



210 Oak Grove Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
tel: (650) 323-7914
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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 ADVENT

13 DECEMBER 2015

The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.

ZEPHANIAH 3: 15



St. Lucy (Santa Lucia)

FIRST READING

The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty Savior.

ZEPHANIAH 3: 14-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

ISAIAH 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6

SECOND READING

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!

PHILIPPIANS 4: 4-7

GOSPEL

Now the people were filled with expectation.

LUKE 3: 10-18

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 13 - 19 DEC

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	† Shelby Drazen
	05:30 PM	† Joseph Masuda
TUE	07:30 AM	Benefactors of the parish
	05:30 PM	† Fulgencia Rodriguez
WED	07:30 AM	† Joe Flipp
	05:30 PM	† Johnny Sullivan; † Theresa Eshelman; † Mary Piersol; † Peg and Frank Chandler
THU	07:30 AM	† Elizabeth Silva
	05:30 PM	† Edward Hogan, Jr.
FRI	07:30 AM	† Fr. Clement Davenport
	05:30 PM	† Elinor Bottino
SAT	08:00 AM	† Pat and Ted Smyth; † Elizabeth Silva; † Rocky Sebastian; † Daniel Freitas

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing

TV AND ONLINE MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Do you know someone unable to get to church because of illness, frailty, or other struggles? For the homebound, "My Sunday Mass" on KOFY-TV channel 20 at **08:30 AM** provides spiritual comfort and hope. To see the Mass online, visit www.mysundaymass.org.

EWTN also broadcasts (cable and on-line) the daily and Sunday Masses at **05:00 AM** (Pacific), with encore broadcasts at **09:00 AM, 04:00 PM** and **09:00 PM** daily (www.ewtn.com/multimedia/weekly-schedules.asp#).

For Catholics who can get to church, TV or online Mass does not meet the Sunday Mass obligation.

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)

13 DEC (Sunday)

14 DEC (Monday)

09:00 AM	Bible Group
07:30 PM	RCIA
07:30 PM	Legion of Mary

15 DEC (Tuesday)

09:30 AM	Bible Study: The Prophets
07:00 PM	Bible Study: The Prophets
08:00 PM	H ⁴

16 DEC (Wednesday)

07:00 PM	Confirmation Class
07:30 PM	Opus Dei Men's Group

17 DEC (Thursday)

11:00 AM	The Thursday Group
07:00 PM	Simbang Gabi Mass

18 DEC (Friday)

09:30 AM	Nativity Moms Group
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19 DEC (Saturday)

09:00 AM	Baptism Class
06:00 PM	Volunteer Thank You Party

PARISH OFFERINGS

WEEK OF 28-29 NOV	
TOTAL:	\$10,655
Thanksgiving:	\$2,737
Altar Society:	\$2,725
ADA Progress:	\$72,661
2015 ADA Goal:	\$121,400



SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

13 DEC (Sunday): SAINT LUCY

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).



14 DEC (Monday): 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.



MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

MONTHLY EVENING OF RECOLLECTION

The **Opus Dei Men's Group** has a monthly evening of recollection at Nativity, which is sponsored by the Menlough Study Center (www.menlough.org). They meet on the third **Wednesday** of the month beginning at **07:30 PM** in the Church. You can find more information about Opus Dei at www.opusdei.org.

Last Time at Nativity!

NATIVITY MOMS GROUP

All moms are invited to join the **Nativity Moms' Group**. Our next meeting will be **Friday, 18 DEC 2015** 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.

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE PRAYER SOCIETY

NOVENA, LITANY, PRAYER INTENTIONS/THANKSGIVING, AND ADORATION

The **Infant Jesus of Prague Prayer Society** invites parishioners and guests to join in prayer before our Infant Jesus shrine on **17 DEC 2015** at **01:00 PM**. Each month, on the 17th day, we begin the first day of the Infant Jesus of Prague Novena, a litany, prayer intentions/thanksgivings, and conclude with adoration.



Our Lord answers all prayers. It is *how* God answers that is most compelling. Let the Word made flesh, the Infant Jesus, open your our heart, mind, and soul to receive and trust in His Divine Plan for your life.

Our 24-hour Infant Jesus Prayer Line is always open to receive any prayer request and thanksgivings. Please call **650/281-3339**, contact **Anne Delaney, O.F.S.**, or write to pray2infantjesus@aol.com. *We give glory to God through our gratitude.*

NATIVITY MOMS AND DADS OF YESTERYEAR

Renew past friendships and make new ones. Join the **Nativity Moms and Dads of Yesteryear** at Harry's Hofbrau, 1909 El Camino Real, Redwood City, on **Tuesday, 12 JAN 2016** at **06:00 PM**. For information only call **Bonnie Neylan** at **650/322-8645**.

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

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

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Come join us, singing in honor of our Savior born on Christmas and in remembrance of those babies not born due to abortion. Planned Parenthood sidewalk, 35 Baywood Av, San Mateo on **Wednesday, 16 DEC 2015, 06:00-07:00 PM**. Sheet music provided. It is recommended that you dress warmly. More info: **Jessica** at **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):



Monday: 03:00 AM

Wednesday: 02:00 PM

Saturday: 04:00 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 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**
- Francesca Evelyn, daughter of Peter Kaval and Ann Pellegrini
 - Heather Ann and Katheryn Grace, daughters of Alan Laing and Heidi Lamb
 - Lana Drew, daughter of Thomas and Erqi Pollom

MARRIAGES

- PARISHIONERS**
- Rebecca Fullmer
 - Nicole and Carlos Ramirez (Elliot)
 - Joanne Curry
 - Joanna Curry

- DEATHS**
- Henry Rowen

NATIVITY BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE

We have several books which are available in the parish office.

- *Nativity Illuminated: A Celebration of Our Church and the Symbols Within* \$10.00
- *Father Lucky: Trust in Jesus -- A collection of the stories of Fr. Clement A. Davenport, pastor emeritus* \$10.00
- *The Spirit of Nativity: Celebrating Christ on the Peninsula for 140 Years* \$6.00 paperback in black and white; \$140.00 for 12" x 12" hardback in full color

If you are interested in purchasing one or all of these books they are available between **09:00 AM-04:00 PM Monday through Friday.** 650/323-7914



VOLUNTEER THANK-YOU PARTY

Msgr. Steven Otellini cordially invites all Nativity volunteers to the annual *Thank You Christmas Party* on **Saturday, 19 DEC 2015** 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, carnival, tree lot, Adopt-a-Family, Legion of Mary, School of Religion, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Youth Ministry, 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.

ADORATION: 20-YEAR CELEBRATION

On **Epiphany Sunday, 03 JAN 2016**, the parish marks **20 years** of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. This has been a huge grace for all involved, the parish, and indeed the world. To mark this anniversary, **Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone** will be here to celebrate the **11:30 AM** Mass that day. It will include a Eucharistic Procession and a parish-sponsored reception in the O'Hare Center immediately following. We ask that all parishioners and friends of the parish, especially the adorers, join us for this festive day. We have much to be thankful for and much to pray for. For questions, contact **Mary Ellen Peloso, 650/269-7794**.

IN THE COMMUNITY

ATTENTION SHOPPERS!

Help support our Nativity School effortlessly. **eScrip** is an easy way to help the Nativity School.

1. Sign up at www.escrip.com referencing Nativity School Code: **137104734**
2. Install **ForgetMeNot** – This amazing tool has all of the vendors that participate in the program. Once you have signed up you don't have to do anything else.
3. Shop, Shop, Shop – ever time you shop online with one of the eScrip vendors a percentage of what you spend is donated to Nativity School. There are hundreds of vendors, including Macy's Nordstroms, L.L.Bean, Lands End, Draeger's, and Best Buy.

It only takes **two** minutes to register and all purchases are recorded and submitted to the school. If you are a parent of a Nativity student the amount is applied to your Scrip commitment. **Easy!!!** Please contact **Scott Anderson** with any questions at sanderson@nativityschool.com.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PRO-LIFE PROCESSION

Beneath Our Lady's banner, join us in praying the rosary as we process from the St. Matthew statue at 9th Ave and El Camino Real, San Mateo and go north on El Camino up 7 blocks to Planned Parenthood at 35 Baywood Avenue and return (about 1.5 miles). *Rain or shine!* **Sunday, 13 DEC 2015, 02:00-03:00 PM.**

VALLOMBROSA GIFT SHOP

The **Vallombrosa Center Gift Shop** is open for the Christmas season! Our regular hours of operation are from **08:00 AM - 04:00 PM, Monday through Friday**. We are closed the week of the 21st. Stop by and look at our unique collection of artwork, children's books, scarves, prayer items, CDs, etcetera. Our cozy shop is located in the main building with convenient parking. Vallombrosa Center, 250 Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park, CA, 94025.

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.

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



FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for general and missionary prayer intentions. For **December 2015**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

Universal: *God's Mercy*

That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Missionary: *Hope for Families*

That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.



www.im.va

SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

21 DEC	(Monday)		
	07:30 PM	Advent Penance Service	
24 DEC	(Thursday)	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
	07:30 AM	Daily Mass	
	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	Christmas Mass	★
25 DEC	(Friday)	<i>Christmas Day</i>	★
	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	(Saturday)	<i>Feast of St. Stephen</i>	★
	08:00 AM	Daily Mass (one Mass only)	★
	05:00 PM	Vigil Mass for Sunday, December 27th	★
31 DEC	(Thursday)		
	07:30 AM	Daily Mass	
	05:00 PM	Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God	
01 JAN	(Friday)	<i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>	
		<i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>	
	09:00 AM	Daily Mass	
	12:00 PM	Daily Mass	
	05:30 PM	Daily Mass	
02 JAN	(Saturday)	Regular Mass schedule	

CALENDAR OF NOVENAS

13 DEC (SUN)	(Feast of Saint Lucy)
14 DEC (MON)	
15 DEC (TUE)	
16 DEC (WED)	FIRST DAY: Christmas Novena
17 DEC (THU)	SECOND DAY: Christmas Novena
18 DEC (FRI)	THIRD DAY: Christmas Novena
19 DEC (SAT)	FOURTH DAY: Christmas Novena
20 DEC (SUN)	FIFTH DAY: Christmas Novena
21 DEC (MON)	SIXTH DAY: Christmas Novena
22 DEC (TUE)	SEVENTH DAY: Christmas Novena
23 DEC (WED)	EIGHTH DAY: Christmas Novena
24 DEC (THU)	NINTH DAY: Christmas Novena
25 DEC (FRI)	Christmas Day
26 DEC (SAT)	

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

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_glory.htm

Novena for Priests:

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

Effecacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:

www.ewtn.com/devotionals/heart/sh_novena.htm

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

In April, Pope Francis declared that we will celebrate an *Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy* in the upcoming liturgical year. The Jubilee Year gives the Church the opportunity to enjoy its spiritual bounty, "a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective." On the Third Sunday of Advent, **December 13th**, Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran. Archbishop Cordileone, as the Archbishop of San Francisco, invites all the faithful to join him at Vespers at the **Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption** on **13 December 2015** at **03:00 PM** to celebrate the opening of the Holy Doors in our Archdiocese and to unite in prayer for the start of this Jubilee.

SAFETY REGARDING SCHOOL BUSES

There is a bus from Menlo School that stops near the entrance driveway of Nativity every school day morning at about **07:30 AM**. Usually they are not blocking the entrance driveway. For the safety of the students, state law requires that all other vehicles stop on both sides of the road if the red lights on the bus are flashing. If you are turning left into the Nativity driveway while the bus is near please wait until the bus has left the area.



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 was 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, which 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 JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Imagine you came home from school today and your family had received a note in the mail. The note said: “**The government requires your entire family to be in Monterey, CA next week.**” Now imagine you have no car, there is no form of public transportation, and all the roads between Menlo Park and Monterey are dirt and gravel. You can bring one wagon to ride in, but it has no cushions inside and you will feel every single bump and hole in the road as you go.

Now you need to **WALK** from Menlo Park to Monterey, a distance of about 85 miles. It will take you several days to do this, and you will arrive very tired and very sore. When you arrive, there won’t be a single empty hotel room anywhere in Monterey, from the hotel chains down to bed-and-breakfast inns in Carmel. One small hotel owner says you can sleep in his carport. It is open to the elements in front (no door you can close) and it smells like a garage that stores old tires and gym socks. And when the sun goes down, it is really cold in the carport.

This is similar to what Joseph and Mary had to do, right before the King of all kings was born. Nazareth and Bethlehem are 82 miles apart, and the Roman road through the Jordan Valley is dirt, gravel, and potholes. Today it is very dangerous to travel on the road through the Jordan valley, because terrorists sit up in the hills and shoot at you. It was also dangerous to travel that road in the time of Joseph and Mary. Many parts of the road are long and deserted, and thieves and bandits would hide, then beat and rob travelers (remember the story of the Good Samaritan?). If you resisted the bandits, they might just kill you. Imagine taking that trip (on foot!). By the time you got to Bethlehem (or Monterey), all you would want to do was rest. But if you couldn’t find a room, you would have to walk some more, all over town, trying to find some place to stay ... and then have to be satisfied with whatever was offered, even a barn (or carport). **Let us remember to thank God for the incredible sacrifice the Holy Family made, so that God’s Son could save each and every one of us from Hell forever.**

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

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

