



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 05:00 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 | 1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th 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



HEARING LOOP ENABLED

FIRST READING

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you this sign.

Isaiah 7: 10-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord's are the earth and its fullness.

Psalm 24

SECOND READING

Through Him we have received the grace of apostleship.

Romans 1: 1-7

GOSPEL

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him.

Matthew 1: 18-24



The Annunciation -- Henry Tanner (1897)

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

21 DECEMBER 2025

A virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and His name shall be called Emman'u-el.

Matthew 1: 23

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 21-27 DEC

| | |
|---------------|--|
| SAT: 05:00 PM | Priest's intentions |
| SUN: Masses | Priest's intentions |
| MON: 07:30 AM | † Angela Grennan |
| 05:30 PM | The Drbal family; † George and Ron Bergeron; † Augustine Cuong Doan; Harlyn Hendershott |
| TUE: 07:30 AM | † Robert and Virginia Munk |
| 05:30 PM | † Josephine Ortega |
| WED: 07:30 AM | The Firenzi family |
| 06:00 PM | Priest's intentions |
| 10:00 PM | Priest's intentions |
| THU: 12:00 AM | Priest's intentions |
| 08:00 AM | Priest's intentions |
| 09:30 AM | Priest's intentions |
| 11:00 AM | Priest's intentions |
| FRI: 09:00 AM | † Juan Montelibano Sr. |
| SAT: 08:00 AM | The Brian and Cuc Lee family; † Augustine Cuong Doan; † Maria Gai Doan; Luis Diaz and Matthew Kelly |

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing



The parish office will be closed
from Thursday, 25 DEC 2025
to Friday, 02 JAN 2026
for the holidays.

The parish office re-opens on
Monday, 05 JAN 2026



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 |
| 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) |
| 21 DEC | (Sunday) | |
| | 09:15 AM | OCIA and Faith Formation |
| 22 DEC | (Monday) | |
| | 08:00 AM | Legion of Mary |
| | 07:00 PM | Simbang Gabi at Nativity |
| | 08:00 PM | Simbang Gabi Fellowship |
| 23 DEC | (Tuesday) | |
| 24 DEC | (Wednesday) | Christmas Eve |
| | 06:00 PM | Vigil Mass of Christmas |
| | 10:00 PM | Christmas Mass at Night |
| 25 DEC | (Thursday) | Christmas Day |
| | 12:00 AM | Midnight Mass (traditional Latin) |
| | 08:00 AM | Christmas Mass |
| | 09:30 AM | Christmas Mass |
| | 11:00 AM | Christmas Mass |
| 26 DEC | (Friday) | |
| | 09:00 AM | Weekday Mass (one only) |
| 27 DEC | (Saturday) | |



PARISH OFFERINGS

| | WEEK OF 29-30 NOV | WEEK OF 06-07 DEC |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| TOTAL: | \$10,018 | \$11,973 |
| ADA Progress: | \$51,403 | \$51,403 |
| 2023 ADA Goal: | \$156,819 | \$156,819 |

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

SOLEMNITY, FEAST, MEMORIAL • OPTIONAL MEMORIAL • OTHER

21 DEC (Sunday):

SAINT PETER CANISIUS, Doctor of the Church (1521-1597)

He was an excellent student, and received a master's degree by age 19; his closest friends at university were monks and clerics. Joined the Jesuits in 1543 after attending a retreat conducted by **Blessed Peter Faber**. He travelled and worked with **Saint Ignatius of Loyola** who was his spiritual director in Rome, Italy. In his later years, his advice was sought by **Saint Francis de Sales**, and by his friend **Saint Charles Borromeo**. Proclaimed a *Doctor of the Church* in 1925 by **Pope Pius XI**.



26 DEC (Friday)

SAINT STEPHEN, First Martyr

Stephen was in charge of the original set of deacons appointed by the apostles to carry out works of charity. He was stoned to death on false charges of blasphemy. Among the approving bystanders at his martyrdom was Saul (the future **St. Paul**). In imitation of Jesus, Stephen's final words were that God not hold against his murderers their sin.



23 DEC (Tuesday):

SAINT JOHN OF KANTY, Priest (1390-1473)

John was a serious, humble man, generous to a fault with the poor, sleeping little, eating no meat and little of anything else. He was a *Professor of Theology* at the University of Cracow. He was declared patron of Poland and Lithuania in 1737 by **Pope Clement XII**, thirty years before his final canonization.

27 DEC (Saturday)

SAINT JOHN, Apostle and Evangelist (d. ~101)

John, son of Zebedee and brother of **James**, is the disciple whom Jesus loved. He was privileged, with his brother and **Saint Peter**, to behold the Saviour raise up a dead child to life, then saw Him transfigured on the mountaintop; he alone reposed his head on His breast at the Last Supper. He is the author of three letters, the book of Revelation, and the most spiritual of the four gospels.



MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

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.

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

DEC'25

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR
(topics subject to change)

DEC'25

- The Mass and the Eucharist (Part 1)
- The Mass and the Eucharist (Part 2)
- Confession and Anointing of the Sick

There will be **no class** on 30 NOV (Thanksgiving holiday)

There will be **no class** on 28 DEC (Christmas holiday)

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).

SIMBANG GABI 2025

FOR DEANERY 11

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|--|
| 21 DEC | (Sunday) | St. Raymond (Menlo Park) |
| 22 DEC | (Monday) | Church of the Nativity (Menlo Park) |
| 23 DEC | (Tuesday) | Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Redwood City) |



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



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

Friday: 02:00 PM

**Saturday: 01:00-03:00 AM (once per month),
09:00 AM, 11:00 PM**

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

PARISHIONERS

DEATHS

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND: • Beats Studio earbuds - case with earbuds inside
Call 650/323-7914.

Whoever serves Me must follow Me,
and where I am, there also will My servant be.
The Father will honor whoever serves Me.

IN THE COMMUNITY

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.

NEED YOUR PRAYERS FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

When pregnant mothers, scared and worried, come to Planned Parenthood, thinking they have no other option, pro-life volunteers are there with our resources, prayers and care.

Many women with abortion appointments will cancel when they encounter loving, compassionate people on the sidewalk who are praying for them and their unborn. Please consider joining us; God will bless you!

WHAT: Pro-life people praying there, led by members of *San Mateo Pro Life*



WHERE: Planned Parenthood sidewalk, 2907 El Camino Real, Redwood City

WHEN: Mornings, **Monday-Friday 08:30-11:30 AM**

WHY: The more people present and praying, the more graces God grants to save precious babies! Many lives have in this way been spared!

CONTACT: For more information, visit www.sanmateoprolife.com or call **Erika** at **650/283-5353**

Do you speak Spanish? Your help could be crucial in saving a life!

NOW AVAILABLE: A NEW WAY TO DONATE

The future of giving is here. **Tip Tap Pay** is changing the way people give.



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If you want a year-end tax receipt for your donations, you can (after your first tap) scan the provided QR code to register your card (you only need to do this once).

Questions? Please contact the parish office (650/323-7914).



Parish Office Hours

09:00 AM-04:00 PM (M-F)

closed 12:00-01:00 PM (lunch)



MISSA CANTATA: TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

We are pleased to share that our first Traditional Latin Mass was attended by nearly **200** faithful. Your presence, reverence, and devotion made the celebration truly beautiful.

As we continue offering the Traditional Latin Mass, we warmly invite you and anyone who may be seeking a deeper encounter with the sacred to join us again. Whether you are returning to this form of worship or experiencing it for the first time, you are welcome.

May this liturgy continue to draw us closer to Christ through its timeless beauty, silence, and prayer. We look forward to praying with you every **Sunday at 05:00 PM**.

Can't find your copy of the 1962 Roman Missal?

<https://tinyurl.com/1962missal>



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.

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 **December 2025**, the Holy Father's intention is:

Intention: *For Christians in areas of conflict*

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS



BULLETIN NEWS

EARLY SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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

| Bulletin items for... | Submit by... |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 04 JAN 2026 | 25 DEC 2025 (Thursday) |

DID YOU KNOW? ON-GOING 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 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 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

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 21 DEC (SUN) | SIXTH DAY: Christmas Novena |
| 22 DEC (MON) | SEVENTH DAY: Christmas Novena |
| 23 DEC (TUE) | EIGHTH DAY: Christmas Novena |
| 24 DEC (WED) | NINTH DAY: Christmas Novena |
| 25 DEC (THU) | Christmas Day |
| 26 DEC (FRI) | |
| 27 DEC (SAT) | |
| 28 DEC (SUN) | FIRST DAY: Epiphany Novena |
| 29 DEC (MON) | SECOND DAY: Epiphany Novena |
| 30 DEC (TUE) | THIRD DAY: Epiphany Novena |
| 31 DEC (WED) | FOURTH DAY: Epiphany Novena |
| 01 JAN (THU) | FIFTH DAY: Epiphany Novena |
| 02 JAN (FRI) | SIXTH DAY: Epiphany Novena |
| 03 JAN (SAT) | SEVENTH DAY: Epiphany Novena |

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

Christmas Novena:

www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/novena/christmas.htm

Epiphany Novena:

www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/novenas/p00073.htm

Schedule of Christmas and New Year Services

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| 22-23 DEC | after 05:30 PM Mass | Confession Service |
| 24 DEC | (Wednesday) 06:00 PM 09:00 PM 09:45 PM 10:00 PM | Vigil of Christmas Vigil Mass of Christmas Choral Prelude to Mass at Night Christmas Proclamation and Procession to the Crib Christmas Mass at Night |
| 25 DEC | (Thursday) 12:00 AM 08:00 AM 09:30 AM 11:00 AM | Christmas Day Trad. Latin Midnight Mass Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass |
| 26 DEC | (Friday) 09:00 AM | Feast of St. Stephen Daily Mass (one Mass only) |
| 31 DEC | (Wednesday) 07:30 AM 06:00 PM | Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation) |
| 01 JAN | (Thursday) 09:00 AM 05:30 PM | Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (Holy Day of Obligation) |
| 02 JAN | (Friday) 07:30 AM 05:30 PM | (regular Mass schedule resumes) Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Holy Sacrifice of the Mass |

2026 Catholic Calendar

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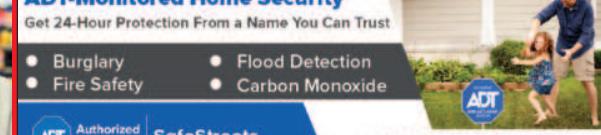
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And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And



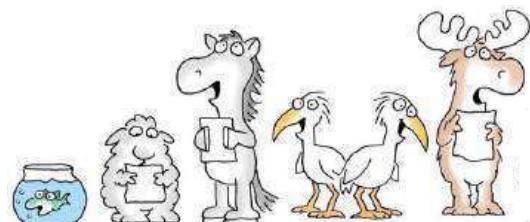
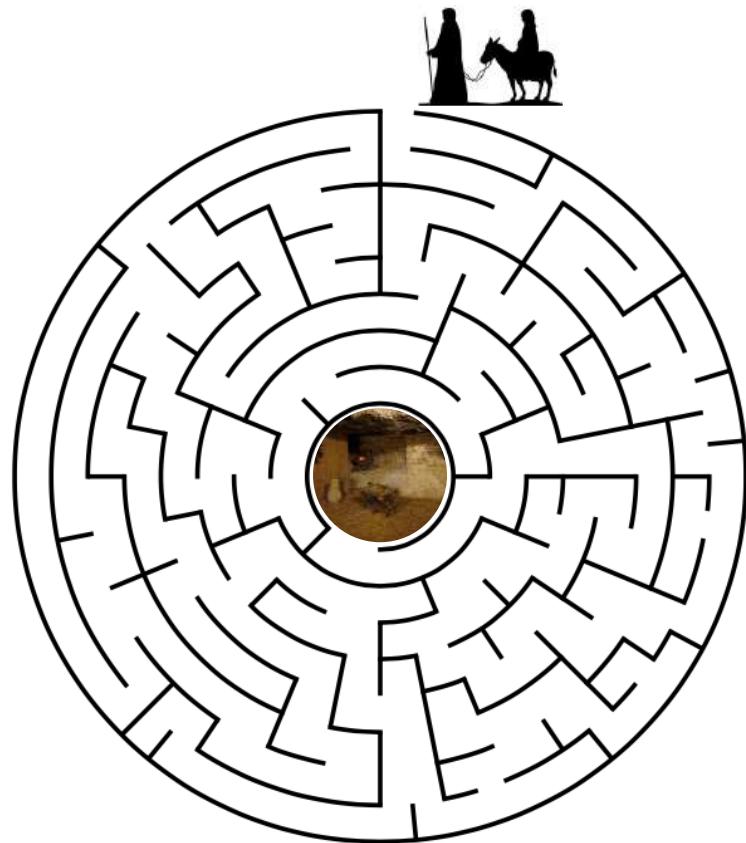
and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, because there was no place in the region there were shepherds over their flock by night. And to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And afraid; for behold, I bring you will come to all the people; for to

David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased!"

she gave birth to her first-born Son clothes, and laid Him in a manger, for them in the inn. And in that out in the field, keeping watch an angel of the Lord appeared Lord shone around them, and the angel said to them, "Be not good news of a great joy which you is born this day in the city of And this will be a sign for you: you will

WALK AROUND BETHLEHEM LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO STAY



WEE FISH EWE A MARE EGRETS MOOSE