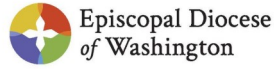




# WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

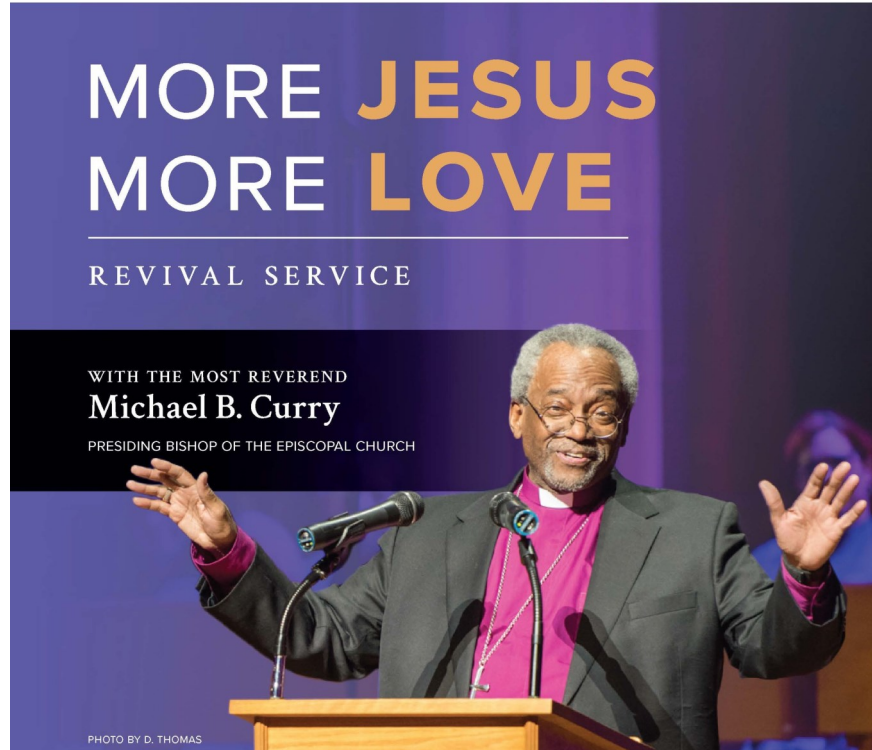
*Third Sunday of Advent: December 15 A.D. 2019*



Episcopal Diocese  
of Washington

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020 • 2 PM  
ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS ARENA  
1100 Oak St. SE • Washington, DC 20032

For more information and ticketing, visit [edow.org/morejesus](http://edow.org/morejesus)



## REVIVAL SERVICE GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS AVAILABLE

General Admission Tickets for the More Jesus, More Love Revival service with Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry on at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at the Entertainment and Sports Arena in Southeast, Washington, D.C. are available.

- This event is free but requires a ticket for entry
- Tickets are limited to 6 per person and available on a first come, first served basis
- Once you select the number of tickets to reserve, please click the View Options box, then click Add Tickets to Cart
- When you "check-out," you will need to create a login or use your Washington National Cathedral login if you've purchased Cathedral event tickets previously
- Tickets will be mailed in January, 2020

[Reserve Your Ticket](#)

**To Our Visitors, Newcomers, and Seekers**

***We thank you for joining us today and hope you will return often.***

At Ascension, our mission is to represent Jesus Christ wherever we may be. We welcome you to our church family and invite you to fill out a welcome card, located in the rack at the ends of each pew.

## TODAY AT ASCENSION

**Preacher: The Rev. Javier G. Ocampo**

Refreshments and conversation follow every service in the lower atrium.

A place of peace for parents and a beginners Sunday School is available in Room 4.

All children are welcome!

### Today's Gospel



John sent his disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus answered them affirmatively, pointing to the blind who see, the lame who walk...and the poor who hear from him good news of hope.

## LIFE LONG LEARNING

### Sunday School

This is the third week of Advent. The Godly Play Advent lessons help us prepare for the Mystery of Christmas. We move toward Bethlehem, guided by the pointing prophets, with the Holy Family, the shepherds and the Magi. We arrive at the birth of Jesus and the lighting of the Christ Candle in the church. This week's presentation focuses on the shepherds.

### Wednesday Morning Book Group

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18th, when we will continue discussing the book, "Brief Answers to the Big Questions", by Stephen Hawking. Please read Chapter 4 for this discussion. We meet at 10 a.m. in Ascension's library. All people are welcome to participate.

### Thursday Morning Yoga

Yoga classes are offered on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in room 2, 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.

### Tai Chi

Tai Chi class is at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday afternoons in the chapel, a time of peace and balance in a lovely place. Please come and join us. Contact Claire Rosser at [cjrosser@aol.com](mailto:cjrosser@aol.com) or 301-275-0617 for more information.

## LIFE AT ASCENSION

### Schedule of December Celebrations 2019

- **Sunday, Dec. 22** – 4th Sunday of Advent. All services will be held at their normal times. 8:00a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 12 noon.
- **Tuesday, Dec. 24**—Christmas Eve. Two services: 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist. 9:00 p.m. traditional Christmas Service with carols
- **Wednesday, Dec. 25**—Christmas Day. A single service at 10 a.m.
- **Sunday, Dec 29**—A single service at 10 a.m. followed by our New Years Party One-Ascension (1A) luncheon

### REALM has Arrived

Our new database program is up and running. REALM is a very powerful program that allows us to sort and network lots of information and allows you, the parishioner, to contribute your pledge, enter your data, put your picture in it, keep it up to date, and check your tax information. You'll be able to join a committee, sign up to be a Worship Leader, see who's on the vestry or who is running for the vestry. It's so user-friendly! We urge you to try it out now at <http://ascensionmd.org/realm-sign-up/>

### Next Baptism

The next baptism date will be January 12th. If you want to be baptized or know someone who would like to be, please contact Javier at [ocampo@ascensionmd.org](mailto:ocampo@ascensionmd.org)

### Vestry/Convention Delegates Candidates' Forum

The Candidates' Forum will be held on January 12th in the Undercroft after each service.

### Annual Meeting

Our annual parish meeting will take place at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 19th in the Undercroft. We'll begin with a potluck lunch. Our primary business will be to elect new Vestry members and to have a time for shared reflection on the ministry and mission of Ascension. The Vestry candidates will be available for dialogue on the preceding Sunday after each service in the Undercroft (see article above).

### Christmas Flowers

If you would like to donate toward our beautiful Christmas poinsettias, we have Flower Offering envelopes in your bulletin and on the table in the Narthex. If you are paying by check, please annotate the check "Christmas flowers"

**Please help us with your pledge!**

Thank you all for your continued support of Ascension. We are having glitches with our new system while breaking it in. So we ask you to do a couple of extra things this year.

- If you have submitted your pledge online, please *fill out a pledge card* also.
- If you are an EFT donor, please *fill out a new EFT authorization form* and submit it to the office.

We apologize for the inconvenience. As we move forward with our new database we will need to resubmit your information.

**Coffee Supplies**

I was so happy that several generous donors had brought in coffee supplies! With an average of 50 to 60 people per Sunday, we always need things. With the popularity of our coffee hour, please continue your generous gifts. In particular, right now we need *more small paper plates*. Please bring your donation on Sunday or during the week during office hours.

Thank you! Padre Javier

**One Ascension Sunday**

New Years Party 1A!!! On December 29th after the 10:00 a.m. One Ascension service we will gather in the undercroft to celebrate the coming 2020 New Year. Be there for the traditional count-down (well, count down to noon rather than midnight) Please bring a dish to share. Salads, appetizers, and desserts are always needed. Bring your holiday spirit and good cheer to help start to bring in 2020 New Year.

The Parish Life Committee

**MLK Choral Evensong on January 19, 2020**  
**at 5:00 p.m.**

The Ascension Music Ministry is presenting an evening prayer service in honor of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in the main church. This service will be led by the Ascension Choir and will feature new service music composed by our former Minister of Music, Paul Kelley. If you are interested in taking part in the service by singing with our choir or reading scripture, please contact Andrew Kullberg at [music@ascensionmd.org](mailto:music@ascensionmd.org).

**Popov Family Concert at Ascension**

Please join us for a chamber concert on December 15, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Our guest performers are a musical family—cellist Vasily Popov, pianist Ralitzza Patcheva and their two sons, young violinist Yuri Popov and cellist Vladislav Popov. The artists will present a program of baroque and classical music by Bach, Beethoven, Vivaldi, Sarasate and Claire Rosser. More information can be found at [vasily.popov.com](http://vasily.popov.com)

**All Worship Leaders:**

The schedule for January, February and March Worship Leader assignments is underway. The schedule includes **Acolytes, Chalicists, Welcome Teams, Lay Readers, Flower Deliverers, Healing Prayer ministers, and Hospitality providers**. If you know of any Sundays that you will be unavailable to serve, please contact Sari Stoddard at [sari.stoddard@verizon.net](mailto:sari.stoddard@verizon.net) or 301-325-8791 as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Ascension's Giving Tree**

This Advent season, our traditional Giving Tree will once again be standing in the Narthex. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the work being performed by Comfort Cases in bringing dignity and necessities to foster children. Detailed instructions may be found in the Narthex.

**PLEDGE UPDATE AS OF DECEMBER 12, 2019**

Total Number of Pledges to date: 127 for a total of \$329,527

Total Number of Facilities Reserve Fund Donations to date: 11 for a total of \$ 7,124.

Thanks to those below who pledged last week to the annual giving campaign:

Jonathan Black  
Gordon Donnelly  
Annie Milanzi  
Christian Nwankwo

Amy Van Dalinda  
Trevor Walker & Angie  
Hight-Walker  
Jillian Warner



**CONTACT US**

205 S. Summit Ave., Gaithersburg, MD, 20877

www.ascensionmd.org

- ◆ Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Friday 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- ◆ Phone: 301-948-0122      □ Fax: 301-926-9012
- ◆ Fr. Javier’s cell: 202-903-6426
- ◆ Prayer requests: Fill out a yellow prayer request card (on the table in the narthex) or e-mail the office at office@ascensionmd.org.

**Bishop of Washington** - The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde  
mebudde@edow.org, 202-537-6550

**Priest in Charge** –The Rev. Javier García Ocampo  
ocampo@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 12

**Pastoral Associate**—The Rev. Nan Hildebrand  
hildebrandnan@gmail.com

**Deacon**—The Rev. Deacon Eugene Wright  
genenatwright@gmail.com

**Minister of Music**—Andrew Kullberg  
music@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 11

**Parish Administrator** - Lin Keene  
office@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 10

**Communications** – Jesse Velazquez  
comm@ascensionmd.org, voice mailbox 14

**Altar Guild Directors**, Sari Stoddard,  
sari.stoddard@verizon.net; 8:00 a.m. director Mardia Dennis,  
mard908@gmail.com; 10:00 a.m. directors Dotty Pfadenhauer,  
dottypfa@aol.com and Georgana Maines,  
mainesgnh@verizon.net

**LEADERSHIP AT ASCENSION**

**Senior Warden:** Betsy Hasegawa

**Junior Warden:** Zadinga Ogada

**Vestry:**

2020: Gordon Donnelly, Meredith Horan, Luis Pedrón

2021: Berenice Rodriguez, Bob Waters, Susan McLaughlin

2022: James Black, Kristen Keating, Wadai Dennis

Danielle Allen, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Avin Lalmansingh, *Treasurer*

**Delegates to Diocesan Convention:**

Mardia Dennis, Gary McLaughlin, Sue Snay

Alternate: Fredis Diaz

**Cycles of Prayer**

Prayers for those whose lives are closely linked with ours:

St. Thomas' Church, DC  
St. Thomas' Church, Prince Georges County,  
and the Chapel of the Incarnation

**THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION**

**Monday, December 16, 2019**

- 1:00 PM Al-Anon—RM 1
- 2:00 PM English Tutoring- RM 2
- 6:00 PM Spanish Class - RM 2
- 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous—RM 1
- 7:00 PM Listening Hearts Community - Library

**Tuesday, December 17, 2019**

- 7:00 AM Mobile Med
- 3:30 PM Staff Meeting—Library
- 6:30 PM Parables Bible Study-RM 2
- 7:00 PM Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
- 8:30 PM Al-Anon—RM 1

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019**

- 10:00 AM Wednesday Morning Book Group - Library
- 1:00 PM Al-Anon—RM 1
- 6:00 PM English Tutoring—RM 2
- 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous—RM 1
- 7:30 PM Spanish Bible Study
- 7:30 PM Worship Committee-Library
- 8:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous—RM 2

**Thursday, December 19, 2019**

- 10:00 AM Yoga - RM 2
- 6:30 PM Ensemble - Main Church
- 7:00 PM Al Anon/Spanish - RM 1
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, December 20 2019**

**Javier’s Day Off**

- 1:00 PM Al-Anon—RM 1
- 6:00 PM Couples 12-Step Program - Room 1
- 8:00 PM Couples 12-Step Program - Library

**Saturday, December 21, 2019**

- 9:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous-RM 2
- 11:00 AM Overeaters Anonymous—Parish Hall
- 11:00 AM Al Anon - RM 1
- 7:00 PM Al Anon/Spanish - RM 1

**Sunday, December 22, 2019**

**Preacher: Ms. Peg Ruppel**

- 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist- Main Church
- 10:00 AM Bible School for 3 year olds and under -RM 4
- 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Main Church
- 10:00 AM St. Barnabas - Chapel
- 12:00 PM Eucaristia en español- Main church
- 1:30 PM Posada w/Santa - UC

Attendance	November 24	December 1	December 8
8:00 am	29	32	26
10:00 am	148	108	113
12:00 pm	38	20	24
Total:	215	148	163