



210 Oak Grove Avenue
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fax: (650) 323-3231
www.nativitymenlo.org

Church of the Nativity

MASSES

Sundays 08:00, 09:30, 11:00 AM and 12:30 PM
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

King David made an agreement with them there before the Lord.

2 Samuel 5: 1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Psalms 122

SECOND READING

He is the head of the body, the church.

Colossians 1: 12-20

GOSPEL

Above Him there was an inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

Luke 23: 35-43



SOLEMNITY OF JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

23 NOVEMBER 2025

For you who fear My Name, there will arise
the sun of justice with its healing rays.

Malachi 3: 20

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 23 - 29 NOV

SAT: 05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN: Masses	Priest's intentions
MON: 07:30 AM	The Ortiz and Rubio families, living and deceased
05:30 PM	† Keleta Meshesha
TUE: 07:30 AM	† Ruth and Arthur Bellaire
05:30 PM	† Holy Souls in Purgatory; Audrey Custodio; Maryclaire and Larry Thomas and family, living and deceased; The Drbal family
WED: 07:30 AM	† Marta Montelibano
05:30 PM	† Holy Souls in Purgatory
THU: 09:00 AM	† Doris Boland
FRI: 09:00 AM	† Holy Souls in Purgatory
SAT: 08:00 AM	† Holy Souls in Purgatory; † Charles Chatfield; Danijela Brekaló; Anthony Lillies and family; † Augustine Cuong Doan

Please pray for those in need of physical or spiritual healing

The parish office will be closed
on Thursday and Friday,
27-28 NOV 2025 for Thanksgiving.

There will be one Mass,
at 09:00 AM, on both days.



PARISH OFFERINGS

	WEEK OF 08-09 NOV
TOTAL:	\$11,494
St. Patrick's Seminary:	\$5,900
ADA Progress:	\$48,278
2025 ADA Goal:	\$156,819

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)

23 NOV	(Sunday)	
	07:00 AM	Adopt-A-Family Sign-Ups
	08:00 AM	Advent Candle Sale
	09:15 AM	OCIA and Faith Formation
		NOTE: OCIA meets at Vallombrosa this week only

24 NOV	(Monday)	
	08:00 AM	Legion of Mary
	07:00 PM	Medjugorje Prayer Group
	07:00 PM	Schola Seraphica Concert Practice

25 NOV	(Tuesday)	
	09:30 AM	Fall Bible Study

26 NOV	(Wednesday)	
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27 NOV	(Thursday)	Thanksgiving Day
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28 NOV	(Friday)	
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29 NOV	(Saturday)	
	10:30 AM	Concert Practice
	11:00 AM	Baptisms

Parish Office Hours

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



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

26 NOV (Saturday)

SAINT CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, Martyr (d. ~305)

(apocryphal) At 18, she debated the pagan philosophers of Maximinus, leading many to conversion (and immediate martyrdom), including the empress and the leader of Maximinus' army. When her touch destroyed the wheel upon which she was to be broken, she was beheaded, and her body whisked away by angels. She is one of the *Fourteen Holy Helpers*.

28 NOV (Monday)

SAINT JAMES OF THE MARSH, Priest (1391-1476)



Livestreaming of the
Nativity Sunday Mass
is now at **11:00 AM**

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

SILENT RETREAT

Monsignor Otellini will again be leading Vallombrosa's *Advent Five Day Silent Retreat* from **14-20 DEC 2025**. All are encouraged to consider attending this potentially life-changing event. Monsignor will be providing daily Mass, conferences, and confessions. The cost is **\$475** which includes meals from **Sunday evening, 14 DEC 2025** to breakfast on **Saturday, 20 DEC 2025**. This is 50% off Vallombrosa's regular price. Some scholarships are available. For questions, call **Deacon Dominick** at **650/269-6279**. To register, call **Jaynie** at **650/325-5614**.

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**.

THANKSGIVING MASS COLLECTION

The collection taken at Mass on Thanksgiving Day, **27 NOV 2025**, will benefit the *St. Vincent de Paul Society* and their work in our local community with needy families. Our St. Vincent de Paul Society obtains the non-perishable food they distribute from Second Harvest. With the money donated SVdP also provides chickens and Safeway cards for fresh vegetables to the people and families they visit. They use some of the money donated to provide rental and PG&E. assistance to some families. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

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.



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

THIS WEEK ONLY!
OCIA will meet at
Vallombrosa

NOV'25

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR
(topics subject to change)

NOV'25

- The Saints and Mary, the Mother of Christ
- Introduction to the Liturgy – Holy Mass
- The Pascal Mystery
- Introduction to the Sacraments

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**).

John 14:15

"If you love Me,"

"then keep My commandments."

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

SCHOLA SERAPHICA CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tickets are now available for *Schola Seraphica's* Annual Christmas Concert on **07 DEC 2025** at **02:00 PM** at **St. Patrick's Seminary**. Tickets are **\$20** for adults and **\$15** for seniors and students. Tickets will be on sale after Sunday morning Masses. Additionally, you may purchase the tickets at the Nativity parish office between **09:00 AM-04:00 PM Monday-Friday**. Seating is limited; we are looking forward to sharing more beautiful music with you.

Schola Seraphica Concert Tickets will be sold after morning Masses beginning **16 NOV 2025**. **\$20** general **\$15** seniors/students. All checks should be made out to the *Church of the Nativity*. It was a **sell-out** last year, don't get left behind!



IN THE COMMUNITY

ATTENTION PRAYER WARRIORS!

San Mateo Pro-Life members are currently protesting Planned Parenthood in RWC, M--F 8:30-11:30. The more people who physically show up, to pray, the more graces God gives to save babies! Also, it's been proven that many abortion bound women cancel their appointments when people are praying on the sidewalk.

Consider joining us, *God will bless you!*

We need a Spanish-speaking counselor as well

Let's see the closure of this last bastion of death in the Peninsula. *"Deliver them that are led to death: and those that are drawn to death forbear not to deliver"* -- Proverbs 24.11

For questions, email **Erika Hathaway** (erikashathaway@gmail.com)

NATIVITY SCHOOL NEWS

NATIVITY CHRISTMAS MARKET AT SOBRATO GYM

Save the date: **Sunday, 23 NOV 2025**

Get ready to shop local and support our community of Nativity artists and bakers at our *2nd Annual Christmas Market*. Vendor spaces are still available! Contact **Jen** at jennortiz1@gmail.com for more information.

NATIVITY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS TREE LOT

We are getting ready for Nativity's annual Christmas Tree Lot!

Pre-orders open the week of **10 NOV 2025** and will be available until **25 NOV 2025**. Please visit our website to pre-order your tree: www.nativitytrees.com We are open the day after Thanksgiving! Be sure to save the date for **Saturday, 06 DEC 2025** as **Santa** will be visiting the lot. Thank you as always for your support of Nativity School and we can't wait to welcome you this season.



NATIVITY FAMILY MINISTRY

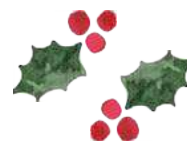
Please join us for a special *Family Advent Gathering* as we kick off our new **Nativity Family Ministry**! Enjoy listening to an Advent-themed talk given by **Fr. Mark**, fun arts and crafts for the kids, and light refreshments for all. Come grow in faith and community as we prepare our hearts for Christmas together. All families are welcome!

WHAT: Inaugural event for the new **Nativity Family Ministry**

WHERE: O'Hare Center

WHEN: **Saturday, 06 DEC 2025**
(03:00-04:30 PM)

RSVP:



ADVENT CANDLE SALE

We will be selling sets of Advent candles on the weekends of **15-16** and **22-23 NOV 2025**. Each set includes 4 candles and a prayer card for **\$10**. Share the light of Advent in your home and support our parish community.



NATIVITY ADOPT-A-FAMILY

We have started our **35th annual program** to assist families in our area who are in need and to brighten their Christmas celebration. With your generosity, we will be assisting over 200 families with gifts and food. On the weekends of **15/16** and **22/23 NOV 2025**, we will be outside church for parishioners to come to our Christmas tree and choose a family that they would like to help. These are all families identified by our *St. Vincent de Paul Society* and other trusted sources. The idea is to then purchase gifts for each child and one family gift. These will be brought to Nativity School Gym on **Saturday, 13 DEC 2025** for delivery.



We will also have items to purchase for various charitable organizations. Finally, we will be taking sign-ups to be on the delivery teams. As a parish, we have always been very generous and look forward to helping you enjoy the Christmas season even more by helping others do the same. For questions, call **Mary Ellen Peloso, 650/269-7794**.

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

Intention: *For the prevention of suicide*

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

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.



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

23 NOV (SUN)

24 NOV (MON)

25 NOV (TUE)

26 NOV (WED)

27 NOV (THU) FIRST DAY: Saint Nicholas

28 NOV (FRI) SECOND DAY: Saint Nicholas

29 NOV (SAT) THIRD DAY: Saint Nicholas

30 NOV (SUN) FOURTH DAY: Saint Nicholas

01 DEC (MON) FIFTH DAY: Saint Nicholas

02 DEC (TUE) SIXTH DAY: Saint Nicholas

03 DEC (WED) SEVENTH DAY: Saint Nicholas
FIRST DAY: Our Lady of Guadalupe

04 DEC (THU) EIGHTH DAY: Saint Nicholas
SECOND DAY: Our Lady of Guadalupe
FIRST DAY: Saint Lucy

05 DEC (FRI) NINTH DAY: Saint Nicholas
THIRD DAY: Our Lady of Guadalupe
SECOND DAY: Saint Lucy

06 DEC (SAT) Feast of Saint Nicholas
FOURTH DAY: Our Lady of Guadalupe
THIRD DAY: Saint Lucy

FIND THE NOVENA PRAYERS

St. Nicholas:

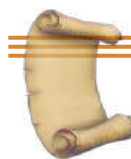
www.fisheaters.com/novenas.html#nicholas

Our Lady of Guadalupe:

www.sancta.org/novena.html

Saint Lucy:

www.novena.com/2013/12/10/saint-lucy/



BULLETIN NEWS

REMINDER: SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Items for the bulletin should be emailed to the bulletin editors at nativity.bulletin@gmail.com.

EARLY SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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

Bulletin items for...	Submit by...
07 DEC 2025	30 NOV 2025 (Sunday)
14 DEC 2025	04 DEC 2025 (Thursday)
21 DEC 2025	10 DEC 2025 (Wednesday)
28 DEC 2025	18 DEC 2025 (Thursday)
04 JAN 2026	25 DEC 2025 (Thursday)

2026 Catholic Calendar

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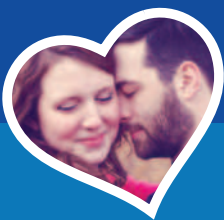


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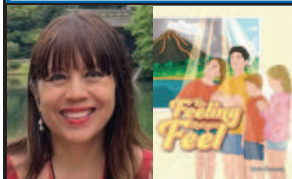
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GIVE THANKS FOR: SARAH JOSEPHA BUELL HALE

"Who?", you may ask. Sarah Hale is "the lady who saved Thanksgiving." This amazing woman raised five children, wrote poetry, children's books, novels and biographies, was the first female magazine editor in America, published great American writers like Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe and Edgar Allan Poe, composed the nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb", fought for playgrounds for children, schools for girls, the erecting of historical monuments, the abolition of slavery, and ... making Thanksgiving into a national holiday.

Sarah was born in 1788 and grew up hearing patriotic stories from her father, a disabled veteran of the Revolutionary War. Sarah Hale loved Thanksgiving, and noticed that even though people in the New England states celebrated the holiday, states in other parts of the country were starting to ignore Thanksgiving. Sarah was the editor of a magazine for ladies, and wrote editorials encouraging her readers to ask for a national holiday for Thanksgiving. She herself wrote thousands of letters to politicians in every state asking for a Thanksgiving holiday. One by one, the states agreed and made Thanksgiving a holiday in their state. But Sarah wanted a national holiday, that everyone celebrated together, at the same time, like a big family.

So Sarah Hale wrote letters to the President. Zachary Taylor said "No." Millard Fillmore said "No." Franklin Pierce said "No." James Buchanan said "No." But Sarah refused to give up. She wrote a letter to the next President after that ... and Abraham Lincoln said "Yes." In 1863 President Lincoln declared the **fourth Thursday of November** a national day of Thanksgiving. It had taken Sarah Hale thirty-eight years to make this happen, but this bold, brave, stubborn, smart lady saved Thanksgiving for all of us.



Taken from "Thank You, Sarah - The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving" by Laurie Halse Anderson

*In 1939, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared November 23rd, the **third** Thursday of the month, to be Thanksgiving Day. This break with tradition was prompted by requests from the National Retail Dry Goods Association to extend the Christmas shopping season by one week. As always, the president's 1939 proclamation only directly applied to the District of Columbia and federal employees. While governors usually followed the president's lead with state proclamations for the same day, on this year, twenty-three states observed Thanksgiving Day on November 23rd, twenty-three states celebrated on November 30th, and **Texas** and **Colorado** declared both Thursdays to be holidays. (Roosevelt repealed this failed experiment in 1941).*

LET US GIVE THANKS

PROCLAMATION

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favor, able interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally, to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

--Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3rd day of October, A.D. 1789

G. Washington