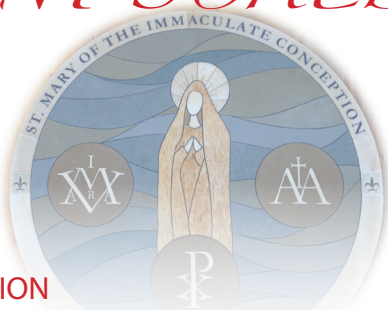




DECEMBER 17, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# ADVENT SCHEDULE



## ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Thurs., December 21, 2017

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Priests will be available for Individual Confession

## CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 24, 2017

4:00 PM Mass - Howley Hall  
4:00 PM Mass - Church  
6:00 PM Mass  
10:00 PM Mass  
Adult Choir (w/ 30 min. prelude)

## CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, December 25, 2017

7:30 AM Mass  
10:00 AM Mass The "Niners"

\*\*\*Please note time changes\*\*\*

\*note: NO 9:00 am, 11:15 am & 5 pm mass

## Mary Mother of God (New Year's Day)

Sunday, January 1, 2018

7:30 AM Mass



## Welcome to St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

For more detailed information about what is happening now and in the future at St. Mary go to our online calendar on our website or on the computer in the parish office. Registration Forms can be found online, in the vestibule of the church or in the Parish Office.

## THIS WEEK...

[www.stmaryslg.org/#calendar](http://www.stmaryslg.org/#calendar)

Sun. Dec. 17	Elementary Faith Formation 9 & 11:15a Playways 9 a WAV Family Session 10 a Malankara Mass 1 p Youth Choir Practice 4 p
Mon. Dec. 18	55+ Group Luncheon 12 p ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION 4 p Adoration & Rosary 6 p Women's Support Group 6:30 p EDGE 7 p
Tue. Dec. 19	Small Christian Community 6:30 a Women's Spirituality Group 8 a Advent Enrichment Class 10 a Prayer Group meeting 10 a Centering Prayer 7 p
Wed. Dec. 20	Organ Practice 4:30 p
Thu. Dec. 21	Centering Prayer 3:30 p SMS Men's Club 5p <b>Parish Reconciliation 6 p</b>
Fri. Dec. 22	Men's Faith Sharing 6:30 a Bible Study 8 a Adoration/Divine Mercy 3 p
Sat. Dec. 23	Reconciliation 3:30 p
Sun. Dec. 24	Sunday AM mass 7:30, 9 and 11:15a <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Christmas Eve Masses 4 p, 6 p, 10 p</b> Malankara Christmas Mass 5:30 p

## MASS TIMES

Daily: Mon - Sat 7:30 am

Saturday (Vigil): 5 pm

Sunday: 7:30, 9 & 11:15 am and 5 pm

Reconciliation: 3:30 pm on Saturdays

Rosary prayed after 7:30am daily mass

# STEWARDSHIP

is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts of love of God and neighbor.

We appreciate your ongoing support and commitment to St. Mary Church. If you have ever forgotten your envelope, checkbook or to stop for cash you should consider signing up for **ConnectNow Giving** (online giving). In addition to recurring scheduled donations for Sunday and School collections, **ConnectNow Giving** offers one-time giving via the web, using a mobile app (iTunes) (Android) or via text. Most 2nd collection and special collections are also available as one-time gifts. *Need help getting set-up? Contact Teri Tucci — [tstucci@stmaryslg.org](mailto:tstucci@stmaryslg.org) or 408.354.3726 x137*



[stmaryslg.org/donate](http://stmaryslg.org/donate)

THANK YOU to those who have already signed up. If you were receiving envelopes please contact Lisa - [llawson@stmaryslg.org](mailto:llawson@stmaryslg.org) if you would like to discontinue them.

## Memory Bricks

Memory Bricks are a great way to remember a special event, person or loved one in our community. When you purchase a brick your contributions fund our Parish and School buildings & grounds upkeep and improvements. Information and order form can be found on our website at [stmaryslg.org/brick-order-form](http://stmaryslg.org/brick-order-form).



## 2018 Calendars Available in the Church or the Parish Office

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week, we looked at a form of nativity scene called a presepio, characterized by framing the crèche of Jesus with a vast array of personalities and a rich geographical context. The tradition was carried to the New World, and finds very rich expression in Latin America today. While in Europe the presepio was reserved mostly to the homes of wealthy nobles and great churches, in Latin America it was claimed by the poor and expressed the skills of native artisans. In Mexico, you can still find clay figures in every village market. In a way, the native people took the religion of Spanish rule and baptized it with their Indian culture by surrounding the crib of Jesus with local geography and people. In Brazil, where Christmas falls in summer, the figure of the baby Jesus is wrapped in gold and gems, and set on a hillside surrounded by flowers and animals of all kinds. Sometimes there is a double presepio, presenting both Nativity and Crucifixion.

In some places in Latin America, even non-religious people take care to have a presepio in the home, sometimes dedicating one whole room in the house or apartment to the scene. Some cities have markets where people from the countryside sell plants and figurines. In Cuzco, churches and families provide hot chocolate for the children of the poor who come down to help create the nativity scenes. In Paraguay, the baby Jesus grows--the small infant who arrives on Christmas Eve is replaced at New Year with a toddler Jesus who holds in one hand the globe and in the other a cross. Few Christmas traditions have the vitality and variety of presepios and crèches honoring the Nativity.

### Text Giving is now Available ... What does this mean?

If you have not yet signed up for ConnectNow Online Giving, or even if you have, we are now also providing the ability to text your donation to the Sunday Collection as well as Christmas, Easter and 2nd collections.

Number to text to: 14082605076

1. Text the amount you would like to give to your church's designated number (FOR OTHER THAN SUNDAY COLLECTION READ TIPS BELOW).
2. If you are a first time text-giving donor, or not signed up for ConnectNow Giving currently, you will be prompted to visit a secure URL.
3. Once you click the registration link, you will enter your credit or debit card information.
4. At this point your donation will process.
5. You will see a confirmation text showing your donation and registration were successful.

For more information on Text Giving go to  
<https://stmaryslg.org/text>



Recently members of our  
Finance Committee  
presented our

**ANNUAL PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT**  
for the  
Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 - June 20, 2017

A more detailed reporting of our income and expenses mentioned in this report, along with a video of the presentation, can be found on our website:

<https://stmaryslg.org/stewardship>



## ADVENT SEASON

It has taken a long while to learn how generous the people of this parish are. Evidence for this is evident during the Season of Advent. What's not so clear is the source of what motivates others to be so magnanimous. Most of it doesn't make much rational sense; consequently we are likely to be more mindful of our capacity to employ intuition and emotional intelligence in matters of the heart.

Nothing makes us happier when we see the eyes of another light up to a gift freely given—it's priceless. What if it were possible to have others experience the exchange of goodwill from one to another. Even while they may never encounter one another, there is a spiritual connection between the recipient and the donor. That encounter

reminds us of the gift of life—by sharing what we value with one another we find true value and we are drawn more closely in our life together. This is the basis for trust.

Most of us carry around the memories of Christmas past. It was a time of innocence when Santa Claus seemed plausible, though now we are likely to focus on the Christ child born in Bethlehem. Still, many adults look forward to living these memories of innocence again with their children until they grow into adulthood. The surprises of this season will eventually reveal themselves as gifts: just as our children are to this present generation as it makes evident the mercy of God's love in the Word made Flesh.

We do need a savior in our time, and we await the return of Jesus. Part of being a disciple of Jesus is to find ways of sharing a word that causes us to rejoice. It is like receiving an unexpected gift—it has deep meaning because it conveys a spirit of gratitude.

Knowing that another thinks well enough to have spent the time to be thoughtful and providing a request is an act of kindness and goodwill.

The generosity from the parishioners of St. Mary is truly exceptional. You are caring for many children and adults who may not have extended family near. The Advent season is a time of contrast between the darkness and the light. Most of the time our rational sensibility gives way to emotional intelligence. As self-evident as it may seem, we need to remember to take care of one another; particularly our children and elders.

This Advent let us keep our promise to prepare for the arrival of the one who comes in the name of the Lord. As the time approaches to celebrate the gift of life God offers us in Jesus, may we also gratefully acknowledge God's promise now.



### Saint Mary's Parish Community Annual Christmas Giving Tree - 2017

*Thank you for your  
generous support  
for this year's  
Christmas Giving Tree.*



JANUARY  
**10**



Justice  
Truth  
Dignity  
Common  
Good  
Solidarity  
Subsidiarity  
Human  
Person  
Love  
Freedom

**Join us to hear  
Fr. Jon Pedigo**

for a talk about his new role and priorities as:

**Director of Advocacy and Community Engagement  
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County**

Learn how parishes like St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
may be able to engage.

**Hofmann Center**

**7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**





## FAITH FORMATION

Baptism, Sacraments, Children of all Ages, Youth Ministry, Young Adult, Adult Education  
[www.stmaryslg.org/fait-form](http://www.stmaryslg.org/fait-form)

To register, please go to our website under Faith Formation or email Terri Trotter - [ttrotter@stmaryslg.org](mailto:ttrotter@stmaryslg.org)



### FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

**You can still sign up for Family Faith Formation Classes for all sessions: Pre-school through High School.** You can register at [stmaryslg.org/fait-form-formation-registration-form](http://stmaryslg.org/fait-form-formation-registration-form)



Faith  
Formation

Remember that Faith Formation is an on-going and life-long process and children should attend sessions every year to deepen their understanding, knowledge and relationship with Christ.

**Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith? Interested in becoming a Catholic?**

Join us for our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation Of Adults) journey of faith that meets on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:15pm. During this year-long process we will explore themes of Spirituality, Sacraments, Prayer, The Mass, Social Justice, etc.

If interested, please contact Terri - [ttrotter@stmaryslg.org](mailto:ttrotter@stmaryslg.org)

### NEW PARISHIONERS

Barbara Lencioni  
Shari Oldfield

### Enduring Grace;

#### *Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*

by Carol Lee Flinders

**8 Wednesday Mornings 10 am to noon**

**January 10 thru February 28, 2018**

**St. Mary's Conference Room**



Come, join a small group of like-minded men and women for a weekly time of spiritual retreat. We begin and end with prayer and in between we will contemplate and journal with words from *Enduring Grace*; *Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*. Flinders brings to life a chorus of wisdom from the past that speaks with remarkable relevance to our contemporary spiritual quests.

These gatherings are facilitated by Donna Lenahan. To sign up for this series, please contact Donna by e-mail: [djlenahan@aol.com](mailto:djlenahan@aol.com) or leave a

message on her phone: 408-354-9024 by January 3rd.

**Advent & Christmas  
with Thomas Merton**

**Dec. 19**

**from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon  
St. Mary's Conference Room**



Come, join us on an inner Advent journey, as we venture into a place of interior silence in order to hear and respond to the Holy Spirit as we prepare to celebrate Christmas, a day made holy by sacred mystery. These morning gatherings help us put the focus of Christmas on Christ. There are informational flyers at the entrances to the church with pre-registration information.

### PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Michael Brown †  
Lucy Burke †  
Jack Dawson †  
Lori Schmidt †

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Katherine Du Bois  
Kevin Dircio  
Tony Micalco

*We pray for all parishioners who need healing of body, mind and spirit, that Jesus be a source of strength and comfort.*

To place a name on this list (for three weeks), contact Pastoral Care, 354-3726 x121. You also are invited to write names in St. Mary's Book of Petitions and Prayers in front of Mary's statue in church.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Dec. 18	7:30 am	William O'Connell †
Tue. Dec. 19	7:30 am	Olivia Gray †
Wed. Dec. 20	7:30 am	Dr. Donald & Mrs. Mary Lintner †
Thu. Dec. 21	7:00 pm	Souls in Purgatory
Fri. Dec. 22	7:30 am	Silverman Balch †
Sat. Dec. 23	7:30 am 5:00 pm	St. Mary Volunteers St. Mary Parishioners
Sun. Dec. 24	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:15 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm 6:00 pm 10:00 pm	St. Mary Volunteers St. Mary Parishioners St. Mary Parishioners Conrad Leclair † (Gym) Tony & Celeste Pereira † Richard Horzen † Paul Luu †

*Rejoice always.  
Pray without ceasing.*  
-- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TO THE SICK

We are in need of 2 volunteers to help at Vasona Creek on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. You can volunteer weekly or 1 to 2 times a month. Please contact Jane Najour, if interested in helping.

[jnajour@stmaryslg.org](mailto:jnajour@stmaryslg.org) or (408) 354-3726 x121



### OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for parish office volunteers for mornings or afternoons to answer phones and greet people. Please contact Teri Tucci at 408.354.3726 x 137 or email her at [ttucci@stmaryslg.org](mailto:ttucci@stmaryslg.org)

As we celebrate the third week of Advent let us remember that Advent means coming. It is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. We really celebrate a three-fold coming--the coming of Christ as an infant at Christmas, the coming of Christ in our daily lives, and the second coming of Christ. It is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas by working on changing something that has prevented us from following the path of Christ. As we continue to wait in joyful hope may we be grateful for the many gifts in our lives.



As we then move into the Christmas season let us remember all of the reasons that we have to give thanks to God for his many blessings and his many signs and symbols at this time of year:

**Fir Tree:** the pure green color of the fir tree remains green all year long, depicting the everlasting hope of mankind. All needles point heavenward, making it a symbol of our thoughts turning toward heaven

**Star:** The star is the heavenly sign of promise long ago, God promised a Savior for the world and the star is the fulfillment of that promise.

**Candle:** The candle symbolizes that Christ is the light of the world, and when we see this great light we are reminded of He who displaces the darkness.

**Wreath:** The wreath symbolizes the eternal nature of love. Real love never ceases. Love is one continuous round of affection.

**Holly Leaf:** The Holly plant represents immortality. It represents the crown of thorns worn by Jesus. The red berries represent blood that was shed by Jesus.

**Gift:** God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son as a gift.

**Candy Cane:** The J of the candy cane stands for Jesus; the crook of the candy cane represents the shepherd's staff, they who first heard the news of the birth of Jesus. The stripes of the candy cane remind us that by His stripes we were healed, the red represents the blood that was shed for us and the white represents the light of purity and resurrection and the hope that Jesus brought to us.

**Angel:** The angels were the ones that heralded in the glorious news of the Savior's birth.

**Bell:** The lost sheep are found by the sound of the bell, it should bring people back to the fold. The bell symbolizes guidance and return.

***FOR ADS***

***FOR ADS***



[www.smslg.org](http://www.smslg.org)

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2017-2018!

**We are accepting applications for all grades, Transitional Kindergarten - 8th Grade. Our Extended Care Program provides after-school supervised care until 6:00pm. Applications and enrollment information is available on the St. Mary School website, [www.smslg.org](http://www.smslg.org). For more information, call the school office, 408-354-3944.**

*St. Mary School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age, sex or disability in the admission of students, the administration of educational policies, scholarships, loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.*

### PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Parish & Pastoral Ministries Offices: 408.354.3726 Fax: 408.354.9302

Fr. Rick Rodoni	Pastor	<a href="mailto:rrodoni@stmaryslg.org">rrodoni@stmaryslg.org</a>	x139
Fr. Biju Daniel Varghese	Parochial Vicar	<a href="mailto:bvarghese@stmaryslg.org">bvarghese@stmaryslg.org</a>	x138
Terri Trotter	Pastoral Assoc., Director of Faith Formation -Infant through Adult	<a href="mailto:ttrotter@stmaryslg.org">ttrotter@stmaryslg.org</a>	x123
Jane Najour	Coordinator of Pastoral Ministries	<a href="mailto:jnajour@stmaryslg.org">jnajour@stmaryslg.org</a>	x121
Ellie Harris	Youth Ministry	<a href="mailto:mharris@stmaryslg.org">mharris@stmaryslg.org</a>	x129
Corliss Greene	Director of Music	<a href="mailto:cgreene@stmaryslg.org">cgreene@stmaryslg.org</a>	x122
Jill Montanari	Parish Administrative Asst.	<a href="mailto:jmontanari@stmaryslg.org">jmontanari@stmaryslg.org</a>	x110
Teri Shepherd Tucci	Business Manager	<a href="mailto:tsucci@stmaryslg.org">tsucci@stmaryslg.org</a>	x137

*If it is an emergency and you need to reach a priest call 408.482.8021*

### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

School Office: 408.354.3944 Fax: 408.395.9151

Jim Johnston	Principal	<a href="mailto:jjohnston@stmaryslg.org">jjohnston@stmaryslg.org</a>	x119
Lynne Dickerson	Vice Principal	<a href="mailto:ldickerson@stmaryslg.org">ldickerson@stmaryslg.org</a>	x161
Cecile Mantecon	Vice Principal	<a href="mailto:cmantecon@stmaryslg.org">cmantecon@stmaryslg.org</a>	x148
Sheryl Becker	Office Manager	<a href="mailto:sbecker@stmaryslg.org">sbecker@stmaryslg.org</a>	x132
Kathy Rosendin	Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:krosendin@stmaryslg.org">krosendin@stmaryslg.org</a>	x118

### MASS TIMES

Daily: Mon - Sat 7:30 am Saturday (Vigil): 5 pm Sunday: 7:30, 9 & 11:15 am and 5 pm  
Reconciliation: 3:30 pm on Saturdays Rosary prayed after 7:30am daily mass

*The presiders' schedule can be found on our website at:  
[www.stmaryslg.org/mass\\_times](http://www.stmaryslg.org/mass_times)*

### Important Dates:

Dec. 19 Advent Program "Be the Present", 6:30pm,  
Church ~ please join us!  
Dec. 21 - 12:30pm Dismissal, Christmas break begins!  
Jan. 23 - TK-Kindergarten Parent Information Night,  
7pm, JH Building Library

PICTURES ARE OF ST. MARY 5TH GRADE, WHO PRESENTED OUR SCHOOL MASS  
DECEMBER, FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY NAME JOINED US FOR MASS, AND RENEW THEIR  
VOWS. FOLLOWING MASS, THEY WERE HONORED AT A SPECIAL RECEPTION,  
WHERE THEY WERE PRESENTED WITH RED CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS BY THE  
KINDERGARTEN CLASS!

