



# Ascension Catholic Church

12700 Lanham-Severn Rd. | Bowie, Maryland 20720 | Ph. (301) 262-2227

## MASS SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY MASS:** Saturday 4:00pm (Vigil) | Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

**DAILY MASS:** Monday 9:00am | Tuesday 9:00am | Wednesday 9:00am | Friday 9:00am | Saturday 9:00am

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD IN THE VESTING SACRISTY

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday— 8:40-9:00am (before daily Mass)

Saturday — 8:40-9:00am (before daily Mass) | 3:00-3:30pm (before vigil Mass)

## ADORATION

**Perpetual Adoration:** Please call the parish office for the door code

**Weekday Adoration:** before and after daily Masses (8:00-9:00am, 9:30-10:00am) | Monday 5:00-9:00pm

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday & Tuesday 9:30-3:30pm, Wednesday 9:30-4:30pm | Closed for lunch 12:30-1:00pm

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Timothy Daniel

**Secretary:** Ms. Sharon Fanning | **Bookkeeper:** Mrs. Marilyn Donovan

**Coordinator of Religious Education:** Mrs. Maria Centeno | **Coordinator of Youth Ministry:** Ms. Emma Bigony

## 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**[Jesus] said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."**

Luke 12:15

July 31, 2022 | Fax: (301) 805-5053 | Email: [office@ascensionbowie.org](mailto:office@ascensionbowie.org) | [www.ascensionbowie.org](http://www.ascensionbowie.org)

# *Around Ascension*

## MASS INTENTIONS (August 1-7)

**Monday 9:00am:** +Mrs. Fransisca Aloysious

**Saturday 4:00pm:** +Francis McDonough

**Tuesday 9:00am:** Shirley Visk

**Sunday 8:00am:** Parishioners

**Wednesday 9:00am:** Fe Clamor

**Sunday 10:00am:** Special Intention

**Friday 9:00am:** +Holy Souls in Purgatory

**Sunday 12:00pm:** Sodality

**Saturday 9:00am:** Special Intention

A (+) indicates intention is for the repose of the person's soul

## Mass for Homeschool Families

Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory | Principal Celebrant and Homilist

Sunday, August 21 @ 11:30am

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the Crypt Church

400 Michigan Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20017

Celebrate with other families from across the archdiocese and receive a blessing on your homeschool endeavors from Cardinal Gregory! RSVP, for planning purposes only, to Edwin Mendez via [mendeze@adw.org](mailto:mendeze@adw.org).

## CYO Cross Country - Starting Soon!

Attention all runners ages 6-14! CYO Cross Country (Marian Milers) will be starting up Tuesday, August 23, with the first meet on September 11. Practices will be held Tuesdays and Fridays from 4:00-5:15 pm. The fee is \$65.00 per runner with an additional jersey fee. Check the parish website for a link to register. There will be an information meeting August 9, at 7:00 pm, in the parish hall, at Ascension Catholic Church.

Any questions please contact Eileen Snyder 240-374-9978.

Congratulations to our raffle winner,

*Michael Scanlon*

## "Monumental" VBS | August 15-19, 2022

### PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK

Allen Barber, Francis Barnes, Mary Ann Boyer, Laura Chesnick, Al Cline, Rosita Dietrich, Elizabeth Dinsmore, David Divine, Cynthia Graham, Beverlee Lee, Bob Liggett, Robert Milburn, Ida Mullikin, Mary Murphy, Jean Mosby, Norma Perry, Norma Raffaele, Robert Raffaele Jr., Geralyn Roberson, Mickey Ryan, Bert Nemeth, Sr. Vincent de Paul OSF, and Amber Wist.

Dear Parishioners,

—Greetings from Fr. Tim— 3

I hope you are well, and had a good last week while I was away!

This weekend Paul offers some important words, which, properly understood, help re-center on us on one of the essential principles of our moral life:

*Brothers and sisters: If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.*

This exhortation to "think of what is above" urges us to consider our heavenly goal. Ultimately, we are made for Heaven, where we will be perfectly happy, with no regrets! But when Paul says we have already "died," we wonder what more Paul is getting at. The hint comes from what follows:

*Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry. Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator.*

Here is the fuller context. Paul is speaking of the Christian moral life now, the many ways we must struggle against sin -- "immorality" (*porneia* -- sexual acts outside of marriage), "impurity" (*akatharsia* - unchaste signs, words, or thoughts), "greed" (*pleonexia* -- desiring more wealth than necessary). But he is also especially revealing the solution to this struggle: the great gift of God's grace. By receiving grace, a participation in the divine life, we Christians are healed and strengthened in our various weaknesses, finding a new source of moral strength as we strive to turn from sin and imitate Christ. This allows us to conquer the many vices Paul lists, not only because of our own perseverance, but because we can rely on the strength of Jesus Christ. Such a gift makes us into a "new self," and unites us as one:

*Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all and in all.*

Now as basic as all this might sound, many have forgotten the fundamental role of grace, and how this helps us live out a "Heavenly" life here on earth. By forsaking Baptism, Confession, Mass, and the other sacraments, we deprive ourselves of the source of divine strength, and try to live Christ's commands using only our own resources. This does not work. The many struggles of marriage in our society and in our Church has much to do with this, as people have forgotten what the sacrament of matrimony offers, and how Confession especially enables our ability to overcome weaknesses, and learn to be patient, remaining faithful in love for one another. We need to return to the sacraments!

But in a more general way, the loss of grace leaves the moral life a matter of pure human effort for all, what is known as Pelagianism. This inevitably leads to a division between the naturally elite and the weak: those with many natural gifts or fortunate circumstances, who appear to be "great" or strong in the eyes of the world, in contrast to those with various weaknesses, who come to be looked down upon or forgotten. But since we can only advance so much without God's grace, even the "great" will in all honesty ultimately find themselves confronting various forms of weakness, unhappiness, and at times, despair. And so to deal with such a result, people will either once again look for God and His grace, if they hear of it, or will rationalize sin and vice, lowering their moral standards and the goal of true happiness.

Christ saves us from all of this. The "new self" that Paul describes maintains high standards, the goal of perfect virtue in imitation of Christ. It is also one of true happiness -- the joy and peace of the Holy Spirit, which nothing but mortal sin can take away. But it is also finally a life of friendship, as we become aware that Christ Himself, dwelling within us, through prayer and the sacraments, is the source of our moral "success." This is good news! And so in our fight we must above all learn to confidently rely on the Lord's mercy.

God bless, Fr. Tim

"If our Church is not marked by caring for the poor, the oppressed, the hungry, we are guilty of heresy."

St Ignatius of Loyola | Feast Day: July 31

### Death Announcements & Funeral Arrangements

For an up-to-date listing of parish funerals, please visit [ascensionbowie.org/funerals](http://ascensionbowie.org/funerals).

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

## Have an Extra Room in your House?

Have an extra room in your house? An international Catholic student is looking for housing as he begins a Master's Degree in Public Administration at Bowie State University this fall. He is a former seminarian, loves Eucharistic Adoration, and enjoys singing. For more details, as well as contact information and a letter of recommendation from his pastor and spiritual director, please contact Fr. Tim.

## Youth Ministry Summer Series: Prayer

All rising highschoolers, are invited to youth group for a summer series on prayer. Wednesday nights from 7-9pm, we will be looking at or practicing different types of prayer to help youth learn the importance of and habits for building a daily prayer life. Lessons will include prayer expressed by words, meditative prayer such as Lectio Divina, petitionary and intercessory prayer, and overcoming obstacles in prayer. While we will move through topics methodically, please feel free to join at any time. Signups are sent weekly to the High School Youth Ministry group on Flocknote. If you have any questions, contact Emma Bigony at [youthministry@ascensionbowie.org](mailto:youthministry@ascensionbowie.org).

## In need of more volunteers for Sunday donuts

Have you enjoyed the return of Sunday donuts?! We are still looking for volunteers for this summer, to help our parish enjoy our beautiful new patio and parents to reward their children! Individuals or families are needed to volunteer a few times a year to help facilitate ordering, set up or clean up after Sunday morning Masses.

Email [admin@women-serving-women.com](mailto:admin@women-serving-women.com) for signup details. This is a very low time commitment with a huge reward - thank you to all who have and will help!

### 2022 Bethany Beach Retreat

FOR SINGLE ADULT CATHOLICS – 23rd Annual Bethany Beach Retreat/Vacation in Delaware, Labor Day weekend/week Sep. 3 – 10, 2022 Very low prices (weekend or whole week): \$340 men; \$320 women (if paid by 8/15/22) – +\$20 after. **All meals**, beach chairs, tennis included. Space is limited. Mass daily with Fr. T. Morrow. Holy Hour avail. daily. Send Payment to St. Catherine Society, 1590 Kimblewick Rd., Rockville, MD 20854. For more info contact Fr. T. Morrow at [morrowt@adw.org](mailto:morrowt@adw.org). Pay online at <https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=AJLD5F4VY43NE>.

# »»»» Binky Baby Pledge ««««

*Knights of St John, International Ladies Auxiliary #109 is pleased to partner with the Gabriel Network*

**July 31 – Aug 20, 2022**  
**We will Collect**  
**New Items Only**  
**for Expectant Mothers registered within the Gabriel Network**  
**Examples include:**  
**Car Seats, Strollers, Crib, Pack-N-Plays, Baby Clothes, Monetary Gifts**  
Please place items in the vestibule before or after Mass

Mom S from Chevy Chase, July due date, has 2 older boys

## Gabriel Network Facts

Mom S from Gaithersburg, August due date & needs transportation help

Mission Statement: The Gabriel Network empowers a committed network of Christian churches to “adopt” pregnant mothers and families in need by providing practical, emotional and spiritual support through pregnancy and beyond. It realizes this mission through three programs: a help line, church-based ministry, and housing ministry.

Contributions shelter pregnant women in maternity homes, & provide crisis management

138 active Angel Teams, providing practical emotional & spiritual support to Mothers

15000+ Helpline Contacts this year

Helping Women for over 20 years

18000+ Women & Children Served

3 Maternity Homes, housing up to 13 Moms & their babies

112 Matches made between Gabriel Network Moms & Angel Friends

82 Babies born this year to Moms seeking Help

Sponsored by Knights of St. John, International, Ladies Auxiliary #109

Questions? Contact Donna Dietrich (301-577-6748 | donnam\_dietrich@hotmail.com) or Chinenye Onukwugha (410-422-4272 | chionukwugha@yahoo.com)

