



# All are Welcome

## ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

October 15, 2023

28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"COME TO THE  
FEAST."  
— MT 22:4BC

28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



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through our eNewsletter.  
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[stmaryslg.org/enewsletter](http://stmaryslg.org/enewsletter)



Mass Live Streamed

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

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

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm - In Person

**Sunday Masses:**

9:00am

*Live-Stream & In Person*

11:00am & 5:00pm - *In Person*

**Mon - Sat: 8:30am**

**Rosary - 8:00am**

*Live-Stream & In Person*

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30pm - 4:30pm  
(Office Conference Room)

### ADORATION

**Mondays - 9:00-10:00am**

**LIVE STREAMED**

**Thursdays - 7:00 pm**

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


### SUNDAY DONATIONS

are best made online

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

Envelopes can be mailed in  
or dropped off at the  
Parish Office

**REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST!**



Come to me, all you who labor and are  
burdened, and I will give you rest.  
Matthew 11:28

**ADORATION**  
**MEDITATION**  
**SERENITY**  
**HEALING**  
**PEACE**  
**LOVE**

**MONDAYS**  
9:00 am - 10:00 am  
In the church

**THURSDAYS**  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
In the church

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

### First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah speaks of a future when God will be fully present, and we will experience complete joy. *What gives you hope for the future?*

### Second Reading:

Paul shares with the Philippians that regardless of his circumstances, he has learned to draw strength and gratitude from his faith in Jesus. *How does your faith sustain you in good times and bad times?*

### Gospel:

Jesus's parable of the wedding feast offers a warning to be open to God's invitation to answer His call. *How do you stay open to God's presence in your life?*

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### TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 25:6-10a;

Psalms 23;

Philippians

4:12-14, 19-20;

Matthew 22:1-4

## REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

How easy it is, especially in these times, to be consumed by the cares and distractions of the "here and now," forgetting about what matters most — living for the Kingdom of Heaven. The stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the virtuous use of our Time, Talent and Treasure, allows us to embrace daily life and all its demands — with eternity in mind.

In our First Reading, the prophet Isaiah paints a beautiful and compelling picture of what we can hope for in Heaven. "The LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines." And not only that, our loving Father will personally heal us of each and every suffering we endured during our lives. "The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face."

How can we say "no" to such an enticing invitation? Yet, so often we are tempted to do just that. We ignore our relationship with God, neglect our prayer and sacramental life, and the call to put others ahead of ourselves. We prioritize the "immediate" over the "eternal."

How do we keep focused on the Kingdom of Heaven? St. Paul shares his secret for an eternity-driven life. In our Second Reading from his Letter to the Philippians, Paul says, "I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need." In other words, Paul has learned to live the stewardship way of life.

What is the secret? It is this: "I can do all things in him who strengthens me." How? Through this: "My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." It is so simple! But it is not easy. It takes both courage and humility to live this way. God will supply these to us if we ask.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we return to the image of a feast. To describe the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus shares the parable of a wedding feast that a king gives for his son. The king sends several groups of servants to call the invited guests to come and join the feast. By virtue of our Baptism, we are the "invited guests" that Jesus is describing. How do the invited guests respond? The first group of guests refuses to come. Among the second group of guests, "some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business." Is this how we respond?

Our Heavenly Father is continuously inviting us (reminding us, prodding us) to come and join Him in the Kingdom of Heaven. Not in a far-off future, but right here and right now. If we will put Him first, partake of the sacraments He gives us (especially the gift of His own Son in the Eucharist) we can enter into the Kingdom of Heaven right now. And our example can lead others to join us.

So let us embrace the stewardship way of life today! Let us put God first with our Time, our Talents and our Treasure, knowing that we can do all of this through Christ Who gives us strength. God is calling to us today to live with eternity in mind. If we do this, we will be feasting now and forever!

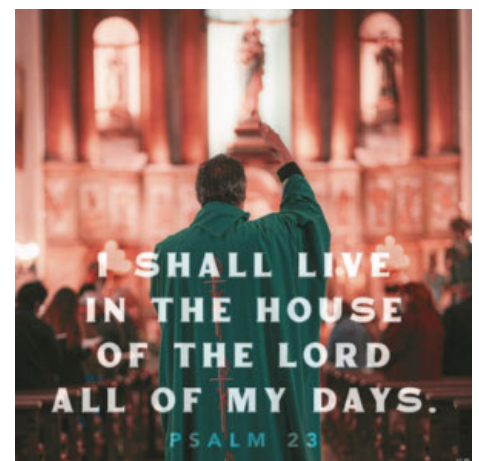
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## PARISH DIRECTORY

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Michael Lomas, <i>Pastoral Associate &amp; Director of Faith Formation</i> mlomas@stmaryslg.org	x123
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If it is an **EMERGENCY** and you need to reach a priest call **669-219-9465**

<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	
Ceci Salgado, <i>Office Manager</i> csalgado@stmaryslg.org	x118





## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	10/15	<b>28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME;</b> Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14
Mon	10/16	St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 11:29-32
Tue	10/17	St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 11:37-41
Wed	10/18	ST. LUKE, EVANGELIST 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9
Thu	10/19	Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1-6; Lk 11:47-54
Fri	10/20	St. Paul of the Cross, Priest Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7
Sat	10/21	Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12
Sun	10/22	<b>29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; WORLD MISSION SUN.</b> Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	10/16	8:30 am	Walter Allspach †
Tue	10/17	8:30 am	Michael Frezzo †
Wed	10/18	8:30 am	Olivia Gray †
Thu	10/19	8:30 am	Olivia Gray †
Fri	10/20	8:30 am	Jane McDonald †
Sat	10/21	8:30 am	Eleanor Loffredo †
		5:00 pm	Marie Antonowicz †
Sun	10/22	9:00 am	Franz Gniewosz †
		11:00 am	Marcus Bannon †
		5:00 pm	Ernest and Baba White †



**LOS GATOS**  
UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

## SPANISH BOOKS FOR 5 GUATEMALAN SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Service Above Self is an integral part of the LGUSD mission. It also fosters the development of many of the Student Success Profile traits. Together these efforts prepare our students to thrive in a diverse and ever-changing world.

To support that effort, LGUSD is partnering with Los Gatos Rotary, World Possible, and the Los Gatos community to fill school libraries in five Guatemalan schools. Supplies will be delivered to the Guatemalan schools in Spring 2024.

To purchase individual Spanish books, visit <https://bit.ly/48HRnSf>

The Spanish book drive is sponsored by:



Los Gatos  
Interfaith  
Council



## 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

The goodness and mercy of God are gifts He wants to share with each one of us, but we have to be ready to receive them. Let's be prepared for whatever the Lord will ask of us this week.

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## POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: OCTOBER

### FOR THE SYNOD

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

## PRAYER FOR JOY

Dear Lord,  
Fill us with your joy today.  
Let our hearts overflow  
with thanks and praise  
for your goodness and  
grace in our lives.  
Increase our trust in your providence,  
our assurance of your love,  
our awareness of your blessings.  
Amen.

# FAITH IN ACTION

## Stewardship of PRAYER

Please pray with us for our parishioners, family and friends.

For those who are sick and who have asked for our prayers:  
**William Buchanan; Bruce Welch; George Bommarito;  
 Janie Meacham; Vic LoBue, Jr.; Valerie Bruno; Julio  
 Emberto; Carol Rakich; Frances Corpuz; Sharon Lyndon**

For those who have recently died:  
**Hollis Buchanan; Maria de Jesus Cantú; Deacon Joseph  
 Huynh Van Ngoc Marie Antonowicz; Ronald Caselli;  
 Cathy Stannard; John Connolly**

*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.*

## MASS INTENTIONS: A BEAUTIFUL WAY TO REMEMBER SOMEONE

You can offer a Mass for a special intention or for the repose of the soul of a deceased person. Remember that there is no better gift than the gift of God's love and compassion as celebrated in the Sacrifice of the Mass.

[www.stmaryslg.org/mass-intention-request](http://www.stmaryslg.org/mass-intention-request)



Now through November 5 you are invited to join St Mary's parishioners and San Jose Diocese parishioners for peaceful rosary vigil prayer during our Fall 2023 campaign to help save the precious lives of the pre-born from abortion. Please come and pray with us for one hour per week. Call or email St Mary's parishioner Glen Jones (408) 771-8763 [glenjones38@hotmail.com](mailto:glenjones38@hotmail.com) or call the San Jose 40 Days coordinator Dzung at (510) 939-2503 or email Mary Ann [missmaryann7@yahoo.com](mailto:missmaryann7@yahoo.com). More information about 40 Days For Life is available on line at [40Daysforlife.com](http://40Daysforlife.com) and [40daysforlife.com/SanJose](http://40daysforlife.com/SanJose) for a schedule of events and vigil sign up.

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE EVENTS IN SAN JOSE

- ◆ **PRAY WITH THE LEGIONS OF MARY AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD** - English (every Tuesday 9am-11am at 1691 The Alameda, San Jose, 95126)
- ◆ **RESPECT LIFE MASS WITH BISHOP CANTU @ SACRED HEART** - Saturday, October 28. 13716 Saratoga Ave Saratoga. 5:00 PM



## Stewardship of TREASURE

### Managing God's Gift To Us

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

***Our Goal for October is \$90,000.00***

Your weekly offerings enable us to meet our monthly obligations and continue to support the many parish programs at St. Mary. Thank you for your faithful support.

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)

## 2ND OFFERING - OCTOBER 21 & 22 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. That day is celebrated in all the local Churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world.

NEXT WEEKEND we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. ***Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.***

**respect life**  
month

OCTOBER 2023



**RESPECT LIFE MONTH NOVENA  
OCTOBER 13-21**

**October is Respect Life Month.** Join Catholics nationwide praying a special novena for the protection of human life from conception to natural death October 13-21. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more.

Sign up at [respectlife.org](http://respectlife.org).

## RECEPTION OF COMMUNION ON THE TONGUE

If you would like to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, for reasons of hygiene, we ask you to wait until everyone else has received. Thank you.

# OUR CATHOLIC FAITH



## SAINT OF THE WEEK: ST. RAFAEL GUÍZAR VALENCIA

Rafael Guízar y Valencia was born in Cotija, Michoacán, Mexico on April 26, 1878. He was one of 12 children. His mother died when he was just nine years old. Early in his teen years he had a mystical vision. The vision of Jesus came to him while he was sitting on his family's property watching a particularly violent thunderstorm — he claimed to see the Lord among the swirling storm clouds. This apparition scared Rafael so he ran to the chapel located on his family's property to seek shelter from the storm. The chapel was dedicated to the Virgin of San Juan de los Lagos and, while kneeling in prayer there, he experienced a second vision. The statue of Mary inside the chapel became luminous and emitted a bright light that engulfed the young man. According to Rafael, this was when he decided to devote his life to God and become a priest.

After studying with the Jesuits, Rafael was ordained on June 6, 1901, at the age of 23. At that time, Mexico's revolution was spreading fear and persecution to Christians across the nation. Father Guízar embarked on countless apostolic missions to serve those in need across Mexico. During his early priesthood he used his own family's riches to establish schools and colleges for underprivileged youth. In 1903, he also established the Congregation of Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope, a religious community.

He spent time as an exile in the U.S., Guatemala, Columbia, and Havana, Cuba. Everywhere he lived he set up missions of service. After nine years of escaping the war, he was named Bishop of Veracruz and called back to Mexico. He immediately set to work helping the people of Veracruz through the aftermath of an earthquake that devastated the region. During the late 1920's another conflict, the Cristero Rebellion caused more problems for Bishop Guízar and he had to, again, escape persecution by the State. He was continually captured and released and worked through the continued persecution, running a seminary of 300 men and continuing his ministries to the poor. He defiantly stood up to injustice until his death from a heart attack on June 6, 1938. He was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2006.

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### *A Prayer Before Mass*

*O God, my God, Mass is about to begin.  
You have called me to be part of this liturgy;  
you have prepared a place for me at the table;  
you want me to be here today.  
Help me to enter into the Mass  
with heart and mind, body and voice:  
with my whole self.*

*Around me are the others you have called:  
not strangers, but my family in faith.  
Help me to recognize your presence in them.  
May we honor each other's gifts,  
put up with each other's weaknesses,  
treasure our unity and rejoice in our diversity.  
As we celebrate Mass together,  
may we truly become what we receive:  
the Body of Christ for a world in need. Amen.*

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Mass begins with a procession, as the ministers of the liturgy enter the worship space. The procession is practical (those with particular roles to perform in the liturgy, like the presider, altar servers, readers, Eucharistic ministers, and choristers, need to get into the sacred space somehow!) but, more importantly, the procession is a symbol of the gathering of the people of God around the cross of Christ. Procession is a powerful symbol of the Church on a journey to the Kingdom. Music accompanies the procession — and not just music, but the whole assembly joining in a song of praise. In the liturgy, communal singing really matters: the simple act of singing together both expresses and reinforces the reality that we are one in Christ.

After the entrance procession, the introductory rites of the Mass unfold with four prayers. We begin with the Sign of the Cross: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. This is a profession of faith in miniature, a reminder of who we are and in whose name we gather. The sign of the cross marks the beginning and the end of the Mass, of this time consecrated to God.

The Penitential Act which follows is a public acknowledgment of sin. When, in one of his first public interviews, Pope Francis was asked who he was, he replied, "I am a sinner. This the most accurate definition. It is not a figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner." We acknowledge our sinfulness, not so we can feel bad about ourselves, but so we can recognize our need for God. Because how can we recognize God's power if we fail to recognize our own weakness? The pattern we see at the beginning of our liturgy—sin and mercy; humanity and divinity—will be repeated many times in the course of the Mass. We acknowledge who we are so we can, as the saying goes, "let God be God."

That same pattern is reflected in the Gloria, the song of praise which is sung on Sundays (except the Sundays of Advent and Lent) as well as on Feasts and Solemnities. The Gloria is an ancient song which begins with the words of the angels to the shepherds on Christmas night: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will." The rest of the Gloria is an ancient "riff," if you will, on those words of Scripture, a rhapsody of praise which almost exhausts the vocabulary of praise and thanksgiving: "We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you. We give you thanks."

Following the Gloria, the Introductory Rites of the Mass conclude with the opening prayer, called a "Collect" because it gathers or "collects" the prayers of the assembly into one. The Collect always includes a petition, an "ask"—sometimes for the community gathered, sometimes much broader: "that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ" (First Sunday of Lent); "that the course of our world may be directed by your peaceful rule" (8th Sunday); "that... we may rise up in the light of life" (Easter Sunday). With this prayer, the Introductory Rites come to an end. The entire assembly sits to listen to the Word of God.

*Next week: The Liturgy of the Word*





## PRAYER SERVICE - BLESSING OF ANIMALS



## 3RD GRADE ROLLER COASTERS

The 3rd grade class has been studying forces in their science lessons. Last week students collaborated in groups for a STEM project and applied the skills they have learned to design a roller coaster with a marble track. Students are getting excited for the Fair!



## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**CURSILLO 3-DAY WEEKEND RETREAT:** Cursillo is a movement of the Church that promotes Catholic ideals, fellowship, and spiritual growth in daily living. It provides an opportunity to deepen your Catholic faith, and to experience the love of God within a supportive and prayerful community. The San Jose Catholic Cursillo Movement is hosting two upcoming weekend encounters. **For women: 10/26-10/29. For men - 10/12 - 10/15.** For more information [sanjosecursillo.org/what-is-cursillo](http://sanjosecursillo.org/what-is-cursillo) and to register [sanjosecursillo.opalstacked.com/candidate/newCandidate](http://sanjosecursillo.opalstacked.com/candidate/newCandidate).



Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been renewing marriages for 50 years! Any married couple that desires a fuller life together deserves a WWME experience. It is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple shares together, whether they have been married a short time or for many years. Take an opportunity this year to invest time for your marriage. Experiences in the Bay Area for the remainder of 2023 is on **NOVEMBER 17-19**. Register at [wwme.org/apply](http://wwme.org/apply) or for more information call Ken & Claranne at 408-782-1413.

**A RETREAT ON THE EUCHARIST, "DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.":** Friday afternoon through Sunday, the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos is offering a Silent Retreat for Women and Men. The retreat starts Friday, **Oct 20, at 3:00 pm** and ends Sunday, **October 21, at 1:00 pm**. Fr. Kevin Leidich, S.J., and Mr. Michael Shirley will lead the retreat inviting us to return to the "source and summit" of our faith: the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

For registration and information, visit [jrclosaltos.org/retreats-and-programs](http://jrclosaltos.org/retreats-and-programs).

## Seasons of Hope Grief Discussion Group

**SESSIONS BEGIN WEDNESDAY: OCTOBER 11  
1:00-2:30 SACRED HEART PARISH CENTER**

The autumn 6-week session will begin on Wednesday, October 11, and continues on October 18, 25, November 1, 8, and 15. Our meetings begin at 1:00pm and continue until 2:30pm.

These will be in-person gatherings taking place inside the Sacred Heart Parish Center: 13716 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga 95070.

If you are grieving for a loved one and wish to talk to others on the same journey, the Seasons of Hope group provides a faith-based, confidential place to meet and share your experiences. Our agenda includes prayer, Scripture readings, reflection, and conversation.

Reading materials and a journal provided. No fee to participate. Come alone or bring a friend. Open to all.

To join, call or email Carolyn Orasin at 408-867-3634, [c.orasin@sacredheartsaratoga.org](mailto:c.orasin@sacredheartsaratoga.org) or call Nancy Crowley at 408-209-6118. Please include your name, phone number, and email address so we can follow up with you.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A SAINT  
WHO DID NOT TAKE THE  
'TWO P'S' SERIOUSLY:

*Prayer and Penance*

St. Francis Xavier



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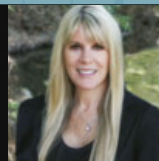
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