

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.—1:00 p.m.
Fri: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

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



**WISHING ALL OUR PARISHIONERS
A JOYOUS AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR, 2019!**

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

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
DECEMBER 30, 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. | Mass & Exposition | 9:00 a.m. |



World Day
of Prayer
for Peace

January 01
2019

Religious Education

Our 2018-2019 Religious Education year continues as scheduled:

Our religious education program are on
Christmas break
December 16th through January 5th.

Classes for **elementary**, **middle school** and **First Eucharist** students will resume
next Sunday,

Sunday, January 06
Grades K through 8
10:10 to 11:30 AM

First Eucharist
11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Confirmation and **high school** classes will resume on
January 13, 2019

We are continuing to register students in all grade levels. If you wish to register a new student, please call
Ann Liebmann (408) 725-3939.

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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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH DECEMBER 30, 2018



Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom.

— Luke 2:41-52

THE HOLY FAMILY

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation, the en-flesh-ment of God as a human person. In Jesus, God is bodily present in the human story. Today we honor the Holy Family, helping us to see that God is active in daily family life. God is near at hand, amidst the tensions, joys, and uncertainties of family life.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always get it right, but they always tried to. These three amateurs were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents.

Like many family conflicts, there was no immediate or clear resolution of the issues raised by Jesus and by Mary. God's intentions for the family, and for Jesus, were still unfolding. As our Gospel passage describes, even with family miscommunications and with limited understanding of Jesus mission, the Holy Family persevered in their life together.

They continued to stay connected with each other and with God. Within the turbulence of family life, they trusted God to actively sustain and guide them into an uncertain future. We are invited to follow their example.

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PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILIES

Dear Lord, give us the unity, peace and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

SAINT JOSEPH, bless the head of our family helping to protect us and keep our family safe from harm.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, bless the mother of our family and help her nourish our family with your faith and your love.

LORD JESUS, bless the children in our family. Help them grow in wisdom as You did.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family and home more like Yours. Help us to be instrument of peace and may we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes. Amen.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today's feast is new as feasts go. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom.

In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there.

There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage--the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life's journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind!

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday:** **St. Sylvestser I** (4th century Roman pope; patron of Benedictines)
- Tuesday:** **Mary, the Holy Mother of God** (the feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus)
World Day of Payer for Peace
New Year's Day
- Wednesday:** **St. Basil the Great** (4th century Turkish bishop & Doctor of the Church; patron of hospital administrators, reformers, Russia)
St. Gregory Nazianzen (4th century Turkish priest, theologian & Doctor of the Church; patron of poets & orators)
- Thursday:** **The Most Holy Name of Jesus** (the reverence with which Christians have regarded the Holy Name of Jesus goes back to the earliest days of Christianity)
- Friday:** **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton** (19th century American sister, foundress of Sisters of Charity; patroness of Catholic Schools)
First Friday
- Saturday:** **St. John Neumann** (19th century Bohemian priest & bishop of Philadelphia; patron of Catholic education)

| THANK YOU | | |
|-------------------|--|------|
| December 23, 2018 | Our Weekly Offerings | Date |
| NEEDED | Due to early bulletin print deadlines, the financial information is not available this week. | |
| COLLECTED | | \$ |
| VARIANCE | -\$ | -\$ |

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Tuesday:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Wednesday:** : 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
- Friday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
- Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

MEET & GREET OUR NEW BISHOP

January 13, 2019
at the 9:00 am Mass



Our Co-Adjutor Bishop of the Diocese of San Jose, the Most Reverend Oscar Cantu, will be here to preside at that Mass. This will be our opportunity to meet, greet, and welcome the new Bishop to our community.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Dec 29 Sat 9 a.m. Walter & June Whelan +
5 p.m. Melanie Mendoza Lara (L)
- Dec 30 Sun 7 a.m. Algenio-Avanzado Family
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Marie Firato (L)
5 p.m. The Diem Family
- Dec 31 Mon 6:30 a.m. All Parishioners
- Jan 01 Tue 9 a.m. All Parishioners
- Jan 02 Wed 6:30 a.m. Communion Service
- Jan 03 Thu 9 a.m. Walter & June Whelan +
- Jan 04 Fri 6:30 a.m. All Parishioners
9 a.m. All Parishioners
- Jan 05 Sat 9 a.m. Virginia Duzowski +
5 p.m. Betty Reickerd +
- Jan 06 Sun 7 a.m. The Diem Family
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Joseph A. Stolz (L)
5 p.m. Virginia Duzowski +

HAPPENINGS



16TH ANNUAL BREAKFAST SUPREME (SUPPORTING VOCATIONS)



A hearty breakfast experience with family and friends!

SUNDAY, January 13, 2019
7:45 AM to 1:00 PM
Church of the Ascension, Worner Hall

Menu

Famous Baked French Toast
Homemade Pancakes
Sausage, Ham, Bacon
Scrambled Eggs, Egg Beaters
Hash Brown Potatoes
Toast
Fruit Salad
Fruit Juices
Coffee, Tea, Milk, Hot Chocolate
And More...



All for the unbeatable price of:

Individual \$8

Family \$20

(living in the same household)

Tickets available after weekend Masses and at the Church Office. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door.

Donations in any amount requested for our charitable works.

CONNECT 2018 HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

There are many grateful families that will celebrate Christmas with enthusiasm and meaning because of the generosity of Ascension parishioners. A big "thank you" from those we serve. God bless you!

CONNECT activities that continue throughout the year include:

Food Drive—bring unexpired canned and bottled goods or other staples or household items.

Toiletries— bring full or sample-sized items for distribution to Community Services.

Misc.— eye glasses, cell phones, hearing aids, Box Tops 4 Education, etc. can be placed into the CONNECT basket at any time of the year.

For questions, please call Don Van Buren at 408-996-2619 or Russ Castronovo at 408-391-9632.

PARISH GROUP CONTACTS

Administration and Communications

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Pastoral Council | John Pozniak | 408-230-6006 |
| Finance Council | Doris Atkinson | 408-725-3939 |
| 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 Oliver | 408-725-3939 |
| Chinese Catholic Community | Janet Lau | 408-725-3939 |

Web Site

www.churchoftheascension.net