



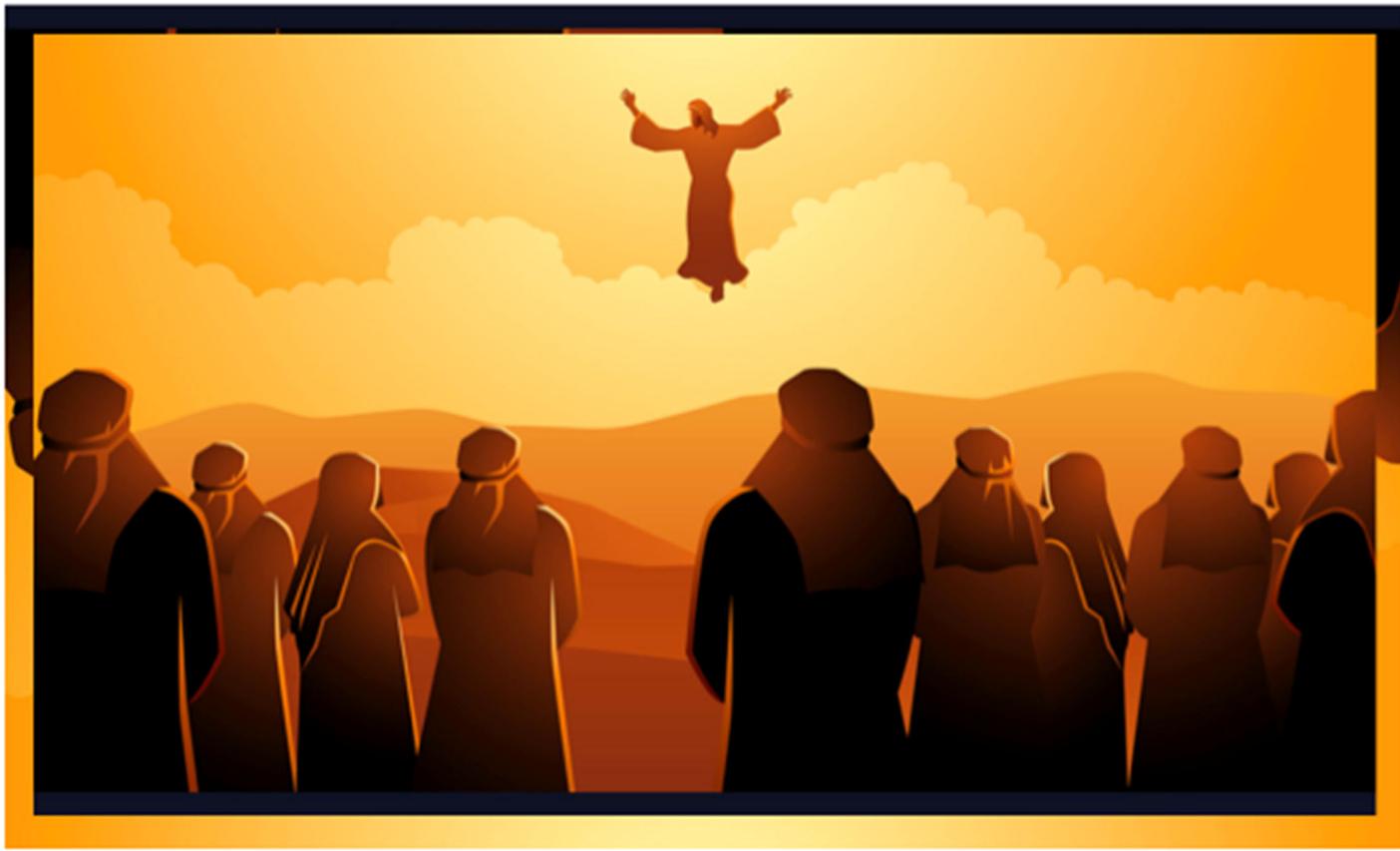
St. Anne of the Sunset Catholic Church

850 Judah St. San Francisco, CA 94122
www.stanne-sf.org

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The Ascension of the Lord ~ May 16, 2021



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SAINT ANNE MASSES

Daily Masses (In Church): 8:45am Mon.—Sat.

Sunday Masses (In Church): Sat. Vigil at 5pm,
 Sundays at 8am, 10am, and Noon (Chinese)

Confessions: Sat. @ 4pm

All Masses Livestreamed except Sunday 8am

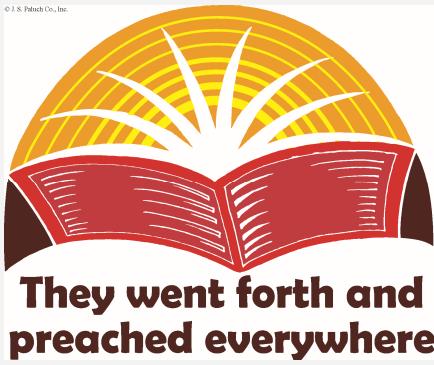
Office Hours: Mon. & Tues. 1-4p,
 Thurs. & Fri. 9a—12p

Baptisms: 2nd Sat. of month, 12:30pm

Baptismal Prep: 3rd Sat. of month, 10:00am

The Ascension of the Lord

May 16, 2021



Pastor's Column

To Extend Communion or Not to Politicians? – Our Archbishop recently issued a pastoral letter on abortion and called on Catholic politicians who support abortion to abstain from receiving communion. In his letter he emphasized that supporting abortion is contrary to the teaching of the Church. It is a grave evil to take the lives of innocent children while they are still in their mothers' womb. In his letter, the Archbishop has done a great service to the Catholic and the wider civil community to remind young and old the value of each human life. But the media also reported on Bishop McElroy of San Diego, a former Auxiliary Bishop and priest of San Francisco, warning against the "*weaponization of Eucharist*" to get Catholic elected officials to adhere to the church's stance on abortion. Bishop McElroy added that this approach is "*an effort not to convince people by argument and by dialogue and by reason, but, rather, to pummel them into submission on the issue.*" John Carr, the director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University added that "*We should try to persuade others to join us, not just condemn. We need to spend a lot more time talking about the humanity of the unborn child than whether Joe Biden can go to Communion.*"

In this Sunday's 2nd reading, St. Paul taught the Ephesians to "*live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace*" (*Ephesians 4:1-3*). Whichever side we take in the current debate, the call is always for us to live in the manner worthy of our calling, with humility, gentleness, patience and love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit. In the current climate, when disagreements arise, it seems easy for us to quickly fall into two camps: the ones for and the ones against. The challenge is what St. Paul and Jesus taught us—to strive for unity: how can we prevent the current issue from dividing us and use it instead to build a stronger relationship among those with whom we disagree? I find it helpful to remember the words of St Mother Teresa, who shared

that when she remembers that the conflict is not against each other but against the devil, she also realizes she has the necessary tools to defeat the devil: love, patience, kindness, mercy and prayer. And it's ok if we don't know how to proceed right away; we can learn from St. Joseph. When he didn't know how to proceed with his engagement to a pregnant Mary, he found his answer when he slept on it.

That also seems to be the approach the Vatican is advising for the US Bishops in regards to this controversial question. Cardinal Luis Ladaria, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, advised the US Bishops to have an "*extensive and serene dialogue*" in two stages. The first stage is to take time to dialogue among themselves to try to reach an agreement so as to "*Maintain unity.*" The second stage is to have a similar dialogue with Catholic politicians who support pro-choice, euthanasia or other moral evils to understand their positions and their comprehension of Catholic teaching. Only after that should they try to formulate a national policy on worthiness for Communion not just for public figures but for all Catholics. The Cardinal added that it would be misleading if such a statement were to give the impression that abortion and euthanasia alone constitute the only grave matters of Catholic moral and social teaching. And they should also consult the Bishops' Conferences of other nations, both to learn from one another and to preserve the unity in the Universal Church. In short, the Cardinal seems to advise the US Bishops not to rush to put out a statement on whether to extend communion to Catholic politicians or not, but to sleep on it, as St. Joseph did, so as to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in preserving our Unity. And this methodical thoughtful approach would also benefit us in our own disagreements with others. Let's also ask the Spirit of God to show us how to preserve unity in all our relationships so as to build the Kingdom of God on earth, in our neighborhood, in our church, and in our families.

—Fr. Dan

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION

The theological unity, or perhaps even the temporal experience of the early community, made it seem that Jesus' resurrection and his ascension were inseparable aspects of a single mystery. Only in the later writings of Luke and John has further theological reflection helped the Christian community to distinguish different dimensions of the mystery. Liturgical tradition has followed the forty-day chronology formulated by Luke. We would miss the point, however, if we were to demand a precise historical chronology of events such as the Resurrection-Ascension that are primarily spiritual in nature and that clearly surpass the bounds of time and space as we know them. What is important for us to grasp is the significance of the Ascension. For Luke, it is the decisive turning point that marks the end of Jesus' earthly ministry and the beginning of the disciples' Spirit-led ministry and thus the ministry of the whole church down to our own day © J. S. Paluch Co.



Saint Anne Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEK of May 16, 2021

Sunday, May 16

8:00 am Medina Ermitanio (D)

10:00 am Parishioners of St. Anne

Noon Parishioners of St. Anne

Presider

Fr. Nascimento

Fr. Zhai, SVD

Fr. Zhai, SVD

Monday, May 178:45 am healing, Marie Gavney
Special Intentions,
Jane Anne Sullivan

Fr. Zhai, SVD

Tuesday, May 188:45 am Cornelio & Gregoria
Melencion (D)

Fr. Zhai, SVD

Wednesday, May 19

8:45 am birthday, Danilo Flores

Fr. Zhai, SVD

Thursday, May 20

8:45 am birthday, Jose Laguda

Fr. Nascimento

Friday, May 218:45 am Special Intentions,
Jane Anne Sullivan
Deacon Mike Curran (D)

Fr. Nascimento

Saturday, May 22

8:45 am Confraternity of Saint Anne

Fr. Nascimento

5:00 pm Viola Blout (D)

Fr. Zhai, SVD

FEAST OF FAITH — *The General Intercessions*

The general intercessions were restored to the liturgy in the reforms that followed the Second Vatican Council. In these prayers—also known as the “universal prayer” or “prayer of the faithful”—the assembly prays for the Church, the world, and the local community. As the name “prayer of the faithful” reminds us, these intercessions are a privilege of the baptized, which is why any catechumens are dismissed before the Creed and the intercessions. In baptism, we become members of a royal priesthood, and what do priests do? They intercede; they pray. In standing to pray to God as a community, we are living out our royal priesthood.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Help Stop Taxpayer-Funded Abortion

For the first time in decades, Congress is trying to force Americans to pay for abortion.

How? The Hyde Amendment and similar laws have protected taxpayers from funding elective abortion for 45 years. Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away these laws that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century.

If you wish to protect and retain such laws, please consider signing an online petition to Congress at www.NoTaxpayerAbortion.com

The Archdiocese will be calling for additional action in the coming months. Please stay up-to-date by visiting sfarch.org/abortion

**Presentation by Sir James MacMillan
with Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone
Saturday, May 29, 12 Noon PDT via Zoom (Free)**

Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone will host a live online lecture followed by a Q&A with world-renowned Scottish composer Sir James MacMillan on the topic of *“Music and Some Wider Implications: a Catholic Composer’s Perspective.”*



In 2019, **Sir James MacMillan** was the 4th most performed living composer in the world. In that year, his *Stabat Mater* received its Vatican premier in the Sistine Chapel. Sir James MacMillan's new *Mass* welcomed Pope Benedict XVI to England and Cardinal Henry Newman to sainthood. When the Scottish Parliament opened again for the first time in almost 300 years, Sir James MacMillan's fanfare accompanied the Queen.

You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear one of the 21st Century's most prolific and influential living composers speak from the heart on the importance of music from a Catholic perspective. Registration is required at sfarch.org/music and you may obtain more information there as well.

Deacon Fred Totah, Director, Office of Pastoral Ministry
415-614-5504 totahf@sfarch.org

Today we take up our second collection for the
Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC).



**Catholic
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CONNECT WITH CHRIST

Your support helps the CCC connect people to Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Archdiocese of San Francisco to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message. Support the collection today! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/ccc.

Last Week's Collections

May 9, 2021 — \$3,139.12

Catholic Charities — \$766.00

This Week's 2nd Collection

Catholic Communications Campaign

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2021 — Goal: \$53,983

Donations Received as of 5/11: \$5,600.00

Thank You All for Your Generosity!For on-line giving, visit: www.stanne-sf.org

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