November 5, 2023

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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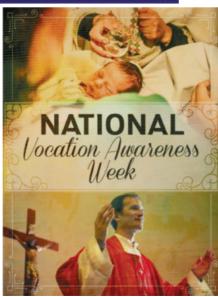
"As for you, do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven. Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant." - Mt 23:8-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass 02001, 1998, 1970 CCD

OLP

VETERANS' DAY PRAYER- NOVEMBER 11





NOVEMBER 5 - 11



HOSTED BY ST. MARY PARENT TEACHER GROUP

We look forward to being able to celebrate all of the hard work that went into the 55th St. Mary Country Fair.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9 7:00PM—9:00 PM

242 N. Santa Cruz Ave. Los Gatos, CA 95030 formally Grocer and Goddess

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through our eNewsletter. Sign-up or view recent eNewsletters at:

stmaryslg.org/enewsletter



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

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

SUNDAY DONATIONS

are best made online stmaryslg.org/donate

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

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

The prophet Malachi informs the priests of Israel that God is aware that their instruction has caused many to stumble in their faith. *Have you ever had to help someone who has lost their faith?*

Second Reading:

Paul expresses his gratitude to the Thessalonians for their openness to hear and believe the word of God taught by them. Who in your life might be open to hearing the word of God from you?

Gospel

Jesus challenged the crowds and his disciples to be as servants to each other, acting always in humility. *How might you be a servant to someone at work or at home?*

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TODAY'S READINGS

Malachi 1:14b—2:2b,

8-10; Psalm 131;

1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9,

13; Matthew 23:1-12

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

Our First Reading is from the Old Testament Book of Malachi. Malachi is the last of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible, and it is thus the final Book of the Old Testament, placed just prior to Matthew. Scholars debate whether the author actually is someone named Malachi, as in Hebrew "Malachi" means "God's messenger" and it may not even be a proper name. The Book of Malachi is among the shorter books in the Bible with just over 1,300 words. To put that in perspective, the Book of Genesis contains more than 32,000 words.

In this passage God, through Malachi, addresses those who do not sincerely practice their faith. It is interesting to note that at one point in today's readings, Malachi states, "You have turned aside from the way." The "Way" with a capital "W" was what early Christians were called. It stems from Jesus' statement, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Malachi points out to those to whom he was writing that turning aside from the way is an unacceptable and insincere act. Acting in this way is the opposite of humility.

St. Paul understood what it meant to be humble. For him the focus was always on the faith and on Christ, not on any personal glorification. In the Second Reading drawn from his First Letter to the Thessalonians Paul says, "We were determined to share with you not only the gospel of God, but our very selves as well." This idea of serving, of giving self, is key to living a stewardship way of life. In the Gospel, as we will see, Christ really emphasizes it. Paul makes it clear he was among the Thessalonians to give something to them, not to take something from them. Paul also stresses the love aspect of giving in this way: "...so dearly beloved you had become to us."

Paul clearly liked and respected the Thessalonians for many reasons. He points out one particular cause that also has an obvious message for us. Paul says, "And for this reason we too give thanks to God unceasingly, that, in receiving the word of God from hearing us, you received not a human word but, as it truly is, the word of God." Paul consistently taught that the Word comes from God. For Paul this Word was beyond human opinion. Paul did not have "blind faith." He could see how effective it is with those who hear it and believe it. Paul knew that there was power in the Word of God to change lives.

The Word of God could not be more powerful than it is the Gospel Reading from St. Matthew. As the Lord has been doing throughout our recent Gospel Readings, He takes to task the "scribes and the Pharisees." Jesus points out that it is all right to "do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example." It is the same message that God provides through Malachi in the First Reading.

Nevertheless, it is in Jesus' final reminder in this reading that we find the real jewel among His Word. The Lord says, "The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Jesus was truly the greatest among them, but He always spoke of Himself and viewed Himself as a servant. The basic issue for us as His followers is, "Are we more like the Pharisees or more like the Lord?" We are called to imitate Him and to pursue His philosophy and style. His kingdom is different. In the Lord's kingdom we are measured by how we serve and honor others, not by how we may be served. Do we always serve and honor others?

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PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office 408.354.3726 Fr. Gregory Kimm, Pastor gkimm@stmaryslg.org x139 Fr. Seth Kupo, Parochial Vicar skupo@stmaryslg.org x138 Michael Lomas, Pastoral Associate & Director of Faith Formation mlomas@stmaryslg.org x123 Percival Perlas, Music Director pperlas@stmaryslg.org x122 Vanesa Lleverino, Admin Assistant vlleverino@stmaryslg.org x110 Sharon Aeria, Business Manager saeria@stmaryslg.org x137 Faith Formation x123 Confirmation x123 **Baptism** x138 OCIA (Initiation) x123 Music Ministry x122 Marriage x139 Pastoral Care of the Sick x139 **Funerals** x137

If it is an **EMERGENCY** and you need to reach a priest call **669-219-9465**.

St. Mary School 408.354.3944 30 Lyndon Avenue Los Gatos, CA 95030 smslg.org

Monica Hernandez, *Principal* mhernandez@stmaryslg.org

Ceci Salgado, Office Manager csalgado@stmaryslg.org x118





READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	11/5	31 ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12		
Mon	11/6	Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14		
Tue	11/7	Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1cde, 2, 3; Lk 14:15-24		
Wed	11/8	Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33		
Thu	11/9	THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-2:		
Fri	11/10	St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8		
Sat	11/11	St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; Veterans Day Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15		
Sun	11/12	32 ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2-8; 1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14; Mt 25:1-13		

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	11/6	8:30 am	Marie Antonowicz †
Tue	11/7	8:30 am	Inecerio & Maternidad Alayon †
Wed	11/8	8:30 am	Jim Nosler †
Thu	11/9	8:30 am	Andrew Dauber †
Fri	11/10	8:30 am	Yurek Meissner †
Sat	11/11	8:30 am	Judy Schultz †
		5:00 pm	Clifford Defayette †
Sun	11/12	9:00 am	Bob Cowden †
		11:00 am	Anna Miceli †
		5:00 pm	Eleanor Bays †

If you would like to have deceased loved ones remembered at Masses during the month of November, please use the All Souls' Day envelopes that are placed around the church. Return them in the collection baskets or to the parish office. These



envelopes will remain on the altar throughout the month. You may also enter the names of your loved ones on the page on our parish website:

https://stmaryslg.org/all-souls-day.

If you would like to bring a framed or unframed photo of your deceased loved ones, they will be placed by the sanctuary through the month of November. Photos can also be dropped off in the marked baskets in church or at the parish office.

You may also schedule a Mass intention for your loved one.

https://www.stmaryslg.org/mass-intention-request







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

Christ turns the way of the world upside down: the great become the small and the honored ones become humble. Be small, and you will feel his greatness. Be humble, and you will know the honor of Heaven. ©LPi

POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: NOVEMBER

We pray for the **HOLY FATHER**; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Good and gracious God,
you call each person by name
and invite them to follow you.

May each person hear and respond to
the call they have received.

We pray for all discerning marriage,
the chaste single life, consecrated life,
or ordained ministries, that your Holy
Spirit would guide, inspire, and
strengthen them.

May your Church and the world
be enriched by the "yes" of your
children. 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: Bill Flora; 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:

William & Hollis Buchanan; Maria de Jesus Cantú; Deacon Joseph Huynh Van Ngoc; Marie Antonowicz; Ronald Caselli; Cathy Stannard

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



Stewardship of TREASURE

2ND OFFERING - NOVEMBER 11 & 12 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The St. Mary's conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) has been serving the needs of the disadvantaged in Los Gatos since 1965. Funds we receive support our work through 2024 which includes rental assistance, utility needs, laundry vouchers, socks, tarps, sleeping bags, tents, etc. for our working poor and unhoused neighbors.

If you write a check, please write it to SVdP or refer to SVdP on the memo line. Envelopes will be available in the pews and vestibule.

For more information and to make an online gift visit <u>stmaryslg.org/st-vincent-de-paul.</u>



POLENTA-CHICKEN CACCIATORE DINNER

Saturday, Nov. 11, 6:00pm - Howley Hall

Come join us for a patriotic evening of food, fun and raffle in Howley Hall. No Host Beer and Wine at 6 P.M. Dinner at 7 P.M. Music by Reno Di Bono. Please call Deanna Meyer at 408 230 9105 or Donna Pfaff at 408 265 7902 for tickets or information. Proceeds will benefit the Tunnels to Towers Foundation as well as the ICF Scholarship Fund.

MONETARY DONATIONS

(used to purchase Safeway gift cards)

Tax-deductible

FOOD

- Oil
- Masa FlourWhite Flour
- Coffee
- Rice and beans
- Baby formula
- Baby food
- Dry pasta
- Tomato sauce
- Tomato paste
- Bread
 Tortill
- Tortillas (corn + flour)
- Tuna
- Sugar
- Salt
- Mexican Seasonings: black pepper, garlic, onions, cilantro, oregano, dried Mexican chilis, cinnamon, cloves, etc.



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A PRAYER FOR HELPING THE POOR

Dear Lord,
Help us to be your
voice speaking out
love and
acceptance. Help us
to be your feet
walking beside
those in need. Help
us to be your hands
to clothe, feed and
shelter them. Amen.



MAKE AN ONLINE GIFT: https://bit.ly/3M8gwf8

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

SAINT OF THE WEEK: VENERABLE MOTHER HENRIETTE DELILLE

Henriette DeLille was born on March 11, 1813, in New Orleans. She was the daughter of a French father and a Creole mother who was of African descent. As a free person of color, Henriette grew up in the French Quarter, an area that was deeply divided by race and social class. In 1835, Henriette and her friends founded the Sisters of the Presentation, a community who dedicated themselves to the education of children from marginalized populations, the care of the elderly and the sick, and the spiritual needs of their community. Henriette served as the leader of the community and took on the name Sister Mary Therese, although everyone continued to call her Mother Henriette. She worked tirelessly to raise funds, recruit new members, and expand the reach of their mission. In 1842 the Congregation changed its name to the Sisters of the Holy Family.



In 1988, Henriette DeLille was declared a Servant of God by the Catholic Church, which recognized her lifelong commitment to the service of others and her exemplary life of holiness. In 2010, Pope Benedict XVI recognized her heroic virtues and declared her to be Venerable.

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MEETING CHRIST: EXPLORING THE LITURGY SERIES

WHAT POPE FRANCIS SAYS ABOUT THE EUCHARIST - REFLECTIONS & PRAYERS

AN ACT OF CHRIST

The mission and the very identity of the church flow from the Eucharist.

Pope Francis reminds us that we do not make the Eucharist happen. It is not *our* action, but Gods action, with Christ himself coming to be with us, to be part of our lives. This is very important, because it is what connects the liturgical action with our very lives. When we take up the call to act as Christ does in all that we do, we keep enacting this connection every day. As Pope Francis says, our celebrations may be technically and ritually flawless, but if they do not lead us to encounter Jesus Christ, they are "unlikely to bear any kind of nourishment t our heart and our life."

PONDER: How can I be sure to consciously connect liturgy with my life?

PRAY: God of mystery and wonder, increase my awareness of your presence everywhere!

MEDICINE, NOT REWARD

We come to Eucharist not o receive a proze for being perfect but to receive the medicine and nourishment we need.

Pope Francis stunned the world early in his papacy by identifying himself first and foremost as a sinner in constant need of God's grace. In the Eucharist, he says, we have chance after chance to meet God face to face and to be healed and fed. Eucharist is not a reward for good deeds done. It is rather the nourishment our sometimes jaded and overwhelmed spirits need to regain their strength. To be filled with God's frace is our aim everytime we gather. And God is always read to meet us, feed us and hold us close!

PONDER: Do I come to Mass consciously in need of healing? What nourishment do I need from God today?

PRAY: God of Mystery and wonder, help me to approach your table with awe and humility.

WHAT DO WE GATHER FOR?

Why do we go to Sunday Mass? Are we seeking affirmation or something more?

Pope Francis seldom speaks of "going to" Mass, but rather of "living" it. He expects us to be active participants in the unfolding liturgical action. We all come to Mass with needs, wants and hopes - that's a given. But when we gather in community, our own personal intentions give way to something bigger than what's on our minds. We are asking for the grace to move beyond ourselves - grace to live our lives better, to love our families more, to be more honest and more faith-filled than when we entered - so that we may bring Christ to the world. We're not looking for a pat on the back, but for God's strength.

PONDER: Is there someone I can pray for at Mass that I might not have considered before?

PRAY: God of mystery and wonder, help me lay my needs aside, so that I may be open to do your will!

Deborah McCann, What Pope Francis Says about the Eucharist (Revised Edition) (Waterford, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 2022). Used with permission.

Next week: The Procession of Gifts

COUNTRY FAIR FEEDBACK

Thank you for your generous support of the 2023 St Mary Country Fair. *You made a difference* and St. Mary Parish School and Parish values your support tremendously.

The Country Fair is the biggest fundraiser of the year for St. Mary Parish School and Parish. The proceeds from the Fair supplement tuition and fund enrichment programs like art, counseling and teacher hospitality. Your commitment to the students of St. Mary School is greatly appreciated. The proceeds from the Fair also supplements the many ministries of the parish.

As we plan for next year's Fair we would appreciate your feedback. Thank you for responding to this short survey -https://bit.ly/477cWKp. Your answers will be used by the Country Fair chairs to improve our efforts.

Thank you, Nicole Posner & Elyse Sammut



AROUND THE DIOCESE

Podcast for the Grieving

SOLACE: Soul + Grief WEEKLY PODCAST

This WEEKLY podcast sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries serving the San José area offers grief support and grief journeying with spirituality. We hope to help you travel through grief with God at your side.

The journey through grief can often feel like a lonely one. Whether you're longing for spiritual direction, struggling with surrender, or simply seeking a comforting voice, this PODCAST offers a beacon of hope. Subscribe on Google Podcasts, Apple, Amazon Music, Spotify.

SAVE THE DATE

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK NOVEMBER 5-11

The Vocations Office is inviting you to celebrate a special week to promote and pray for Vocations. Daily events to learn ways to promote and pray to the Lord for the youth and young adults' response to what the Lord is calling them to be. **More information available at dsj.org**

Vocational Fair and Conference - Saturday, November 11 at Church of Transfiguration.

MASS FOR THE FAMILIES OF MURDERED VICTIMS

NOV 5, 2023

Join Bishop Oscar Cantú in prayer for the victims of murder and their families. A Mass will be said for the Families of Murder Victims.

6:00pm

Holy Family Parish, 4848 Pearl Ave, San Jose.

Sensons 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, corasin@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.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY TRAINING: Learn skills to serve as a Parish-Based Mental Health Minister. Join Listen with the Ears of the Heart, cohort 8! Session dates: Mondays Oct 23-Nov 13 from 4:30pm to 6:00pm via Zoom. If you or others in your parish are interested in this first step in exploring Mental Health Ministry, contact Barbara Zahner at barbarazahner1.mac.com. Limited space available.

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