



Ascension Catholic Church

12700 Lanham-Severn Rd. | Bowie, Maryland 20720 | Ph. (301) 262-2227

MASS SCHEDULE

ALL MASSES ARE IN THE CHURCH

Weekends

Saturday — Vigil 4:00 pm

Sunday — 8:00 am, 10:00 am, & 12:00 pm

Weekdays

Mon -Wed, Fri -Sat — 9:00 am

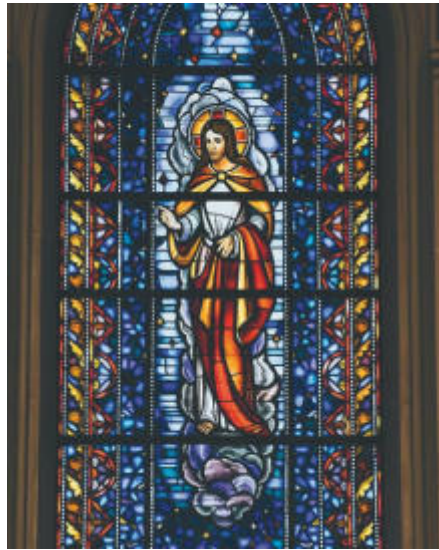
CONFESSION SCHEDULE

ALL CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD IN THE CHURCH

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri — 8:40-9:00 am

Tuesdays — 5:45-6:45 pm

Saturdays — 8:40-9:00 am; 3:00-3:30 pm



MASS INTENTIONS (MARCH 15-21)

Monday (9:00 am) +Annette Oriquilla

Tuesday (9:00 am) +Antonio Dominic Visk

Wednesday (9:00 am) +Brian Moriarty & +John McAuliffe

Friday (9:00 am) Catherine Sarra

Saturday (9:00 am) +Richard Lee

(4:00 pm) +Patrick McAuliffe

Sunday (8:00 am) +John L. Moylan

(10:00 am) Parishioners

(12:00 pm) Special Intention

4th Sunday of Lent

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

John 3:20-21

March 14, 2021 | Fax: (301) 805-5053 | Email: office@ascensionbowie.org | www.ascensionbowie.org

Spring Sports: Registration for CYO spring sports is now open! The official season starts April 10 for soccer, cross country, and track & field; however, practices will begin within a few weeks. Register today to claim a spot on the team!

- Soccer – 10U fees: \$125/player; 12-14U fees: \$140/player (child's age as of Sep 1, 2020 determines level) – if you have questions please contact Candace Walls, Soccer Commissioner @ candace.walls@gmail.com
- Cross Country – 8-14U (child's age as of Sep 1, 2020 determines level) – fees: \$80/runner – if you have questions please contact Megan Bogley, Cross Country Commissioner @ m_bogley@hotmail.com
- Track and Field – 7-14U (child's age as of May 31, 2021 determines level) - fees: \$95/participant – if you have questions please contact Megan Bogley, Track and Field Commissioner @ m_bogley@hotmail.com
- Softball – we are hoping to add softball – stay tuned. Jennifer Murphy, Softball Commissioner @ snoopyvrb@gmail.com

Visit www.stpiusbowiecyo.com and click *Sports Pilot* to register.

CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) is a volunteer organization and we can't do it without you! Please consider coaching one of our many teams or contact us if you'd like to get involved! It's a great experience! Please note that all coaches and volunteers must be Virtus certified. Coaches should contact the designated commissioner regarding additional requirements. <https://stpiusbowiecyo.com/contact-us/>



Congratulations! This week's raffle winner is

Ms. Marie Benjamin!

DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES AND CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS!



Have you checked these out? In the past few weeks, we have made some minor updates to the parish website, most notably by adding some pages! Here are the latest additions:

- A page featuring our additions of Confessions, Adoration, and Stations of the Cross for the Lenten Season! These can be found at ascensionbowie.org/lent
- Daily reflections from Bishop Robert Barron of Word on Fire, also found at ascensionbowie.org/lent
- A link for the 2021 Annual Appeal at ascensionbowie.org/annual-appeal or simply go to appeal.adw.org
- A list of resources on The Equality Act and Gender, as well as the COVID-19 virus and vaccinations found at ascensionbowie.org/currentissues
- Quick links for the Archdiocese, USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops), and the Catechism of the Catholic Church as well as frequently updated video reflections from Word on Fire and the National Catholic Register can be found at ascensionbowie.org/catholic-resources

So head on over to our website and take a look around!

PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK

Francis Barnes, Mary Ann Boyer, Mary Burton, Laura Chesnick, Rosita Dietrich, Cynthia Graham, Larry Hudson, James Kaufman Jr., Beverlee Lee, Ida Mullikin, Jean Mosby, Terrence O'Brien, Jr., Earl Perry, Norma Perry, Norma Raffaele, GERALYN ROBerson, Mickey Ryan, Barbara Shipp, Doreen Darzinski, and Shirley Mackessy.

—Greetings from Fr. Tim—

Dear Parishioners,

This week Paul tells us that we are God's "handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them." While all things fit into God's plan, we Christians have a special place in that plan because we, and not others, have already received God's grace in Baptism and faith in His teachings; we have been singled out by God's generosity. But at the same time "God desires all to be saved" (1 Tim 2:4), so have a mission: we are called to make the grace and faith we've received produce "good works," drawing others to Christ by our actions. Vatican II called this the "universal call to holiness" (Lumen Gentium, Ch. 5) -- every Christian is called to be a saint.

Now fortunately our call gets even more personal, when we consider that we each have different talents, personalities, relationships, strengths and weaknesses -- and God knows exactly how to put all of this to use. So how are we supposed to discover our "personal vocation," the particular "works" which "God has prepared in advance" for us to do? Prayer. Prayer is the answer, because "vocation" implies that God is "calling," and we can only hear His call if we are in a position to listen.

The Catechism defines prayer in different ways. It is "the raising of one's mind and heart to God" (CCC 2559 - St. John Damascene), a "close sharing between friends" (CCC 2779 - St. Teresa of Avila); but it is also begging, praising, repenting, or interceding for others (CCC 2700-2724). No matter what, in every case it is an encounter with God, and it is by means of this encounter that we become more and more docile to God's voice and plan.

There are many good books on the subject of prayer. Fr. Thomas Dubay and Fr. Jacques Philippe have a few good introductions, and there are many helpful guides to lectio divina, praying with Scripture. But one mnemonic device that has always been helpful for me, even if a little curious, is "ARRR" -- "pray like a pirate". Once learned you never forget it:

- 1) "Aware" - awareness first of God's presence, He who is always present to us (see Psalm 139); awareness also of His Word, in a Scripture passage, or His presence, in the Eucharist, especially if I am praying in a church; but awareness also of my desires, questions, whatever is going on in my life...
- 2) "Relate" - we need to relate to Jesus whatever it is that we are aware of; prayer is not simply getting stuck in our own thought. And honesty! Even Jesus admits his desire not to undergo the Cross (Lk 22:42) ... though He concludes with His deeper desire to do the Father's will, whatever it might be. We want our desires to be purified in this way.
- 3) "Receive" - prayer is not simply about talking, but also listening; it is a conversation, and that means allowing time for God to speak; persevering in the silence. Is God trying to tell me something? I need to listen.
- 4) "Respond" - what have I learned or resolved from this time of prayer? Perhaps some decision; perhaps gratitude for some light received; perhaps simply knowing that I have consoled Christ by making an effort to be present to Him. The goal is not necessarily to come away ready to "do something," as if prayer were only a means to some further action, but it is also true that we need to remember, reflect, and act on the guidance of God given in prayer.

God bless,

Fr Tim

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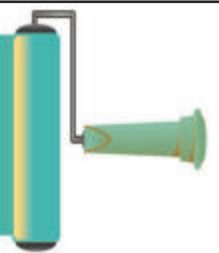
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