

# 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

### **Weekend Assistant**

Rev. Tim Graff

### **Director of Music**

Glenn Gordon

### **Parish Business Manager**

Serina Sharkey

### **Director of Maintenance**

Brendan Suter

### **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 should 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.



**The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**September 11, 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](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

**Patriot Day, Grandparents Day  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary  
Time, September 11, 2022**

5:30 William & Elizabeth Morris  
7:30 People of Ascension Parish  
9:30 Sarah & Chris McKenna  
11:30 All Victims of 9/11

**Monday, September 12, 2022**

8:00 Gerard Patrick Lee

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022**

8:00 Juanita Santiago

**Wednesday, September 14, 2022**

8:00 Manuel Garcia

**Thursday, September 15, 2022**

8:00 Yolanda & Art Castronova

**Friday, September 16, 2022**

No Mass

**Saturday, September 17, 2022**

8:30 Domingo Gedorio, Jr.

5:30 Art Castronova

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday**

**in Ordinary Time, September 18, 2022**

7:30 Marcus Cudina

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.

September 4, 2022: \$4,108.00  
Maintenance & Repairs: \$1,391.00  
M&R WeShare: \$ 418.90

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

**Readings for Sunday  
September 18, 2022**

Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/1 Tm  
2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13



**Patriot Day**

Heavenly Father, Creator of All,  
You have created the  
human person as good.

You have placed us in the  
world as one human family,  
as sisters and brothers.

We pray today for all victims  
of violence across the world,

for the healing of their mind and body,  
for their mourning family members,  
for the repose of their souls.

Jesus, You have told us to  
love our enemies,  
and to pray for those  
who persecute us.

Give us the strength and  
courage to forgive.

Remove all lingering desire for revenge.

Holy Spirit, reveal to us  
the mercy of God.

Give us the gift of Your peace  
that surpasses all understanding.

**Amen.**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

Since God created human beings, we have struggled to keep our focus on God. We wrestle with the question of “who is God” and foolishly believe some of God’s job description can be better completed by us. We wander in different directions, lose our way, think that happiness can be found elsewhere and even construct golden calves to worship. Are we simply too independent or just blatantly stubborn? It’s a good question to ask. Even with all of our silliness and distractions, God compassionately and patiently waits. He lets us assert our wills and knows that perhaps one day we will actually wake up and realize how lost we are.

“Since happiness is nothing other than the enjoyment of the highest good and since the highest good is above, no one can be made happy unless he rises above himself, not by an ascent of the body but of the heart. But we cannot rise above ourselves unless a higher power lifts us up ... Divine aid is available to those who seek it from their hearts, humbly and devoutly; and this means to sigh for it in this valley of tears, through fervent prayer (St. Bonaventure).” One of the biggest human struggles is discerning what, exactly, is the highest good. We are ordered to achieve it but if we pursue it with clouded vision, we will never truly find it.

One of the greatest obstacles to God’s power and love is a stubborn, closed heart of stone. When we are fiercely determined to set our sights elsewhere for happiness or simply ride the popular currents of the day, we will never satisfy the deep ache and longing within. We know that ache well. It is precisely why we scurry all over the place, attempting to find the next best thing to take away its pain. Nothing in the created world ever can or will. We continue our journey. One day, people may wake up and realize that they are grazing in the wrong pasture and putting themselves in harm’s way. When this awakening occurs, it will be a most joyous day as we will see God’s wide-open arms waiting to receive us. “Lead me, Lord, in your path, and I will enter in your truth. Let my heart rejoice that it may fear your name (St. Bonaventure).”

**MEMORIALS**

If you would like to contribute to this fund in memory of your loved one. Please call the Parish Office (201) 836-8961 or stop by the office (located in the Parish Center) to check availability.

**Memorials: (circle appropriate memorial)**

ALTAR BREAD AND WINE \$25 per week  
 ALTAR FLOWERS \$50 (per basket/per week)  
 SANCTUARY CANDLE \$15 per week

**MEMORIAL CANDLES:**

___ SACRED HEART	___ BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
\$25/1 month	\$100/5 months
\$45/2 months	\$120/6 months
\$65/3months	\$200/1 year
\$85/4months	

**MEMORIALS**

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE REQUESTED: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

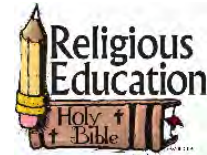
Please return completed form with your check made payable to Ascension Church



**We are in need of Adult Altar Servers to assist at Funeral Masses. If interested, please contact the parish office (201) 836-8961 and sign up for a training class.**

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

**WE HAVE PASSED OUR PARISH GOAL!**  
**Thank you** to the 153 families/individuals who have made a pledge. Our parish goal is \$36,642.00 To date we have donor pledges amounting to **\$40,859.19**. If you have not done so, please prayerfully consider making your gift via pledge or direct donation by check, credit card, matching or planned gift today. There is a direct link on our website. Thank you again for your support!



**Calendar:**

Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>: Last Minute Registration- 9:30 am to 11:30 am- in Parish Center  
 Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> – Catechetical Sunday Mass at 9:30 AM  
 Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> -- Mandatory Parent Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> grades at 10:45 am in Fr. Benedict Center (SCH)  
 Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent/Student Meeting- MANDATORY FOR BOTH in the CHURCH at 7 pm SHARP  
 Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>th</sup> grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (SCH) 4<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grades from 10:45 am to 12 Noon (Parish Center)

**Registration for 2022-2023:**

**The Religious Education Office in the Parish Center will be open, September 11, 2022 for last minute registration from 9:30 am until 11:30 am.** All registered families' letters have been mailed out. If you have registered and NOT received your letter, please call the Religious Education office.

**Please note our hours for classes.**

Our Sunday Mornings program is from 10:45 to 12 Noon. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meet on Monday evenings and 9<sup>th</sup> graders on Wednesday from 7 pm to 8:15 pm. Students are asked to be here by 6:55 pm in order to start at 7 pm sharp.

**Volunteers Needed:**

- † We are in need of Aides and Class Parents for our Religious Education Program for the 2022-2023 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  
 Sunday Mornings: 10 am to 12 Noon – In School & Parish Center  
 Closed: Thursday & Saturday.  
 Other times by appointment

**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.



&

**THE SHRINES OF PORTUGAL  
APRIL 16-22, 2023**

**Spiritual Director  
Father Jim**

**Please pick up your copy of  
Brochure, with Itinerary, Reservation Form  
and Statement of Cost  
From the Parish Office, on our parish website,  
([www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)) or see Fr. Jim**

**\*\*Information Night\*\*  
Tuesday, October 4 at 7:30pm  
In the Parish Center**





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

**“a time to be healed...”**

Al Suter, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Marie Oberst, Mary Anne Meyer, Rebecca Tababan, Stephen Cronin, Kaitlin Abreu, Erlinda Arel and those among us who are sick and in need of our prayers.

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

**\*Prayer list will be updated every three months\*  
Next renewal date November 7, 2022  
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 **William & Elizabeth Morris**



**BREAD and WINE** this week Donated in loving memory of **William & Elizabeth Morris**



**Altar Flowers** for this week Donated in loving Memory of **William & Elizabeth Morris**



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

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

**PARISH TRIP**

Our parish will sponsor a trip to The Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Cost is \$37 per person. Upon arrival at the casino you will receive \$18 in free play. The bus will leave Ascension parking lot at 9am.

You must have your ID/PLAYER CARD to get the bonus. If you do not have a bonus card, you can get one at the casino but, you must have ID such as your driver’s license. Make check payable to Ascension Church. Fill in the form below and drop off with check at the Parish Center. Indicate on outside of envelope ‘RESORTS CASINO’. For further info. call Josie (201)265-0485 or Anna (201)387-2632.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
#OF PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_  
AMT. ENCL. \_\_\_\_\_

**2023 Mass Book Is Open  
Please visit the parish office for:  
MASS INTENTIONS  
SANCTUARY CANDLE  
BREAD & WINE  
ALTAR FLOWERS  
MEMORIAL CANDLES**

**FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION  
SEPTEMBER 19TH**

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.

- COOKIES-CRANBERRY JUICE-APPLE JUICE
- GRAPE JUICE-LEMONADE MIX-COFFEE
- CAKE MIX-BROWNIE MIX-BREAD CRUMBS
- APPLE SAUCE-CANNED PINEAPPLE-SUGAR
- CANNED PEACHES-CANNED PEARS-CRACKERS
- MANDARIN ORANGES-PEAS & CARROTS
- BEEF GRAVY-TURKEY GRAVY-INSTANT RICE
- MAYONNAISE-GRATED CHEESE-RAISINS
- PORK & BEANS-SALAD DRESSING-NAPKINS
- MENS/WOMENS SHAVE CREAM-CONDITIONER
- SHAMPOO-MENS/WOMENS DEODORANT

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

**DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF  
INSIDE THE PARISH CENTER**

*Please do not leave donations outside*

**Your continued support of our ministry to the poor  
is greatly appreciated.**



**LOWER HALL ROOF FUND**

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED!  
FUNDS RAISED TO DATE: \$8,575.36**

The roof on the Lower Hall of the School building has long past it's life expectancy. We are hoping that we would get at least a couple of more years out of it. Unfortunately during the recent rains several leaks have appeared. Since we just redid the entire interior, new floors and total repainting, due to Ida, to allow the leaks to continue means that we risk ruining the work just completed on the inside, and to patch is just wasting money.

The cost to replace the roof is \$57,600. We do not have this laying around. Our roofer has offered to carry the balance for 24 months. We need to raise \$2,400. per month to cover this. A Lower Hall fund has been set up on We Share for anyone who would like to contribute to this fund. If you do not use We Share please place your contribution in an envelope marked "Roof Fund" and put in the collection.

Once we cover the cost of the roof that fund will be removed. This is a restricted fund and any monies collected through this fund can only go to this purpose.

Thank you for your continued support of our great parish!

**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.

Thank you!

**SPECIAL COLLECTION**

This weekend, the archdiocese will be taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs in the heart of Washington, D.C. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education and the University's various research and training initiatives that support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. The Catholic Project - an initiative that brings together clergy and laity to address the challenges that the Catholic Church faces in the U.S. by contributing education, formation, research, events, and media, a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management, and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers, are a few examples how the University is serving the Church and nation. Please give generously. visit: [futurecatholicleaders.givecatholicstogether.org](http://futurecatholicleaders.givecatholicstogether.org) and click "Give Now"



**Grandparents Day Blessing**

God of our ancestors,  
we thank you for our children  
and our children's children.

They are reminders from you about  
how precious life can be.

We humbly ask for wisdom and patience  
as we take pride and wonder in our grandchildren.

Those of us who now pray to you  
also seek your blessing upon these men and women  
who are our grandparents or  
who act in place of grandparents.

Bless all the children and their parents and grandparents  
with your abundant grace.

We ask all this through the intercession of  
Saints Joachim and Anne,  
parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
patron saints of grandparents,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



**PARISH EVENTS MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th**

**7:30PM IN THE GATHERING ROOM  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

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**CATECHIST MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th  
IN THE GATHERING ROOM**



**WE SHARE-ONLINE GIVING  
PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE**

**[www.churchoftheascension.com](http://www.churchoftheascension.com)  
AND CLICK DONATE ONLINE  
OR CONTACT DIRECTLY**

**WeShare Donor Customer Service  
Phone Number: 877-316-0260**



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