

Church of the Ascension

April 03, 2022 — Fifth Sunday of Lent

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD does something new for the chosen people
(Isaiah 43:16-21).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy
(Psalm 126).

Second Reading — The supreme good is knowing Jesus as Lord
(Philippians 3:8-14).

Gospel — A woman caught in the act of adultery is brought to Jesus. He challenges anyone without sin to throw the first stone
(John 8:1-11).

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. 1
1:00 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

SOMETHING NEW IN CHRIST

Isaiah prophesies for the Lord: "Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new!" One of the most dangerous things that we can do is get stuck in our old ways. As individuals, as parishes, as nations we can say, "We've always done it that way," and miss calls to growth and change. Throughout this Lent and our lives, God continues to call us to life, and we should celebrate that! The psalmist reminds us that "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!" Saint Paul realizes this as he explains, "I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus." In the Gospel, Jesus offers a new way of looking at a tricky situation and provides a kinder, less judgmental response.

Jesus knew that the scribes and Pharisees were trying to trap him. They put him in what seemed to be a no-win situation. Let the woman who was caught in adultery go, and he would have been accused of ignoring the law. Let her be stoned, and he would fail to show mercy toward her, contradicting his life's message. Jesus' response teaches three crucial lessons: none of us is free of sin; we are not the ultimate judges of others; Jesus is the mercy of God, in whom we can always trust. In Christ, God does something new. When we give our hearts to Christ, we have the hope of new life, a life in which mercy reigns.

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POPE'S INTENTION FOR APRIL—For Health Care Workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 10: Palm Sunday
April 14: Holy Thursday
- 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper & Eucharistic Adoration until 10pm.
April 15: Good Friday
- 12:00pm & 7:30pm Passion Service.
April 16: Holy Saturday
- 7:30pm Easter Vigil
(No morning Mass from April 14 - 16;
No confessions on April 16)
April 17: Easter Sunday:
Regular schedule.

THANK YOU

Mar. 27, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$6,182
WESHARE	\$836
TOTAL	\$7,018

Scribes and Pharisees

In today's Gospel, we meet Scribes and Pharisees who challenge Jesus. Who were these groups? Scribes were wise men who could write and interpret documents.

Their profession included knowledge of the law (the Torah) which enabled them to draft legal documents (contracts, loans, inheritances, mortgages, land registry titles, etc.). Their main task was writing and interpreting the laws of the Bible i.e. their tasks involved administration based on a thorough knowledge of the established laws, the legal language, and its interpretation.

The Pharisees, on the other hand, were intellectuals belonging to an elite upper class. Pharisees thought of themselves as a superior body; they were known as political and religious leaders who had immense power to impose the laws. Like the Scribes, the Pharisees were well-known legal experts but in following legal traditions they went beyond the knowledge of the Bible and included "the traditions of the fathers." In the religious environment, the main difference between Scribes and Pharisees was that the former were people whose task was limited to interpreting the Bible, whereas the latter were an elite class who not only imposed the law but also influenced the law.

ADA 2022

The ADA 2022 theme is "Growing together in Faith." Ascension parishioners have truly come "together" to support our parish and our diocese. **We have exceeded our goal (about 4%). Any amount over the goal from now on will be rebated to us and it is earmarked for the church sound system.**

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

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 02 Sat	9 a.m. The McKeever Family 5 p.m. Nicanor & Luz Beltran +
Apr 03 Sun	7 a.m. All Parishioners 9 a.m. All Parishioners 11 a.m. Bill & Pat McSweeney + 5 p.m. All Parishioners
Apr 04 Mon	8 a.m. Joseph Stolz +
Apr 05 Tue	8 a.m. George Chrisman (L)
Apr 06 Wed	8 a.m. All Parishioners
Apr 07 Thu	8 a.m. Kay Lynch +
Apr 08 Fri	8 a.m. All Parishioners
Apr 09 Sat	9 a.m. All Parishioners 5 p.m. Maxine Stice +
Apr 10 Sun	7 a.m. All Parishioners 9 a.m. All Parishioners 11 a.m. All Parishioners 5 p.m. All Parishioners

SEE'S CANDY FOR EASTER

The candy is ready for pick-up the weekends of **April 3rd and April 10th.**

Thank you to all parishioners who ordered See's candies. All of the proceeds will fund ongoing service projects of the Faith Formation students.

MEN'S CLUB MEETS FRIDAY

Men's club in-person meeting

Friday, April 8th @ 6:00 p.m.

Worner Hall/Lounge Room

If you enjoy fellowship and camaraderie of fellow parishioners, plan on attending as a guest at the next meeting. Meetings begin with refreshments followed by a dinner specially prepared by some of the members.

Contact Chuck Schoppe for information: 408-867-9229

Lenten GIFT of READING PROJECT

The Youth Faith Formation families have adopted the **Gift of Reading Project** as their Lenten service activity through Palm Sunday. This project will help children who participate in an after-school program hosted by CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to Advance Learning), a service group launched by Catholic Charities in 2003.

All are invited to drop off new and gently used books (K-12 age-appropriate books) into the white boxes near the main doors to the church. Thank you for supporting our youth!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday	St. Isidore (7th cent. Spanish archbishop; patron of the internet, computer users)
Tuesday:	St. Vincent Ferrer (15th cent. Spanish Dominican missionary; patron of builders, construction workers)
Thursday:	St. John Baptist de la Salle (18th cent. French priest, educational reformer & religious founder—Brothers of the Christian Schools; patron of teachers of youth)