

Church of the Ascension

Pastoral Staff

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

Catechetical Ministry

Ann Liebmann, Youth Catechetical
and Program Director

RCIA Rev. Hao Dinh, 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, W, F, S: 9:00 a.m.
T, Th: 6:30 a.m.

First Friday

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

In case of an emergency please call 408-725-3939



BISHOP'S URGENT MESSAGE

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 22, 2020

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Mon.	Rosary Group (after Mass) —also Wed, Fri. & Sat.	9:30 a.m.
Wed.	The Handcrafters	10:00 a.m.
Thur.	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:30 p.m.
Fri.	Stations of the Cross	5:00 p.m.

NEWS ALERT!

At present all Masses, religious education instructions, Lenten liturgical practices and parish gatherings are suspended until further notice!

Religious Education

The 2019-2020 religious education year continues as scheduled:

Sunday, March 22
Grades K through 8
 10:15 to 11:30 AM
First Reconciliation
 11:30 AM to 12:00 Noon
High School
 6:15 to 7:15 PM

Sunday, March 29
Grades K through 8
 10:15 to 11:30 AM
First Reconciliation
 11:30 AM to 12:00 Noon
High School
 6:15 to 7:15 PM

If you wish to register a child in any of our religious education programs, please call Ann Liebmann, (408) 725-3939 to do so.

All Ascension parishioners are asked to pray for a successful year of religious education for our young members. Please include our teachers and aides in your prayers.

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 22, 2020



I
came
 so that those who
 do not see might see

Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.

—Ephesians 5:8-14

LIGHT

“Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14). We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have “fallen asleep” along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep.

Today’s Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ—the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim “Christ our Light” as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world.

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**God does not ask for our ability or our inability,
but our availability.**

—Anonymous

ATTENTION ALL EUCHARIST MINISTERS AND LECTORS

The sign up sheet for Easter Sunday Masses are on the Liturgy Bulletin board in the back of the Church. Please sign up as soon as possible so that we may know who will be serving at these masses. If you have any questions, please call Arline Schoengold at 408-725-8873. Thank you for your cooperation.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Throughout the world, youngsters are denied an education because their parents cannot afford the fees



for uniforms, books and other supplies. Even when these fees are paid, many children find it difficult to attend school because of the distance they must walk with little or no food to sustain them throughout the day. Catholic Relief

Services works with families to make education a reality for all children. Your participation in Operation Rice Bowl helps with this work.

Please continue to use your rice bowl box during Lent and return the filled box **after** Easter.



**DIOCESE OF
SAN JOSÉ**

**URGENT
MESSAGE**

We know you are concerned about the spread of the Coronavirus, and we want to inform you of the steps the Diocese of San José, in partnership with our parishes and schools, is taking to keep our communities healthy.

The Diocese has created a webpage to share the various precautionary measures we are taking at our parishes and schools and to share official guidance and resources you can use to keep your families healthy at www.dsj.org/coronavirus.

In addition, Bishop Oscar Cantú has given special dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation to all people who fall in the categories at high risk of severe complications from exposure to the Coronavirus. These categories would include persons over 50 years of age, those of any with health conditions including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, or chronic lung diseases like COPD, as well as those with severely weakened immune systems." The sick and homebound are encouraged to view archived Sunday Mass recordings posted at www.dsj.org/vlog.

The Diocese will continue to monitor developments and follow recommendations by our local and state health officials, the Centers for Disease Control, and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The website will be updated with new information and additional resources as the situation develops.

SEE'S CANDY

Thank you to all who ordered See's candy for Easter; due to the lockdown, however, we are not placing any See's Candy orders. We will offer refunds to all who have placed orders with us. More information will be coming in future bulletins.



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday:** **St. Turibius of Mogrovejo** (16th cent. Spanish archbishop; patron of Lima, Peru)
- Wednesday:** **The Annunciation of the Lord** (the celebration of the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she would conceive and become the mother of Jesus, the Son of God, marking His Incarnation)
- Friday:** **Day of Abstinence** (meatless Friday)

THANK YOU

Date	Our Weekly Offering	Financial Information	Date
Mar. 15, 2020			
NEEDED			
COLLECTED		\$	
VARIANCE	\$	\$	

Due to the current lockdown situation, the financial information is not available this week.

SECOND COLLECTION POSTPONED
—Catholic Relief Services

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
- Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday:** Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
- Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday:** Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
- Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

FIRST RECONCILIATION



First Reconciliation will be celebrated at Ascension on **Saturday, April 4th**. Please keep our students, their families and teachers in your prayers during these next 2 weeks of preparation for this sacrament.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Mar 21 Sat 9 a.m. Remily Avanzado
5 p.m. William Maraschin
- Mar 22 Sun 7 a.m. The Diem Family
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Helen Rossi
5 p.m. The Leano Family
- Mar 23 Mon 9 a.m. Virginia Duzowski
- Mar 24 Tue 6:30 a.m. David Braddi
- Mar 25 Wed 9 a.m. Xuong Tran
- Mar 26 Thu 6:30 a.m. Rose & Alex Lenarduzzi
- Mar 27 Fri 9 a.m. Hung Tran
- Mar 28 Sat 9 a.m. All Parishioners
5 p.m. Stephanie Maraschin
- Mar 29 Sun 7 a.m. Hung & Nhai Tran
9 a.m. All Parishioners
11 a.m. Carmel Bastholm
5 p.m. Nicanor & Luz Beltran

EVENTS

Annual Diocesan Appeal 2020 “Encountering Christ—Faith in Action”

Our Annual Diocesan Appeal has begun. Funds donated to this appeal support our Bishop and Diocese in carrying out our mission in this county. Our parish goal will be **\$83,592**, a little less than the goal last year. Yet we need your help, to achieve our own additional **\$20,000 goal**.

Why? We need the fund to address problems we have experienced in this church sound system: dead spots, feedback, interference, etc. The current system was originally installed in 2002, and upgraded 8 years ago, but it's time to replace some older equipment and make adjustments. Please consider giving more to the ADA this year. All funds collected above the parish goal of \$83,592 will go back to us, and be earmarked for the church sound system project. Thank you for your generous support.

ADA Update

Week 1:	\$13,350 (28 pledges)
Week 2:	\$23,965 (20 pledges)
Week 3:	\$11,280 (17 pledges)
Week 4:	\$6,750 (21 pledges)
Total:	\$55,345 (66%)

DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE SUSPENDS ALL PUBLIC MASSES BEGINNING SATURDAY, MARCH 14, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

As a Diocese, our top priority remains the health and safety of our families, children, and the vulnerable of our community. Out of an abundance of caution, **I am requesting that all parishes, missions, and chapels in the Diocese of San José suspend all public Masses beginning Saturday, March 14, until further notice.**

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals may be celebrated but should be limited to immediate family. Faith Formation classes also should be suspended until further notice. All parish gatherings are being suspended until further notice.

Though public Masses are being suspended, I encourage parishioners to remain connected to their parish community and to pray for each other. The Diocese and several parishes will continue to livestream Sunday Masses in various languages. Information on these Masses and other spiritual resources are provided on our Diocesan Response to Coronavirus webpage at dsj.org/coronavirus.

Priests will remain available for individual confessions and urgent pastoral needs, including the anointing of the sick (Last Rites).

We are profoundly saddened that we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist as community, but we are reminded that Christ always remains with us, especially in times of uncertainty such as these. Be assured of my continued prayers for you and your families.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Oscar Cantú

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	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. 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

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	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	Marie Maraschin	408-218-2704
Chinese Catholic Community	Janet Lau	408-725-3939

Web Site

www.churchoftheascension.net