



ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 219 Bean Avenue, Los Gatos, California 95030
 408.354.3726 fx: 408.354.9302



DECEMBER 16, 2018

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent Schedule

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 15, 2018 8:00 a - 9:30 a *Priests will be available for Individual Confession*

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

Monday, December 24, 2018
 4:00 p Mass - Howley Hall
 4:00 p Mass - Church
 6:00 p Mass
 10:00 p Mass *Adult Choir (w/ 30 min. prelude)*

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, December 25, 2018
 7:30 a Mass
 10:00 a 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)

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 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

- Sun. Playways 9a
- Dec. Elem Faith Formation 9a & 11a
- 16 Malankara Mass 1p
- Parent/Child Reconciliation Retreat 2p
- Youth /choir Practice 4p
- WAV 6p
- Mon. 55+ Group Lunch 12noon
- Dec. Adoration and Rosary 6 p
- 17 Elem Faith Formation 4p
- Women's Support Group 6:30p
- EDGE 7p
- Tue. Small Christian Community 6:30a
- Dec. Women's Spirituality Group 8a
- 18 Prayer Group Meeting 10a
- Centering Prayer 7p
- Wed. *Advent - Four Weeks* 10a
- Dec. Organ Practice 4:30p
- 19 Advent Reconciliation 6p
- Choir Practice 7p
- Thu. Prayer Group 8 a
- Dec. Centering Prayer 3:30p
- 20 SMS Men's Club 5p
- Fri. Men's Faith Sharing 6:30 a
- Dec. Adoration Divine Mercy 3 p
- 21
- Sat. Robotics Tournament 8a
- Dec. Reconciliation 3:30 p
- 22
- Sun. Playways 9a
- Dec. Elem Faith Formation 9a & 11a
- 23 Malankara Mass 1p
- Youth /choir Practice 4p

MASS TIMES

Daily: Mon - Sat 7:30 am
 Saturday (Vigil): 5 pm

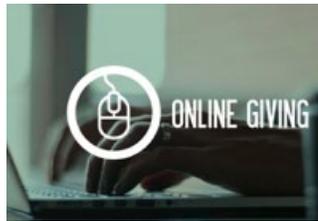
Sunday: 7:30, 9 & 11:15 am and 5 pm
 Reconciliation: 3:30 pm on Saturdays

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 ARE KEEPING UP WITH TECHNOLOGY!

Our parish provides Online Giving as an electronic tool for contributions so you can give via the 'web'. Online Giving helps you maintain your giving even if you cannot be here at Mass. This also helps the parish streamline our cash flow, especially during bad weather or vacation times.



stmaryslg.org/donate

THANK YOU to those who have already signed up for online donations. If you would like to discontinue receiving envelopes please contact Teri at tstucci@stmaryslg.org.

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.



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>



Thank you for your continued support to St. Mary Church. Our Sunday collections are currently \$30,174 behind our goal, as of Nov. 30th.

	Actual	Budget	Variance
October	\$ 76,052	\$ 88,563	(\$12,511)
November	\$ 80,973	\$ 86,048	(\$5,075)

We have been talking a lot about stewardship this fall. In addition to ongoing needs, we have the opportunity to participate in the long-term health and vibrancy of our parish through support of our endowment and consideration of estate gifts.

One of our parishioners has generously offered to match contributions made to our endowment up to \$20,000. This opportunity is available until December 31, 2018. So far we have received close to \$5,000. Please consider supporting the future of St. Mary's by participating in the endowment fund.

More information about the endowment through the Catholic Community Foundation can be found on our website - stmaryslg.org/parish-endowment.





You Can't Miss It

It's right there, can't you see it? You may have heard this from someone who is capable of seeing what's hiding in plain sight—when you are unable to identify what another can clearly observe. Or perhaps it's you who can see what another simply cannot. Failing to perceive the obvious is a fairly common experience even though there are times when we are not ready to admit it. We don't want to appear bereft, seem out of touch with reality, or have anyone question our judgment. Most want to share in the experience of what others observe, and it's frustrating and often disappointing when some are able to detect what remains unseen to you.

Ever lost something only to have someone else find it in near proximity to you? Recall the saying, "If it were a snake it would have bit you." Lots of folks use technological means to keep from losing things like their keys or wallets. Some others rely on St. Anthony to help them find what they misplaced. Sometimes it feels like forever when something goes missing. While it may be as long as a few months and you find what you've lost when you least expect it, you might say, "I can't believe I found it." The initial surge of joy quickly fades with the security of knowing you still possess what you thought you lost.

The surprising thing is that we never tire of wonder and discovery. We may feel foolish or frustrated when we cannot see what others can or when we can't find what's hiding in plain sight. Sometimes the answers to our questions are not so readily evident, but if they were it might seem terribly dissatisfying. The spiritual life keeps us in a constant state

of wonder, and while we don't have all the answers to some of the most vexing issues of life we are compelled to search for what makes sense—some kind of explanation that stands the test of objective inquiry.

Faith is something like the experience of not being able to perceive what others can. There is so much about living we don't understand, but if we are patient and open to wonder much of what we cannot perceive will reveal itself in due time. Christians regard chastity largely as a matter of sexual continence, though if we expand this concept to include all experiences for which one is not yet ready or mature enough then we can avoid the pitfalls in our path that we fail to see. Learning from the experience of others teaches restraint and leads to a more stable maturation. Not everyone sees what is obvious to others.

Martha's Helpers - The Ministry of Comfort Here at St. Mary's

We are extremely fortunate to have helping hands who stand ready to provide the warmth, comfort, and nurturing of a post-funeral reception, just steps away from the church in Hofmann Center. These hands belong to the women and men of Martha's Helpers, a ministry founded in 1977 by Rita Fisher and eleven other women of the parish, who in response to one of Jesus' Beatitudes felt called to "comfort those who mourn" (Matthew 5:4).

What is it:

Martha's Helpers provides a simple, free, post-funeral reception with food provided by volunteers and about 5 onsite, day of volunteers who set the tables, set out the food, assist with any guest needs and clean up the buffet tables and kitchen off of Hofmann. We are hoping some of you might be interested in joining this ministry with us.

Ways to help:

*Provide one of our food/beverage needs - delivered to Hofmann the day of the funeral (details and quantities provided)

*Volunteer for 4 1/2 - 5 hours day of for set up, service and clean up.

*You might want to make a food item each time, or only once a year. You may wish to be a regular on site volunteer, or only once in a while. So many possibilities!

How:

We have a very easy streamlined website for all sign-ups and details for each reception and its needs.

When:

Just to give you an idea of the time commitment, since we've been doing this.....Some years we have had 10 funerals to serve in one year, others years, like this one, only 2. One of our goals is to increase awareness of this ministry provided by the parish.

It is such a simple and small way to be of service, yet a huge help to those who are mourning a loved one.

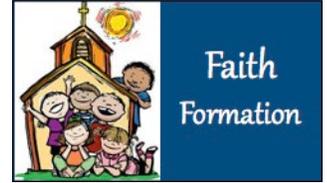
Who:

If you'd like to be added to our email list please email Jill Montanari: jillmontanari@gmail.com or Liz Crites: lizcrites@comcast.net. Once you are on the email list, you'll be notified when we have been asked provide a reception. You can sign up for bringing food and or being an onsite volunteer the day of for as many or as few funerals as you'd like. No forever commitment. Also, please feel free to share this information to anyone you think may be interested. Many hands make light work!



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER
 FOR CLASSES!**
REGISTER ONLINE AT stmaryslg.org/faith-formation.



For information and to register for Faith Formation classes for all ages go to our website at: stmaryslg.org/faith-formation.
 For more information contact Terri Trotter at ttrotter@stmaryslg.org.

Advent is Here....

Our students have been exploring the theme of Advent in their classes. 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.

What do we remember each week of Advent?

- Week 1: HOPE:** Reminds us that Jesus is coming.
Bible Verse: Romans 15:12-13
- Week 2: FAITH:** Reminds us to prepare the way of the Lord
Bible Verse: Luke 3:4-6
- Week 3: JOY:** Reminds us of the joy at the coming of the birth of Jesus
Bible Verse: Luke 2:10
- Week 4: PEACE:** Reminds us "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace"
Bible Verse: Luke 2:14



Reminds us...
Joy The joy at the coming birth of Jesus

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people."
 Luke 2:10

Ministry to the Sick - Volunteer Opportunities

Can you volunteer to be a Eucharistic Minister to the sick? We need volunteers to join the Sunday Morning Team at The Terraces. The lead minister at each location draws up a schedule at the start of the year so there is a lot of flexibility for members to switch dates as needed. Please prayerfully consider if you might be able to serve. Training and support provided. Contact Jane if interested. jnajour@stmaryslg.org

Interfaith Work Day at Sacred Heart An Opportunity for Interfaith Service January 20, 2-5 p.m.

Join others from the Interfaith community for a work day at Sacred Heart Community Service on Sunday, January 20.

No children under 9 - NO EXCEPTIONS. 9-13 with adult only, 14-17 permission slip required.

Donations of warm coats, blankets, rain gear, tents, & tarps are also needed. You may bring them along with you, or drop them off at Shir Hadash the week of January 13.

Date: 01/20/2019 (Sun.)
 Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm PST
 Location: Sacred Heart Community Service 1381 S 1st St, San Jose, CA 95110

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Doris Dias†
Carole Keily†
Rene Marchand †
Lee Reik †
Vincent Seid†

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Monica Aitken
Larry Beck

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 17	7:30 a	Roy Dias †
Tue. Dec 18	7:30 a	William O'Connell, Jr †
Wed Dec 19	7:30 a	Louise & Sylvester Erba †
Thu. Dec 20	9:00 a	Dr. Donald & Mary Lintner †
Fri. Dec 21	7:30 a	David Amezcua †
Sat. Dec 22	7:30 a	Souls in Purgatory
	5:00 p	David Anthony Piazza †
Sun Dec 23	7:30 a	Volunteers
	9:00 a	St. Mary's Parishioners
	11:15a	Virginia O'Rorke †
	5:00 p	Suzanne "Suz" Schaffert †

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Thursday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Friday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Saturday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

National Donor Sabbath Month.

The Holidays are upon us. This is a time to reflect on and have gratitude for all of the blessings that we have received throughout the year. While many of us are looking forward to celebrating with our loved ones, thousands of people in our community who are on the transplant wait list will be wondering if this might be their last holiday. Organ and tissue donors can give the most precious gift, the Gift of Life.



Organ and tissue donation offers the hope to heal lives and is a generous act supported by Pope Francis and the Catholic church. Your decision to register as a donor gives hope to the thousands who are waiting for a second chance at life. Among them are parents hoping to see their children grow up and kids looking forward to pursuing their dreams, but their future looks uncertain. Be a miracle to someone in need; register as a donor at DonorNetworkWest.org or at the DMV and share your decision with your loved ones.



Rejoice!!

Today has traditionally been called Gaudete Sunday. The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to rejoice always in the Lord, and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work.

Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgement Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy. This, we are assured on all sides, is the season of joy. Let us recapture that feeling of joy in our lives and reflect it to those who are joyless.

**The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.**
-- Zephaniah 3:15b



**St. Vincent de Paul Society -
St. Mary Conference**
www.stmaryslg.org/st-vincent-de-paul
"Help Us Help Others in
our Community"

FOR ADS

FOR ADS



www.smsg.org

2019-2020

St. Mary School is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. The enrollment process can be found on our website: smsg.org. Come to our All-School Open House, January 27, 2019, 10am-1pm. Call the school office with any questions, 408-354-3944. School office hours: 7:30am - 4:00pm

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.



IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES

- Dec. 20 - Give Back day at Willow Street Pizza and Main Street Burger, flyers in school office
- Dec. 21 - Christmas Break begins!
- Jan. 7 - School Resumes
- Jan. 12 - TK/Kinder Assessments
- Jan. 27 - Feb. 2 - Catholic Schools Week - classroom observations and more!
- Jan. 27 - 9am, Catholic Schools Week Mass
- Jan. 27 - All-School Open House, 10am - 1pm

Thank you St. Mary PTG and Men's Club for organizing the Cougar Community Pep Rally, Friday November 30 - the group first walked to the Christmas Tree Lighting, then returned to Howley Hall for a pasta dinner and family bingo! What a great way to welcome the Christmas season!



PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

Parish & Pastoral Ministries Offices: 408.354.3726 Fax: 408.354.9302

Fr. Rick Rodoni	Pastor	rrodoni@stmaryslg.org	x139
Fr. Biju Daniel Varghese	Parochial Vicar	bvarghese@stmaryslg.org	x138
Terri Trotter	Pastoral Assoc., Director of Faith Formation - Infant through Adult	ttrotter@stmaryslg.org	x123
Jane Najour	Coordinator of Pastoral Ministries	jnajour@stmaryslg.org	x121
Ellie Busmire	Youth Ministry	ebusmire@stmaryslg.org	x129
Corliss Greene	Director of Music	cgreene@stmaryslg.org	x122
Chloe Leinwand	Music Administrative Asst.	cleinwand@stmaryslg.org	x122
Mary Jane Araya	Parish Administrative Asst.	mjaraya@stmaryslg.org	x110
Teri Shepherd Tucci	Business Manager	tstucci@stmaryslg.org	x137
Coco	Parish Cat & Mouser		

*If it is an emergency and you need to reach a priest call 408.482.8021
Parish Office hours: M-Th 8 a - 4 p (Closed 12 - 1 for lunch)
Open 8:30a - 11:30a Hospitality Sunday - 1st Sunday of the Month*

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

School Office: 408.354.3944 Fax: 408.395.9151

Monica Hernandez	Interim Principal	mhernandez@stmaryslg.org	x119
Lynne Dickerson	Vice Principal	ldickerson@stmaryslg.org	x161
Sheryl Becker	Office Manager	sbecker@stmaryslg.org	x132
Kathy Rosendin	Administrative Assistant	krosendin@stmaryslg.org	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*

Ms. Dominion and the First Graders proudly representing St. Mary School in the Los Gatos Children's Christmas Parade!

