



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



HEARING LOOP ENABLED



HEARING LOOP ENABLED

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11 DECEMBER 2016

The poor have the good news proclaimed to them.
And blessed is the one who takes no offense at Me.

MATTHEW 11: 5-6



FIRST READING

They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

ISAIAH 35: 1-6, 10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord loves the just; the Lord protects strangers.

PSALMS 146

SECOND READING

Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.

JAMES 5: 7-10

GOSPEL

Among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist.

MATTHEW 11: 2-11

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 11 - 17 DEC

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	† Garrett Chiamparino
	05:30 PM	† Terrence Meagher
TUE	07:30 AM	Hazell Miloradovitch
	05:30 PM	Jacob Corradetti; Lucienne Woods; William Kadash; † Jean Zajac; † Maria de Jesus
WED	07:30 AM	† Joseph Masuda
	05:30 PM	† Shelby Drazan
THU	07:30 AM	† Fulgencia Rodriguez
	05:30 PM	† Margaret Bland
FRI	07:30 AM	† Eve Bielecki
	05:30 PM	† Willi Helbig
SAT	08:00 AM	Marie and Scott Schock; † Fr. Clement Davenport; † John Martin; † Trent Moseley

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



BULLETIN NEWS

REMINDER: SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Items for the bulletin should be **emailed to the bulletin editors** at nativity.bulletin@gmail.com.

During the holiday season our publishers have earlier-than-usual submission deadlines for specific bulletins.

- Items for the **01 January 2017** bulletin must be submitted by **Wednesday, 21 December 2016**.

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)

11 DEC (Sunday)

12 DEC (Monday)

07:30 PM Legion of Mary
07:30 PM RCIA

13 DEC (Tuesday)

08:00 PM H⁴

14 DEC (Wednesday)

07:00 PM Confirmation Class

15 DEC (Thursday)

11:00 AM The Thursday Group

16 DEC (Friday)

09:30 AM Nativity Moms Group

17 DEC (Saturday)

09:00 AM Adopt-a-Family Deliveries



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

PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 19-20 NOV
TOTAL:	\$11,316
Thanksgiving (SVdP Society):	\$2,332
Altar Society:	\$3,617
Annual Diocesan Appeal Progress:	\$106,529
2016 ADA Goal:	\$148,082

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

12 DEC (Monday)

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 (Wednesday):

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.



13 DEC (Tuesday)

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 **17 DEC**, ending on Christmas Day. 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

NATIVITY MOMS GROUP

All moms are invited to join the **Nativity Moms' Group**. Our next meeting will be **Friday, 16 DEC 2016** 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.

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):



Sunday: 10:00 PM

Thursday: 02:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 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.

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, 11 DEC 2016, 02:00-03:00 PM**. *Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Pre-born, Pray for us!*



NATIVITY BOOKS AVAILABLE

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

- *Nativity Illuminated: A Celebration of Our Church and the Symbols Within* (\$10.00)
- *Father Lucky: Trust in Jesus, A collection of the stories of the late Fr. Clement A. Davenport* (\$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" beautiful hardback in full color)

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

MARRIAGES

- PARISHIONERS**
- **Yesenia Santos and Tamer Shatara**
(*Maya, Julian*)
 - **Michele Blazek**
 - **Laura Peredo**

- DEATHS**
- **Philip McDonnell**

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Today's second collection is for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others – educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to this very important second collection.

Checks for all special collections should be made out to the **Church of the Nativity**. In the memo line write the appropriate reference for your donation, for example: *Religious Retirement*.

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU PARTY

Msgr. Steven Otellini cordially invites all Nativity volunteers to the annual Thank You Christmas Party on **Saturday, 17 DEC 2016**, 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, ministries and groups, carnival, tree lot, Adopt-a-Family, 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.

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR MARRIAGE?

Many have read in the secular and Catholic press reports about the efforts of Pope Francis to assist married couples. For many reasons there is a lack of solid information about these matters. Your priests share the concerns of the Holy Father and make themselves available to help couples have the certainty of a Catholic marriage that is fully recognized by the state and the Catholic Church. For further information and for couples to arrange a personal meeting with a priest, please contact **Fr. Mark G. Mazza** at **650/323-7914, xtn 103** or frmgm2012@yahoo.com.

IN THE COMMUNITY

GIVE THE GIFT OF BOOKS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

At the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** of San Mateo County, we provide services that help our neighbors in need. Did you know that for each donated book sold, SVdP can provide 3 meals for the homeless? Donate your books today and help provide services for the marginalized. You can drop off your new and used books at any of our five Thrift Stores. You can also schedule a pick-up by contacting **Kristen Trojel** at **408/420-0307** (ktrojel@svdpsm.org). For more information visit us online at www.svdpsm.org/books-4-hope Give Books! Give Hope!

VASES AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Random Acts of Flowers Silicon Valley (RAF) is a non-profit volunteer organization that delivers 500 floral arrangements a month to people in health care facilities throughout the area. All flowers and vases for these arrangements are donated and repurposed to bring joy to those who receive them. RAF are in need of any medium-size vases. If you have any vases that you would like to donate you can bring them to 3501 Edison Way, Menlo Park, or contact **Bonnie Neylan** **650/322-8645, 650/269-4635**, or neylan5@comcast.net. To learn more about RAF visit their website: siliconvalley.randomactsofflowers.org. Volunteers are always welcome.



GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE

The *Rosary Jubilee Booklet*, compiled by the **Dominican Nuns of Corpus Christi Monastery**, Menlo Park, is a perfect gift for giving. Give it to your family and friends, VA hospitals and military personnel, nursing homes, people suffering with depression or other mental disorders, the homebound and the homeless. They are great for stocking stuffers and the perfect gift to send in a greeting card. You may obtain copies after the morning Masses outside Church. The booklets are **\$2.00** apiece.

BEST. ADVENT. EVER.

DynamicCatholic.com will once again help us all prepare for Christmas with their *Best Advent Ever*. The theme this year is *Rediscover Christmas!* This program will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Advent is about getting ready to encounter Jesus. Opening your heart to Him; getting to know Him; becoming a better husband or wife, father or mother, son or daughter, friend, etc. This is a free email program. Each day you will receive practical tips, free Christmas music, or an inspirational video. To sign up for this program go to bestadventever.com. Be ready to *Rediscover Christmas!*

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness** asks for general and missionary prayer intentions. For **December 2016**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

Universal: *End to Child-Soldiers*

That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated the world over.

Missionary: *Europe*

That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel which gives joy and hope to life.



THREE WAYS TO GAIN AN INDULGENCE DURING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATIMA

(from a *National Catholic Register* article)

FATIMA, Portugal — For the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal, Pope Francis has decided to grant a plenary indulgence opportunity throughout the entire anniversary year, which began **Nov. 27, 2016**, and will end **Nov. 26, 2017**.

The rector of the Fatima Shrine in Portugal, André Pereira, explained to CNA that the plenary indulgence can be obtained during the entire jubilee year. There are three ways of obtaining the indulgence, detailed in a statement on the shrine's website.

To obtain the plenary indulgence, the faithful must also fulfill the ordinary conditions: Go to confession and receive Communion, be interiorly detached from sin, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

1. Pilgrimage to the shrine

The first way is for “the faithful to make a pilgrimage to the Fatima Shrine in Portugal and participate in a celebration or prayer dedicated to the Virgin.”

In addition, the faithful must pray the *Our Father*, recite the *Creed* and invoke the Mother of God.

2. Prayer before any statue of Our Lady of Fatima

The second way applies to “the pious faithful who visit with devotion a statue of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church, oratory or proper place during the days of the anniversary of the apparitions, the 13th of each month from May to October (2017), and there devoutly participate in some celebration or prayer in honor of the Virgin Mary.”

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

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

Regarding this second way, the rector of the Fatima Shrine told CNA that the visit to the statue of the Virgin “does not necessarily have to be only at Fatima or exclusively in Portugal,” but can be done anywhere in the world.

Those seeking an indulgence must also pray an *Our Father*, recite the *Creed* and invoke Our Lady of Fatima.

3. Application for the elderly and infirm

The third way to obtain a plenary indulgence applies to people who, because of age, illness or other serious cause, are unable to get around well.

These individuals can pray in front of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and must spiritually unite themselves to the jubilee celebrations on the days of the apparitions, the 13th of each month, between May and October 2017.

They also must “offer to merciful God with confidence, through Mary, their prayers and sufferings or the sacrifices they make in their own lives.”

SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

21 DEC	(Wednesday)	07:30 PM Advent Penance Service
24 DEC	(Saturday)	<i>Christmas Eve</i> 08:00 AM Daily Mass 10:00 AM - Reconciliation 12:00 PM 01:00 PM - Reconciliation 03:00 PM 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	(Sunday)	<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	(Monday)	<i>Feast of St. Stephen</i> 09:00 AM Daily Mass (one Mass only)
31 DEC	(Saturday)	08:00 AM Daily Mass 05:00 PM Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
01 JAN	(Sunday)	<i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i> <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> 08:00 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass 09:30 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass 11:30 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass 05:00 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
02 JAN	(Monday)	09:00 AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
03 JAN	(Tuesday)	Regular daily Mass schedule

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

VISIT BETHLEHEM AT OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

**NATIVITY
DIORAMA
2016**

December 9th - January 8th
Mon. - Fri. 5pm-9pm
Sat. - Sun. 9am-9pm

Mgr. Sweeney Family Learning Center
Room 1101
2800 Mission College Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95054







HELP NEEDED FOR SIMBANG GABI

The deanery will be observing Simbang Gabi from **15-23 DEC 2016**. Masses will be held at various parishes throughout the deanery. Nativity’s mass will be celebrated on **19 DEC** at **07:00 PM** with a reception held after mass at Vallombrosa. We are asking all Filipino families in the parish to participate. Please provide **Ben and Grace Wikramanayake (650/324-4098** or Bengrace.wikramanayake@comcast.net) with your name and contact information. We will need a lector, Eucharistic minister, and altar servers to help with the mass. We will also need help with the reception (setup, food and clean-up). We welcome all parishioners to this glorious novena in preparation for Christmas and in honor of the blessed Mother. Thank you for your support.