



November 1, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Solemnity of All Saints

Rev 7:2-4, 9-14 | 1 Jn 3:1-3 | Mt 5:1-12a

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Today's feast reminds us that we were not made for this world.

We are destined to live with God in his heavenly kingdom.

Our first reading from the Book of Revelation contains a vision John received which gives us a glimpse of what we'll see there: "a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue *standing* before the throne and before the Lamb," crying out his praise in a loud voice. For us on earth, the question is: How do we live so that one day, we will join that chorus of all the saints? The Gospel of Matthew gives us a road map to kingdom living. Those who will inherit the kingdom of heaven are those who are "poor in spirit," those "who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the peacemakers," those "who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness," and those against whom "every kind of evil *is uttered* falsely because of [Christ]." With these words, we're reminded of the many faces of holiness. May we strive to pattern our lives according to the Beatitudes and so take our place among the ranks of all the saints in heaven.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's responsorial psalm invites us to pray, "Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face." There are so many longings in our hearts – longings for belonging, longing for love, longing for justice. But the ultimate longing of our heart is for the Lord, even if we don't yet realize it. Part of our work in evangelization is to help awaken people's awareness of the ultimate desire of their hearts. As St. Augustine famously wrote, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." Spend some time in prayer this week asking the Lord to increase your own longing for him, as well as that of anyone you want to come to know the Lord better.

PRAY

Being a saint, perhaps, has something to do with longing for the Lord as our greatest and highest good, preferring nothing to him. As St. Thomas was praying before a crucifix toward the end of his life, the Lord said: "You have written well of me, Thomas. What reward will you receive from me for your labor?" St. Thomas Aquinas responded, "*Domine, Non Nisi Te* – Nothing but you, Lord." May we pray to desire nothing but to be counted among the children of God. For so we are.

Masses: (Sat) 5p (Sun) 7a, 9a, 11a, 5p
(Mon-Fri) 8a (Sat) 9a
Confessions: (Sat) 4p-4:45p

The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs by Fra Angelico, Public domain

Church of the Ascension
ascensionsaratoga.org | 408-725-3939

Learn from St. Francis

Our next *Faith Forward* Gatherings (12:15p - 1:45p)



Nov. 8 (Sunday)

SEEING GOD IN ALL CREATION

Dec. 6 (Sunday)

EMBRACING HUMILITY & POVERTY

Register at the table

near our church's

main entrance or

scan the **QR code**.



In Memoriam

Names of the departed whose funerals were at the Church of the Ascension since November 2025.

Jerry Streb +	John Domanico +
Celestine Miller +	John E. James II +
Mary Mai Ha Nguyen +	Sylvia Hewitt +
Thelma Aleen Wanter +	Dorothy Thomas +
Selma "Sally" Garcia +	Beverly M. Gurney +
Beverly Vizcaino +	Lynda Louise Ramirez +
Leonardo Alvarez +	Sonja Gorman +

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

All Saints & All Souls Mass Schedule

ALL SAINTS (Nov 1, Sunday)

Regular Saturday/Sunday Mass Schedule

ALL SOULS (Nov 2, Monday)

8:00am, 7:00pm.

Pope's November Prayer Intention

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

Ascension Building Fund Collection

Nov. 8

This is our semi-annual collection to assist with the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of our facilities. Thank you for your support.

WEEKLY OFFERING Oct 25

-Total: **\$5,177** (\$3,865 + online: \$1,312). Goal: \$7,000.

-YTD Sunday: \$96,525. Budget: \$119,000.

-World Mission: **\$619** (To date: \$2,234)

Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Oct 31	Sat 5pm	All Souls
Nov 01	All Masses	All Souls
Nov 02	8am, 7pm	All Souls
Nov 03	Tue 08am	A. Germans Fernando +
Nov 04	Wed 08am	Joseph Stolz (L)
Nov 05	Thu 08am	The Weeks Family
Nov 06	Fri 08am	Jovita Atencion (L)
Nov 07	Sat 09am	Madeleine Welch Griffin +

Communion of Saints

The Church views all the baptized —living on earth, undergoing purification, and triumphant in heaven— as one spiritual body united in Christ.

Three days in November are dedicated to them:

Nov. 1 - Solemnity of **All Saints**: honoring those who are already in God's presence in heaven.

Nov 2 - Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (**All Souls**): remembering those who are undergoing purification in purgator.

Nov 9 - Feast of the Dedication of the **Lateran Basilica** in Rome: this is a symbol of the pilgrim church on earth. This basilica - not St Peter's Basilica - is the official cathedral of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope, and is regarded as "the mother and head of all churches in Rome and the world."

Martyrs of Georgia Beatification

On Saturday, October 31, 2026, the Church is set to declare five Franciscan friars "Blessed" in Savannah, Georgia. Known as the Georgia Martyrs, Fr. Pedro de Corpa and his four companions gave their lives in 1597 on the coast of present-day Georgia. Their beatification is the first ever held in Georgia and the first in the American South, and it comes during the year the Franciscan family marks 800 years since the death of St. Francis of Assisi.

Universal Call to Holiness

The feast of All Saints reminds all Christians that holiness is a daily calling received through baptism, not just an achievement of historical figures with halos. Rather than viewing saints as distant historical figures, the contemporary church teaches that saints are active in prayer and intercession, serving as models of love, justice, and faithfulness. Who is your favorite saint? Why?

Rite of Acceptance & Welcome

At the 11am Mass this Sunday, November 1, our community celebrates these rites:

-Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens for Cherry Huang, and Michael Wen Yeung.

-Rite of Welcome for Jacob Anthony Contreras, who was baptized and is preparing for Confirmation. Please pray for them in their journey of faith.