



210 Oak Grove Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
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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. Mark G. Mazza

PERMANENT DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Dominick Peloso

Rev. Mr. Thomas Kelly

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS

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



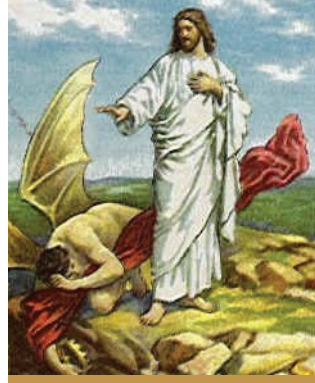
HEARING LOOP ENABLED

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

14 FEBRUARY 2016

Upon their hands they shall bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

PSALMS 91: 12



FIRST READING

He heard our cry and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

DEUTERONOMY 26: 4-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

To His angels He has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways.

PSALMS 91

SECOND READING

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord ... you will be saved.

ROMANS 10: 8-13

GOSPEL

When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from Him for a time.

LUKE 4: 1-13

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 14 - 20 FEB

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	09:00 AM	† Virginia Munk
TUE	07:30 AM	† Dorothy Mitchell
	05:30 PM	All who are in prisons; † Jim Long; † Judy Staples; † Bob Separ
WED	07:30 AM	† Elizabeth Silva
	05:30 PM	† John Rudolph
THU	07:30 AM	† Raimonda Bartolini
	05:30 PM	† Deceased members of the Finney family
FRI	07:30 AM	The Neylan and Cardine families
	05:30 PM	† Jim Nazworthy
SAT	08:00 AM	In thanksgiving; † Virginia Munk; † Fr. Kevin Gaffey; † Danny Olin

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



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 (Opus Dei priest)
SAT	03:30 PM - 04:30 PM	Confessions (parish priest)

14 FEB (Sunday)

15 FEB (Monday)

10:00 AM Bible Group
07:30 PM Legion of Mary
07:30 PM RCIA

16 FEB (Tuesday)

09:30 AM Bible Study: Mass in the Bible
07:00 PM Bible Study: Mass in the Bible
08:00 PM H⁴

17 FEB (Wednesday)

01:00 PM Infant Jesus of Prague Society

18 FEB (Thursday)

11:00 AM The Thursday Group

19 FEB (Friday)

06:00 PM Stations of the Cross
07:30 PM Lenten Talk (Fr. Mazza)



20 FEB (Saturday)

08:00 AM Spiritual Warfare Conference
09:00 AM Natural Family Planning Class

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

San Mateo 40 Days for Life runs from Ash Wednesday, 10 FEB 2016 through Palm Sunday, 20 MAR 2016.

- Vigil location: the sidewalk at 35 Baywood Ave, San Mateo
- Vigil hours: 07:00 AM-07:00 PM every day
- Local contact: Jessica at 650/572-1468
or email: themunns@yahoo.com
- Nativity's day is Sunday, 13 MAR 2016

Learn more, and get involved: www.40daysforlife.com/sanmateo



The parish office will be closed on Monday, 15 FEB 2016 for Washington's Birthday. There will be one Mass, at 09:00 AM, on Monday.

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

15 FEB (Monday): PRESIDENTS DAY

“Presidents” Day? Not really...

In 1796, the country first celebrated the birthday of **George Washington**. In 1866, Congress gathered to remember **Abraham Lincoln** on 12 FEB, but although many states began to celebrate his birthday as a holiday, it was never made into a national holiday. In 1885, **Chester A. Arthur** made Washington’s birthday (22 FEB) an official national holiday. In 1968, Congress passed legislation to move the observance of Washington’s birthday from 22 FEB to “the third Monday in February” -- this went into effect in 1971. While many people think Washington’s and Lincoln’s birthday observances were combined at that time, the Congressional decree still officially refers to this as **Washington’s birthday**.

SAVE THE DATE: MEN’S CLUB DINNER

The **Men’s Club** has re-scheduled the Prime Rib dinner. It will now be on 19 MAR 2016. Please save the date.

17 FEB (Wednesday): THE SEVEN FOUNDERS OF THE ORDER OF SERVITES (1233)

On the **Feast of the Assumption** in 1240, the Founders received a vision of Our Lady. She held in her hand a black habit, and a nearby angel bore a scroll reading *Servants of Mary*. Mary told them, “You will found a new order, and you will be my witnesses throughout the world. This is your name: *Servants of Mary*. This is your rule: that of **Saint Augustine**. And here is your distinctive sign: the black scapular, in memory of my sufferings.” By 1285 there were 10,000 members with houses in Germany, France, Italy, and Spain. The Seven Founders are **Saint Alexis Falconieri, Saint Bartholomew degli Amidei, Saint Benedict dell’Antella, Saint Buonfiglio Monaldi, Saint Gherardino Sostegni, Saint Hugh dei Lippi-Uguccioni, and Saint John Buonagiunta Monetti**.



MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

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. 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. 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**, or write to pray2infantjesus@aol.com.

NATIVITY 2016 NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Fr. Mark Mazza will begin the training of new altar servers soon. This is open to all boys and girls in fifth grade and above in Catholic, private, and public schools. The first meeting will be on **Tuesday, 16 FEB 2016**, at Nativity School from 03:15-04:15 PM in the 5th grade classroom **or Friday, 19 FEB 2016**, at the O’Hare Center from 03:15-04:15 PM.

There will be four mandatory training and practice sessions in the Church from 03:15-04:15 PM on the following dates:

- **Tuesday, 23 FEB or Friday, 26 FEB**
- **Tuesday, 01 MAR or Friday, 04 MAR**
- **Tuesday, 08 MAR or Friday, 11 MAR**
- **Tuesday, 12 APR or Friday, 15 APR**



Please choose the dates that will work best for you. There will be observation dates on 03, 10 and 17 APR 2016. New servers will be present in the sanctuary to observe.

The installation Mass for new altar servers will be on **Sunday, 24 APR 2016 at 09:30 AM**. Practice will be **Friday, 22 APR 2016** in the Church from 03:15-04:15 PM. **All must attend the practice**. Applications are available in the vestibule of the Church.

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

JOIN THE CHOIR

St. Augustine is quoted as saying “*He who sings prays twice*”. The highlight of the liturgical year is fast approaching: **Palm Sunday**, the **Triduum** and **Easter Sunday**, all filled with beautiful music. Come sing with us on any or all of these days; all ability levels are welcome.

Rehearsals are held every **Thursday** evening at **07:30 PM** starting **04 FEB 2016** in the choir loft. If you have questions, call organist/choir director **Jill Mueller** at 650/493-1963.



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):



Thursday: 03:00 PM

Friday: 08:00 AM

Friday: 09:00 AM (every other week)

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 • Ayla Julieth, daughter of
Hector Picart and Tere Lozano

MARRIAGES

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS • Mary Brown

LENTEN PROGRAM WITH FR. MAZZA

Whatever happened to the 10 Commandments? Are they just 10 suggestions? You are cordially invited to come on just three nights during Lent for talks and discussion led by our parochial vicar, **Fr. Mark G. Mazza**, who studied moral theology in Rome with the Redemptorists at the Alphonsianum. Bring your friends with your questions. This is a program for adults. We will meet in the Church on **Fridays, 19 and 26 FEB 2016**, and **04 MAR 2016**, from **07:30-08:30 PM**. The class will be held in the O'Hare Center.

SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR NEW PRINCIPAL OF NATIVITY SCHOOL

The following people are on the interview committee for the new principal of our school:

- **Jeff Cleland**
- **Krissy Hauschild**
- **Russ Castle**
- **Marie deLorimier**
- **Kerry Marzoni**

They will be assisting me in determining the best candidate for this important position. Please keep us all in your prayers as we move forward over the next few months to a final decision.

Msgr. Steven Otellini

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend **Sister Agnes** from the **Little Sisters of the Poor** will once again be here to share the wonderful work the Little Sisters do at *St. Ann's Home* in San Francisco, where they care for the elderly with a family spirit, love, respect, and compassion, giving them physical, material, emotional, social and spiritual support.

IN THE COMMUNITY

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

On **20 FEB 2016** at **10:00 AM**, the Archdiocese of San Francisco will hold its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass for husband and wives and their families who will be celebrating a 5-year anniversary in 2016 (5, 10, ... 50, or >50 years of marriage). **Archbishop Cordileone** will be the celebrant, at the St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, followed by a reception in Patron's Hall. There is a **\$20** suggested donation. Couples can register at www.anniversarymass.info or by calling **415/614-5680**.

CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR MARRIAGE?

Do you feel lost and alone? Are you hurt, frustrated or angry with each other? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Are you arguing or do you simply shut down? Does talking about it only make it worse? **Retrouvaille** (Reh-trō-vī) is a lifeline for marriages in trouble. If you are serious about making your marriage work, this program will be worthwhile for you. For more information contact:

San Francisco: Harvey Duong and Connie Bui 415/893-1005, sf@retroca.com;

San Jose: Antonio and Claudia Flores 408/605-4998, sanjose@retroca.com;

Oakland: Jeff and Donna Huesler 510/648-6874, oakland@retroca.com; or visit www.retroca.com.

Upcoming **2016** weekends will be:

- **26-28 FEB** (Oakland)
- **15-17 APR** (San Francisco)
- **19-21 AUG** (San Jose)
- **16-18 SEP** (Oakland)
- **04-06 NOV** (San Francisco)

SEMINARS: CATHOLIC ESTATES AND END-OF-LIFE PLANNING

When it comes to end-of-life bioethical decisions and estate, funeral and burial planning, many people do not know where to begin. Because of this, a great number of people die without having had the opportunity to make funeral and estate plans. And when it comes to making ethical decisions about medical care, many people just don't know where to receive good advice. The Archdiocese of San Francisco and Catholic Cemeteries are offering a seminar on these topics. Please note that there will be no sales pitch; the goal is to provide up-to-date information that will be of help to families in planning for the future. All parishioners are welcome, and refreshments will be served. The seminar is free, but pre-registration through the Office of Development is requested at development@sfarch.org or **415/614-5580**.

- **Saturday, 19 MAR 2016, 10:00-11:30 AM**

Saint Bartholomew Church (San Mateo)

MEALS ON WHEELS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Peninsula Volunteers Meals on Wheels is *urgently* looking for volunteers to help deliver hot meals to homebound seniors. The delivery routes are in South San Mateo County, **Monday through Friday**, from **09:30AM-12:00 PM** once a week, or you can be on call. It requires a minimum of a six-month commitment, a car, valid driver's license, proof of insurance, and a background and DMV check.

Contact **Graciella** at **650/323-2202**

or gbernandez@peninsulavolunteers.org.

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for general and missionary prayer intentions. For **February 2016**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

Universal: *Care for Creation*

That we may take good care of creation (a gift freely given), cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

Missionary: *Asia*

That opportunities may increase for dialogue and encounter between the Christian faith and the peoples of Asia.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Whoever wishes to be My follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in My steps. (LUKE 9:23)

REFLECTION

What to give up:

- Give up **complaining**.focus on gratitude.
- Give up **pessimism**. become an optimist.
- Give up **harsh judgments** . . .think kindly thoughts.
- Give up **worry**. trust Divine Providence.
- Give up **discouragement**. . . .be full of hope.
- Give up **bitterness**. turn to forgiveness.
- Give up **hatred**. return good for evil.
- Give up **negativism**be positive.
- Give up **anger**. be more patient.
- Give up **pettiness**. become mature.
- Give up **gloom**. enjoy the beauty that is all around you.
- Give up **jealousy**. pray for trust.
- Give up **gossiping**. control your tongue.
- Give up **sin**. turn to virtue.
- Give up **giving up**. hang in there!

LENTEN QUESTION

Q: Why are the forty days called Lent?

A: They are called Lent because that is the Old English word for spring, the season of the year during which they fall. This is something unique to English. In almost all other languages its name is a derivative of the Latin term, or "the forty days."

LENTEN ACTION

Think of a person with whom you have a strained relationship and make some gesture toward improving that relationship.

PRAYER

Direct our actions, Lord, by Your holy inspiration and carry them forward by Your gracious help, that all our works may begin in You and by You be happily ended.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

14 FEB (SUN)

15 FEB (MON)

16 FEB (TUE)

17 FEB (WED)

18 FEB (THU)

19 FEB (FRI) LENTEN FRIDAY

20 FEB (SAT)

21 FEB (SUN)

22 FEB (MON)

23 FEB (TUE)

24 FEB (WED)

25 FEB (THU)

26 FEB (FRI) LENTEN FRIDAY

27 FEB (SAT)

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

Effecacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:

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



ABSTINENCE: Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on **ASH WEDNESDAY**, the **FRIDAYS** of Lent and **GOOD FRIDAY**.

FAST: Everyone eighteen years of age and older, but under the age of sixty, is also bound to fast on **ASH WEDNESDAY** and **GOOD FRIDAY**.

On these two days, the law of fast allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.



The Story of Saint Valentine

Valentine was a Roman bishop at a time when the emperor Claudius was persecuting the church. Claudius also issued an edict that prohibited the marriage of young people. This was based on the hypothesis that unmarried soldiers fought better than married soldiers because married soldiers might be afraid of what might happen to them or their wives or families if they died.

“It was a very permissive society in which Valentine lived,” says Father Frank O’Gara, a priest at Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin, Ireland. “Polygamy would have been much more popular than just one woman and one man living together. And yet some of them seemed to be attracted to Christian faith. But obviously the church taught that marriage was very sacred between one man and one woman, for their life, and that it was to be encouraged. And so this edict immediately presented a problem to the Christian church of what to do about this. The idea of encouraging them to marry within the Christian church was what Valentine was about. And he secretly married couples because of the edict.”

Valentine was eventually caught, imprisoned and tortured for performing marriage ceremonies against the command of Emperor Claudius II. There are legends surrounding Valentine’s actions while in prison.

One of the men who was to judge him in line with the Roman law was a man called Asterius, whose daughter was blind. Valentine was supposed to have prayed with and healed the young girl with such astonishing effect that Asterius himself became a Christian as a result.

In the year 269 AD, Valentine was sentenced to a three part execution of a beating, stoning, and finally decapitation, all because of his stand for Christian marriage. The story goes that the last words he wrote were in a note to Asterius’ daughter, signing it “from your Valentine.”

“What Valentine means to me as a priest,” explains Father O’Gara, “is that there comes a time where you have to lay your life upon the line for what you believe. And with the power of the Holy Spirit we can do that -- even to the point of death.”

Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin is home to relics of Saint Valentine, granted by Pope Gregory XVI.

www.whitefriarstreetchurch.ie/shrines.html#Valentine

NATIVITY YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The Nativity Youth Ministry has some Lenten teen service and spiritual opportunities:

- **Food Drive and Adoration:** Ask neighbors and friends for breakfast cereals, canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.), pasta and sauce, and jars of peanut butter and jelly – non-perishable food **only**. Drop off the food collected at the **O’Hare Center** on **Friday, 26 FEB 2016** and/or **15 MAR 2016**, at **06:15 PM**. We will have dinner and then go to **St. Patrick’s Seminary Adoration and Praise Night**. This would be a great opportunity for families to participate in the Jubilee Year of Mercy; St. Patrick’s chapel door is a designated Holy Door of Mercy.
- **Lenten Soup Suppers:** Make soup for one of our Lenten Soup Suppers (which will be held after a **Saturday 05:00 PM** Mass) and serve parishioners during the dinner itself. The date is to be determined.

For more information, please contact tlbasnage@gmail.com (Linda Basnage) or amandaannegeorge@gmail.com (Amanda George).

H4: HOLY HOUR-HAPPY HOUR

Young adults in their 20s and 30s are encouraged join us for a Holy Hour at the Church of the Nativity on **Tuesdays** from **08:00-09:00 PM**, followed by drinks at **09:00 PM** at a nearby pub or café.

If you have any questions, please e-mail holyhourhappyhour@gmail.com.

On the **third Tuesday** of the month, **Fr. Mark Mazza** will begin the Holy Hour with reflection. Confessions will also be available. All are welcome.

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.”

NATIVITY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Nativity School is currently accepting applications for grades Pre-K to 7th. Please call the school office, **650/325-7304**, to request an application or visit our school website at www.nativityschool.com > Admissions.

Nativity School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights and privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at this school.

Nativity School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, and national and ethnic origin, age, sex, or disability in administration of educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.