



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

Coordinator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Ms. Heather Bress

27th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord ... but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

2 Timothy 1:8

October 2, 2022 | Fax: (301) 805-5053 | Email: office@ascensionbowie.org | www.ascensionbowie.org

Around Ascension

MASS INTENTIONS (October 3-9, 2022)

Monday 9:00am: +Holy Souls of Purgatory

Saturday 4:00pm: +David E. Johnson

Tuesday 9:00am: +Michael J. Simasek

Sunday 8:00am: Parishioners

Wednesday 9:00am: +Dale Jolliffe

Sunday 10:00am: Ladies Auxiliary

Friday 9:00am: +Stevie Ann Johnson

Sunday 12:00pm: Special Intention

Saturday 9:00am: Special Intention

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

Congratulations to our raffle winner,

Lina Martin

ACT night: Wed. October 5, 7-9pm

TOPIC: Heresies of the Early Church | No signup necessary | Game/Activity to follow discussion

Middle School Fall Fest Retreat

Friday, October 14 | 4:30-9:30pm

Join your friends from Ascension and Sacred Heart for a fall fest of fun with the Sister Servants of the Lord (our beloved Blue Nuns), pizza, a corn maze, evening reflection, and hay ride at Montpelier Farms.

The cost will be \$10 in cash and you must sign up in advance.

Please email admin@women-serving-women.com to register and any parents wishing to help chaperone are more than welcome!

Winter Clothing Swap

Hosted by American Heritage Girls Troop MD0340

SHOP THE SWAP: Saturday, October 8 | 9am-12pm | Bates Hall

DONATION DROP-OFF: October 6 & 7 | 3-7pm | Bates Hall

Donate gently used (all sizes, newborn - adult):

Winter/Fall Clothing

Shoes and Boots

Coats

Hats, Scarves, Gloves

Accessories

Baby Gear

Questions? Email ahg0340bowie@gmail.com

Greetings from Fr. Jim

Dear Parishioners,

This past week we celebrated several important saints: St. Vincent de Paul, known for his great works of charity in Paris; Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, archangels; St. Jerome, one of the greatest Biblical scholars of the Church; and St. Therese, called “the greatest saint of modern times.” It’s kind of a power-filled week, and I encourage all to learn more about each of them!

Today in our second reading, Paul writes some memorable lines to his young protégé, Timothy:

Beloved: I remind you, to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard this rich trust with the help of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us.

Paul is asking Timothy to recall the graces he has received from the Holy Spirit through St. Paul’s hands, likely at his priestly/episcopal Ordination, and to reflect upon them. Such meditation on God’s favors is meant to fortify Timothy for his difficult mission as bishop of Ephesus, in the face of heresies, clashes with authorities, and the administration of church funds. Paul simply accepts that being a minister of the Gospel is going to involve bearing some “share of hardship” for Christ.

These words, and the rest of Paul’s letters to Timothy and Titus, are certainly helpful for priests and bishops today. We too find ourselves in the midst of all kinds of errors, internal divisions, and various practical matters of buildings and people. But the same words should apply to all the Baptized and Confirmed, who have received the Holy Spirit; so how can we “stir up” the Spirit we have received? St. John Chrysostom says:

As fire requires fuel, so grace requires our alacrity, that it may be ever fervent... For this grace it is in our power to kindle or to extinguish; wherefore [Paul] elsewhere says, ‘quench not the Spirit’ (1 Thess 5:19). For by sloth and carelessness it is quenched, and by watchfulness and diligence it is kept alive.

Chrysostom points especially to our moral life – “sloth” and “carelessness” being vices, and “watchfulness” and “diligence” being virtues – to keep the Spirit alive. On the negative side, we should avoid “sloth,” which is not just laziness, as some imagine, but more of an escape from God and holiness, “resistance to the demands of love” (Rebecca K. DeYoung). Whether by inactivity, as we usually imagine sloth, or by frantically distracting ourselves with superficial things, a “slothful” person is one way or another avoiding God.

“Carelessness” involves not thinking before acting, simply rushing into choice, which is easily a way to fall into sin. We might wonder whether the “carelessness” Chrysostom is referring to is specifically not bothering to refer to Christ and His commands, but everyone can be careless simply by not heeding conscience.

On the positive side, “watchfulness” is often used in the Scriptures in the context of prayer. Jesus reminds us to stay “alert” or “awake” in prayer in order to find strength to resist temptation (Mt 26:41), which closely parallels Paul’s words to Timothy. So we should meditate on Scripture, ask God for help, but also like Timothy reflect on all God has done for us.

Finally, “diligence” seems to refer to constancy in our commitments, in context, staying true to our Baptismal vows. This is something we perhaps do not often think of, but should: for our Baptismal vows were promises made before God, to live as children of God, of the Church, and against sin and Satan. Diligence would therefore involve

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attending Mass, going to Confession, and generally fulfilling whatever else Christ asks us to do, while also taking up spiritual arms against Satan and his errors. We must “bear our share of hardship for the Gospel” too.

But the result of all this remains the same: “stirring up the Spirit” gives strength! Whatever our call may be, at the least it is holiness in the midst of our world, wherever God puts us, for this we need the strength of God Himself.

God bless,
Fr. Tim

30th International
WEEK of PRAYER & FASTING

The Eucharist, Our Lady & Heaven's Weapons to Defeat Evil
October 1 - 9, 2022




SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1: IN PERSON SPEAKERS AT THE BASILICA







MONDAY, OCTOBER 3 - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5: VIRTUAL EVENT SPEAKERS















WWW.IWOPF.ORG

Parish Lending Library

Did you know Ascension has a lending library in the parish office building in the former donut room? You may take an item home, and return it to the Return Box when you are finished with it, in a reasonable length of time. You are free to use the library whenever the office is open, or when you have a meeting there, but not when religious education class is in session on Sundays from 11am-12:15pm. Enjoy some reading!

- Mary L. Rapczynski, Librarian

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, 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.

Death Announcements & Funeral Arrangements

For an up-to-date listing of parish funerals, please visit ascensionbowie.org/funerals.

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

NATIONAL ROSARY RALLY

Washington DC
Sunday Oct 9, 2022

Come to our Nation's Capitol to pray for our Nation's Conversion!
Pray the Rosary simultaneously across the USA with Rosary Coast to Coast rallies!

1:30 pm Assemble at St. Peter's on Capitol Hill

2:00 pm National Eucharistic Procession

2:35 pm Benediction

2:45 pm National Rosary Rally commences on the eastern edge of the National Mall at 3rd Street facing the US Capitol with nationally renowned speakers

For more information about the rally visit
www.rosarycoasttocoast.com/national-rosary-rally