

Church of the Ascension

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Pastoral Staff

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Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento,
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Nomer Rios, Administrative
Assistant
Mark Rose, Bookkeeper
Wayne Purdy,
Maintenance Supervisor

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

OCTOBER 16, 2022 — TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — As long as Moses' hands were kept uplifted, Joshua and his men had the better part of the battle with Amalek (Exodus 17:8-13).

Psalm — Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth (Psalm 121).

Second Reading — Remain faithful; proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or not (2 Timothy 3:14 — 4:2).

Gospel — God will secure the rights of the chosen who call out day and night (Luke 18:1-8).

PERSISTENCE

We all get weary sometimes. So often we face frustration, discouragement, and temptation to despair over what we can't change in our lives, or in the world.

Today's readings give us resources to persist in sustaining hope and trusting in God. The reading from Exodus shows us that when our arms get weary, we are not alone, that God provides us companions to sustain us, as He did with Moses.

If the Israelite soldiers were to lift up their eyes to the hill (see Psalm 121:1), they would be reassured in battle by Moses's presence and posture. Paul urges the Thessalonians to persist in proclaiming the gospel, and Jesus likewise commends the widow for her persistence in pursuit of the justice due her. Whether they preach or pray, the followers of Jesus need persistence through periods of difficulty.

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Church of the Ascension: Youth Faith Formation Program

Church of the Ascension offers faith formation, youth ministry, and sacramental preparation programs to help families build a relationship with Christ and deepen their faith. Faith Formation sessions are held immediately after the **9 am Sunday Mass** typically from 9:55 am to 11:00 a.m.



In honor of the **Month of the Rosary** this month, we will begin classes with a Rosary assembly, after which regular classes will resume.

Children and youth are also invited to participate actively at our monthly **Family Masses** (1st Sunday of the month) and in the general life of the parish community.

Are you interested in volunteering for our programs?

Please email loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org or call the parish office at (408) 725-3939.

SUPPORT "OPTIONS UNITED" HELPING WOMEN IN NEED

With so much talk about abortion these days, it gives the impression that there are no options to abortion. The bishops in California see things differently. In today's world, the bishops are calling Catholics to support unborn children and their mothers so that no woman feels she has no choice but abortion. Do you know someone facing an unexpected or difficult pregnancy, in need of prenatal care, or support with young children? Share the Options for Pregnancy helpline: 877-398-7734, staffed by Options United trained call responders, or visit www.optionsforpregnancy.com.

Hell—a place of suffering

Little is mentioned these days about hell, except in phrases like, “life can be a living hell,” or descriptions of places as a “hell-hole.” The meaning is pretty much understood as a place of misery. When we speak of hell vs. heaven, is it a metaphor or a reality? If we are to believe in the Bible, we must believe in hell’s existence mentioned as it is by three of the evangelists. Mark (Mk 9:42-47) has Jesus speaking of hell as “the unquenchable fire; where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.” In the Gospel of Luke (Lk 16:22-2), Jesus gives us the parable of the rich man, Lazarus, begging to return from hell to warn his brothers. And a reference to the suffering of hell is expressed in Matthew (Mt 25:41) as Jesus warns of the punishment for those who do not love.

If hell is real, where is it? What is it? We cannot say where, but mystics have told us that it is a real place. St. Thomas Aquinas taught that hell is the opposite of heaven: “Even as in the Blessed in heaven there will be the most perfect charity, so in the damned there will be the most perfect hate. Wherefore as the Saints will rejoice in all goods, so will the damned grieve for all goods.” The fire of hell is not a combustible fire but a fiery torment of conscience, of remorse and regret, of rage and despair. Fr. Gabriele Amorth, a famous exorcist, said, “If people would know what is hell, they would sin less, I guarantee it!” It has been reported that when a sinner told St. Padre Pio that he did not believe in hell, Padre Pio answered: “you will when you get there.”

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday	St. Ignatius of Antioch (2nd cent. Syrian Christian writer & important Apostolic Father, alongside Clement of Rome & Polycarp; patron of Churches of North Africa & Mediterranean)
Tuesday	St. Luke (1st cent. Physician, evangelist & companion of St. Paul; tradition holds him to be author of Gospel of St. Luke and the Acts of the Apostles)
Wednesday	Sts. John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues & Companions (17th cent. North American martyrs --6 Jesuit missionaries & 2 laymen; patrons of Canada)
Thursday	St. Paul of the Cross (18th cent. Italian mystic, priest & religious founder, the Passionists; patron of Hungary & Pittsburgh)
Saturday	Pope St. John Paul II (20th cent. Polish pope, established Divine Mercy Sunday; patron of Archdiocese of Krakow, young Catholics, families)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Oct 15	Sat	9 a.m.	Marie Firato +
		5 p.m.	Genevieve Garvey (L)
Oct 16	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	Don Caron +
		5 p.m.	Joseph Fiorentino +
Oct 17	Mon	8 a.m.	Joan Vanderhorst & Family
Oct 18	Tue	8 a.m.	Kathy Weeks (L)
Oct 19	Wed	8 a.m.	Mercedes & Ricardo Fuenzalida+
Oct 20	Thu	8 a.m.	Helen Streb +
Oct 21	Fri	8 a.m.	Ron Stopnick +
Oct 22	Sat	9 a.m.	Mary Nguyen Nguyen +
		5 p.m.	Evelyn Tanner +
Oct 23	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Corazon Ramirez +
		11 a.m.	John Sokol, Senior +
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners

Happy are they who grieve not for what they have not, but give thanks for what they do have.

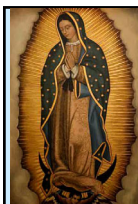
—Anonymous

THANK YOU

Oct. 09, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$4,388
WESHARE	\$1,908
TOTAL	\$6,296

It is not only what we do, but also what we do not do, for which we are held accountable.

—Molière



ROSARY & FAITH TALK

Guadalupe Hope Society invites you to their monthly Rosary and Faith Talk on **Friday, October 21st, 2022**
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Bishop Oscar Cantu, Bishop of the San Jose Diocese will lead a Rosary for the unborn and their parents and share a faith talk.

Register to attend either in person or virtually at <https://rosaryoctober2122.eventbrite.com>

Call or email to reserve your seat at the Hall.
408-447-5433; admin@ghswomenscenter.com

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

A Church Open to Everyone: We pray for the Church, ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel; may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.