There is still time to make a pledge. Brochures are in the pews and at the doors of the church. Please, I ask that all of our parish families consider the great good we of Ascension can do with God's grace when we choose to help the neediest of our Archdiocese. Help us to reach and even surpass our goal. **Give a lot; give a little; but please give something!**

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

*P. David*



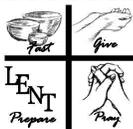
**Tuition Raffle** Would you like to win a raffle for tuition to any accredited school? The Transfiguration Academy Home and School Association is sponsoring their annual tuition raffle. Prizes are: 1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$2500; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$1500; and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$1000. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the school office. The drawing will be held on Tuesday, May 21 at 8 PM in Conlon Hall.

**Easter Recess** Transfiguration Academy will close at 12 PM this Wednesday, April 17 for Easter recess. School will reopen on Monday, April 29.

**Tiger for a Day** Are you considering Transfiguration Academy for the next school year? Transfiguration Academy is a United States Department of Education 2018 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and is accredited by the Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges. Have your child spend the day with us during the upcoming public school spring break. Be a "tiger for a day" this Monday, April 15 or Tuesday, April 16 and find out what makes Transfiguration Academy a great place for academic, spiritual and social growth. Please call the school, 201-384-3627 or email principal@transfigurationacademy.org for more information, to arrange a tour or to have your student spend the day with us.

## PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday, and the Gospel story of the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem is read as part of the entrance rite. The Gospel tells us that the people cut branches from the trees and laid them in the road in front of Jesus as part of the procession. Palm is used to celebrate this festive entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Palms are from a common tree whose branches are readily available. The palm is blessed and people are given a branch to take home. A year later the palm will be burned to form the ash for Ash Wednesday. In other places, churches use olive branches or pussy willows. The blessing in the Sacramentary uses the generic term "branches."



### 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 rectory office. Thank You!

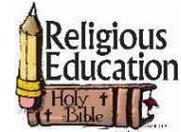
#### I would like....

- 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: \_\_\_\_\_



#### Calendar:

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday-- NO Children's Liturgy of the Word or Religious Education  
 Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – No Religious Education  
 Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – No Religious Education  
 Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>– Easter Sunday -- NO Children's Liturgy of the Word or Religious Education

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume in October, please look for the Children's Bulletins in the back of the church. We are in need of help with Children's Liturgy of the Word, anyone interested in helping please call Mrs. Carbone at 201-836-3085 for more information.



This week the young people of the parish who are preparing for Eucharist reflected on the first Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Reborn of the Holy Spirit, all the baptized have been called and empowered to live as true witnesses of Christ and to spread the faith by word and deed. How are we as a parish living as disciples and followers of Jesus?

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**First Eucharist:** There will be a MANDATORY Rehearsal Monday April 22, 2019 in the Church at 7:15 pm. All First Eucharist candidates and one parent are to meet at 7:10pm so we can start on time.

#### Registration for 2019-2020:

Registration forms the 2019-2020 School year have been distributed to all students, please look for them in your child's backpack. Kindly fill out the forms and return them along with the fees to the Religious Education office before June 30<sup>th</sup>. All families that are new to the program are asked to come to the Religious Education Office and pick up a Registration Form. For more information please call us at 201-836-3085.

#### Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of Catechists for our 9<sup>th</sup> grade program and Substitute Catechists and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2019-2020 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 – In Rectory  
 Monday and Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm – In School  
 Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School  
 Closed: Thursday & Saturday  
 Other times by appointment



# *Church of the Ascension*



## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE**

### **PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019**

Masses: 5:30pm (Saturday Vigil)  
7:30am, 9:30am and  
11:30am (Principal Mass with Procession with Palms)

### **MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019**

Chrism Mass at the Cathedral-Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark 8:00pm

### **HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper 8:00pm  
*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 8:00pm Mass until Midnight*  
Night Prayer 11:45pm

### **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am  
Good Friday Prayer Service 12:00 Noon  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00 pm  
Family Stations of the Cross 8:00pm

### **HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 8:30am  
The Easter Vigil 8:30pm

### **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2019**

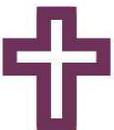
Masses: 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am



## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

### **Individual Celebrations**

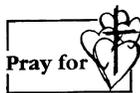
Friday, April 12 – 8:00 to 8:45pm – during Lenten Evening of Recollection  
Tuesday, April 16 – 7:00pm to 7:30pm  
Wednesday, April 17 – 7:00pm to 7:30pm



**NO CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD ON HOLY SATURDAY.**



## PALM SUNDAY



*"To everything there is a season..."*

*"a time to be healed..."*

Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Jean Francisco, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abbruzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, Joan Polis, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Eileen Kloeblen, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, John Delaney, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Benny Santiago, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Ana Tumang, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, 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, PFC Ian Belthoff, U.S. Marine Corps., Cherry Point, NC, A1C James Penser, Beale AFB, CA and all Men and Women serving in our countries Armed Forces.

*"a time for peace..."*

President Donald John Trump,  
our National Leaders and all World Leaders.

*"a time to die..."*

**Jesse Brown (Mother of Rev. Jim Brown)**

*and a time for every purpose under heaven"*

**Ecclesiastes 3:11**



The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns this week  
in loving memory of  
**Jim Byrne**



The ALTAR BREAD & WINE this week  
in loving memory of  
**Jim Byrne**

**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 Communion, Confirmations, Baptisms, Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries. Please stop by or call the rectory office to check availability.

### SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS APPEAL

Please consider making a donation to this year's Annual Appeal For information about the appeal or to make a donation you can visit website at: <http://rcan.org/sharing>



PALM SUNDAY

**April 14, 2019**

**Masses: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am**

**NO Religious Education**

**Monday of Holy Week, April 15, 2019**

Food Pantry Distribution

**NO Religious Education**

Combined Choirs – 7:30pm – Church

Chrim Mass @ Cathedral Basilica

of the Sacred Heart, Newark – 8:00pm

**Tuesday of Holy Week, April 16, 2019**

Confessions – 7:00pm - Church

**Wednesday of Holy Week, April 17, 2019**

**NO Religious Education**

Confessions – 7:00pm - Church

**NO Novena**

Boy Scouts – 7:30pm – Fr. Benedict Ctr.

Combined Choirs – 7:30pm – Church

Filipino Core. Mtg. – 8:00pm – Gathering Room

**HOLY THURSDAY, April 18, 2019**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am – Church

Mass of the Lord's Supper – 8:00pm

Adoration until midnight in the Fr. Benedict Center

Night Prayer 11:45pm

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 19, 2019**

Collection for the Holy Land

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am – Church

Good Friday Prayer Service – 12 Noon

Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3:00pm

Family Stations of the Cross – 8:00pm – Church

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 20, 2019**

Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) – 8:30am – Church

Church Decorating 10:00am

**NO Confessions**

**Easter Vigil – 8:30pm - Church**



**EASTER SUNDAY, April 21, 2019**

**Masses: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30am**

**NO Religious Education**

### SPECIAL MEETING

If you will be traveling to Ireland on May 12 please join us for an informational meeting and distribution of travel documents. The meeting will take place on **Thursday, April 25, 2019** at 7:00pm in the Gathering Room. See you then!

### 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.



**Presence - Care - Service**

"Living Holy Week, following Jesus means learning to come out of ourselves in order to go to meet others, to towards the outskirts of existence, to be the first to take a step towards our brothers and sisters." Pope Francis. The Holy Father has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps preserve the sacred shrines. When you make a contribution you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous.

**ASCENSION PARISH'S 19TH PILGRIMAGE  
TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF  
THE DIVINE MERCY  
WHEN: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY  
APRIL 28, 2019  
WHERE: STOCKBRIDGE, MA  
COST: \$35.00 PER PERSON  
PLEASE PICK UP  
REGISTRATION FORM  
IN CHURCH VESTIBULE OR RECTORY**

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

**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 Rectory (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: \_\_\_\_\_



**A LAUNDRY CHUTE  
201-262-WASH(9274)  
Please remember to patronize,  
who help make this bulletin possible**



**EASTER FLOWERS**



You are invited to make a donation toward the Easter Flowers, which will be used to decorate our Church. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or a special intention. You may use flower donation envelope you received in your Easter mailing or this form. Please take note that **Each intention donation is \$15.00** form & donation in an envelope marked "EASTER FLOWERS" & drop off at the rectory. **One intention will be noted for each donation of \$15.00. All others will be noted as donations. Notations will be made only on Flower Donation Listing, none will appear in bulletin. Please have your donations in early so they may be noted. Thank you.**

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY**

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

For the Intention of: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested By: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



**Palm Sunday**

**"Hosanna to the Son of David;  
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;  
Hosanna in the highest."  
And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and  
asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied,  
"This is Jesus the prophet,  
from Nazareth in Galilee."  
- Mt 21:9-11**

**ASCENSION PARISH TRIP**

Ascension Parish will sponsor a 5 day trip to Vermont & New Hampshire from June 7<sup>th</sup> – 11, 2019. The price of \$825 (dbl.) \$949 (single) includes 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, Luncheon at the Trapp Family Lodge, 3 dinners, including dinner on the Winnepesaukee Scenic Railroad, 2 welcome receptions, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Factory tour, Stowe Village, Quechee Gorge, Narrated cruise on Squam Lake where "On Golden Pond" was filmed. Loon Mountain Gondola Ride, Lake Wiinipesaukee Scenic Railroad ride, Luggage & Handling, taxes & gratuities, motorcoach transportation. \$100 deposit will hold your reservation. Cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available upon request. For info. & reservations, call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)387-2632.

***OFFICE CLOSED***

The Rectory & Religious Education Offices  
will be closed on Good Friday, April 19th

