



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 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



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.

Psalms 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

CALENDAR

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

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	<i>Simbang Gabi</i> at Nativity
	08:00 PM	<i>Simbang Gabi</i> 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

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

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.

SIMBANG GABI 2025 FOR DEANERY 11

21 DEC	(Sunday) 05:00 PM	St. Raymond (Menlo Park)
22 DEC	(Monday) 07:00 PM	Church of the Nativity (Menlo Park)
23 DEC	(Tuesday) 05:00 PM	Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Redwood City)

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**).



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

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

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.

NOW AVAILABLE: A NEW WAY TO DONATE

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



Tap your credit card on the device (which is pre-configured for a specific amount).

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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)



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.

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**.

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!

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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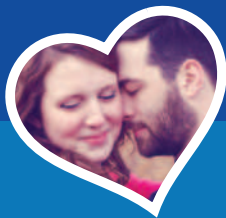


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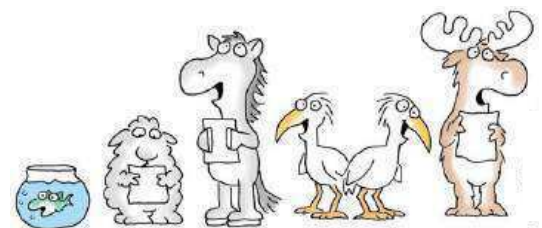
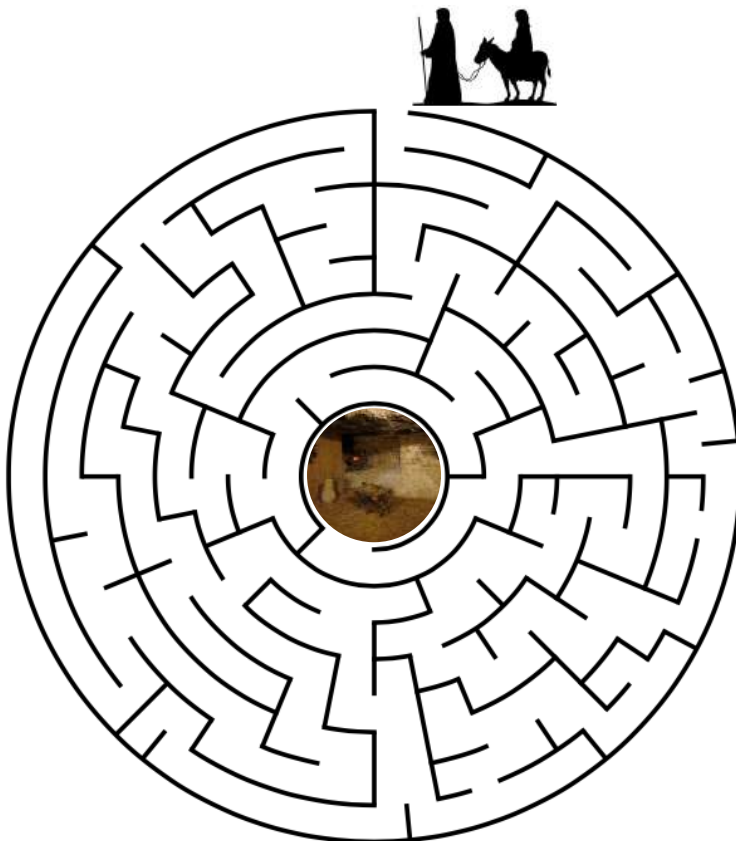
Nativity Church, Menlo Park, CA

A 4C 05-4088

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 she gave birth to her first-born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling 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 afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will 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!"



WALK AROUND BETHLEHEM LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO STAY



WEE FISH EWE A MARE EGRETS MOOSE