



We believe in sharing love and grace with God and one another.



Ascension

Highlights What's Happening This Week

- Maundy Thursday Service - Thur, April 2 @ 6:00 PM
- Good Friday Service - Fri, April 3 @ 12:00 PM
- Stations of the Cross - Fri, April 3 @ 6:00 PM
- Holy Saturday Services - Sat, April 4 @ 9:00 AM & 7:07 PM

From the Rector...

Growing up Catholic, I went to confession every week. I would step into a small closet called a confessional booth, with a screened window between me and the priest. I remember the priest as kind, but the experience itself was intimidating. I knew I was supposed to confess something—so, more often than not, I made it up on the spot.

I am sure I had broken plenty of rules in the week prior, but I rarely remembered them clearly. I would begin with the usual: being mean to my sister or telling my mother a fib. But that never seemed to satisfy the priest. Whenever I paused, he would gently prompt, "And?" So I kept going. I kicked the dog (which I would never do), I ate cookies after dinner, I envied a friend's new bike. In truth, I needed to make confession after I had made confession. This time to confess all the lies I told the priest!

They say confession is good for the soul, but as a child, it left mine in turmoil.

And yet, there was a hidden grace in all those false confessions. I grew up wrestling with what is sinful and what is not. As a child, my sins were small: teasing my sister or sneaking cookies. As a teenager, they grew to include drinking on Friday nights and



cursing. As a young adult, I began to grapple with what the Church calls the seven deadly sins—anger, greed, lust, sloth, pride, envy, and gluttony. Over time, however, I have become more persuaded by C. S. Lewis' understanding of sin as disordered virtue.

Lewis suggests that our vices are not foreign to us but are, instead, virtues that have been distorted. Consider the person who longs for peace above all else. That desire is good. But when peace becomes avoidance—when it is reduced to the absence of conflict rather than the presence of wholeness—it can slip into sloth. What looks like peacemaking becomes disengagement. The virtue has been disordered. The peace that passes understanding—is not the absence of disruption, but a steady and grounded presence within it.

When we begin to understand sin as disordered virtue, a new path opens before us. Rather than simply naming and condemning our vices, we are invited to reorder them—to return them to their proper orientation. The danger is not merely that our virtues become disordered, but that we recognize the disorder and either resign ourselves to it or continue to deepen it. In this light, the Christian life is not primarily about cataloging sins, but about cultivating rightly ordered virtues in service of God's kingdom.

After a season of penitence, we enter Holy Week ready to be renewed—to reorder the virtues within us that have become skewed. However we practice confession, it is important to remember what it is for. Transformation does not come simply from naming what we have done wrong—even before God. It comes in the reordering of our lives, as we align our hearts with the Good News God is continually setting before us.

Light and Life,

Candice+

candice@coascension.org

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week

SCHEDULE Week of Mar 29 - Apr 4

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 29

8:00 AM, Rite One

10:30 AM, Liturgy of the Palms

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER

8:00 AM, Chapel & On Facebook

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 2

6:00PM, Eucharist

8:00PM - 10:00AM, Gethsemane Watch

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 3

12:00 PM, Nave

6:00 PM, Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 4

9:00 AM, Holy Saturday Liturgy

7:07 PM, Nave

In the midst of Lent, we look toward the cross and Holy Week. Join us each day in Lent for prayer, reflection, and communication in preparation of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection

6 Spots Still Available!



The Gethsemane Watch: A Maundy Thursday Vigil

“Could you not keep awake one hour?” were the words of Jesus in reproach to his hapless followers in the first Gethsemane. Ever since, his disciples of subsequent generations have attempted to do better, and in some small way to make up what was lacking in the first bunch.

[Sign Up](#)



WORSHIP

Easter Sunday Floral Cross



One of the beautiful expressions of our Easter joy is the flowering of the cross. On Easter Sunday, April 5, bring flowers from your garden and help us prepare a cross overflowing in an abundance of color and beauty. The cross will be at the front of the church until the 11:00 a.m. service begins.



Easter Schedule

Saturday April 4

- Easter Vigil
 - 7:07 PM

Sunday April 5

- Sunrise Service at Oakwood Cemetery
 - 6:30 AM
 - Family Festal Eucharist Followed by Easter Egg Hunt
 - 9:00 AM
 - Festal Eucharist
 - 11:00 AM
-

The Ascension Children's Choirs present



Sunday, April 12, 2026
"Children & Youth Sunday" at 10:30a.m.

MORNING PRAYER

8:00 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY

LIVE ON



Attention Venmo Users



As electronic payments become more widely used we ask that anyone who uses Venmo to **please add a short summary of what the payment is for in the description field**. We now accept Venmo for Wednesday night dinner, Sunday morning breakfast, purchases in The Vineyard Bookstore, as well as for giving. This description will help us allocate the resources appropriately. Thanks!

CONNECT

No WNL This Week!

WEDNESDAY

NIGHTLIVE

STAY CONNECTED AND JOIN US ON
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

5:15
DINNER
ASCENSION HALL

5:45
THE WORD
SMALL DINING ROOM

6:00
YOUTH ACTIVITIES
3RD FLOOR YOUTH ROOM

6:00
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
4TH FLOOR CHOIR LOFT

6:00
EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
LIBRARY

6:45
COMPLINE
4TH FLOOR CHOIR LOFT



Camp Celebration

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026
10 A.M.

Riverwalk Stadium

200 COOSA ST, MONTGOMERY, AL 36104

**FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS, AGES 5-16
THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED A DEATH IN THEIR LIFE**

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9 A.M.; CAMP BEGINS AT 10 A.M.

Camp Celebration provides children, teens and their families with the opportunity to learn coping skills they can use during the ongoing grief process. The camp's daylong program helps children and teens face their grief and express emotions through a variety of activities, games and crafts. Most importantly, children learn they are not alone in their grief. The camp allows campers and families the opportunity to meet others who have also experienced loss. A memorial service will be held prior to the conclusion of camp; parents and guardians are invited. Lunch is provided and each participant will receive a Camp Celebration t-shirt.

Camp Celebration is presented by Baptist Hospice. There are a limited number of spaces for this event, so if your child is interested in attending camp, you must contact Mona McDermott, Bereavement Coordinator with Baptist Hospice, at (334) 747-5000, or email mhmcdermott@baptistfirst.org for more information.



Get Signed Up Today!



GROW



Holy Week With Jesus is a text message experience that walks participants through the final days of Jesus's life, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, with messages arriving at the actual hours the events unfolded.

To sign up, click [here](#) or go to www.HolyWeekWithJesus.com

DISCOVER THE
POWER OF



March 5 - April 2

Men's Prayer Breakfast
to deepen your Lenten journey.

Thursdays at 7 am:

ASCENSION HALL

In Trouble and In Wonder

The Gospel of St. Thomas

Thursdays - 12pm

Joshua Commons

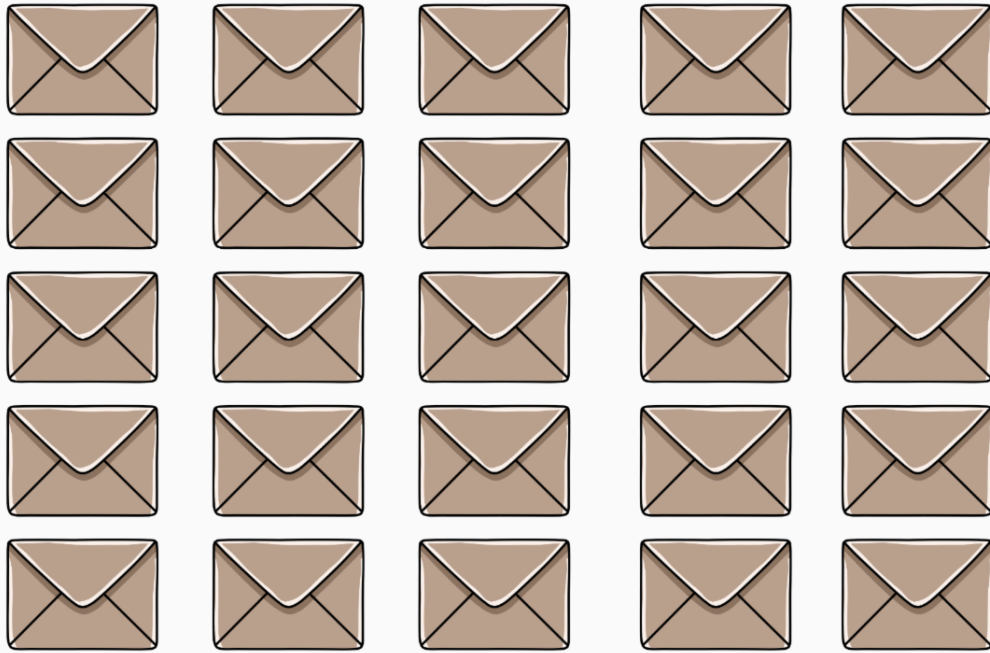
Women's Bible Study

SERVE



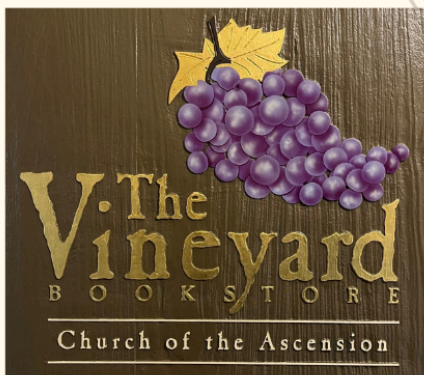
We are in need of cardboard boxes for our Food Box Ministry. Boxes strong enough to support 10 pounds of food such as those made for books or wine bottles are preferred! Boxes can be dropped off in either the office or Ascension Hall lobbies.

Youth Mission Envelope Fundraiser!



The Youth Envelope Fundraiser is back! Once again we are raising money for our summer mission trip to Hinton Rural Life Center in North Carolina. We will have 100 envelopes numbered 1-100 and ask members to select their favorite number (or group of numbers) and donate that amount of money to our trip! Each donor will receive a thank you note from our trip as well as updates along the way!

50% off Sale!



New Easter basket items in now
and more arriving next week.

Shop with us for your birthday
gifts too!

All proceeds support local
organizations.

**CALLING ALL
BUNNIES!**

Cash/Check/Venmo Accepted!



Staff Directory

The Rev. Candice B. Frazer, Rector candice@coascension.org

Becky Taylor, Music Ministry beckytaylor@coascension.org

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Tracy Hinton, Parish Administrator thinton@coascension.org

Jason Pate, Director of Communications jason@coascension.org

Laura Mielke, Children Family & Faith Formation Minister laura@coascension.org

Nick Mielke, Youth Family & Faith Formation Minister nick@coascension.org

Fay WorriLOW, Administrative Assistant fay@coascension.org

PRAYER FOR THE ASCENSION

Almighty and everlasting Father, we stand in your presence, awed and silenced by your goodness and wisdom. We rejoice in the outpouring of your Spirit on the Ascension and our ministries. Help each of us to remember that we are walking in your sight, and that you are present with us at every moment. Through your Holy Spirit, guide us in our prayers and enable us to focus our thoughts on you, so that we may be filled with the knowledge of your will. Grant us the wisdom to ask what you would have us do; the strength and

courage to carry out your work; and the grace to show our gratitude through good stewardship of your gracious gifts. We ask all things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

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