

Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor
Rev. David W. Milliken

Director of Music
Glenn Gordon

Weekend Assistant
Rev. Tim Graff

Parish Business Manager
Serina Sharkey

In Residence
Rev. Brian G. Plate

Director of Maintenance
Brendan Suter

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 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.



Divine Mercy Sunday
April 28, 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
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



Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28, 2019

5:30 Dennis Mullins

7:30 Donald Evans

9:30 Paul Slavin

11:30 Michael O'Hara

Monday, April 29, 2019

7:00 Anthony R. DeDio

8:30 Ching Acosta Arcilla

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

7:00 Jessie Brown

8:30 Mildred Bolcik

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

7:00 Guitierrez & Cardona Families

8:30 Jessie Brown

Thursday, May 2, 2019

7:00 People of Ascension Parish

8:30 Donald Evans

Friday, May 3, 2019

7:00 Rolando Viduya (L) Thanksgiving

8:30 Lorraine Stryzelczyk

Saturday, May 4, 2019

Memorial

8:30 Rose DiPippo

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris

Sunday, May 5, 2019

7:30 People of Ascension Parish

9:30 John Coringrato

11:30 Dorothy & Margaret Tenney

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

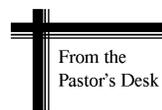
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

Easter 2018:	\$21,711.50
Easter 2019:	\$21,151.00
Easter Flowers:	\$ 2,744.00
Good Friday:	\$ 1,936.00

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

Reading for Sunday, May 5, 2019

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



When Thomas touches Jesus' body, he believes—but Jesus isn't too impressed with this expression of faith. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe!" Jesus must have been envisioning us—all of the future believers who might need courage and imagination to believe, centuries later.

Do we think we're blessed, lucky, or happy to be encountering Jesus in a different way from the apostles? Probably not. If anything, we may feel as if we're quite distant—detached, even—from the bold, alive spirit that filled Jesus. His followers were thrilled, amazed, excited to be close to him. But it is clearly more of a challenge for us.

There is no doubt that the real core of faith comes down to us from those fervent believers who were closest to Jesus Christ. We Catholics are linked to THAT community of believers, who passed eyewitness accounts down through history.

We may not have perfect faith—but our questions and doubts, Jesus is saying, are not to be feared. It takes only a mustard seed of faith. Thomas isn't rejected because of his doubt; but he IS being asked to believe in a different way, a more adult way, that doesn't require hanging on to the physical.

Here is the crux of it all: we must believe in Jesus without demanding physical proof—but we must prove our faith by getting very physical about it. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you..." Jesus sends us into a world that is desperate to be touched—touched with kindness, with compassion, love, patience, generosity. Mother Teresa with the dying, Father Damian with the lepers, St. Francis with the poor—they all said that to touch the poor and hold the sick, they first had to believe it was Jesus himself they were touching.

✠ Today, on this eighth and last day of the Octave of Easter, we celebrate **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Based on the revelations from Jesus to St. Maria Faustina, the focus of this feast is on God's unbounded love and mercy for us shown so visibly in Jesus' Paschal Mystery and continually poured out upon us through the sacraments of Baptism, the Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

As we bring mercy to others, we will experience the Divine Mercy that our loving God wishes us to receive with open and grateful hearts. **Ask for Mercy. Receive Mercy. Be Merciful!**

✠ **THANK YOU...** to all who helped to make our Triduum and Easter celebrations so very special—Frs. Brian and Tim, our pastoral staff, and our many ministers. Special thanks to our choirs and to all who again "Eastered" our church, especially to all who so generously donated for the Easter flowers that proudly adorn our church. What can I say...once again it is absolutely magnificent!!

That's just some of the ways that make our parish such a visible sign of God's love—a faith-filled community working together for the Lord! May God bless our Ascension community as we continue together building HIS kingdom.

✠ We are well into the **Sharing God's Blessings Appeal**. Jesus' words to Peter in today's gospel, "Tend my lambs, feed my sheep," are as much a challenge to us as to Peter. I pray that every parish family will take Jesus' challenge to heart and participate, pray and work together. With God's help may we do our very best.

Please, **give a little; give a lot; but please give something!**

✠ We offer our best wishes and prayers for the children in our parish family who are receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time this weekend. They and their families have been preparing for this great event for some time now, learning what the Eucharist is all about and what it means to be part of the Eucharistic community. May our children and their families always be eager to receive Jesus at his Table of Life. Special thanks to Theresa Carbone and Dena Sedlak and to the catechists who have shared their faith so joyously with these children.

✠ **May is that special month we dedicate to Mary, the Mother of God who is our Mother, too.** Next Sunday at the 9:30am Mass we will celebrate our annual **Parish May Crowning**. Our First Communicants will help us to give special honor to our Blessed Mother. Also, please remember that we pray the Rosary Monday through Saturday at 7:45am in church.

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



SAVE THE DATE:

Transfiguration Academy Drama Club's production of The Wizard of Oz will be presented on Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18 at Bergenfield High School. Tickets are \$15 and \$10 and can be purchased at the school office.

The newly formed Alumni Association will be hosting a brunch on Sunday, May 19 beginning with the 12:00 Mass at St. John's Church with a catered brunch immediately following in Conlon Hall. This event will honor Sr. Madeline Hanson, SSND and Transfiguration alumnus Charli Roberts. All proceeds will go to the Sr. Trinity Scholarship Fund.

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: 1st prize - \$2500; 2nd prize - \$1500; and 3rd 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.

Registration has begun for the 2019-2020 school year. The best way to learn about our school is by visiting us. 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. 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 as a "Tiger for a Day".



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 28th -- 1st thru 6th grade from 10:45 am to 12:00 pm (SCH)
 Monday, April 29th -- 7th Grades from 7 pm to 8:45 pm (MPR/SCH)
 Wednesday, May 1st – 9th Grades from 7 pm to 8:15 pm (MPR/SCH)
 Sunday, May 5th – May Crowning at the 9:30 am ALL families encouraged to attend.

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 ways Confirmation strengthens us with the fullness of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit keep our eyes focused on God. They guide us in remaining faithful to our baptismal promises. How do we as a parish use all the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given us?

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Confirmation Class of 2019:

- † Tuesday, May 7th-- Confirmation Rehearsal 6:55 pm in Church-Candidates Only – Mandatory
- † Friday, May 10th – Confirmation Rehearsal 6:55 pm in Church-Candidates and Sponsors –Mandatory for BOTH
- † Saturday, May 11th - Confirmation Mass at 11 am - Candidates and Sponsors are to meet in the Fr. Benedict Center (gym) at 10:30am SHARP

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 30th. 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 9th 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

APRIL 28, 2019

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We welcome you all to our celebration of **Easter 2019** here at Ascension.

We especially welcome those who have been away from Ascension due to school, illness or living elsewhere for whatever reason. It is good to have you home again. Welcome to all visitors.

Thank you for choosing to celebrate your Easter with us.

Easter is the most beautiful and holiest time of year, when we celebrate Jesus' new life shared with us at Easter and all throughout the year – the gift of life, the gift of faith, and the gift of each other.

We invite you to share in many important celebrations of Jesus' new life shared with us during the seven weeks of the Easter Season and beyond.

On the weekend of April 28, we will celebrate **First Holy Communion** at specific weekend Masses.

On Sunday, May 5th, during the 9:30am Mass we will celebrate our **Crowning of our Blessed Mother**.

On Saturday, May 11th at 11am, we will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of our young men and women in the **sacrament of Confirmation**.

We will observe **Mother's Day** on May 12th and we will celebrate the **Blessing of Mothers** at all weekend Masses.

In the evening we leave for our parish 65th Anniversary Trip to Ireland.

We will celebrate our **Parish Feast Day, Ascension Thursday**, May 30th. Mass will be celebrated at 7am and 8:30am.

We will close our Parish 65th Anniversary Year with great fanfare as we celebrate the 7:30pm Mass, which is followed by our **"Make your own Ice Cream Sundae"** and we will draw the winner of our **Sapphire Anniversary Mega 50/50 Raffle**.

What a special day for us!

On June 9th, the **Solemnity of Pentecost**, we celebrate the special presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We end the Easter Season on the weekend of June 16th, **Most Holy Trinity Sunday**.

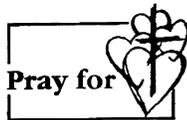
We will observe **Father's Day** on this weekend of June 16th with the **Blessing of Fathers** at all weekend Masses.

On Sunday, June 23rd, we will celebrate **Corpus Christi** at 11:30am Mass followed by our annual Corpus Christi Procession.

I encourage you to immerse yourself in the spirit and graces of the season by participating in these special celebrations and I ask that you bring someone you love with you.

My prayer is that the Risen Christ may live in your hearts and in your homes throughout this season.

A Most Blessed Easter!



"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 Kloblen, 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..."

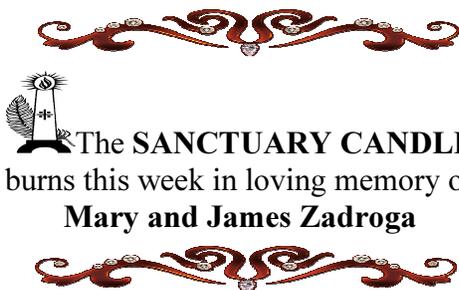
President Donald John Trump,
our National Leaders and all World Leaders.

"a time to die..."

Richard Bravo

and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11



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

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



Divine Mercy
Sunday, April 28, 2019

Parish Pilgrimage to the National Shrine

First Eucharist at 9:30 and 11:30 Mass

Baptism – 1:00pm – Church

Monday, April 29, 2019

Religious Education Grade 7 – 7:00pm – School

CFM – 7:30pm – Rectory Meeting Room

Combined Choirs – 7:30pm - Church

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Parish Events - 7:30pm – Gathering Room

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

French Academy FBC

Religious Education, Confirmation Prep – 7:00pm

Novena at 7:30pm in Church

Filipino Core Meeting – 8:00pm – Gathering Rm

Thursday, May 2, 2019

French Academy FBC

First Friday, May 3, 2019

Communion Visits to Homebound

French Academy FBC

Finance Council – 7:30pm – Rectory Mtg. Room

First Saturday, May 4, 2019

Confessions at 11:00am in Church

French Academy FBC

Children's Choir – 4:15pm – Church



Sunday, May 5, 2019

Parish Maintenance and Repairs

9:30am Mass with May Crowning

Baptism Prep. – 1:00pm – Gathering Room

French Academy FBC



PARISH EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 30 AT 7:30PM

IN THE GATHERING ROOM

"NEW MEMBERS WELCOME"

FINANCE COUNCIL

FRIDAY, MAY 3 AT 7:30PM

IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM



Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet Cards are available at doors of Church or in the Rectory Office.

As you know, all Masses will be offered for the Mother's, living and deceased, of parishioners on Mother's Day. 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. You may return with payment in the collection or drop off at the rectory office BLACK mail box.

Offering for each card is \$10.00.

Please remember to return your offering for each card that you take.



**ASCENSION PARISH 65TH ANNIVERSARY
MEGA 50/50 RAFFLE
TICKETS ON SALE AFTER ALL MASSES
BEGINNING THIS WEEK-END
IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE**



**MAY CROWNING OF
OUR BLESSED MOTHER
NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019
DURING THE 9:30AM MASS**

Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Thank you to the 107 parishioners who have made a pledge to this year's Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. We are currently at \$23,608.00 pledged dollars. Please consider making your pledge today. Give a little; give a lot; but please give something!

This year our Parish Goal is \$39,161.00

For information about the appeal or to make a donation you can visit website at: <http://rcan.org/sharing>

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 rectory office to check availability.



FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – May 20th

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.

- COFFEE-ICED TEA-APPLE JUICE-RAISINS-JAM
- INSTANT RICE-LEMONADE MIX-OATMEAL
- CANNED PINEAPPLE-CORN FLAKES-FROSTED
- FLAKES-CHILDRENS CEREALS-CHICKEN GRAVY
- INSTANT OATMEAL-TOMATO SAUCE-SAUERKRAUT
- GRATED CHEESE-PEANUT BUTTER-TISSUES

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: _____



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**SUZANNE WALKER, Broker-Sales Associate
COLDWELL BANKERS
201-832-3120**

Please remember to patronize, who help make this bulletin possible

