



# 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

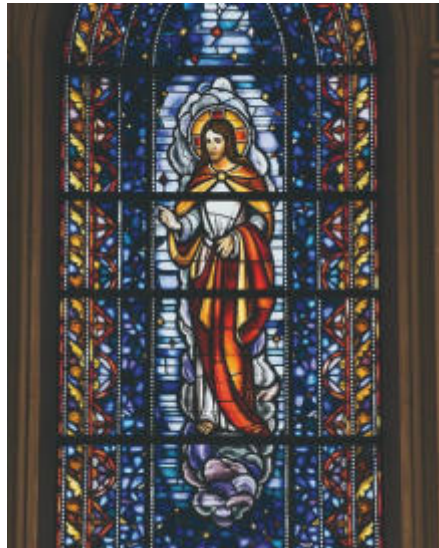
## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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 (MAY 10-16)

Monday (9:00 am) Mother's Day

Tuesday (9:00 am) Mother's Day

Wednesday (9:00 am) Mother's Day

Friday (9:00 am) Mother's Day

Saturday (9:00 am) Mother's Day

(4:00 pm) +Alethea E. Patten

Sunday (8:00 am) Parishioners

(10:00 am) Tony & Annabelle Visk

(12:00 pm) Mother's Day

## 6th Sunday of Easter

**It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.**

John 15:16-17

## —Greetings from Fr. Tim—

Dear Parishioners,

A happy Sixth Sunday of Easter! Today our second reading reminds us that "God is love," and since we also celebrate Mothers' Day today, we can reflect on how God shows His love for us through our mothers.

First, the Scriptures teach us that being a mother is always a gift of God. Psalm 139 says, "you knit me together in my mother's womb" (Ps 139:13), telling us motherhood is a way of cooperating with God in the work of creation, and numerous figures -- Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Mary -- all become pregnant as a result of prayer or a miracle, emphasizing that God is ultimately the source of human life. These points conflict with the modern attitude that children are either a right or a burden, and instead speak to the blessing and gift that motherhood is in God's plan.

Second, the Scriptures teach us that mothers' love teaches us about God's love. Psalm 131 says: "O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a child quieted at its mother's breast; like a child that is quieted is my soul. O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time forth and for evermore." Just as children learn to feel secure in their mother's embrace, God wants us to abandon our fears to Him by trusting in His care. Mothers thus have an important role in teaching their children about the care and love of God.

Third, the Scriptures show us that motherhood also has a spiritual dimension. When Joseph and Mary present the baby Jesus in the Temple, Simeon says to Mary: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed" (Lk 2:34-35). Here Simeon prophesies about Jesus' mission, but also about Mary's: the "sword" that will "pierce" her soul is none other than Jesus' own death, which she will feel more deeply than anyone else because of her profound love for her son. At the same time, her trusting abandonment to God's plan will be a unique way of assisting in Jesus' redemption of the human race. All of this shows us something unique about Mary's role in the story of salvation, but it also teaches us a more general point: to be a mother is not simply biological, but also spiritual: a mother's love is bound up with God's plan for her children, calling for faith and trust as she seeks to follow the example of Mary, offering Jesus back to God as a gift for the salvation of the world.

So for saying yes to the gift of life, teaching us about God's love, and entrusting us to the God's plan, let's give thanks for our mothers, praying for them today.

God bless,

Fr Tim

**Vaccination appointments in Bowie:** The City of Bowie is now offering vaccine appointments to all County residents, age 16 and up. Getting vaccinated at the Bowie Senior Center is quick, simple, and it's close to home. The clinic operates three days a week on Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays. We have approximately 750 openings available each week. Individuals who pre-register on our website ([www.cityofbowie.org/vax](http://www.cityofbowie.org/vax)<<http://www.cityofbowie.org/vax>>) will receive a call from one of our schedulers usually within 24 hours.

**Diaper Drive!** Ascension's American Heritage Girls Troop MD0340 is collecting donations of baby diapers and baby wipes to gift to the Gabriel Network and to the Bowie-Crofton Pregnancy Clinic, which serve and house local women in crisis pregnancies and their babies. **\*\*All diaper sizes needed—especially *newborn*, 4, 5, & 6\*\***

Please place donations in the portable crib in the vestibule from now until May 30. Thank you for your generosity!

## Congratulations to Ascension's new

### *First Communicants and Confirmandi*

**Confirmation and First Communion at Ascension:** Nine young people received the Sacrament of Confirmation at Ascension on Friday, April 23, 2021 at a special 7:00 PM Mass. The celebrant was our administrator, Fr. Tim Daniel, who had been delegated the faculty to confer the sacrament by the bishop due to the ongoing pandemic. It was a culmination of two years of study, preparation and prayer. With this powerful sacrament, the Confirmandi received an outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and were strengthened for service to the Body of Christ. About a week and a half later, thirteen children received the Body of Christ for the very first time at Ascension's First Communion Mass, held on Sunday, May 2 at the 10:00 AM Mass. What a joy-filled celebration it was! We are grateful to our parish catechists and to the children's families for all their hard work in preparing them to receive these sacraments. Please keep them and all our parish children in your prayers as they continue their faith journey.

**Newly confirmed:** Alaina Denis Biswas, Razan John Biswas, Ariana Guadalupe Caraway, Delaney Maria Daffan, Sarah-Maelle Anthony Iku, Delali Therese Kwakou, Chelsea Josephine Onuekwusi, Emma Josephine Reese, and Yesenia Mary Santiago.

**First Communicants:** Lennox Baird, Orion Biswas, Maximus Biswas, Christine Centeno, Emmaleigh Deegan, Xavier Imbarlina, Jocelyn Nenichka, Luke Omoruyi, Norah O'Neal, Adaeze Onuaku, Olive Onuekwusi, Elizabeth Santiago and Trey Sullivan. [Please keep Njena Asangong in your prayers; she is in our First Communion class but was unable to attend the First Communion Mass on May 3<sup>rd</sup>; she will be receiving the sacrament soon.]



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

***Mr. Herbert Herbert!***

Wonder why this was here a week early? While today is Mother's Day, May is the month of Mary, our Mother! Every day this month is a Mother's Day for our perfect mom, Mary!



### **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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