

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.



Divine Mercy Sunday

April 24, 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

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  for the
Intentions  Week

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24, 2022

5:30 Alfredo Rabino
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Art Castranova
11:30 Rodel Barredo

Monday, April 25, 2022

8:00 Selina Castor (L)

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

8:00 Tiffany & Lester Castor (L)

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

Thursday, April 28, 2022

8:00 Joseph Licitra

Friday, April 29, 2022

No Mass

Saturday, April 30, 2022

8:30 Theresa & Vincent Guido
5:30 People of Ascension Parish

Sunday, May 1, 2022

7:30 Edward & Gertrude O'Dea
9:30 Art Castranova
11:30 John Coringrato

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP
REPORT**

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

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

Easter Sunday 2022:	\$17,237.00
Easter WeShare :	\$ 1,495.00
Easter Flowers:	\$ 2,063.00
Good Friday:	\$ 1,413.00
Good Friday WeShre:	\$ 125.00

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

**Readings for
Sunday, May 1, 2022**

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6,
11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/
Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Even Thomas struggles to remove his boulder! Being very pragmatic and determined, he wants to see the risen Christ for himself! Thomas's boulder is heavy with mistrust. Many of ours are too. A certain amount of skepticism is good, as it can save us from being duped or misled. But we can become so skeptical of things that it erodes our ability to trust anything we see or hear. Skepticism can actually be a well-disguised defense mechanism that we use to prevent us from being hurt or perceived as a fool. Having too much ego protection is a real risk. Thomas, because of the boulder blocking his vision, could not even trust the word of his friends.

Boulders are hard to move. It's difficult to seek change or take a risk, especially when we are so afraid to be vulnerable or reluctant to trust another's word. When we are closed minded, overly pragmatic, unwilling to see things in a different way, stubborn or defensive, it is difficult to be surprised by God and stretched. We need to be less guarded, self-assured, and self-absorbed. God cannot break into the ordinary moments of our lives and inspire us when we cling to doubt. If we are going to discover resurrection faith, we have to believe that what the witnesses say is true, especially when they are credible. We also have to trust that the risen Christ is alive in us, too!

While the first witnesses to the resurrection have faded into history, there are many others who have come after them. They continue to inspire by walking the talk of faith. They are the martyrs who offer their lives for the Gospel, the simple holy people in our communities who cling so steadfastly to their faith, those who have touched despair and found new hope and the ones who, even in spite of ridicule, still pursue their hunger and thirst for God. They are our friends, acquaintances, biblical heroes, and saints, and many others who are convinced that they have seen the Lord! The risen Christ may not surprise us with the same kind of visit as he did the first disciples, but God finds other ways. All we have to do is open our eyes, remove whatever is preventing us from seeing and believing and exclaim: "My Lord and my God!"

St. Pedro de San José Betancur | April 25

Central America's first saint, St. Pedro de San José Betancur (1626-1667) was born a poor shepherd in the Canary Islands. His family lands were seized because of debt, and he worked as an indentured servant until his early adult life when Pedro left his home to travel to Guatemala. His money for the journey ran out long before he arrived. He was destitute when he did arrive and was forced to join the bread line the Franciscan Friars had for the poor.

In 1655, he joined the Third Order of St Francis. Pedro began to serve the poor, the enslaved, immigrants, abandoned children, anyone that needed him. In 1658 he was given a hut which he made into a hospital for the poor. This small start grew into a shelter for the homeless, a school for the poor, an inn for priests, and several small chapels in poor areas. He was supported by many patrons and was joined in his work by both men and women, who became the Bethlehemite Brothers and the Bethlehemite Sisters.

Pedro prayed for the souls of those in purgatory, walked through the streets of rich neighborhoods ringing a bell and calling the wealthy to repent, and ministered to prisoners. Most accounts credit him with beginning the tradition of *posadas*, a procession in which people representing Mary and Joseph ask for lodging from their neighbors. This tradition continues today in Mexico and Central America. Because of his work with the poor and marginalized Pedro is often referred to as the "Saint Frances of the Americas". St. Pedro was canonized on July 30, 2002, in Guatemala City, Guatemala by Pope John Paul II.



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: _____



**PARISH EVENTS
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY*APRIL 26TH
7:30PM
IN THE PARISH CENTER
GATHERING ROOM**

Annual Appeal ^{the 2022}

Our parish goal is \$36,600. Thank you to the 131 families/individuals who have made a pledge. So far we have donor pledges amounting to \$33,804.19. 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 rean.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.



Calendar:

Sunday, April 24th – 1st Communion Sunday at the 9:30 Mass for Group A and 11:30 Mass for Group B
Monday, April 25th -- 7th & 8th Grade Group A in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm
Wednesday, April 27th – 9th Grade in Parish Center from 6:55 pm to 8:15 pm

IMPORTANT:

All PACKETS AND ON-LINE WORK MUST BE RETURNED BY MAY 1st.

New Registration forms for the 2022 -2023 School year will be emailed out to all families already in the program. If you wish to register your child in our program, please call 201-836-8961 or stop by the Religious Education Office in the Parish center during office hours- 9am to 4 pm daily.

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 on Sunday Mornings. She can be reach at 201-836-8961 only. UNTIL MAY 15th

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



**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**



Come Celebrate!
Father Jim's
25
YEARS
Anniversary
of Priestly Ordination
Sunday, May 22, 2022
Mass at 11:30am

*After Mass all are invited to a reception in the
Father Benedict Center
where you may extend your warm wishes
and appreciation to your Pastor
on this momentous occasion*

**For planning purposes please complete the form below and return
in the collection basket or to the parish office no later than Sunday, May 8th**

Father Jim's 25th Anniversary Reception

NAME: _____

PHONE #: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING RECEPTION: _____



“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
Manuel & Luisa Garcia**

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



FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION-MAY 16TH

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
- APPLE JUICE-GRAPE JUICE-COFFEE-TEA-ICED TEA
- HONEY NUT CHEERIOS-FROSTED FLAKES-RAISIN BRAN
- RICE KRISPIES-MUFFIN MIX-CAKE ICING-SAUERKRAUT
- INSTANT OATMEAL-FLAVORED RICE-EGG NOODLES
- CANNED YAMS-BROWN RICE-MAYONNAISE-SUGAR
- MENS/WOMENS SHAVE CREAM-NAPKINS-DISH SOAP

*"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.

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.



WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING
PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE
www.churchoftheascension.com
AND CLICK DONATE ONLINE
OR CONTACT DIRECTLY
WeShare Donor Customer Service
Phone Number: 877-316-0260



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



IN MEMORY OF:

Daniel & Doris Piro
 Rosemaire Piro
 Virgil & Katherine Adams
 Carl Piro
 John & Rose Dulgres
 Vincent & Filomena Piro
 Marge Bruno
 Travis Daniels
 Special Intention
 Antonucci Family
 Marge Bruno
 The Bruno-Vazzano Families
 Michael Bruno
 Camille & Ed Zampino
 Danny & Doris Piro
 Rosemarie Piro
 Irmbard Bruno
 Narinso & Virginia Marquez
 Tomas & Renny Catral
 Johnny Leyva
 Marvin Mercado
 Elnora Gordon
 Sally Mottola
 Elena Jucar
 Arturo, Cesar, Jann Maglikian
 Conrado & Dolores Maglikian
 Gregorio & Damiana Maglikian

Lostoski/DeAndrea Family
 Louis McElwain
 Marcella Clayton
 Michael Costello
 Thomas Costello

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 Ms. Veronica Bruno
 Ms. Veronica Bruno
 Ms. Veronica Bruno
 Ms. Veronica Bruno
 Ms. Veronica Bruno
 Ms. Veronica Bruno
 Jay Catral
 Jay Catral
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Luz M. Dimacali
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Luz & Angelique Dimacali
 Mr & Mrs Arturo Hermoso
 Bonnie Kreielsheimer
 Briget Mc Elwain
 Briget Mc Elwain
 Briget Mc Elwain
 Briget Mc Elwain
 Miranda

Thanksgiving from Troping, Nene & Family Araceli U. Ruiz



**MAY CROWNING OF
 OUR BLESSED MOTHER
 NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022
 DURING THE 11:30AM MASS**



Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet Cards are available at the Parish Center Office.

As you know, all Masses will be offered for the Mother's, living and deceased, of parishioners on Mother's Day & remembered throughout the month of May. If you would like a card for your mother, Grandmother, Godmother, Mother-In-Law, Wife, Aunt, Sister, Daughter, Friend or anyone who has been like a mother to you.

Offering for each card is \$10.00



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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!

PARISH TRIPS

**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