

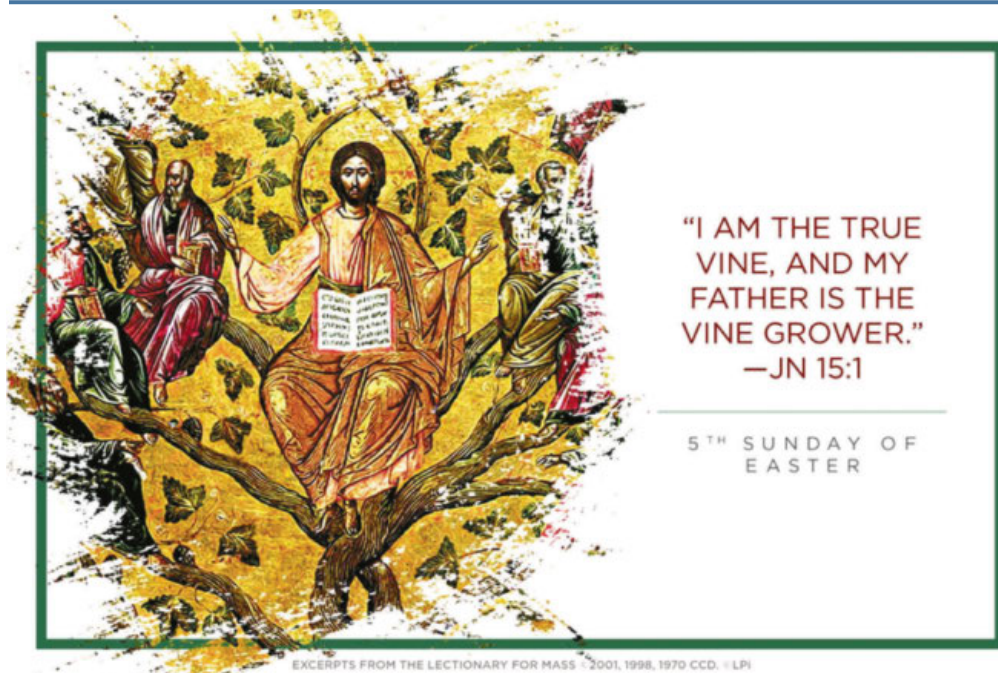


All are Welcome

ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

April 28, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



**APRIL 28 at
2:00pm in church**

EVER WONDER
WHY WE DO
CERTAIN THINGS
AT MASS? WHY
THE PRIEST
WEARS DIFFERENT
COLORS? OR WHY
WE KNEEL SO
MUCH?

**LET'S COME TOGETHER TO
LEARN DURING A**

Teaching Mass

WITH
FR. JOHN WHITNEY, SJ
FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO
ALL ARE WELCOME!

To celebrate and live the Eucharist we are called to live love because you cannot break Sunday's bread if your heart is closed to others. You cannot eat this bread if you do not give the bread to the hungry, you cannot share this bread if you do not share the sufferings of those in need." - Pope Francis

Sunday, April 28th in Howley Hall
After the 9:00am & 11:00am Masses



**Proceeds & donations benefitting
Italian Catholic Federation &
St. Vincent de Paul Society**



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Vigil:
Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am
& 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00am and Daily
Masses are **Live Streamed**
on our website
stmaryslg.org/live-stream-mass

DAILY MASS

Mon - Sat: 8:30am

Rosary - 8:00am

Live-Stream & in church

RECONCILIATION

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

ADORATION

Mondays - 9:00-10:00am

Thursdays - 7:00 pm

PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 3:00pm

408-354-3726

Email:

parish.office@stmaryslg.org

Web: stmaryslg.org

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call **669-219-9465**.

ST. MARY PARISH SCHOOL

408.354.3944

30 Lyndon Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030

Web: smslg.org

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading:

The disciples were unwilling to trust that Saul (Paul) was a true believer until Barnabas offered support for Saul. *How easily do you trust people you don't know well?*

Second Reading:

John speaks of the importance of knowing in your heart that you believe in Jesus and truly love others. *How does anyone know what is in their heart?*

Gospel:

Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus speaks of the importance of staying connected to him and the Father. *When do you feel close to Jesus?*

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TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 9:26-31;
Psalm 22;
1 John 3:18-24;
John 15:1-8

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

Our readings today teach us what it means to bear fruit as disciples of Christ. We hear in each of our readings that it is from the Lord that good effects will be produced in our lives.

In our first reading, we hear about Saul and the other apostles that were preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ and defending the faith. These disciples knew that they were doing the will of God by the good effects of their work, as it states, "The church throughout all Judea, Galilee and Samaria was at peace," and again, "It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers."

We must take note that the work they were doing was "with the consolation of the Holy Spirit." It was not their work alone, but the work of God. They spread the Good News in His name and with the aid of the Holy Spirit.

If we take this reading and apply it to our lives today, we must ask ourselves, 'how is God bearing fruit in my life?' and 'have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in my life?' The reality is, the more we try to produce good effects in our lives, the more we will become disappointed if all we are relying on is our own efforts. It is only by inviting the Holy Spirit into our everyday moments that we will see goodness poured out.

Jesus clearly tells us how to do this in our Gospel, as He says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." We can remain in Christ by staying faithful to His commandments and frequently receiving the sacraments. And our day to day moments should be a reflection of those commitments.

That could mean opening our day with a prayer of thanksgiving, setting aside time for intentional prayer, smiling at those we see on the street, asking God for help as we begin our work day, cleaning up after the kids in gratitude, praising God in moments of trial, taking time to listen to our spouse after a long day. To remain in Christ means, in all that we do, we do it with the Lord.

When we live a life like that—as a branch never separated from its vine—God will produce bountiful fruit in our lives.

And thankfully, all that does not bear fruit will be taken away. As Jesus tells us, "He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." By remaining in Christ, our Lord will remove all the ugly in our lives and form us into more fruitful disciples.

Let us begin this week reflecting on these questions, 'how is God bearing fruit in my life?' and 'have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in my life?' Then let us consider the areas of our days that we can more fully invite the Lord into. May we strive to stay connected to the Vine.

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alleluia!!

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Ceci Salgado, <i>Office Manager</i>	
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REPORT MISCONDUCT	Financial: 888-325-7863 dsj.ethicspoint.com
ethics.point	Children & Vulnerable Adults: 844-372-1691 opcva.ethicspoint.com



I am the vine, you are the branches.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	4/28	5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8
Mon	4/29	St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26
Tues	4/30	St. Pius V, Pope Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
Wed	5/1	St. Joseph the Worker Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122: 1-5; Jn 15:1-8
Thu	5/2	St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; National Day of Prayer Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
Fri	5/3	STS. PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14
Sat	5/4	Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
Sun	5/5	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	4/29	8:30 am	Marya Catalana Evans †
Tues	4/30	8:30 am	Maria De La Riva †
Wed	5/1	8:30 am	Peter Kraljev †
Thu	5/2	8:30 am	Fr. Mark Catalana †
Fri	5/3	8:30 am	Marge Kraljev (healing)
Sat	5/4	8:30 am	Mya Coffey (healing)
		5:00 pm	Mike Manley †
Sun	5/5	9:00 am	Denise Laplace (special intention)
		11:00 am	Maria Hanh Nguyen †
		5:00 pm	Alan Giorgi (birthday)

ENLIGHTEN & ENGAGE: ST. MARY PARISH COMPLIMENTARY SEMINAR SERIES

Welcome to Life's Next Chapter: Downsizing Decisions for Silicon Valley Seniors and Their Families - a seminar series offering vital insights into medical considerations, home consolidation, and relocation opportunities. Led by expert speakers, providing insights for you and your loved ones.

Tami Anastasia, MA, returns this month to discuss how Dementia profoundly affects communication. Learn the communication pitfalls to avoid, and how to implement the CALM dementia communication approach.



Tami Anastasia, MA

**Topic: Dementia Friendly
Communication Tips**
Date: Friday, May 17th
Time: 10:00 - 11:30am
Hofmann Center



Please RSVP using the QR Code.



Diane Bucher, Host
408.803.3999
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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

Every Christian is a vine awaiting the loving attention of our gardener to prune and perfect us, to remove the parts of ourselves that are dead so that the fruitful parts burst forth with life. Trust the wisdom of the gardener. He alone can make us bloom. ©LPi

POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: APRIL

For the formation of religious and seminarians: We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

PRAYER OF FRUITFULNESS

God in Heaven,
Your grace surrounds us every day as we seek to live and move and grow in You. Prune the spaces in our lives that distract us from You! Plant Your word more deeply within us! Amen.

©LPi

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:
Bruce Welch; George Bommarito; Valerie Bruno; Julio Emberto

For those who have recently died:

**Reed Kappen; Margaret Castellese; Patricia Malysz;
Doris Sanford; Cecily Bradley; Romano Buonaccorsi;
Rich McCarthy; Msgr. John Coleman;**

*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.*

Stewardship of TALENT

May 4 & 5

5PM Saturday: Cantor & Piano/Organ
9AM Sunday: Cantor & Piano/Organ
11AM Sunday: Cantor & Piano/Organ
5PM Sunday: Parish Choir



May 11 & 12

5PM Saturday: Cantor & Piano/Organ
9AM Sunday: Parish Choir
11AM Sunday: Cantor & Piano/Organ
5PM Sunday: 5PM Sunday Ensemble



UPDATE as of 4/16/24

Goal: \$193,916.00 Pledged: \$226,599.16

Over Goal: \$32,683.16

Participation: 263 families

Any contributions that come in now will go directly to St. Mary for the repair of our cooling and heating system in the church. **ADA contributions will be accepted until December 31, 2024.**

Note: if you would prefer to give a contribution to St. Mary for the church cooling and heating system without giving to or through the Annual Diocesan Appeal, we would be happy to accept it.

Stewardship of TREASURE

Managing God's Gift To Us

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE!

Our Goal for May is \$75,000.00

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

Please consider setting up a recurring or one-time gift Online. Instructions can be found at

stmaryslg.org/getting-started-with-online-giving

OFFERINGS AND ONLINE GIVING

	Jul. 1 2023 to Apr. 14, 2024
Budget	\$ 633,980.00
Actual	\$ 641,518.00
Difference	+ \$ 7,601.00

2nd OFFERING: April 27 & 28 CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

On the weekend of April 27-28, Catholics from dioceses across the United States are invited to empower ministry within home mission territory by giving to the U.S. bishops' annual Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

This collection supports dioceses and eparchies in the United States and its territories where Catholics are too few or too materially impoverished to support local ministry without outside help. In some cases, this need becomes even greater due to natural disasters or economic hardships caused by unemployment.

Gifts to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal provided more than \$9.8 million in grants for 2023. These grants supported dioceses with limited staffing by subsidizing vocations work, seminary education, faith formation, evangelization, youth and young adult ministry, family and pro-life ministries and a wide variety of outreach among diverse ethnic or immigrant groups. For more info, visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.



FAITH IN ACTION

APRIL 28, 2024, BLUE SUNDAY NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, Churches of all faiths are asked to join together on this day of prayer to demonstrate support for children and families who have been affected by child abuse.

The Diocese of San Jose recommends that the USCCB's Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse (*below*) be offered this day throughout the Diocese as a symbol of God's Love and our support for all of those who have been harmed by the trauma of child abuse.

May the Lord shed his Mercy on these vulnerable souls.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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St. Vincent de Paul has a very active conference at St Mary!
We meet every 2nd Sunday of the month after the 9am Mass in the Parish Office Conference Room.

Visit us at the parish website at

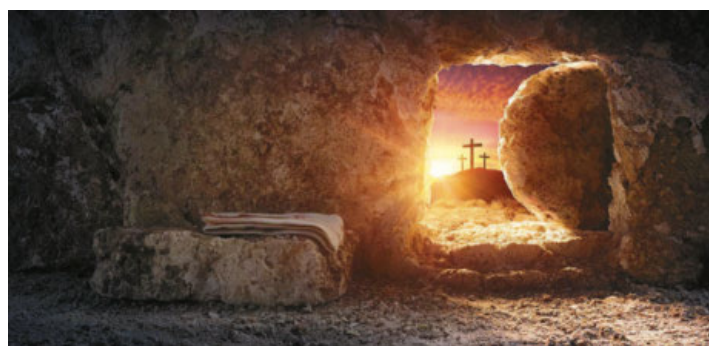
stmaryslg.org/st-vincent-de-paul

Sign up to receive our newsletter at

<https://forms.gle/BpUjPwTBkCJZ2bTKA>

Anyone interested in our work helping the unhoused and working poor in our community please contact conference president Sue Ahmadian at sue.ahmadian@gmail.com

VIA LUCIS (Way of the Light) The Stations of the Resurrection



To complement the Stations of the Cross, a new tradition was developed around the second half of the Paschal Mystery.

The Stations of the Light is a spiritual journey with Christ that takes one through fourteen of the most inspiring events of His post-Resurrection life on earth. In the early Church this practice was known as the Via Lucis, or Way of the Resurrection. It invites participants to walk along a path of transforming joy by following in the footsteps of the Risen Christ and his friends. Although known and cherished since the first century, the Stations of the Light were never gathered into a precise devotion until recent years.

While the Stations of the Cross focus on events within one day of Christ's life on earth, the Way of Light begins with the story of the Resurrection and focuses on the awe-inspiring events from the Resurrection to Pentecost. The symbols in both devotions, the cross and the empty tomb, were key symbols in the early church.

The Via Lucis was first blessed on Easter Sunday, 1994, in Turin, Italy, the birthplace of St. John Bosco, founder of the Society of St. Francis de Sales (Salesians). It formally became a Roman Catholic devotion, at the end of the twentieth century when the Vatican was preparing the Jubilee Year and searching for new devotions appropriate to the millennial transition and yet faithful to Christian tradition.

—Diocese of Manchester, New Hampshire

Watch the *Aleteia* Slideshow: <https://bit.ly/4d2LdOH>

Watch the *Aleteia* (YouTube) video: <https://bit.ly/4cXz9OS>

Download **booklet** for *Via Lucis* compiled by St. Joseph's Church, Calgary, AB - <https://bit.ly/4d2PYI3>

There are several different versions of this new devotion, including this guide from the Catholic News Agency - <https://bit.ly/4bfp6mL>



The bread that you see on the altar is the Body of Christ as soon as it is sanctified by God's word. The chalice, or better what is contained in the chalice, is the Blood of Christ as soon as it is sanctified by God's word, St. Augustine



*Generosity for
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ST. MARY PARISH & SCHOOL CAMPAIGN HAS LAUNCHED!

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about the campaign,
the members of the
committee, and how
to donate.



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BISHOP CANTU AT ST. MARY

School Mass on Apr 17 was led by Ms. Fogarty's amazing 4th grade class along with Bishop Cantu, Rev. Eric, and Fr. Greg. Bishop Cantu expressed the immense privilege and responsibility it is to be a **Steward of the Earth**. He also shared how important it is to take care of one another and help each other grow.

After Mass, a reception was held with refreshments and cookies. Our wonderful Kindergarteners blessed our ears with a beautiful song. Bishop Cantu and Rev. Eric then met with the 5th-8th grade classes to speak on the importance of prayer, finding your gift, and exploring those gifts.



AROUND THE DIOCESE



CAMINO SERRA

Always Forward, Never Back! - St. Junipero Serra

June 23-July 1

2024 Registration Now Open

Walk in the footsteps of St Junipero Serra along the beautiful California Coast and be forever transformed through a unique encounter with God, others, and self! The Camino will go from Mission Santa Clara to the tomb of St Junipero Serra at Mission Carmel for the celebration of his feast day.

The Camino consists almost entirely of pedestrian trails through redwood forests and along the Pacific Coast, with the exception of a couple small roads. It includes Los Gatos Creek Trail, Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park, Monterey Bay Beaches, and the Monterey Peninsula Trail.

Camino Serra is not for the faint of heart! We will be backpacking the entire way and sleeping on parish hall floors. For those who prefer, you may find your own accommodations. For more info, to register and for hotel suggestions for each night visit <https://www.caminoserra.com/>

**Registration for DYR for incoming 9th graders
thru graduating 12th graders is open!**
Registration closes May 5th!

<https://www.dsj.org/evangelization/yva/youth/dyr/>



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