



# 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

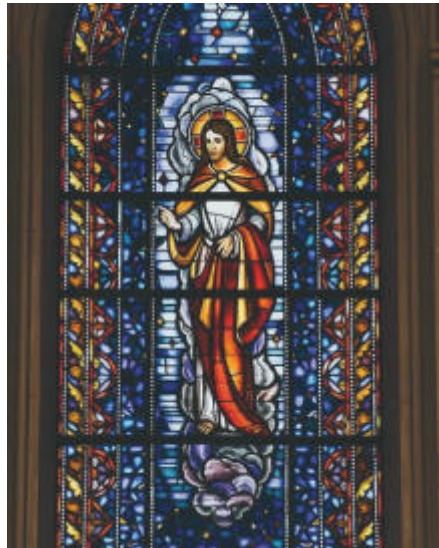
## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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 (APRIL 26—MAY 2)

Monday (9:00 am) +Joseph Armstrong

Tuesday (9:00 am) +Thomas & +Anne Wilson

Wednesday (9:00 am) +Jackie Vacheresse

Friday (9:00 am) Fr. Drew Braun

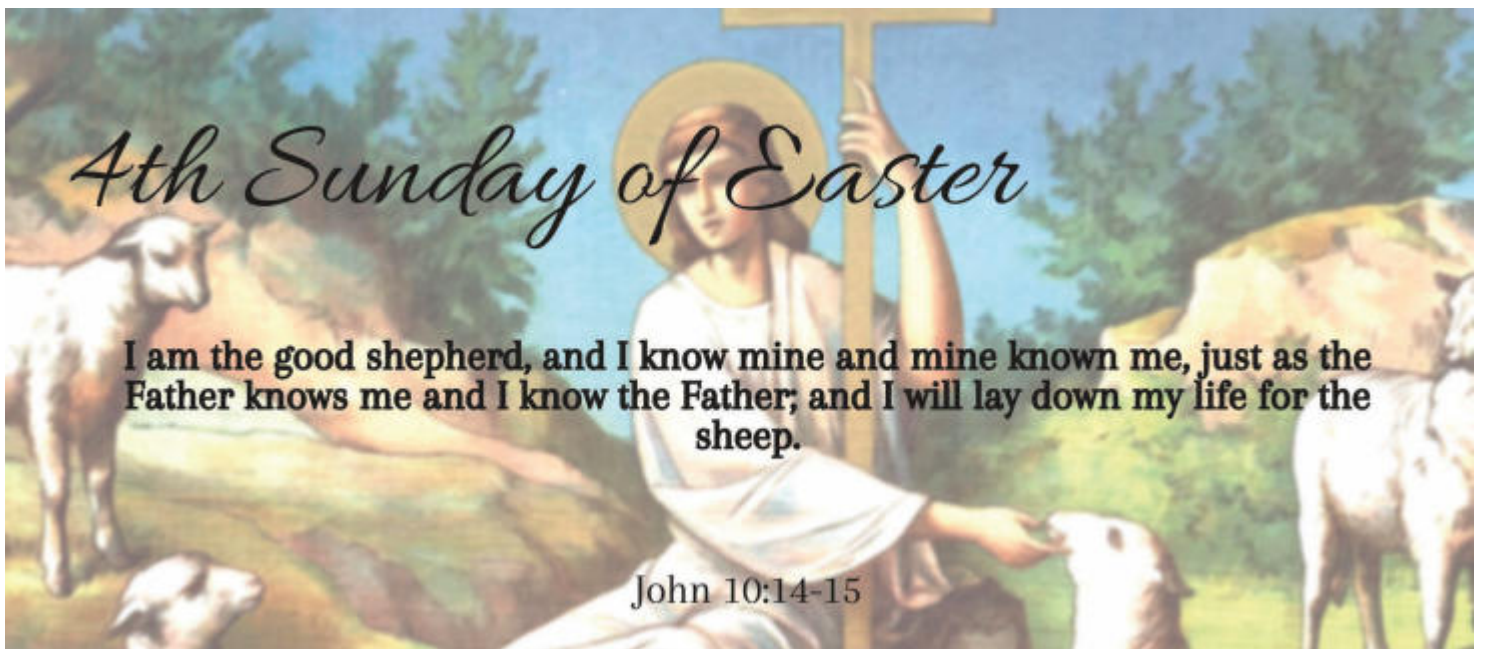
Saturday (9:00 am) Special Intention

(4:00 pm) +Alethea E. Patten

Sunday (8:00 am) Parishioners

(10:00 am) +Thomas Julien Sr.

(12:00 pm) Sodality



## 4th Sunday of Easter

I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine known me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:14-15

April 25, 2021 | Fax: (301) 805-5053 | Email: [office@ascensionbowie.org](mailto:office@ascensionbowie.org) | [www.ascensionbowie.org](http://www.ascensionbowie.org)

## Update on the Jubliarian Mass:

Due to COVID restrictions, in person participation for the Jubliarian Mass is limited to 50 couples. Parishes are able to register one couple to attend the Mass. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis, until capacity is reached. The Mass will be live-streamed on Sunday, June 27 at 3:00pm at the Cathedral of St. Matthew to honor couples celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, and 70+ years. All couples registered by May 14 will receive a Jubliarian anniversary certificate regardless of in person Mass participation. If you would like to register, please contact the parish office.

## Natural Family Planning Introductory Course:

Married couples interested in learning about Natural Family Planning are invited to join in a virtual class on Saturday, July 29, from 7-9pm. Go to <https://nfp101july2021.eventbrite.com> to register. Couples seeking to learn a specific NFP method are encouraged to visit any of the following providers: [Couple to Couple League](#), [BOMA USA](#), [Creighton Method](#), [Marquette Method](#).



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

***Ms. Taylor Greenlee Sterling!***

## *The Easter flowers in the Church are in memory of:*

Lynyingning V. Aguilar  
Alexander A. Angeles  
Antonio O. Belmonte  
Euleterio O. Belmonte  
Raine Bowling  
Miguel, Irene, Pacifico, and Jovita Castro  
John & Bernadette Connelly  
Pete Cornel  
Joe and Betty Disney  
Charley Missar  
Alfredo Clamor  
Martin de Leon  
Ivan Ferrando Bueno  
Connie Hendershott  
Deceased Loved Ones  
Michael J. Hungerford  
Jose & Dolores Jabonete  
Ronald David Johnson  
James & Lelia Johnson  
Ford & Renee Kalil  
Angelita, Anne, Patrick, Mary Anne and Francis  
Kelly, and Patrick Kelly Jr.  
Thomas, Gertrude, John, Thomas, Norman, Edward,  
Elizabeth, Mary and Jeanette Lydon

Fr. William F. Goode  
Barbara H. & Joseph T. Mairoriello  
Gesimino & Anglina Maioriello  
Jackie Maioriello & Jerry Mauro  
Rosie Maioriella & Bill Gennetti  
Mom & Dad, Uncle Ping & Richy, Mark, Daris, John  
Katire, Robert, Billy, & James  
Randolph & Yvonne Miggins  
Edward Parker & Rosetta Harris  
The Partington family  
Angelo & Margaret Righi  
Joan Rodenhauser and Bob & JoAnne Janus  
Betty Lacey  
Anastacia Sophia Rosser  
Gervacio Sarra and Ines Sarra  
Daniel, Mary, and Cleveland Savoy  
Al & Ethel Stone  
Mr. and Mrs. Napoleon Coco  
Haley Pointer  
Dr. Alfredo Figaredo and Alina Figaredo  
Catherine Ukoha  
Rosa Gonzalez  
The Jacos and Shaffer Family

Dear Parishioners,

—Greetings from Fr. Tim—

Today's readings this "Good Shepherd Sunday" urge us to reflect on God's desire to save us, even to the point that Christ, the Good Shepherd, would "lay down his life for his sheep." Whoever responds Christ with faith is counted among the flock, for there is no "other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

But what does it mean to respond to Christ with faith?

Some promote the idea that a one-time decision to accept Christ, perhaps with great emotion, is what is needed. "Once saved, always saved," they say. And in and of itself, such a decision is not bad -- we do need to accept Christ as Lord and Savior, without leaving any aspect of our lives untouched! But to do so once, and presume that we are thereby guaranteed salvation, is not faithful to the Scriptures; that would be an incomplete idea of faith.

Instead, we have a much different picture of faith. Over and over again, Christ urges us "persevere" in our faith (e.g., Mt 24:13; Luke 8:15), while Paul speaks of the need to "work out" salvation (Phil 2:12) and to "hold fast" (Phil 2:16) to the teachings he has imparted. John likewise exhorts us to let Christ's word "abide" in us (1 Jn 1:24, 1 Jn 4:13), and James reminds us to be "doers of the word," lest we "deceive" ourselves, and lack the integrity of true faith (Jas 1:22-23). The Old Testament, moreover, is arguably a demonstration of bad faith: faith that says yes to God, but then doesn't follow through.

Thus the Scriptures as a whole describe faith as more than a momentary act of belief, as something more akin to an habitual adherence or "clinging" to Christ, which manifests itself in a whole new way of life. And this is what the Church has always meant by calling faith a "virtue" -- a firm disposition inclining our mind to submit to Christ. It's not just a matter an individual action, which virtues indeed produce, but something lasting, habitually inclining the mind to think a certain way: in this case, according to Christ's teachings. Such faith moreover moves our will to desire what Christ promises, habitually inclining us to rely His help in the virtue of hope. And then this hope moves us to grow in the virtue of charity, grateful to Christ for his help, until we love him as a friend, and seek to please Him in all we do. This charity perfects and deepens the whole process, moving us to think of our friend more and more and continue to rely on his help, such that "to him who has, more will be given" (Mt 25:29).

But the whole process begins with being "sheep" -- an animal whose characteristic trait is to follow the shepherd. Can I hear Christ's voice in the events of my life, in meditation on Scripture, in prayer for the Blessed Sacrament? And am I willing to follow, wherever He might lead?

God bless,

Fr Tim

**Mother's Day Novena Cards:** Mother's Day this year is celebrated on Sunday, May 9. If you would like to offer a Spiritual bouquet of Masses for your mother, living or deceased, special Mother's Day cards are available in the vestibule of the church. Please return the outer envelope with your offering by placing it in the collection basket or giving it to the usher at the end of Mass. You may also drop the envelope off at the parish office by Monday, May 3. The inside card and envelope are for your own use and can be given or mailed to your mother. There are also Mother's Day offering envelopes without cards available. A novena of Masses will be offered beginning on Mother's Day, May 9.

#### 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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