



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

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. Alner Nambatac

PERMANENT DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Dominick Peloso

Rev. Mr. Thomas Kelly

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

Rev. Jerome Magat, P.S.S. (cand.)

Rev. Paul Maillet, P.S.S.

Rev. Gladstone Stevens, P.S.S.

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Monica Hickam • (650) 853-1009

24-hour Eucharistic Adoration



HEARING LOOP ENABLED

FIRST READING

Early and often did the Lord ... send His messengers to them.

2 CHRONICLES 36: 14-16, 19-23

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

How could we sing a song of the Lord in a foreign land?

PSALMS 137

SECOND READING

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God.

EPHESIANS 2: 4-10

GOSPEL

God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

JOHN 3: 14-21



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

15 MARCH 2015

Whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

JOHN 3: 21

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 15-21 MAR

SAT 05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN Masses	Priest's intentions
MON 07:30 AM	Benefactors of the parish
05:30 PM	† Joseph Wynne
TUE 07:30 AM	† Fr. Clement Davenport
05:30 PM	† Rosaleen Kelly
WED 07:30 AM	The Neylan and Cardine families
05:30 PM	George Gould; † Andy Simonds; † Luz Maria Rodriguez de Ramos; † Jim L. Woodson
THU 07:30 AM	† Irene Turner
05:30 PM	† Frances Galea
FRI 07:30 AM	† Rina Krevzel
05:30 PM	† Willi Helbig
SAT 08:00 AM	Special intention; Fernando Campos; † Ovid D'Alessandro; † Patricia Schultz



We will have Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent, following the 05:30 PM Mass

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
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 <i>(Opus Dei priest)</i>
SAT	03:30 PM - 04:30 PM	Confessions <i>(parish priest)</i>

15 MAR (Sunday)

16 MAR (Monday)	09:00 AM	Bible Group
	07:30 PM	RCIA
	07:30 PM	Legion of Mary

17 MAR (Tuesday)

09:30 AM	Faith Formation Class
01:00 PM	Infant Jesus of Prague Society
07:00 PM	Faith Formation Class
08:00 PM	Holy Hour/Happy Hour

18 MAR (Wednesday)

07:00 PM	Confirmation Class
07:30 PM	Opus Dei Men's Group

19 MAR (Thursday)

11:00 AM	The Thursday Group
----------	--------------------

20 MAR (Friday)

09:30 AM	<i>Lenten Friday</i>
06:00 PM	Nativity Moms' Group
	Stations of the Cross



21 MAR (Saturday)

09:00 AM	NFP Class
06:00 PM	Crab Cioppino Dinner

BULLETIN NEWS

EARLY SUBMISSION DEADLINES



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

- Items for the **29 March 2015 (Palm Sunday)** bulletin must be submitted by **Wednesday, 18 March 2015**.
- Items for the **05 April 2015 (Easter Sunday)** bulletin must be submitted by **Wednesday, 25 March 2015**.

PARISH OFFERINGS

		14-15 FEB
	TOTAL:	\$10,218

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

17 MAR (Tuesday):

SAINT PATRICK OF IRELAND, Bishop (385-461)



Patrick was probably the son of a Roman-British official. At 16, he was captured by raiders and taken to pagan Ireland to tend sheep. He escaped from slavery, studied for the priesthood in Britain, and was ordained. He was consecrated a bishop around **432** and was returned to Ireland. He raised the standards of scholarship and tirelessly preached the Gospel despite the opposition of chieftains and Druids whom he is said to have overcome by miraculous means. He converted most of the island to the faith, and of course is now revered as the patron saint of Ireland.

19 MAR (Thursday):

SAINT JOSEPH, Husband of the Virgin Mary

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a “just” man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God “justifying” someone, it means that God, the all-holy or “righteous” One, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God’s own holiness. By saying Joseph was “just,” the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God.



“In him the Old Testament finds its fitting close. He brought the noble line of patriarchs and prophets to its promised fulfillment. What the divine good had offered as a promise to them, Joseph held in his arms.”

St. Bernadine of Siena

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

MEN’S CLUB CIOPPINO DINNER

Please join the **Men’s Club** and your fellow parishioners on **Saturday, 21 March 2015** for a sumptuous **Crab Cioppino Dinner**. This event always sells out, so get your reservation in today. **\$50** per person for fresh crab cioppino, pasta, salad, sourdough bread, dessert and 2 glasses of wine or non-alcoholic beverage and music! Other drinks available at the bar for a nominal fee. **06:00 PM** in the **Sobrato Pavilion**, Nativity School. Contact **Erik Kingham** at **415/05-5866** or via email at nativitymc@gmail.com to make reservations. You can also drop checks off (payable to Nativity) to either the Rectory or School (simply include the names and total number of people in your party and notate that it’s for the Cioppino dinner). We will see you on March 21st!

NATIVITY MOMS GROUP

All moms are invited to join the **Nativity Moms’ Group**. Our next meeting will be **Friday, 20 March 2015** from **09:30-11:00 AM** in the **O’Hare Center**. Come meet other moms, share the joys and challenges of motherhood, and pray a rosary for our families! Refreshments will be provided. If you have little ones at home, please bring them along. Contact **Christine Semler** at **650/594-4637** for more information.

“40 DAYS FOR LIFE” CAMPAIGN: LENT 2015

Each parish of our county is asked to take one day of the **40 Days for Life** campaign and commit to pray peacefully outside an abortion facility during a 12-hour vigil there. We need two or more people committed to be there each hour. For Nativity parish, the day is: **Saturday, 21 March 2015**.

The location: 35 Baywood Ave, San Mateo (just 1/2 block from El Camino Real). The time: **07:00 AM-07:00 PM** (Choose your hour(s) during this time period). To sign up your commitment, please phone **Eileen: 650/799-4722**. Thank you.

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

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE PRAYER SOCIETY

NOVENA, LITANY, PRAYER INTENTIONS/THANKSGIVING, AND ADORATION

The **Infant Jesus of Prague Prayer Society** invites parishioners and guests to join in prayer before our Infant Jesus shrine on **17 March 2015** at **01:00 PM**. Each month, on the 17th day, we begin the first day of the Infant Jesus of Prague Novena, a litany, prayer intentions/thanksgivings, and conclude with adoration.



Our Lord answers all prayers. It is *how* God answers that is most compelling. Let the Word made flesh, the Infant Jesus, open your our heart, mind, and soul to receive and trust in His Divine Plan for your life. Our 24-hour Infant Jesus Prayer Line is always open to receive any prayer request and thanksgivings.

Please call **650/281-3339**, contact **Anne Delaney, O.F.S.**, or write to pray2infantjesus@aol.com. *We give glory to God through our gratitude.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Nativity Church is open 24/7. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration and there is always someone present in prayer. Won’t you join us by signing up for your weekly Holy Hour? When you sign up, you and your intentions share in the grace of everyone who comes to visit. Come and 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):



Friday 01:00 PM

Thank you in advance for your generosity. The God who is not outdone in generosity will certainly bless you and your intentions. Call **Mary Ellen Peloso (650/269-7794)** to sign up.

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).

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**
- **Ettore**, son of **Pietro Caragiulo** and **Stefania Di Tommaso**
 - **Vivienne Grace**, daughter of **Lance** and **Darlene Gannon**
 - **Kaiser Vinh**, son of **David** and **Vy Kamrar**
-

MARRIAGES

-
- PARISHIONERS**
- **Catherine** and **Richard Krawczeski**
-

- DEATHS**
- **Douglas McDonnell**
 - **Tatum Jackson**
-

LOST AND FOUND

- FOUND:**
- silver charm bracelet with 8 charms, including an owl
-

Call **650/323-7914**.

Glasses not reclaimed are donated to the Lions Club and all other items are donated to St. Francis Center, St. Anthony's or St. Vincent de Paul Society.

OUR FOUNTAIN IS BACK!

When we lost our large oak tree in the pre-Christmas storm, it also took out our fountain and damaged the basin. Thanks to the generosity and diligent work of some of our parishioners, it has now been restored. I want to thank **Bill Zappettini**, **Dick** and **Anne Melbye**, **Joe Morey** and **Bill Hoy** who kindly contributed to this effort. I think you will agree that it is not only "back the way it was", but even better than before, giving pleasure and beauty to the lovely grounds of Nativity.

Msg. Otellini

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEK

Today, we are reminded that Jesus identified himself with our poorest brothers and sisters. The Catholic Relief Services collection serves Jesus in the victims of human trafficking, in those who suffer from unjust laws, and those who need pastoral care and humanitarian assistance across the globe. Through supporting today's collection you help *Jesus in Disguise*.

Checks for all special collections should be made out to the **Church of the Nativity**. In the memo line write the appropriate reference for your donation, for example: *Catholic Relief Services*.

IN THE COMMUNITY

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

The **World Meeting of Families** is an international event, begun by St. John Paul II in 1994. In 2015, it will be held for the first time ever in the United States, in Philadelphia, from **22-27 September 2015**. There will be a Congress from **noon Tuesday to noon Friday (22-25 Sept)** with speakers and breakout sessions. 10,000-15,000 people are expected. The highlight of the meeting will be a Papal visit **Friday to Sunday (25-27 Sept)**, culminating in a Papal Mass on Sunday, which is expected to draw over a million people.



A tour is being offered through the Archdiocese of San Francisco. For a brochure or more information, contact **Ed Hopfner** at hopfnere@sfarchdiocese.org or **415/614-5680**, or **Greg Sylvain** at gregory@canterburytours.com or **800/653-0017**.

MARRIAGE ON FIRE

Nationally-known speakers **Greg and Julie Alexander** turned their failing marriage around 10 years ago. They will be offering insights on how every couple can have a more loving, joy-filled marriage. They will offer a one-day marriage retreat at **Our Lady of Angels** church in Burlingame on **21 March 2015 (03:00-09:00 PM; \$65.00 per couple, dinner included)**, and will be speaking at parishes around the Bay Area until **27 March 2015**. Come and hear their dynamic presentation at a parish near you. To register for this retreat go to www.marriageonfire.info. Our Lady of Angels is located at 1721 Hillside Drive, Burlingame; the retreat will be held in the gym.

AID FOR SYRIA

The **International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)** is a Catholic organization that for more than 62 years has served and protected refugees and other up-rooted people. These times are of unbearable hardship for the Church, fellow Christians, and other families trapped inside war-torn Syria. Today in the Middle East there are millions of internally-displaced persons and refugees who need ICMC's help to survive. They need help right now, especially those families trapped inside conflict-ridden Syria, as well as those who fled the carnage. To learn more about ICMC visit www.icmc.net. You may make contributions to Syrian relief through ICMC by going to give.icmc.net/Syria, or by calling **617/367-4770** and asking for **Lucy**.

RETRouvaille

Concerned about your marriage? **Retrouvaille** (reh-trō-vī) is a Catholic ministry designed to help heal and renew marriages. The program offers a chance to rediscover yourself and your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Retrouvaille is not just for hurting couples and welcomes all couples wanting to bring new life to your marriage. Couples of all faiths and those with no faith tradition are welcome and encouraged to attend. The ultimate goal of Retrouvaille is to help save marriages. For more information go to www.retrouvaille.org or call **415/893-1005**. The next weekends will be **27 February-01 March 2015** in the East Bay and **10-12 April 2015** in San Francisco.

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for general and missionary prayer intentions. For **March 2015**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

Universal: *Scientific Research*

That those involved in scientific research may serve the well-being of the whole human person.

Missionary: *Women in the Church*

That the unique contribution of women to the life of the Church may be recognized always.

"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE
WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER
BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT
PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL
LIFE."

LENTEN, HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES

Fridays	06:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
25 MAR	(Wednesday) 07:30 PM	Lenten Penance Service
02 APR	(Thursday) 07:00 PM	<i>Holy Thursday</i> Mass (<i>one Mass only</i>)
03 APR	(Friday) 12:00 PM 12:30 PM - 02:00 PM 02:00 PM 07:00 PM	<i>Good Friday</i> Stations of the Cross Reflections (Fr. Joseph Fox, O.P.) Celebration of the Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross
04 APR	(Saturday) 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 02:00 PM - 04:00 PM 08:00 PM	<i>Holy Saturday</i> Reconciliation Reconciliation Easter Vigil (<i>no other Masses</i>)
05 APR	(Sunday) 08:00 AM 09:30 AM 11:30 AM	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (<i>no 05:00 PM Mass</i>)
06 APR	(Monday) 09:00 AM	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (<i>one Mass only</i>)

CALENDAR OF NOVENAS

15 MAR (SUN)	EIGHTH Day: St. Patrick SIXTH Day: St. Joseph
16 MAR (MON)	NINTH Day: St. Patrick SEVENTH Day: St. Joseph FIRST Day: The Annunciation
17 MAR (TUE)	Feast of Saint Patrick EIGHTH Day: St. Joseph SECOND Day: The Annunciation
18 MAR (WED)	NINTH Day: St. Joseph THIRD Day: The Annunciation
19 MAR (THU)	Feast of Saint Joseph FOURTH Day: The Annunciation
20 MAR (FRI)	FIFTH Day: The Annunciation LENTEN FRIDAY
21 MAR (SAT)	SIXTH Day: The Annunciation
22 MAR (SUN)	SEVENTH Day: The Annunciation
23 MAR (MON)	EIGHTH Day: The Annunciation
24 MAR (TUE)	NINTH Day: The Annunciation
25 MAR (WED)	Feast of the Annunciation
26 MAR (THU)	
27 MAR (FRI)	
28 MAR (SAT)	

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Saint Patrick:

www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/novenas/p00057.htm

Saint Joseph:

www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/joseph.htm

The Annunciation:

www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/Novena/annovena.htm

OTHER NOVENA PRAYERS

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

Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:

www.ewtn.com/devotionals/heart/sh_novena.htm

CHILDRENS BOOKS NEEDED

Samaritan House Medical Clinic in San Mateo is collecting children's books to use in the literacy program they have set up. **Nativity** is a drop-off point for collecting new or used children's books for this program. If you have children's books that you no longer need or your children have outgrown, please think about donating them to this program. There are blue bags in the kitchen of the **O'Hare Center** where they can be dropped off on Sundays,



or you may bring them to the rectory during the week. Thank you to all who have already donated books. They are appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. The well-known legend of the shamrock connects it definitely to St. Patrick and his teaching. Preaching in the open air on the doctrine of the Trinity, he is said to have illustrated the existence of the Three in One by plucking a shamrock from the grass growing at his feet and showing it to his congregation. The trefoil, being a sacred plant among the Druids, and three being a mystical number in the Celtic religion, it is probable that St. Patrick must have been aware of the significance of his illustration.
2. Although the stories of Saint Patrick driving all the snakes out of Ireland are widespread, it should be noted that there have never been any snakes in Ireland. As an island surrounded by salt water, Ireland didn't exist at the time the prehistoric predecessors of snakes would have wandered over from the mainland of Europe. (P.S., New Zealand doesn't have any snakes, either: same reason).
3. While the "wearing of the green" is popular on Saint Patrick's Day, in many communities (like the Polish) it is customary to wear white and red on Saint Joseph's Day (19 March).



4. Saint Joseph's feast day is the day on which the first cliff swallows return to their roosts in San Juan Capistrano (back from their winter vacations in Argentina).

Legend has it that the swallows took refuge in the Mission San Juan Capistrano from an irate innkeeper who destroyed their muddy nests. The swallows return to the old ruined church each spring knowing they will be protected within the mission's walls. In fact, the city has taken their safety seriously, passing an ordinance against destroying their nests.

So-called "scout swallows" precede the main flock each year by a few days but the majority of the small birds usually arrive on the 19th and begin rebuilding the mud nests that cling to the ruins of the old stone church and throughout the Capistrano Valley.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE?

There are many oft-quoted and frequently-cited passages from the bible. Some favorites are:

PHIL 4: 13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

MATT 6: 34

So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will worry about itself.

TRIDUUM PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT

The Triduum liturgies (**Holy Thursday**, **Good Friday**, and **Holy Saturday**) are rich in detail, with extra rites that require volunteers. Particularly, 12 volunteers are needed for the Washing of the Feet which takes place at the **07:00 PM Mass on Holy Thursday, 02 April 2015**. This ceremony recalls Jesus' washing the feet of his disciples, to illustrate what it means to serve one another. During Mass, the rite is very simple, requiring only that the 12 "disciples" be seated in chairs in front of the communion rail, and remove just one shoe and sock. They are asked to come early to make sure everyone is present, and to receive instructions before Mass begins. Catholic or non-Catholic adults, teens, and well-prepared children are welcome. We could also use extra ushers at this Mass for light tasks. Second, we need several ushers to help with the **Easter Vigil, Saturday, 04 April 2015, 08:00 PM**. All that is required is to come early, help distribute candles to all worshipers as they arrive, and help keep the reserved sections free for RCIA participants and lay ministers. Third, extra ushers are needed at the Easter morning Masses to help with seating and standing at these very crowded Masses. If you are interested in any of these acts of service, please call the rectory **650/323-7914**, or email **Charlotte Pace**, cpace@stanford.edu. Helping with liturgy is an occasion of personal grace for each volunteer.

EASTER VIGIL INVITATION

There are only three Masses on **Easter Sunday (08:00, 09:30 and 11:30 AM)**, and they have become extremely crowded. There's a way to avoid this: The **Easter Vigil on Saturday at 08:00 PM** usually has plenty of room for more worshipers. Held deliberately after sundown, the two-hour vigil opens in the courtyard with the lighting of the Easter Candle, the symbol of the Risen Christ. From this single flame worshipers in the darkened church light their own candles; in this candle-lit glow, we stand together as Monsignor reverently chants the *Easter Proclamation*, a liturgical treasure announcing the Resurrection. There are a few scripture readings related to salvation history, and then, finally, after the long Lenten drought, we sing the "*Gloria*" accompanied by bells and the Gospel "*Alleluia*" with the solemn traditional chant. Throughout there is beautiful music sung by the choir accompanied by organ, trumpet and strings. Following an ancient tradition, those in our community who have been preparing for entrance into the Church in the RCIA are baptized and confirmed and receive First Communion. We end the evening with a reception in the O'Hare Center. This deeply moving vigil is our inheritance as Christians, and we owe it to ourselves to experience it several times in our lifetime. **Saturday, 04 April 2015, 08:00 PM**.

But according to multiple sources (including biblegateway.com), the most often-cited verse in the bible is **JOHN 3: 16**

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."