

Church of the Ascension

April 17, 2022 — Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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Pastoral Staff

Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor
Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento,
Parochial Vicar
Nomer Rios, Admin.
Assistant
Mark Rose, Bookkeeper

Catechetical Ministry

Loy Oppus-Moe,
Youth Faith Formation
Coordinator
RCIA Rev. Hao Dinh,
Pastor

Masses

Saturday

9:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m. (Vigil)

Sunday

7:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Weekday

M—F 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days

Mass times as announced

Reconciliation

Saturday
4:00 pm—4:45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen
(Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

Psalm — This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad
(Psalm 118).

Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven
(Colossians 3:1-4).

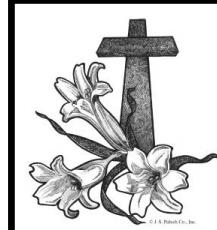
Gospel — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty
tomb
(John 20:1-9).

EVERYTHING IS CHANGED

Easter changes everything. Having been raised from the dead, Jesus shatters the
frightful images that haunt humanity. Betrayal, torture, crucifixion, death, burial—
these terrors pale in the brilliant glory of Jesus resurrected. Today's psalm guides
our response to God's power: "it is wonderful in our eyes." Today is indeed a day for
wonder, for gasping in astonishment at Jesus' resurrection. For all of human history,
death had been final.

In the Acts of the Apostles, though, Peter testifies that Jesus, who was publicly
executed, was raised to life by God. John's Gospel admits that the disciples "did not
yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead." Even Jesus' closest
friends were not expecting this innovation: life after death. In response to the Easter
miracle, Paul tells us to become "a fresh batch of dough." Everything, even our very
selves, must become new. Easter changes everything.

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Fr. Hao, Fr. Rey and Ascension's Staff wish all our
Parishioners and Parish Families a very holy and joy-filled
Easter! May the life of the risen Christ shine in our hearts and
in our lives.

**THE LORD IS TRULY RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

NEXT WEEKEND IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday is a very special
Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from
Heaven are opened wide and Jesus offers
total forgiveness of all sins and punishment
to any soul, even the most hardened sinner,
who goes to Confession and receives Him
in Holy Communion, on that day.

For more information, visit
www.divinemercysunday.com.

THANK YOU

Apr. 10, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$6,360
WESHARE	\$1,750
TOTAL	\$8,110

Easter Symbols

Easter is here! Today we celebrate the most fundamental tenet of our faith—the Resurrection! Everything seems to be brighter and shinier and happier today! New clothes are the order of the day—a symbol of new life. The custom comes from the baptism on Easter Sunday of early Christians who were led into church wearing new robes of white linen. Easter baskets arose from the Catholic custom of bringing Easter dinner food to mass to be blessed. To this day, Polish Catholics bring a basket to church to be blessed on Saturday for their first meal of Easter Sunday.

Other symbols of Easter have been adopted from various springtime celebrations and adapted to Christian feasts. The custom of a sunrise service on Easter Sunday, for instance, can be traced to ancient spring festivals that celebrated the rising sun because it dispelled darkness. For Christians, Christ (the Son) has dispelled the darkness of evil and sin, to bring a new day of truth and light. The Paschal Candle is the symbol of Christ's light.

Easter eggs began as symbols of spring and fertility: an egg seems dead and yet contains new life. In medieval times, the eating of eggs was prohibited during Lent; instead of representing fertility, the Easter egg became a symbol of the rock tomb out of which our Lord gloriously emerged to the new life of His Resurrection. In similar fashion, butterflies represent new life in their metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly. The Easter bunny, however, has no deep meaning, nor any religious background but was brought over by early German settlers; still, chocolate Easter eggs and bunnies bring the sounds of children's laughter and excited cries—surely a sign of Easter joy!

Liturgy Notes

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EASTER LOVE

On Easter we celebrate love,
love coming down from heaven,
love blanketing the earth
in a transforming embrace;
unique and infinite love,
giving more than we can imagine
for us, to cleanse our sin,
a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God,
the walking, talking Word.
He is teacher, role model, friend,
this God in human form,
dying, then rising from the dead,
proving all who believe
will also rise
to have eternal life, with Him,
Lord of all.
Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!

—Joanna Fuchs
www.poemsource.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 16	Sat	7:30 p.m.	All Parishioners
Apr 17	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	All Parishioners
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners
Apr 18	Mon	8 a.m.	Rex Ronald Ravelo +
Apr 19	Tue	8 a.m.	Cynthia Stolz +
Apr 20	Wed	8 a.m.	Vilma Azevedo +
Apr 21	Thu	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Apr 22	Fri	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Apr 23	Sat	9 a.m.	Paz Hernandez +
		5 p.m.	Lani McKinney +
Apr 24	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Orv Burley (L)
		11 a.m.	Jim & Liz Maldero +
		5 p.m.	Rosario Leano +

IN MEMORIAM

Former Ascension parishioner and Men's Club member, Bill Rasmussen passed away on April 4th at the Terraces in Los Gatos. Bill created the Ascension labyrinth for his wife, Marilyn, shortly before they left Ascension.

EARTH'S STEWARDSHIP

"Earth Day" is April 22, 2022

In Genesis, as God created all the elements of our earth and sky, He proclaimed them "good." He also gave stewardship of the earth and all creatures to Adam and thus to each of us. In Celtic Spirituality, there is an understanding that the world belongs to God and is sacred because it is created by God.

The Vatican has often stressed the responsibility of all Catholics to respect and honor God's creation; just as often, we reference St. Francis as the first environmentalist. Each of us is not powerless: we can make small changes that will protect creation for future generations.

Stopping "to smell the roses" is more about appreciating creation and each other than it is about roses. In nature we often rediscover our relationship with God whose presence is found at the heart of creation. Our faith, morality and spirituality call for active participation in preserving God's creation.

ADA 2022

Thank you, parishioners—we have reached and exceeded our goal! Any amount from now on will be rebated back to us and is earmarked for our parish sound system.

If you have been procrastinating in pledging/donating, don't hesitate any longer.

Thank you for your generosity.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Friday:

Earth day (day designed to demonstrate support for environmental protection)

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