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www.nativitymenlo.org

Church of the Nativity

MASSES

Sundays 08:00, 09:30 and 11:30 AM
Saturdays 08:00 AM and 05:00 PM (Vigil)
Weekdays 07:30 AM and 05:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 09:00 AM - 10:00 AM
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
03:30 PM - 04:30 PM
(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)

24-HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Mrs. Mary Ellen Peloso (650) 269-7794

PASTOR

Very Rev. Mark Doherty

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Kyle Faller

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Michael Thomas, CSC

PERMANENT DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Dominick Peloso
Rev. Mr. Bob Andrews

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Monica Hickam
mon.hickam@gmail.com



FIRST READING

Behold, I send My messenger to prepare the way before Me.

Malachi 3: 1-4

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory!

Psalms 24

SECOND READING

Surely it is not with angels that He is concerned but with the descendants of Abraham.

Hebrews 2: 14-18

GOSPEL

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Luke 2: 22-40



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

02 FEBRUARY 2025

When the parents brought in the child Jesus, ... he took him up in his arms and blessed God.

Luke 2: 27-28

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 02 - 08 FEB

SAT:	08:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN:	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON:	07:30 AM	Paolo Cenni
	05:30 PM	† Marie and Adolf Firenze
TUE:	07:30 AM	† Scott Brill
	05:30 PM	† Marie Firenze
WED:	07:30 AM	† Jerry Kunz
	05:30 PM	In honor of St. Joseph; † Susana Colombetti; † Ariel Evidente; † Joseph Personeni
THU:	07:30 AM	† John M. Dorman
	05:30 PM	ICF #351 living and deceased members
FRI:	07:30 AM	† Ned Gallagher
	05:30 PM	† Michael Demeter
SAT:	08:00 AM	Protection of the unborn; † Holy Souls in Purgatory; Wendy Ames; Mary Schwabel; The Ferrando family, living and deceased

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



Parish Office Hours

09:00 AM-04:00 PM (M-F)
closed **12:00-01:00 PM (lunch)**



PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 18-19 JAN
TOTAL:	\$11,455
ADA Progress:	GOAL MET!
2024 ADA Goal:	\$152,576

SUN	07:00 PM	Holy Hour for Priests
MON-FRI	07:10 AM	Morning Prayer
MON-FRI	08:00 AM	Morning Rosary
MON-FRI	05:10 PM	Evening Prayer
MON	07:00 PM	Nativity Family Rosary
TUE	06:00 PM	Cenacles of Life Rosary
WED	06:00 PM	Novena to Saint Joseph
THU	06:00 PM	Perpetual Help Novena
SAT	06:15 AM	Men's Prayer Group
SAT	07:40 AM	Morning Prayer
SAT	09:00 - 10:00 AM	Confessions (parish priest)
SAT	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Confessions (Opus Dei priest)
SAT	03:30 - 04:30 PM	Confessions (parish priest)

02 FEB	(Sunday)	09:30 AM	Rite of Enrollment for Confirmation Candidates
03 FEB	(Monday)	08:00 AM	Legion of Mary
		07:00 PM	Medjugorje Prayer Group
		07:00 PM	Catholic Book Club
04 FEB	(Tuesday)		
05 FEB	(Wednesday)	06:30 PM	Confirmation Class
06 FEB	(Thursday)	12:00 PM	Senior Thursday Group
		07:00 PM	Holy Week Choir Rehearsal
07 FEB	(Friday)		<i>First Friday</i> 1ST
08 FEB	(Saturday)	09:30 AM	Baptism Class



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

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

If you believe you are a victim of sexual abuse, please call our hotline at 415/614-5506.

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

05 FEB (Wednesday):

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.



NOVENA TO SAINT JOSEPH

Every **Wednesday** evening after the **05:30 PM** Mass there will be a novena to St. Joseph. This novena takes 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.



**Livestreaming of the
Nativity Sunday Mass
is now at 11:30 AM**

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

ROSARY OUTSIDE ABORTION CLINIC

If you would like to pray the Rosary during the week in front of the Planned Parenthood in Redwood City, please contact nativitymenlorespectlife@yahoo.com or **Jacqueline** at **510/697-9670** for more information. Additionally, every **First Saturday** of the month, a group of parishioners meets to pray there after going to the **08:00 AM** Mass and pray until about **10:00 AM**.

ROSARY TO ERADICATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Join us to pray the Rosary close to the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, which is the *International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking*. Questions?

Contact: prolife@sfarch.org.

Rosary to Combat Human Trafficking

for the

Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita

Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Register at sfarch.org/event/rosary-human-trafficking/



Join us to pray the Rosary close to the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, which is the International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking.

Questions? Contact prolife@sfarch.org



CENACLES OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP

After the **05:30 PM** mass on **Tuesdays**, the *Nativity Cenacles Life Prayer Group* pray two rosaries for the protection of all life and for the protection of religious liberty in the Church. They pray a decade or two in different languages. They welcome and enjoy this addition to their prayer. Please come and join the group.

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 FEB 2025** at **03:00 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 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** or write to pray2infantjesus@aol.com.

We give glory to God through our gratitude.

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? Jesus told an Irish priest (in our current century) that midnight adoration is as powerful as fasting.

Please consider the following hours as there is no one currently assigned to them (or pick an hour that works for you):

Sunday: 11:00 PM

Monday: 04:00 AM

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

MARRIAGES • Gerardo Michael Ruiz and Serafina Fern Papi

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS • Aaron Atwater
• Lynn Bacon

SVdP Volunteering

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 **Dan Winnike** at **650/714-4644**.

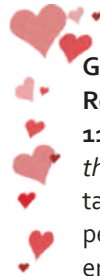
"He who faithfully prays to God for the necessities of this life is both mercifully heard, and mercifully not heard. For the physician knows better than the sick man what is good for the disease."

-- St. Augustine

IN THE COMMUNITY

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A HOT MEAL OR CLOTHING?

We'd like to familiarize you with the services of **St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room**, 3500 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park. We provide a hot, nutritious meal **Monday** through **Saturday** from **11:00 AM** to **01:00 PM** and bread, fruit and vegetables to bring home to help with the evening meal. We also have a free Clothing Distribution Center which is open on **Wednesdays** from **10:00-11:00 AM** for women and children and on **Thursdays** from **10:00-11:00 AM**. In case of emergency, help is always available. All are welcome; no questions asked. Please pass the word to anyone you know who may need their services.



ROSARY AND FAITH LUNCHEON

Guadalupe Hope Society is inviting you to our **14 FEB 2025 Rosary and Faith Talk Luncheon** on **Friday, 14 FEB 2025** at **11:30 AM** with **Fr. Anthony Hernandez**, Pastor of *St. Basil the Great Byzantine Catholic Church*. He will share a faith talk with us after the rosary. Register to attend either in person at the Santa Maria Hall in Campbell or virtually by emailing admin@ghswomenscenter.com or call to reserve your seat at the Hall. **408/447-5433**. This is a free event.

DONATIONS OF LIFE-SAVING BLOOD

Stanford Blood Center is in need of blood donations. The closest Stanford Blood Center is located at 445 Burgess Drive, Suite #100, in Menlo Park, just a few blocks from Nativity. The Blood Center is open **Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday** from **07:00 AM-03:00 PM**; **Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-07:00 PM**. You may make an appointment by calling **888/723-7831** or visiting <https://stanfordbloodcenter.org>.

Whether you have given blood in the past or you have never given blood, please consider making a donation of lifesaving blood at the Stanford Blood Center in Menlo Park. Stanford Blood Center leads the fields of transfusion and transplantation medicine by advancing science and technology. We enhance lives by connecting blood donors to Bay Area patients at Stanford Hospital, Lucile Packard Children's, Stanford Medicine Tri-Valley, as well as other Bay Area hospitals.



OCIA and Faith Formation

(New Name! Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Thinking of
Becoming
Catholic?



Have questions
about our
Catholic faith?

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Class Topics *

- **February 02** Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing
- **February 09** The Vocation of Holy Orders
- **February 16** The Vocation of Holy Matrimony
- **February 23** Catholic Controversies

Class Time: 09:45 AM - 11:45 AM

Location: O'Hare Center (behind the church)

For more information, go to the church website:

<https://www.nativitymenlo.org/OCIA>

* Topics are subject to change

DID YOU
KNOW?

A group meets at **07:30 PM** every **Friday** at Vallombrosa, year-round at the Lourdes shrine, to pray the rosary. They have been practicing this devotion for 5 years. All are invited to join.

Pregnant? Need Help? Please contact

• Birth and Beyond • (331/444-5433),

• The Gabriel Project • (800/910-0191),

or • San Juan Diego Centro por la Vida • at St. Francis (650/322-2152).

FROM THE HOLY SEE

Each month His Holiness asks for prayer intentions. For **February 2025**, the Holy Father's intention is:

Intention: *For Vocations To The Priesthood And Religious Life*

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

DID YOU KNOW?

- A group meets every morning (**Mon-Fri**) in the church to pray the rosary at **08:00 AM**? They have been practicing this devotion since the 1970s. Perhaps you'd like to join them!



DID YOU KNOW?

EVERY MONDAY AT 07:00 PM ...

Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group meets for Rosary and the latest message from Medjugorje, now approved by the Vatican. All are welcome. (in the **Guadalupe Room**).

DID YOU KNOW?

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY AT 05:30 PM ...

An evening of adoration, prayer and reflection with *Our Lady Queen of Peace* starting at **05:30 PM** Mass followed at **06:00-08:00 PM** rosary, music, meditation and closing with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome. (in the church).

NATIVITY LIBRARY

Nativity parish has a small but well-stocked library in the **O'Hare Center**. It has hundreds of books on spirituality, lives of the saints, and how to explain the faith. It also has almost 100 DVDs. Stop by and check it out (on the honor system). On the weekends our parish librarian, **Wayne Reus**, is there to help you find what you want after the **05:00 PM Mass** on **Saturday**, and after the **09:30** and **11:30 AM** Masses (until **01:00 PM**) on **Sunday**. During the week, the key is available in the office. Enjoy reading, watching, and learning about the faith. For questions, call **Deacon Dominick, 650/269-6279**.



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

CALENDAR OF NOVENAS

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

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

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

LOCAL AND GLOBAL RELIEF

The world is crying out for help, and the church has always been quick to answer those cries. Please prayerfully consider offering whatever assistance you can to these urgent needs, both close at hand and around the world.

The Need	How to Help
	<p>Mass starvation in Gaza</p> <p>Many thousands are starving in North Gaza. Famine has become <u>mass starvation</u> for children, women and elderly. The U.N. World Food Program is providing crucial food and water. Please donate soon:</p> <p>https://www.wfpusa.org/gaza/</p> <p>Phone: 202/627-3939, designate for North Gaza. Pray for Peace in the Holy Land.</p>

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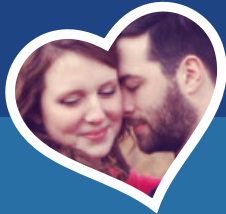
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Nativity Church, Menlo Park, CA

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CHRISTIAN ICONOGRAPHY: THE HALO

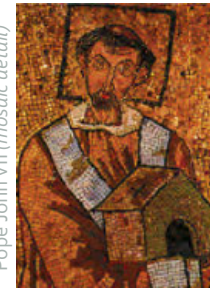
The *halo*, also called a *nimbus* or *aureole*, is most often associated with Christianity and Christian art, but there is also evidence in the art of the Egyptians, Romans, Greeks and others.

Around the **4th century A.D.**, Jesus was depicted with a nimbus. By the 6th century its use had become widespread in depicting the Persons of the Trinity, saints, and the Virgin Mary. Saints were given circular halos, while Jesus was usually depicted with a cross proscribed by a circular halo (as in the picture to the right).



For a period of time, living persons considered to be particularly holy were painted with a square halo (including **Pope Gregory the Great**, who around the year **600** permitted himself to be painted with a square halo). In **1600 Pope Urban III** stopped this practice, forbidding the use of the nimbus for any person that had not at least been beatified.

Pope John VII (mosaic detail)



In Renaissance art, the Persons of the Trinity are often depicted with triangular halos, particularly God the Father.

The *aureole*, also called a *mandorla*, is a full-body halo. The best-known example of the mandorla is the image of the Virgin Mary, as our Lady of Guadalupe, on Saint Juan Diego's tilma. Many other images of the Blessed Mother depict her with a mandorla.



In addition to the shapes, the color of a nimbus was once used to distinguish martyrs, virgins, religious, etc. The shape and style has also changed over time, beginning with flat, upright solid disks, to solid disks angled in perspective behind the head, to translucent "glows" that slightly showed background, to the hollow ring first introduced by Raphael.

Can You Find Five (5) Differences Between These Two Images?

