



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

VISITING PRIESTS

Rev. Gregory Heidenblut, OSA

Msgr. James Kelly

Rev. Patrick Hartin

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

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the Lord!

ISAIAH 40: 1-5, 9-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Justice shall walk before Him, and prepare the way of His steps.

PSALMS 85

SECOND READING

Be eager to be found without spot or blemish before Him, at peace.

2 PETER 3: 8-14

GOSPEL

I have baptized you with water; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

MARK 1: 1-8



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 DECEMBER 2017

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

MARK 1: 4

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 10 - 16 DEC

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|--|
| SAT | 05:00 PM | Priest's intentions |
| SUN | Masses | Priest's intentions |
| MON | 07:30 AM | † Paul Otellini |
| | 05:30 PM | † Terrence Meagher; † Joan Schafer; † Emma Napoli; † Victor Sygenco; † Patricia and Gene Winnike |
| TUE | 07:30 AM | Rose and Rick Hartwig |
| | 05:30 PM | † Garrett Michael Chiamparino |
| WED | 07:30 AM | † Margeill del ReBrunori |
| | 05:30 PM | † Willi Helbig |
| THU | 07:30 AM | † Arthur Bellaire |
| | 05:30 PM | † Joseph Masuda |
| FRI | 07:30 AM | † Fulgencia Rodriquez |
| | 05:30 PM | Cora Hussey |
| SAT | 08:00 AM | Jan Van Greuen; Lucienne Woods; † James Hennessy; † Eugene R. Torchia, Sr.; † Lucy Barreras |

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing


Remember that we have the promise of Our Mother that we never need to worry about anything:

"Hear me and understand well, my son the least, that nothing should frighten or grieve you. Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."
— Our Lady to Juan Diego



| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| 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) |
| 10 DEC | (Sunday) 03:00 PM | RCIA |
| 11 DEC | (Monday) 07:30 PM | Legion of Mary |
| 12 DEC | (Tuesday) 09:30 AM 07:00 PM 07:00 PM | Bible Study Bible Study H ⁴ |
| 13 DEC | (Wednesday) 07:00 PM | Confirmation Class |
| 14 DEC | (Thursday) 09:30 AM 11:00 AM 07:00 PM | Opus Dei Women's Group The Thursday Group Legion of Mary District Mtg |
| 15 DEC | (Friday) | Adopt-a-Family Packing |
| 16 DEC | (Saturday) 09:00 AM 06:00 PM | Adopt-a-Family Deliveries Volunteer Thank You Party |

PARISH OFFERINGS

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
|  | WEEK OF 25-26 NOV |
| TOTAL: | \$12,163 |
| SVdP Society (Thanksgiving): | \$3,850 |
| ADA Progress: | \$122,306 |
| 2017 Archdiocesan Appeal Goal: | \$165,940 |

Donate online: www.tinyurl.com/sf2017ADA

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL · OPTIONAL MEMORIAL · OTHER

12 DEC (Tuesday)

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (1531)

The Blessed Virgin appeared to **Juan Diego** in **1531** calling herself the **Mother of the True God** and promising compassion and protection to all who come to her. She left an image of herself on his cloak, which is still preserved at the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Under this title, Mary has been declared **Patroness of the Americas**.



14 DEC (Thursday):

SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

A **Doctor of the Church**, he was persuaded by **Saint Teresa of Avila** to begin the *Discalced* or *barefoot* reform within the Carmelite Order. John became the Master of novices, spiritual director and confessor at Saint Teresa's convent. His reforms revitalized the order. John was a great mystical and spiritual writer.



DID YOU KNOW?

In one version of this devotion, the novena prayer is recited **15 times** each day, starting on the **Feast of Saint Andrew (30 NOV)** and continuing every day throughout DEC.



13 DEC (Wednesday)

SAINT LUCY, Martyr (~283 - ~304)

St. Lucy was a young Christian of Greek ancestry, living in Syracuse in the early fourth century. Like many early Christian women, she devoted herself completely to Jesus. But her mother betrothed her to a pagan, and Lucy was only able to change her mother's mind after praying at the tomb of **St. Agatha** to cure her mother's illness. However, the spurned pagan suitor denounced her as a Christian, and she was martyred.



CHRISTMAS NOVENA

This is a traditional novena of the season, and is quite old. It should begin on **16 DEC**, ending on Christmas Eve. The repeated daily prayer is:

Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight in Bethlehem in the piercing cold. At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayers and grant my desires. (mention request here) Through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.

There is a daily reflection to accompany each of the nine days of the novena. The reflections can be found at

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

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

SCHOLA SERAPHICA CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tickets are available for **Schola Seraphica's 11th Annual Christmas Concert** on **10 DEC 2017, 02:00 PM** at **St. Patrick's Seminary**. Tickets are **\$20** for adults and **\$15** for seniors and students. They may be purchased at the Nativity parish office between **09:00 AM-04:00 PM, Mon-Fri**. Seating is limited. We are looking forward to sharing more beautiful music with you.

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. 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: 10:00 PM

Friday: 09:00 AM

Saturday: 03:00 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.

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

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS (PRO-LIFE)

Come join Pro-Life people singing in honor of our Savior born on Christmas and in Remembrance of those babies not born due to being aborted.

Where: *Planned Parenthood* sidewalk
35 Baywood Ave, San Mateo

When: **Wednesday, 13 DEC 2017,**
06:00-07:00 PM

Who: All welcome

Note: Sheet music and candles provided;
Recommended to dress warmly

More info: **Jessica 650/572-1468**



ADVENT MINI-RETREAT

On **Monday, 11 DEC 2017**, **St. Denis** parish will be having a mini-retreat, *Advent: The Season of Deepest Longing*, from 09:30 AM-01:00 PM. The presenter will be **Sr. Sharon McMillan**, Sister of Notre Dame de Namur. The day will include morning coffee, Advent presentation, Mass, and lunch. RSVP by 09 DEC 2017 to dewm@pacbell.net or Call **Dede Waters-Masters** at **650/854-5976 ext. 4**. St. Denis is located at 2250 Avy Avenue, Menlo Park.

*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).*

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 • Kayla Kailani, daughter of Mark and Weena Vierra

MARRIAGES

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS • Gerald Nardone

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend is for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Your gift will help defray some of the costs needed to care for our elderly religious and relieve the genuine financial crisis in many religious congregations. Whatever you give will be greatly appreciated. Please be generous. Most importantly, please remember in your prayers the more than 630 women and men religious living and serving in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY

Msgr. Steven Otellini cordially invites all Nativity volunteers to the annual **Thank You Christmas Party** on **Saturday, 16 DEC 2017**, after the **05:00 PM** Mass. Volunteers are a very important part of the Nativity community and your help is invaluable. The party will be in the rectory. If you have done any volunteer work for Nativity Church or School, please stop by for some friendly company, good food, drinks and general good cheer. This includes all volunteers, e.g., choir members, ushers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Altar Society, Eucharistic Adoration, Men's Club, Mom's Club, carnival, tree lot, Adopt-a-Family, Legion of Mary, School of Religion, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Respect Life, and anyone who has done a special project, etc. This is our chance to say "thanks" for all your generous help throughout the year.

CHURCH DECORATION DURING ADVENT

Advent is a time of waiting, of expectation, of reflection on what is to come. We try to keep all decoration in the church to a minimum during this time, with the focus on the Advent Wreath. We are purposely not putting flowers on the side altars. Thank you for helping with this.

The Altar Society

IN THE COMMUNITY

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PRO-LIFE PROCESSION

Join our rosary-praying procession beneath **Our Lady's** banner starting from the statue of St. Matthew at El Camino Real & 9th Ave, San Mateo, north up El Camino to *Planned Parenthood* (35 Baywood Ave) and return. [about 1.5 mile round-trip] Rain or shine!

Sunday, 10 DEC 2017 02:00-03:00 PM

*Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Patroness of the Pre-born,
Pray for us!*



NATIVITY AUCTION 2018

Please save the date to join us for the **15th Annual Nativity Auction, Enter the Forbidden City**, on **Saturday, 10 FEB 2018** at Nativity School. Cocktails and Silent Auction will start at **05:30 PM** with Dinner and the Live Auction to follow. This year for your entertainment we will have Lion Dancers perform during dinner. After the Live Auction ends our **Shanghai Gambling Den** will open! The Nativity Auction is a huge success every year due to the involvement and support of our wonderful community and the incredible items that you donate and we hope that you can help again to make this year's Auction a smashing success! This fundraising event helps provide financial assistance for classroom technology, teacher development, scholarships and many more resources that directly benefit the students of Nativity School.

If you would like to attend, donate to or help sponsor this year's Auction or have any questions please email nativityauction@yahoo.com or visit the auction website at www.nativityauction.com.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HELPS IRAQI CHRISTIAN FAMILIES GET HOME

The **Knights of Columbus**, together with the **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops** and other Catholic organizations, are working in support of persecuted Christians in the Middle East, primarily in Iraq and Syria. With the defeat of ISIS in Iraq, Christians are theoretically free to return home—but most lack the resources to do so. The Knights have pledged **\$2 million** to move hundreds of refugee families back to their homes in Karamles, on the Nineveh Plain, the traditional Christian homeland of Iraq. The cost is about **\$2,000** per family—and many more families need this help. The Knights ask Catholics to join them in this effort, with donations and with prayers. Complete information is on the website www.ChristiansAtRisk.org

NATIVITY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS TREE LOT

The annual **Nativity School Christmas Tree Lot** is open until **16 DEC 2017** or until all the trees are gone, whichever comes first. Don't miss the opportunity to get one of the best Christmas trees on the peninsula and help support Nativity School at the same time! The tree lot raises funds for important enrichment programs at Nativity. The hours of operation are:

Saturdays: 09:00 AM-08:00 PM
Sundays: 09:00 AM-06:00 PM
Tuesday-Friday: 04:00-08:00 PM
Closed **Mondays**
Closing Day (16 DEC) 09:00 AM-05:00 PM



FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for prayer intentions. For **December 2017**, the Holy Father's prayer intention is:

Intention: *The Elderly*

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

20 DEC (Wednesday)
07:00 PM Simbang Gabi Mass
07:30 PM Advent Penance Service
(at St. Raymond's Church)

23 DEC (Saturday)
08:00 AM Daily Mass
05:00 PM Vigil Mass
(4th Sunday of Advent)

24 DEC (Sunday)
08:00 AM Mass: 4th Sunday of Advent
09:30 AM Mass: 4th Sunday of Advent
11:30 AM Mass: 4th Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve
06:00 PM Vigil Mass of Christmas
10:00 PM Choral Prelude to
Christmas Mass
10:45 PM Christmas Proclamation and
Procession to the Crib
11:00 PM Midnight Mass of Christmas

25 DEC (Monday) *Christmas Day*
08:00 AM Christmas Day Mass
09:30 AM Christmas Day Mass
11:30 AM Christmas Day Mass
(no 05:00 PM Mass)

26 DEC (Tuesday) *Feast of St. Stephen*
09:00 AM Daily Mass (one Mass only)

31 DEC (Sunday)
08:00 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
09:30 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
11:30 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
05:00 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

01 JAN (Monday) *Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God*
09:00 AM Daily Mass (one Mass only)

02 JAN (Tuesday) Regular daily Mass schedule

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

10 DEC (SUN) EIGHTH DAY: Our Lady of Guadalupe
SEVENTH DAY: Saint Lucy

11 DEC (MON) NINTH DAY: Our Lady of Guadalupe
EIGHTH DAY: Saint Lucy

12 DEC (TUE) **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**
NINTH DAY: Saint Lucy

13 DEC (WED) **Feast of Saint Lucy**

14 DEC (THU)

15 DEC (FRI)

16 DEC (SAT) FIRST DAY: Christmas Novena

17 DEC (SUN) SECOND DAY: Christmas Novena

18 DEC (MON) THIRD DAY: Christmas Novena

19 DEC (TUE) FOURTH DAY: Christmas Novena

20 DEC (WED) FIFTH DAY: Christmas Novena

21 DEC (THU) SIXTH DAY: Christmas Novena

22 DEC (FRI) SEVENTH DAY: Christmas Novena

23 DEC (SAT) EIGHTH DAY: Christmas Novena

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Our Lady of Guadalupe:

www.sancta.org/novena.html

St. Lucy:

www.novena.com/2013/12/10/saint-lucy/

Christmas Novena:

www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/christmas.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_gloria.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



BEST. ADVENT. EVER.

'Tis the Season ... Dynamic Catholic once again invites you to join in their **Best Advent Ever** program by signing up at <https://DynamicCatholic.com/SignUp> or BestAdventEver.com. Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, but we often get distracted and busy. Don't let this Advent pass you by. Slow down and focus on what matters most with Best Advent Ever. Starting **03 DEC**, the first Sunday of Advent, participants will receive daily emails to help them discover how to slow down and enjoy in preparing for Christmas!

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS: SANTA LUCIA

In Sweden the 13th of December is not a national holiday, but it is a day of special celebrations. It is the feast day of **Saint Lucy** (Santa Lucia) and many traditions are celebrated in Swedish and other Scandinavian homes. In the historical tradition, the eldest daughter brings coffee and St. Lucia buns to her parents, while wearing a crown of candles and singing a Lucia song. Other daughters may help, dressed in the same type of white robe with red sash, and holding a candle in one hand (but only the oldest daughter wears the candle-wreath).

In modern tradition, public processions are held in Swedish cities, with national and regional “Lucias” selected. The regional Lucias will visit shopping malls, elder homes, and churches, singing and handing out ginger snaps. Boys also join in the processions, dressed as “star boys” in white robes and tall cone-shaped hats covered in golden stars, as “tomtenissar” (Santa’s helpers), or as gingerbread men.



Before the conversion to the Gregorian calendar, the feast day of St. Lucy fell very close to the winter solstice, a time of very long, very dark nights in Scandinavia. St. Lucia’s Day was a festival of lights to dispel the darkness, and candles are a prominent part of all the celebrations. Though it is not an official part of the Advent celebrations, many Swedes consider this day to mark the beginning of the Christmas season.

SIMBANG GABI FOR DEANERY 11

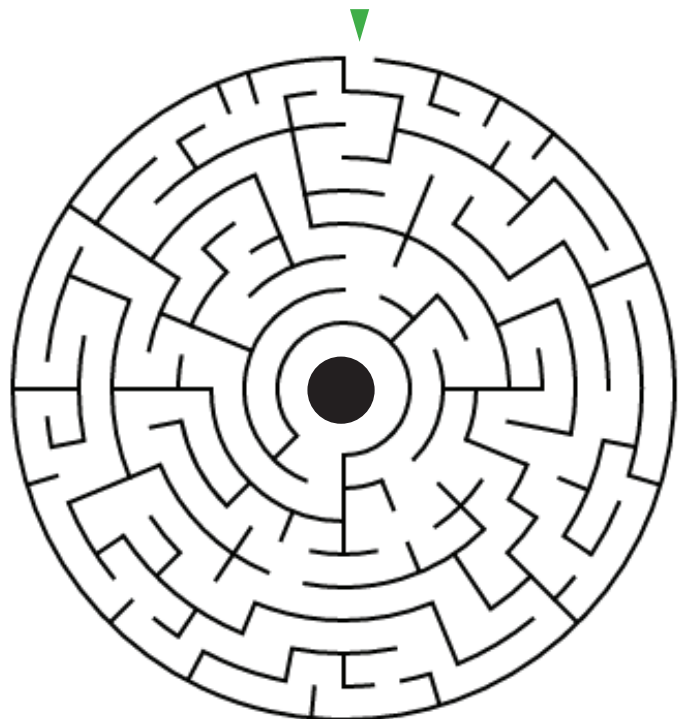
What is *Simbang Gabi* (meaning “Masses at Night”)? It is a long-treasured Filipino spiritual tradition. In the Philippines, it is celebrated as a series of nine dawn Masses right before Christmas, each Mass followed by a reception and fellowship. Beginning on **December 15th** and ending on **December 23rd**, these daily novena Masses are now also celebrated in the evening. Set within Advent, **Simbang Gabi** invites participants to heighten their preparation for the birth of Jesus, as well as honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. The most popular symbol for **Simbang Gabi** is the **parol**, or star lantern, with 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. This celebration of faith also hopes to strengthen the bonds between cultures and between parishes, thereby strengthening fellowship and family life in our community and deanery.

The following **Churches in Deanery 11** will be having Masses for *Simbang Gabi*:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 15 DEC (FRI) | 07:00 PM St. Pius, Redwood City |
| 16 DEC (SAT) | 05:00 PM Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Redwood City |
| 17 DEC (SUN) | 05:00 PM St. Charles, San Carlos |
| 18 DEC (MON) | 07:00 PM St. Matthias, Redwood City |
| 19 DEC (TUE) | 07:00 PM St. Charles, San Carlos |
| 20 DEC (WED) | 07:00 PM Church of the Nativity, Menlo Park |
| 21 DEC (THU) | 07:00 PM St. Raymond, Menlo Park |
| 22 DEC (FRI) | 07:00 PM St. Charles, San Carlos |
| 23 DEC (SAT) | 05:00 PM St. Pius, Redwood City |



Help Saint Lucia bring the light of Jesus into the darkness.



SINULOG FESTIVAL

The **Filipino Ministry Consultative Board of the Archdiocese of San Francisco** invites you to its **2nd Annual Sinulog Festival**, a Filipino devotion honoring the Holy Child Jesus (Santo Niño). It will be **Saturday, 13 JAN 2018 at 11:00 AM** at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, 111 Gough Street, San Francisco. There will be a reception immediately after the Mass.