

# St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco CA 94122

**Parish Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday - Friday**

Office Tel. (415) 566-5610 | Email: [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Website: <https://sjog.net>

**Weekday Mass: Monday – Friday 12:10 PM** (followed by Holy Rosary)

**First Friday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** (after Mass)

**Saturday Vigil Mass 4:15 PM**

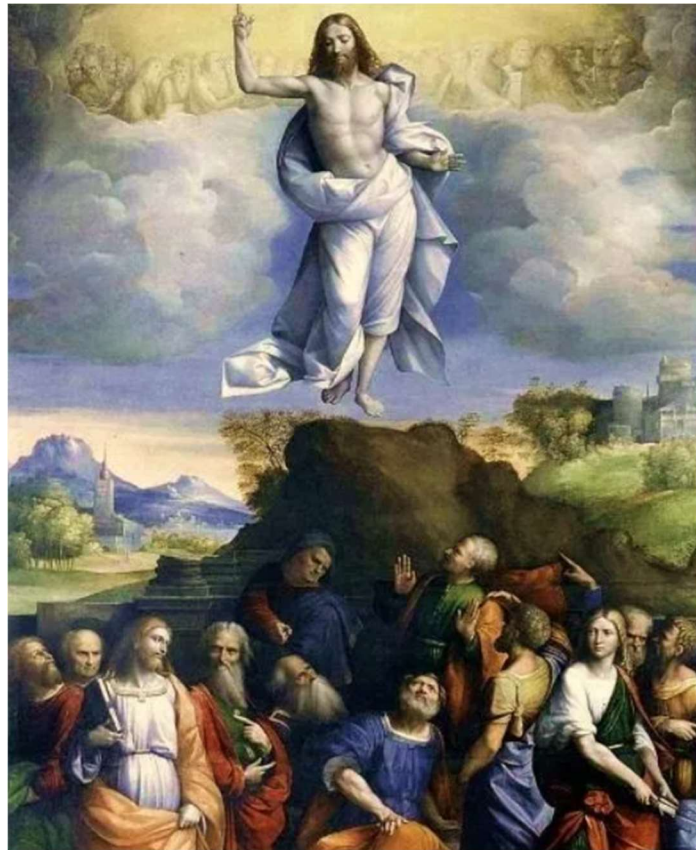
**Sunday Mass 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM**

**Sacramental Reconciliation** (as requested or by appointment)

**June 1, 2025**

## Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 | Ephesians 1:17-23 | Luke 24:46-53



“And behold I am sending the promise of my Father upon you...” Luke 24:49

June 1, 2025

## The Gospel according to Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that *repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,*

*would be preached in his name to all the nations,* beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things.

*And behold I am sending the promise of my Father upon you;*

but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them.

*As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven.*

They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God.



### The Mission of St. John of God Church

Following the dedication of Saint John of God to healthcare workers caring for the poor and the sick, we walk the **same path** to minister to patients and their families, hospital staff and faculty in the UC San Francisco Medical Center to help meet Jesus Christ through our actions, charity, transparency, social justice, and inclusiveness.

#### Gospel Reflection:

Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus and His disciples went to Mount Olivet, near Jerusalem. There, Jesus promised His followers that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, and he instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit had come. Then *Jesus blessed them, and as He gave the blessing*, he began to ascend into heaven to sit at the right hand of God. (Jesus did not just float into the sky like a holy balloon.)

The Ascension is not about Jesus leaving us. It is about Him stepping into His full authority and, *with the power of the Holy Spirit*, sending us out to finish what he started. His sending the Holy Spirit and commissioning us to carry His mission into the world (with the Holy Spirit within us) shows how much he trusts us with what he has shown while he was on earth: his ministry of healing, raising the dead, conquering his own death, and many other miracles.

*The Ascension of Christ was the launch of the Church*, a Church that reminds us about living with the fire of the Holy Spirit and, as Christians, it is not about sitting in pews waiting for heaven. It is about stepping out of fear or out of our comfort zone to get deeper into Christ's mission. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead now lives in us, and to those who believe in Jesus and understands his mission will be empowered to continue Jesus' mission knowing that the Holy Spirit lives within them.

*Can you think of a way to connect today's Scripture to daily life in a meaningful way to find or begin something you consider doing Christ's mission today?* As Saint Therese of Lisieux wrote, "Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love."

**PRAYER BEFORE MASS:** Dear Father in heaven, I come before your sacred altar to assist the divine sacrifice of your Son Jesus. Fix my mind on you and by his precious blood wash away all my sins as I repent of having offended you. Grant that we may celebrate this holy mystery with strong faith and devotion. Send us the Holy Spirit of love to ignite our hearts to receive devoutly the Holy Eucharist. Bless our family, our parish, and our community. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen.

## Sacraments celebrated at St. John of God Church:

Anointing of the Sick & Healing  
Baptism  
Holy Communion  
Reconciliation  
Marriage (requires six months' advance preparation for in-church ceremony.)

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Come reconcile with God and experience His mercy and joy. No sin is new to Him. No wrongdoing too great.



**OCIA** (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) for Adults seeking Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion, or joining the Catholic Church. Please call or send an email to the Parish Office. For more details, please contact Debbie Feliz at 415-819-9093 [dafeliz50@gmail.com](mailto:dafeliz50@gmail.com) or Paul Riofski at 415-517-4647 [sjogmusic@aol.com](mailto:sjogmusic@aol.com).

## If you missed it, there is still time to help via online:

1. The **Mission Appeal** for a Mission Diocese: Crosier Fathers and Brothers. You may send your donation online at [Home - Crosier Fathers and Brothers](#).

2. **Catholic Charities**. [2025 Donate Now CC Sunday - Catholic Charities San Francisco](#).

## The St. John of God Prayer (by Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave)

Dear God, through the intercession of St John of God, patron of the poor and the sick, grant me the grace this day to greet every person that I meet with understanding and compassion. Reveal to me their needs and give me the means and inspire in my heart the humility and generosity of St. John so that I might be to them a revelation of Christ's love. Amen.

## Prayers of the faithful:

- For our world: we pray for peace, compassion, and justice.
- For those in tribulation: the sick and suffering, the hungry and poor, the elderly in isolation, the incarcerated, unhoused, and unemployed.
- For the names in the Book of the Sick.
- For the deceased and their grieving families and friends.
- For graduating students may their hearts and mind enkindle the fire of God's love, desire for service, and personal growth.

## Weekly Mass Intentions

Date & Time	Intentions	Celebrants *
<b>Sun., June 1</b> 9:30 am 11:30 am	Loretta Orosco-Personal Parishioners	Fr. Narcis Kabipi Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Mon., June 2</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Te Van Nguyen
<b>Tues., May 3</b> 12:10 pm <b>2:00 pm</b>	<b>Memorial Service for Michel Marty</b>	Fr. Te Van Nguyen <b>Fr. Narcis Kabipi</b>
<b>Wed., June 4</b> 12:10 pm	Sophie Mesko - Birthday	Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Thurs., June 5</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Fri., June 6</b> 12:10 pm		Fr. Narcis Kabipi
<b>Sat., June 7</b> <b>11:00 am</b> 4:14 pm	<b>Celebration of Life for Ann Castiglione</b> Parishioners	<b>Fr. Narcis Kabipi</b> Fr. Te Van Nguyen

\* Priest celebrant may change according to circumstances.

## St. John of God Choir

Music Liturgy Group invites you to sing with us. *Got a musical instrument to add to our worship?*

For details, please call  
Music Director, Paul Riofski at  
(415) 517- 4647.

## Ways to Donate to SJOG Church:

1. Monetary offerings during Mass.  
Electronic transfer (convenient way to make a one-time or recurring donation) via: <https://www.sjog.net/donate>.
2. Scan the QR image below with a mobile/smart phone.



Either #1 or #2 will open the Vanco SJOG donation page. If you have questions, please send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net).



## Community News

### Parish Ministry to St. Anthony's:

Our Parish Community continues to support St. Anthony's Foundation in its free clothing program. On May 27<sup>th</sup> a St. Anthony's truck picked up **73 bags and boxes** of usable clothing, jackets, shoes, blankets, toiletries, medical supplies and more. Thanks to you for your Lenten efforts to help our sisters and brothers in Christ. Please continue to drop off your donations of clean, new or gently-used clothing.

For more information on St. Anthony's please check its website at [Donate Clothes | St. Anthony's](#).

## Today's Readings:

**First Reading** - As the Apostles were looking on, Jesus is taken up to heaven. (Acts 1:1-11)

**Psalm** - God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9)

**Second Reading** - God raised Jesus from the dead and seated him at his right hand. (Ephesians 1:17-23)

**Gospel** - Jesus is taken to heaven and the disciples remain in Jerusalem awaiting his sending of the Spirit. (Luke 24:46-53)

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**"The world will recognize the disciples of Jesus by the way they love one another. Love, in other words, is the Christian's identity card, the only valid 'document' identifying us as Christians."**

— POPE FRANCIS  
*Homily, April 24, 2016*

## Weekly Readings, Blessed Persons, Special Observances

**02 – Monday – Seventh Week of Easter** (Saints Marcellinus and Peter)  
Acts 19:1-8 | Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab | John 16:29-33

**03 – Tuesday – Memorial of Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs** Acts 20:17-27 | Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 | John 17:1-11a

**04 – Wednesday – Seventh Week of Easter** (St. Mary Elizabeth Hesselblad)  
Acts 20:28-38 | Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab | John 17:11b-19

**05 – Thursday – Memorial of Saint Boniface, Bishop, and Martyr**  
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 | Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 | John 17:20-26

**06 – Friday – Seventh Week of Easter** (Blessed Maria Karłowska)  
Acts 25:13b-21 | Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab | John 21:15-19

**07 – Saturday – Seventh Week of Easter** (St. Willibald)  
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 | Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 | John 21:20-25

**07 – Saturday Vigil Mass – Pentecost Sunday**

Genesis 11:1-9 | Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 | Romans 8:22-27 | John 7:37-39

**09 – Pentecost Sunday – Mass during the Day**

Acts 2:1-11 | Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 | 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 | John 20:19-23

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**The School of Pastoral Ministry  
Presents an online course: The  
Dead Sea Scrolls with Dr. John  
Bergsma.**

This course provides a brief introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls: what they are, how they were found, what they contain, and their relevance to Judaism and Christianity.

All sessions are pre-recorded and released weekly, available for viewing any time after the scheduled release.

[Recordings released on six Tuesdays, June 3 through July 8.](#)

**Course Information & Registration**

**Page:** <https://www.sfarch.org/dead-sea-scrolls-course/>

The Dead Sea Scrolls are a collection of ancient Jewish manuscripts discovered between 1946 and 1956 in caves near Qumran, by the northwestern shore of the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea Scrolls are a treasure trove that deepen our understanding of the Bible, Judaism, and the origins of Christianity. They bridge the gap between the Old and New Testaments and bring the world of the Bible to life in extraordinary detail.

**Community Living Campaign (CLC)**

The CLC Group of seniors holds its exercise program and socialization thrice weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 1-4pm. Come join!



Join your friends for fellowship, coffee, and conversation **after the 9:30 & 11:30 AM Masses** on Sundays at the Hall. A warm welcome to everyone.

**In Memoriam**

**Michel Marty (84 years old): June 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 2:00pm.**

Memorial Service followed by a celebration of life in the Parish Hall.  
All are invited.

**Ann Castiglione (99 years old): June 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday 11:00am.**

Memorial Service followed by a celebration of life in the Parish Hall.  
All are invited.

**Blessed Person of the Week  
St. Charles Lwanga and Companions**

Charles Lwanga was martyred on June 3, 1886, at the age of 26, along with 12 other Catholics and 11 Anglicans, for refusing to renounce their faith and to comply with the corrupt and unchaste demands of King Mwanga of Uganda. King Mwanga was a violent ruler and pedophile with a predilection for the young boys and men who served him as pages and attendants. The Christians at Mwanga's court tried to protect the pages from King Mwanga.

A young Catholic named Joseph Mkasa was the chief steward of Mwanga's court. He confronted King Mwanga when he killed a Protestant missionary and his companions. Angered by his underling's insolence, Mwanga ordered him killed. At the hands of his executioners, and forgiving the tyrant king, Mkasa said, "A Christian who gives his life for God is not afraid to die." He was beheaded and burned on November 15, 1885.

Upon Joseph Mkasa's death, chief page Charles Lwanga took his place in the instruction and leadership of the Christian community at Mwanga's court, having sought baptism, himself, on the very day of Mkasa's execution. When Mwanga's sexual advances were rebuffed by another young page, the King killed him and then sealed the royal court so that no one could escape, summoning the country's executioners. Seeing that the situation had become desperate, Charles Lwanga baptized four catechumens that night, including a thirteen-year-old boy.

The next morning Mwanga brought his whole court before him and separated the Christians from the rest by saying, "Those who do not pray stand by me, those who do pray stand over there." He demanded of the fifteen boys and young men (all under 25) if they were Christians and intended to remain Christians. When they answered "Yes," Mwanga condemned them to death.

The king sent the prisoners on a 37-mile trek to the place of execution at Namugongo, along which walk, three of the faithful were killed. Upon arriving at the execution site, the survivors were held captive for seven days. On June 3, the Christian captives – 13 of them Catholics, 11 Protestants – were brought out and executed. As they were burning to death, they called out the name of Jesus, proclaiming, "You can burn our bodies, but you cannot harm our souls."

*Cannonized by Pope Paul VI on October 18, 1964.*



## 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

“Do everything for the glory of God.”

1 Corinthians 10:31

The church carpeting was just cleaned and sanitized. Please DO NOT eat or drink inside the church. Only water in a sealed container is allowed, if needed. Thank you for your cooperation.

For more details please refer to the paper on Church Etiquette located at the entrance tables or on the bulletin board.

We are not complete without you.

### Pastoral & Admin Staff:

- Rev. Narcis Kabipi, Administrator/Pastor and Hospital Chaplain
- Rev. Te Van Nguyen, Parochial Vicar and Hospital Chaplain
- Liturgy Committee: Pastor, Bob Gajewski, Paul Riofski, Lynette Castiglione
- Pastoral Committee: Debbie Feliz, Lynette Castiglione, Chuck Witherell, Gilda Witherell
- OCIA: Debbie Feliz, Paul Riofski
- Marriage Preparation: Susan Collins
- Finance Committee: Susan Fox, Bob Gajewski, Bill Becker, Dave Freitas
- Bookkeeper: Jessica Flores
- Office Support: Marilu I. and Caroline Forrester
- Bulletin Editor: Marilu I.
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

Your generosity has a *tremendous impact* on many lives. It enables the Archdiocese to provide vital services to our local community and our greater Church. Your generosity is *critical* to our ability to assist the thousands who depend on us annually, it is vital to our mission, and it is integral to the health and growth of our Catholic family in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

If you have questions on how or what to give to AAA, either one-time or in monthly installments, please call the Parish Office (415) 566-5610. Thank you for your kind generosity.

### See a video of this Annual Appeal

[Archdiocesan Annual Appeal - Archdiocese of San Francisco](#)

**The Goal for 2025 is \$6,400,000.**

#### The Allocation:

Clergy Support: \$2,331,813 or **36%** of goal.

Parish Ministry & Schools: \$1,691,364 or **27%** of goal.

Social Ministry: \$1,358,167 or **21%** of goal.

Universal Church & Communications: \$1,018,656 or **16%** of goal.

### Dear Friends and Family of St. John of God Church,

Each year all Catholic parishes are asked to help the regional Archdiocese in its mission to spread the Gospel, as Christ has commanded. This year, SF Archdiocese is recognizing our commitment to serve others through its Annual Appeal theme – “*Do Everything for the Glory of God.*” We are asked to help support parish ministries, youth and young adults, social ministries, priestly formation, our Diaconate program, and ecumenical efforts, to name a few. We also support Archdiocese departments such as finance and human resources. Through some centralization of these and other services, we help decrease costs to the parishes. The AAA is a unique opportunity *to come together as one* and provide critical assistance to those who need and depend on us. It unites us in mission and ministry. [Please see the last page of this bulletin for more information or visit online the [Archdiocesan Annual Appeal - Archdiocese of San Francisco](#). You will be amazed at how wide the AAA outreach is!]

Consider *participating in and giving generously to the AAA*, not only to meet our goal, but also to sustain the dwindling emergency savings our SJOG Parish has. Thank you very much for your commitment to St. John of God Parish.

***Yours in Christ, Fr. Narcis Kabipi and Fr. Te Van Nguyen***