

# 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](http://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

**TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**  
**AUGUST 06, 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.
Fri.	Men's Club Meeting	6:00 p.m.

**ST. CLARE'S LEGACY**

Many places are named in honor of St. Clare whose feast day falls on Friday, August 11. In northern California, Mission Santa Clara, founded in 1777, has given its name to the university, city, county and valley. In southern California, St. Clare honors the Santa Clara River which, in turn, runs near the city of Santa Clarita.

## 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.**

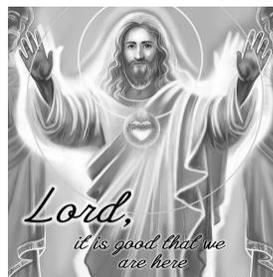
All students who were enrolled in the 2016-17 program have automatically been placed in classes for the coming year.

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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## TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD AUGUST 06, 2017



"...he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them conversing with him."

—Matthew 17:1-9

## THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Saint Matthew's Gospel reveals that Jesus' face "shone like the sun" during his transfiguration. The evangelist is using a figure of speech, of course, but we can imagine what beholding the Transfiguration might have been like for Peter, James, and John. The brightness of Jesus' face is compared to the sun.

Earth is about ninety-three million miles distant from the sun, yet if we look directly at it, we suffer retinal burns, permanent eye damage, or severe vision loss. The disciples were so close to the Lord during his transfiguration that he could touch them.

What is it like to behold the brightness of Jesus? The disciples were terrified. Perhaps looking at Jesus in his glory feels as dangerous as staring at a solar eclipse. Sure enough, the disciples hid their eyes, falling flat on their faces.

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**"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become."** —St. Clare

## 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**

The first “presbyters” were advisers to the bishops rather than what we would call “priests,” yet by the year 1000 our present-day understanding of the ordained priesthood is clearly in place. The Germanic influence was strong in those days, reflected in a series of questions posed to the candidate about his intentions.

The priest’s role in the celebration of Mass had by then come to the fore, as the ritual notes that Mass vestments must be worn, the hands of the priest must be anointed with chrism, and a chalice with wine and water and a paten with a host must be given.

Up to then, the ordination rite had stressed the presbyter as a collaborator with the bishop and a member of the order of presbyters. Then, in a not-so-subtle shift, the presbyter came to be seen as a “priest” designated to celebrate the Mass and, as the prayer suggests, to touch the chalice. By these days, remember, the cup had long vanished from Communion for the laity.

A thousand years ago, today’s patterns were already in place. The priest no longer saw himself as a member of a council of elders, a presbytery, and in some dioceses he had little influence over the bishop. Instead, he was either a pastor, with relationship to the Eucharistic community in the parish, or he was a priest monk, offering Mass for the salvation of the departed or the intentions of the living.

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

**LIVING**

We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount. The world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we do about peace, more about killing than we do about living.

—Omar Bradley

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Monday:** **St. Sixtus II and Companions**  
**St. Cajetan** (patron of bankers, gamblers, job seekers)
- Tuesday:** **St. Dominic** (patron of astronomers, those accused unjustly)
- Wednesday:** **St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross** (patron of orphans, martyrs, converted Jews)
- Thursday:** **St. Lawrence** (patron of librarians, fire fighters, chefs, comedians)
- Friday:** **St. Clare** (patron of needle workers, gilders, eye disease, television)
- Saturday:** **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** (patron of in-law problems, forgotten people)

**THANK YOU**

July 30, 2017	Our Weekly Offering	Rate
NEEDED		
COLLECTED		\$
VARIANCE	\$	\$

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

**ANXIETY**

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:8)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-17; Mt 14:13-21
- Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-7, 12-13; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
- Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25 — 14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-23; Mt 15:21-28
- Thursday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26
- Friday: Dt 4:32-40; Ps 77:12-16, 21; Mt 16:24-28
- Saturday: Dt 6:4-13; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20
- Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

- 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 +
- Aug 07 Mon 6:30 a.m. Virginia Duzowski +
- Aug 08 Tue 9 a.m. Bette Fiorentino +
- Aug 09 Wed 6:30 a.m. Communion Service
- Aug 10 Thu 9 a.m. Gabrielle Mancuso (L)
- Aug 11 Fri 6:30 a.m. Heather Evans (L)
- Aug 12 Sat 9 a.m. Gary Atkinson (L)  
5 p.m. Rosaria & Joseph Fiorentino+
- Aug 13 Sun 7 a.m. The Nora Family  
9 a.m. All Parishioners  
11 a.m. Mary T. Hawkes (L)  
5 p.m. Colin Staveley +

## 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](http://www.churchoftheascension.net)