



210 Oak Grove Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
tel: (650) 323-7914
fax: (650) 323-3231
www.nativitymenlo.org

Church of the Nativity

MASSES

Sundays 09:00 and 11:00 AM
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 07:00 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

PERMANENT DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Dominick Peloso
Rev. Mr. Bob Andrews
Rev. Mr. Thomas Kelly

VISITING PRIESTS

Msgr. James Kelly
Rev. Reginald Martin, O.P.

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Monica Hickam • mon.hickam@gmail.com

24-HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Mrs. Mary Ellen Peloso • (650) 269-7794



HEARING LOOP ENABLED



HEARING LOOP ENABLED

FIRST READING

Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before Me.

2 SAMUEL 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations.

PSALMS 89

SECOND READING

To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever.

ROMANS 16: 25-27

GOSPEL

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

LUKE 1: 26-38



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

20 DECEMBER 2020

The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.'


LUKE 1: 30

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 20-26 DEC

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	Viktor Schaufler
	05:30 PM	Marty Freeland
TUE	07:30 AM	† John and Virginia Conway
	05:30 PM	† Ricardo Samaniego, Jr.
WED	07:30 AM	† Anthony Lee
	05:30 PM	Sid Custodio; Lupe Latu † Ricardo Samaniego, Jr.; † Donald Dutil; † Kieran and Loretta McGuinness
THU	07:30 AM	The Firenzi family
	06:00 PM	Priest's intentions
	08:00 PM	Priest's intentions
FRI	08:00 AM	Priest's intentions
	09:30 AM	Priest's intentions
	11:30 AM	Priest's intentions
SAT	08:00 AM	Fr. William Hallahan; † Hilda and Jeff Ajlouny; † Bernadette Murphy Brennan; † Tom Lavigne

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing

Parish Offerings	
	WEEK OF 05-06 DEC
TOTAL:	\$16,304
Altar Society (Flower Collection):	\$1,529
Annual Diocesan Appeal Progress:	\$86,129
2020 ADA Goal:	\$145,044

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

If you believe you are a victim of sexual abuse, please call our hotline at 415/614-5506.

Activities marked (*) may be suspended based on COVID-19 restrictions, or held outdoors only.

SUN	07:00 PM	(*) Holy Hour for Priests
MON-FRI	07:10 AM	(*) Morning Prayer
MON-FRI	05:10 PM	(*) Evening Prayer
TUE	06:00 PM	(*) Cenacles of Life Rosary
WED	06:00 PM	(*) Novena to Saint Joseph
THU	06:00 PM	(*) Perpetual Help Novena
SAT	06:15 AM	(*) Men's Prayer Group
SAT	07:40 AM	(*) Morning Prayer
SAT	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	(*) Confessions (Opus Dei priest)
SAT	03:30 PM - 04:30 PM	(*) Confessions (parish priest)
20 DEC	(Sunday)	
21 DEC	(Monday) 04:00 PM Legion of Mary	
22 DEC	(Tuesday) 07:00 PM RCIA (Zoom) 07:00 PM (*) H4	
23 DEC	(Wednesday) 06:00 PM Novena to Saint Joseph	
24 DEC	(Thursday) <i>Christmas Eve</i> 06:00 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass 08:00 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass	
25 DEC	(Friday) <i>Christmas Day</i> 08:00 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass 09:30 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass 11:30 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass	
26 DEC	(Saturday)	

NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH

Every **Wednesday** evening after the **05:30 PM** Mass there will be a novena to St. Joseph. This novena takes about 20 minutes. In addition to the novena, once a month the **05:30 PM** Mass will be in honor of St. Joseph. All are welcome to join in this celebration in honor of St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

21 DEC (Monday):

SAINT PETER CANISIUS, Doctor of the Church (1521-1597)

He was an excellent student, and received a master's degree by age 19; his closest friends at university were monks and clerics. Joined the Jesuits in 1543 after attending a retreat conducted by **Blessed Peter Faber**. He travelled and worked with **Saint Ignatius of Loyola** who was his spiritual director in Rome, Italy. In his later years, his advice was sought by **Saint Francis de Sales**, and by his friend **Saint Charles Borromeo**. Proclaimed a *Doctor of the Church* in 1925 by **Pope Pius XI**.



23 DEC (Wednesday):

SAINT JOHN OF KANTY, Priest (1390-1473)

John was a serious, humble man, generous to a fault with the poor, sleeping little, eating no meat and little of anything else. He was a Professor of Theology at the University of Cracow. He was declared patron of Poland and Lithuania in 1737 by **Pope Clement XII**, thirty years before his final canonization.



26 DEC (Saturday)

SAINT STEPHEN, First Martyr

Stephen was in charge of the original set of deacons appointed by the apostles to carry out works of charity. He was stoned to death on false charges of blasphemy. Among the approving bystanders at his martyrdom was Saul (the future **St. Paul**). In imitation of Jesus, Stephen's final words were that God not hold against his murderers their sin.



MINISTRY & GROUP NEWS

SVdP Volunteering

Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference is in need of volunteers. If you are able to help them help the poor in our area, please call **Mike Wilmer** at 650/346-1089.



OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

The following young people received their **First Holy Communion** on 05 DEC 2020:



CENACLES OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP

Our Nativity rosary prayer group continues to pray to end the culture of death. All are invited to come! We pray two rosaries together and offer up a fast each week. We meet at 06:00 PM each **Tuesday** evening.

The Church grants a partial indulgence each time these short prayers are said (memorize them!)

My Jesus, mercy! (300 days)

All for Thee, O most Sacred Heart of Jesus (300 days)

Blessed be God! (50 days, if said upon hearing a blasphemy -- remember our **No OMG** campaign?)

Grant, O Lord, that I may know Thy Will and do it (300 days)

My God, I love Thee (300 days)

O Jesus, save me (300 days)

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put my trust in Thee (300 days)

Mother of Mercy, pray for us (300 days)

Merciful Lord Jesus, give them (him, her) everlasting rest (300 days, applicable to the deceased)

May it please you, O Lord, to reward with eternal life all those who do good to us for your Name's sake. Amen.

Pregnant? Need Help? Please contact the **Juan Diego Society** (408/258-2008), the **Gabriel Project** (800/910-0191), or **San Juan Diego Centro por la Vida** at **St. Francis** (650/322-2152).

Zarcharie Aaron-Pracht

Isibella Abeyta

Henry Bauermeister

Jackson Cleland

Anna Sofia Gonzalez

Eloisa Gonzalez Quevedo

Jake Ho

Dolan Janik

Matteo Johansson Ortiz

Joseph Lampe

Finley Lanthier

Joseph Lantier

Nicholas Melgar

Riggins Mitchell

Megan Morales

Annabelle Navarro

Ruperto Sandoval

Jack Schneider

Paul Semler

Amelia Tong

Jordan Trevino

Tyler Vierra

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Nativity Church is open 24x7. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration and there is always someone present in prayer. Won't you join us by signing up for a weekly Holy Hour? When you sign up, you and your intentions share in the grace of everyone who comes to visit. Experience the dramatic presence of God in our lives. Please consider the following hours as there is no one currently assigned to them (or pick an hour that works for you):

Sunday: 10:00 PM

Monday: 09:00 PM

Call **Mary Ellen Peloso** (650/269-7794) 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 • Annabelle, daughter of
Adriana Pedrazas

MARRIAGES

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS



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

EXTRANEIOUS NOISE DURING LIVESTREAMING MASSES



Our Masses on **Saturday** evening at **05:00 PM** and **Sunday** at **09:00** and **11:00 AM** are being livestreamed for those who are not able to attend Mass in person at this time. Any extra noises in the church are being easily picked up by the audio equipment for the livestreaming. This extra noise makes it difficult for the people who are watching online to hear the Mass and homily. We kindly request that noisy children be taken out of the church until they are able to settle down and return. Thank you.

IN THE COMMUNITY

VALLOMBROSA CENTER OUTDOOR ROSARY

Nativity's next door neighbor, Vallombrosa Center, invites us all to a weekly Rosary at **07:30 PM** every **Friday**, in the *Mother Teresa Garden* (aka *Garden of Corporal Works*). On the second Friday, we pray especially for the youth, their needs and intentions, and their vocations. Please join us and invite a friend, as we ask Our Heavenly Mother's intercession in all our lives. (We socially distance and wear masks.)

PLEASE HELP HELP STOP INFANTICIDE!

Babies who survive attempted abortions are being left to die or sometimes killed in our country. The **Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act** presently proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives would prevent this from happening and provide crucial medical treatment for these babies. House Speaker **Nancy Pelosi** (SF) has been refusing to allow a vote on this legislation. Please phone or write your representative in Congress and Speaker Pelosi, urging them to fully support this bill **HR962**. Also urge them to support legislation to stop fetal body part harvesting. Phone: **202/225-4965** or **415/556-4862**; write: 1236 Longworth H.O.B, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Or visit her website: <https://www.speaker.gov/contact>.

For Redwood City, Menlo Park and Atherton: Congresswoman **Anna Eshoo** **650/323-2984**, email <https://eshoo.house.gov>.

HELP SAVE A LIFE THIS WINTER

These chilly evenings make us so grateful for the warmth of our homes. Sleeping in a car or on the cold, damp street would be really hard. Yet this is how many of our homeless neighbors live – they do not have a warm place to greet them at the end of a long day. You can help the homeless stay warm and protect them from hypothermia and other cold weather related conditions. Your gift to **St. Vincent de Paul's Stay Warm Appeal** provides basic survival necessities to those who are struggling to keep warm this winter. Every donation makes a difference in the life of someone who is need of love and support. Thank you! To donate, visit svdpsm.org or mail to: *Society of St. Vincent de Paul of San Mateo County*. 50 North B Street, San Mateo, CA 94401 (note 'Stay Warm' on your check) Tax ID #: 94-1375833

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A HOT MEAL OR CLOTHING?

We'd like to familiarize you with the services of **St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room**, 3500 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park. We provide a hot, nutritious meal **Monday** through **Saturday** from **11:00 AM** to **01:00 PM** and bread, fruit and vegetables to bring home to help with the evening meal. We also have a free Clothing Distribution Center which is open on **Wednesdays** from **10:00-11:00 AM** for women and children and on **Thursdays** from **10:00-11:00 AM**. In case of emergency, help is always available. All are welcome; no questions asked. Please pass the word to anyone you know who may need their services.



REGISTER WITH THE PARISH

We welcome all visitors and invite those who are considering coming home to the Catholic Church to register. Church attendance alone does not make you or your family registered members.

To register online, please go to www.nativitymenlo.org and fill out the Parish Registration Form. To obtain one in the mail, please call the rectory office **650/323-7914** during regular business hours.



MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR MEN DISCERNING A PRIESTLY VOCATION

Monthly meetings for men interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood are resuming for San Mateo County on the **first Monday** of each month, and for San Francisco County on the **third Monday**. The question of meetings online via Zoom or meetings in person is still to be settled. Any man interested in participating should contact one of the priests below:

First Monday Meetings: **St. Pius X Church**, Redwood City, Fr. **Tom Martin** (martin.thomas@sfarch.org)

Third Monday Meetings: **Church of the Visitación**, San Francisco Fr. **Cameron Faller** (faller.cameron@sfarch.org).

FROM THE HOLY SEE

Each month His Holiness asks for prayer intentions. For **December 2020**, the Holy Father's intention is:

Intention: *For a life of prayer*

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please continue to check our website (www.nativitymenlo.org) for the latest updates to the parish schedule.

Infant Jesus of Prague (nine-hour): www.ewtn.com/library/PRAYER/PRAGNOV.TXT

St. Therese "24 Glory Be's" Novena: www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/24_glory.htm

Novena for Priests: www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/priests.htm

Effecacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: www.ewtn.com/devotionals/heart/sh_novena.htm

OTHER NOVENA PRAYERS

THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

(Catholic News Agency | Vatican | 08 DEC 2020)

Pope Francis announced a **Year of St. Joseph** Tuesday in honor of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the universal Church.

The year begins **Dec. 8, 2020**, and concludes on **Dec. 8, 2021**, according to a decree authorized by the pope.

The decree said that Pope Francis had established a Year of St. Joseph so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will."

It added that the pope had granted special indulgences to mark the year. The Apostolic Penitentiary said that it would grant a plenary indulgence to Catholics who **recite any approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph**, especially on **March 19**, the saint's solemnity, and **May 1**, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

Other notable days for the plenary indulgence are the Feast of the Holy Family on **Dec. 29** (and St. Joseph's Sunday in the Byzantine tradition), as well as the **19th of each month** and **every Wednesday**, a day dedicated to the saint in the Latin tradition.



CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

20 DEC (SUN)	FIFTH DAY: Christmas Novena
21 DEC (MON)	SIXTH DAY: Christmas Novena
22 DEC (TUE)	SEVENTH DAY: Christmas Novena
23 DEC (WED)	EIGHTH DAY: Christmas Novena
24 DEC (THU)	Christmas Eve NINTH DAY: Christmas Novena
25 DEC (FRI)	Christmas Day
26 DEC (SAT)	
27 DEC (SUN)	
28 DEC (MON)	FIRST DAY: Epiphany Novena
29 DEC (TUE)	SECOND DAY: Epiphany Novena
30 DEC (WED)	THIRD DAY: Epiphany Novena
31 DEC (THU)	FOURTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
01 JAN (FRI)	FIFTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
02 JAN (SAT)	SIXTH DAY: Epiphany Novena

Christmas Novena:
www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/christmas-novena-276

Epiphany Novena:
www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/novenas/p00073.htm

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

24 DEC	(Thursday) 06:00 PM 08:00 PM	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass of Christmas Vigil Mass of Christmas
25 DEC	(Friday) 08:00 AM 09:30 AM 11:30 AM	Christmas Day Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass
26 DEC	(Saturday) 08:00 AM	Feast of St. Stephen Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
31 DEC	(Thursday) 07:30 AM 05:30 PM	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary
01 JAN	(Friday) 09:00 AM 12:00 PM 05:30 PM	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
02 JAN	(Saturday)	Regular daily Mass schedule



THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Imagine you opened the mail today and your family had received a note. The note said: *“The government requires your entire family to be in Monterey, CA in two weeks.”* Now imagine you have no car, there is no form of public transportation, and all the roads between Menlo Park and Monterey are dirt and gravel. You can bring one wagon to ride in, but it has no cushions inside and you will feel every single bump and hole in the road as you go.

Now you need to **WALK** from Menlo Park to Monterey, a distance of about **85 miles**. It will take you several days to do this, and you will arrive very tired and very sore. When you arrive, there won't be a single empty hotel room anywhere in Monterey, from the hotel chains down to bed-and-breakfast inns in Carmel. One small hotel owner says you can sleep in his carport. It is open to the elements in front (no door you can close) and it smells like a garage that stores old tires and gym socks. And when the sun goes down, it is really cold in the carport.

This is similar to what Joseph and Mary had to do, right before the King of all kings was born. Nazareth and Bethlehem are **82 miles** apart, and the Roman road through the Jordan Valley is dirt, gravel, and potholes. Today it is very dangerous to travel on the road through the Jordan Valley, because terrorists sit up in the hills and shoot at you. It was also dangerous to travel that road in the time of Joseph and Mary. Many parts of the road are long and deserted, and thieves and bandits would hide, then beat and rob travelers (remember the story of the *Good Samaritan*?). If you resisted the bandits, they might just kill you. Imagine taking that trip (on foot!). By the time you got to Bethlehem (or Monterey), all you would want to do was rest. But if you couldn't find a room, you would have to walk some more, all over town, trying to find some place to stay ... and then have to be satisfied with whatever was offered, even a barn or a cave (or a carport).



Let us remember to thank God for the incredible sacrifice the Holy Family made, so that God's Son could save each and every one of us from Hell forever.



PRAYER OF ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT
 Our Lord revealed to St. Gertrude that the following prayer would release 1000 souls from Purgatory each time it was said.
 “Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.”

SIMBANG GABI FOR DEANERY 11

What is *Simbang Gabi* (meaning "Masses at Night")? It is a long-treasured Filipino spiritual tradition. The most popular symbol for Simbang Gabi is the *parol*, or *star lantern*, which represents the star of Bethlehem. A *parol* is usually brought up during the processional to remind us of the guiding light that led many to the manger. Through Simbang Gabi, the deanery hopes to offer a deeper spiritual experience leading to a more meaningful Christmas season for all.

Due to COVID-19, all the Simbang Gabi Masses will be held at **St. Pius Church**, 1100 Woodside Road, Redwood City. The Masses will be livestreamed at www.pius.org/stream.

★ **No one may attend these Masses in person.** ★

Masses on **Saturday** and **Sunday** evenings are at **05:00 PM**; weekday Masses are at **07:00 PM**.

20 DEC (SUN)	05:00 PM St. Pius, Redwood City
21 DEC (MON)	07:00 PM St. Pius, Redwood City
22 DEC (TUE)	07:00 PM St. Pius, Redwood City
23 DEC (WED)	07:00 PM St. Pius, Redwood City

