

Church of the Ascension

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OCTOBER 23, 2022 — THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD is a God of justice who hears the cry of the oppressed, the orphan, the widow, the lowly (Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18).

Psalm — The Lord hears the cry of the poor (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — The crown of righteousness awaits me (2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18).

Gospel — The tax collector stood at a distance, beat his breast, and prayed, "O God, be merciful to me, a sinner" (Luke 18:9-14).

MADE RIGHT BEFORE GOD

Although the opening lines of today's first reading claim that the Lord "knows no favorites" (Sirach 35:15) and is "not unduly partial toward the weak" (35:16), the remainder of the passage makes it clear that the Lord does indeed pay special attention to the weak, the oppressed, and the orphans and widows. The psalmist reiterates: "The Lord hears the cry of the poor" (see Psalm 34:18).

In the Gospel, Jesus claims that a tax collector is more justified in his prayer for mercy than the Pharisee, whose prayer was an account of his own righteous deeds. Jesus' point could not have been clearer: tax collectors in the Jewish society of Jesus' day were not just lowly; they were considered outcasts and cheaters. They collected taxes for the hated Romans and almost certainly collected enough to assure a generous income for themselves. Tax collectors were among society's outcasts; didn't this one just admit his own sinfulness? How could a tax collector be "justified" (that is, made right) before God, while the Pharisee was not? Why would God even listen to the prayer of a tax collector? This surely was a surprise, upsetting common assumptions about righteousness.

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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

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.

Are you interested in volunteering for our programs?
Please email loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org or call the parish office at (408) 725-3939.

Gov. Newsom Prioritizes Abortion Over Mother and Families

"The abortion bills signed by Gov. Newsom include new abortion infrastructure, allowing nurse practitioners to perform abortions without physician oversight, forcing employers to pay for abortions outside of insurance coverage, and expediting board certification for abortion workers... yet, the governor vetoed doula support and comprehensive perinatal support for California's mothers through Medi-Cal and investment in the rapidly dwindling mental health workforce...

Earlier this year, the legislature removed copays and deductibles for abortions (SB 245). Yet, the most economically vulnerable women and children on Medi-Cal must still pay subscriber fees for prenatal and postpartum care and pediatric visits."

—See the full text on the Diocese of San Jose website/dsj.org

Project Rachel – Post Abortion Help

“It’s normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, including the loss of a child by abortion. It can form a hole in one’s heart, a hole so deep that sometimes it seems nothing can fill the emptiness.” (*Project Rachel*)

Even as we celebrate **Respect Life Month** during October, we recognize that abortion is rampant in our society. Statistics tell us that slightly over one-fourth of women (aged 15 and up) in the United States have undergone an abortion. An unfortunately common but often unspoken truth is the grieving that results from that abortion. Women and men who have experienced abortion can suffer for years with remorse, depression, anxiety, nightmares and worry about their decision; many of these decisions lead to mental or physical illness or even suicide.

The Catholic Church speaks the truth to those contemplating abortion: ‘Don’t do it! It is wrong and it will hurt you and the baby,’ but it also offers forgiveness, hope and healing: ‘If you have had an abortion, God’s mercy is great enough to forgive that, too.’ Jesus offers the hope and promise of resurrection and reunion with the child who is waiting for his parents in heaven.

Project Rachel is a ministry of the Catholic Church in the U.S. to those who have been involved in abortion. It is a diocesan-based network of specially trained priests, religious, counselors, and laypersons who provide a team response of care for those suffering in the aftermath of abortion. In addition to referring for Sacramental Reconciliation, the ministry provides an integrated network of services, including pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats and referrals to licensed mental health professionals.

More information can be found at hopeafterabortion.com

Guadalupe Hope Society

Annual Fundraiser Dinner & Silent Auction

“Loving the face of Jesus in the unborn”

Saturday, October 29, 2022

**Saint Frances Cabrini, Essig Hall 15333 Woodard Rd.
San Jose, CA 95124**

Doors Open 5:30/Dinner 6:00 pm

\$50 each – Open Seating/No Host Bar

**Come enjoy a Famously Delicious Italian Dinner
sponsored and prepared by the Saint Frances Cabrini
Men’s Club**

**Welcome and Opening Prayer 6:00 PM
with Bishop Oscar Cantú**

Keynote Speaker – Dr. Anthony Lilles, 7:00 PM

Dr. Lilles is an Author and Professor of Spiritual Theology
at St. Patrick’s Seminary & University.

Register for tickets at www.guadalupehopesociety.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Oct 22	Sat	9 a.m.	Mary Nguyen Nguyen +
		5 p.m.	Evelyn Tanner +
Oct 23	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	Corazon Ramirez +
		11 a.m.	John Sokol, Senior +
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners
Oct 24	Mon	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Oct 25	Tue	8 a.m.	Gabrielle Fiorentino +
Oct 26	Wed	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Oct 27	Thu	8 a.m.	Johanna Van Rijn +
Oct 28	Fri	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
Oct 29	Sat	9 a.m.	Joan Vanderhorst & Family
		5 p.m.	Fritzie De La Cruz +
Oct 30	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	Joseph Fiorentino +
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday

St. Anthony Mary Claret (19th cent.

Spanish bishop & religious founder; patron of textile merchants & Catholic press)

Friday

Sts. Simon & Jude (apostles of Jesus;

legend has it that Saints Simon and Jude traveled to Persia together where they were both martyred; St. Jude is patron of impossible causes)

THANK YOU

Oct. 16, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$3,393
WESHARE	\$1,533
TOTAL	\$4,926

It is not only what we do, but also what we do not do, for which we are held accountable.
—Molière

God does not demand that I be successful.

God demands that I be faithful.

—St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta