



# 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

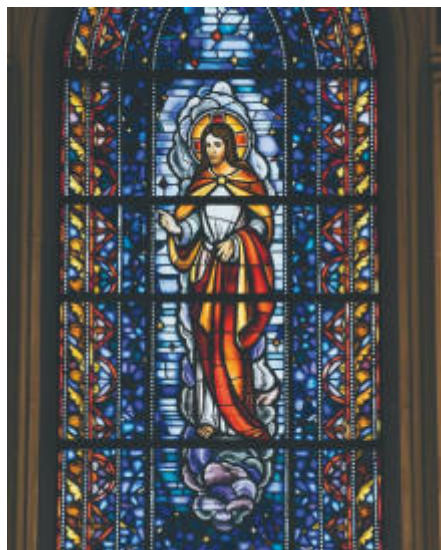
## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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 24-30)

Monday (9:00 am) +Joan Kozak

Tuesday (9:00 am) +Fr. Henry Januszkiewicz

Wednesday (9:00 am) Kathleen Bonaffini

Friday (9:00 am) +Mary O'Connor

Saturday (9:00 am) Special Intention  
(4:00 pm) +Lillian Kulick

Sunday (8:00 am) Parishioners  
(10:00 am) Special Intention  
(12:00 pm) +Richard Lee

# Pentecost Sunday

But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming.

John 16:13

May 23, 2021 | Fax: (301) 805-5053 | Email: [office@ascensionbowie.org](mailto:office@ascensionbowie.org) | [www.ascensionbowie.org](http://www.ascensionbowie.org)

Dear Parishioners,

## —Greetings from Fr. Tim—

This weekend we celebrate Pentecost, at times called the "birthday of the Church," because the Holy Spirit transforms the once-cowardly apostles into bold preachers of the Gospel, even to be willing to offer their lives for their faith in Christ.

At Baptism and Confirmation we receive the same Holy Spirit, which begs us to ask: why do we not proclaim the Gospel with such boldness? And with such miraculous signs as we see happen in the Scripture account: "tongues of fire," a "strong driving wind," and various healings, exorcisms throughout the Acts of the Apostles?

There are several plausible considerations. For one, we need to remember that the apostles were eyewitnesses of the risen Christ, and underwent an intense period of formation by the Lord Himself. Although they did flee at the moment of His Passion, their sustained personal contact with Jesus did bear tremendous fruit once they were convicted by His Resurrection and empowered by the Spirit.

Secondly, it is arguable that God needed His Church to begin with clear, powerful miracles. Although God tends to work miracles "by exception" and not "as a rule," people needed to know that the apostles were indeed authoritatively sent by God and that Jesus was indeed the Messiah; after all, many of them had thought Jesus to be a criminal, and the apostles to be mere fishermen. And so God "confirmed their word with accompanying signs" (Mk 16:20), powerfully making their supernatural mission and authority clear.

But then there is a third consideration: perhaps God does want to work powerfully in our lives, still today, but we ourselves are generally not yet ready! This, I believe, rounds out the answer. Because in actual fact God does work powerfully up and down the centuries, whenever he finds "good soil"; that is, whenever He finds someone who is ready and willing to respond to His word and sacramental grace. The saints are the ultimate proof of this, for in their lives we find the very same supernatural boldness, conversion, and even the same and greater miracles that we see in the Scriptures. Moreover they live and breath the Word and the sacraments. Thus St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila describe the life of the Holy Spirit as what normally takes over in a Christian, but only after an initial, serious and sustained commitment to Christ and His grace.

Pentecost thus beckons us to live our supernatural identity: to be fully alive as Christ's Body, empowered by the Holy Spirit; this is our true identity. And in this light we can understand G.K. Chesterton's quip: "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult, and left untried."

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.

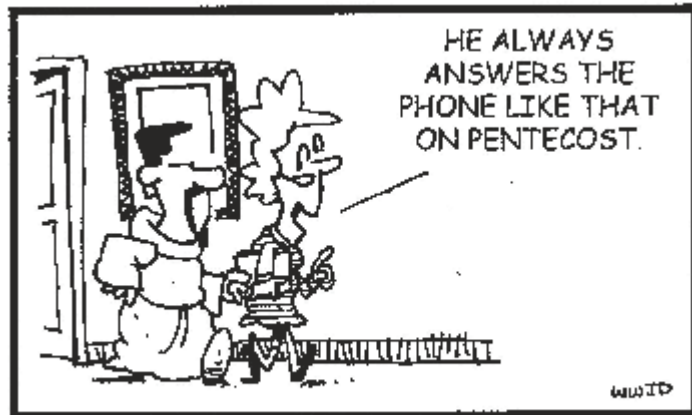
**Diaper Drive!** Ascension's American Heritage Girls Troop MD0340 is collecting donations of baby diapers and baby wipes to gift to the Gabriel Network and to the Bowie-Crofton Pregnancy Clinic, which serve and house local women in crisis pregnancies and their babies. \*\*All diaper sizes needed—especially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

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





**PENTECOST**



Registration for the Knights of Columbus Summer Camp has begun! We are preparing for our twentieth summer in College Park, MD. We offer swim lessons, arts and crafts, games, sports, and free swim at our extensive facility. The registration form can be downloaded at <http://kofccamp.wordpress.com>. Please direct any questions to Jamie Morris at (240)389-2267 (voice or text) or [kofccamp@gmail.com](mailto:kofccamp@gmail.com).

**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, Bert Nemeth, and Shirley Mackessy.



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