Church of the Ascension

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor
Rev. Reynaldo Sarmiento, Parochial Vicar
Nomer Rios, Admin. Assistant
Susan Dunn, Bookkeeper

Catechetical Ministry

Loy Oppus-Moe, Youth Faith Formation Coordinator
RCIA Rev. Hao Dinh, Pastor

Masses

Saturday
*8:30 a.m. (indoors)
3:00 p.m. (outdoors)
5:00 p.m. (drive-in & live-streamed)

Sunday
8:30 a.m. (not public).
*9:00 a.m. (indoors)
11:00 a.m. (outdoors)

Weekday
*M—F 8:00 a.m. (indoors)

*indoor masses are in Worner Hall

Holy Days
Mass times as announced

Reconciliation

By appointment

Marriage

Arrangements made SIX MONTHS in advance. Please telephone the parish office to make an appointment with the pastor.

Baptism

Baptisms are held the First Sunday of each month at 12 noon. (Preparation seminar is required). Please contact the parish office at least ONE month in advance.

12033 Miller Avenue, Saratoga, California 95070

Office Hours: ***Our office is currently not open to the public, yet we monitor phone calls and voice messages, especially Mon.—Thur. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.***

Phone: 408-725-3939 • Fax: 408-725-3932
Web Site: www.ascensionsaratoga.org
FaceBook: www.facebook.com/Church-of-The-Ascension-102780971438932/

In case of an emergency please call 408-725-3939, then press 9

ALLELUIA! EASTER SEASON CONTINUES

Welcome: We extend our hearts and hands in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God that you are with us. If any of the following in the ❑ apply to you, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office.

Name_____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

❑ New Parishioner ❑ New Address ❑ New Phone

Send Envelopes ❑ Weekly, ❑ Not Required/Automatic Payment, ❑ Moving/remove from mailing list

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 11, 2021

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, a very special Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are opened wide. On February 22, 1931, Our Lord appeared to a simple Polish nun, Sister Faustina, with a wonderful message of Mercy for all mankind. He asked her to paint an image of Himself with two large rays, one red and the other pale radiating from His breast and inscribed with the words, "Jesus, I trust in You!"

Calling for a Feast of the Divine Mercy to be celebrated in the whole Church, He said to Sr. Faustina: "I want this image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter...on that day, the depths of My Mercy will be open to all...I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy."

In 1935, Our Lord revealed to Saint Faustina a powerful prayer that He wanted everyone to pray. It has become known as "*The Chaplet of Divine Mercy*." Saint Faustina prayed the chaplet almost constantly, especially for the dying, and the Lord urged her to encourage others to say it, too, promising extraordinary graces to those who would recite this special prayer.

Regarding the Chaplet, He said, "Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you...Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death...When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Savior...Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy...Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will." (from *The Diary of Sister Faustina*: 687, 1541, 1731).

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades but includes prayers that are unique to the Chaplet. On Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus offers total forgiveness of all sins and punishment to any soul who prays the Chaplet, goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion on that day. For more information on how to pray the Chaplet, visit www.divinemercysunday.com.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 11, 2021

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.
—John 20:19-31

DOUBT

The desire to be able to prove the existence of a divinity has troubled humanity since human consciousness first became aware of the divine. To this very day we are fond of saying that any number of things—from sunsets to hot fudge sundaes—are "proof that there is a God."

We get so caught up in the story of "doubting Thomas" that we fail to notice that today's Gospel gives us John's account of Pentecost, the bestowing of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples following the Resurrection. Thomas, evidently, missed out not only on seeing the Risen Christ, but receiving the Holy Spirit as well.

This is not to be taken lightly and, perhaps, makes Thomas' disbelief a bit easier to comprehend. It also makes his professing that Jesus is his Lord and God—the only time the New Testament explicitly refers to Jesus Christ as "God"—more remarkable.

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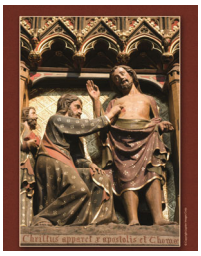
Christ departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For he departed, and behold, he is here.
—St. Augustine

FROM DOUBT TO BELIEF

It is good for us to remember that faith is a gift. The journey of faith is not always straightforward and is often marked by doubt and moments of weakness. The apostle Thomas will forever be remembered as the one who doubted. It is good that his experience is recorded in the Gospel of John. We all doubt sometimes, and "Doubting Thomas" shows us how to move from doubt to belief, knowing that the risen Jesus will be with us through it all.



Thomas' doubts were put to rest once and for all when Jesus offered him physical proof of the Resurrection. The apostles' faith grew as they experienced the risen Jesus. We do not have the sort of physical evidence that was shown to Thomas, but we can perceive Christ's presence in the Eucharist, in the words of sacred scripture, and in the presence and actions of others.

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Liturgy Notes

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Gordon Hinckley said, “There would be no Christmas if there was no Easter.” This statement emphasizes why Easter, celebrating Christ’s “Resurrection” is the paramount solemnity of Christianity. Without Jesus’ resurrection and appearances after death, he would have graced historical pages as a moral teacher, a man of wisdom, possibly a prophet; his day of birth, however, would have been irrelevant.

The Divine Heart is an ocean full of all good things, wherein poor souls can cast all their needs; it is an ocean full of joy to drown all our sadness, an ocean of humility to drown our folly, an ocean of mercy to those in distress, an ocean of love in which to submerge our poverty.

— St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Thank you to all who used the Operation Rice Bowl boxes during Lent. Rice Bowl donation checks should be made out to Church of the Ascension and write “CRS Rice Bowl” on the memo line. To learn more about **CRS** and its many programs, visit **crsricebowl.org.**

A cheerful giver does not count the cost of what he gives. His heart is set on pleasing and cheering the one to whom the gift is given.

—St. Julian

REJOICE
The Easter season continues for 50 days until the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday **Pope St. Martin I** (7th cent. Italian pope & last pope venerated as martyr; patron of popes named Martin)

THANK YOU		
Apr, 04, 2021	Our Weekly Offer	te
NEEDED		
COLLECTE WESHARE		N/A
TOTAL	$	N/A

Due to early bulletin print deadlines, the financial information is not available.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.
— Psalm 118

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-9; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
Sunday:	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 10	Sat	8:30 a.m.	Barbara Stopnick +
		3 p.m.	Nicanor & Luz Beltran +
		5 p.m.	Maxine Stice +
Apr 11	Sun	8:30 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	William & Gwendolyn Maraschin +
Apr 12	Mon	8 a.m.	Burnie Stolzman +
Apr 13	Tue	8 a.m.	Wilhelm Lam
Apr 14	Wed	8 a.m.	Carlos Low +
Apr 15	Thu	8 a.m.	Kay Frances Herrell +
Apr 16	Fri	8 a.m.	Virginia Duzowski +
Apr 17	Sat	8:30 a.m.	The Diem Family
		3 p.m.	Rosario Leano +
		5 p.m.	Frances Lu Houn +
Apr 18	Sun	8:30 a.m.	All Parishioners
		9 a.m.	All Parishioners
		11 a.m.	Antonino Borromeo

Note:
Sun 8:30 AM is not a public liturgy

EVENTS

The Little Ones — Jim Burrows

Dear friends, through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to newness of life.
-Sprinkling Rite, Roman Missal

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CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH ROSARY FOR HEALING & PROTECTION

April 13 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Please join Bishop Oscar Cantú as he leads the Diocese in praying the Rosary for the healing and protection of those affected by childhood abuse via Diocesan livestream: Facebook or YouTube.

This Rosary is a visible reminder of our commitment to preventing all forms of child abuse everywhere. As we offer our prayers for the healing and protection of all children, we ask for the intercession of the Holy Family to bless our efforts as we strive to help children around us live the full and abundant life God desires for them.

RETROUVAILLE OF SAN JOSE/SILICON VALLEY VIRTUAL MARRIAGE PROGRAM

April 23 @ 8:00 am - April 25 @ 5:00 pm

You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue … or have you just stopped talking to each other? This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage.

The Virtual Retrouvaille Marriage Programs Mission is to help hurting marriages heal, and bring peace to families. The program consists of a weekend presented by 3 couples and a Priest, with 6 Sat. post sessions.

Registration ends April 22. Visit the website: https://www.helpourmarriage.org/communities/weekend_details.cfm?community=San%5FJose%2C%5FCalifornia&program_date=6459

PARISH GROUP CONTACTS

Administration and Communications		
Pastoral Council	John Pozniak	408-230-6006
Finance Council	Doris Atkinson	408-725-3939
Building & Grounds	Ron Schoengold	408-309-9830
Sunday Bulletin	Mary Park	408-446-3647
Webmaster	Ha Truc Dinh	408-891-8382
Email Manager	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Wedding Coordinator	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873
Liturgy		
Eucharistic Ministers	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873
Lector Training	Wilma Brisendine	408-725-3939
Ushers	Tom Gaynor	408-839-3473
Altar Servers	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Musicians - 5 p.m. Sat	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Musicians - 9 a.m.	Cheryl Snyder	408 674 4361
Musicians - 11 a.m.	Barbara Mandal	408-921-7319
Musicians - 5 p.m. Sun	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Rosary Group	Evelyn Tanner	408-867-1600
Catechetical Ministries		
Youth Faith Formation Coordinator	Loy Oppus-Moe	408-725-3939
Baptism Preparation	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Marriage Preparation	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Faith & Scriptures	Gene Plevyak	408-257-3490
RCIA	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Community and Service		
Men's Club	Chuck Schoppe	408-867-9229
Handcrafters	Ruby Hauffe	408-725-3939
Couples Bridge	David Tong	415-606-1476
Young Adults	Doris/Michael Atkinson	408-725-3939
CONNECT	Don Van Buren	408-996-2619
Communion to Sick	Fr. Rey Sarmiento	408-725-3939
Marriage Encounter	Tony/Dale Fadelli	408-253-1533
Engaged Encounter	Fr. Hao Dinh	408-725-3939
Cursillo	Gene/Elaine Plevyak Harry Stice	408-857-1075 408-996-7842
Knights of Columbus	John Pozniak	408-230-6006
Serra Club	Bruce Newnan	408-293-8004
Pastoral Visit Team	Wilma Brisendine	408-725-3939
Ascension Cares	Peggy Schoppe	408-867-9229
Charismatic Prayer Group	George Sharp	408 623-3014
Fil-Am Organization	Marie Maraschin	408-218-2704
Chinese Catholic Community	Janet Lau	408-725-3939

Web Site

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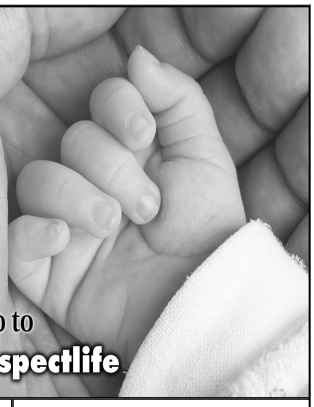

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