

Church of the Ascension

12033 Miller Avenue
Saratoga, CA 95070

Phone: 408-725-3939

Fax: 408-725-3932

Web Site:

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

August 21, 2022 — TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Brothers and sisters of every race and language will be brought to Jerusalem (Isaiah 66:18-21).

Psalm — Go out to all the world and tell the Good News (Psalm 117).

Second Reading — Be strong and endure your trials as the “discipline” of a loving God, for it will result in the peaceful fruit of righteousness (Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13).

Gospel — People from east and west, north and south, recline at table in the kingdom of God (Luke 13:22-30).

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Our readings today remind us of the larger story of the Bible, of God's purposes and promises for the world. Because of humanity's rejection of God, as told in Genesis, human communities were first dispersed. Isaiah proclaims that one day God will gather these communities to be healed and reconciled with God. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus echoes Isaiah and teaches that all peoples in God's promised future “will recline at table in the kingdom of God.”

Notice that in Isaiah, the nations coming to God do not lose their ethnicity or unique identity. They bring their own distinct cultural gifts to God's table. Each people has its unique history with God, has received distinct blessings from God, and each is accountable to God. Today, we live in a global and multi-cultural Church. When God's diverse peoples gather in worship today, may we honor and celebrate each other's gifts and blessings.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Church of the Ascension: Youth Faith Formation Program

Our Program begins with a 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

WOMEN'S CLUB

—**Get together—BYOB (bring your own bag lunch/beverage)**

Let's get together and catch up with friends and other members!!

Friday, August 26th, @ 12:00 Noon
around the “Mary Statue” Outside Church
For questions, please call Marguerite at (408) 252-8733

Kingdom of God

In the synoptic gospels (the gospels of Matthew, Mark & Luke), Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God, 90 times, yet few of us understand the term. The Kingdom is not a place or a defined territory; it is the spiritual realm of God, i.e. the presence of God in the world. In the *Hebrew Scriptures*, the believing Israelites prefigured the Kingdom; with the rising of Jesus from the dead, the Kingdom opened up to all peoples with Jesus' mandate: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19).

In His teaching and preaching, Jesus identified God's ideal community as the Kingdom of God—both the place where God rules and the people who live as God desires. We identify this ideal community with heaven. On earth, essentially, the Kingdom of God is a spiritual kingdom and our citizenship is based upon our relationship with God as King whose benevolent rule guides every moment of our lives. It is a citizenship characterized by faith, hope and service. The Kingdom, then, resides in the hearts of people, in their worldview, their lifestyle, their servanthood. Those most deeply within the Kingdom are those who emulate Jesus and walk most faithfully in His footsteps.

While the Kingdom showed itself through the ministry of Jesus, it is a kingdom "present now but yet to come." While those who are united to God in love are already within the Kingdom's dominion, the "yet to come" means that we are firmly established in it only after dying in grace. The Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, itself will be complete only at the end of time when the last saved person has entered.

Liturgy Notes

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

SUPPORT MISSION CO-OP APPEAL

August 27-28

Fr. John Bosco Perianayagam, Vicar General for the Diocese of Chinglepet, India, will be making a mission appeal on August 27-28 in our parish to promote education among poor children in India.

Christianity is India's third-largest religion with about 30 million followers, or 3% of India's population. Around 70% of Christians are Dalits, a marginalized group without any rights or power.

Dalits are formerly known as "Outcaste or Untouchables." For centuries, they have been deprived of education, social justice and equal opportunity. Due to poverty, the children are unable to continue their schooling and end up working in restaurants, tea shops, brick kilns, hazardous firework factories, etc. More than 15 million children are listed as child laborers in India. The only way these children can break this vicious cycle of poverty, abuse and oppression is to return to school.

Your generosity through this appeal can help prevent many children from child labor, child trafficking and child migration.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Aug 20	Sat	9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		5 p.m.	Jerome Desilva +
Aug 21	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	Dave Frederick +
		5 p.m.	Francisco & Rosa Barican +
Aug 22	Mon	8 a.m.	Mariano Belmonte +
Aug 23	Tue	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Aug 24	Wed	8 a.m.	Father Steve Donohue (L)
Aug 25	Thu	8 a.m.	Kathy Weeks (L)
Aug 26	Fri	8 a.m.	Teofila & Frank Siudut +
Aug 27	Sat	9 a.m.	Juan Sagmayan +
		5 p.m.	Lucia Maria Suares +
Aug 28	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	June & Tony Stolz (L)
		5 p.m.	Helen Sheahan +

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We are forming our next RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group which will begin later this month, i.e. late August.

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 and speak to Fr. Hao for more information.

THANK YOU

Aug. 14, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$4,489
WESHARE	\$ 888
2nd COLL'N	\$1,122

The average number of times that people say "no" to temptation is about once, weakly.
—Anonymous



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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.