



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. 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

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
SIRACH 3: 2-6, 12-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord.

PSALMS 128

SECOND READING

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

COLOSSIANS 3: 12-21

GOSPEL

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples.

LUKE 2: 22-40



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

31 DECEMBER 2017

Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel.

LUKE 2: 34

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS

WEEK OF 31 DEC - 06 JAN

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	09:00 AM	Adolph and Marie Firenzi
TUE	07:30 AM	Bill Zappettini
	05:30 PM	† Lygia Lucas
WED	07:30 AM	† Paul Otellini
	05:30 PM	† Ricky Torres; † Matthew Cruz; † Dorothy Claude; † Patricia Harriman
THU	07:30 AM	† Joan MacDonald
	05:30 PM	ICF #351 living and deceased members
FRI	07:30 AM	Jan Van Greuen
	05:30 PM	† Willi Helbig
SAT	08:00 AM	Jan Van Greuen; The Francisco Salinas family; † Josephine McDonald Palomo; † Viet Nguyen

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing

"BROWN BAG" SUNDAY

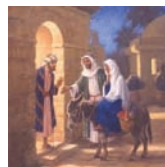


This week the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will be collecting donations after the Masses. The Nativity Conference of St. Vincent de Paul is a very active one. Several times a week members go out to the needy of our parish bringing food, or assistance with PG&E bills or rent. These collections on the 5th Sundays make their good work possible.

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.

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)
31 DEC	(Sunday)	<i>New Year's Eve</i>
01 JAN	(Monday)	<i>Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God</i>
	09:00 AM	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
02 JAN	(Tuesday)	H ⁴
03 JAN	(Wednesday)	Mid-Peninsula Catholic Moms
04 JAN	(Thursday)	The Thursday Group
05 JAN	(Friday)	
06 JAN	(Saturday)	



The parish office will be closed on **01 Jan 2018**.
On **01 Jan 2018** there will be one Mass, at **09:00 AM**.

PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 16-17 DEC
TOTAL:	\$13,193
ADA Progress:	\$149,556
2017 Archdiocesan Appeal Goal:	\$165,940

Donate online: www.tinyurl.com/sf2017ADA

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

02 JAN (Tuesday):

SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT AND GREGORY NAZIANZEN, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

Students together, they fought against the Arian heresy. Basil founded monasteries and drew up a rule for monks; he is considered as key in the founding of eastern monasticism as **Saint Benedict** is to western monasticism. Gregory became Bishop of Constantinople, and Basil was Archbishop of Caesarea. Both were proclaimed Doctors of the Church.



04 JAN (Thursday):

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON (1775-1821)

First native-born American to be canonized. She formed a religious community while still raising her children, and founded two orphanages and another school. Today, six communities of sisters trace their origins to Mother Seton.

05 JAN (Friday):

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN, Bishop (1811-1860)

Renowned as a founder of the American Catholic school system. Born in Bohemia, he became a Redemptorist priest (the first in the United States) in a struggling parish in New York, and later became Bishop of Philadelphia. He organized the first diocesan Catholic school system, and increased the number of schools from two to 100. He also built 50 churches and began construction of a cathedral. He was the first American man and bishop to be canonized.

06 JAN (Saturday):

BLESSED ANDRE BESSETTE (1845-1936)

Holy Cross Brother who almost didn't make his vows because of poor health. He built a shrine to St. Joseph, almost brick by brick, that became a spiritual center.



MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

MID-PENINSULA CATHOLIC MOMS

We will celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas with the seniors of Brookdale in Redwood City. Note different time. Bring homemade treats for seniors if you can. Brookdale will provide crayons and tables for children to color. We will sing a few Christmas carols by the piano side. Contact Monica to RSVP.

Event: *Caroling, treats and coloring with seniors*

Date: Wednesday, 03 JAN 2018

Place: Brookdale Senior Living,

485 Woodside Road, Redwood City

Time: 03:00-04:30 PM

To RSVP contact **Monica Hendricks,**

mmthendricks@gmail.com, home phone 650/367-4944

or **Christina Lee,** lee.christina.s@gmail.com, 650/450-8498

[facebook.com/groups/mpcatholic](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mpcatholic) or

[meetup.com/Catholic-Moms](https://www.meetup.com/Catholic-Moms)

HOLY SPIRIT CLASS

Our **Faith Formation Class** on the Holy Spirit will continue on **Tuesday, 16 JAN 2018**. The class is held at **09:30 AM** in the O'Hare Center, and then repeated at **07:00 PM**. All are encouraged to attend. Call **Deacon Dominick Peloso** with questions: 650/269-6279.

NATIVITY SCHOOL PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER

Our program is looking for a **preschool teacher** to add to our team. We have a play-based classroom environment with dedicated teachers and supportive parents. If you are interested in being a part of a preschool program that uses project-based curriculum, please send cover letter and résumé to **Tina Baluyut**, Pre-School Director at tbaluyut@nativityschool.com, Subject: Preschool Teacher. For more information about our program, please visit www.nativityschool.com.

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

WALK FOR LIFE BUS

On **Saturday, 27 JAN 2018**, our Archdiocese will again be sponsoring the annual **West Coast Walk for Life**. This is always the biggest and most peaceful demonstration in San Francisco and a great way to pray and motive the preservation of life from conception to natural death. To facilitate our participation, we have a bus to take us up and back. It will leave at **10:30 AM** and return in the afternoon. To reserve a place on it or for any questions, please contact **Mary Ellen Peloso, 650/269-7794**.

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):

Sunday: 04:00 PM

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.

*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**
- James Frederic, son of Andrew and Esther Nickell
 - Claire Elizabeth, daughter of Bryan and Teresa Piper

- MARRIAGES**
- Christopher Piquette and Crystal De La Roca

PARISHIONERS

- DEATHS**
- Rev. Patrick LaBelle, O.P.
 - Antonio Xavier
 - Sarah Balocco

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Because **01 JAN 2018**, the *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God* is on a Monday, it is **not** a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be one Mass only that day at **09:00 AM**. "According to the 1992 general decree of the USCCB, the precept to attend Mass is dispensed when this solemnity falls on a Saturday or a Monday. All the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass on this day, but are not obliged."

The parish office will be closed on **Monday, 01 JAN 2018**.

Why not attend Mass anyway?
Your eternal soul will thank you.
-- The Editors

IN THE COMMUNITY

SECOND ANNUAL "CLERICUS CLASSIC"



Please join the Priests of the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Seminarians of St. Patrick's as they face off in the *2nd Annual Clericus Classic Basketball Game* on **05 JAN 2018** at **07:30 PM**. The doors open at **07:00 PM**. Tickets are **\$7** each. The game will be at **Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory**, 1055 Ellis Street, San Francisco.

Tickets are available at www.sfarchdiocese.org/basketball or call **415/614-5517** for more information.

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.

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.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE CONFERENCE

This year's **Spiritual Warfare Conference** will be on **Saturday, 24 FEB 2018** from **08:00 AM-04:00 PM** in the school gymnasium. **Father Gary Thomas**, exorcist of the San Jose diocese, and **Fr. Robert Spitzer**, a physicist and EWTN host, will be our featured speakers. Brochures are around the church, or you can register online by **09 FEB 2018** at www.heartsoflove.biz. For questions, call **Deacon Peloso, 650/269-6279**.

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.altarbreadsbspa.com/

SVdP CATHERINE CENTER: RELIEF STAFF (P/T)

Saint Vincent de Paul's Catherine Center is a transitional place of safety and dignity for women to live and heal upon leaving incarceration. We seek compassionate individuals who can be present to our women when the program manager is not available (nights, holidays and weekends). Duties include supervising activities on and off site, keeping case notes, being a kind and listening presence to the residents, maintaining a safe and supportive atmosphere, coordinating activities that promote a healthy lifestyle (such as weekend walks), communicating with the program staff, and transporting and accompanying the women to worship services and community events, as needed. The ideal candidate has experience working with those in recovery, an open heart and excellent communication skills.

Email: vclausing@svdpsm.org

For questions call Program Director **Vivian Clausing** at **650/838-9800**.

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for prayer intentions. For **January 2018**, the Holy Father's prayer intention is:

Intention: *Religious Minorities in Asia (Evangelization)*

That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

SCHEDULE OF NEW YEAR SERVICES

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)	<i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>
	09:00 AM	Daily Mass (<i>one Mass only</i>)
02 JAN	(Tuesday)	Regular daily Mass schedule



FOLLOWING THE STAR OF FAITH

A retreat with **Father Brian Mullady**
JANUARY 12, 2018, 2pm –
JANUARY 14, 2018, 11am



FOLLOWING THE STAR OF FAITH will invite the participants to invigorate their spiritual lives by meditating on what the feast of Epiphany offers to them by way of growth in grace and prayer. Main authors presented will include Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and Thomas Aquinas. It will be a preached retreat. Opportunities for confession will be provided.



Fr. Brian Thomas
Becket Mullady

Fr. Brian Thomas Becket Mullady is the son of an Air Force officer and was raised throughout the United States. He entered the Dominican Order in 1966 and was ordained in Oakland, California in 1972. He has been a parish priest, high school teacher, retreat master, mission preacher and university professor. He has taught at several colleges and seminaries in the United States. He is currently a mission preacher and retreat master for the Western Dominican Province. He has had twelve series on Mother Angelica's EWTN television network. Fr. Brian is also designated as an official Missionary of Mercy by Pope Francis for the Year of Mercy.

250 Oak Grove Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025 | (650) 325-5614 | vallombrosa.org

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

31 DEC (SUN)	SECOND DAY: Epiphany Novena
01 JAN (MON)	THIRD DAY: Epiphany Novena
02 JAN (TUE)	FOURTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
03 JAN (WED)	FIFTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
04 JAN (THU)	SIXTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
05 JAN (FRI)	SEVENTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
06 JAN (SAT)	EIGHTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
07 JAN (SUN)	NINTH DAY: Epiphany Novena
08 JAN (MON)	Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord
09 JAN (TUE)	
10 JAN (WED)	
11 JAN (THU)	
12 JAN (FRI)	
13 JAN (SAT)	

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Epiphany Novena:

www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/novenas/p00073.htm

01 JAN (Monday):

WORLD DAY OF PEACE

The **World Day of Peace** was established by **Pope Paul VI**, and is celebrated annually on **01 JAN**. This year marks the **51st** World Day of Peace. For **2018**, **Pope Francis'** theme is **"Migrants and Refugees: Men and Women in Search of Peace."**

Read the full text of the Pope's Message at

w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/index.html

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 HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTS

Everyone is invited to attend our weekly holy hour for priests each **Sunday** evening at **07:00 PM**. It includes a rosary, chaplet of Divine Mercy, a mediation, brief talk on the spiritual life, and Benediction. Especially at this time, we need to lift up our priests both here in the parish and throughout the world with our prayer. Please join us.

YOUR FAMILY IS A GREAT TREASURE

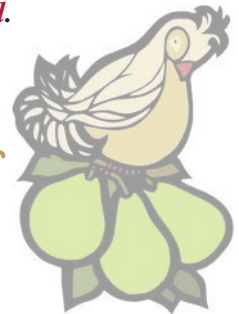
A family is one of God's greatest gifts. Sometimes we are all so busy that we forget to be thankful for our families, and to take the time to tell each other how much they are loved and appreciated.

1. Try to find out one new special thing about your mother and father, that you didn't know before. Did your mom once win the state Science Fair? Is your dad an expert with a yo-yo? Parents are amazing people that have amazing things to share with you: give them a chance to do that.

2. Find out more about your ancestors. Start with both sets of your grandparents. Ask your parents to tell you one special thing about each grandparent that you didn't know before. Maybe your grandfather was the mayor of the town in which he was born. Maybe your grandmother was the first woman in your family to graduate from college. Your family is a unique treasure, and a big part of that treasure is YOU.



The "Twelve Days" of Christmas are December 26th to January 6th (the Feast of the Epiphany).



The 12 Days of Christmas

Although there is no historical evidence to support the claim, there are widely-circulated stories and speculation that during the 16th century, when English Catholics were being persecuted by the Church of England, the song **The Twelve Days of Christmas** was created with religious symbolism to allow the study of many tenets of the faith without fear.

According to the stories, the hidden references are:

1. My True Love (**God, Our Father**) gave to me ... a partridge in a pear tree (**Our Lord Jesus upon the Cross**).
2. Two turtle doves: **the Old and New Testaments**.
3. Three French hens: **Faith, Hope, and Charity**.
4. Four colly birds: **the Four Gospels (or the Four Evangelists)**.
5. Five golden rings: **the first five books of the Bible (the Pentateuch)**.
6. Six geese a'laying: **the six days of the Creation**.
7. Seven swans a'swimming: **the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit (or the seven Sacraments)**.
8. Eight maids a'milking: **the eight Beatitudes**.
9. Nine ladies dancing: **the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit**.
10. Ten lords a'leaping: **the Ten Commandments**.
11. Eleven pipers piping: **the eleven faithful Apostles**.
12. Twelve drummers drumming: **the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed**.

DID YOU KNOW?

For the last 34 years, PNC Wealth Management has calculated the cost of purchasing all the gifts named in "The 12 Days of Christmas". In 2017, to purchase 12 drummers drumming, 22 pipers piping, 30 lords-a-leaping, 36 ladies dancing, 40 maids-a-milking, 42 swans-a-swimming, 42 geese-a-laying, 40 gold rings, 36 calling birds, 30 French hens, 22 turtle doves, and 12 partridges in pear trees (364 gifts) would cost

\$157,558

The cost of this year's CPI rose ever so slightly, driven by the cost increases for the Pear Tree, the increased demand for Golden Rings and wage increases for the Lords-a-Leaping. The most unpredictable component in the calculation every year is ... the swans (although this year that cost remained flat over last year).

www.pncchristmaspriceindex.com