

# *St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church*

*We are a family of faith-filled disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit, living the  
Gospel through worship and service*

**Church: 1940 Mitchellville Road, Bowie, Md. 20716**

**Parish Office & Mailing Address: 16304 Pond Meadow Lane, Bowie, Md. 20716**

**Parish Office: 301-249-9199**

**Email: [office@stedwardbowie.com](mailto:office@stedwardbowie.com)**



## **PASTORAL STAFF:**

**Rev. Scott S. Holmer, Pastor**  
**Deacon David J. Barnes, Permanent Deacon**  
**Angela Cipolla, Pastoral Assistant**

## **OFFICE STAFF:**

**Margaret Creveling, Bookkeeper**  
**Anne Brennan, Parish Secretary**  
**Phuong Tran, Maintenance**

## **MINISTRY STAFF:**

**Maureen Curtis, Religious Education Director**  
**Karen Italiano, Youth Minister**  
**Megan Weeks, Music Director**

## **PARISH E-NOTES:**

**If we don't have your current email address or if  
you are not yet registered here, please call the  
parish office.**

## **PARISH WEB SITE:**

**[www.stedwardbowie.com](http://www.stedwardbowie.com)**

## **MASSES FOR THE HOME BOUND:**

**[TheSundayMass.org](http://TheSundayMass.org)**

## **MASSES:**

**Saturday Vigil – 5:30 P.M.**  
**Sunday – 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 A.M.**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 8:45 A.M.**  
**Tuesday, Thursday - 7:30 P.M.**

**HOLY HOUR: First Friday—9:30 A.M.-10:30 A.M.**  
**Saturdays in Advent 4:00-5:00 P.M.**

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):**

**Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 P.M. & by appointment**  
**Wednesdays in Advent: 7:00-8:00 P.M.**

## **INFANT SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

**Class required. Call the parish office  
301-249-9199 to start the process for your child's  
baptism.**

## **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

**New couples—contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to  
the desired date. Couples in civil marriages—contact the  
pastor for assistance for a validation.**

## **SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

**Call Fr. Scott for Anointing of the Sick. Upon a parishioner's  
death, please call us as soon as possible.**

**School: St. Pius X Regional Catholic School is our shared school of the four Bowie parishes.**

**Food for Bowie Pantry: Collected in bins at doors every first Sunday of the month.**

**ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, BOWIE, MD 20716**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK**

Sat.	10:00 am	Alan Kennedy+ (IC)
	5:30 pm	George Bibbins+
Sun.	7:30 am	Joseph & Maryellen Cifala (liv.)
	9:30 am	George Bibbins+
	11:30 am	Patty Welch Byrne (liv.)
Mon.	8:45 am	Sylvia Ideo+
Tues.	7:30 pm	The Shelfer family (liv.)
Wed.	8:45 am	Francis Cipolla+
Thu.	7:30 pm	Pat Dolan+
Fri.	8:45 am	George Bibbins+
Sat.	5:30 pm	Pablo Fletcher+

**PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS:**

Johanna Palmer, Bob Reynolds, Fran Blasko, Barbara Fitzurka, Perla Alega, Lourdes Flaim, Pat Welch, Florence Zook, Lorraine Washington, Octavia Blake, Peggy Brown, Mary Ann Boyer.

**OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:**

Ann Gray, Cindy Sowada, Teresa Fraser, Louise Hooven, Rosemarie Quezada, Maria Xiques, Steve Giant, Marjorie Porter, Dick Bradie, Nicholas Barrett, Susan Zinampan, John Keys, Joni Seith, Drew Snapkowski, Phylis McNamara, Luis Miranda, Dolores McCarthy, Sandy Capps, Richard Kuntz, Valerie Seppi Sedwick, Cheryl Henretty, Terese Welch, James Scaldaferrri, Denise Townes, ike Sullivan, Patty Byrne, Joe Brynes, Christine Leacock, Christine Branche, Rhonda Jackson, Gladys Boluda, Bobby Ose, Jimmy Tomasetti, Connor Keys, Edith Sullivan., Rachel Wills, Tim Seppi, Mary DePaul, Vicky & Al Ose, Francis Looney.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD:**

**Chester Boleski, Stephen Terhune and Don Desilva**

Eternal Rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**BULLETIN PRAYER POLICY:**

Please note that unless a person has been listed to remain permanently, names will remain in the bulletin for one month. Please call the office at 301-249-9199 ext. 0, to have an individual listed.

**SIMBANG GABI  
2018**

St. Edward's will host 3 nights of this 9 day Advent Novena Mass, December 15th, 16th and 17th.

7:00pm Rosary

7:30pm Holy Mass. See the flyer in the bulletin for more information.



**ST. EDWARD'S EVENTS**

- Sat. Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Mass 10:00 am  
Handmaid of the Lord  
Musical Presentation 7:30 pm
- Sun. Dec. 9 CCD-Pre-K  
During the 9:30am Mass-hall  
Children's Liturgy-9:30am Mass  
RCIA-10:30am-12:00pm-office
- Mon. Dec. 10 Youth Choir Rehearsals  
7:30-9:30pm
- Tue. Dec. 11 CCD—K-5  
4:15-5:30pm  
CCD-CL1-CL3  
6:30-8:00pm
- Wed. Dec. 12 CCD-RCIC  
5:30-6:30pm  
CCD-K-5  
6:30-7:45pm  
Children's Choir  
5:30-6:30pm  
Confession-7:00-8:00pm  
Adult Choir  
7:30pm
- Sat. Dec. 15 Adoration during Confession  
4:00-5:00pm  
Simbang Gabi  
7:00 pm—Rosary  
7:30 pm— Mass

**ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS,  
SELF-EMPLOYED AND FAMILIES!**

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

**Available  
ADVERTISING SPACE**



[Gary Stang] from Liturgical Publications, our bulletin printer, will be in our office the week of **December 24, 2018** securing new ads for our bulletin. We need your help! Please consider purchasing an ad. Your participation makes our bulletin successful,

**BENEFITS OF ADVERTISING**

- Local, targeted community advertising for **one full year, at one low price.**
- A FREE ad listing on **parishesonline.com.**
- FREE, professional ad design, and 4 free ad changes per year.

**Gary Stang**

(320)-266-0520 | email@4LPi.com



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DECEMBER 9, 2018**



**From the Desk of Rev. Scott Holmer**

As we are preparing for the birth of Christ this Advent Season, we are told in the Gospel this Sunday of how John the Baptist was proclaiming repentance in preparation for the coming of

Jesus. John the Baptist is a very mysterious person in the Bible. Who was he? Where did he get this idea of baptism of repentance? Why was he out in the desert and baptizing in the Jordan river?

Many of these questions were answered at a lecture I recently attended on the Dead Sea Scrolls by Dr. John Bergsma and I would like to share what I learned with you.

John the Baptist was probably part of a group of Jewish monks known as the Essenes. Thanks to the Dead Sea Scrolls we now know what the community life of the Essenes was like. The Essenes were group of Jewish celibates, who would ritualistically cleanse themselves in large baths, who not only sought to know the law but live it out fully in preparation for the coming Messiah. Many scholars believe that John the Baptist came from this group. However, some scholars also believe that John the Baptist was excommunicated from this group because he wanted to share the Jewish Essene discipline with the Gentiles so that: "all flesh would see the salvation of God." John the Baptist's belief that even Gentiles could be saved may have been the reason for his excommunication from the Essenes and why he was wandering in the desert wilderness alone, eating honey and locusts, and baptizing in the river Jordan.

The Dead Sea Scrolls have helped us to better understand why the early Christians so valued celibacy, used baptism as the initiation ritual whereby people entered their community, and why Jesus and the early Christians welcomed Gentile converts. Many of the early Christian traditions have their roots in the work of the former Essene John the Baptist who was crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

God bless,  
Fr. Scott

**BLESS ME FATHER, FOR I HAVE SINNED.....**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available Wednesdays in Advent from 7:00-8:00pm, in addition to the regular time on Saturdays from 4:00-5:00pm. Need a little more time? Make an appointment with Fr. Scott. Call the parish office at 301-249-9199.

Don't let ANYTHING separate you from the love of Christ..

**PARISH SUPPORT:**

Last week's Offertory: \$18,332.00.

Our weekly Offertory goal is \$9,000.00.

The previous 3 week Sunday Collections were:

\$7,760.00, \$8,889.00, \$10,781.00.

**NEEDED: ALTAR SERVERS FOR ALL MASSES**

Please contact the office 301-249-9199 or office@stedwardbowie.com. Training is available. Fourth grade (having received First Holy Communion) and up are eligible. Adults, too! Service hours can be used for this ministry.

**MINISTRY OF THE MONTH**

**O COME LET US ADORE HIM!!**



Prepare your hearts for Jesus. Please join us for a Holy Hour of Adoration on Saturdays from 4:00-5:00pm.

Sit in silence, pray the rosary, read and meditate on some spiritual writings or lives of the Saints, journal.....go to Confession..... Allow Jesus to speak to you. What does HE want to give You for Christmas? Come and See.....

**YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS!!!!!!**

All those in High School are welcome to join us on Sunday, December 16th, from 6:30-8:30pm in the hall for our Christmas Party! Feel free to bring a friend.

