

# Church of the Ascension

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ascensionsaratoga.org

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor  
Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento,  
Parochial Vicar  
Nomer Rios, Admin.  
Assistant  
Mark Rose, Bookkeeper

## 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

July 17, 2022 — SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Abraham and Sarah show hospitality to messengers of the LORD  
(Genesis 18:1-10a).

**Psalm** — He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord  
(Psalm 15).

**Second Reading** — The mystery hidden from generations past has been  
manifested; it is Christ in you, the hope for glory  
(Colossians 1:24-28).

**Gospel** — Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. Mary has  
chosen the better part  
(Luke 10:38-42).

## PRAYER AND SERVICE

How do we bring balance and joy to our lives of prayer and service to our  
loving God? In the Gospel today, Jesus tells Martha that her concern about doing  
the right thing as dictated by Jewish tradition might not be the best use of her  
energies. Her sister, Mary, who sits in rapt attention at Jesus' feet, should not be  
rebuked. Is Jesus trying to show Martha that she needs to make time for her  
spiritual nourishment?

Abraham and Sarah in the first reading seem to be just like Martha. And yet  
Abraham's eager welcome and joyful serving of his "visitors" seems almost spiritual.

How like Paul, in the second reading, rejoicing in his service to the gospel!  
We hear in the psalm that those who do justice will live in the Lord's presence.  
Prayer and service—what greater joy could there be?

## Church of the Ascension: Youth Faith Formation Program

We look forward to working with you and with all children and youth in our parish,  
sharing and growing together in our faith and in our relationship with the Lord.

To enroll your child/ren, please complete the registration form (found on our  
website) for the program which goes from 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](mailto:loy.oppusmoe@dsj.org)

## WOMEN'S CLUB

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

Let's get together and share the Good News!!

Wednesday, July 20th, @ 12:00 Noon  
around the "Mary Statue" Outside Church

For questions, please call Marguerite at (408) 252-8733

## Communion to Pro-abortion Politicians

The Roman Catholic Church opposes abortion as a matter of doctrine. Ever since Roe vs Wade legalized abortions in 1973, U.S. bishops have debated about denying Communion to pro-abortion politicians, with the majority of bishops believing that they should settle matters with pro-abortion politicians on a case-by-case basis. In recent years, however, politicians who claim to be faithful Catholics have become more visible and vocal in actively supporting and espousing abortion as a "right."

As discussion on abortion has become more heated in the media, the bishops have become increasingly concerned that Catholic politicians are not only causing "great scandal" but are also misleading fellow Catholics regarding Church teaching and moral law. In November 2021, the bishops issued a teaching document on who should receive Holy Communion. The intent of the document was to clarify the supremacy of the Eucharist in our relationship with Christ, but also to issue a stern rebuke to individuals, especially public officials, who present themselves for Communion after breaking with church teaching on this fundamental issue.

Abortion is a fundamental issue and politicians who support abortion are at odds with the Church's teaching. Because the Catholic Church opposes abortion as a matter of doctrine, some bishops have refused or threatened to refuse communion in response to Catholics in office who support the legal "right" to abortion. Acknowledging weak catechesis about Holy Communion, the bishops have followed up on the document with the implementation of a three-year "Eucharistic Revival." It is the hope of the bishops to dispel confusion about Holy Communion, foster Eucharistic devotion and spearhead a renewal for Eucharistic integrity and respect.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. Camillus de Lellis</b> (16th cent. Italian priest & religious founder; patron of the sick, hospitals, nurses, physicians)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Apollinaris</b> (2nd cent. Syrian bishop & martyr; patron of those suffering epilepsy or gout)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Lawrence of Brindisi</b> (17th cent. Italian priest, theologian, Capuchin friar; patron of Brindisi)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>St. Mary Magdalene</b> (a Jewish woman who, according to the four canonical gospels, traveled with Jesus as one of his followers, sometimes referred to as "the apostle to the apostles;" patroness of apothecaries, hairdressers, women)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>St. Bridget</b> (14th cent. Swedish wife, mother, mystic & religious founder; patroness of Sweden)

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

July 16	Sat	9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		5 p.m.	Delores Biggs (L)
July 17	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	David Braddi +
		11 a.m.	Francisca Luna +
		5 p.m.	All Parishioners
July 18	Mon	8 a.m.	Nino Borromeo (L)
July 19	Tue	8 a.m.	Louise Hakius +
July 20	Wed	8 a.m.	Mabel Chang (L)
July 21	Thu	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
July 22	Fri	8 a.m.	All Parishioners
July 23	Sat	9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		5 p.m.	Gabrielle Scheid (L)
July 24	Sun	7 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	Barbara Mandal (L)
		5 p.m.	Oscar & Gaudiosa Beltran +

***The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; It signifies Love, It produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life.***

—St. Thomas Aquinas

## THANK YOU

July 10, 2022	Our Weekly Offering
NEEDED	\$5,400
COLLECTED	\$4,739
WESHARE	\$2,669
TOTAL	\$7,408

**Among the attributes of God, although they are all equal, mercy shines with even more brilliance than justice.**  
—Miguel de Cervantes

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

- If you or someone you know, who is unbaptized and older than 7 years, or a baptized Christian and would like to learn more about the Catholic faith, call us.
- If you are a baptized Catholic, but for one reason or another never completed your Sacraments of Holy Communion and/or Confirmation, you're not alone; call us.

"The sacraments of Christian Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist - lay the foundations of every Christian life." (Catechism, 1212).

Please speak with Fr. Hao at the Parish Office at (408) 725-3939 for more information. We are forming our next RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) which will begin in late August.