SACRED HEART CHURCH

16501 Annapolis Rd. Bowie. Maryland 20715

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PARISH OFFICE - 301-262-0704 **CCD OFFICE - 301-262-1221**

SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday - 4:30 p.m. (Vigil)
Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon
(Babysitting available during 10:00 a.m. Mass)

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday - Friday, 6:30 and 8:00 a.m.
Saturday - 9:30 a.m., Chapel
(Church during the CCD year)

HOLY DAY MASSES
As announced

CIVIL HOLIDAYS
Any change in the weekday schedule will be announced.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Saturday - 3:00-4:00 p.m. or anytime by request.
Wednesday - 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Chapel

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
Contact and coordinate with the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the Wedding.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OR HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK
Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

HOLY HOUR
First Friday morning after 8:00 a.m. Mass

R.C.I.A. - INQUIRY INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH
For Catholic and non-Catholic adults inquiring about the Catholic faith. Contact the Parish Office.

ADORATION
Tuesday 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. - Chapel

PARISH STAFF
Rev. Ronald A. Potts, Pastor
Rev. Michael Russo, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Dan D. Abeyta
Deacon Bob Seith

NEW PARISHIONERS
Welcome to our Parish Community.
Office Hours - Monday - Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION
Contact the Parish Office.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION (CCD)
Coordinator: Mrs. Mary Hager
CCD email: ccdsacredheart@gmail.com
CCD meets September through May:

Tuesday:	Grades 5 to 8	7:30-8:45 p.m.
Saturday:	Grades K to 4	9:00-10:15 a.m.

YOUTH GROUP
Youth Ministers: William & Faith Clerx
Email: sacredheartbowieyg@gmail.com
Youth Group (Grades 6 to 12)
Youth Group meets Sunday, Thursday, Friday
As announced

ORGANIST
Dr. Henry Wroblewski

CHOIR DIRECTOR
Mr. Joseph Bottner

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC DIRECTORS
Mr. Frank Figlozzi, Mrs. Betsy April & Mr. Basil Parlett

LECTOR COORDINATOR
Mr. Steve Bast (301-464-8782)

WEBSITE - www.sacredheartbowie.org
E-MAIL - parishoffice@sacredheartbowie.org

WHITEMARSH BRANCH

Masses For The Week

MONDAY DECEMBER 6
St. Nicholas
6:30 Carlos & Maria Rustrian
8:00 Alex Fitzmaurice

TUESDAY DECEMBER 7
St. Ambrose
6:30 John Kylus
8:00 Yvonne Palumbo

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:30 Graciano Gancayco
8:00 Tim Nauman

THURSDAY DECEMBER 9
St. Juan Diego
6:30 Kate Lewis
8:00 Donald Doyle

FRIDAY DECEMBER 10
Our Lady of Loreto
6:30 Brian Hug
8:00 William Everhart

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11
St. Damasus I
9:30 Jeffrey Harash

The Rosary is recited after the 8 and 9:30 a.m. daily Masses.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
A Holy Day of Obligation
Mass Schedule
Tuesday, December 7 - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 8 - 6:30 & 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
All Masses are in the main church.

Everyone is invited to **Solemn Vespers** each Sunday in Advent at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Vespers (Evening Prayer) consists of an offering of psalms and canticles, a scripture reading, petitions and the Lord's Prayer.

During the Advent Season, confessions will be offered on the following days and times:

Wednesday, December 8, 15 and 22, 2020
7:00—8:00 p.m. - Chapel

Thursday, December 9, 16 and 23, 2020
7:00—8:00 p.m. - Chapel

Saturday, December 11, and 18, 2020
2:30—4:00 p.m. - Church

Please take this opportunity to spiritually prepare yourself for the birth of our Savior.

The Altar Society is looking for men and women who are available once every six weeks to do some light cleaning of the Chapel and Church. The tasks involve dusting, refilling the holy water founts, and a few other things. If you would like to join the group or have any questions, please contact Mary Funk at 301-805-1825. The Altar Society also needs a few ladies to do the Holy Wash once every six weeks. This is a great way to get involved in the Parish and meet other parishioners while keeping the Church and Chapel in good order.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

CH=Carroll Hall (basement of church) --HC=Hogan Center (hill)
WMH=Whitemarsh Hall - HH=Hogan Hall (both in HC)

Sunday 7:00 p.m. - Vespers - Chapel

Monday 7:00 p.m. - RCIA - WMH
Our Lady's Sodality
6:10 p.m. - Rosary—Chapel
6:30 p.m. - Mass—Chapel
7:00 p.m. - Meeting & Social—WMH

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Adoration - Chapel
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - St. Peter the Rock - HC
12:30 p.m. - Walking With Purpose - WMH
7:15 p.m. - Walking With Purpose - WMH
7:30-8:45 p.m. - CCD Grades 5-8 - HC

Wednesday **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
(See Mass Schedule—Column One)
7:00-8:00 p.m. - Confessions - Chapel

Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - St. Peter the Rock - HC
7:00-8:00 p.m. - Confessions - Chapel
7:30 p.m. - High School Youth Group - WMH
8:00 p.m. - Vespers Rehearsal - Church

Friday 8:30 p.m. - AA Meeting - CH

Saturday 7:00 a.m. - Men's Group - WMH
9:00-10:15 a.m. - CCD Grades K, 1, 3, & 4 - HC
11:00 a.m. - First Penance - Grade 2 - Church
2:30 - 4:00 p.m. - Confessions - Church

The second collection next weekend will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious Brothers and Sisters.

On Saturday, December 11, our second graders will receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. Please keep these young boys and girls and their families in your prayers.

Religious Education News — Christmas Break for CCD

Saturday, December 11, is the last CCD class for grades K-4.
Tuesday, December 14, is the last CCD class for grades 5-8.

We with everyone a very Merry Christmas!
Class will resume in January 2022.

SIMBANG GABI (Advent Evening Masses) is a nine-day Novena and Masses in honor of the Bless Virgin Mary to spiritually prepare ourselves for the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Sacred Heart Church will host the Simbang Gabi on **December 18, 19, and 20** at 7:00 p.m. We need volunteer ushers, ministers of the Eucharist, lectors, altar servers and offertory sponsors. For more information or to volunteer, email Beth Maqui at macbethphil@gmail.com.

All ladies of the parish are invited to **Our Lady's Sodality holiday potluck** on Monday, **December 6**, beginning with Rosary at 6:10 p.m. and Mass at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel followed by a quick meeting and potluck dinner social in Whitemarsh Hall. Bring a dish to share and come celebrate with the other ladies of the parish. This is always a fun event with delicious holiday food and Christmas caroling!

SIYAM NA GABING PANUNULUYAN SA TATLONG PAROKYA NG DIYOSESIS NG WASHINGTON

NINE DAY NOVENA MASSES AT THREE PARISHES IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

SIMBANG GABI 2021

500 Years Proclaiming Jesus the Word

The year 2020 marked 500 years of Catholicism in the Philippines. Unfortunately, due to the heavy restrictions in place at the time, we had little to no way of marking that momentous milestone. As an act of gratitude for the 500th Anniversary , each day of this year's Simbang Gabi Novena is dedicated to different ministries of our parishes that are involved with catechesis and evangelization.

In celebration of the mystery of the Incarnation of the Father's eternal word – the fruit of Mary's womb, we invite everyone to come and join us for our nine-day Advent Novena Masses.

DECEMBER 15, 16, & 17	**St. Edward The Confessor Parish**
7:00 PM – Holy Rosary	1940 Mitchellville Road
7:30 PM – Mass	Bowie, MD 20716
DECEMBER 18, 19, & 20	**Sacred Heart Church**
7:00 PM – Holy Rosary	16501 Annapolis Road
7:30 PM – Mass	Bowie, MD 20715
DECEMBER 21 & 22	**Holy Family Church**
7:00 PM – Holy Rosary	12010 Woodmore Road
7:30 PM – Mass	Mitchellville, MD 20721
DECEMBER 23	**Holy Family Church**
7:00 PM – Holy Rosary	
7:30 PM – Mass	

Due to Covid19 restriction, there will be no fellowship on December 23, the last day of the Advent Novena.

At Sacred Heart, we encourage On-line gift giving:
https://www.sacredheartbowie.org/online-giving
Then choose the option: One Time Gift, use the Notes box to indicate the specific collection or fund to which your One Time Gift should be applied: Simbang Gabi 2021

We need Mass Sponsors, Volunteers, Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers.
For more information and to volunteer, kindly get in touch with any of the following committee members:

Holy Family Church:
Monette Roxas-Tharp (301) 906-0334
Millet Panga (301) 275-1198

St. Edwards the Confessor Parish:
Victoria Venida (301) 335-6632
Lito Sayasa (240) 543-0425

Sacred Heart Church:
Jun/Beth Maqui email:
macbethphil@gmail.com

SIMBANG GABI

SIMBANG GABI or Mass at Dawn is one of the longest and most popular traditions in the Philippines. It is when Catholic churches across the nation start to open their doors shortly before the break of dawn to welcome the faithful to the Simbang Gabi mass. Simbang Gabi is a nine-day novena to the Blessed Mother. The novena begins on December 16 as early as 4 in the morning and culminates on Christmas Eve to welcome the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. In some churches, the "panuluyan" is reenacted showing the effort of Joseph and Mary to find a suitable birthplace.

ORIGIN

Simbang Gabi traces its roots in Mexico when, in 1587, the Pope granted the petition of Fray Diego de Soria, prior of the convent of San Agustin Acolman, to hold Christmas mass outdoors because the Church could not accommodate the huge number of people attending the evening mass. During the old times, the pre-dawn mass is announced by the ringing of the church bells. In some rural areas, an hour before the start of Simbang Gabi, a brass band plays Christmas music all over the town. It is also believed that parish priests would go knocking on doors to wake and gather the faithful to attend the mass. Farmers as well as fishermen wake up early to hear the Gospel before going to their work and ask for the grace of good harvest.

SIMBANG GABI NOW AND THEN

The changing of times does not break the preservation of celebrating Simbang Gabi although it is celebrated in new ways. Still, the tradition of Simbang Gabi continues. Part of it is the colorful lights and lanterns that fill every street. Beautiful parols or lanterns are hung in every window. Songs of the season are played everywhere to warm the hearts. Families, friends and even individuals find their way going to the nearest church to attend the nine-day novena. Shortly after the mass, families gather in their homes to celebrate Noche Buena and feasted on various delicacies like queso de bola, bibingka, puto bungbong, or a drink of salabat or hot chocolate.

SIGNIFICANCE

Simbang Gabi has become one of the most popular traditions in the country. But it is not just a tradition that is celebrated because we need to do so. It is a significant moment not only because it strengthens relationships among family members but also because it is the time where our faith is intensified. This is the time where we mostly feel the presence of the Lord because it is the spiritual preparation for Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ. It does not matter if one has the stamina to complete the novena or not, what really matters is what is inside the heart. The blessing does not depend on the number of mass attended, but what is important is the disposition of the person who receives the Lord's blessing.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!
Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon sa inyong lahat!

http://www.rcam.org/library/SIMBANG_GABI.htm

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

From the desk of Father Ronald A. Potts:

In our first reading from the Prophet Baruch, he gives a message of consolation and hope to the Israelites. Jerusalem is to prepare for the return of her exiled children. This joyous return is in stark contrast to the chaotic dispersion of God's children from the holy city. Even the mountains and hills will be made low so that God's children can return home escorted by His mercy and justice.

Just as the Israelites were journeying back to Jerusalem, Paul reminds us of our own journey in his letter to the Philippians. It is a journey which begins at baptism—a call to holiness. Paul reminds us, "…that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus." The Lord calls us each day to grow in charity by loving God and our neighbor thus giving glory to God. It is this and only this which has "value" in our lives. We do not stumble in our journey, but fix our gaze on the Lord Jesus and follow where He is calling us.

In our passage from Luke's gospel, John the Baptist cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths." John's message speaks to us about the preparation of our own hearts for the coming of the Lord Jesus. We are reminded that we must overcome the obstacles in our lives which keep us from following Christ. It is the Lord Jesus who offers His grace and mercy to smooth out the obstacles which hinder us from following Him totally and completely. We cannot heal ourselves, but in humility and confidence we approach the Lord Jesus, the fountain of mercy.

Evening of Recollection - December 6

Mother Teresa Vocation Society invites you to an Evening of Recollection on **December 6**, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., at Ascension Catholic Church, 12700 Lanham Severn Road, Bowie, Maryland. Father Tim Daniel, Administrator of Ascension, will present a reflection, "*Praying with Confidence in Darkness.*" Fr. Daniel's presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. Confessions are available from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament begins at 5:00 p.m., should you want to arrive earlier.

Men's Discernment Mass and Lunch
Sunday, December 12 — 12:30-3:00 p.m.

Men in their 20s to 40s, who are interested in the priesthood, are invited to a Men's Discernment Mass and Lunch with Cardinal Gregory. This event will be held at the St. John Paul II National Shrine, 3900 Harewood Road, NE, Washington, DC. To register, visit: https://dcpriest.org/mass-and-lunch-with-cardinal-gregory.

"*Every vocation, every path to which Christ calls us, ultimately leads to fulfillment and happiness, because it leads to God, to sharing in God's own life.*"—Saint John Paul II

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Orders are being taken at the cost of $10 per plant. Envelopes are at all entrances of the Church and in the back of the Chapel. Envelopes will be placed on the altars in the Church and Chapel during the Christmas Season.

"Have we perhaps lost something of the art of listening? Do you leave space to hear God's whisper, calling you forth into goodness? Friends, do not be afraid of silence or stillness, listen to God, adore him in the Eucharist. Let his word shape your journey as an unfolding of holiness." ~ Pope Benedict XVI

Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center offers a variety of retreats for individuals, women, men and engaged couple. The retreat center is located at 7007 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda, Maryland. Following is a list of upcoming retreats. Take a step back from your day-to-day life demands and activities to refocus your spirit in the light of Christ. For more information, visit https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/encounter-christ

December 9-12	Three to Get Married – Marriage Prep Program
December 10	Personal Retreat Day
December 15/16	Mini-Retreats for Women
December 17-18	Advent Retreat for Men

Youth Events

The Youth Group will be stuffing "Socks for Seminarians" They are looking for donations of black socks, toiletries, and small candy. Please place items in the bins in the back of the church this week.

PLEASE PRAY for our parishioners who are in the **ARMED SERVICES**: Larry Seppi, Katie Stafford, Bill Glynn, Jr., Katelyn Ballagh, Riley Cassidy, Ann Maloney, Jake Rohme, Cody Komala, Joshua Poole, Aidan Reilly, Ethan Copping, Kenton Stacey, Chris Seager, Joe O'Connell, M. K. Harris, Justin Burns, Steven P. Maqui, Andrew Rodriguez, Damian Pedersen, Jim Ballagh, Jr., Michael Sierco, Stephen Prevo, Paul Gannett, James Pritchett. *Please notify the Office of family members that can be included or removed.*

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PLEASE PRAY for the **SICK** of the Parish especially Nathan Hambleton, Rich Mulhare, Benny Ferro, Joan Fedorkowicz, Jeffrey Ruth, Jesse Ricketson, Charleen Koebel, Joe Bottner, Jacqueline Hebron, Tony Stone, Mary McDonough, Bennet Robert Teopfer, Terri Gibson, Nicholas Hardin, Terry Briscole, Edward Flynn, Francisca Escribano, Tammy Roberts, Matthew Chamberlain, Fulton Fatzinger, Chija Bauer, John Bagwell, Neil & Christopher Becker, Patricia Fitzmaurice, Kate Christianson, Christina Sheehan, Herb Gillis, Stephen Auerbach, Gail Seith, Robert Cooper, Marilyn Fish, Paul Smith, Noel Peters, Gary Degenhardt, Mary Theresa Lerch, Frances Cicero, Marcy Ann Gaines, Sabrina Loftis, David Manahan, George Smith, Rick DeCicco, Wilda Raffensperger, Rosamond MacDonald, Mark Rose, Jeanne Danko, Joseph Flanagan, Jennie Guilbaud, Paul Ford, Susan Swick, Regina Madigan, Eric Seith, Jim Braswell, Thomas Lumsden, Bernadette Braswell, Carolyn Kassabian, Raymond Wehrmeister, Hoa My Cai, Teri Mignosa, Jamie April, Margaret LaFerrara, Debra Walter, Betty Dyer, Jeanette Harris, Karly Szostak, Mary Kotarski, Ivan Cobo, Monica Diaz, Mary Krok, Mary Beth Fitzmaurice, Rachel Euber, Rene Roach, Robbie Svoboda, Linda & Pat McKenna, Ann Leister, Dawn Chapdelaine and Joni Seith.

Names will remain 3 weeks and can be continued by calling the Office.

Please remember in your prayers the souls of the **FAITHFUL DEPARTED** especially Father John Carroll, SSJ.

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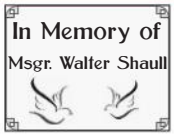

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