

# Church of the Ascension

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[ascensionsaratoga.org](http://ascensionsaratoga.org)

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor  
Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento,  
Parochial Vicar  
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 09, 2022 — TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Naaman, cleansed from his leprosy, returns to Elisha and pledges his belief in and allegiance to the LORD (2 Kings 5:14-17).

**Psalm** — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

**Second Reading** — Remember Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead. If we persevere, we shall reign with him (2 Timothy 2:8-13).

**Gospel** — After ten lepers are cleansed by Jesus, only one, a Samaritan, returns to give him thanks (Luke 17:11-19).

## BLESSINGS

This Sunday's readings explore how we see and respond to blessing in our lives. We hear two stories of healing and of thanksgiving, of a powerful military leader Naaman, and of a powerless Samaritan leper. Both are examples of humility and gratitude that mark the presence of faith in God. We observe that both Naaman and the leper had their horizons expanded by their healing.

Once healed, they did not simply attribute this to a stroke of luck, and then go on with their lives. Instead, they began to see God on the move, reaching out to everyone, and actively blessing all creation. Jesus notes that the leper's faith saved him, because he was receptive to seeing this fuller reality. Faith changes our perception. Faith allows us to see beyond our usual boundaries, to embrace a loving God, and to participate in sharing that love with others.

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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](mailto:loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org) or call the parish office at (408) 725-3939.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

A sincere "Thank You" goes out to **John Pozniak**, the outgoing Chair of the Pastoral Council who served us well over several years. As we resume meetings after the summer break, we welcome our new Chair, **Peggy Schoppe**.

The current members of the Pastoral Council are: Peggy Schoppe (chair), Tom Roza (secretary), Melissa Chan, Dong-Young Chang, Jeff Moe, John Pozniak, Harry Stice, Keswick Tsang, Fr. Hao Dinh (ex officio), Fr. Rey Sarmiento (ex officio).

## Why Go to Mass?

Many dioceses are beginning to lift the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday. It was easy to stay at home, perhaps watch streamed Mass and seemingly have more free time. Some are still worried about catching something while others are finding it inconvenient to attend what they say is boring or irrelevant. So, why go to Mass week after week?

Perhaps the simple answer is that Jesus told us to do it with the words, "Do this in memory of me." Since then Christians have been doing "this" in one way or another through public worship. A fuller answer would be that through the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Mass), grace is poured down upon us: it is the privileged experience of Christ's presence, the Eucharistic banquet that feeds our spiritual life, the gift of the Holy Spirit that empowers us to continue living Christian lives.

Finally, when we gather for Eucharist, we are gathering to give "thanksgiving"—for life, for the gift of Jesus, and for God's promise of salvation. Sunday Eucharist is not simply a way of worshiping; it is the public worship that unites Catholics and identifies us publicly as members of the Body of Christ. The Church asks our commitment not to a day, but to one Sunday Mass—only one hour. Is it too much to ask?

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>St. John XXIII</b> (20th cent. Italian pope; patron of papal delegates, second Vatican Council)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Pope St. Callistus I</b> (3rd cent. Roman pope & martyr; patron of cemetery workers)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Teresa of Jesus</b> (16th cent. Spanish Carmelite nun, also known as Teresa of Avila, mystic, reformer & Doctor of the Church; patroness of Spain, sick people, people ridiculed for their piety, lace workers)

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Oct 08	Sat	9 a.m.	Celia Zapata +
		5 p.m.	George & Josephine Chrisman+
Oct 09	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Rogelio Belmonte +
		11 a.m.	Hanna Jemmink +
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners
Oct 10	Mon	8 a.m.	Kathy Sital (L)
Oct 11	Tue	8 a.m.	Joan Vanderhorst & Family
Oct 12	Wed	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Oct 13	Thu	8 a.m.	Gabrielle Fiorentino +
Oct 14	Fri	8 a.m.	Ben Angeleri +
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 +

## 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](mailto:admin@ghswomenscenter.com)

## BLESSING OF THE NEW ST. FRANCIS STATUE



Fr. Hao unveiled the statue of St. Francis and blessed it at the beginning of the blessing of the animals on Saturday. Pictured are Fr. Hao, Will Estes (donor of the statue) and Fr. Rey. There were many in attendance for blessing of the animals—probably an equal number of dogs and cats, and one fish in a bucket.

## THANK YOU

Oct. 02, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$8,347
WESHARE	\$1,420
TOTAL	\$9,767

**There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.**  
—Edith Wharton

## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

**Men's Club in-person Meeting**  
**Worner Hall/Lounge Room**  
**Friday, October 14th, 6:00 p.m.**  
**All men of Ascension are invited!!**