Church of the Ascension

Invites You to Share with us. . .

+ Our Pastoral Staff +

Pastor
Rev. David W. Milliken

Weekend Assistant
Rev. Tim Graff

Parish Business Manager
Serina Sharkey

Director of Maintenance
Brendan Suter

Director of Music
Glenn Gordon

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 Parish Office. 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 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 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 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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021

+ 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
One Daily Mass at 8:30am
8:00am Summer
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.

PARISH CENTER
OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PARISH CENTER/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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 25, 2021
5:30pm Darren Drake
7:30 Leszek Solarz
9:30 Alfredo Rabino
11:30 George Hill
Monday, April 26, 2021
8:30 Mildred Theiman
8:30 People of Ascension Parish
Tuesday, April 27, 2021
8:30 Bernadette Teenan
8:30 Helene Sawicki
Wednesday, April 28, 2021
8:30 Robert Hackett
8:30 Kimberly Pritchett
Thursday, April 29, 2021
8:30 Katherine Tricarico
8:30 Joseph & Dotty Meyer
Friday, April 30, 2021
8:30 Katherine Tricarico
8:30 Frank & Margaret Tenney
Memorial
Saturday, May 1, 2021
8:30 Phyllis Morello
5:30pm William & Elizabeth Morris
Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 2, 2021
7:30 People of Ascension Parish
9:30 Rolando Aquino
11:30 Leonides Cajucom, First Anniv.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORT

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH
Ascension Parish is supported by people who place their faith and trust in God.

April 18, 2021:	**$3,710.00**
Social Concerns:	**$ 844.00**
Additional Easter:	**$ 675.00**

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

Readings for Sunday May 2, 2021

Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

From the Pastor's Desk

This image of Jesus as a good shepherd doesn't seem to have the powerful meaning Jesus intended in the gospel today. Shepherds then had a terrible reputation as thieves and outlaws. They raised the animals used in the Jewish temple services, but because of their dirty profession, they were called "unclean" and not allowed to attend the services.

So we have the supreme paradox of Jesus actually calling himself a "good" shepherd. It would have been as shocking then as calling him "the good drug-dealer" or "the good slumlord."

Real shepherds were tough loners, men who fought off wild animals, rescued trapped lambs, ate what they could kill, and slept in the open with their dogs. Contrast this with those pristine pictures we usually see of Jesus as the Good Shepherd—standing there, untouched, tidy, in a blinding white robe with a few peaceful sheep at his feet.

Jesus is the "Good Shepherd" because he is the **only shepherd who has lived our life and cares for us as for his own self**. "I lay down my life for the sheep." He's not some untouched icon; he is in there, fighting for us and with us in the grittiest and toughest moments of our lives.

Today on **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**, we listen as Jesus proclaims our one and only vocation: "Follow me!" We are called to be lovers—of God and God's children. We are called to use our unique combination of gifts in whatever lifestyle will best allow us to "Follow Him", be it single, married, priestly or religious life. Let us follow Jesus by listening well!

✠ We offer our best wishes and prayers for join in special prayer 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, Dena Sedlak and to all who have shared their faith so joyously with these children.

✠ Let us also pray for our young men and women who will receive the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, May 15th, at Mass with Bishop Dominic Marconi.

✠ Thank you to the 147 parishioner families who have made a pledge to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. To date we have $44,480.00 in pledges. We have surpassed our parish goal of $36,600.00. Our Parish now receives a portion of all donations. We ask every parish family to make a pledge or one time gift. **Give a little...Give a lot... But, please, give something!** Brochures are in the church vestibule and there is a direct link to the Appeal on our website. Thank you for your support.

✠ **May is almost here, It is that special month we dedicate to Mary, the Mother of God who is our Mother, too.** On May 2nd at the 9:30am Mass we 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. We also pray the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help each Wednesday at 7:30pm.

✠ Remember, **Mother's Day** is Sunday, May 9th. **Mother's Day Mass Cards** are available at the doors of the church to remember our mothers, living and deceased, for the month of May.

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

Fr. David

BREAKING BREAD
With Daily Mass Propers

Our Hymnals/Missalletes with daily and Sunday readings for the 2021 Liturgical Year are available. You may purchase one for your use the cost $6.00 each. Please see Father David after mass or call the parish office (201-836-8961).

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 Parish Office (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:_____

OUR PARISH OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT THE ASCENSION PARISH CENTER. THE PARISH CENTER BUILDING IS LOCATED TO THE LEFT OF THE CHURCH & THE ENTRANCE IS BEHIND THE STATUE OF JESUS. PLEASE VISIT US HERE FOR ALL YOUR PARISH AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEEDS. CENTER OPENS AT 9:00AM MONDAY-FRIDAY. ALL OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

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Calendar:
April 25, 2021 – All Packets are due from 9 am to 10:30 am by the Gym Doors
April 26, 2021 – All Packets are due from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm by the side of the School

Important:
All families are encouraged to come to Mass and to come on a weekly basis, the Church is open and is a safe place as we follow all safety guidelines. Please call Mrs. Carbone to sign up for Mass.

Parents are reminded to return all Packets today Sunday, April 25th between 9 am and 10:30 am or Monday night, April 26th from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. ALL PACKETS MUST BE RETURNED OR YOUR CHILD MAY NOT MOVE TO THE NEXT GRADE.

The 2021/2022 Registration Forms were emailed to everyone on March 31st. Please fill them out and return before June 30th. Remember that one form for each student and please make sure that you update your email address and phone numbers. If you know anyone who would like to enroll their child (ren) in our program please have them call me in the office.

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 sharing their faith and working with students in a relaxed atmosphere. Anyone interested please, call the Religious Education office.

Religious Education Office Hours:
Monday – Friday: 9 am to 4 pm – In Parish Center
Other times by appointment

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*We welcome you all to our celebration of **Easter 2021** 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.
We will keep you informed of our live-streaming on Facebook.

*On Sunday, April 25th, we will celebrate **First Holy Communion.***

*On Sunday, May 2nd , during the 9:30am Mass we will celebrate our **Crowning of our Blessed Mother**.*

*On Saturday, May 15th, 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 9th and we will celebrate the **Blessing of Mothers** at all weekend Masses.*

*We will celebrate our **Parish Feast Day, Ascension Thursday**, May 13th.* Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am and our solemn celebration at 7:30pm.*
What a special day for us!
**If the Cardinal changes the holyday to a Sunday, we'll let you know.*

*On May 23rd, 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 May 30th, **Most Holy Trinity Sunday**.*

*On Sunday, June 6th, we will celebrate **Corpus Christi** at 11:30am Mass.*

*We will observe **Father's Day** on this weekend of June 20th with the **Blessing of Fathers** at all weekend Masses.*

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!

Pray for

"To everything there is a season…

"a time to be healed…"

Angelita Villaluna, Elnora Gordon, Al Suter, Ann Wall, Joseph Gorgone, Marguerite Morris, Donna Van Kleeck, Margaret Polis, Elsa Obera, Marie Oberst, Carmelo Abbruzzesi, Leonard Abburzzesi, Kitty Tricarico, John Thomas, John Donohue, Concepcion Deus, Eileen Kloeblen, Judith Gonzales, Monica Vivas, Diane Warings, Jane Rodriguez, Herman Ivan Rodriguez, Joel Rivera, Victor Muwonge, Aldo Guerra, Evelyn Lawler, Mary Anne Meyer, John Quinn, Peggy Evans, Neil Magbanua, Vincent Guido, John Person Amy Irwin, Louis Vallis, Bob Carucci, Danny Allen, John Person, Jerry Speciale, Nate Hall, 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, Sr. A 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…"

our National and all World Leaders.

and a time for every purpose under heaven"

Ecclesiastes 3:11

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 parish office to check availability.

APRIL

Sunday, April 25, 2021
Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am
In church ONLY not livestream

Monday, April 26, 2021
Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Tuesday, April 27, 2021
Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Thursday, April 29, 2021
Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Friday, April 30, 2021
Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook

Saturday, May 1, 2021
Mass 8:30am in Church & livestream via Facebook
Vigil mass at 5:30 in Church & livestream via FB

Sunday, May 2, 2021
Mass at 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:30am
In church ONLY not livestream

Catholic Stewardship in Action
2021 ANNUAL APPEAL
WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL!

Thank you to the 147 families/individuals who have made a pledge. To date we have $44,480.00 in pledges. We have reached our parish goal of $36,642.00. If you haven't done so, 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. Thank you for your support.

Returning to Grace:

A Pastoral Letter on the Eucharist
By Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin,
Archbishop of Newark
Booklets available in the vestibule of church or in the parish center office.

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

HELP US TO FEED THE HUNGRY
FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION – MAY 17th

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.

LEMONADE MIX-GRAPE JUICE-APPLE JUICE-JELL-O
CRANBERRY JUICE-CANNED PEARS-BROWN RICE
CLAM CHOWDER-BEEF GRAVY-GRATED CHEESE
CHICKEN GRAVY-PUDDING-HOT COCOA-COOKIES
CRACKERS-RAISIN BRAN-APPLE SAUCE-INSTANT RICE
CANNED PINEAPPLE-CANNED PEACHES-SALAD DRESSING
RAMEN SOUP-CANNED WHITE POTATOES-RICE KRISPIES
SHAMPOO-CONDITIONER-TOOTHPASTE-PAPER TOWELS
NAPKINS-TISSUES-WOMENS/MENS DEODORANT
WOMENS/MENS SHAVE CREAM-DISH SOAP

DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE PARISH CENTER

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

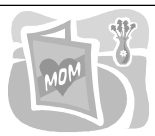
WELCOME: Newcomers, Visitors and Parishioners

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: _____



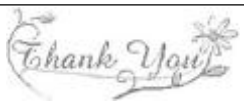
Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet Cards are available in main vestibule of church.

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. Please drop off your donation ($10.00 each card) in collection basket or slot in parish center door.

Offering for each card is $10.00

Thank you to all who have responded to our request to update the information we have for you/your family in our parish database. All registered parishioners have been contacted via, mail, email or phone requesting this information. If you have not received a correspondence it is because the contact information we have for you has either changed or is outdated. We are asking all registered parishioners to please contact us at 201-836-3085 or ascensionreled@optonline.net and update your information accordingly.

Having this information allows us to contact you with important notices regarding your parish. If you have not received any type of correspondence please reach out to us via phone or email ASAP. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention to this matter.



Thank you to all who have continued making their weekly donations, it is truly appreciated.
Please consider the following:

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PLEASE GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE
FOR A DIRECT LINK FOR
INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS
www.churchoftheascension.net
OR CONTACT DIRECTLY

WeShare Donor Customer Service Phone Number:
800-950-9952 (**press #3** and **then press #2**)
WeShare Customer Service Email:weshare@4lpi.com
WeShare Donor FAQ: WeShare Donor Support

Please remember that during this crisis
our monthly financial responsibilities continue.

If you are unable to come to church for Mass
Please mail in or drop off
(in door slot of parish center not black box)
your weekly contributions.
Thank you & God Bless!

Sun-Thurs 10 AM - 10PM
Fri-Sat 11AM - 11 PM

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