Together We Shine

The Mission and Ministries of
The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

2019-2020

205 S. Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877
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www.ascensionmd.org
Welcome to the Episcopal Church of the Ascension

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations” - St. Matthew 28:19a

Mission Statement
We represent Jesus Christ wherever we may be.

Vision Statement
The Church of the Ascension will become a community of faith where each one of us lives out our Baptismal Covenant at home, at work, and in the community. Together we will shine as if we were God’s only light in the world. Our children, and their children after them, will yearn to carry forth Christ’s work.

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Christian Formation

Christian Formation for Children

Children are welcome here!
Ascension believes in its children-their innocence, energy, joy, spirit of wonder and the honesty of their questions. We believe that children have a place equal to the youth and adults of this parish at the table in God’s house.
Children’s formation is held at both 10:00 and 12:00 (the Spanish Language Service).
During the 10:00 service, we offer the following classes:
• Infant/Toddler/Family Class meets in Room 4 (the Place of Peace)
• Preschool—2nd grade class meets downstairs in Room 6
• 3rd - 5th grade meets upstairs in Room 2
During the 12:00 service, we offer one class for all ages. Contact Gordon Donnelly at vagordon1@yahoo.com or 571 275-6637.
Christian Formation Curricula and Special Programs
Infant/Toddler/Family Class: In this class, we sing, tell stories about the people of God, pray and play together. Two teachers lead the class and we also invite parents to attend with their children. The children, their parents, and teachers join the congregation during the passing of the peace and remain in the 10:00 service for the Eucharist and closing hymn. During the summer, we open the class up to children of all ages.
Preschool-2nd grade class: Godly Play - This is a Montessori-based method, presenting the stories of the Bible using figures and objects within a sacred space. Children experience these stories, wonder about them and explore the stories using the story objects or art materials. The children and teachers join the congregation during the passing of the peace and remain in the 10:00 service for the Eucharist and closing hymn.
3rd - 5th grade class: A Joyful Path- This curriculum is developed jointly by ProgressiveChristianity.org and the Center for Progressive Christianity. A spiritual curriculum for young hearts and minds, it is inclusive,
compassionate, and “intra-spiritual” in the sense that it exposes children to the concept that many of the values taught by Jesus are found in other cultures’ faith traditions. It teaches children how to access the wisdom already implanted by God in their hearts, about the sacred character and unity of the cosmos, and how to expand their awareness of our Creator. The class will end with the teachers and children joining the congregation for the Eucharist.

Artwork for Worship Leaflets: Children are invited to submit artwork for the covers of the Easter and Christmas service bulletins.

**Pageant:** The Annual Epiphany Pageant will take place at 5:00, Sunday, January 5, 2020. Younger children and occasionally youth and adults dress up as barnyard animals, angels and shepherds. Older children, youth and adults have acting and speaking roles. A pizza party follows the pageant in the parish hall. The offering from the pageant goes to support children’s missions.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:** Look for a special children’s activity

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Between the 10:00 and 12:00 services, there is an Easter Egg Hunt for children up through 5th grade. Contact Megan Didavi at mdidavi@gmail.com or 703-626-7199

**Christian Formation for Youth**

**Youth Group (YG) Formation**— middle and high school students meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month in the evening from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm in the Undercroft Commons area. Ascension’s YG is open to all youth in 6th grade and beyond, and they need not attend Ascension to participate in YG. Typical YG evenings include dinner, a spiritual lesson, and fun games—"Food, Fellowship & Fun". YG kicks off the program year with a cook-out on September 22nd 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Hight Walker’s home.
Summer Work Camp - Each summer, middle school and high school students travel to various areas of the country to help improve the local communities while building a lifetime of spiritual experiences through hard work and fellowship. Most recent work camps have focused in Philadelphia, PA and particularly St. James School which serves middle schoolers from severely under resourced communities. There will be another Work Camp in the summer of 2021.

Service Projects - Along with the summer work camp, students participate in service projects throughout the year. They select causes that mean the most to them early in the program year, but most recently projects included Comfort Cases and curbing gun violence in schools.

The YG program at Ascension is a collaborative effort of lay leaders, staff, parents and clergy. Please support Ascensions youths’ continued formation, and participate in this community by offering your time and talent. In particular, we need dinners supplied for the YG meetings held at Ascension. Below is the list of fall dates. Contact Angie or Trevor Hight Walker. angela.hightwalker@gmail.com or walkertj@yahoo.com

Ascension Youth Group Schedule, Fall 2019
- Sunday, September 22nd —Cook-out @ Hight Walkers; please bring a dish to share.
- Sunday, October 13th
- Sunday, October 27th
- Sunday, November 10th
- Sunday, November 24th -NO YG due to Thanksgiving
- Sunday, December 8th –Holiday party; no dinner needed.

Christian Formation for Adults

During a typical program year, we introduce seekers to cutting edge Christian thought and balance this with a repast of experience-based offerings that create opportunities for deepening awareness of God in
everyday life.
Peruse our newsletter, website, Facebook page, Twitter feed, Sunday bulletin and weekly e-mails to see what is on the menu for lifelong learning.

**Wednesday Morning Book Group**—Each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m., the Priest-in-Charge facilitates a discussion of books about spirituality by a variety of authors.

**New Member Classes**—Orientation sessions for people interested in learning more about Church of the Ascension and the Episcopal Church are scheduled throughout the year.

**Retreats**—Women’s, Men’s and Latino’s Retreats take place annually. The Priest-in-Charge also offers occasional Saturday morning retreats throughout the year especially during Advent, Lent and the Vigil of All Saints Day. Watch the announcement bulletin and social media for other retreat dates and topics.

**The Listening Heart Community**—The Listening Heart Community is Ascension’s "monastery of the heart", an intentional group for seekers in all stages of their spiritual journey to explore Benedictine and other contemplative spirituality in community. The Listening Heart Community meets in the library on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month from 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. All are welcome. Contact Lori Perine at lperine@gmail.com.

**Yoga**—Yoga classes are offered on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in Room 6, taught by Lucia Pires. The class is multilevel, with an emphasis on gentle yoga, and is appropriate for beginners. Props are offered, but the students are encouraged to bring their own yoga mats. Lucia Pires is from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She is a 500-hour Pranakriya Yoga School of Healing Arts certified yoga teacher. Her training focuses on cultivating and enhancing
the relationship of the student with his or her lifeforce through yoga postures, breath work and meditation, in order to create change in awareness and help the student move towards wholeness and greater aliveness. She completed her professional training in 2015.

**Labyrinth**—At various times throughout the year, our labyrinth is made available for meditative walking in the Chapel.

**Health and Wellness Ministry**

The Health and Wellness Ministry at Ascension is an intentional ministry focusing on both healing and health, combining the ancient traditions of the Christian community and the knowledge and tools of modern health care. We endeavour to provide information to help parishioners on their journey to live a healthy lifestyle. We will focus on exercises and stretches that can be modified for a variety of experience levels and time availability as well as nutrition, and mental health support resources.

**Living with Serious Illness Support Group**—A serious physical illness can happen to any of us, and when it does, dealing with it can be a real challenge. Heart disease, kidney disease, stroke, cancer, and many other medical problems, can all leave us living with anxiety over what may happen next and concern for how it will affect our families. This not only affects our bodies, but our thoughts, emotions, and spiritual lives as well. At times, the illness can grab our attention so much that it becomes the main way that we see ourselves. But we are so much more than a diagnosis. And so we invite you to join our group “Living with Serious Illness” and share ways to continue to live our lives to the fullest.

We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month in room 1 from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Bring a bag lunch. It’s not so much about illness as it is about living. Contact Barb Mansfield at barbmansfield8@gmail.com or 301-651-1279.
Mission Support Committees

Facilities—This committee oversees the physical well-being of the church, including doing some of the repair work. The committee develops an annual budget for facilities maintenance and implements the budget. This includes interfacing with contractors (lawn, snow, cleaning, plumbing, handywork, etc.) and working with the Parish Administrator to identify and coordinate needed maintenance and/or special projects. Contact Ted Bedell at tedbedell@comcast.net.

Operations and Finance—The financial and operational well-being of the church is the responsibility of this committee, including annual budget formulation, tracking monthly income and expense figures, preparing forecasts and analyses for the Vestry’s use, and working with other committees to assist with financial aspects of their activities. Activities also include related operational issues. Volunteers familiar with finance or accounting, or with an interest in these areas, are always welcome. Contact Avin Lalmansingh, avin.lalmansingh@gmail.com.

Personnel—Serves some of the role of a Human Resources department, e.g. job descriptions, organizational structure, staffing levels, benefits, etc. Volunteers with interest or expertise in these areas are welcome.

Committee for Mission

At Ascension, it is our mission to represent Jesus Christ wherever we may be. In practical terms, our mission requires us to find Jesus in all whom we meet and serve, as well reflect all that we understand of Jesus to those people. That means we are always “on”, giving and receiving the love and grace of Jesus.
Over the years we have changed focus and projects to meet our own and the community’s physical and spiritual needs. Part of what we must do every year is to spend a little time discerning the areas of greatest need and what our abilities in those areas may be.

**Giving Tree**— During Advent season, Ascension’s Giving Tree is set up in the narthex. Donations of cash, gift cards, and Metro farecards support a charity that is selected each year. Contact Sue or Richard Snay at 301-977-5259 or subarsy@aol.com.

**Gaithersburg HELP**— This organization provides emergency food and other support to needy families in Gaithersburg. Non-perishable food collected at Ascension every week, and during specific holiday gatherings, helps to stock the pantry. Donations may be brought to church at any time and left in the narthex. HELP is 100% volunteer run, and volunteers are always needed, especially volunteers who speak Spanish. Contact Melanie Mitchell at 301-519-1074 or melanie.mitchell@verizon.net.

**Backpacks for Linkages to Learning at Summit Hall Elementary**— Each year as part of the Linkages to Learning program, Ascension collects supplies and financial donations. This provides new backpacks filled with school supplies to students in kindergarten through 5th grade at Summit Hall Elementary School in Gaithersburg. Lists of supplies becomes available in the narthex beginning early each July. Donors do not have to provide all of the supplies on the list and all donations are welcome. Those who do not have time to shop can make a financial donation. Each year, we assemble the backpacks in late August. Help is always appreciated; working together is rewarding and gives us a chance to visit and get to know each other.

**Lord’s Table Soup Kitchen**— Ascension provides volunteers for the Lord’s Table Soup Kitchen the third Monday of each month from September until May. The Soup Kitchen is held at Epworth United Methodist Church,
9008 Rosemont Drive Gaithersburg (about 1 miles south of Ascension). Volunteers are used from 1p-3p to prepare the food and from 3p-5p to serve the food and clean up. No culinary skills required just a willingness to help this worthy effort. Contact Jean Cohn at spangle1@comcast.net or 240-372-3652.

**Mobile Med**—A medical van staffed with doctors and nurses stops at Ascension every Tuesday to provide low-cost/free medical care to uninsured patients residing in Montgomery County. Volunteers are needed to serve as hosts in the chapel for a few hours on Tuesdays. Contact Jean Cohn at spangle1@comcast.net or 240-372-3652.

**Ministerio Felicidad**—Every 4th Saturday Ascension members prepare lunches and send love and prayers to day laborers in the neighborhood of the church. Join Ascension Latino community at 6:00 a.m.in the church kitchen. Contact Padre Javier at ocampoj@ascensionmd.org for more information.

**Parish Life**

One-way God joins us together is through the fun and friendship that arise when we gather for fellowship. In this hectic society, we need occasions to relax, be real, and have fun together.

**Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Pancake Supper**—Tuesday, February 25, 2020, from 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Pancakes, sausages (meatless options available).

**One Ascension Sundays**—A time for all worshippers to gather at a single Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. and share a meal afterward. Upcoming dates are September 29, and December 29, 2019; March 29, May 31, August 30, November 29, 2020.
Ascension’s Adventurers—A group of parishioners that participates in monthly activities including visits to museums, historic sites, formal gardens, and other places of interest, as well as walks through scenic areas. Our activities are open to people of all ages for fellowship, fun, recreation, and education. Contact Richard Snay at rssnay@aol.com or 301-977-5259 for information about upcoming activities.

Pastoral Care
Caring for the people of God is part of the Church’s mission, and that care extends to the whole person: body, mind and spirit. As Christians, we are all called to be ministers, not only to spread the word of the Gospel, but to care for each other.

Altar Flower Delivery—After the Sunday services, the Altar Flowers are taken to homes of members who need some extra brightness in their week.

Healing Prayer Ministers—Specially trained lay people who share the ministry of healing prayer during Communion.

Eucharistic Visitors—One-on-one partnership for seniors and home-based church members provided by specially trained parishioners who extend a helping hand, pray together, and keep connections intact. Contact The Rev. Nan Hildebrand at hildebrandnan@gmail.com or 202-244-2847/202-277-5362 or Padre Javier at ocampoj@ascensionmd.org

Baptism
Holy Baptism is the sacrament—the outward and visible sign of the inward and spiritual grace - by which we become full members of the church. Any baptized person, from the tiniest baby to the oldest adult, is a full member of the church and is welcome to receive communion and to participate in the life of the church. You do not have to be rebaptized to join the Episcopal Church.
At Ascension, we have several Sundays each year when Baptism is offered. We baptize people who are willing to commit to the promises of the Baptismal Covenant (see Prayer Book pages 304 and 305) and who want to participate regularly in the life of this parish. Prior to the baptism, parents or candidates must attend an orientation. The best preparation for Baptism is participation in parish life.

Baptismal Festivals

November 3, 2019 ... All Saints’ Sunday
January 12, 2020 ... Baptism of Our Lord
April 11, 2020 ... Easter Eve
May 31, 2020 ... Day of Pentecost
Summer ... TBA

Confirmation

Preparation for Confirmation begins at Baptism and embraces the whole of one’s life and journey in and outside the Church. Special preparation for adults and for youth is offered. Confirmation is open to all high school students, although the Priest-in-Charge may make exceptions should someone younger display a serious commitment to preparing for Confirmation.

Marriage

One of the greatest and most joyous decisions in life is the decision to marry. The clergy and staff at Ascension are delighted to help couples unite in marriage. Our policies and premarital preparation process are designed to help that union be a lifelong and loving one.

• All persons considering marriage at Ascension must contact the clergy and staff at least four to six months prior to the wedding date.
• The Episcopal Church requires that at least one of the persons being married be a baptized Christian. At Ascension, we also require that the couple regularly attend services here, and if they are not already members, to explore the possibility of becoming members of Ascension.

• The couple must attend an Imago workshop to help start the marriage off on the best possible foundation. Go to www.imagocenterdc.com for a more detailed description of the workshop.

Marriage for same-sex couples is legal in Maryland, and was formally approved by the General Convention of The Episcopal Church in 2015. The same guidelines for preparation apply.

Funerals

For Christians, at death, “life is changed not ended,” and the people of the Church stand together to support one another at a time of loss. The burial liturgy hallows our grief and proclaims the hope of a life that is sustained eternally by God’s indestructible love. The clergy of Ascension are on call around the clock to offer solace and support at the time of death.

Worship

Worship is the heart of our life at Ascension. Through the Holy Eucharist liturgy (a word that means “work of the people”) found in the Book of Common Prayer, the foundation of Anglican worship since 1549, we carry out the work God has given us to do. We sing, we pray, we hear the Word of God proclaimed in Scripture and sermon, and we lift up our concerns and joys and thanksgivings to God. We gather at God’s table as the living Body of Christ. We feed on the holy bread and wine of the Eucharist. And then we are sent forth to serve our community as apostles of Christ in our lives.
At Ascension, we welcome children, youth and adults to participate as leaders of worship. There is a place for you as an acolyte, altar guild member, Chalicists, choir member, healing prayer minister, reader, hospitality angel, or welcome team member. Contact Sari Stoddard at sari.stoddard@verizon.net or at 301-325-8791.

**Sunday Services**

8:00 a.m. — Quiet, classic Episcopal Prayer Book liturgy. No music.

10:00 a.m. — A blend of a classic Episcopal service and a modern Eucharist. Music is provided by the Ascension Choir and the instrumental Ensemble using our unique organ and our grand piano. Hymns are taken from the Hymnal 1982; Gather; and Wonder, Love, and Praise; and occasionally from other sources. The service includes sung introits, anthems and benedictions. This service is usually Rite II, but changes to Rite I during Lent.

12:00 p.m. — Eucharist in Spanish with hymns mostly from Flor y Canto accompanied by music ensemble.

**Music**

**The Ascension Choir** — Church of the Ascension is blessed with the Ascension Choir, an all-volunteer group led by the Minister of Music. The Choir practices each Thursday evening (beginning on the Thursday after Labor Day) during the program year (September through early June) from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and sings at the 10:00 a.m. service (beginning the Sunday after Labor Day), reporting for warm-up at 9:00 a.m. Occasionally there are extra rehearsals for major services, such as Christmas Eve and
Easter. The choir also sings for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and other services as needed. Rehearsals and warm-ups are held in the choir room (Room 3) on the upper level of the office/education wing. New or seasoned members of Ascension who are considering joining or returning to the choir are welcome at any time. No auditions are required, just the love of singing. The ability to sight-read music is helpful but not essential. Contact the Minister of Music at music@ascensionmd.org with any questions.

**The Ensemble**— The ensemble is composed of members of Ascension who have an instrument they want to share with the congregation. The instruments currently include flute, clarinet, saxophone, and guitar but all instruments are welcome. The Ensemble plays at the 10:00 a.m. service year-round with and sometimes in place of the Choir. The ensemble rehearses Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. If you are an amateur musician and might like to join the group, contact the Minister of Music at music@ascensionmd.org with any questions.

**Hispanic Service Combo**— Music at the Eucaristía en Español is offered by an all-volunteer team that employs several voices/instruments. The combo is open to volunteers who find joy in the Latino versions of Gospel music. Jesse Velasquez leads the group and uses Flor y Canto as the principal hymnal.

**The Organ**— Ascension’s music is greatly enhanced by our fine pipe organ, built by Casavant Frères of St-Hyacinthe, Québec (Opus 3801), and installed in 2001. It was the very generous donation of a long-time parishioner. The organ is primarily used at the 10:00 a.m. service in the main church.
Worship Leaders

Parishioners serve during services in a variety of ways. We always welcome new volunteers, and people can “try out” a position without committing to it. Qualifications for all Worship Leader positions are (1) being a member of the Church of the Ascension, and (2) being willing to serve reliably as scheduled. Training for Worship Leaders is provided. Questions about any of these positions may be addressed to Sari Stoddard at sari.stoddard@verizon.net or 301-325-8791. Worship Leader positions include:

Acolytes—lead the processions at the beginning and end of the service and assist the clergy at the altar during the service. Children (fourth grade and up) and all adults are welcome to serve as acolytes. Contact Ray Chin at crayh5o@hotmail.com for more information.

Altar Guild—Teams of two to three members take turns preparing the church for worship - putting items such as all the cloth pieces, silver items, and crystal/glass in appropriate places, ready for the priest - and cleaning and putting those items away after the service. The Altar Guild serves in the background. Silver/brass polishing not required!

Chalicists—help administer the Eucharist by serving the cup of wine to worshipers. Chalicists must have steady hands and reverence for the Eucharist.

Lectors—read the Lessons and Psalms and lead the congregation in the Prayers of the People. Readers should be comfortable speaking publicly and should be able to read aloud clearly in a measured voice.
Healing Prayer Ministers—these specially trained lay people share the ministry of healing prayer during the Eucharist at all Sunday services. They offer prayers in a private annex to those needing prayers for themselves or on behalf of others.

Hospitality Angels—supply and put out refreshments for church members and guests after the service. They prepare hot coffee and snacks for each service.

Welcome Teams—teams of two to four Welcome and greet people, provide information to visitors, distribute bulletins, pass collection plates, and assist people during the Eucharist.

Ascension Expo

A Ministries Fair is held early every fall between services in the undercroft. For 2019 the Expo date is September 15. Worship Leader groups are all represented, and will describe in greater detail the duties and benefits of being a member of the various teams. Contact Gary McLaughlin at garymclaughlin100@gmail.com or Curt Lindsay at lindsay_curt@yahoo.com, co-chairs of the Worship Committee, or one of the clergy. The Church office is always willing to provide additional information, or to assist in making contact with the appropriate Worship Leader.
## Leadership at Ascension

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<th>Section</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Altar Guild</td>
<td>Sari Stoddard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sari.stoddard@verizon.net">sari.stoddard@verizon.net</a></td>
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<td>Mardia Dennis</td>
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<td>Dotty Pfadenhauer</td>
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<td>Georgana Maines</td>
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<td>Cristian Formation For Adults</td>
<td>The Rev. Javier G.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ocampoj@ascensionmd.org">ocampoj@ascensionmd.org</a></td>
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<td>Christian Formation For</td>
<td>Megan Didavi</td>
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<td>Children</td>
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<td>Christian Formation For Youth</td>
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<td>Columbarium</td>
<td>John Pruessner</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gordon Donnelly</td>
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<td>Facilities</td>
<td>Ted Bedell</td>
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<td>Health And Wellness</td>
<td>Berenice Rodriguez</td>
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<td>Operations And Finance</td>
<td>Avin Lalmansingh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:avin.lalmansingh@gmail.com">avin.lalmansingh@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Pastoral Care</td>
<td>The Rev. Javier G.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ocampoj@ascensionmd.org">ocampoj@ascensionmd.org</a></td>
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<td>Curt Lindsay</td>
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<td>Janet King</td>
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<td>Susan McLaughlin</td>
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<td>Parish Life</td>
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<td>Anika Lalmansingh</td>
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Vestry

Senior Warden.........Betsy Hasegawa.........grhasegawa@verizon.net
Junior Warden.........Zadinga Ogda..........z_zulu@msn.com
Vestry Clerk...............Danielle Allen ........danielle.a.allen@gmail.com
Parish Treasurer.........Avin Lalmansingh....avin.lalmansingh@gmail.com

Class of 2020
Gordon Donnelly
Meredith Horan
Luis Pedron

Class of 2021
Susan McLaughlin
Bernice Rodriguez
Bob Waters

Class of 2022
James Black
Kristen Keating
Wadai Dennis

Parish Staff

Priest in Charge
The Rev. Javier Garcia Ocampo
ocampoj@ascensionmd.org

Pastoral Associate
The Rev. Nan Hildebrand
hildebrand@gmail.com

Deacon
Eugne Wright
genenatewright@gmail.com

Minister of Music
Andrew Kullberg
music@ascensionmd.org

Parish Administrator
Lin Keene
office@ascensionmd.org

Communication
Jesse Velazquez
comm@ascensionmd.org
Dates to Remember
2019
Sunday, September 15  Ascension Expo
Sunday, September 15  Program Year Begins
Sunday, September 22  Youth Group Begins, Potluck Cook-Out
                      6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 22  One Ascension Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Bishop’s Visit
Sunday, September 29  Bylaws Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 05  Pumpkin Festival, 10:00 a.m.
Friday, November 01   Vigilia de Todos los Santos, 8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 02  Trick-or-treating, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 03   Daylight Saving Time ends (set clocks back one hour—“Fall back”)
Sunday, November 03   Día de los Muertos Celebration
Saturday, November 16  Thanksgiving Celebration Latino Community
Thursday, November 21  Thanksgiving service, 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, December 07  Lady of Guadalupe Day Celebration—8:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 15   Christmas Party, Latino Community 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 24  Christmas Eve Services:
                      5:00 p.m. For Families with Young Children—Main Church
                      7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Bilingual—Main Church
                      9:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist with Ascension Choir—Main Church
Sunday, December 25   Christmas Day service, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 30   One Ascension Sunday, 10:00 a.m. New Year’s Celebration
2020

Sunday, January 5  Día de Reyes (Rosca de Reyes)
Celebration after
12:00 p.m. Service

Sunday, January 5  Annual Epiphany Pageant, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 19  Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 25  Diocesan Convention

Sunday, February 2  Candlemas Day/Día de la Candelaria Celebration

Tuesday, February 25  Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 26  Ash Wednesday Service, Noon and 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 08  Daylight Saving Time begins (set clocks forward
one hour-”Spring ahead”)

Sunday, March 29  One Ascension Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Spring
Celebration

Sunday, April 05  Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 08  Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 09  Maundy Thursday: Holy Eucharist/Foot washing
and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 10  Good Friday: “Stations to Go”, 12:00 p.m., Prayer
Book liturgy, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 11  Easter Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter,
7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 12  Easter Services, 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 21  Ascension Day Celebration

Sunday, May 31  One Ascension Sunday 10:00 a.m. (Parish picnic)

Sunday, August 30  One Ascension Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Notes
There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. 1 Co. 12:4-6

This section of Paul’s letter to the Corinthian church is about unity in diversity, serving the common good together, and being instruments of God’s grace by His Spirit at work to heal, to teach and to build up.

What gifts has the Lord given to us? I believe He has given us all of the gifts! Are we using His gifts for the common good? Or are we burying the gifts and not putting them to use?

We are at the beginning of a new year of activities at Ascension. I would like to see all of us working together to reach out to the community around Ascension.

I pray every day for Ascension and its mission. I pray to God to open our hearts so we can bring our gifts to the community around us. I pray to God every day for us to become a One Ascension for our community. I pray to God so Ascension would become a bridge between God and His people.

Join us every Sunday at any of our services 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. It does not matter where you are on the path of faith. Everyone is welcome to share this process together.

Blessings,
Padre Javier