



All are Welcome

ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

August 25, 2024

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR MISSION

We are a community of believers in Jesus Christ that gathers together to celebrate the mysteries of God's love. We support and strengthen one another in our commitment to the Catholic faith. We serve those in need and share with all the Good News of God's unconditional love.



The Parish Office will be closed from Friday, Aug. 30 through Monday, Sept. 2 in observance of Labor Day. We will return on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

CHILDREN + YOUTH SUNDAYS FAITH FORMATION 2024 - 2025

10:05 - 10:35 AM
2-3 TIMES A MONTH

AGES

- TK - 1ST
- 2ND - 3RD
- 4TH - 5TH
- 6TH - 8TH
- 9TH - 12TH

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

ONLINE LINK REGISTRATION:

- Go to St. Mary's Website: www.stmaryslg.org
- Click on "FAITH FORMATION"
- Click on "Faith Formation Registration Forms"

SACRAMENTAL PREP

1ST COMMUNION
CONFIRMATION
ADULTS - OCIA

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Michael Lamas, Pastoral Associate
Director of Faith Formation
408.354.3726 x125
milamas@stmaryslg.org

SPONSOR

THE FAIR

St. Mary's Country Fair would not be successful without the help of our generous donors and volunteers. Because of you, we've hosted the fair for over 50 years, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for the parish and school.

To learn more, visit stmaryscountryfair.org or email fair_chairs@stmaryslg.org

OCT. 4-6



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
(in church)

ADORATION

Mondays - 9:00-10:00am

Thursdays - 7:00-8:00pm

PARISH OFFICE

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

408-354-3726

Email:

parish.office@stmaryslg.org

Web: stmaryslg.org

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

ST. MARY PARISH SCHOOL

408.354.3944

30 Lyndon Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030

Web: smsg.org

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading:

Upon entering the Promised Land and remembering the Exodus from Egypt, both Joshua and all twelve tribes of Israel pledged their faithful to God alone. *What has God done in your life that you can acknowledge and celebrate?*

Second Reading:

Toward the end of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul takes up the topic of husbands and wives. He speaks of the importance of mutual respect and love. *What do you add as key parts for a successful marriage?*

Gospel:

John tells us that many of Jesus's disciples stopped following him because they found some of his teachings too hard to accept. *What keeps you following Jesus?* ©LPI

Jesus said to the crowd, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." Their response? Shock and indignation. We can hardly blame them for this reaction — eating the Flesh and drinking the Blood of our Lord should cause us a bit of a shock. Yet, how easy it is for us modern-day Catholics to show up at Mass Sunday after Sunday, receiving the Eucharist as simply part of a weekly routine.

If we really spent time praying and contemplating the gift our Lord is offering us in this sacrament, we would be awestruck at the love and power in this gift. Through it, our Lord is giving us the very best He has to give — Himself. In his gift of the Eucharist, He has held back nothing, giving us literally everything he has to give, His very Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Not even the greatest theological scholar or the holiest of saints can fully understand this mystery.

Thankfully, the first reading comes as a wonderful consolation to us "ordinary folks." It says, "Let whoever is simple turn in here; to the one who lacks understanding... come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed! Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

St. Paul delivers a similar message in our second reading, instructing, "Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity because the days are evil." So, we don't need to be saints or scholars in order to receive this sublime gift. But we should do our best to receive the Eucharist with gratitude. And we can look to today's readings to glean two fundamental principles to become better Christian stewards.

First, the Eucharist is the foundation for a stewardship way of life. Through His gift of the Eucharist, God fills us with His love and strength. This love and strength empower us to live as generous stewards — to be faithful to the ministries in which we serve, to step beyond our comfort zone in material giving, and to offer our very best to our families and secular work.

Second, the Eucharist is our ultimate inspiration for a stewardship way of life. When we really think about what we receive in this gift — God Himself — we will want to make a joyful return to Him by the way we live our lives! The more that we deepen our understanding of this sacrament through study of the Church's teachings on the Eucharist, the more we will want to live our lives as grateful, generous and joy-filled stewards.

As the book of Proverbs and the great St. Paul remind us, let us not live foolishly, but make the most of our time — during Mass and adoration — by giving the Lord all our attention and devotion in these moments. Let us form ourselves by studying what the Catechism and spiritual writers must teach us about the Eucharist. Then, coming to Mass each week will be anything but routine.

And in return for this unfathomable gift of our Lord Himself, let us live intentionally and passionately as His disciples every day of our lives.

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PARISH DIRECTORY

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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 Parish School	408.354.3944
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Monica Hernandez, <i>Principal</i> mhernandez@stmaryslg.org	
Ceci Salgado, <i>Office Manager</i> csalgado@stmaryslg.org	x118

REPORT MISCONDUCT	Financial: 888-325-7863 dsj.ethicspoint.com
ethicspoint	Children & Vulnerable Adults: 844-372-1691 opcva.ethicspoint.com



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	8/25	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ps 34:2-3, 16-21; Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32; Jn 6:60-69
Mon	8/26	2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22
Tues	8/27	St. Monica 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
Wed	8/28	St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32
Thu	8/29	The Passion of St. John the Baptist 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mk 6:17-29
Fri	8/30	1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13
Sat	8/31	1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mt 25:14-30
Sun	9/1	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	8/26	8:30 am	Rosemary Loughran †
Tues	8/27	8:30 am	Angelletto Iacono †
Wed	8/28	8:30 am	Salvatore Iacono †
Thu	8/29	8:30 am	Angela Flisrom †
Fri	8/30	8:30 am	Kingston Coffey (birthday)
Sat	8/31	8:30 am	Robert Hapgood Cowden †
		5:00 pm	Mary Andrusky †
Sun	9/1	9:00 am	Wanda Leetst †
		11:00 am	Sarah Tam †
		5:00 pm	Robert Hapgood Cowden †

CURSILLO MEN'S WEEKEND

During our Catholic journey we need to examine our spiritual lives to increase our love for and closeness to Christ.

We can be victims to the fast-paced city life, presenting challenges to spending time with Christ or trying to increase our faith.

If this sounds familiar, Cursillo is an opportunity you may want to try.

Weekend Details -

- ◆ Thurs., Oct. 10 thru Sun., Oct. 13 at St. Clare's Retreat Center, Santa Cruz.
- ◆ Includes 3 meals, snacks and drinks.
- ◆ A nice room in the mountains.
- ◆ Fellowship with Catholics like yourself.
- ◆ Daily Mass, with short discussions.

For questions or additional information, please visit the Cursillo website at <https://www.sanjosecursillo.org/cursillo-weekend/make-my-weekend>, or contact John Greene at (408) 460-3099



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

Many followers of Jesus could not accept his teachings. To those that remained, he posed a simple question: "Do you also want to leave?" He asks us the same, every moment of every day. Let us answer with confidence, in all that we do: "Only you have the words of eternal life."

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POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: AUGUST

For political leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

PRAYER OF DECLARATION

Lord,
In the season when faith is hard, help me to be as bold as Peter who picked you above all others saying, "To whom shall I go? You have the words of eternal life."

You're my God. I'm yours.
There is nowhere else I would rather be. Amen.

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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:
Herb Robbins; Frank Nolan; Michelle Schwartz; Bruce Welch; George Bommarito

For those who have recently died:
Richard Pearl; John Hammett; John Hernandez; Kimberly Sue Connor; Angela Ficarra-Filsram; Marcos Del Mercado; Andy Nagorski; Michael Bondi

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.

INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP IN MINISTRY

Do you have a call to the ministry of leadership within the Catholic Community?

Do you currently participate in some form of pastoral ministry? Do you want to learn more and get skills to serve better your community?



Explore to attend the ILM this year. The ILM is accepting nominations for the academic year 2024-2025, classes begin September 2024.

Please find more information application forms on the [ILM webpage - dsj.org/evangelization/institute-for-leadership-in-ministry/ilm-admissions/](https://dsj.org/evangelization/institute-for-leadership-in-ministry/ilm-admissions/)

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 Hofmann Center.



Visit us 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

Marriage Help –

Retrouvaille (*pronounced retro-vi*) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the September Marriage Program beginning with a weekend on Sept 20-22, 2024 call 408-605-4998, email us: SanJose@RetroCA.com or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.org



Stewardship of TREASURE

Managing God's Gift To Us

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE!

Our Goal for August is \$65,000.00

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

	July 1 to August 11, 2024
Budget	\$ 99,000.00
Actual	\$ 83,910.00
Difference	- \$ 15,090.00

Is God Calling You to be a Sister?

Join Us! Come and See!

September 27-28-29, 2024

Fall Religious Vocation Discernment Retreat

Stay with us! Pray with us!
See what being a Sister is all about!
Explore God's Dream for You!

Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul

Find out more at:
Daughters-of-Charity.com/retreats/
For Single Catholic Women 18-40.

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

The Year of Prayer 2024 and The Jubilee Year 2025

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a **Year of Prayer** by Pope Francis.

THE JUBILEE YEAR

Following the extraordinary 2015 Holy Year of Mercy instigated by Pope Francis, the forthcoming Jubilee will take place in line with the norm of leaving a 25-year gap between each one. The most recent ordinary jubilee took place in the year 2000, as the world and the Catholic Church prepared to enter the new millennium.

The Jubilee of Hope will take place from Dec. 24, 2024 — Christmas Eve — to Jan. 6, 2026, the feast of the Epiphany.

The first Holy Door will be opened by Pope Francis at St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve this year to usher in the beginning of the Jubilee Year worldwide. This door will be the last one to be closed on the feast of the Epiphany in 2026, marking the end of the holy year.

The Archbasilica of St. John Lateran will be the second door opened by Pope Francis — on Dec. 29, the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The Holy Father will then open the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Mary Major on the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, on Jan. 1, and then on Jan. 5 he will open the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. These three papal basilicas will all be closed on Dec. 28, 2025. The five Holy Doors were specified by Pope Francis when he officially proclaimed the 2025 Ordinary Jubilee through his bull of indiction, *Spes Non Confundit* ("Hope Does Not Disappoint") on the feast of the Ascension on May 9.



YOUNG ADULTS

SURVEY FOR
Young Adults 18-35

Single or married; with kids or no kids

Open July 1st to August 30th

Let the Church know about your experience, hopes, and needs.



Scan QR code to fill out the survey




dsj.org/young-adult-assembly

Are you between the ages of 18 and 35, married or single, with or without children? The Diocese of San José cares about you and wants to hear about your experiences, hopes, and needs through our new, confidential, online survey for young adults! ***Your voice matters and can significantly impact how the Church responds to the needs of young adults.*** Download and share with any Catholic Young Adult in Santa Clara County.

Interested in having your voice heard at the Young Adult Assembly?

Young Adults (18-35) sign up now to be a young adult delegate.



forms.office.com/r/8kvPFSY42z

APPLICANT'S REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- Participate in the full Young Adult Assembly on Sat, **Sept 21**, from 10 am – 9 pm.
 - Attend an in-person delegate orientation: **August 24**, 9:30 am – 12 pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church
- Complete the Young Adult Survey in English or Spanish and share it with all your Young Adult colleagues and friends.



Scan QR Code to fill out the survey

Volunteer!

- Hospitality
- Facilitators
- Liturgy
- And more!

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION Young Adult Assembly



Scan QR Code to Participate in Young Adult Assembly



A Prayer for Our Teachers

Dear God,

Thank you for the amazing teachers who have given their lives to serve our children. As they prepare for the new year fill them with strength to lead, grace to guide and hope to thrive in their classroom. Bless them beyond measure for their willingness to pour into the next generation through education. In Jesus' name, amen.



gatherandgrow.co

A Prayer for Our Students

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of education in every form. As our children prepare to start a new year, may confidence be their foundation, may grace be their guide and may hope be their compass toward a bright future. I pray they would have eyes to see the needs of those around them and a heart to love well. May they face each day with positivity knowing that no matter what comes their way, they don't have to face it alone. In Jesus' name, amen.



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AROUND THE DIOCESE

2024 SEASON OF CREATION ACTIVITIES – TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION:

- ♦ Mass for World Day of Prayer for Creation Sunday, **September 1** at 8:30am at Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph
- ♦ Gospel of Water series at St Simon Parish
 - Sept 19 & 26, 5:30-8:30pm, dinner included
 - Oct 17, 6:30-8:00pm, Wine & Cheese Reflection of Gospel of Water
- ♦ California Coastal Cleanup Day - Saturday, **September 21** - . Register with the CA Coastal Commission and participate in the cleanup of a local waterway. <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html>
- ♦ Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, **October 4th** - Blessing of the animals

ANNUAL REGIONAL CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP

CONFERENCE: October 5, 2024 at St. Lucy Parish. Learn about the Spirituality of Christian Stewardship, Welcoming New Parishioners, Cultivating Healthy Stewardship Habits, and Casting Nets for Young Adults.

More info dsj.org/wp-content/uploads/Stewardship-DSJ-Conference-2024.pdf. For Young Adults: dsj.org/wp-content/uploads/YA-Stewardship-DSJ-Conference-2024.pdf.

RADIATE LOVE – CA BISHOP'S LETTER TO THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL OF CALIFORNIA FROM YOUR SHEPHERDS

In celebration of the love found in marriage and family, the Catholic bishops of California, have introduced 'Radiate Love' – a new initiative to encourage and inspire marriage. We are embarking on this journey over the next year to celebrate and support marriage and family life among the flock God has entrusted to us.

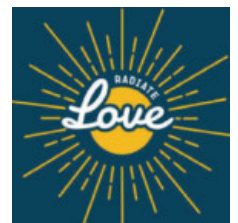
Visit dsj.org/radiate-love-ca-bishops-letter-to-the-catholic-faithful-of-california-from-your-shepherds/ for more information.

Radiate Love Theme for August – WHO'S KEEPING SCORE?

WATCH

REFLECTION BY BISHOP OSCAR CANTÚ -

cacatholic.org/radiate-love/august-25-2024-reflection-by-bishop-oscar-cantu/



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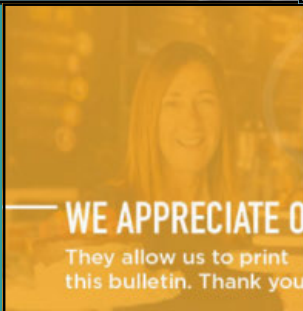
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October Edition

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October 20th, 2024

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