

Church of the Ascension

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor
Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento,
Parochial Vicar
Nomer Rios, Admin. Assistant
Susan Dunn, 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.

Sunday

7:00 a.m. (as of Nov. 27
9:00 a.m. all Masses
11:00 a.m. are inside
5:00 p.m. the Church)

Weekday

*M—F 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days

Mass times as announced

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 pm—4:45 pm
In Room A (facing synagogue).
Enter through exterior door.

Marriage

Arrangements made SIX
MONTHS in advance. Please
telephone the parish office to
make an appointment with the
pastor.

Baptism

Baptisms are held the First
Sunday of each month at 12
noon. (Preparation seminar is
required). Please contact the
parish office at least ONE month
in advance.

12033 Miller Avenue, Saratoga, California 95070

Office Hours: *Our office has opened to the public, with Covid restrictions.*

Mon.—Thurs. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 408-725-3939 • Fax: 408-725-3932

Web Site: www.ascensionsaratoga.org

FaceBook: www.facebook.com/Church-of-The-Ascension-102780971438932/

In case of an emergency please call 408-725-3939, then press 9



SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome: We extend our hearts and hands in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God that you are with us. If any of the following in the apply to you, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

New Parishioner New Address New Phone

Send Envelopes Weekly, Not Required/Automatic
Payment, Moving/remove from mailing list

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 23, 2022**

APERUIT ILLIS (INSTITUTING THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD)

Sunday of the



Word of God

“He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures”

(Lk 24:45). This was one of the final acts of the risen Lord before his Ascension. Jesus appeared to the assembled disciples, broke bread with them and opened their minds to the understanding of the sacred Scriptures.

With this Letter, I wish to respond to the many requests I have received from the people of God that the entire Church celebrate, in unity of purpose, a **Sunday of the Word of God**. It is now common for the Christian community to set aside moments to reflect on the great importance of the word of God for everyday living. The various local Churches have undertaken a wealth of initiatives to make the sacred Scripture more accessible to believers, to increase their gratitude for so great a gift, and to help them to strive daily to embody and bear witness to its teachings.

Consequently, I hereby declare that the **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God. This *Sunday of the Word of God* will thus be a fitting part of that time of the year when we are encouraged to strengthen our bonds with the Jewish people and to pray for Christian unity.

Regular reading of sacred Scripture and the celebration of the Eucharist make it possible for us to see ourselves as part of one another. As Christians, we are a single people, making our pilgrim way through history, sustained by the Lord, present in our midst, who speaks to us and nourishes us. A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers.

Sacred Scripture and the sacraments are thus inseparable. When the sacraments are introduced and illumined by God’s word, they become ever more clearly the goal of a process whereby Christ opens our minds and hearts to acknowledge his saving work. We should always keep in mind the teaching found in the Book of Revelation: the Lord is standing at the door and knocking. If anyone should hear his voice and open for him, he will come in and eat with them. Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of sacred Scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us.

—Pope Francis

(*excerpts from the letter of Pope Francis given in Rome, at the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, on 30 September 2019, the liturgical Memorial of Saint Jerome, on the inauguration of the 1600th anniversary of his death.*)



**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 23, 2022**

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.
—Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

GOD’S LAW

Scripture has always held God’s law to be the path to human happiness. In today’s first reading, Ezra the priest reads the scroll of the law to the people returned from exile. They weep—then are joyful. Israel’s relationship with God had always been defined by how they kept and lived God’s law. The author of Psalm 96 likewise praises the law of God as the source of wisdom, joy and enlightenment, purity and justice.

In his advice to the bickering Corinthians, Paul points out that, just as God has made all parts of a human body essential for the health of the whole, living as “Christ’s body” requires that each member be recognized as necessary for the good of all. Finally, in Luke’s Gospel Jesus claims that the Spirit is sending him to relieve human suffering. Like Ezra, he is reading from a scroll, proclaiming God’s “law” of mercy to those in need.

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FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, AND MISSION

Each week through February, there will be a question based on the Synod. You are invited to reflect on them prayerfully – but it’s not a test! Beginning in late February, the Diocese will sponsor a series of listening sessions, allowing all of us to share our insights. The outcomes of those sharing sessions will be collated and sent to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops by June. The USCCB will incorporate the reports of all the dioceses into a final report which will go to the Vatican.

SPEAKING OUT

All are invited to speak with courage and parrhesia, that is, in freedom, truth, and charity. What enables or hinders speaking up courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church and society? When and how do we manage to say what is important to us? How does the relationship with the local media work (not only Catholic media)? Who speaks on behalf of the Christian community, and how are they chosen? For more information, see the Diocesan website— <https://www.dsj.org/universal-synod/>

Liturgy Notes

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Isaiah, Prophet

Prophets are people who have a special connection with God and thus speak on His behalf, delivering messages or teachings. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Isaiah is considered one of the greatest prophet; the others are Jeremiah, Ezekial and Daniel. Isaiah is best known as the Hebrew prophet who predicted the coming of the Messiah who would free God's people from the slavery of sin.

In his writings, Isaiah prophesies the birth of Jesus calling him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace (Is. 9). He foretells the Messiah, a special covenant of hope and a new Zion, i.e. the breaking in of God's Kingdom into the world.

When Jesus returns to Nazareth and reads in the synagogue from Isaiah (Is. 61), he is pointing to his ordained mission on earth and to himself as the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, i.e. his identity as the Messiah.

Every pious desire, every good thought, every charitable work inspired by the love of Jesus, contributes to the perfection of the whole body of the faithful. A person who does nothing more than lovingly pray to God for his brethren, participates in the great work of saving souls.

—Bl. Anne Catherine Emmerich

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday** **St. Francis de Sales** (16th cent. Swiss Bishop, Doctor of the Church, leader of Catholic Reformation & co-founder of the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary; patron of writers, Catholic press, deaf people.)
- Tuesday** **The Conversion of St. Paul** (an event in the life of Paul the Apostle that led him to cease persecuting early Christians and to become a follower of Jesus.)
- Wednesday** **Ss. Timothy and Titus** (1st cent. Greek bishops & disciples of St. Paul; Timothy is patron against stomach & intestinal diseases; Titus is patron of Crete.)
- Thursday** **St. Angela Merici** (16th cent. Italian religious founder, Company of St. Ursula; patroness of the sick, handicapped.)
- Friday** **St. Thomas Aquinas** (13th cent. Italian Dominican priest & Doctor of the Church; patron of academics, apologists.)

THANK YOU

Jan. 16, 2022	Our Weekly Offering	Fiscal Year to Date
NEEDED	\$5,400	N/A
COLLECTED WESHARE	\$2,691 \$3,073	N/A
TOTAL	\$5,754	N/A



Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.
—Psalm 19

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30
- Tuesday:** Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
- Wednesday:** 2 Tm 1:1-18 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
- Thursday:** 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25
- Friday:** 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34
- Saturday:** 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41
- Sunday:** Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13 [13:4-13]; Lk 4:21-30

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Jan 22 Sat 9 a.m. Joseph Fiorentino +
5 p.m. Mary & Orv Burley +
- Jan 23 Sun 7 a.m. All Parishioners
9 a.m. The Maldero Family
11 a.m. Bette Fiorentino +
5 p.m. Oscar & Gaudiosa Beltran +
- Jan 24 Mon 8 a.m. Rosaria Fiorentino +
- Jan 25 Tue 8 a.m. The Brazzano Family
- Jan 26 Wed 8 a.m. Joseph Fiorentino +
- Jan 27 Thu 8 a.m. All Parishioners
- Jan 28 Fri 8 a.m. All Parishioners
- Jan 29 Sat 9 a.m. The Austin Family
5 p.m. The Bastholm Family
- Jan 30 Sun 7 a.m. All Parishioners
9 a.m. Bette Fiorentino +
11 a.m. Justin Austin (L)
5 p.m. Martin Leano (L)

EVENTS

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows

IT'S BEEN FACT-CHECKED
BY THE HOLY SPIRIT



It seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught. Lk 1:3-4

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FREE RESOURCES - BOOKS, MUSIC CDS, VIDEOS, AUDIO CDS

All parishioners and friends and family are invited to borrow material from **Ascension's Free Lending Library.**

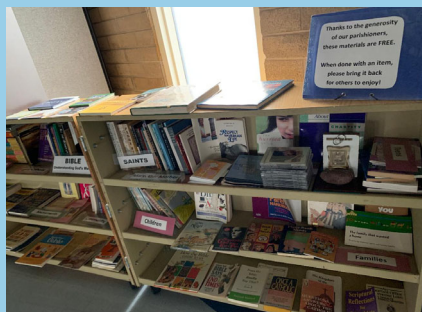


The library holds Catholic books, videos, music, brochures, & pamphlets

Why?: Grow in our Faith through spiritual enrichment -- you will find many inspirational stories, prayer aids, and helpful information for children, teens, families, young adults, and materials for all ages.

Where? Worner Hall
When? Sundays
from 9am to 12 noon

Come check-out a book or two and see how it can enrich your life.



PARISH GROUP CONTACTS

Administration and Communications

Pastoral Council	John Pozniak	408-230-6006
Finance Council	Doris Atkinson	408-725-3939
Building & Grounds	Ron Schoengold	408-309-9830
Sunday Bulletin	Mary Park	408-446-3647 or maryspark@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster	Ha Truc Dinh	408-891-8382
Email Manager	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Wedding Coordinator	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873

Liturgy

Eucharistic Ministers	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873
Lector Training	Wilma Brisendine	408-725-3939
Ushers	Tom Gaynor	408-839-3473
Altar Servers	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Music Ministry	Nomer Rios	408-725-3939

Catechetical Ministries

Youth Faith Formation Coordinator	Loy Oppus-Moe	408-725-3939
Baptism Preparation	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Marriage Preparation	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Faith & Scriptures	Gene Plevyak	408-257-3490
RCIA	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Rosary Group	Virginia Anaya	408-725-3939

Community and Service

Men's Club	Chuck Schoppe	408-867-9229
Handcrafters	Ruby Hauffe	408-725-3939
Couples Bridge	David Tong	415-606-1476
Young Adults	Doris/Michael Atkinson	408-725-3939
CONNECT	Don Van Buren	408-996-2619
Communion to Sick	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Marriage Encounter	Tony/Dale Fadelli	408-253-1533
Engaged Encounter	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Cursillo	Gene/Elaine Plevyak Harry Stice	408-857-1075 408-996-7842
Knights of Columbus	John Pozniak	408-230-6006
Serra Club	Bruce Newnan	408-293-8004
Pastoral Visit Team	Wilma Brisendine	408-725-3939
Ascension Cares	Peggy Schoppe	408-867-9229
Fil-Am Organization	Marie Maraschin	408-218-2704
Chinese Catholic Community	Janet Lau	408-725-3939