

# Church of the Ascension

12033 Miller Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Phone: 408-725-3939

Fax: 408-725-3932

Web Site:

ascensionsaratoga.org

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 — TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The Lord never forgets the sins of those who take advantage of the poor (Amos 8:4-7).

**Psalm** — Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor (Psalm 113).

**Second Reading** — Pray to the Lord, who wants everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:1-8).

**Gospel** — Be trustworthy in all things. Serve God, the only master, not mammon (Luke 16:1-13 [10-13]).

## PRIORITIES

Make a choice. God or money, material things, earthly pleasure. This is what Jesus asks us to do in today's Gospel. The Pharisees and scribes, and many people, want it both ways. God and wealth. But Jesus knows that "no servant can serve two masters." It is not that wealth is inherently bad, but the pursuit of it to the exclusion of what is good and righteous is.

Our faith is meant to guide and shape the way we live. If we are followers of Jesus Christ, we will treat others, especially the poor and vulnerable, fairly and justly. We will live with devotion to God and let our lives speak the truth of God's love for all.

We will put first things first, or more precisely, put God and God's ways first, assured that when we do, everything else will fall into place.

*Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

## 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

## Church of the Ascension: Youth Faith Formation Program

Youth Faith Formation classes have begun.

To enroll your child/ren, (if you have not yet done so), please complete the registration form (found on our website, home page) for the program.

**We are looking for volunteers to help** (teaching, free lending library, set-up/clean-up, special projects, 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 contact: Loy Oppus-Moe (408) 621-1587  
or email her at [loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org](mailto:loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org)

## CATECHETICAL SUNDAY— September 18, 2022

Catechetical Sunday is a national day to celebrate the ministry of passing on the faith.

This year's theme is "**This is my body given for you.**" **Luke 22:19**

With these words from the Gospel, the Lord Jesus offers us the gift of himself in the Eucharist. This theme reminds us that the object of all catechesis is Jesus himself. We must, first of all, be a disciple, one who draws close to Jesus in the Eucharist, and then be a witness to others and a companion as others come to know Jesus and encounter him in the sacraments.

**Catechetical Sunday** is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel.



## Christian Martyrs

A Christian martyr is someone willing to face death rather than deny Jesus Christ or his Gospel. Most of us have heard of the persecutions in Rome in the early days of Christianity. Martyrdom did not stop with Rome.

On Tuesday we honor Korean martyrs. Early Jesuit literature was introduced to Korea in the 18th century, but the first priest arrived only in 1836. Persecutions were quick to follow. The bishops and priests who confronted this danger, as well as the laypeople who aided and sheltered them, were in constant threat of losing their lives. More than 10,000 martyrs died in persecutions in Korea, which extended over more than one hundred years. Among them are those canonized by St. John Paul II in 1984.

Martyrdom, however, is not reserved to history. Some 4,000 Christians are killed for their faith each year around the world: priests, religious, lay men and women, families are killed in the name of religion. "Various international agencies report that over 70 million Christians have been murdered for their faith since the time of Christ's passion. The same agencies claim that upwards of 45 million such murders took place in the 20th century; other reports say as many as 250 Christians are selectively killed each day" (*Our Sunday Visitor*). In a homily on June 18, 2018, Pope Francis said, "The number of people killed is higher than the number of early martyrs. It's higher! But this doesn't make the news."

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. Januarius</b> (3rd century Italian bishop & martyr; patron of Naples, blood banks, against volcanic eruptions)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Ss. Andrew Kim, Paul Chong &amp; Companions</b> (Andrew: 19th cent., first Korean-born Catholic priest & martyr, patron of Korea; Paul, a lay apostle; along with 101 others, bishops, lay people, children and elderly who died for their faith)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Matthew</b> (one of the twelve apostles of Jesus, martyr, and Evangelist of the Gospel of Matthew)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Fall Equinox</b> (the beginning of Autumn)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)</b> (20th cent. Italian Capuchin friar, mystic & stigmatist; patron of civil defense volunteers, adolescents)

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sep 17	Sat	9 a.m.	Ysabelle Olaes (L)
		5 p.m.	Sister Maria Ca Do (L)
Sep 18	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Kathy Sital (L)
		11 a.m.	All Parishioners
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners
Sep 19	Mon	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Sep 20	Tue	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Sep 21	Wed	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Sep 22	Thu	8 a.m.	Dina Rendic +
Sep 23	Fri	8 a.m.	Macarthur Benitez +
Sep 24	Sat	9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners
Sep 25	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Sister Maria Ca Do (L)
		11 a.m.	Marietta Sokol +
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners

## VOTE "NO" ON PROP 1

On August 26, Bishop Cantú of San Jose stated, "(California) state legislature passed a bill, which Governor Newsom has signed, which will be placed before voters on November 8th... Proposition 1 is both egregious and dangerous for two simple reasons: the bill's broad language enshrines a right to late-term abortions (which most Californians agree should be limited) in the state constitution; and it will use taxpayer funds to administer them. The California Catholic Conference has joined a broad coalition of Californians to defeat Prop 1.

## AN INVITATION TO COMMIT AND BE COUNTED

Are you a registered parishioner? Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment in all its dimensions. If you have not yet registered, we invite your participation. Fill out the form on the cover of the bulletin or drop by the parish office.



## THANK YOU

Sept. 11, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$2,991
WESHARE	\$3,187
Spec. Coll.	\$1,106

There is a ripple effect in all we do. What you do touches me; what I do touches you. —Anonymous

## CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA) FOR ADULTS

Our Christian Initiation for Adults have begun. Upcoming topics are as follows:

**September 18:** Introduction to the Scripture/Old Testament

**September 25:** New Testament

If you would like to learn more about the Catholic faith or wish to complete the Sacraments of Holy Communion and/or Confirmation, please call the office at (408) 725-3939.