



210 Oak Grove Avenue  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
tel: (650) 323-7914  
fax: (650) 323-3231  
[www.nativitymenlo.org](http://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** 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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

**FIRST READING**

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.

JEREMIAH 1: 4-5, 17-19

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

n Your justice rescue me, and deliver me.

PSALMS 71

**SECOND READING**

At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

1 CORINTHIANS 12: 31 - 13:3

**GOSPEL**

He said, *Amen I say to you. No prophet is accepted in his own native place.*

LUKE 4: 21-30



# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 31 JANUARY 2016

They will fight against you but not prevail over you,  
for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.

JEREMIAH 1: 19

### CALENDAR

#### SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 31 JAN - 06 FEB

<b>SAT</b>	<b>05:00 PM</b>	Priest's intentions
<b>SUN</b>	<b>Masses</b>	Priest's intentions
<b>MON</b>	<b>07:30 AM</b>	† Elizabeth Silva
	<b>05:30 PM</b>	† Cesar Domingo Cabrera
<b>TUE</b>	<b>07:30 AM</b>	† Virginia Munk
	<b>05:30 PM</b>	† Marie Firenzi
<b>WED</b>	<b>07:30 AM</b>	† Elizabeth Silva
	<b>05:30 PM</b>	† Marie and Adolph Firenzi
<b>THU</b>	<b>07:30 AM</b>	† Joe McLoughlin
	<b>05:30 PM</b>	ICF #351 living and deceased members
<b>FRI</b>	<b>07:30 AM</b>	† Virginia Munk
	<b>05:30 PM</b>	Officer Erick Becerra; † Mrs. Sandy Patenaude; † Norma Miranda; † James R. Holcomb; † Charles Accurso
<b>SAT</b>	<b>08:00 AM</b>	Benefactors of the parish; † Fr. Kevin Gaffey; † Raymond White

*Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing*

#### NATIVITY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Nativity School is currently accepting applications for grades Pre-K to 7th. Please call the school office, 650/325-7304, to request an application or visit our school website at [www.nativityschool.com](http://www.nativityschool.com) > Admissions.

Nativity School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights and privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at this school.

Nativity School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, and national and ethnic origin, age, sex, or disability in administration of educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

<b>SUN</b>	07:00 PM	Holy Hour for Priests
<b>MON-FRI</b>	07:10 AM	Morning Prayer
<b>MON-FRI</b>	05:10 PM	Evening Prayer
<b>TUE</b>	06:00 PM	Cenacles of Life Rosary
<b>THU</b>	06:00 PM	Perpetual Help Novena
<b>SAT</b>	06:15 AM	Men's Prayer Group
<b>SAT</b>	07:40 AM	Morning Prayer
<b>SAT</b>	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Confessions (Opus Dei priest)
<b>SAT</b>	03:30 PM - 04:30 PM	Confessions (parish priest)

#### 31 JAN (Sunday)

#### 01 FEB (Monday)

10:00 AM Bible Group  
07:30 PM Legion of Mary  
07:30 PM RCIA

#### 02 FEB (Tuesday)

09:30 AM Bible Study: Mass in the Bible  
07:00 PM Bible Study: Mass in the Bible  
08:00 PM H<sup>4</sup>

#### 03 FEB (Wednesday)

07:00 PM Confirmation Class

#### 04 FEB (Thursday)

11:00 AM The Thursday Group

#### 05 FEB (Friday)

First Friday

1<sup>st</sup>

#### 06 FEB (Saturday)

First Saturday

01:00 PM Fr. Gaffey Memorial Mass  
06:00 PM Nativity Date Night

1<sup>st</sup>



Electronic giving is offered through our website [www.nativitymenlo.org](http://www.nativitymenlo.org) or call the parish office for a paper form

#### "BROWN BAG" SUNDAY



This week the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will be collecting donations after the Masses.

# SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

**02 FEB (Tuesday):**

## FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

According to the Law of Moses, Jesus would have been brought to the temple in Jerusalem 40 days after His birth to be presented to God. It was then that **Simeon** and **Anna** made their prophecies concerning the lives of the child and His mother. At the beginning of the 8th century, **Pope Sergius** inaugurated a candlelight procession to commemorate this event, including the blessing and distribution of candles. This gave the feast its popular name: **Candlemas**.



**05 FEB (Friday):**

## SAINT AGATHA, Virgin and Martyr (d. ~250)

We have little reliable information about this martyr, who has been honored since ancient times, and whose name is included in the canon of the Mass. Legend says that carrying her veil, taken from her tomb in Catania, in procession has averted eruptions of Mount Etna. Her intercession is reported to have saved Malta from Turkish invasion in 1551.



**03 FEB (Wednesday):**

## SAINT BLAISE, Bishop and Martyr (d. ~316)

Blaise was the bishop of Sebaste in Armenia. He was arrested and persecuted under the governor Agricola. While in prison, he saved a child who was choking on a fish bone (leading to the blessing of throats on his feast day). Thrown into a lake to drown, Blaise stood on the surface and invited his persecutors to walk out and join him to prove the power of their gods: they all drowned. He was then martyred by being beaten, his flesh torn with wool combs, and beheaded.

## SAINT ANSGAR, Archbishop (801-865)

Benedictine monk and Archbishop of Hamburg. He established the first Christian school in Denmark and was responsible for many conversions in Scandinavia, including Erik, the King of Jutland.

**06 FEB (Saturday):**

## SAINTS PAUL MIKI and COMPANIONS, Martyrs (d. 1597)

Paul, the son of a Japanese military leader, joined the Jesuits in 1580, and became known for his eloquent preaching. He was crucified with 25 other Japanese Catholics (the Martyrs of Nagasaki), mostly laymen, during the persecution of Christians under the Taiko, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, ruler of Japan in the name of the emperor. Paul delivered his final sermon from the cross.

# MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

## BEST... LENT... EVER...

Don't give up chocolate this Lent. Dynamic Catholic is once again inviting you to join Matthew Kelly, the Dynamic Catholic Team, and thousands of people across the country for a BEST LENT EVER. Last year nearly 250,000 people participated in this program. This year the program will be based on the book we distributed at Christmas, *Rediscover Jesus*, by Matthew Kelly. The program will take you on a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus, and yourself, in a deeply personal way. Will this really be your best Lent ever? That is entirely up to you. Sign up today and commit to doing something life-changing this Lent. Go to [dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/](http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/)

## FAITH FORMATION CLASS

Our next class will begin on **Tuesday, 02 FEB 2016**. We will have ten short video lectures on the Eucharist and on the authority of St. Peter. The classes are held on consecutive **Tuesdays**. The morning class goes from **09:30-11:00 AM**. The class is repeated in the evening from **07:00-08:30 PM**. Each class includes a lecture by Deacon Dominick, discussion, and Q&A. The class will run until the last week in April with a break for Holy Week and Easter. No sign-ups ahead of time needed. For questions, call **Deacon Dominick** at **650/269-6279**.

## NATIVITY DATE NIGHT

Our next *Marriage Enrichment Date Night* for married and engaged couples will be on **Saturday, 06 FEB 2016**. It will include a pot-luck dinner, an international cheese tasting, a conference by our pastor, Monsignor Otellini, and lots of good fellowship. It begins at **06:00 PM** in the O'Hare Center and generally runs until **08:30 PM**. Please join us. All the date nights have been well attended, lots of fun, very informative and a great way to get to know people in the parish. For questions, call **Deacon Dominick 650/269-6279** or **Mary Ellen 650/269-7794**.

## 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: 11:00 PM (every other week)**

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).*

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

## 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**
- **Jordan and Joshua**, sons of **Vivianne Alvarez**
  - **Nolan Thomas**, son of **Andrew and Katherine Ehrlich**
  - **Kyla Sue**, daughter of **Bryan and Shawna Owen**
  - **Elliott Hayden**, son of **Carlos and Nicole Ramirez**

### MARRIAGES

- PARISHIONERS**
- **Alicia Lewerenz**
  - **Liz Stinson**
  - **Christopher Kokoska**

- DEATHS**
- **Fr. Kevin Gaffey**
  - **James Paul Donahue**
  - **Danny Olin**

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

On **20 FEB 2016** at **10:00 AM**, the Archdiocese of San Francisco will hold its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass for husband and wives and their families who will be celebrating a 5-year anniversary in 2016 (5, 10, ... 50, or >50 years of marriage). **Archbishop Cordileone** will be the celebrant, at the St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, followed by a reception in Patron's Hall. There is a **\$20** suggested donation. Couples can register at [www.anniversarymass.info](http://www.anniversarymass.info) or by calling **415/614-5680**.

### MEMORIAL MASS FOR FATHER GAFFEY

We were all saddened to hear of the passing of **Fr. Kevin Gaffey**. He was well-loved at Nativity, Vallombrosa Center, where he was the chaplain for many years, and the other parishes in our area. Since many people were not able to attend his funeral Mass at St. Anthony's in Novato last weekend, we will be having a Memorial Mass for Fr. Gaffey at the Church of the Nativity on **Saturday, 06 FEB 2016** at **01:00 PM**. All are welcome to attend.



There will be a blessing of the throats after all Masses on Wednesday, 03 FEB 2016, the feast day of Saint Blaise



### SPECIAL COLLECTION: DISASTER RELIEF

This weekend there will be a special collection for **disaster relief**. Due to an expectation of increased numbers of devastations from natural disasters in 2016, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and Archbishop Cordileone have asked that a special collection take place this month throughout the country. This one-time collection will fund disaster relief through Catholic Charities, Inc., the domestic social services arm of the US Catholic Church. You may read about the work of Catholic Charities at [catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://catholiccharitiesusa.org). Thank you for your generosity. 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: *Disaster Relief*.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### FEBRUARY GORETTI GROUP EVENING

"*What It Is To Be A Man*" by **Deacon Dominick Peloso**.

The **Goretti Group** aims to spread the joy of authentic love. All are welcome! This talk was highly rated at the "Got Love?" conference a couple of years ago. Deacon Dominick Peloso is a former police officer, and now a permanent deacon at Church of the Nativity parish in Menlo Park.

**Friday, 05 FEB 2016** - St. Thomas Aquinas Church  
**06:30 PM** Mass • **07:15 PM** dinner • **08:00 PM** talk • **09:00 PM** social time in Palo Alto  
RSVP: [GorettiRSVP@gmail.com](mailto:GorettiRSVP@gmail.com) for dinner planning.

### RESPIRE FOR CAREGIVERS

**Refuel Your Energies: A Workshop for Caregivers and Healthcare Professionals** presented by Dr. Nan Brenzel, Ed.D and Sister Jean Evans, RSM. **Saturday, 30 JAN 2016, 08:00 AM-12:00 PM**. This half-day workshop will give participants an opportunity to renew body, mind and spirit. **\$20/person**. Acacia Room, Mercy Convent, 2300 Adeline Dr., Burlingame. RSVP by **26 JAN 2016** to Sister Jean Evans, RSM [jevans@mercywmw.org](mailto:jevans@mercywmw.org) or **650/373-4508**.

Presented by *Sisters of Mercy West Midwest* and *Dominican Sisters of San Rafael*.

### SEMINARS: CATHOLIC ESTATES AND END-OF-LIFE PLANNING

When it comes to end-of-life bioethical decisions and estate, funeral and burial planning, many people do not know where to begin. Because of this, a great number of people die without having had the opportunity to make funeral and estate plans. And when it comes to making ethical decisions about medical care, many people just don't know where to receive good advice. The Archdiocese of San Francisco and Catholic Cemeteries are offering a seminar on these topics. Please note that there will be no sales pitch; the goal is to provide up-to-date information that will be of help to families in planning for the future. All parishioners are welcome, and refreshments will be served. The seminar is free, but pre-registration through the Office of Development is requested at [development@sfarch.org](mailto:development@sfarch.org) or **415/614-5580**.

Please select the date and location most convenient for you:

- **Saturday, 13 FEB 2016 10:00-11:30 AM**  
**Saint Catherine of Siena Church** (Burlingame)
- **Saturday, 19 MAR 2016, 10:00-11:30 AM**  
**Saint Bartholomew Church** (San Mateo)

## FROM THE HOLY SEE

### THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

**Universal:** *Inter-Religious Dialogue*

That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice.

**Missionary:** *Christian Unity*

That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.

### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE XLIX WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1 JANUARY 2016

#### Overcome Indifference and Win Peace

(cont'd.)

In these and in other situations, indifference leads to self-absorption and a lack of commitment. It thus contributes to the absence of peace with God, with our neighbour and with the environment.

#### *Peace threatened by globalized indifference*

4. Indifference towards God transcends the purely private sphere of the individual and affects the public and social sphere. As Benedict XVI pointed out, "the glorification of God and human peace on earth are closely linked". Indeed, "without openness to the transcendent, human beings easily become prey to relativism and find it difficult to act justly and to work for peace. Disregard and the denial of God, which lead man to acknowledge no norm above himself and himself alone, have produced untold cruelty and violence.

On both the individual and communitarian levels, indifference to one's neighbour, born of indifference to God, finds expression in disinterest and a lack of engagement, which only help to prolong situations of injustice and grave social imbalance. These in turn can lead to conflicts or, in any event, generate a climate of dissatisfaction which risks exploding sooner or later into acts of violence and insecurity.

Indifference and lack of commitment constitute a grave dereliction of the duty whereby each of us must work in accordance with our abilities and our role in society for the promotion of the common good, and in particular for peace, which is one of mankind's most precious goods.

On the institutional level, indifference to others and to their dignity, their fundamental rights and their freedom, when it is part of a culture shaped by the pursuit of profit and hedonism, can foster and even justify actions and policies which ultimately represent threats to peace. Indifference can even lead to justifying deplorable economic policies which breed injustice, division and violence for the sake of ensuring the wellbeing of individuals or nations. Not infrequently, economic and political projects aim at securing or maintaining power and wealth, even at the cost of trampling on the basic rights and needs of others. When people

## CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

<b>31 JAN (SUN)</b>	FIFTH Day: St. Agatha
<b>01 FEB (MON)</b>	SIXTH Day: St. Agatha
<b>02 FEB (TUE)</b>	SEVENTH Day: St. Agatha FIRST Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>03 FEB (WED)</b>	EIGHTH Day: St. Agatha SECOND Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>04 FEB (THU)</b>	NINTH Day: St. Agatha THIRD Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>05 FEB (FRI)</b>	Feast of Saint Agatha FOURTH Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>06 FEB (SAT)</b>	FIFTH Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>07 FEB (SUN)</b>	SIXTH Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>08 FEB (MON)</b>	SEVENTH Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>09 FEB (TUE)</b>	EIGHTH Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>10 FEB (WED)</b>	NINTH Day: Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>11 FEB (THU)</b>	Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>12 FEB (FRI)</b>	
<b>13 FEB (SAT)</b>	

### FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

**Saint Agatha:**

<http://preview.tinyurl.com/qcm7zmr>

**Our Lady of Lourdes:**

<http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/lourdes.htm>

### OTHER NOVENA PRAYERS

**Infant Jesus of Prague (nine-hour):**

[www.ewtn.com/library/PRAYER/PRAGNOV.TXT](http://www.ewtn.com/library/PRAYER/PRAGNOV.TXT)

**St. Therese "24 Glory Be's" Novena:**

[www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/24\\_glory.htm](http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/24_glory.htm)

**Novena for Priests:**

[www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/priests.htm](http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/priests.htm)

**Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:**

[www.ewtn.com/devotionals/heart/sh\\_novena.htm](http://www.ewtn.com/devotionals/heart/sh_novena.htm)



JUBILEE OF MERCY  
MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER

[www.im.va](http://www.im.va)

witness the denial of their elementary rights, such as the right to food, water, health care or employment, they are tempted to obtain them by force.

Moreover, indifference to the natural environment, by countenancing deforestation, pollution and natural catastrophes which uproot entire communities from their ecosystem and create profound insecurity, ends up creating new forms of poverty and new situations of injustice, often with dire consequences for security and peace. How many wars have been fought, and how many will continue to be fought, over a shortage of goods or out of an insatiable thirst for natural resources?

(cont'd.)

● READ THE BLOG from Walk for Life West Coast: [www.walkforlifewc.com/blog-2/](http://www.walkforlifewc.com/blog-2/)

● One of the speakers at this year's Walk for Life West Coast (**Obianuju Ekeocha**, the founder and president of **Culture of Life Africa**) spoke about a little-known pro-abortion organization based in North Carolina, that is trying to spread abortion worldwide through political coercion. Learn more for yourself at their website: [www.ipas.org](http://www.ipas.org).

**Be prepared for what you will read**, however: everything from how to order an MVA (manual vacuum aspirator) on-line (WomanCare Global), to strategy statements on how to "counteract abortion stigma", to their "wish for women and girls" and their series of video tutorials about "not your mother's sex ed."

... This world needs a great deal of prayer.

● Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you wanted to provide someone with an unplanned pregnancy with immediate, meaningful resources? Visit [www.option-united.com](http://www.option-united.com) or [www.appforlife.org](http://www.appforlife.org) for a list of all their resources, including a 24-hour hotline to reach pregnancy support providers throughout California, and the **App for Life** application (for iOS and Android), which gives you immediate access from your smartphone to support resources and prayer resources.

If you know the enemy and know yourself,  
you need not fear the result of a hundred battles.  
If you know yourself but not the enemy,  
for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat.  
If you know neither the enemy nor yourself,  
you will succumb in every battle.  
*Sun Tzu, "The Art of War"*

## Young Believers



THE TITLE OF THE HEAD OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THE SEA THAT MOSES PARTED DURING THE EXODUS.

JESUS' COUSIN, THE PATRON OF THE HOPELESS AND DESPERATE.

JESUS TOLD THE APOSTLES BE NOT

NOW ARRANGE THE LETTERS IN THE BOLD SQUARES TO REVEAL WHAT WE ARE SUPPOSED TO DO DURING THE NEXT LITURGICAL SEASON WE WILL ENTER:

*Faith*  *Hope*  *Love*