



# All are Welcome

## ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### Second Sunday of

# Advent

December 5, 2021

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights;  
look to the east and see your children gathered  
from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that they are remembered by God.

Baruch 5:5

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#### Keep Up-To-Date

with St. Mary and our community through our eNewsletter. Sign-up or view recent eNewsletters on our website at:

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



#### Mass Live Streamed

**Sunday 9:00am and Daily Masses are Live Streamed on our website**

[stmaryslg.org/livestream-mass](http://stmaryslg.org/livestream-mass)

#### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm - In Person

**Sunday Masses:**

9:00am

*Live-Stream & In Person*

7:30am & 5:00pm - In Person

**Daily Mass: 8:30 am**

*Live-Stream & In Person*

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:30pm - 4:30pm

#### SUNDAY DONATIONS

are best made online

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

Envelopes can be mailed or dropped in the mail slot at the rectory

**ADORATION LIVE STREAMED**

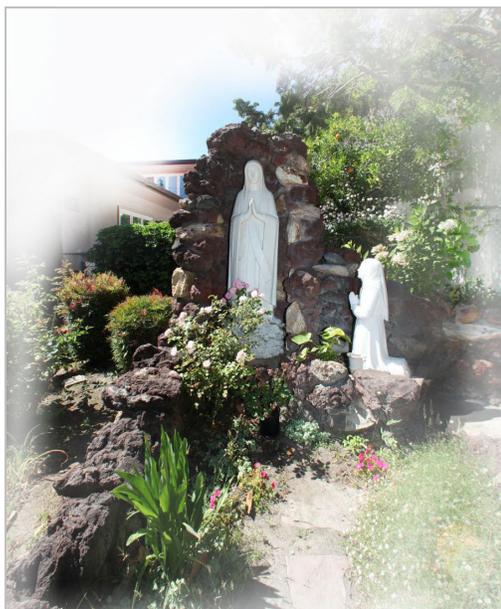
Thursdays at 7 pm

[stmaryslg.org/live-stream-mass](http://stmaryslg.org/live-stream-mass)

### SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

**Wednesday, December 8**  
*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

**MASS at 8:30 am**  
**(Rosary at 8:00am)**



December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is also the feast day of our parish. As we give thanks for the gift of our parish, let us renew our commitment to live out these words from the Letter to the Colossians:

*Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these, put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. (3:12-14)*

Just as we await the coming of the Lord, we await the end of this pandemic and its many accompanying challenges. May we soon see the saving power of God! Through the prayers of our patroness, Mary Immaculate, may God bless and protect all of us who call this parish home.

**Fr. Greg Kimm, Pastor**

## REFLECT AND RESPOND TO TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

The readings for the Second Week of Advent offer both encouragement and challenge as we reflect and prepare for the two “comings” of Christ — His coming as a baby on the great feast of Christmas, and the anticipation of His second coming at the end of time.

Our First Reading, from Baruch, is a wonderful reminder that God has triumphed over sin and death and that we — His faithful disciples — will live in the light of His glory one day. Until He comes again, we must remain faithful to Him as true disciples and good stewards of all the gifts He has given us.

While it can be tempting to give in to the materialism and calls for self-indulgence that surround us, this reading calls us back to the spiritual reality that this life is passing and that we are made for eternal life with God. We are called to prepare for eternal life by the way that we use our time, our talents, and our treasure now.

The Gospel reading from Luke shows us how personal and detailed is God’s love for humanity as He prepared the way for Christ’s coming among us. We are told the precise time, place, and person, John the Baptist, He appointed to announce the arrival of our Savior. John tells us how to celebrate to the fullest this first “coming” on the feast of Christmas and how to prepare for the second coming — through repentance.

This Advent let’s turn away from any bad habits or sin that may have crept into our lives and turn our hearts and minds back to Christ. This is what the stewardship way of life is all about — moving closer ever closer in relationship with Christ and imitation of Him, ready to celebrate His birth, with eyes fixed on eternal life with Him.

— Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants

### TODAY'S READINGS

Baruch 5:1-9;  
Psalm 126;  
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11;  
Luke 3:1-6

## PARISH DIRECTORY

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<i>Youth Ministry</i>	x129
Percival Perlas, <i>Music Director</i>	pperlas@stmaryslg.org x122
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Sharon Aeria, <i>Business Manager</i>	saeria@stmaryslg.org x137
Faith Formation	x123
Confirmation	x129
Baptism	x123
RCIA (Initiation)	x123
Youth Ministry	x129
Marriage	x121
Sacrament of the Sick	x121
Funerals	x121
Pastoral Care	x121
Outreach/Social Ministries	x121
Music Ministry	x122

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

<b>St. Mary School</b>	408.354.3944
30 Lyndon Avenue	
Los Gatos, CA 95030	smslg.org
Monica Hernandez, <i>Principal</i>	mhernandez@stmaryslg.org x119
Kathy Rosendin, <i>Business Manager</i>	krosendin@stmaryslg.org x118

## Advent & Christmas Schedule

**RECONCILIATION** - Saturday, December 4, 11, 18 - Individual Confession - 3:30pm - 4:30pm, Conference Rm.

### CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATIONS

Friday, December 24 - 4:00pm; 6:00pm; 10:00pm - 4:00pm Mass will be livestreamed.

### CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, December 25 - 7:30am & 10:00am - **No Mass at 5:00pm**

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY** - Sunday, December 25 - 7:30am; 9:00am; 5:00pm

**SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD** - Saturday, January 1 - 8:30am

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** - Vigil Mass - Saturday, January 1

Sunday, January 2 - 7:30am; 9:00am; 5:00pm



# ADVENT



**HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.**



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Table with 2 columns: Day and Readings. Rows include Sun 12/5 (SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT), Mon 12/6, Tue 12/7, Wed 12/8, Thu 12/9, Fri 12/10, Sat 12/11, and Sun 12/12 (THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT).

MASS INTENTIONS

Table with 4 columns: Day, Date, Time, and Intention. Rows list mass intentions for Mon 12/6 through Sun 12/13.

THE HOLY FATHER'S UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: CATECHISTS

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5

- Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Tuesday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Wednesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Friday: Our Lady of Loreto
Saturday: St. Damasus I, Pope
Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles

SECOND WEEK

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Author Unknown



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe you are really here in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you more than anything in the world, and I hunger to receive you. But since I cannot receive Communion at this time, Feed my soul spiritually. I unite myself to you now, as I do when I actually receive You in Holy Communion. Amen.

LIVE THE LITURGY : INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Sometimes, especially when life gets overwhelming and difficult, we can find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable. Wallowing in this uncomfortable darkness seems to be our norm and it's difficult to see a way out of, or through, this experience. If we listen carefully enough, we will hear God's voice calling out deep within, beckoning us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Faith tells us that God has already begun the creation of a good work in us and is with us, bringing it to completion, until Christ Jesus comes again. It is this light of God's glory for which we are asked to pave the way and straighten the paths of our lives so that it can shine. With all that life can ask of us and bring to us, it is our task to constantly discern what is of value. So that we do not get so weighed down by things that we no longer see, or feel, God's salvation.

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# FAITH IN ACTION

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*"This is what I ask in prayer: may your love abound more and more in knowledge and good judgment, so that you may discern what is best ..."* Philippians 1:9-10

During the holiday shopping season it's easy to get caught up in the gift-buying frenzy. However, is that "gift" a true expression of your love for the other person? Or, are you simply fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To increase friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn that you are of value to them. Maybe this year, buy fewer "things" and spend more time with those you love.

### Christmas Giving Tree 2021



- ♥
**Catholic Charities**  
Welcomes refugees from oppressed and war torn countries and sponsors them as they adjust to their new lives in Santa Clara County.
- ♥
**Front Door**  
Provides essential services to homeless men and women in our community. We serve the most vulnerable, including seniors and veterans.
- ♥
**Heritage House**  
Heritage House provides homeless, pregnant women with a safe place to live, nutritious meals, and counseling. Post natal care for mothers and infants continues for one year.
- ♥
**Sacred Heart**  
Responds to the physical and emotional needs of the hungry and homeless through the distribution of food, clothing, household goods, job counseling, and housing assistance.
- ♥
**Parisi House**  
Parisi House is Santa Clara County's first mother and child residential alcohol and drug treatment facility. They provide living facilities for mothers that have made the choice to end the cycle of substance abuse.
- ♥
**Next Door, Solutions for Battered Women**  
Provides shelter, meals and counseling for battered women and their children. Next Door is currently caring for 45 women and 60 children.
- ♥
**House of Grace**  
Women in transition, and their young children, find shelter, food and counseling at this place full of the grace of God.
- ♥
**Casa de Clara**  
A Catholic Worker Home which shelters and feeds women with small children. Casa de Clara follows the model established by Dorothy Day to support the working poor.
- ♥
**Outreach to Prisoners**  
Provides "Give Us This Day" Prayer Books for County Prisoners.

The Christmas Giving Tree collection will continue until the **12th of December**.

This year, St Mary will sponsor nine agencies that minister to those in need in Santa Clara. The agencies are:

**Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County; Front Door Communities, San Jose; Heritage House; Sacred Heart Community Services; Parisi House; Next Door, Solutions for Battered Women; House of Grace; Casa de Clara; Outreach to Prisoners**

For this year, we will gratefully accept monetary donations made out to St. Mary Parish. In the memo line, please note "Giving Tree". You can also make an online gift by visiting

<https://bit.ly/3HxqXff>

For questions contact:

Jane Najour jnajour@stmaryslg.org; (408) 354-3726 x121  
 OR Karen Camara k-camara@comcast.net; (408) 354-8866

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE!**

*Our Goal for December is \$82,685.00*

November 14	Week	Year to Date*
Budget	\$18,626.00	\$ 307,626.00
Actual	\$17,423.00	\$ 263,725.00
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>(\$ 1,203.00)</b>	<b>(\$ 43,901.00)</b>

\*from July 1, 2021

Your continued ONLINE support of St. Mary is much appreciated. **THANK YOU** to those who have already signed up for online donations.

**TO MAKE AN ONLINE GIFT:**  
[stmaryslg.org/online-giving](http://stmaryslg.org/online-giving)

Please consider setting up a recurring or one-time gift Online. Instructions can be found at  
[stmaryslg.org/getting-started-with-online-giving](http://stmaryslg.org/getting-started-with-online-giving)

## PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT 2020-2021

To view or download the financial report, visit  
[www.stmaryslg.org/finance-council](http://www.stmaryslg.org/finance-council)

## 2ND OFFERING

### RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS December 11 & 12

Elderly religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes—often for little to no pay. Now, many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your gift to today's Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

**To Make a Gift Online, please visit :**  
[giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/stmaryslg](http://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/stmaryslg)

## STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

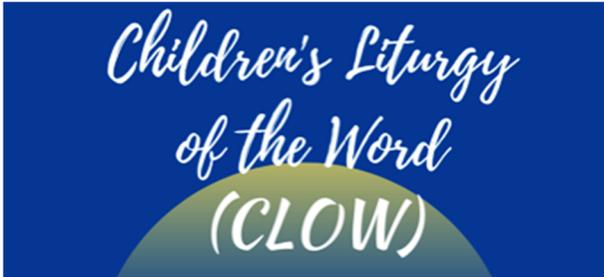
For those who are sick and who have asked for our prayers:  
**Ana Hernandez, David Dinno, Kathy Tobin, Diane Marvin, Paul McGuire**

For those who have recently died:  
**Elizabeth Floyd; Frances Guarino; Sylvester Palaniuk; Rich Saso; Gregory Shelton; Aleksis Cantu**

*Members of our parish family who are in the military, hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins and all who have no one to pray for them.*



# FAITH FORMATION



CLOW takes place on the following Sundays:

**December 12th, 19th**

**January 9th, 23rd, 30th**

during the 9am Mass. Children are invited to the front of the church just before the Liturgy of the Word begins and are dismissed after a blessing and return to the church before the Eucharistic Prayer begins.

During CLOW, children (Kindergarten-5th grade) will hear the readings of the day and discuss them in an age-appropriate setting with a trained St. Mary Parish catechist.

Register at [bit.ly/CLOW9am](http://bit.ly/CLOW9am), or scan this QR code:



If you have any questions about the program, or are interested in volunteering in this ministry, please contact: **Michael Lomas, Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation**  
[mlomas@stmaryslg.org](mailto:mlomas@stmaryslg.org) | (408) 354-3726 x123



**RCIA**  
Rite of  
Catholic  
Initiation of  
Adults

*“I have called You by Name, You are Mine” ...*  
An invitation to join the journey.

**RCIA - The process by which Adults become Catholic**  
Are you thinking of becoming Catholic? Conversion is a gradual process as well as a community and personal journey of faith that leads to a transformation of mind and spirit. The first step in the RCIA - *the Rite of Christian Initiation* process is the inquiry phase: a time to get your questions answered and think about whether or not this is for you.

If you would like to learn more about the RCIA process, please contact **our Pastoral Associate, Michael Lomas**,  
[mlomas@stmaryslg.org](mailto:mlomas@stmaryslg.org) or (408) 354-3726 x123

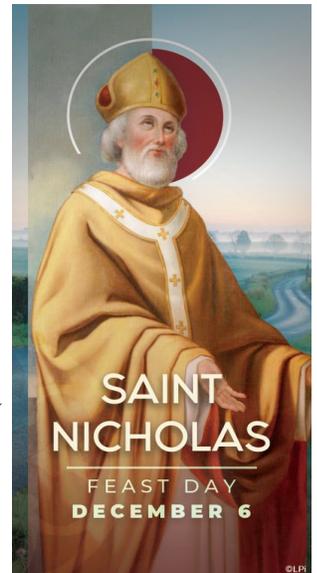
## SAINT OF THE WEEK - ST. NICHOLAS OF BARI *(March 15, 270 – December 6, 343)*

From the ninth century in the East and the eleventh century in the West, Nicholas has been one of the most popular saints in Christendom and in Christian art and is the patron of many countries, dioceses, churches, and cities. He was a Greek bishop of Myra in Lycia (now Turkey).

According to folklore, he may have saved three girls from prostitution, restored to life three children who had been killed, and saved three unjustly condemned men from death. While some sources say that he may have been imprisoned during the Diocletian persecution, there is no historical certainty that he suffered persecution for his faith. Likewise, while some sources place him at the Council of Nicaea in 325, it is uncertain if he attended.

His charity to the poor is commemorated in modern times by those who follow the tradition of stuffing a boot or a stocking with gifts on his feast day. “Santa Claus” comes from the Dutch form of his name, “Sinterklaas.” He is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, and children.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.



# ST. MARY SCHOOL



## DO YOU HAVE A CHILD AGE-ELIGIBLE FOR TK?

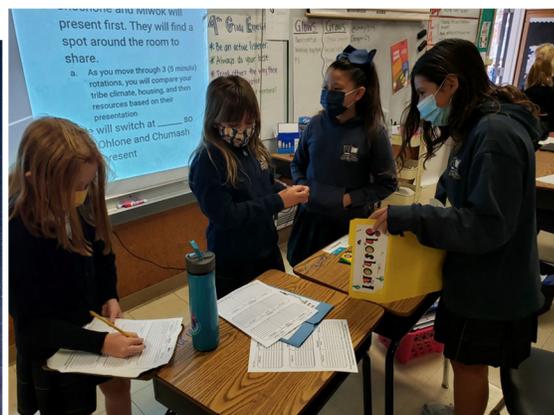
The application link for 2022-23 is now live! If your child is 4 by September 1 (and close to turning 5), go to [www.smslg.org/enroll-1](http://www.smslg.org/enroll-1), click on the "Apply Now" button to fill up the form for 2022-23 Application (you'll need to create an account in order to complete the application).



**4th Grade**

**Rock Cycle Game:**  
Students review the steps of the rock cycle using a fun card game

**Gallery Walk Presentations:**  
Students presented their California indigenous tribe project to classmates



**Monica Hernandez, Principal**  
[mhernandez@stmaryslg.org](mailto:mhernandez@stmaryslg.org)

**Kathy Rosendin, Business Manager**  
[krosendin@stmaryslg.org](mailto:krosendin@stmaryslg.org)

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**DECEMBER 5: 40TH ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE CLOSING MASS - CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. JOSEPH, SUNDAY AT 11:30AM:** Join Bishop Oscar Cantú celebrate the closing mass of the 40th Anniversary Jubilee. Tree planting with Bishop Cantú in honor of St. Joseph will follow after mass behind the Cathedral. Everyone is also encouraged a local pilgrimage including a visit to the Cathedral. The Cathedral will remain open until 5pm for visiting pilgrims.

**DECEMBER 5: LAYETTE PROGRAM** - no contact drop off, 12pm - 3pm. Isolation Products **157 San Lázaro Avenue, Sunnyvale 94086**. We know that many of you have been busy making your beautiful baby items. In order to keep everyone safe and still serve our babies and Moms, we will be collecting your items and donations on Sunday, December 5 from 12pm to 3pm. We will have a 'no contact' drop off.

**CEMETERY VISITATIONS & PILGRIMAGES:** The month of November reminds us of the Communion of Saints which we profess in the Creed. Catholics are encouraged to visit cemeteries, sacred grounds, especially in November. As you visit either Gate of Heaven or Calvary cemetery, make it a pilgrimage in honor of Saint Joseph. Both cemeteries are designated as pilgrimage sites during this Year of Saint Joseph (**ending on December 8**).

**DECEMBER 11: GATE OF HEAVEN CEMETERY MONTHLY MEMORIAL MASS** - 11AM. Hosted by Catholic Cemetery. [www.dsj.org/event/gate-of-heaven-cemetery-monthly-memorial-mass](http://www.dsj.org/event/gate-of-heaven-cemetery-monthly-memorial-mass).

**DECEMBER 12: PROCLAMATION & PRACTICE SPEAKER SERIES** - 10:30 am-12 pm. Sponsored by: Sacred Heart Parish [www.dsj.org/event/proclamation-practice-speaker-series-how-to-give-a-good-gift-for-christmas/2021-12-12](http://www.dsj.org/event/proclamation-practice-speaker-series-how-to-give-a-good-gift-for-christmas/2021-12-12)

**DECEMBER 18: GATE OF HEAVEN CEMETERY: WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA** 10AM. Hosted by Catholic Cemetery. [www.dsj.org/event/wreaths-across-america](http://www.dsj.org/event/wreaths-across-america)

**SAVE THE DATE! REVS VS SEMS EVENT: JANUARY 28, 2022**, 6 pm Doors Open | 7 pm Tip off at St. Francis High School. Join us for a fun night for families and friends to cheer on their favorite priests and seminarians in an epic basketball game. Ticket sale information to be announced.

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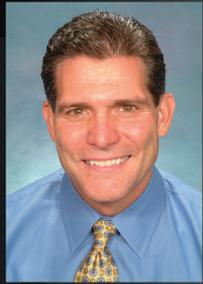
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