

Church of the Ascension

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Pastoral Staff

Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor
Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento,
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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

SEPTEMBER 04, 2022 — TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Who can ever know God's counsel unless God gives wisdom and sends the Holy Spirit from on high? (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

Psalm — In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Psalm 90).

Second Reading — Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus, not as a slave but as a brother (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

Gospel — To be a disciple of Jesus one must carry one's own cross and renounce all possessions (Luke 14:25-33).

LIMITS

Today's readings continue the theme of humility explored last Sunday. All three readings today encourage us to admit that we have limits, and God has none. The poignant poetry of Wisdom resonates with all of us who have ever struggled for peace in situations we cannot control: "For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns."

Saint Paul recognizes his own limitations, both physically (he is in prison) and spiritually: he cannot compel his friend to obey his wishes; he can only propose his request and respect Philemon's free will. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that God alone can complete the good we wish to do in the world. While we thank God for the gifts we receive—and the families we love—we acknowledge that they are temporary, and humbly cling to God.

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Church of the Ascension: Youth Faith Formation Program

Registration continues as we plan for our Parent Orientation on **September 11th**. To enroll your child/ren, please complete the registration form (found on our website, home page) for the program (September 2022 through May 2023).

Youth Faith Formation includes sacramental preparation:

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist - typically 2nd graders or older

Sacrament of Confirmation - typically 8th graders or older



For information, please contact: Loy Oppus-Moe (408) 621-1587 or email her at loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

—*for abolition of the death penalty*

We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Men's Club in-person Meeting
Worner Hall/Lounge Room
Friday, September 9th, 6:00 p.m.

Funerals for Suicide Victims?

St. John writes, "In this is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us" (1 Jn 4:10). God's love enables us to love God, and then his creatures. We are the first of God's creatures we learn to love. This is not mindless selfishness, but respect for God's creation, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church observes, "Love toward oneself remains a fundamental principle of morality" (No. 2264).

However, we must remember our life is a gift given in trust. God expects us to give it back. The Catechism remarks: "We are stewards, not owners, of the life God has entrusted to us. It is not ours to dispose of" (No. 2280).

The Fifth Commandment forbids all forms of murder, but we must leave to God's mercy the judgment of those who commit suicide. Thus the Catechism teaches: "We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives" (No. 2283). For this reason the Church no longer forbids funeral rites or burial to Catholics who have committed suicide.

—Fr. Reginald Martin/simplycatholic.com

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday	Labor Day (honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws and well-being of the country. It is considered the unofficial end of summer.) St. Teresa of (20th cent. Albanian sister & foundress of Missionaries of Charity; with St. Francis Xavier, patroness of Archdiocese of Calcutta)
Thursday	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Mary's Birthday; the date chosen to follow 9 months after the feast of the Immaculate Conception)
Friday	St. Peter Claver (17th cent. Spanish Jesuit priest & missionary; patron of slaves, seafarers & human rights defender)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sep 03	Sat	9 a.m. All Parishioners 5 p.m. Maxine Stice +
Sep 04	Sun	7 a.m. All Parishioners 9 a.m. Kay Lynch + 11 a.m. Stan & Tina Richard + 5 p.m. All Parishioners
Sep 05	Mon	8 a.m. Leina Boulanger (L)
Sep 06	Tue	8 a.m. All Parishioners
Sep 07	Wed	8 a.m. All Parishioners
Sep 08	Thu	8 a.m. All Parishioners
Sep 09	Fri	8 a.m. Gene Streb +
Sep 10	Sat	9 a.m. Mary Park (L) 5 p.m. The Leano Family
Sep 11	Sun	7 a.m. All Parishioners 9 a.m. Augustine Vi Nguyen + 11 a.m. John Sokol, Senior + 5 p.m. All Parishioners

It was not by gold or by silver, but by labor, that all wealth of the world was originally purchased.

—Adam Smith



LABOR DAY

On Labor Day we honor those who labor and we pray for those seeking employment. The Church "continues to focus on the dignity of the workers as the key to the question of work and as the cornerstone of Catholic teaching on economic life." The bishops have said "Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation."

God loves work—his work of Creation is ongoing as He creates to bring about the Kingdom of God. We are part of that work, never unemployed, if sometimes underachieving. The Church honors work in the list of Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. For those works, the Holy Spirit is the taskmaster setting our focus, providing our energy and "paying" us with blessings.

THANK YOU

Aug. 28, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$
WESHARE	\$
TOTAL	\$

The Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Nativity is September 8th. Happy Birthday, Mother Mary!!!



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YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Youth Faith Formation program. There are many roles besides teaching for volunteering (free lending library, set-up/clean-up, special projects and events). You can also think about co-facilitating a class with another adult. It's a unique way to serve, while also growing in your faith! If called to this ministry, please call Loy at the office or email her at loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org.