

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



RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

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

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 16, 2022**

EIGHT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR CATHOLICS

As we begin 2022 we encounter a time of new beginnings, new hopes, and new inspirations. While traditional resolutions don't work for many people, here are several items that are very easy to put into practice. Choose one that looks doable within your lifestyle.

1. **Increase Your Marian Devotion**
St. Louis de Montfort reminds us that Mary is "the easiest, the shortest, the most perfect means of approaching Jesus Christ." Our Lady wants us to love her Son, and she will lead us to Him in a deeper way this New Year!
2. **Make More Time for Spiritual Reading**
If you want to make progress in your walk with God this year, spiritual reading should be high on your list. Your best bet is to stick to the classics written by saints known for their practical spiritual wisdom.
3. **Make Good Stewardship a Lifestyle**
We live in a world of materialism and greed. Let's keep in mind that we are called to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us. Spend your time, talents, and treasure for God.
4. **Share Your Catholic Faith**
You don't have to be obnoxious or overbearing when sharing your faith. Just focus on doing simple things like being joyful in your walk with Christ or inviting people to come to Mass with you.
5. **Bring Back Regular Penances**
Many Catholics don't know that Fridays outside of Lent are also days of abstinence or fasting. What small penitential practice can you adopt for Fridays this year?
6. **Go to Mass One Extra Day of the Week**
Mass is the source and summit of our faith. Think of ways you can arrange your schedule so that you can make it to Mass one extra day each week. (Remember that daily Masses are usually only 30 minutes long!)
7. **Pray the Rosary**
No Catholic list of New Year's resolutions would be complete without a daily rosary added in. If you already pray the rosary daily, that is fantastic. Maybe invite someone to say it with you!
8. **Pick a New Saint Buddy**
Choose a patron saint whose virtues you would like to emulate in this year, and entrust this year to their special intercession. This is a great way to guard against the typical two-week lifespan of New Year's resolutions. With a saint to walk with you and inspire you, it will be easier for you to attain your goals!

—The Catholic Company

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 16, 2022



When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

—John 2:1-11

REVELATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Today's first reading from Isaiah arises out of the ordeal of the people of Jerusalem and Judea as they anticipate the end of seventy years of exile in Babylon. Their sufferings and their oppression will end, and they are promised joy like that of a great wedding upon returning to their homeland.

Although this passage is probably set in the early sixth century B.C., it is free of historical particulars. Accordingly, the Church has understood its imagery universally, as it proclaims God's promise of healing, hope, and happiness for all peoples, in this world and in the next. When read against this background, the story of Jesus' turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana becomes a revelation of God's presence in the person of Jesus, making these promises real for us in the here and now, in the transformation of our own lives.

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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.

LISTENING

Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice. How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? How are the laity listened to, especially women and young people? What facilitates or inhibits our listening? How well do we listen to those on the peripheries? How is the contribution of consecrated men and women integrated? What are some limitations in our ability to listen, especially to those with different views than our own? What space is there for the voice of minorities, especially people who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?

Liturgy Notes

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Spiritual Gifts

In today's second reading, St. Paul writes to the Corinthians regarding spiritual gifts. These are believed by followers to be supernatural or extraordinary graces which individual Christians need (and which were needed in the days of the Apostles) to fulfill the mission of the Church. In the same way that Paul links these graces to service, theologians believe that the graces are given to individual Christians for the good of others as distinguished from the graces given for personal sanctification.

Some of the gifts are teaching, healing, preaching, faith, leadership, administration, prophecy, evangelization, wisdom. Today's list comes from 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 others are to be found in Paul's other letters: Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:28-30; and Ephesians 4:11.

In Paul's time, there was dissention in the Corinthian community regarding the nature of the spiritual gifts; some were considered superior to others. Paul's emphasis was that the Spirit gives graces to individuals for the benefit of the community and these graces are complementary—like a body made up of parts, each part is necessary for complete functioning of a body.

FUNERAL FOR EVELYN TANNER

The funeral for Evelyn Tanner will be held at the Church of Ascension on Friday, January 21 at 11:00 a.m.

A Rosary for Evelyn will be recited one hour before the funeral at 10 a.m.

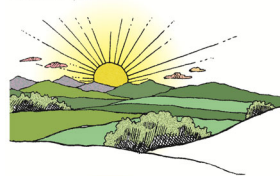
SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday	St. Anthony the Great (4th cent. Egyptian monk, Father of Monasticism; patron against skin diseases, of basket makers, brush makers, gravediggers)
	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (an American federal holiday marking the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., celebrating his life and achievements and his influence as a civil rights leader)
Thursday	Pope St. Fabian (3rd cent. Roman pope & martyr)
	St. Sebastian (3rd cent. French martyr; patron of soldiers, athletes)
Friday	St. Agnes (3rd cent. Roman virgin martyr; patroness of betrothed couples, Girl Guides)
Saturday	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

THANK YOU

Jan. 09, 2022	Our Weekly Offering	Fiscal Year to Date
NEEDED	\$5,400	N/A
COLLECTED WESHARE	\$3,524 \$ 683	N/A
TOTAL	\$4,207	N/A

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Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory.
—Isaiah 62:1-5

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday:	1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday:	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12
Friday:	1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday:	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday:	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

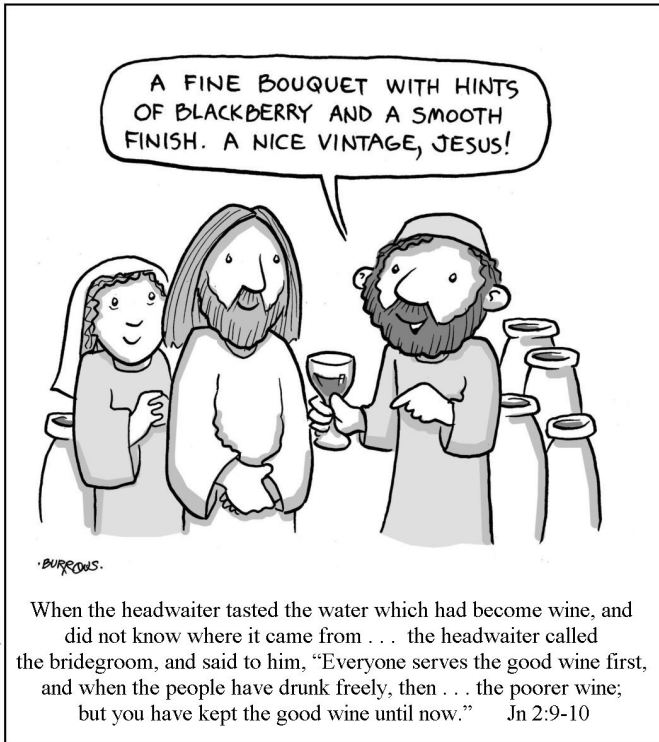
MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Jan 15	Sat	9 a.m.	The Brazzano Family
		5 p.m.	Nancy Forestale +
Jan 16	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Rosaria Fiorentino +
		11 a.m.	Mark Anthony Baylon +
		5 p.m.	Bette Fiorentino +
Jan 17	Mon	8 a.m.	Terry Lynch +
Jan 18	Tue	8 a.m.	Jessica Fedeli +
Jan 19	Wed	8 a.m.	Gregory Borromeo (L)
Jan 20	Thu	8 a.m.	Janet Lau (L)
Jan 21	Fri	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Jan 22	Sat	9 a.m.	Joseph Fiorentino +
		5 p.m.	Mary & Orv Burley (L)
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 +

EVENTS

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from . . . the headwaiter called the bridegroom, and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely, then . . . the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." Jn 2:9-10

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible © (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation.

"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right."

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

CATHOLIC YOUTH FAITH FORMATION CORNER

Volunteers Needed

Our Faith Formation program has long been served by volunteers for many years. We would like to invite YOU to consider sharing your time and talent with our children. Do you like working with young parishioners? Are you excited about growing in your faith and sharing that with them?

Please pray about joining the Youth Faith Formation Team. All ages are welcome. We all have unique gifts to share. Working together leads to a stronger community!

Please regularly check our **CFF (Catholic Faith Formation) CALENDAR**, so your family doesn't miss anything!

For information, email Loy at: loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org or call her at the parish office at (408) 725-3939.

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