

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 UPDATE

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

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 08, 2018**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Tues.,	Rosary Group (after Mass) —also Thu., & Sat.	9:30 a.m.
Wed.	The Handcrafters	9:30 a.m.
Thur.	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	Men's Club Meeting	6:00 p.m.

**You need only go halfway into the darkest forest;
then you begin coming out the other side.**

--Chinese Proverb

Religious Education

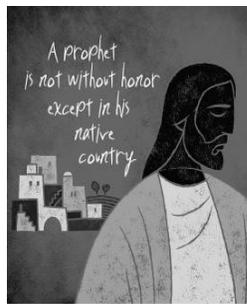
Our 2018-2019 religious education year will begin in mid-September. All current students are enrolled, but those wishing to be prepared for First Eucharist or Confirmation must be registered for these preparations classes by a parent or guardian. If you wish to register a new student or enroll a current student in a sacrament preparation class, please call Ann Liebmann, (408) 725-3939 **before July 20th or after September 15th.**

To be prepared for **First Eucharist**, a student must be in at least 2nd grade and have completed a year of religious education **prior** to being prepared for First Eucharist.

To be prepared for **Confirmation**, a student must be in high school and have been attending on-going religious education classes. If a high school youth has not been attending religion classes regularly, s/he must participate in the high school program for **at least 1 year** prior to being prepared for Confirmation.

Ascension parishioners—please continue to pray for the teachers, aides, and families involved in our religious education programs. Your prayers and support mean so much to all of us in this ministry.

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14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 08, 2018

They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary...and they took offense at him.

— Mark 6:1-6

A THORN IN THE FLESH

The Holy Spirit from time to time draws the veil of silence across a particular passage of scripture. Paul's "thorn in the flesh" in today's second reading is one of those silent places, for Paul—much to the frustration of centuries of Christians—never tells us precisely what his thorn in the flesh is.

People have speculated that the thorn was anything from bad eyesight to rampant lust. But all this speculation misses the point, for in his weakness, Paul comes to know and live the paradox of the cross of Christ: it is in our weakness that God's greatest strength can be made manifest. When we are strong, we imagine the strength is ours; when we are weakest, we know that any strength or power we might have comes from God alone.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week's Treasure mentioned the "Nuns of the Battlefield," religious sisters from several communities who served as nurses in the Civil War. Florence Nightingale had only instituted female nurses a decade before in the Crimean War, so the idea of women tending to wounded soldiers was extraordinary.

The medical and sanitary conditions on the battlefields were appalling, and the sisters were nearly all teachers. Few had any medical training beyond what they had learned as youngsters in the family. Anti-Catholic prejudice was so deeply entrenched in America that sisters could not wear their habits in public.

These sisters were the first, and people on both the Union and Confederate sides soon began to marvel at their bravery, efficiency, and respect for Protestant soldiers. More than six hundred sisters from twenty-one communities went to war, serving in wretched conditions. They were tough and single-minded, efficient and fearless.

After the war, sisters could appear in public everywhere in the reunited nation, and often received the praise and gratitude of grateful soldiers and family members on behalf of their sister nurses. An outdoor monument to the "Nuns of the Battlefield" stands in Washington at M Street and Rhode Island Avenue. The inscription reads: "They comforted the dying, nursed the wounded, carried hope to the imprisoned, gave in His name a drink of water to the thirsty."

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

“WESHARE” (FORMERLY “PARISHPAY”)

Automated Giving Is Here

“Our Financial Committee agrees with me that using an automated giving program helps our parish members commit a budgeted amount each month that is deducted from your bank account or credit card. This reflects a new method of giving—one that is available in our diocese and is spreading nationally.

I humbly call on you to include the church in your monthly budget, and allow the Lord to flourish in His bountiful works. Thank you for your consideration. My God bless you and your family.”

Fr. Joe Galang, Pastor

It is easy to sign up:

Enroll online at www.churchgiving.com/?pc=p6bewi94 or call WeShare at 800-950-9952 and choose option 1. If you have any questions, please call Susan Dunn at the parish office, 408-725-3939.

If you choose to participate in WeShare, this will replace your weekly envelopes—you will still receive the same year-end report from Ascension for your tax records.

COURAGE

“To have courage for whatever comes in life— everything lies in that.” —*St. Teresa of Avila*

“The test of courage comes when we are in the minority.” —*Ralph W. Sockman*

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: **St. Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions** (one of a group of 120 Catholics, among many more who were martyred between the years 1648 and 1930 in China)

Wednesday: **St. Benedict** (6th century Italian monk, twin of St. Scholastica, founded 12 communities of monks & is known as Father of Western Monasticism due to his great influence on the shape and character of monastic life in the West)

Friday: **St. Henry** (11th century Holy Roman Emperor; patron of oblates & Basel, Switzerland)

Saturday: **St. Kateri Tekakwitha** (baptized as Catherine but informally known as Lily of the Mohawks she was an Algonquin–Mohawk laywoman known for purity & piety; patroness of ecology, environmentalists, Native Americans, people in exile)

THANK YOU

July 01, 2018	Our WeShare	Date
NEEDED	Due to early bulletin print deadlines, the financial information is not available this week.	\$
COLLECTED		\$
VARIANCE	-\$	-\$

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:** Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26
- Tuesday:** Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38
- Wednesday:** Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7
- Thursday:** Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
- Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23
- Saturday:** Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
- Sunday:** Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14; Eph 1:3-14 [3-10]; Mk 6:7-13

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- July 07 Sat 9 a.m. Penny Hall +
5 p.m. Betty Reickerd +
- July 08 Sun 7 a.m. The Diem Family
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. James & Elizabeth Stolz +
5 p.m. Francisco & Rosa Barican +
- July 09 Mon 6:30 a.m. Virginia Duzowski +
- July 10 Tue 9 a.m. Cesar Munita +
- July 11 Wed 6:30 a.m. Communion Service
- July 12 Thu 9 a.m. Gabrielle Mancuso (L)
- July 13 Fri 6:30 a.m. Kathy Atkinson (L)
- July 14 Sat 9 a.m. Vincent & Celine Whelan (L)
5 p.m. Gary Chang +
- July 15 Sun 7 a.m. The Diem Family
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. The Nora Family
5 p.m. The Healy-Gallant Family

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.

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	Wilma Brisendine	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
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. 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	Bruce Newnan	408-293-8004
Pastoral Visit Team	Wilma Brisendine	408-725-3939
Charismatic Prayer Group	George Sharp	408 623-3014
Fil-Am Organization	Sonia Olivar	408-725-3939
Chinese Catholic Community	Janet Lau	408-725-3939

Web Site

www.churchoftheascension.net