



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. Patrick J. Driscoll

PERMANENT DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Dominick Peloso

Rev. Mr. Thomas Kelly

VISITING PRIESTS

Rev. Gregory Heidenblut, OSA

Msgr. James Kelly

Rev. Reginald Martin, O.P.

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Monica Hickam • mon.hickam@gmail.com

24-HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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



FIRST READING

Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him.

WISDOM 2: 12, 17-20

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Behold, God is my helper; the Lord sustains my life.

PSALMS 54

SECOND READING

The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.

JAMES 3: 16-4: 3

GOSPEL

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

MARK 9: 30-37

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23 SEPTEMBER 2018



Wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits.

JAMES 3: 17

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 23 - 29 SEP

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	† Ken Brett Fisse
	05:30 PM	† Katherine Eastman
TUE	07:30 AM	Lisa Andrews
	05:30 PM	† Miriam and Rolly Somer; † Tom Del Sarto
WED	07:30 AM	† Daniel Diaz
	05:30 PM	† Paul Otellini; † Bob and Dot Connelly; † Ken Brett Fisse; † Prudencia de Guzman
THU	07:30 AM	Fr. John Hester
	05:30 PM	Mary Henriques
FRI	07:30 AM	John Roof
	05:30 PM	† Karen Hanna; † Katherine Eastman
SAT	08:00 AM	Lauren Spingola; Sid Custodio; † Alice and Sam Felix; † Bob and Dode Balderson; † Vicki MacDonald

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing

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)


23 SEP	(Sunday)	03:00 PM	RCIA
24 SEP	(Monday)	07:30 PM	Legion of Mary
		07:30 PM	St. Vincent de Paul Society
25 SEP	(Tuesday)	07:00 PM	H ⁴
26 SEP	(Wednesday)		
27 SEP	(Thursday)	11:00 AM	The Thursday Group
28 SEP	(Friday)		
29 SEP	(Saturday)		



Electronic giving is offered through our website www.nativitymenlo.org or call the parish office for a paper form

PARISH CONSECRATION

On **Saturday, 13 OCT 2018** at the **05:00 PM** Mass, we will be renewing our parish consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It will be followed by a rosary procession and Benediction. To better prepare for it, we encourage everyone to get **Father Gaitley's** book, *"33 Days to Morning Glory"* (many of you have that book from last year). We will also be placing a beautiful memorial plaque generously donated by parishioners to commemorate the parish consecration. Please join us for this special time in our parish history.

PARISH OFFERINGS	
	WEEK OF 08-09 SEP
TOTAL:	\$13,653
Annual Diocesan Appeal Progress:	\$76,001
2018 ADA Goal:	\$152,524

Donate online: <http://www.sfarch.org/aaa#DonateForm>

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

26 SEP (Wednesday):

SAINT COSMAS and SAINT DAMIAN, (d. ~303)

These twin brothers were Syrian-trained doctors. The brothers accepted no payment for their services, and their charity brought many to Christ. They were reported to have miraculously replaced the ulcerated leg of a man named Justinian with one from a recently deceased man. Arrested during the persecutions of Diocletian, they were tortured (without suffering injury) and martyred by beheading.



28 SEP (Friday):

SAINT WENCESLAUS, Martyr (907-929)

SAINT LORENZO RUIZ and COMPANIONS, Martyrs (d. 1637)

27 SEP (Thursday):

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, Priest (1580-1660)

Like his fellow saint, **Francis de Sales**, who was his friend and contemporary, **Vincent de Paul** performed an invaluable service to the Catholic Church in a period of confusion and laxness. For men about to take Holy Orders, Vincent devised a set of spiritual exercises, and special exercises also for those desiring to make general Confession, or to settle on a vocation.



29 SEP (Saturday):

SAINT MICHAEL, SAINT GABRIEL, SAINT RAPHAEL, Archangels

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

BROWN BAG SUNDAY: NEXT WEEK

On **30 SEP 2018**, the fifth Sunday of this month, members of the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will be outside all the church doors with their brown bags to accept your monetary donations, either cash or check. The Nativity Conference of St. Vincent de Paul is a very active one. These collections on the 5th Sundays make their good work possible. Please be generous.

Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference is in need of volunteers. If you are able to help them help the poor in our area, please call **Mike Wilmer** at **650/346-1089**.

SCHOLA SERAPHICA: MALE VOICES NEEDED

Schola Seraphica has already begun rehearsing for our December concert. *We are in need of tenor and bass voices.* Practices are on **Monday** evenings. Please join us if you are able. We are looking forward to a wonderful concert season. For more information please contact **Margaret Durando**, **650/322-2789**.

FR. DAVENPORT MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Calling all golfers (and people who like to hang out with golfers). The **5th Annual Father Davenport Memorial Golf Tournament** will take place on **Saturday, 13 OCT 2018** at The Golf Club at Moffett Field. This event is hosted by the **Nativity Men's Club** and features an **08:30 AM** shotgun start followed by a reception back at the school. All skill levels are encouraged to play, even those who haven't touched a golf club in years. Register at www.fatherdavenportgolf.com. For questions, please contact Chairperson **Mike Livingston** at **650/804-5226** or mike@1on1basketball.com. We hope to see everyone on the course!



SPECIAL COLLECTION

This weekend there is a second collection for the **Priests' Retirement Fund**. Each fall, the Archdiocese of San Francisco holds a special collection for our retired priests. These men have dedicated their lives to serving others, they have been present for many of life's most precious moments, from birth to death, sharing the love and compassion of God. This collection for the Priest's Retirement Fund helps pay for many of their living and healthcare expenses.

EIGHTH ANNUAL ROSARY RALLY

Join Catholics from around the Bay Area at the **8th Annual Rosary Rally** on **06 OCT 2018** at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco. This year's theme is "*Accompaniment of Youth 2018.*" The day starts at **09:00 AM** with a gathering and recitation of the Most Holy Rosary. At **10:00 AM**, the Young People's Rosary Rally Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone. For full details visit www.rosaryrallysf.com.

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):

Wednesday: 03:00 PM

Friday: 01:00 AM, 02:00 AM

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.

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 • John Andrew, son of
Michael and Amy Kozina

MARRIAGES • Denis Posunko and Blanca Rios

PARISHIONERS • Natalie Nolden
• Lizbeth and Michael Jimenez (*Elizabeth*)

DEATHS • Judy Woods

The Funeral Mass for **Judy Woods** will be on **Friday, 28 SEP 2018** at **10:30 AM**.

 **“BROWN BAG” SUNDAY**
Next week the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will be collecting donations after the Masses.

IN THE COMMUNITY

ST. PATRICK'S 11TH ANNUAL GALA (SAVE THE DATE)

On **Saturday, 29 SEP 2018**, **St. Patrick's Seminary** will be having their **11th Annual Gala**. This is the premier fundraising even for St. Patrick's, which this year is honoring the Archdiocese for the Military Services, with **Archbishop Timothy Broglio, JCD**, accepting the honors. The evening's program includes vespers; tours of the seminary and cocktails; dinner; and a live and silent auction.

For more information visit www.stpsu.edu, or contact **John Callan** at **650/325-5621** or advancement@stpsu.edu.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT LUNCHEON

The annual *St. John Vianney Luncheon* for the benefit of the **Priests Retirement Fund**, will be held on **Friday, 26 OCT 2018** at **11:30 AM** at **St. Mary's Cathedral (Patrons Hall)**. These funds cover medical expenses, assisted living, and nursing care for retired priests of the archdiocese. Since the first Luncheon in 2011, more than \$1.8 million has been raised, providing invaluable financial assistance to our retired priests.

You can support our retired priests by attending the Luncheon or by making a donation directly to the Retirement Fund at the Priests Retirement Luncheon webpage:

<https://sfarchdiocese.org/prflunch>



Parish Office Hours
09:00 AM-04:00 PM
Monday-Friday

SAVE THE DATE: CELEBRANT AND SPEAKER

Thursday, 25 OCT 2018 at the **05:30 PM** Mass, noted Catholic priest and speaker **Fr. Michael Barry, SS.CC.** will be the celebrant. A conference on *“Healing the Family Tree”* is to follow Mass. More info forthcoming.

O'HARE CENTER UPDATE

We are currently in the process of tending bids for the work on the **O'Hare Center**. Once the bids are in, and we have chosen a contractor, work will begin. As of now, the building will be completely unavailable starting **05 NOV 2018**. The work on the project should take six to nine months. During construction portable lavatories will be available, and there will be some minor parking restrictions. Once the work is complete we will have a much more accommodating and versatile parish center with modern offices. I ask your patience during this time.

Many parishioners have made generous contributions to this project, but we are still short of our estimated costs by about **\$500,000**. The more “upfront” contributions we have, the less we will have to rely on drawing down on a bridge loan from the archdiocese. If you would like to make a contribution to this project, please contact me.

Mmgr. Steven Otellini

PAULINE BOOKSTORE

The **Daughters of St. Paul** have a brand new Book Center! **Pauline Books and Media** (*The Miracle on Middlefield*) is now open at their new location: 3250 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. **650/562-7060**. It is on the corner of Middlefield Road and 6th Avenue, with parking behind the store. Store hours are **Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM-06:00 PM** and **Sat. 10:00 AM-05:00 PM**. If you are looking for Bibles, books, DVDs, religious gifts, and a Eucharistic chapel, the Pauline Books and Media Center will be one of your favorite places to visit.

STANFORD HOSPITAL SPIRITUAL CARE

Would you be interested in visiting Catholic patients at Stanford Hospital and offering them Communion as a Eucharistic Minister? If you are a compassionate listener, empathetic, well-grounded in your faith, and open to serving a couple of hours per week, then becoming a *Spiritual Care Service Volunteer* at Stanford might be the right opportunity for you. Stanford Health Care is offering its next training class for new volunteers on **Saturday, 06 OCT 2018**, at Stanford Hospital. To learn more about this special ministry and request an application, please contact **Raksha Patel** at **650/723-5101** or spiritualcare@stanfordhealthcare.org. The deadline for submitting applications is **22 SEP 2018**.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER PROGRAM

On **Saturday, 03 NOV 2018**, the *Office of Marriage and Family Life* is hosting its second annual mother-daughter event at **St. Bartholomew Church (San Mateo)**. This fun and lighthearted program introduces girls to the beauty and wonder of God's plan for becoming teenagers and young women. There are separate programs for *Tweens* (**10-12** years old) and *Teens* (**13-16** years). *Tweens*: **09:30 AM-12:30 PM**; *Teens*: **01:30-05:00 PM**. All presentations are pure and affirming.

Visit the webpage, www.sfarchdiocese.org/md for more information and to register.

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

Intention: Young People in Africa
(Universal)

That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The *Youth Club* at **St. Francis Assisi Parish** is in need of volunteers for after-school tutoring for underserved students in grades 3 to 5. They are looking for volunteers to tutor students in Reading/Literacy or Math. The hours are **04:00-06:00 PM, Monday** through **Friday**. Volunteers can work one day a week up to five days a week.

If interested, contact **Sarah Burton** at **415/972-1226** or sburton@catholiccharitiessf.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: ST. FRANCIS CENTER OF REDWOOD CITY

The **St. Francis Center of Redwood City** is currently looking for volunteer tutors for ESL adult students at our center. Starting immediately, English tutor/teachers are needed **Monday** through **Friday** at various times during the day. No knowledge of Spanish is necessary. It is a wonderful ministry. If you can commit to an hour or an hour and half one day a week, you would be making a huge difference in the life of your future students. Please contact **Tess** at the St. Francis Center at **650/365-7829** for more information and to sign up. Thank you!

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.

TOGETHER IN HOLINESS: CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

The **Archdiocese of San Francisco** and the **St. John Paul II Foundation** present the *Together in Holiness Conference* on **Saturday, 29 SEP 2018**, from **09:00 AM-03:45 PM** at **Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church**, 1040 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont. The day includes Mass celebrated by **Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone**, Eucharistic Adoration, and Reconciliation. Child care (2-12 years) is available, space limited. Cost is **\$59** a couple, or **\$35** individual (early bird costs until **20 AUG** are **\$49/29**).

Visit: www.forlifeandfamily.org/events/th18-sfca/ to learn more and register, or contact **Ed Hopfner** **415/614-5547** or hopfnere@sfarch.org.

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

23 SEP (SUN)	Feast of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina SIXTH DAY: St. Vincent de Paul SECOND DAY: St. Terese
24 SEP (MON)	SEVENTH DAY: St. Vincent de Paul THIRD DAY: St. Terese
25 SEP (TUE)	EIGHTH DAY: St. Vincent de Paul FOURTH DAY: St. Terese FIRST DAY: St. Francis
26 SEP (WED)	NINTH DAY: St. Vincent de Paul FIFTH DAY: St. Terese SECOND DAY: St. Francis
27 SEP (THU)	Feast of Saint Vincent de Paul SIXTH DAY: St. Terese THIRD DAY: St. Francis
28 SEP (FRI)	SEVENTH DAY: St. Terese FOURTH DAY: St. Francis
29 SEP (SAT)	EIGHTH DAY: St. Terese FIFTH DAY: St. Francis
30 SEP (SUN)	NINTH DAY: St. Terese SIXTH DAY: St. Francis
01 OCT (MON)	Feast of Saint Terese of Liseaux SEVENTH DAY: St. Francis
02 OCT (TUE)	EIGHTH DAY: St. Francis
03 OCT (WED)	NINTH DAY: St. Francis
04 OCT (THU)	Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi
05 OCT (FRI)	
06 OCT (SAT)	

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

St. Vincent de Paul:

www.liturgies.net/saints/vincentdepaul/novena.htm

St. Terese (Little Flower):

www.ewtn.com/therese/novena.htm

St. Francis of Assisi:

www.praymorenovenas.com/st-francis-assisi-novena/

"STAY OR GO?"

Are you a long-time home owner, considering your future housing wants, needs and dreams? There is a lot to try to figure out when thinking about downsizing: options like re-purposing your home to better work for you, remodeling, or have you considered adding an accessory dwelling unit to generate some passive income or to accommodate additional family members? You could sell your home and buy a smaller, more manageable home, or a duplex, or move out of the area completely. These decisions require careful thought and planning. Join me, Siobhan (pronounced *Sha-vonne*), and meet some local professionals to help ensure your maximum success. The dates are **Tuesday, 25 SEP 2018** from **07:00-08:30 PM** or **Saturday, 29 SEP 2018** from **10:00-11:30 AM**. The location is the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce. *Space is limited* so RSVP to reserve your seat.

Email: sos@osullivanteam.com or text: **650/776-5445**.



ALL ABOUT ANGELS

This week we will celebrate the “angelic” feast day of the archangels: **Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**.

SO WHAT IS AN ANGEL?

“Angel” is not what they are -- it is what they do. “Spirit” is what these beings “are”. “Angel” is the title of their office -- it means they are messengers of God. **Saint Thomas Aquinas** called them “thoughts that can think”. Here is what the Catechism of the Catholic Church says:

I. THE ANGELS

The existence of angels - a truth of faith

328 *The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls “angels” is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of Tradition.*

Who are they?

329 *St. Augustine says: “‘Angel’ is the name of their office, not of their nature. If you seek the name of their nature, it is ‘spirit’; if you seek the name of their office, it is ‘angel’: from what they are, ‘spirit’, from what they do, ‘angel.’” With their whole beings the angels are servants and messengers of God. Because they “always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven” they are the “mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word”.*

330 *As purely spiritual creatures angels have intelligence and will: they are personal and immortal creatures, surpassing in perfection all visible creatures, as the splendor of their glory bears witness.*

... AND WHAT ARE THE “CHOIRS OF ANGELS”?

A number of works throughout history, from **Dionysius the Areopagite** (often referred to in English translations as **St. Denis**) to **St. Thomas Aquinas** (“*Summa Theologica*”) have attempted to classify the angels into a hierarchical set (Dionysius even invented the word “*hierarchia*”, meaning “sacred order”). The commonly-accepted organization for the angelic hosts is three ranks, with three orders in each rank (the higher the rank, the closer to God).

The highest rank contains:

SERAPHIM
CHERUBIM
THRONES

The “middle” rank contains:

DOMINATIONS (DOMINIONS)
VIRTUES (AUTHORITIES)
POWERS

The lowest rank contains:

PRINCIPALITIES
ARCHANGELS
ANGELS



Questions From the Annals of Catechism Classes: “Why is that prayer we say at Mass every week called the ‘Nicene Creed’?”

Technically, it should probably be called the “**Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed**”, since the version we recite today originated at the **Council of Nicaea** but was approved in amplified form during the **Council of Constantinople** in 381.

The **Council of Nicaea** was the very first ecumenical council ever called (“convoked”), in the year 325. The Emperor **Constantine** summoned the bishops to the city of Nicaea for a council to discuss something called the “**Arian Heresy**”.

A priest by the name of **Arius**, influenced greatly by Greek philosophical thinking, had written a treatise stating that Jesus was the greatest of all men, but was not Himself truly God. In the Western Catholic Church the thoughts of **Arius** were not taken seriously, but in the East they were circulated by some influential rulers and began to cause major problems for the Catholic Church.

As early as 320, **St. Alexander**, the bishop of Alexandria, had called together a council of 100 bishops from Egypt and Libya to discuss what should be done about **Arius**.

The **Council of Nicaea** (which was opened and attended by the Emperor himself) heard testimony from many sources (including **Arius** himself). **Arius’** arguments were considered very seriously, and the bishops were very careful in their deliberations (although you can find out for yourself what **St. Nicholas** did to **Arius** during the council).

The council dealt with some other issues, too. These included a controversy over the proper date to celebrate Easter and a fallen-away sect called the **Meletians**. But the major outcome of the **Council of Nicaea** was the drafting of a “formula” - a statement of what we as Catholics believe, absolutely and without question:

“We believe in God, the Father Almighty...”

And what happened to **Arius**? **Arius** and his writings were branded as “*anathema*”, his books were cast into a fire, and he was exiled to Illyria. “*Anathema Maranatha*” is a major form of excommunication, and is delivered with great solemnity by a formal ceremony, in which (among other things) the person so named is “*delivered...to Satan to mortify his body, that his soul may be saved on the day of judgment.*”

Very serious stuff, but also (per the **Catholic Encyclopedia**): The Church, animated by the spirit of God, does not wish the death of the sinner, but rather that he be converted and live. This explains why the most severe and terrifying formulas of excommunication, containing all the rigors of the *Maranatha* have, as a rule, clauses like this: “...*unless he becomes repentant, or gives satisfaction, or is corrected*”.