



210 Oak Grove Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
tel: (650) 323-7914
fax: (650) 323-3231
www.nativitymenlo.org

Church of the Nativity

MASSES

Sundays 08:00, 09:30, 11:00 AM,
12:30 PM (traditional Latin Mass)
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

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Michael Thomas, CSC

PERMANENT DEACONS

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

SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Noreen Browning
nbrowning@nativityschool.com



FIRST READING

Many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2: 42-47

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

Psalms 118

SECOND READING

God ... in His great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope.

1 Peter 1: 3-9

GOSPEL

Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

John 20: 19-31



Divine Mercy Sunday

12 April 2026

Thomas answered and said,
"My Lord and my God!"

John 20: 28

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 12-18 APR

SAT: 05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN: Masses	Priest's intentions
MON: 07:30 AM	† Carmelita Lenz
05:30 PM	Janine Peñafort
TUE: 07:30 AM	Jordon Joves
05:30 PM	† Shelby Drazan
WED: 07:30 AM	The unborn; † Holy Souls in Purgatory
05:30 PM	† Erin Donahue
THU: 07:30 AM	The Barrett and Ferrando families, living and deceased;
05:30 PM	George B. Cantu Jr.; Calvin Gilbert The Canessa family, living and deceased; † Thomas Harrigan; † Mary Jane Eismann
FRI: 07:30 AM	† Ruth and Arthur Bellaire
05:30 PM	† Danilo Jumaoas
SAT: 08:00 AM	Brian and Cuc Lee and family; Allan Ota; Soana Mahoni; The Arata family, living and deceased; † Wyatt Adair

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



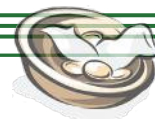
Electronic giving is offered through our website www.nativitymenlo.org or call the parish office for a paper form

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

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

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
MON	07:00 PM	Medjugorje Prayer Group
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)

12 APR	(Sunday)	
	12:30 PM	Traditional Latin Mass
	03:00 PM	Divine Mercy Mass
	04:00 PM	Divine Mercy Fellowship
13 APR	(Monday)	
	08:00 AM	Legion of Mary
14 APR	(Tuesday)	
15 APR	(Wednesday)	
	08:45 AM	Nativity School Mass
	07:00 PM	Natural Family Planning Class
16 APR	(Thursday)	
	12:00 PM	Senior Thursday Group
	07:00 PM	Nativity Women's Faith and Study
17 APR	(Friday)	
	03:00 PM	Infant Jesus of Prague Society
18 APR	(Saturday)	

**PARISH OFFERINGS**

	WEEK OF 28-29 MAR
TOTAL:	\$11,634
ADA Progress:	
2026 ADA Goal:	\$152,365

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

On **Divine Mercy Sunday, 12 APR 2026**, we will have our annual Divine Mercy Celebration. It will include Confessions at **01:30 PM**, a talk on Divine Mercy at **02:00 PM**, and Mass at **03:00 PM**, followed by the Chaplet. Please join us; there will be a pot-luck following in the **O'Hare Center**. The need for Divine Mercy is greater now than it has ever been. The world has become much darker and confusing. We will pray that God will shower His Mercy on the world, especially on all those who participate in this worldwide celebration. For any questions, call **Mary Ellen Peloso (650/269-7794)**.



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.



Parish Office Hours

09:00 AM–04:00 PM (M–F)

closed 12:00–01:00 PM (lunch)



MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

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 APR 2026** 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.

OCIA AND FAITH FORMATION

Thinking about becoming Catholic? Have questions about our Catholic faith?

All are welcome (OCIA students, parishioners and friends)!

WHAT: The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

WHERE: O'Hare Center

WHEN: Sundays (09:15-10:30 AM)

MORE DETAILS: <https://www.nativitymenlo.org/OCIA>
There are also OCIA brochures in the back of the Church

APR'26 THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR (topics subject to change) APR'26

- Easter De-Brief!
- Ministries at Nativity (at Vallombrosa)
- Tradition of Prayer
- The Prayer Jesus Taught: "Our Father"

No Class on **Easter Sunday (05 APR 2026)**
Last class will be **Sunday, 03 MAY 2026**

Please contact **Mary Rudolph** (mem.rudolph@gmail.com),
Joan Desmond (jfdesmond@aol.com),
Hal Fletcher (hal.fletcher@gmail.com)
or the Rectory (**650/323-7914**).

CALL FOR SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS

At the **11:00 AM** Folk Mass we always welcome new musicians. If you sing or play an instrument, it's a great way to serve, have fun, and meet other parishioners. We especially need singers, particularly those who can serve as cantors, as well as a bass player and a drummer (small footprint: cajon, djembe, or similar). All instruments are welcome. You do not need to know how to read music, but you do need to be able to learn songs by ear/YouTube. If you're interested, please contact **Barbara Nelson** **650/464-2971**, bnelson1015@gmail.com, or see me after **11:00 AM** Mass.



LAUDATO SI AND VALLOMBROSA GARDEN PARTY

Nativity's *Laudato Si Circle* is heeding the words of Pope Francis' encyclical (see <https://tinyurl.com/laudatosi-doc>) to care for our common home - in this case, by acting locally to help clean up and maintain the gardens around Vallombrosa Center, next door to Nativity. We now meet on the third Saturday of every month starting around **10:00 AM** near the *Stations of the Cross* to do some garden cleanup. Join us! Bring gloves, rakes, wheelbarrows, etc., whatever you have for gardening. The next event will be **Saturday, 18 APR 2026**. We hope to see you there.



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: 01:00 AM, 02:00 AM, 03:00 AM, 04:00 AM

Friday: 11:00 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**
- **Claire E Kelley**, daughter of **Brian Kelley** and **Anna Borden**
 - **Adam Hemington**, son of **Calvin Hemington** & **Sophie Emmerson**
 - **William Daniel Spirz**, son of **Christopher Spirz** & **Lauren Hemington**

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

IN THE COMMUNITY

ATTENTION **MOTORISTS!**

A few people have reported being almost run over by speeding vehicles. Therefore, to add another level of safety for our parishioners, Church of the Nativity has implemented the following:

	<p>Signage We have installed 5 MPH signs as a visual reminder to slow down. Please help us keep everyone safe as you drive on the Church of the Nativity property.</p>
	<p>Speed Bumps These are now being installed on the property in efforts to slow down drivers. They will be installed appropriately in places where it should serve as a gentle reminder that it is a church parking lot, and not a racetrack.</p>
	<p>Fire Lane The red fire lane provides access for emergency vehicles. Please never park or stop there.</p>
	<p>Blue Curb and Spaces These are reserved for those with disability placards.</p>

Thank you for keeping all our parishioners safe and providing easy access to our church.

PARKING: CARE FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Our neighbors on Rebecca Lane are asking that parishioners **please not park** on Rebecca Lane. Access to driveways is impacted and it can be an overall safety hazard. Please be mindful and extend this courtesy to the residents.



NEW SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Effective on **Easter Sunday, 05 APR 2026**, the schedule of Sunday Masses will be changing. The **05:00 PM** traditional Latin Mass will be discontinued, and the **12:30 PM** Mass will be celebrated in the traditional Latin form. The new schedule for Sundays will be:

- **08:00 AM**
- **09:30 AM** (choristers)
- **11:00 AM** (folk choir)
- **12:30 PM** (traditional Latin Mass)



FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

Spend some time with your fellow parishioners after the **09:30 AM** Mass on the **1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays** of each month!

The **Food and Fellowship Ministry** will be serving coffee and donuts. If you're interested in helping the **Food and Fellowship Ministry**, please sign up using the QR code or email liz.palla@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: PARISH-WIDE AUCTION

The **Nativity Parish Community**, collectively (church and school) warmly invites our church and school families to the **2026 Nativity Parish Community Auction** on **Saturday, 02 MAY 2026**.

Invitations and sponsorships for the Nativity Parish Community Auction were given out after the Sunday Masses last week. They are now available in the church vestibule. Pick up an invitation and plan to join the Parish Community for an evening for *Growing Faith, Growing Community and Growing Funds*. For donations and sponsorship opportunities, please contact **Carol Hoy** at the Church of the Nativity office at **650/323-7914**.

Bringing animals inside the Church IS NOT ALLOWED AT ANY TIME!

REGISTER WITH THE PARISH

We welcome all visitors and invite those who are considering coming home to the Catholic Church to register. Church attendance alone does not make you or your family registered members. To register online, please go to www.nativitymenlo.org and fill out the *Parish Registration Form*. To obtain one in the mail, please call the rectory office **650/323-7914** during regular business hours.

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 **April 2026**, the Holy Father's intention is:

Intention: *For Priests in Crisis*

Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS



DID YOU KNOW?

ON-GOING PRAYER GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

WEEKDAY MORNING ROSARY

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!

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**).

CENACLES OF LIFE PRAYER GROUP

After the **05:30 PM** mass on **Tuesdays**, the *Nativity Cenacles of 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.

FRIDAY EVENING ROSARY

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.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Men have been meeting every week for the last 16 years to pray together and share experiences in spiritual growth. We meet at **06:15 AM** on **Saturdays** in the O'Hare (Parish) Center in back of the church. It has been a time of grace and strength for everyone who attends. You are welcome to join us. For questions, call **Deacon Dominick Peloso: 650/269-6279**

EVERY FIRST TUESDAY AT 07:00 PM ...

A **Spanish-language** prayer group, *Our Lady Queen of Peace*, meets for the Rosary and the latest message from Medjugorje. All are welcome in the Guadalupe Room. For more information, call **Aurora Abramson at 650/400-8911**.

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).

CALENDAR OF NOVENAS

12 APR (SUN)	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
13 APR (MON)	
14 APR (TUE)	FIRST Day: St. George
15 APR (WED)	SECOND Day: St. George
16 APR (THU)	THIRD Day: St. George
17 APR (FRI)	FOURTH Day: St. George
18 APR (SAT)	FIFTH Day: St. George
19 APR (SUN)	SIXTH Day: St. George FIRST Day: St. Louis de Montfort
20 APR (MON)	SEVENTH Day: St. George SECOND Day: St. Louis de Montfort FIRST Day: St. Catherine of Siena
21 APR (TUE)	EIGHTH Day: St. George THIRD Day: St. Louis de Montfort SECOND Day: St. Catherine of Siena
22 APR (WED)	NINTH Day: St. George FOURTH Day: St. Louis de Montfort THIRD Day: St. Catherine of Siena FIRST Day: St. Joseph the Worker
23 APR (THU)	Feast of Saint George FIFTH Day: St. Louis de Montfort FOURTH Day: St. Catherine of Siena SECOND Day: St. Joseph the Worker
24 APR (FRI)	SIXTH Day: St. Louis de Montfort FIFTH Day: St. Catherine of Siena THIRD Day: St. Joseph the Worker
25 APR (SAT)	SEVENTH Day: St. Louis de Montfort SIXTH Day: St. Catherine of Siena FOURTH Day: St. Joseph the Worker

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Saint George:

www.ewtn.com/library/PRAYER/NOVGEOR.TXT

Saint Louis de Montfort:

novena.com/2011/04/26/novena-for-april-3/

Saint Catherine of Siena:

www.praymorenovenas.com/st-catherine-of-siena-novena/

Saint Joseph the Worker:

www.stjosephshrine.org/about-the-shrine/prayers-to-saint-joseph/

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Octave of Easter** refers to both the eight-day period following Easter Sunday and the *eighth* day after Easter itself (i.e., the *first Sunday after Easter*). Over the course of history, that Sunday has been referred to as *St. Thomas Sunday*, *White Sunday* and *Low Sunday*. In the year 2000 it was designated **Divine Mercy Sunday** by Pope Saint John Paul II.

- *St. Thomas Sunday* is derived from the Gospel reading for that day, which recounts the story of "doubting" St. Thomas the Apostle.
- *White Sunday* is a historical reference to the time when those newly baptized at Easter would wear their baptismal gowns until that day.
- *Low Sunday* is believed to derive from the Latin "*Laudes*", which is the first word in the Sequence for that day ("*Laudes Salvatori voce modulemur supplici*" -- "Let us sing praises to the Savior with humble voice.").

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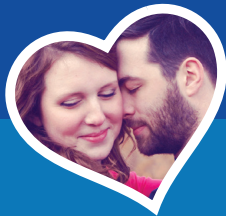
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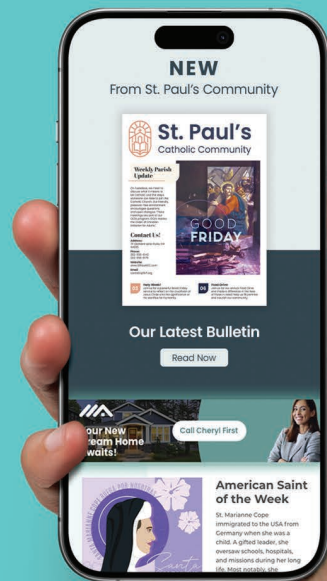
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05-4088

DID YOU KNOW?

THE DIVINE MERCY IMAGE

There have been multiple images of the Divine Mercy produced over the years. Although **Saint Faustina** was frequently consulted about the progress of the original painting, it was her spiritual director and confessor, **Venerable Michael Sopocko**, who was responsible for hiring an artist by the name of **Eugene Kazimirowski** to paint from **Saint Faustina's** description. There is a detailed letter from Fr. Sopocko that describes what happened. He wrote: "For several months the painter was unable to satisfy the author, who became sad on that account, and it was at this time that she wrote in her diary: "Once when I was at that painter's, who's painting this image, and saw that it is not as beautiful as Jesus is, I became very sad, but I hid that deep in my heart. When we left the painter, Mother Superior remained in the city to settle various matters, but I returned home by myself, immediately I made my way to the chapel and I had a good cry. I said to the Lord: 'Who will paint You as beautiful as You are?' Of a sudden I heard the words: 'not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush is the greatness of this image, but in My grace.'" ...



Kazimirowski's painting is the original, and now hangs in the **Cathedral in Vilnius, Lithuania**.

Many have noted that the facial expression and direction of the rays do not match what Saint Faustina described.



At the end of World War II, an artist named **Adolf Hyla** presented the Sisters of our Lady of Mercy with a painting in thanksgiving that his family had been spared during the war.

This painting now hangs above the tomb of Saint Faustina in the convent chapel in **Lagiewniki, Poland**.

Hyla's version is popular in **Europe** and **Latin America**.



Based on Saint Faustina's original description, many people were dissatisfied with existing details (the rays in the original were pointing downward, and the right hand in Hyla's is too high, being raised above the shoulder). So an American artist named **Robert Skemp** tried to correct these with his own version. The Skemp version is the most popular in **the Philippines** even today, and hangs above the **Divine Mercy Shrine in Manila**.

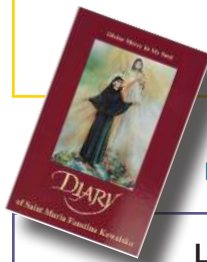


All three of the images above have ecclesiastical approval for display in churches and for distribution to the faithful.

But a fourth image has become possibly the most wide-spread, painted by another American, **Kathleen Weber**, based on Hyla's version. In fact, some refer to this as the "**Hyla by Weber**" image.

I received a deeper understanding of divine mercy. Only that soul who wants it will be damned, for God condemns no one.

Saint Faustina
(diary paragraph 1452)



Divine Mercy in My Soul
Diary of Sister M. Faustina

LISTEN TO OUR LORD'S OWN WORDS

Jesus Himself speaks of His limitless Mercy for us in the Diary of Saint Faustina. No Christian should ever despair if they hear what our Lord and Savior has promised us. These are only a few of the messages:

(1577) Tell souls not to place within their own hearts obstacles to My mercy, which so greatly wants to act within them. My mercy works in all those hearts which open their doors to it. Both the sinner and the righteous person have need of My mercy. Conversion, as well as perseverance, is a grace of My mercy.

(1520) I have opened my Heart as a living fountain of mercy. Let all souls draw life from it. Let them approach this sea of mercy with great trust. Sinners will attain justification, and the just will be confirmed in good. Whoever places his trust in My mercy will be filled with My divine peace at the hour of death.

(1146) Let the greatest sinners place their trust in My mercy. They have the right before others to trust in the abyss of My mercy. My daughter, write about My mercy towards tormented souls. Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask. I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to My compassion, but on the contrary, I justify him in My unfathomable and inscrutable mercy. Write: before I come as a just judge, I first open wide the door of My mercy. He who refuses to pass through the door of My mercy must pass through the door of My justice...

(1273) There is no misery that could be a match for My mercy, neither will misery exhaust it, because as it is being granted it increases. The soul that trusts in My mercy is most fortunate, because I myself take care of it.