



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 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

28 FEBRUARY 2016

If they ask me, 'What is His name?' what am I to tell them?
God replied, "I am Who am."

EXODUS 3: 13-14



FIRST READING

Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.
EXODUS 3: 1-8, 13-15

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills.
PSALMS 103

SECOND READING

They drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ..
1 CORINTHIANS 10: 1-6, 10-12

GOSPEL

I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!
LUKE 13: 1-9

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 28 FEB - 05 MAR

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|---|
| SAT | 05:00 PM | Priest's intentions |
| SUN | Masses | Priest's intentions |
| MON | 07:30 AM | Tomas Mieres |
| | 05:30 PM | † Jerry Holmes |
| TUE | 07:30 AM | † Virginia Munk |
| | 05:30 PM | † John and Letty Guttenbeil |
| WED | 07:30 AM | Mike Klaus |
| | 05:30 PM | † Joseph Wynne |
| THU | 07:30 AM | † Elizabeth Silva |
| | 05:30 PM | ICF #351 living and deceased members |
| FRI | 07:30 AM | Benefactors of the parish |
| | 05:30 PM | † Gertrude Sullivan; † Danny Olin; † Mark Siekierski; † Arthur Martell |
| SAT | 08:00 AM | All who are in prison; † Francis Eichler; † Virginia Munk |

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

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

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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) |

28 FEB (Sunday)

29 FEB (Monday)

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

01 MAR (Tuesday)

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

02 MAR (Wednesday)

07:00 PM Confirmation Class

03 MAR (Thursday)

11:00 AM The Thursday Group
06:00 PM ICF #351 Dinner and Meeting

04 MAR (Friday)

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

05 MAR (Saturday)

06:00 PM Soup Supper



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

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

03 MAR (Thursday):

SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL (1858-1955)

Born in 1858 into a prominent Philadelphia family, Katharine became imbued with love for God and neighbor. She took an avid interest in the material and spiritual well-being of black and native Americans. From the age of 33 until her death in 1955, she dedicated her life and a fortune of 20 million dollars to this work. In 1894, Mother Drexel took part in opening the first mission school for Indians, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 1915 she also founded Xavier University in New Orleans. At her death there were more than 500 Sisters teaching in 63 schools throughout the country.

04 MAR (Friday):

SAINT CASIMIR OF POLAND (1458-1484)

Casimir was a 15th-century Polish prince, third in line for the throne. He lived a highly disciplined, often severe, life: sleeping on the ground, spending a great part of each night in prayer, and dedicating himself to lifelong celibacy (even under pressure to marry the daughter of the emperor). He had a great devotion to Mary, supported the poor, and lived a virtuous life amid the dis-solute court.



04 MAR (Friday):

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

www.worlddayofprayer.net

“Receive children. Receive Me.”

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL NATIVITY SCHOOL AUCTION

The theme for this year's **Nativity Auction** is the *Wild, Wild West* and will take place **14 MAY 2016** in Sobrato Pavilion. This yearly event would not be a success without the generous donations of our families and parishioners. Please contact us at nativityauction@gmail.com and let us know how you would like to donate, we'd love to hear from you to make this year's event a huge success. Donations are due no later than **01 APR 2016** so don't delay! You will be receiving a donation request letter soon. Forms are located in the parish office. Invitations to the auction will be mailed to parishioners in early April; please ensure your address is on file so you don't miss out!

NATIVITY 2016 NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Fr. Mark Mazza has begun the training of new altar servers. 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.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Pro-Life Oratory (Speech) Contest. Thursday, 10 MAR 2016 at **07:30 PM**, St. Greg's Worner Center, 138 28th Ave., San Mateo. Give a 5-7 minute original speech on a pro-life topic of your choice.

Cash prizes:

\$100/1st place, \$75/2nd place, \$50/3rd place.

Bring your family and friends with you; all are welcome.

For more info: email themunns@yahoo.com **650/572-1468.**



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 • Paul Michael, son of
Keith and Penelope Whisnant

MARRIAGES

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS • Ed Dikun

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.

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 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.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE GLUTEN-INTOLERANT

We now have available low-gluten altar bread for those who are gluten-intolerant. These hosts contain **less than 0.01%** gluten and are approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. If you wish to receive Holy Communion with this special host please get at the end of the Communion line and let the priest know that you would like to receive the low-gluten host. If you have any questions please call the parish office, **650/323-7914**. If you would like to learn more about this altar bread visit www.altarbreadsbpa.com/lowgluten.php



IN THE COMMUNITY

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 [ghernandez@peninsulavolunteers.org](mailto:gherandez@peninsulavolunteers.org).

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:

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

NOTRE DAME BELMONT: ANNUAL AUCTION

05 MAR 2016, at 06:00 PM at the **Hiller Aviation Museum** in San Carlos.

Join us for an evening of vintage travel fun in support of NDB's mission, programs and students!

Tickets and information available at www.ndhsb.org, **650/595-1913**.

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.

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)

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

Universal: *Families in Difficulty*

That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

Missionary: *Persecuted Christians*

That those Christians who, on account of their faith, are discriminated against or are being persecuted, may remain strong and faithful to the Gospel, thanks to the incessant prayer of the Church.

EXCERPTS FROM THE POPE'S MESSAGE FOR LENT 2016

1. *Mary, the image of a Church which evangelizes because she is evangelized*

In the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, I asked that "the season of Lent in this Jubilee Year be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 17). By calling for an attentive listening to the word of God and encouraging the initiative "24 Hours for the Lord", I sought to stress the primacy of prayerful listening to God's word, especially his prophetic word. The mercy of God is a proclamation made to the world, a proclamation which each Christian is called to experience at first hand. For this reason, during the season of Lent I will send out Missionaries of Mercy as a concrete sign to everyone of God's closeness and forgiveness.

...

2. *God's covenant with humanity: a history of mercy*

The mystery of divine mercy is revealed in the history of the covenant between God and his people Israel. God shows himself ever rich in mercy, ever ready to treat his people with deep tenderness and compassion, especially at those tragic moments when infidelity ruptures the bond of the covenant, which then needs to be ratified more firmly in justice and truth. Here is a true love story, in which God plays the role of the betrayed father and husband, while Israel plays the unfaithful child and bride. These domestic images – as in the case of Hosea (cf. Hos 1-2) – show to what extent God wishes to bind himself to his people.

This love story culminates in the incarnation of God's Son. In Christ, the Father pours forth his boundless mercy even to making him "mercy incarnate".

...

3. *The works of mercy*

God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn. In an ever new miracle, divine mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbour and to devote ourselves to what the Church's tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. These works remind us that faith finds expression in

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

28 FEB (SUN)

29 FEB (MON)

01 MAR (TUE)

02 MAR (WED)

03 MAR (THU)

04 MAR (FRI) LENTEN FRIDAY

05 MAR (SAT)

06 MAR (SUN)

07 MAR (MON)

08 MAR (TUE) FIRST Day: St. Patrick

09 MAR (WED) SECOND Day: St. Patrick

10 MAR (THU) THIRD Day: St. Patrick
FIRST Day: St. Joseph

11 MAR (FRI) FOURTH Day: St. Patrick
SECOND Day: St. Joseph
LENTEN FRIDAY

12 MAR (SAT) FOURTH Day: St. Patrick
SECOND Day: St. Joseph

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Saint Patrick:

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

Saint Joseph:

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

concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbours in body and spirit: by feeding, visiting, comforting and instructing them. On such things will we be judged.

...

Let us not waste this season of Lent, so favourable a time for conversion! We ask this through the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, who, encountering the greatness of God's mercy freely bestowed upon her, was the first to acknowledge her lowliness (cf. Lk 1:48) and to call herself the Lord's humble servant (cf. Lk 1:38).

*From the Vatican, 04 October 2015
Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi*

Francis

LENTEN, HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| Fridays | 06:00 PM | Stations of the Cross |
| 04 MAR | (Friday) 07:30 PM | Lenten Talk (Fr. Mark Mazza) |
| 16 MAR | (Wednesday) 07:00 PM | Lenten Penance Service |
| 24 MAR | (Thursday) 07:00 PM | Holy Thursday Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (one Mass only) |
| 25 MAR | (Friday) 12:00 PM 12:30 PM - 02:00 PM 02:00 PM 07:00 PM | Good Friday Stations of the Cross Reflections (Fr. Robert Christian, OP) Celebration of the Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross |
| 26 MAR | (Saturday) 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 02:00 PM - 04:00 PM 08:00 PM | Holy Saturday Reconciliation Reconciliation Easter Vigil (no other Masses) |
| 27 MAR | (Sunday) 08:00 AM 09:30 AM 11:30 AM | Easter Sunday Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (no 05:00 PM Mass) |
| 28 MAR | (Monday) 09:00 AM | Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (one Mass only) |

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, 18 MAR 2016, at 06:15 PM**. To sign up, go on-line to <http://goo.gl/forms/OvI6LGFTfx>. 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 the **Saturday 05:00 PM Mass** on **05 and 12 MAR 2016**) and serve parishioners during the dinner itself. Fr. Mark Mazza will give a short talk after the supper. To RSVP or to volunteer, contact tlbasnage@gmail.com (**Linda Basnage**) or amandaannegeorge@gmail.com (**Amanda George**).
- On-line volunteer sign-ups at <http://goo.gl/forms/DdwZaG4F99>. All parishioners are welcome.

RENOUNCE SIN AND TEMPTATION

The Lenten season is a particularly good time to reflect on our fallen nature, and to prepare ourselves as fully as we can for the salvation Jesus bought for us with His Blood on the cross.

How well do you understand what the Church has taught for generations about "sin"?

How thoroughly do you prepare yourself for the sacrament of Confession (do you take advantage of this wonderful, reconciling sacrament regularly)?

The 1962 version of "My Sunday Missal" contains some valuable information on these topics. We are reprinting key sections from the back of that missal here for your personal reflection.

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION

Examination of Conscience:

My Duties to God

Neglecting morning or evening prayers • superstitious practices • consulting fortune tellers • receiving sacraments sacrilegiously • against Faith by willful doubts concerning any article of the Creed or by reading or circulating irreligious books • against Hope by despair, murmuring or presuming on God's Mercy • against Charity by wilfully rebellious thoughts against God or His Law or by omitting good works through fear of others • irreverence towards God, His Name, His Church • cursing or swearing • false, unlawful or unnecessary oaths • breaking lawful vows • neglecting Mass on Sundays or Holy Days, or performing unrequired servile work.

My Duties to My Neighbor

Insulting or neglecting parents • failing to send children to religious schools when possible • bad example • neglect of home, trade, professional or civil service duties • ignoring the spiritual and corporal works of mercy • any violent act • causing hard feeling • revenge • refusing reconciliation • inducing others to sin • stealing • possession of ill-gotten goods • cheating • culpable delay in paying lawful debts • lying • perjury • fraud • slander • failure to support my Church.

My Duties to Myself

Obstinacy • sloth • desiring or yielding to sensuality, impurity, gluttony, drunkenness • rage, envy, impatience, jealousy • failure to fast or abstain • failure to make my Easter Duty • waste of time, money, or talents.