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www.nativityschool.com

The Church of the Nativity

MASSES

Sundays 08:00, 09:30, 11:30 AM and 05:00 PM

Saturdays 08:00 AM and 05:00 PM (Vigil)

Weekdays 07:30 AM and 05:30 PM

Holy Days 07:30 AM, 05:30 and 07:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Opus Dei priest)

03:30 PM - 04:30 PM (parish priest)

(also by appointment)

BAPTISMS 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month

(contact rectory 2 months in advance)

WEDDINGS Saturdays 11:00 AM and 02:00 PM

(contact rectory at least 6 months in advance)

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Steven D. Otellini

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. John Mary Chung

PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Clement Davenport

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Mr. Dominick Peloso

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

Rev. Kevin Gaffey

Rev. Paul Maillet

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Monica Hickam • (650) 327-2319

YOUTH MINISTER

Mrs. Ingrid Pera • (650) 759-9993

24-hour Eucharistic Adoration

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

25 SEPTEMBER 2011

“Since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.”

Ezekiel 18: 28



FIRST READING

Is it My way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?

Ezekiel 18: 25-28

PSALM

He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble His way.

Psalms 25

SECOND READING

Humbly regard others as more important than yourselves.

Philippians 2: 1-11

GOSPEL

When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him.

Matthew 21: 28-32

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 25 SEP - 01 OCT

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	† Souls in Purgatory
	05:30 PM	† Jesse Gomes
TUE	07:30 AM	Jim Harrington
	05:30 PM	† Miriam and Rolly Somer; † Tom Del Sarto
WED	07:30 AM	Florence S.
	05:30 PM	† Eugene Stepko
THU	07:30 AM	† Charlotte Jones
	05:30 PM	† Lucy E Cabranes Rodriguez
FRI	07:30 AM	Martha Crawford
	05:30 PM	† Mekkay and Soni Haunga
SAT	08:00 AM	† Bob Connolly

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



Parish Office Hours
09:00 AM-04:00 PM
Monday-Friday



Electronic giving is offered
through our website
www.nativitymenlo.org
or call the parish office
for a paper form

MON-FRI	07:10 AM	Morning Prayer
MON-FRI	05:10 PM	Evening Prayer
SAT	07:40 AM	Morning Prayer
25 SEP	(Sunday)	
	08:30 AM	Nativity Blood Drive
	07:30 PM	Holy Hour for Priests
26 SEP	(Monday)	
	09:00 AM	Bible Group
	07:30 PM	RCIA
	07:30 PM	Legion of Mary
	07:30 PM	St. Vincent de Paul Society
27 SEP	(Tuesday)	
	06:00 PM	Cenacles of Life Rosary
	07:00 PM	Class on the Mass
28 SEP	(Wednesday)	
	09:30 AM	Class on the Mass
	07:00 PM	Confirmation Class
29 SEP	(Thursday)	
	11:00 AM	The Thursday Group
	06:00 PM	Perpetual Help Novena
30 SEP	(Friday)	
1st 01 OCT	(Saturday)	
	11:00 AM	Faith-Based Investing
	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Confessions (Opus Dei priest)
	03:30 PM - 04:30 PM	Confessions (parish priest)



BULLETIN NEWS

EARLY SUBMISSION DEADLINES

During the holiday season our publishers have earlier-than-usual submission deadlines for specific bulletins.

- Items for the **27 November 2011** bulletin must be submitted by **Wednesday, 16 November 2011**.
- Items for the **25 December 2011** bulletin must be submitted by **Tuesday, 13 December 2011**.



PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 03-04 SEP
TOTAL:	\$10,879
Annual Appeal Progress:	41,513
2011 Annual Appeal Goal:	\$119,800

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

26 SEP (Saturday):

SAINT COSMAS and SAINT DAMIAN, (d. ~303)

These twin brothers were Syrian-trained doctors. The brothers accepted no payment for their services, and their charity brought many to Christ. They were reported to have miraculously replaced the ulcered leg of a man named Justinian with one from a recently deceased man. Arrested during the persecutions of Diocletian, they were tortured (without suffering injury) and martyred by beheading.



27 SEP (Tuesday):

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, Priest (1580-1660)

Like his fellow saint, **Francis de Sales**, who was his friend and contemporary, **Vincent de Paul** performed an invaluable service to the Catholic Church in a period of confusion and laxness. For men about to take Holy Orders, Vincent devised a set of spiritual exercises, and special exercises also for those desiring to make general Confession, or to settle on a vocation. He conferred frequently with the clergy on the correction of the shocking slackness, ignorance, and abuses that were all around them. To the Biblical injunction, "Thou art thy brother's keeper," he gave new practical meaning, by laying down patterns of philanthropy that have been followed ever since.



28 SEP (Wednesday):

SAINT WENCESLAUS, Martyr (907-929)
SAINT LORENZO RUIZ and COMPANIONS, Martyrs (d. 1637)

29 SEP (Thursday):

SAINT MICHAEL, SAINT GABRIEL, SAINT RAPHAEL, Archangels



30 SEP (Friday):

SAINT JEROME, Priest and Doctor of the Church (342-420)

01 OCT (Saturday):

SAINT THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS, Virgin and Doctor of the Church (1873-1897)

Through her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, this Carmelite nun of Normandy continues to teach millions to trust in the loving Fatherhood of God, and that sanctity lies not necessarily in doing great deeds, but in doing everyday deeds with great love.



MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

SMALL FAITH-SHARING GROUPS

Sign-ups for the Fall Session for the **Small Faith-Sharing Groups** will take place after all the Masses on the weekend of **08-09 October 2011**. The resource materials for this next session will include prayers, reflections on the Sunday readings, faith sharing questions and ideas for action responses. The new session begins **Monday, 10 October 2011**, for six weekly sessions. Any questions, please call **Tim Kennedy** at **650/321-4818**.

FATIMA CELEBRATION

On **Thursday, 13 October 2011**, we will hold our final monthly Fatima celebration for this year. It begins with Holy Mass at **07:30 PM**, followed by a talk on the appearance, candlelight rosary procession, and Benediction. Please join us. For questions, contact **Deacon Dominick** or **Mary Ellen Peloso** at **650/269-6279**.



Pregnant? Need Help? Please contact the **Juan Diego Society (408/258-2008)**, the **Gabriel Project (800/910-0191)** or **Community Pregnancy Center (650/964-8093)**.



LEARNING NEW MUSIC

For those of you who attend **09:30 AM** Mass, we'll be learning the new Mass parts **Wednesday evening 28 September 2011 at 08:00 PM** in the **O'Hare Center**. The new *Gloria* will be sung starting in October and the rest of the new Mass settings in November. Please come join us! Any questions, call **Barbara Nelson** at **650/464 2971** or **bnelson1015@gmail.com**.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please come to visit our Lord during the week, as the church is open 24x7 and He awaits you. Also, everyone is encouraged to sign up for one hour. This will ensure your weekly meeting with Jesus. You may sign up for any hour. Please consider the following hours which currently have no one assigned:



MON: 06:00 AM, 08:00 PM

Please call **650/269-7794** for more information or to sign up.

You have never strayed too far for the Father's forgiveness and grace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please keep all of our newest members in your prayers, as well as those who have preceded us to the Father.



BAPTISMS

- MARRIAGES**
- Gordon Lai and Tiffany Szeto
 - Donovan Loya and Christine Mina

NEW PARISHIONERS

- Jennifer and Franz Lozano
(Franz Joseph, Jaymee Franzine)
- Laura Coppeto and Andrew Blaich

DEATHS

- Helen Castle, mother of Jack Castle

RIDES TO MASS

Nativity Church is looking for a coordinator and volunteers to give rides to parishioners so they may attend Mass. Please contact **Wendy** or **Yvete** at the office **650/323-7914**.



SAVE THE DATE: 04 DEC 2011

Schola Seraphica is energetically rehearsing for this year's Christmas Concert. Please save **04 December 2011 02:30 PM** for our concert at St. Patrick's Seminary. We are looking forward to sharing more beautiful music with you all.

TRANSFORMING GRIEF

A day of spiritual retreat for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. Presented by Barbara Elordi (Archdiocese of San Francisco) on **Saturday, 29 October 2011**, from **09:30 AM** to **1** at St. Robert's Church in San Bruno. Please call **Barbara** at **415/614-5506** if you would like to attend.

DINNER WITH CATHOLIC TREK

Join **Catholic Trek** for a mini-taste of Cuba at La Bodeguita Del Medio (463 South California Avenue, Palo Alto) on **Monday, 26 September 2011** at **07:30 PM**. RSVP to **catholic-trek-core@googlegroups.com**. For more details visit **adultcircle.shutterfly.com**, or call **408/554-5823**. Catholic Trek is a group for Catholics, single and married, 30s to 40s.

EVENTS AT VALLOMBROSA

08 October 2011: A Spiritual Workshop with **Fr. Nathan Castle, O.P.**, **08:30 AM – 01:00 PM**. Join us for this Oz-centric spiritual retreat making connections from the 1939 film "*The Wizard of Oz*" with Scripture. Fr. Nathan will read from his new book, *And Toto Too: "The Wizard of Oz" as a Spiritual Adventure*, and lead the discussion about how the film helped form and deepen his faith in God. This promises to be a fun and enlightening morning. The cost of the workshop is **\$45**, includes scones and coffee/tea and lunch.

MASS INTENTIONS: 2012

All the Mass intentions for **2011** have been filled. We will not be taking Mass intentions for **2012** until **October**.

People often ask us why we don't have multiple names for each Mass offered as other churches do. According to Canon Law: "*Separate Masses are to be applied for the intentions of those for whom a single offering, although small, has been accepted*" (**Canon 948**). In 1991 the Congregation for Clergy at the Vatican decreed that: "*1. In cases in which the people making the offering have been previously explicitly informed and have freely consented to combining their offering in a single offering, their intentions can be satisfied with a single Mass celebrated according to a 'collective' intention. 2. In this case it is necessary that the place and the time for the celebration of this Mass, which is not to be said more than twice a week, be made public.*" Because the merits of each Mass are infinite, the grace received by each person intended in a "collective" Mass is the same as if that person was the sole intention.

Considering this, Msgr. Otellini has given permission for one **collective Mass** a week beginning in 2012. This Mass will be at **08:00 AM** on **Saturdays**. You will begin seeing more than one name listed for that Mass beginning in 2012. This may help to relieve some of the demand on the Mass intentions calendar and give people more opportunities to have Masses said for their loved ones in a more timely manner.

IN THE COMMUNITY

FAMILY ROSARY CRUSADE

Saturday, 15 October 2011. All Catholics from the Archdiocese of San Francisco are invited to join **Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR** to pray the Rosary, adore the Blessed Sacrament, listen to inspirational speakers, and ask the blessings of God for ourselves and our community. Starts at **noon** at Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco. For further information, call **415/373-8391** or check **www.FamilyRosaryCrusade2011.com**.



POSH SQUASH: NATIVITY'S GLASS PUMPKIN PATCH

Thousands of unique and colorful hand-blown pumpkins, fruit, flowers and vegetables for sale to decorate your home for the autumn season, or to give as beautiful gifts. Live glass-blowing demonstrations and many of the artists on hand. Open to all on **Saturday, 24 September 2011, 10:00 AM-05:00 PM** and **Sunday, 25 September 2011, 10:00 AM-04:00 PM** at **Nativity School**.

Join us for the pick-of-the-harvest in our pumpkin patch at the festive **Posh Squash Preview Night Party** on **Friday, 23 September 2011**. Cocktails and an array of delicious hors d'oeuvres will be served. RSVP required. For more information, including an invitation to the preview, contact **Christina Umhofer: ctu798@yahoo.com** or **650/888-2975**. Check out the **POSH SQUASH** page on **Facebook**.

Each month **His Holiness Benedict XVI** asks for general and missionary prayer intentions. For **September 2011**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

General: That all teachers may know how to communicate love of the truth and instill authentic moral and spiritual values.



Missionary: That the Christian communities of Asia may proclaim the Gospel with fervor, witnessing to its beauty with the joy of faith.



“The Lord be with you...”
 “...And with your spirit.”



www.usccb.org/romanmissal/

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY LUNCHEON

What exceptional event comes to mind about a retired priest..?

How has one of our retired priests been a special person for you or your family? Did he help you through a tough time or maybe celebrate a milestone in your family's sacramental life?

There are almost **ninety** priests in our Archdiocese who are retired. Almost all of these retired priests stay active to the degree they can. Our retired priests are even now regularly asked to celebrate Mass, perform baptisms, witness marriages, hold funeral services, mentor younger priests, and hear confessions. Many of them celebrate important dates during their retirement years, reaching a 60th anniversary of ordination and beyond, and many take care of their personal needs themselves, and depend on the **Priests' Retirement Fund** for assistance.

On **Friday, 21 October 2011**, we are holding the **First Annual St. John Vianney Luncheon** at **St. Mary's Cathedral**. This gathering will honor the retired priests of the Archdiocese and help raise funds for the Priests' Retirement Fund. It will be a wonderful opportunity to show your appreciation to the retired priests for the many ways you have been blessed by them who have done so much for your Catholic life of faith. Please come and join us honor them. For reservation and tickets, you may contact the Office of Development at **415/614-5580** or email at **sfdevelopment@sfarchdiocese.org**.

CLASS ON THE MASS

Starting on **20 September 2011**, Nativity will have an eight-week class on the Holy Mass. This class will cover the liturgical, historical, devotional, theological, and scriptural aspects of the Mass. The goal is to not only give information; the primary goal is to increase our active participation and appreciation of the Mass. It will include practical ways to enhance our attendance. In each Mass we participate in the history of the world. The liturgy surrounding it and everything brings us closest to heaven on earth. The King of heaven is here for us! And wherever the King is, so is the kingdom! Everyone is encouraged to attend this exposition of the central act of our faith. Our hope is that those who attend will also bring this good news to those who have left the church, non-practicing Catholics, and even those outside the church. The class will be led by **Deacon Dominick Peloso**, and held in the **O'Hare Center** in back of church. There is no cost and signups will be taken at the first class. The 90-minute classes will be held on **Tuesdays** at **07:00 PM** and repeated each **Wednesday** at **09:30 AM**. Call **650/269-6279** for any questions.



NATIVITY HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTS

Everyone is invited to attend our weekly holy hour for priests each **Sunday** evening at **07:30 PM**. It includes a rosary, chaplet of Divine Mercy, a meditation, brief talk on the spiritual life, and Benediction. Especially at this time, we need to lift up our priests both here in the parish and throughout the world with our prayer. Please join us.

ALL ABOUT ANGELS

This week we will celebrate the “angelic” feast day of the archangels: Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.

SO WHAT IS AN ANGEL?

“Angel” is not what they are -- it is what they do. “Spirit” is what these beings “are”. “Angel” is the title of their office -- it means they are messengers of God. Saint Thomas Aquinas called them “thoughts that can think”. Here is what the Catechism of the Catholic Church says:

I. THE ANGELS

The existence of angels - a truth of faith

328 The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls “angels” is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition.

Who are they?

329 St. Augustine says: “‘Angel’ is the name of their office, not of their nature. If you seek the name of their nature, it is ‘spirit’; if you seek the name of their office, it is ‘angel’: from what they are, ‘spirit’, from what they do, ‘angel.’” With their whole beings the angels are servants and messengers of God. Because they “always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven” they are the “mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word”.

330 As purely spiritual creatures angels have intelligence and will: they are personal and immortal creatures, surpassing in perfection all visible creatures, as the splendor of their glory bears witness.

... AND WHAT ARE THE “CHOIRS OF ANGELS”?

A number of works throughout history, from Dionysius the Areopagite (often referred to in English translations as St. Denis) to St. Thomas Aquinas (“Summa Theologica”) have attempted to classify the angels into a hierarchical set (Dionysius even invented the word “hierarchia”, meaning “sacred order”). The commonly-accepted organization for the angelic hosts is three ranks, with three orders in each rank (the higher the rank, the closer to God).

The highest rank contains:

SERAPHIM
CHERUBIM
THRONES

The “middle” rank contains:

DOMINATIONS (DOMINIONS)
VIRTUES (AUTHORITIES)
POWERS

The lowest rank contains:

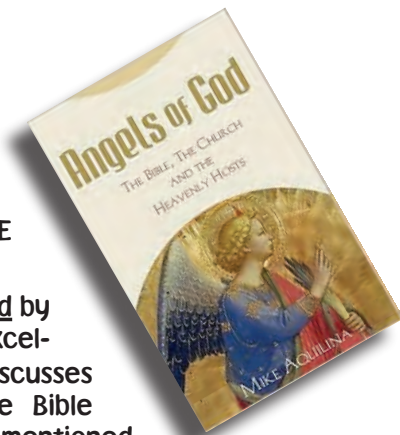
PRINCIPALITIES
ARCHANGELS
ANGELS



HOW DO I KNOW I HAVE A GUARDIAN ANGEL?

The Old Testament tells us so, in Psalm 91 (and again in Matthew, when Satan quotes Psalm 91 to Jesus):

“For He will give His angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.”



WANT TO READ MORE ABOUT ANGELS?

The book Angels of God by Mike Aquilina is an excellent resource that discusses all the places in the Bible where angels are mentioned (there are quite a few!). You can order it from www.ewtnreligiouscatalog.com.

DO YOU KNOW/REMEMBER WHAT THIS SYMBOL MEANS?



(next week: we will explain the “Icthus”)