

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

*8:30 a.m. (indoors)
3:00 p.m. (outdoors)
5:00 p.m. (drive-in &
live-streamed)

Sunday

8:30 a.m. (not public).
*9:00 a.m. (indoors)
11:00 a.m. (outdoors)

Weekday

*M—F 8:00 a.m. (indoors)

*indoor masses are in Worner Hall

Holy Days

Mass times as announced

Reconciliation

By appointment

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 is currently not open to the public, yet we monitor phone calls and voice messages, especially Mon.—Thur. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 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



MASS INSIDE THE CHURCH AGAIN?

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 OF EASTER
APRIL 18, 2021**

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR...

WHEN CAN WE HAVE MASS IN CHURCH AGAIN?

Our parish has offered the Eucharist in four different settings to meet the needs of our community: indoor, outdoor, drive-in, and live-streamed. Based on our recent attendance data, many parishioners seem to prefer either the outdoor or drive-in celebration if they have a choice. It's similar in other parishes. The drive-in liturgy is helpful to parents with small children, and easy for those who would like to join us without the need for reservation.

The drive-in Mass at 11:00 am on Easter Sunday drew 180+ people (in about 80 vehicles) - double the typical number of in-car participants in past weeks. Many were happy to be there on Easter Sunday. It was also an opportunity to invite passers-by to our church. That's part of the church mission: to invite more people to our Lord, not simply to minister to those in our community. The drive-in Mass is now back to 5:00 pm on Saturdays.

We all want to go back to church for the Eucharistic celebration. Yet, Worner Hall at this point is our preference for several reasons: better airflow and ventilation, greater seating capacity, easy chair arrangements, and simple sanitization, etc. At the same time, we are prepared to offer the Mass in church when the time is right (if vaccinations pick up pace and the infection rate is down).

We are grateful to our faithful volunteers who help with the check-in and sanitizing, and the dedicated Parish Pandemic Task Force. The team meets every week to ensure that we are prepared for constant changes during this pandemic. God bless them for their service.

Fr. Hao, Pastor

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 18, 2021


The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the way, and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

—*Luke 24:35-48*

FULFILLMENT

It is interesting that during the Easter season, when we do not hear a reading from the Old Testament, it becomes so important. This is particularly true today. Peter's speech begins with a prayer formula familiar to Jews: "The God of Abraham . . ." (Acts 3:13). It likewise contains the potent phrases "Holy and Righteous One" and "mouth of all the prophets" (3:14, 18). Peter was stating in no uncertain terms that the law, psalms, and prophets had been fulfilled in Christ.

This is reinforced by Jesus himself in the Gospel passage, when he states that everything in the scriptures (to the early Christians "the scriptures" were what we call the Old Testament) had to be fulfilled. Above all, Jesus and Peter both emphasize that we are witnesses to all of this, and are sent forth to bear witness to it in the world.

The Latin Missa, from which our word "Mass" comes, means "sent" (as in "mission"). As we leave Mass today, let us remember to be witnesses to all that has been fulfilled in the risen Christ.

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**EARTH'S STEWARDSHIP**

Earth Day is April 22nd

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. An instance of God's stewardship is found in the miraculous feeding of the crowd as described in John's gospel. "When they had their fill, he (Jesus) said to his disciples, 'Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted.'" (John 6:12)

In a *pastoral statement issued in 2019, the California bishops urged everyone in California to care for our common home. Excerpts from the pastoral statement read: "California has been blessed with great beauty. Through all creation, God is revealed. Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* calls us to rediscover in awe and wonder the beauty of creation. At the same time, we must respond to the cry of the earth in its suffering of our mistreatment of the natural world...In the context of our Catholic teaching on the theology of creation, we invite the people of California to reflect on ways we can more faithfully and effectively care for creation in thanksgiving to God for this great gift."

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 for ourselves and, especially for posterity. We owe them a healthy and cared-for legacy. Each of us not powerless. In our homes, gardens, neighborhoods, we can make small concrete changes that will protect creation for future generations.

*Visit www.cacatholic.org/protect-our-common-home for the complete text.

Liturgy Notes

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Easter is not a *day* but a *season*, a season lasting from Easter Sunday through Pentecost. Records show that as far back as the third century, Christians were celebrating the Resurrection for 50 days. Why 50 days? Some believe that 50 represents seven weeks of seven days (seven equals Biblical perfection) plus one day: perfection plus! More probably Easter was superimposed on the Jewish spring festival which took place during the 50 days after Passover. It became the Church's longest season because Christians believed that Christ's Resurrection was too big and too important for just one day's celebration.

Evil preaches tolerance until it is dominant, then it tries to silence good.
—Archbishop Charles Chaput

NOT WHAT WAS EXPECTED

Have you ever waited for something for so long you began to think it might never happen? The Israelites had waited for centuries for the coming of the Messiah. Yet when Jesus, the long-awaited Anointed One came, many failed to believe in him. He wasn't what they expected.

The Messiah was supposed to be a strong, powerful commander of armies, not humble, compassionate, and suffering. After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples and explained all that he had said in his time with them, opening their minds to what had been written in the scriptures so that they could accept his suffering and death and rejoice in his resurrection.

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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Wednesday **St. Anselm** (12th cent. Italian Benedictine archbishop, philosopher, theologian & Doctor of the Church)

Thursday **Earth Day** (demonstrates support for environmental protection.)

Friday **St. George** (4th cent. Roman martyr; patron of England, knights, soldiers, Crusaders)

St. Adalbert (10th cent. Czech bishop, Benedictine monk, missionary & martyr; patron of Czech Republic, Poland)

Saturday: **St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen** (17th cent. German Capuchin Franciscan priest, missionary & martyr)

THANK YOU

Apr. 11, 2021	Our Weekly Offering	Fiscal Year to Date
NEEDED	\$5,400	N/A
COLLECTED WESHARE	\$2,574 \$1,930	N/A
TOTAL	\$4,504	N/A



Lord, let your face shine on us.
— Psalm 4

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51 — 8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 17 Sat 8:30 a.m. The Diem Family
3 p.m. Rosario Leano +
5 p.m. Frances Lu Houn +

Apr 18 Sun 8:30 a.m. All Parishioners
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Antonino Borromeo

Apr 19 Mon 8 a.m. Alberto & Cecilia Molina +

Apr 20 Tue 8 a.m. Ricardo Fuenzalida +

Apr 21 Wed 8 a.m. All Parishioners

Apr 22 Thu 8 a.m. All Parishioners

Apr 23 Fri 8 a.m. Paz Hernandez +

Apr 24 Sat 8:30 a.m. All Parishioners
3 p.m. All Parishioners
5 p.m. Fe Hernandez Laranang +

Apr 25 Sun 8:30 a.m. All Parishioners
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. The Nora Family

Note:

Sun 8:30 AM is not a public liturgy

EVENTS

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



40 HOURS FOR THE LORD

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

Join the Diocese of San Jose Vocations Office and Bishop Oscar Cantú for a prayer vigil **April 23-25, 2021** for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life from our diocese.



All are welcome to attend for any length of time to pray at Saint John Vianney Parish. It will begin Friday, April 23 at 7pm with an Opening Mass and the Closing Mass with Bishop Oscar Cantu will be on Sunday, April 25 at 10am.

Sign up for an hour of Adoration at dsj.org/40hours.

RETRouvaille OF SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY VIRTUAL MARRIAGE PROGRAM

April 23 @ 8:00 am - April 25 @ 5:00 pm

You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage.

The Virtual Retrouvaille Marriage Programs Mission is to help hurting marriages heal, and bring peace to families. The program consists of a weekend presented by 3 couples and a Priest, with 6 Sat. post sessions.

Registration ends April 22. Visit the website: https://www.helpourmarriage.org/communities/weekend_details.cfm?community=San%5FJose%2C%5FCalifornia&program_date=6459

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
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
Musicians - 5 p.m. Sat	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Musicians - 9 a.m.	Cheryl Snyder	408 674 4361
Musicians - 11 a.m.	Barbara Mandal	408-921-7319
Musicians - 5 p.m. Sun	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Rosary Group	Evelyn Tanner	408-867-1600

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

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
Charismatic Prayer Group	George Sharp	408 623-3014
Fil-Am Organization	Marie Maraschin	408-218-2704
Chinese Catholic Community	Janet Lau	408-725-3939

Web Site

www.ascensionsaratoga.org

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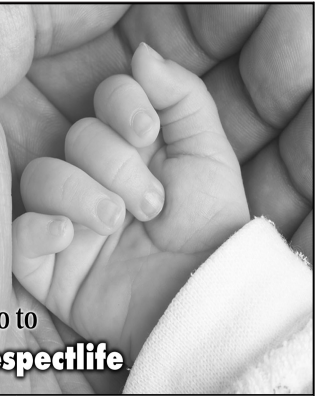
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