



210 Oak Grove Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
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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 07:00 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



HEARING LOOP ENABLED



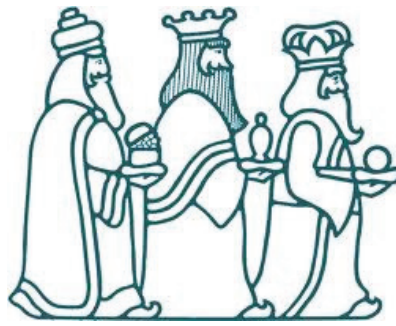
HEARING LOOP ENABLED

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

06 JANUARY 2019

They prostrated themselves
and did Him homage.

MATTHEW 2: 1



FIRST READING

The riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you.

ISAIAH 60: 1-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

All kings shall pay Him homage.

PSALMS 72

SECOND READING

It has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

EPHESIANS 3: 2-3, 5-6

GOSPEL

“Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We saw His star at its rising.”

MATTHEW 2: 1-12

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 06 - 12 JAN

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	Luca Piccinini
	05:30 PM	† Deceased members of the Massouras and Plume families; † Fr. Jim Janda; † Juana Hernandez Barajas; † John Gaffney; † John Walsh
TUE	07:30 AM	† Charles McBrian
	05:30 PM	Steve San Filippo
WED	07:30 AM	Benefactors of the parish
	05:30 PM	Sid and Audrey Custodio
THU	07:30 AM	John Conway
	05:30 PM	† Sally O'Hare
FRI	07:30 AM	† Ginny Gertridge
	05:30 PM	† Josephine Lee
SAT	08:00 AM	Mary Saleff; † Shelby Drazan; † Scott Anderson; † Anthony Mason Page

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)


06 JAN	(Sunday)	03:00 PM	RCIA
07 JAN	(Monday)	06:15 PM	Legion of Mary
08 JAN	(Tuesday)	07:00 PM	H ⁴
09 JAN	(Wednesday)	06:00 PM 07:00 PM	St. Joseph Novena Confirmation Class (school)
10 JAN	(Thursday)	09:30 AM 11:00 AM	Opus Dei Women's Group The Thursday Group
11 JAN	(Friday)		
12 JAN	(Saturday)	09:30 AM	Baptism Class



BIBLICAL ART



PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 22-23 DEC
TOTAL:	\$8,860
Christmas Day:	\$30,219
Annual Diocesan Appeal Progress: 2018 ADA Goal:	GOAL MET! \$152,524

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

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

12 JAN (Saturday):

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

MID-PENINSULA CATHOLIC MOMS

“*Matrescence*” refers to a woman’s transition into new motherhood, and the physical, emotional, and psychological shifts that becoming a mother involves. We’ll discuss topics especially relevant to new moms, including identity shifts into motherhood (reflecting on the model of Mary), and the tools needed for proper self-care in the often intense first year of having a new baby in the family.

Also, a heads-up that there will be a baby goods swap at our next meeting on **16 JAN 2019**. If there are bulkier wish list items (such as high chairs) that you are interested in, mention them at this meeting!

Topic: *Matrescence and Self-Care*

Date: **Wednesday, 09 JAN 2019**

Place: **O’Hare Center**

Time: **10:30 AM-12:00 PM**

Contact: **Katie Froula or Christina Lee**
midpencatholicmoms+managers@googlegroups.com

Online: www.meetup.com/Catholic-Moms

WALK FOR LIFE BUS

This year’s *Walk for Life* is on **Saturday, 26 JAN 2019**. For anyone who would like to ride the bus, please call **Mary Ellen Peloso, 650/269-7794** for a reservation. The cost is **\$10** per person and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. The bus will leave Nativity at **10:30 AM** and return at **05:00 PM**. This “show of force” for the weakest and most marginalized in our society is something all people of good will should participate in if at all possible. By this march, we again become a sign of God’s love for everyone, even the smallest among us. Please join us.

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).

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

The *Adopt-A-Family* Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the 27th year of this program. We thank those who adopted families, helped pack the food, identified the families to adopt and made deliveries. It was a successful year. We adopted a total of **206** families, providing gifts for their children along with a family gift. You also donated **\$15,700** which went to providing Christmas dinner for each family. A special thanks to our own **St. Vincent de Paul Society** who identified parish families, and who will use the leftover funds to distribute throughout the year. A reminder that these parishioners go out every week answering the call for assistance. Please continue to support them in our Fifth Sunday collections. Again, thank you to everyone. Generosity to those in need is a great way to prepare for Christmas.

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.

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):

Saturday: 03:00 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.

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 • Magnolia Pearl, daughter of James and Emily Simonson

MARRIAGES

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS • David Powell
• Jeanne Scherba

NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH

Beginning **Wednesday, 02 JAN 2019**, and every **Wednesday** evening after the **05:30 PM** Mass there will be a novena to St. Joseph. This novena will take about 20 minutes. In addition to the novena, once a month the **05:30 PM** Mass will be in honor of St. Joseph. All are welcome to join in this celebration in honor of St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

IN THE COMMUNITY

OPEN HOUSE

Nativity School invites you to a special *Open House* for families interested in joining the Nativity community (grades PreSchool-7) on **Sunday, 27 JAN 2019**, from **11:00 AM-01:00 PM** at the school, 1250 Laurel Street, Menlo Park. Come to see the creative displays and exhibits and meet our faculty and staff. If you are interested in a private tour prior to the Open House, please contact the Nativity School office at **650/325-7304**. Please visit our website for more information about Nativity School, www.nativityschool.com.

ST. ANTHONY'S PADUA DINING ROOM

St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room in Menlo Park is in great need of donations of food and clothing "*We prepare about 500 meals a day, our needs are large quantities of items.*" Your help will be much appreciated. They need the following food: **meats** -- frozen turkeys; ham (whole or canned); frozen whole chickens; beef (bulk); **canned foods** -- cranberry sauce; pasta sauce (#10 can); tomato sauce (#10 can); juices, olives; **dry goods** -- pinto beans and long grain white rice (25 lb. bags); **pasta** -- penne, elbow macaroni, spaghetti, egg noodles; instant potatoes (10 lb. size); salad dressing; cooking oil; olive oil; butter (salted, whipped, or unsalted); sugar; coffee; ground pepper; garlic powder; **fresh fruit and vegetables** in bulk amounts -- onions, carrots, celery, potatoes, lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini, summer squash, yams, apples lemons, oranges. **Cash donations** are always appreciated. Cash donations can also be made to [St. Anthony's Vegetable Account](#) at **Sigona's Market**, 2345 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, **650/368-6993**.

St. Anthony's is located at 3500 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, **650/365-9664**.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES MASS

The Archdiocese of San Francisco will offer its annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on **09 FEB 2019** at **10:00 AM** at the Cathedral. All couples who in 2019 will celebrate anniversaries ending in 5 or 0 (5 years, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40) and all couples married more than 40 years, are invited to celebrate with us. **Bishop Robert F. Christian, O.P.** will be the principal celebrant. Register at www.anniversarymass.info or call **415/614-5547**. St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco. For more information contact **Ed Hopfner**, Office of Marriage and Family Life hopfner@sfarch.org

NATIVITY AUCTION 2019! SAVE THE DATE!

Please mark your calendars to join us at this year's annual fundraising auction, *Mardi Gras, Masquerade Ball*, on **Saturday, 02 MAR 2019**. There will be hors d'oeuvres with a *LIVE* jazz band, dinner and dancing, and of course both a silent auction and live auction. This event is a success due to the generous participation and donations of our parishioners and school community. Please help us to make this year's event the best yet!



Looking to get involved? We have two simple opportunities leading up to the event where we could use some help:

1. Help us in promoting the event following Mass.
2. Help us fill out our Silent Auction offerings (available in the church office).

Please send your completed donation form to:

nativityauction@yahoo.com or place it in the Auction mailbox in the School Office no later than **20 DEC 2018**.

If you are interested in helping out, please reach out to **Lindsey Brill** (lindseydrill@yahoo.com) or **Melissa Fedoronko** (mfedoronko@hotmail.com) for more information. Feel free to send us any questions you may have, and thank you in advance for your generosity and continued support of Nativity School!

ST. ANTHONY'S CLOTHES CLOSET

St. Anthony's Clothes Closet is also in need of new or gently used clothing for men, women and children, including warm coats and sweaters, sweatshirts and shoes; New athletic socks, new sleeping bags; disposable diapers of all sizes; ball caps; toiletries. Anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated. St. Anthony's is located at 3500 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, **650/365-9664**.

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT RETREAT

The **Archdiocesan Office of Vocations** offers a weekend vocation discernment retreat for men who wish to explore a possible call to the priesthood. The retreat will be held at **St. Patrick's Seminary and University, 18-20 JAN 2019**, 320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park. For information on this mid-January event, visit the website www.sfpriest.org or contact **Fr. Patrick Summerhays**, Vocation Director, **415/614-5684** or summerhays.patrick@sfarch.org.

FROM THE HOLY SEE

THE HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month His Holiness asks for prayer intentions. For **January 2019**, the Holy Father's intention is:

Intention: Young People and
the Example of Mary

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Observe this special devotion to our Blessed Mother as often as you can. *"I am the Lady of the Rosary, I have come to warn the faithful to amend their lives and ask for pardon for their sins. They must not offend Our Lord any more, for He is already too grievously offended by the sins of men. People must say the rosary. Let them continue saying it every day."*

--Our Blessed Mother to Lucia at Fatima
13 October 1917

www.theholyroary.org

www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers/rosary/how_to.htm

www.savior.org/wwrc/

ARE YOUR INTENTIONS "IN THE BOOK"?

Our legion of dedicated Eucharistic Adorers begin each hour by praying for (among others) all the intentions entered into our book of prayer requests. Tap into the unimaginable power of focused communal (and global) prayer and let your loving community lift your needs up before our Father.

"Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall." -- **Psalm 55: 22**

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the families that lost their homes in Paradise. Your response was overwhelming. You donated a total of \$16,700.00 in gift cards to local stores and 140 backpacks full of toiletries! Considering that it was all done in one week makes this generosity even more amazing. Jim Collins, who was coordinating the relief efforts at St. John the Baptist church on behalf of St. Thomas More in Paradise, literally shouted for joy when they arrived. \$9,000 went to the families from St. Thomas More that lost homes (about 500 families lost homes). \$3,000 went to families at Notre Dame School who lost homes. \$3,700 was given to special needs families who lost everything. \$1,000 to hospital staff who lost their homes. This was a great effort led by the Adopt-A-Family staff with parishioners immediately responding. Thank you everyone. We encourage continued donations to the Diocese of Sacramento. They are helping in so many ways including free tuition, uniforms and hot lunches at Catholic schools to any children who lost homes. Also, continue to pray for those victims and the victims of natural disasters around the world. Again, thank you so much on behalf of all the victims and those helping to bring relief.

CALENDAR OF NOVENAE

06 JAN (SUN)	Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord
07 JAN (MON)	
08 JAN (TUE)	
09 JAN (WED)	
10 JAN (THU)	
11 JAN (FRI)	
12 JAN (SAT)	FIRST Day: St. Agnes
13 JAN (SUN)	SECOND Day: St. Agnes
14 JAN (MON)	THIRD Day: St. Agnes
15 JAN (TUE)	FOURTH Day: St. Agnes
16 JAN (WED)	FIFTH Day: St. Agnes
17 JAN (THU)	SIXTH Day: St. Agnes
18 JAN (FRI)	SEVENTH Day: St. Agnes
19 JAN (SAT)	EIGHTH Day: St. Agnes FIRST 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>

NATIVITY SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL: HELP NEEDED

Attention -- CCD/School of Religion Families: Calling out to CCD families with **4th grade girls**. Nativity School is looking for additional players to complete their 4th Basketball Team. We would love to have you be a part of the Nativity School team. Great teammates, great coaches and great fun.

If you are interested or have any questions please contact **Bill Loftus** at billloftus@rocketmail.com or you may contact the Nativity School office at **650/325-7304**. Thank you.



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



BUTTE COUNTY FIRE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Sacramento, which includes **Butte County**, has established a Fire Assistance Fund. The diocesan website says, "In light of the Northern California fires that have devastated various parts of our Diocese, Bishop Jaime Soto has asked the faithful to remember in their prayers all those affected, especially the firefighters and emergency personnel, as well as residents who have been displaced, lost their residences or evacuated." To donate to the diocesan Fire Assistance Fund go to: www.scd.org/catholicfoundation/giving.



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**. 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**.



WAS THE "STAR OF BETHLEHEM" . . .

1. The triple-conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in 6 B.C.?
2. The near-conjunction of Jupiter, Saturn, and Mars in 7 B.C.?
3. The retrograde motion of Jupiter four months after the triple-conjunction above?
4. The nova of a white dwarf star in Capricorn, as recorded by Chinese astronomers in 5 B.C.?

Answer: no one, not even in the highest circles of astronomy, knows for certain, primarily because there is no consensus over the actual birthdate of Jesus. There is, however, a wealth of information and discussion on this topic on the Internet. Search for "astronomical star Bethlehem".

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 + 19

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