

# 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-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 18, 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

Catechetical Sunday

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 18, 2022

- 5:30 Art Castronova
- 7:30 Marcus Cudina
- 9:30 Anne & Harry Sommo
- 11:30 People of Ascension Parish

Monday, September 19, 2022

- 8:00 Antonio & Lourdes Cruz

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

- 8:00 Rose & Nicholas Lanza

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

- 8:00 Camille Zampino

Thursday, September 22, 2022

- 8:00 Patrick Furte

Friday, September 23, 2022

No Mass

Saturday, September 24, 2022

- 8:30 Dona Viduya (L)
- 5:30 Jessie Brown

Twenty-Sixth Sunday

in Ordinary Time, September 25, 2022

- 7:30 People of Ascension Parish
- 9:30 Hilarion Matibag
- 11:30 Gregory & Anthony Poli

PARISH  STEWARDSHIP REPORT

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

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

September 11, 2022: \$3,910.00

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

Readings for Sunday  
September 25, 2022

Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10  
[1b]/1  
Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31



**Blessing of Catechists**

Jesus, on the road to Emmaus,  
your followers were frightened and alone;  
you had just been put to death on a cross.

They met a man on the road  
leading away from Jerusalem  
who told them all about you  
and what your presence among them meant.

They did not realize that the man  
speaking and walking with them was you,  
raised from the dead.

When their eyes were opened and they  
received the gift of faith,  
they turned around to spread the word.

We ask you to bless all your disciples  
who now work as catechists in our parishes.  
Bless them and give encouragement to their work,  
that it will have an impact upon the world.

We ask all this in your name, Jesus,  
our companion on the road from Emmaus.

**Amen.**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

“You cannot serve both God and mammon.” Merriam-Webster defines mammon as material wealth or possessions, especially having a debasing influence. While God does not take issue with our need to use money for the business of our lives, there can be a problem with the attitudes we bring to it. We can easily become so preoccupied and obsessed with money that it becomes the real “god” we worship. Do we serve mammon instead of God? In their book, Wealth, Riches and Money, Craig Hill and Earl Pitts outline symptoms of mammon’s influence in our lives. Some of these are worry and anxiety over money, money mismanagement, fear over “never having enough,” an “I can’t afford it” mentality, impulse buying, stinginess, greed, debt, and discontent.

Many of the things on that list can consume us to the point that we are distracted from what we really need to be doing. Many people spend an inordinate amount of time worrying about money and it becomes the source of their worst fears. If we are honest with ourselves, we need to admit that we place far more emphasis on our material securities than we ought. In fact, we have actually convinced ourselves that we cannot live without it. Are we that certain about the presence of God? Many of the world’s problems, especially those involving inequity and injustice, result from conflicts about money. Many equate money with happiness. Those successful in accumulating large amounts of it quickly realize just how wrong they are.

“Your ultimate allegiance is not to the government, not to the state, not to nation, not to any man-made institution. The Christian owes his ultimate allegiance to God, and if any earthly institution conflicts with God’s will it is your Christian duty to take a stand against it. You must never allow the transitory evanescent demands of man-made institutions to take precedence over the eternal demands of the Almighty God (Martin Luther King, Jr.)” This is the point Jesus is trying to make. Unfortunately, when we look around our man-made kingdoms are far more prevalent than God’s kingdom. When we start seeing greater evidence of justice, equity, dignity, respect, opportunity, gentleness, holiness, solidarity, honesty, simplicity, care for creation, and a decrease in ambition, then we will know that God’s kingdom is being served. We will be doing what we are supposed to do.

**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.**

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

**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!



**Calendar:**

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>rd</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 is still accepting Registration for the 2022-2023 School year. 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



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND**

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022



&

**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**





PRAY FOR...

“To everything there is a season...

“a time to die...”  
Obdulia Morales

“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  
Frank Friezo



**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.

Meeting

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th  
7:30PM IN THE GATHERING ROOM



Feeding the Community

**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.



**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**



**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!



Due to Insurance and Liability issues we ask that you respect the private property of the Church as you would your own. The Church parking lot is for church business only. Please no driving lessons or overnight parking.

**Thank you** for your generous support last week of the collection for The Catholic University of America! As a parish, we raised \$529.00 to support Catholic education and educating tomorrow's Catholic leaders in our country. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! please visit: [futurecatholicleaders.igivecatholictogether.org](http://futurecatholicleaders.igivecatholictogether.org) and click "Give Now".



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



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**HOW TO ORDER WITH AMAZON SMILE:**

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