

Church of the Ascension

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Joe Galang, Pastor
Nomer Rios, Admin. Assistant
Susan Dunn, Bookkeeper

**In case of an emergency
please call 408-931-4131**

Catechetical Ministry

Ann Liebmann, Youth Catechetical
and Program Director

RCIA Rev. Joe Galang, Pastor

Masses

Saturday

9:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m. Vigil

Sunday

7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Weekday

M, F: 6:30 a.m.
W: 6:30 Communion Svc.
T, Th, S: 9:00 a.m.

First Friday

6:30, 9:00 a.m.
Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament 9:30 a.m.
Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

Holy Days

Mass times as announced

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 p.m., and 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: Mon. - Wed.: 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
Thurs. 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
Fri: 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 408-725-3939 • Fax: 408-725-3932
Web Site: www.churchoftheascension.net



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

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

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 30, 2017**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Tues.	The Tues. Morning Stitchers	9:30 a.m.
Wed.	The Handcrafters	9:30 a.m.
Wed.	Prayer Group	7:00 p.m.
Thur.	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:30 p.m.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday:** St. Ignatius of Loyola (patron of soldiers, military, educators & education)
- Tuesday:** St. Alphonsus Liguori (patron of confessors, moralists & arthritis)
- Wednesday:** St. Eusebius of Vercelli (patron of Vercelli)
St. Peter Julian Eymard
- Friday:** St. John Vianney (patron of parish priests)
First Friday

Religious Education

Our religious education programs will resume in October.

We are accepting new students at all grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. If you wish to register a new student, please call Ann Liebmann, (408) 725-3939 **after September 5.**

All students who were enrolled in the 2016-17 program have automatically been placed in classes for the coming year.

However, if you have a child who was in class this year, and needs to be prepared for either First Eucharist or Confirmation in the coming year, you **must** register for the preparation classes. **We do not** automatically place students in these programs.

Forms for this purpose were sent home with all students prior to Easter. If you did not already return the form, you may register your child for the sacrament preparation class by calling Ann Liebmann **after September 5** at the number given above.

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17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 30, 2017



"The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it!"

—Matthew 13:44-52

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE . . .

Parables and more parables. What have we to learn about the reign of God from so many parables? The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field. The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. The kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea. These parables are not hard to understand, for they all point to something valuable being searched for: a treasure, a pearl, good fish.

Those who search for these things give up what they have to acquire these precious things. Those who search are praised for their wisdom in valuing what they find more than what they already have. Even the fishermen can distinguish what is good from what is useless and to be discarded.

The kingdom of heaven is something precious to be sought, even above the good things we have in this world. It is more important than anything we already have and treasure. Jesus says that at the end of the age when the good shall be separated from the bad, the good will enjoy the happiness of the kingdom of heaven.

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION— FIRST EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION

First Eucharist: Students need to have at least one year of Religious Education before they will be prepared for First Eucharist. Following that, any elementary or middle school student wishing to be prepared for First Eucharist must attend his/her grade level class as well as an additional monthly class specific to the sacrament. These preparation classes will be held on Sunday following the regular elementary program.

Confirmation: Confirmation is celebrated during the high school years. As with First Eucharist preparation, candidates must have been participating in a parish religious education program, or attending a Catholic school during the years leading up to Confirmation. High school youth who have not done so will need to participate in the high school program for at least one year before preparing for Confirmation.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Three years ago, as we made the shift in the Eucharistic Prayer from "Benedict" to "Francis," we named a "treasure" in our tradition. From apostolic times, the Church has sent disciples on mission with a mandate to proclaim the gospel. Paul and Barnabas and Timothy come to mind as men invested with responsibility for community and mission.

First we see bishops, "overseers," good men appointed by the acclaim of their people, the center of leadership, of prayer, of word and sacrament. Their territories were small initially, small enough to get everyone into one room and for the bishop to know everyone's name.

In time, men were appointed to function as a council of advisers, "elders," or presbyters. That isn't a comment on chronological age, rather it indicates the maturity of their wisdom and faith. Before long, and only when the bishop was absent, some of these men "stood in" for him to do what bishops usually did: preaching, presiding at Eucharist.

The deacons had a strong and visible role in liturgy and service, especially in the care of the poor, but were gradually overshadowed by the new importance of the presbyter. As the Roman Empire first tottered and then collapsed completely by 476, bishops increasingly became civil servants to maintain order and dispense justice.

Conferences and duties summoned bishops away from their home posts, and presbyters were entrusted with the sacramental and preaching duties, even though at one time runners were sent out from the bishop's Mass to bring fragments of the host to drop into chalices as a sign of the church's unity around its bishop.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co

WISDOM

Happy is the man that finds wisdom, and the man that has understanding, for the value of it is better than the value of silver, and the gain of it better than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, and all the things that one can desire are not to be compared to her.

—Solomon

ACCEPTING OTHERS

To love God with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices. (Mark 12:33)

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8)

THANK YOU

July 23, 2017	Our Weekly Offering	Fiscal Year to Date
NEEDED	\$7,300	\$29,200
COLLECTED	\$3,983	\$22,683
PARISH PAY	\$2,571	
VARIANCE	-\$746	-\$6,554

FINDING MASS TIMES

If you are travelling and need to find mass times for a local church, simply go to **Masstimes.org**, give your location and you will have access to masses at nearby churches.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-23; Mt 13:31-35
- Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-13; Mt 13:36-43
- Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5-7, 9; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
- Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11; Mt 13:47-53
- Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58
- Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12
- Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- July 29 Sat 9 a.m. Lito Casaclang +
5 p.m. Antoinet Maddalena +
- July 30 Sun 7 a.m. Virginia Duzowski +
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Donald & Mary Stolz +
5 p.m. Joseph Ioli +
- July 31 Mon 6:30 a.m. Arturo Zabala +
- Aug 01 Tue 9 a.m. The Nora Family
- Aug 02 Wed 6:30 a.m. Communion Service
- Aug 03 Thu 9 a.m. Odete De Sousa +
- Aug 04 Fri 6:30 a.m. Joan Schoengold +
9 a.m. Pedro Hernandez +
- Aug 05 Sat 9 a.m. The Diem Family
5 p.m. Betty Reickerd +
- Aug 06 Sun 7 a.m. Mark Anthony Baylon +
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Andrea Beltran +
5 p.m. Fionuala Galvin-Campbell +

REMINDERS/INFORMATION

Cell phones: to preserve and foster reverence due at Mass and all liturgical functions, please kindly turn off cell phones and pagers before entering the church.

Parishioner Registration: all new members are asked to register as a bona-fide member of the parish. Registration forms are available at the Parish Office. Registration with the parish is a sign of acknowledgment and affiliation with your local Catholic community as well as enables you to automatically receive parish mailings, Sunday envelopes, and facilitates your relationship with the parish and the universal Catholic church.

Becoming Catholic: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children (RCIA and RCIC). If you are not baptized or baptized in another Christian denomination, including children 7 years of age and older, and if you are baptized in the Catholic church and seeking Confirmation as an adult, please contact the parish office.

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptism: parents must be registered in the parish a minimum of three months prior to the interview and the baptismal preparation seminar. Baptisms are scheduled every first Sunday of the month at 12 noon.

Sacrament of Matrimony: couples wishing to marry must contact the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed date of marriage. Weddings are held on Saturdays at 10 a.m., 12 noon, and 2 p.m. All couples must attend the Marriage Preparation seminar or the Engaged Encounter weekend as a prerequisite for the celebration of the sacrament.

Anointing of the Sick and Communion: if you have a life and death emergency and you need a priest at your home for the Sacrament of the Sick, please call 408-931-4131. Our Ministry to the Sick volunteers will bring Holy Communion to your home for the homebound and the sick.

COMMUNION RITE

The posture is standing from the Lord's Prayer until all have received Holy Communion. Those receiving Holy Communion are asked to make a simple bow as a gesture of respect and reverence before receiving both the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ. Drinking directly from the cup is the preferred norm. Although communion by intinction in certain cases is permitted, it is not to be used as a way to prevent drinking from the cup. A communicant may not self-communicate by means of intinction; the priest/Eucharistic minister gives communion to that person. Children who have received First Holy Communion are encouraged to receive communion under both species.

PARISH GROUP CONTACTS

Administration and Communications

Pastoral Council	John Pozniak	408-230-6006
Finance Council	Doris Atkinson	408-839-7900
Sunday Bulletin	Mary Park	408-446-3647
Webmaster	Ruthann Stolzman	408-867-6029
Wedding Coordinator	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873
Newsletter	Ruthann Stolzman	408-867-6029

Liturgy

Eucharistic Ministers	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873
Lector Training	Carmen Agrawal	408-725-3939
Ushers	Tom Gaynor	408-839-3473
Altar Servers	Fr. Joe Galang	408-725-3939
Musicians - 5 p.m. Sat	Fr. Joe Galang	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. Joe Galang	408-725-3939
Rosary Group	Evelyn Tanner	408-867-1600

Catechetical Ministries

Baptism Preparation	Fr. Joe Galang	408-725-3939
Marriage Preparation	Arline Schoengold	408-725-8873
Faith & Scriptures	Gene Plevyak	408-257-3490
RCIA	Fr. Joe Galang	408-725-3939

Community and Service

Men's Club	Jeff Moe	408-253-6403
Membership	Doug Snyder	408-568-8828
Handcrafters	Ruby Hauffe	408-725-3939
Tues. Morn Stitchers	Jo Ann Snyder	408-252-5156
Couples Bridge	Don Muse	408-246-7726
Young Adults	Doris/Michael Atkinson	408-725-3939
CONNECT	Don Van Buren	408-996-2619
Communion to Sick	Fr. Joe Galang	408-725-3939
Marriage Encounter	Tony/Dale Fadelli	408-253-1533
Engaged Encounter	Chip/Weedgie Maloney	408-741-1946
Cursillo	Gene/Elaine Plevyak	408-857-1075
Knights of Columbus	John Pozniak	408-230-6006
Serra Club	Greg Lynch	408-725-1898
Pastoral Visit Team	Wilma Brisendine	408-725-3939
Charismatic Prayer Group	George Sharp	408 623-3014
Fil-Am Organization	Alvin Fontanilla	408-725-3939
Chinese Catholic Community	Janet Lau	408-725-3939

Web Site

www.churchoftheascension.net