



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

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

Mrs. Mary Ellen Peloso • (650) 269-7794



FIRST READING

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
ISAIAH 60: 1-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

All kings shall pay Him homage, all nations shall serve Him.
PSALMS 72

SECOND READING

The Gentiles are ... copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.
EPHESIANS 3: 2-3, 5-6

GOSPEL

Behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them.
MATTHEW 2: 1-12



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

08 JANUARY 2017

Where is the newborn king of the Jews?
We saw His star at its rising
and have come to do Him homage.

MATTHEW 2: 2

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 08 - 14 JAN

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	Charlene Dorman
	05:30 PM	John Zappettini; † Eve Bielecki; † Mary Piersol; † Shirley Moseley; † Angie Frost
TUE	07:30 AM	† John and Virginia Conway
	05:30 PM	† Lita Jane Smith
WED	07:30 AM	† Ginny Gertridge
	05:30 PM	† Margaret Rodgers
THU	07:30 AM	† Fr. Kevin Gaffey
	05:30 PM	† Uncle Remy
FRI	07:30 AM	† Ann Masik
	05:30 PM	Michele Soley-Jenkins
SAT	08:00 AM	Tamara Kok; Loretta Van Bleck; † Virginia Munk; † Shelby Drazen; † Thomas Francis Kearns IV

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)

08 JAN	(Sunday)	
09 JAN	(Monday)	07:30 PM Legion of Mary
10 JAN	(Tuesday)	08:00 PM H ⁴
11 JAN	(Wednesday)	07:00 PM Confirmation Class
12 JAN	(Thursday)	09:30 AM Opus Dei Women's Group 12:00 PM The Thursday Group
13 JAN	(Friday)	09:30 AM Nativity Moms Group
14 JAN	(Saturday)	

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



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

I am very pleased to report that, once again, Nativity has met and exceeded its goal for the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal for this year. I am most grateful to all of you who so generously contributed to this effort which benefits our entire Archdiocese. I pray that the Good Lord will bless you abundantly.

Msrgr Steven Otellini

PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 24-25 DEC
TOTAL:	\$33,880
Annual Diocesan Appeal Progress: 2016 ADA Goal:	GOAL MET \$148,082

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

12 JAN (Thursday):

**SAINT BERNARD OF CORLEONE, Religious
(1605-1667)**

A shoemaker by trade, Bernard was also considered the greatest swordsman and duelist in Sicily in his day. After mortally wounding a man named Canino in a duel, he sought sanctuary from the law in the church of the Capuchin Friars Minor in Palermo. While hiding there, he had a true conversion, and became a lay-brother of the Order in 1632, changing his name to Brother Bernardo.



He was noted for his extreme austerity and self-imposed penances in an attempt to atone for his earlier life. He had the gift of healing animals by prayer.

Anxiety is the greatest evil that can befall a soul, except sin. God commands you to pray, but He forbids you to worry.

St. Francis de Sales

The affairs of God are accomplished little by little and almost imperceptibly. The Spirit of God is neither violent nor hasty. He does all things in His time.

St. Vincent de Paul

God in His infinite goodness sometimes sees fit to test our courage and love by depriving us of the things which it seems to us would be advantageous to our souls; and if He finds us earnest in their pursuit, yet humble, tranquil and resigned to do without them if He wishes us to, He will give us more blessings than we should have had in the possession of what we craved.

St. Philip Neri

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

*Dearest Partners in Ministry,
Thank you so much for your "partnership" in helping us help families have a special Christmas Season. I am so grateful for your kindness, big and compassionate hearts!*

*With blessings and gratitude,
Sister Christina Heltsley
St. Francis Center*

NATIVITY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Nativity School invites you to our **Open House** on **Sunday, 29 JAN 2017**, from **11:00 AM-01:00 PM**. This is especially for parents and their children who are interested in attending Nativity School in grades PreK-7. The school is located at 1250 Laurel Street, Menlo Park. Come to see the magnificent displays and exhibits and meet our faculty and staff. Tours by appointment are available. Visit our website: www.nativityschool.com.

NATIVITY MOMS GROUP

All moms are invited to join the **Nativity Moms' Group**. Our next meeting will be **Friday, 13 JAN 2017** 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** or **Monica Hendricks** at **650/367-4944** for more information.

MONTHLY MORNING OF RECOLLECTION

The **Opus Dei Women's Group** has a monthly morning of recollection at Nativity, which is sponsored by the Charwick Study Center (www.charwick.org). They meet on the second Thursday of the month beginning at **09:30 AM**. For more information please contact: **Carrie** at **408/674-2861** or **Bridget** at **650/224-8025**. Find more information about Opus Dei at www.opusdei.org.

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

WALK FOR LIFE 2017

This year's **Walk for Life West Coast** in San Francisco will be held on **Saturday, 21 JAN 2017**. This is a great way for us as a parish to show our support for the value of life from conception to natural death. As in previous years, we have been blessed that



a parishioner has sponsored a bus. It will be leaving Nativity church at approximately **10:45 AM** and returning at approximately **05:00 PM**. If you would like to reserve a seat on the bus, call or text **Mary Ellen Peloso** at **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: 10:00 PM

Monday: 12:00 PM (noon)

Friday: 08:00 AM, 09:00 AM

Saturday: 09:00 AM, 09:00 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**
- Americo Ashley, son of Americo and Kate Caves
 - Enrique Alejandro, son of Charles and Joanna Lopez

MARRIAGES

PARISHIONERS

- DEATHS**
- Gussie Tarmann
 - Joanne Gainer
 - Ambrose Mainini

MEMORIAL MASS: JOANNE GAINER

The Memorial Mass for Joanne Gainer will be held on **Friday, 13 JAN 2017** at **11:00 AM**.

PEW DOORS

You probably have noticed that the pew doors in the center aisle are now all outfitted with spring hinges that keep them closed. This is so the beautiful carvings will be seen and appreciated. When Nativity was founded it was the custom to keep the pew door locked. Families would pay a yearly "pew rental", and the ushers would unlock your pew for you when you attended Mass. I believe we are the only church in the Archdiocese that still retains its pew doors. Mike Wilmer has been patiently and carefully working over the year to install the hinges. I am very grateful to him for the job well-done.



Msgr. Steven Otellini

IN THE COMMUNITY

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

AN EVENING WITH PATRICK MADRID

St. Timothy's Young Adult Ministry invites you to an evening with **Patrick Madrid**, **21 JAN 2017** at **07:00 PM** in **St. Timothy's Gym**, 1515 Dolan Avenue, San Mateo. Patrick Madrid is a best-selling author and radio host. His topic will be *Why Be Catholic? (When You Can Be Anything Else?)*. There will be a question-and-answer session following the presentation. Mr. Madrid will be signing books and will have many of his books, DVDs, and CDs available for purchase. There will be refreshments served and a raffle. Admission is by ticket only: **\$25** in advance and **\$30** at the door. Tickets may be purchased from the following website (processing fee will apply): <http://sttimothypatrickmadrid.eventbrite.com>.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

On **04 FEB 2017** at 10:00 AM the Archdiocese of San Francisco will hold its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass for husbands and wives and their families who will be celebrating a 5-year anniversary in 2017 (5, 10, 15, ... 30, 35, ... 50, or more than 50 years of marriage). The principal celebrant will be the **Most Reverend Carlos Sevilla**. The Mass will be at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, followed by a reception in Patron's Hall. Registration is required at anniversarymass.info, and a donation of **\$20** is requested. For more information contact **Betty** at **415/614-5680**.

DISCERNMENT DAYS: CORPUS CHRISTI MONASTERY

"Come and See" ... "Called by God, like Mary, to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to his word, to ponder and call upon him in solitude." **Corpus Christi Monastery** will be holding another discernment day for single Catholic women (ages 18-38) on **21 JAN 2017**. To register or for more information contact **Sr. Joseph Marie, O.P.** at vocations@nunsmenlo.org or **650/322-1801 x19**. The nuns at Corpus Christi Monastery are Dominican Contemplative Nuns, whose whole life is harmoniously ordered to the continual remembrance of God. Corpus Christi Monastery, 215 Oak Grove Avenue, Menlo Park, California.

DISCERNMENT RETREAT: ST. PATRICK'S SEMINARY

On the weekend of **27-29 JAN 2017**, **St. Patrick's Seminary** will hold their annual discernment retreat for men considering the priesthood. The weekend is open to men 18 years and older and is free. To register for this retreat contact **Fr. David Schunk** at vocations@sfarch.org or **415/614-5684**. For more information contact discernment.retreat@stpsu.edu. St. Patrick's Seminary is located at 320 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park.



WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

The Archdiocese of San Francisco invites you to our **Celebration of the World Day of the Sick** at the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption, on **Saturday 11 FEB 2017** at **11:00 AM**. Please come and bring a friend who is sick for a *"special time of prayer and sharing, ... and of reminding everyone to see in his sick brother or sister the face of Christ who by suffering, dying and rising, achieved the salvation of mankind."* (John Paul II). Hosted by the Order of Malta, Western Association USA, S.F. in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes. Contact **Kenneth Ryan**, kennryan@aol.com, **415/613-0395** for more information.

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for prayer intentions. For **January 2017**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

Intention: *Christian Unity*

That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

POPE'S "URBI ET ORBI" MESSAGE FOR 2016

Central Loggia of the Vatican Basilica ~ Sunday, 25 DEC 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Christmas!

Today the Church once more experiences the wonder of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and the shepherds of Bethlehem, as they contemplate the newborn Child laid in a manger: Jesus, the Saviour.

On this day full of light, the prophetic proclamation resounds:

"For to us a child is born, To us a son is given. And the government will be upon his shoulder; and his name will be called "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Is 9:6)

The power of this Child, Son of God and Son of Mary, is not the power of this world, based on might and wealth; it is the power of love. It is the power that created the heavens and the earth, and gives life to all creation: to minerals, plants and animals. It is the force that attracts man and woman, and makes them one flesh, one single existence. It is the power that gives new birth, forgives sin, reconciles enemies, and transforms evil into good. It is the power of God. This power of love led Jesus Christ to strip himself of his glory and become man; it led him to give his life on the cross and to rise from the dead. It is the power of service, which inaugurates in our world the Kingdom of God, a kingdom of justice and peace. For this reason, the birth of Jesus was accompanied by the angels' song as they proclaimed:

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!" (Lk 2:14).

Today this message goes out to the ends of the earth to reach all peoples, especially those scarred by war and harsh conflicts that seem stronger than the yearning for peace.

(cont'd. next week)

BOOKLET: PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR THE WORLD

The *Praying the Rosary for the World: God's Power is in our Hands When We Pray the Rosary* booklet was compiled by the Cloistered Dominican Nuns of Corpus Christi Monastery in Menlo Park. It includes a prayer for each mystery of the Rosary, and a special intention for each "Hail Mary" related to the mystery



being said. Using this booklet while saying the Rosary will not only be helpful to you, but also for the world. You may purchase these booklets in the parish office during regular office hours, **Monday-Friday, 09:00 AM-04:00 PM**. The booklets are **\$2.00** apiece. All money will go directly to Corpus Christi Monastery.

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

08 JAN (SUN) The Epiphany of Our Lord

09 JAN (MON)

10 JAN (TUE)

11 JAN (WED)

12 JAN (THU) FIRST Day: St. Agnes

13 JAN (FRI) SECOND Day: St. Agnes

14 JAN (SAT) THIRD Day: St. Agnes

15 JAN (SUN) FOURTH Day: St. Agnes

16 JAN (MON) FIFTH Day: St. Agnes

17 JAN (TUE) SIXTH Day: St. Agnes

18 JAN (WED) SEVENTH Day: St. Agnes

19 JAN (THU) EIGHTH Day: St. Agnes
FIRST Day: St. Thomas Aquinas

20 JAN (FRI) NINTH Day: St. Agnes
SECOND Day: St. Thomas Aquinas

21 JAN (SAT) FEAST OF SAINT AGNES
THIRD Day: St. Thomas Aquinas

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Saint Agnes:

<http://svfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Novena-St-Agnes.pdf>

Saint Thomas Aquinas:

<http://www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/english5/p03449.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



MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Peninsula Volunteers Meals on Wheels is urgently looking for volunteers to help deliver hot meals prepared by Peninsula Volunteers to a growing group of homebound seniors. The delivery routes are in San Mateo County from Daly City to Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, **Monday through Friday**, from about **10:00 AM-01:00 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 **Victoria Cormack** at **650/326-0665 x5108** with questions. Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. Meals on Wheels, 800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park.





SOME NOTES ABOUT EPIPHANY

In the earliest days of the Church, both the **Nativity** and the **Theophany** (baptism of Jesus) were celebrated on **06 JAN**. Somewhere before 354 AD the Western Church moved the date for the celebration of the **Nativity** back to **25 DEC**, partly to overshadow a pagan festival (to the Invincible Sun) on that same date. At that time they assigned **06 JAN** to the celebration of the **Epiphany** (visit of the Magi). The Eastern Church today celebrates the **Theophany** on **06 JAN**. The Russian Church still celebrates the **Nativity** on **06 JAN**, and in some traditions, a “Twelfth Night” celebration on **05 JAN** is followed by the traditional exchange of gifts on **06 JAN**.

BLESSING OF THE HOME: “CHALKING THE LINTEL”

Since the Middle Ages there has been a tradition in many Christian households that on (or near) the **Feast of the Epiphany** we pray for God’s blessing on our homes, marking the doorpost (lintel) with chalk (an incarnational image reminding us of the dust of the earth from which we were made). We mark the main door of our home with the initials of the Magi and the numerals of the new year, connected with crosses:

20 + C + M + B + 17

The initials remind us of the legendary names of the Magi - **Caspar**, **Melchior**, and **Balthasar** - and also stand for the Latin motto: **Christus mansionem benedicat** (*May Christ bless this house*) In the Book of Exodus, the Israelites marked their doors with blood so that the Lord would pass over their homes; but in this ritual, we mark our doors with chalk as a sign that we have invited God’s presence and blessing into our homes.

There are many resources with suggestions for a blessing of the home. Here are just a few:

www.stmichaelonline.org/LiturgicalYear/Epiphany.htm

www.fisheaters.com/customschristmas9.html

www.catholicculture.org/lit/Prayers/view.cfm?id=49

