



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

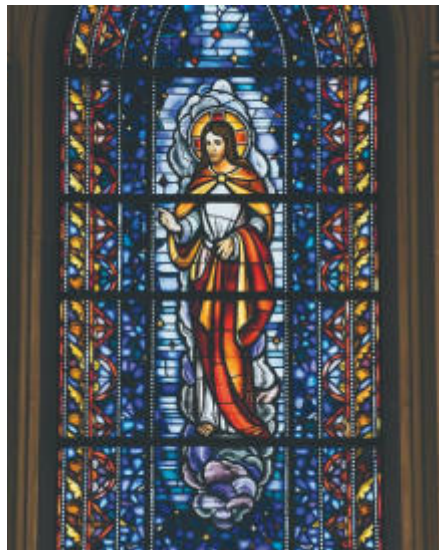
CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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 22-28)

Monday (9:00 am) +Charles Missar

Tuesday (9:00 am) +Dionisia Tagalog

Wednesday (9:00 am) +Genevieve Missar

Friday (9:00 am) +John Kilcoyne

Saturday (9:00 am) +Carmelito Villareal

(4:00 pm) Special Intention

Sunday (8:00 am) Parishioners

(10:00 am) Special Intention

(12:00 pm) +Catherine Ukoha

5th Sunday of Lent

Amen, amen, I say so you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

John 12:24

March 21, 2021 | Fax: (301) 805-5053 | Email: office@ascensionbowie.org | www.ascensionbowie.org



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 soon. 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.

Easter Memorial Flowers

Ascension Catholic Church invites all parishioners to consider a memorial flower contribution in name of deceased loved ones for Easter. A listing of names will be placed in the Divine Mercy Sunday (April 11) bulletin and all will be remembered in the Easter Masses. If you would like to participate, please fill out the form below, cut it out, put it in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket (or place in the IN BOX at the office). An offering of \$20.00 will assist in decoration of the sanctuary and church for Easter.

I wish to make a contribution to the Christmas Memorial Flower Fund.

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In order for names to appear in the Divine Mercy bulletin, this form must be returned by 3 pm 3/31/2021.



**Congratulations! This week's raffle winner is
*John Tyler!***

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:40-9am Confessions	8:40-9am Confessions	8:40-9am Confessions		8:40-9am Confessions
9am Mass	9am Mass	9am Mass		9am Mass
				9:30am Children's Stations of the Cross
3pm Adoration				3pm Adoration
Adoration	5:45-6:45pm Adoration and Confessions			5:45-7:15pm Adoration and Confessions
Adoration	7-8:30pm RCIA			7:30pm Adult Stations of the Cross
Adoration				8-9pm Adoration and Confessions
9pm Benediction				9pm Benediction

—Greetings from Fr. Tim—

Dear Parishioners,

Today we hear some words that raise significant questions: "Son though he was, [Christ] learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him." We wonder, how did Christ "learn obedience"? And how did He become "perfect"? Wasn't He always God, always obedient, always perfect?

The answer is complicated, and worth more than a single article; but it deserves at least an introduction. So first, as Christians, we do believe Jesus is fully divine, and thus can't say that Christ "learned" in the same way you and I do without some qualification. He always saw with the perspective of God, at times displaying His divine knowledge by peering into people's souls, or revealing the future: "you will deny me three times," He said to Peter (Mt 26:34); "you have had five husbands," He said to the woman at the well (Jn 4:18). Our understanding of Jesus must always account for His divine nature which knows all things, which gazes on the Father's face and knows that He is heard.

Yet we also believe Jesus was fully human. Jesus "grew in wisdom" (Lk 2:52), was "wearied" from travel (Jn 4:6), and had friends, ate, and slept. He had a true human nature -- what makes us what we are, different from animals, and different from animals -- just without sin, because He was underneath that human nature always the Son of God.

And so here we return to the point: Jesus always did the will of the Father. In what sense then did He "learn obedience"? First, living out His eternal "yes" to the Father in time -- in every decision He made: His "yes" to God as a child in Nazareth, His "yes" to God as carpenter, and His "yes" to God in His public ministry and passion and death. These are helpful for us to meditate on, because they teach us how to be human, how to obey God as well. "Jesus reveals man to man," Vatican II said. And so the Son of God "was made perfect" not in the sense that He was ever sinful, but in the sense that He gradually fulfilled His human mission in time.

But secondly, in another sense, we are the the sons and daughters "made perfect" in Him. Since Jesus is the "Head" of the "Body," the Church, and we are His "members" by our Baptism (1 Cor 12:27), we "learn obedience" to the degree that our lives conform to His. The more Christ's teachings take hold of our minds, and the more the grace of His sacraments permeates our souls, the more we, the Body, become configured to the Head. Sometimes this obedience is learned at the cost of suffering -- ups and downs, sins and repentance -- but in the end it is learned, and that is what is most important.

And so the words from the letter carry a certain urgency: don't give up! Keep striving to obey the will of God, with the help of Christ's grace. If you fall, run back to the sacraments, and go forward having learned to depend more on Him. The more we cling to Him as "sons," paradoxically, learning not to rely on ourselves, the more "mature" we grow. For as Christ said, "Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom" (Mt 18:3).

God bless,

Fr Tim

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.

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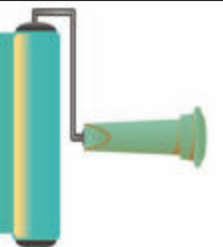
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