December 22, 2024

Early Publication Submission

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



A PRAYER FOR THE Fourth Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you are constantly coming to your people, even when we fail to see you.

In each and every moment that we are blessed to recognize you here and now, give us the courage to leap with joy at your coming.

Amen.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday, Dec. 24: 4:00pm, 6:00pm and 10:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY - Wednesday, Dec. 25: 9:00am and 11:00am.

(No Mass at 8:30am and 5:00pm)

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - Vigil, Saturday, Dec. 28: 5:00pm; Sunday, Dec. 29: 9:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Holy day of Obligation) New YEAR'S DAY: Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 8:30am and 7:00pm. (No Vigil Mass on New Year's Eve)

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Vigil, Saturday, Jan. 4: 5:00pm; Sunday, Jan 5: 9:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Vigil, Saturday, Jan. 11: 5:00pm; Sunday, Jan 12: 9:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY, DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 1, 2025. WE WILL RETURN ON JANUARY 2, 2025



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 a non-medical emergency and you need to reach a priest, call the parish office, and follow the prompts.

ST. MARY PARISH SCHOOL

408.354.3944 30 Lyndon Avenue Los Gatos, CA 95030 Web: smslg.org

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.

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading:

Micah prophesied a "ruler" would come through the line of David ("Bethlehem-Ephrathah") and bring peace to the divided kingdom of Judah and Israel. How might you be able to promote peace this week among your family or co-workers?

Second Reading:

The author of Hebrews reminds us that Christ makes us holy so that above all else, we do God's will. As the season of Advent draws to a close, what could be one practical way to do God's will this week?

Gospel:

Elizabeth calls Mary "blessed" because she believed and trusted in the Lord. Are there people in your life who model such trust and faith in God?

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TODAY'S READINGS

Micah 5:1-4a;

Psalm 80;

Hebrews 10:5-10;

Luke 1:39-45

Our Blessed Mother takes center stage on this fourth Sunday of Advent, and fittingly so as we draw near to the celebration of her Son's birth. After our Lord Himself, Mary is our model and guide to a stewardship way of life. We see her steward's response in every passage of Scripture that relates to her, from her "yes" at the Annunciation, to her faithfulness at the foot of the Cross.

Mary's response to the angel Gabriel in our "Alleluia" today captures her stewardship spirit: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Lk 1:38)." At the moment of the Annunciation, Mary recognized God's gift to her and made a generous and trusting return to Him, offering her very self to God as His servant. This reply to such an overwhelming request — made by an angel, no less — shows us how extraordinary our Blessed Mother is. She is indeed "full of grace."

But her response also displays the depth with which she possessed of two of the pillars of stewardship, Formation, and Prayer. Because of her formation (in her own Jewish faith) she knew that a Messiah had long been prophesied and promised to her people. Because of her intimacy with God in prayer, she was ready to offer her "yes" to Him when asked to be mother of this Messiah.

Today's Gospel passage, also from Luke, goes on to describe Mary's actions immediately after her "yes" to the angel Gabriel's message. We read that "Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah... and greeted Elizabeth." Mary immediately begins to think of others before herself, setting out quickly to be with her cousin, modeling two other of the pillars of stewardship, Hospitality, and Service. What warmth and humility the Mother of our Savior shows, traveling to Elizabeth to spend time with her, rejoicing with Elizabeth over her own incredible pregnancy, and assisting her in a time of need. And what joy this hospitality and service bring to Elizabeth who exclaims, "how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy."

How beautifully our Blessed Mother models the mind and heart of a steward. It is an example that we, her children, can follow in our own lives 2,000 years later. With all the gifts God gives us — our time, our talents, our material possessions — we, too, can offer ourselves to God by using all these gifts to serve and glorify Him. In so doing, we will effectively spread the Good News of the Gospel to the world around us today. We will be stewards after our Mother's own heart.



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PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office 408.354.3726

Fr. Angelo David, Pastor angelo.david@dsj.org x139 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** x110 OCIA / OCIC (Initiation) x123 Music Ministry x122 Marriage x139 Pastoral Care of the Sick x139 **Funeral** x137

If it is a non-medical **EMERGENCY** and you need to reach a priest, call the parish office and follow the voice prompts.

St. Mary Parish 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

REPORT MISCONDUCT Financial: 888-325-7863 dsj.ethicspoint.com x118

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Children & Vulnerable Adults:
844-372-1691
opcva.ethicspoint.com



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	12/22	4 TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45		
Mon	12/23	St. John of Kanty, Priest Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5b, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66		
Tues	12/24	Christmas Eve Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79 VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25		
Wed	12/25	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is: 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18		
Thu	12/26	ST. STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3c-4, 6, 8a, 16b-17; Mt 10:17-22		
Fri	12/27	ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8		
Sat	12/28	THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18		
Sun	12/29	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52		

Mass Intentions					
Mon	12/23	8:30 am	David Dinno †		
Tues	12/24	4:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Mary		
		6:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Mary		
		10:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Mary		
Wed	12/25	9:00 am	Parishioners of St. Mary		
		11:00 am	Parishioners of St. Mary		
Thu	12/26	8:30 am	Steven Wilson †		
Fri	12/27	8:30 am	Father Biju Daniel Varghese (special intention)		
Sat	12/28	8:30 am	Eleanor Loffredo †		
Sat		5:00 pm	Chester Antonowicz †		
	12/29	9:00 am	Peter Chi Nguyen †		
Sun		11:00 am	Clarence Tam (birthday)		
		5:00 pm	Joseph Mardesich, Jr. †		

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.





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

"Blessed are you who believed,"
Elizabeth tells Mary. Do we believe?
When we hear the voice of God
whispering in our heart, do we listen or do we ignore, out of fear and
uncertainty? This last week of Advent,
follow Mary's example, and believe.

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POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: DECEMBER

For pilgrims of hope: We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



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: Ken Ardent; Marietta Riney; Adam Thielmann; Michelle Antonowicz; Elisabeth Venesualea; Honora Hannan; Frank Nolan; Michelle Schwartz

For those who have recently died:

Herb Robbins; Michael Wheeler; Gerlinde Krick; Patrick Mahoney; Harold George Peth

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



DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE

(Traditional Carols are sung 30 minutes prior to each Mass)

4:00pm: Children's Choir 6:00pm: Cantors & Piano/Organ

10:00pm: Parish Adult Choir & Orchestra

DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY

(Traditional Carols are sung 30 minutes prior to each Mass)

9:00am : Cantor & Piano/Organ 11:00am: Cantor & Piano/Organ

DECEMBER 28 & 29

5:00pm: Saturday: Cantor & Piano/Organ 9:00am: Sunday: Cantor & Piano/Organ 11:00am: Sunday: Cantor & Piano/Organ 5:00pm Sunday: 5pm Sunday Ensemble

Stewardship of TREASURE

Managing God's Gift To Us

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE!

Our Goal for December is \$85,000.00

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

OFFERINGS AND ONLINE GIVING

	Jul. 1 to Dec 8, 2024
Budget	\$ 360,000.00
Actual	\$ 319,421.00
Difference	- \$ 40,579.00



REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE - CHRISTMAS

First Reading:

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Second Reading:

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Gospel:

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MERRY & BLESSED

LIVE THE LITURGY -INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Do not be afraid," the angels told the shepherds. We, too, keep watch amidst a dark night. We may at times even despair of the coming of the light. But the angels' news is for us, too, today, and always: "Do not be afraid. A Savior has been born."

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS OFFERING DEDICATIONS

IN HONOR OF:

Michael McGowan Stephanie Mathew Ballard Diego Lleverino Catherine Gallagher Catalina Huerta Aristide Family

Pascuala Huerta Lov Boitano

IN MEMORY OF:

Emma Walker † Christina Aguilar † Ralph Wood † Mr. & Mrs. Joe Filiponi †

Ed Panelli † Bart Ottoboni † Marie Antonowicz † Elizabeth Woodbury †

Buni †

Robert Jette † Ed & Grace Massa †

Frank & Wanda Catalana †

Read Greenwood †

Bill Baker †

Walter Charles Rose † John Wisniewski †

Mr. & Mrs. John Chan † William F. O'Connell †

Priscilla Martin † Juan Mercado †

Roberta & Herb Robbins †

Steve Broeker † Barbara Miller †

Ana Hernandez † Therese McLaughlin † Michael Ciccosello † Nguyen Dinh Nguyen † Tom Franceschi † Marlin Kalpin † Bart & Stephanie Lally †

George Shannon †

Nicole Foyt †

Ros Gros de Mange † Chet Antonowicz †

Elizabeth Eckhardt †

Bunicu † Victoria Jette †

Michael Massa † Fr. Mark Catalana †

Martha Greenwood †

Sharon Lydon †

Martha Patricia Rose † Mary Wisniewski †

Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Haroon †

Linda Lencke † Alex Lucas †

Helida Lleverino † George Marchese †

Marianna Broeker † Michael Miller †

Mateo & Marcelina Huerta †

Alfred Basilicato † Antonio Bettencourt †

Jack Panighetti †

Lucy Crumpton † Judy Wood † Frank H Filice † Dick Rolla † Nancy Ottoboni †

E. Richard Gros de Mange †

Dave McKay † Robert Hainey †

Anyu†

Charles Lozowicki † Aurea Massa †

Marya Evans † Bud McGowan †

Cristina Marcelino † Melissa Ann Rose †

Joseph, Tony & James Chan †

Curtis Harding †

Bill & Mary Bettencourt †

Jerry Bettencourt † Hilda Galindo † Louis Fiorentino † Willow Gray Patel † Maria Esther Hernandez †

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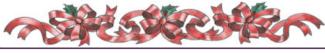
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Olga Rovai † Pat & Ed Simonich † Maria Luisa Guimbarda †

Harry Broeker † Daniel Sousa † Jesus Hernandez, Sr. †

Michael McLaughlin Jean Ciccosello † Nguyn Thi Luu †

Mr. & Mrs. S Moyanahan †





NATIVITY SCENE PRAYER

God, bless all who gaze upon this nativity scene. As we look at this Holy Family, let us pray for all families - those we know, and those we do not; those who live on the other side of the world, and those who live on the other side of the street. Let us recognize and rejoice in the great diversity of the one family of God as we reflect on and give thanks for those diverse gifts present in our own family. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



St. Mary's 1st Graders Wish You A Merry Christmas!



They had a wonderful time driving through town in the Los Gatos Parade!

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AROUND THE DIOCESE

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope," and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis.



The 2025 Jubilee will officially open on December 24, 2024, at 7 pm with a Mass presided over by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square. The rite of the Opening of the Holy Door will follow.

Jan 12 Jubilee Year 2025 Diocesan Solemn Vespers -Sunday, Jan 12 at 5pm for the Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope at the CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF ST. JOSEPH.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help distribute food to families in need. Shifts are only 3.5 hours, and you can make a real difference! Sign up today: ccscc.org/become-a-volunteer. More information, contact Lynda DeManti - ldemanti@ccscc.org or call 408-839-3163

THE VALLEY CATHOLIC FALL 2024 ISSUE

Read about the Pastoral Plan for Worship and about the CCHD's 2023 Cardinal Bernardin Award Winner Ivonn Rivera's work bringing pop-up masses and listening session to neighborhoods. https://thevalleycatholic.org/

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MASS - FEBRUARY 15, 2025 @ 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries (1st – 5th, 25th, 40th, 50th, and greater) this year are invited to attend the celebration Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph in downtown San Jose. Register at <u>dsj.org/evangelization/family-life/events-and-community/wedding-anniversary/</u>



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