



June 14, 2026

## Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 19:2-6a | Rom 5:6-11 | Mt 9:36—10:8

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Our first reading from Exodus contains a promise: “If you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people.” God promises to make Israel “a kingdom of priests, a holy nation,” if they keep the covenant. Reading the rest of the Old Testament, we know how this turns out: humanity never fully keeps our part of the covenant. And yet God is faithful, despite our unfaithfulness. In the Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples not to pagan territory or any Samaritan towns, but to “the lost sheep of the house of Israel,” revealing that God never abandons his chosen ones. Indeed, this is the same point Paul makes when he says, “But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.” Our discipleship begins from a deep awareness of the relentless love with which God pursues us. Even when we stray from our baptismal covenant with him, he comes looking to save us and bring us back to himself.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

#### **PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Today’s Gospel ends with a powerful reminder to all evangelizers: “Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.” Knowing the limitless mercy of God – how God has reconciled us to himself through Christ’s suffering and death, we are to imitate his generosity in bearing witness to the Gospel. Knowing the love which has saved us, our hearts are moved – as Jesus’ was at the sight of the crowd – to see that others come to know his love. Therefore, the generosity with which Jesus calls us to pour ourselves out for the sake of the Gospel is not an imposition from outside us, but a response to the love we have received that compels us from within to make him and his kingdom known.

### **PRAY**

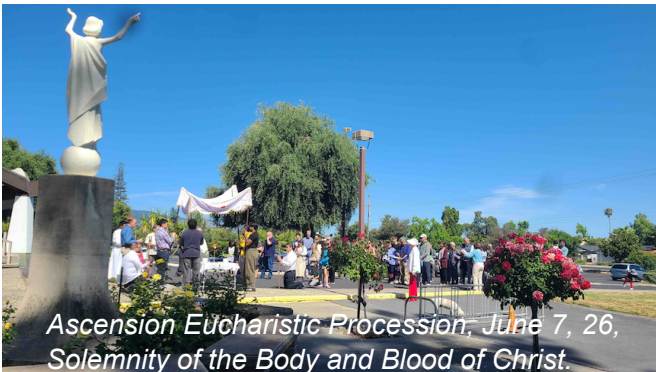
St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote a prayer now known as the Prayer for Generosity. Pray this prayer each day this week, asking the Lord to increase your generosity as you labor in his “harvest,” sharing the Good News of his kingdom. *Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, teach me true generosity. Teach me to serve you as you deserve. To give without counting the cost, to fight heedless of wounds, to labor without seeking rest, to sacrifice myself without thought of any reward save the knowledge that I have done your will. Amen.*

## Church of the Ascension

ascensionsaratoga.org | 408-725-3939

Masses: (Sat) 5p; (Sun) 7a, 9a, 11a, 5p  
(Mon-Fri) 8a; (Sat) 9a

Confessions: (Sat) 4p – 4:45p



## Why the Terrace Project

Our current church, dedicated in 1967, is structurally sound and has served our community for almost 60 years. However, it does not have an ADA-compliant ramp to accommodate the growing number of individuals with mobility challenges. Additionally, the area in front of the church presents another mobility challenge due to its varying elevations.

The Terrace Project will add a **compliant ramp** that features a gentle slope, level landings, and adequate width. The project will also create a **flatter area for gatherings**, which will include trees, benches, and a movable coffee kiosk, providing a welcoming space to foster our community spirit before or after Mass. This project is centered on Safety and Community.

## Support the Terrace Project

The conceptual estimated cost is \$375,000. Consider a gift to support this project.

### Ways to donate:

**-Checks:** make them payable to *Ascension Church* and include 'Terrace project' on the memo line.

**-Online giving** (credit, ACH, etc.) through [ascensionsaratoga.org](http://ascensionsaratoga.org). Select "Building" from drop-down menu, then frequency.



**R.I.P.** Pray for **Dorothy Thomas**, who passed away on June 10. May she rest in peace.

## Catholic Communication Campaign

Fifty percent of funds from this 2nd collection today remains in our Diocese to support local communications projects through social media, *The Valley Catholic* magazine, monthly eNews, etc.

## WEEKLY OFFERING - June 7

-Total: **\$7,391** (\$4,810 + online: \$2,581). Goal: \$6,800.  
-YTD Sunday: \$329,168. Budget: \$326,400. *Thank you*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Jun 13	Sat	05 pm	Maxine Stice +
Jun 14	Sun	07 am	Ana Karen Sanchez (L)
		09 am	Wai Ping Leung (L)
		11 am	John Holecek +
Jun 16	Tue	08 am	Joseph Stolz (L)
Jun 18	Thu	08 am	Corazon G. Vicencio +
Jun 19	Fri	08 am	Helen Rose +
Jun 20	Sat	09 am	Betty Macedo (L)

## Benevity Matching Gift

Your company may match your donations through Benevity. Donate via Benevity and look up "Church of the Ascension" using our Tax ID 94-2734503.