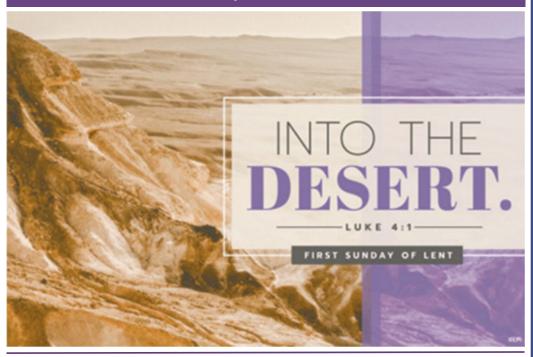
MARCH 9, 2025 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

### **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.





**OUR PARISH GOAL: \$200,000.00** 

(of which, \$20,000.00 will be used to upgrade our church sound system.)

Thanks to those who have already responded with a gift to the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal. There is still time to respond with a gift. Your gift is essential to sustaining the many ministries of the Diocese of San José. Gifts can be made by scanning the QR code on the right, through our parish office or online at <a href="www.dsj.org/ADA">www.dsj.org/ADA</a>



"Men should regard us as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God."

- 1 Corinthians 4:1



## **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:

<u>parish.office.@stmaryslg.org</u>
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

408.354.3726

## REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

### **First Reading:**

Moses taught the Israelites the importance of remembering the story of their release from Egyptian slavery. This event defined them as a people loved by God. What is a story from your family that has helped define you?

TODAY'S READINGS Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Psalm 91; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

#### **Second Reading:**

Paul encouraged the Christians in Rome to have a genuine faith in Jesus in both heart and mind. As the season of Lent begins, how might you show others the sincerity of your faith?

### Gospel:

We hear how Jesus was tempted by the devil as he was preparing to begin his public ministry. *What temptation can you confront this Lent?* 

**©LPi** 

And so, it begins — the holy and, for some, daunting, season of Lent. This is the season in our liturgical year when the Church encourages us to increase our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to enter more deeply into the mystery of our Lord's Passion and Death and to celebrate more fully His Resurrection. Our outlook as Christian stewards can help us embrace this season with enthusiasm and even joy.

The First Reading, from Deuteronomy, presents a beautiful and positive way to approach Lent. The passage begins with Moses speaking to the people. He reminds them that the Lord saw their affliction and responded mercifully to their cry by delivering them from oppression in Egypt, and by bringing them to a land flowing with milk and honey. Moses teaches the people how they should respond to such a wonderful God. He instructs them to approach the Lord with these words: "Therefore, I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given me." In other words, Moses teaches the people to respond as grateful stewards for all that God has done for them.

As grateful stewards ourselves, we can look at these 40 days as "soil" that God is giving us as a gift to grow closer to Him and become more like Him. We can choose to use each of these days intentionally to make a generous response to our God, who sent His own Son to deliver us from the affliction and oppression caused by sin.

Jesus, by His own example in today's Gospel, demonstrates the necessity of setting aside a period devoted especially to prayer and fasting as a means of strengthening our spiritual muscles. Just before the launch of His public ministry, He is "led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil." In imitation of Jesus, we should ask the Holy Spirit to lead us into the desert, too — the desert of our interior lives where our thoughts and desires reside.

While our Lord was strong enough to withstand the temptations of the devil on His own, we most certainly are not! We must turn to the Holy Spirit and ask Him to show us where we need to grow interiorly and then rely on the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance throughout these forty days of growth.

We may discover we are weak in our knowledge of the faith and can devote these Lenten days to spiritual reading or Bible study. We may discover our prayer life has gone by the wayside, and we must discipline ourselves anew and commit to a regular, daily time for prayer. Perhaps we have given in to selfishness and comfort -seeking and we can determine to give up our favorite coffee drink or social media "fix" and find a project that serves the poor in our community.

If these spiritual exercises hurt a little, that means we are doing them right! It means we will have some wonderful "first fruits" to present to our Lord at the close of this season; we will be prepared to enter the grace-filled days of the Triduum, and we will, through the power of the Holy Spirit, be resurrected as a new creation with our Lord come Easter. Let us begin!



**Catholic Stewardship Consultants** 

# PARISH DIRECTORY

**Parish Office** 

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
Marriago x130

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

o@stmaryslg.org x118

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





READINGS FOR THE WEEK					
Sun	3/9	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13			
Mon	3/10	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46			
Tues	3/11	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15			
Wed	3/12	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32			
Thu	3/13	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12			
Fri	3/14	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26			
Sat	3/15	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48			
Sun	3/16	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36			

Mass Intentions					
Mon	3/10	8:30 am	Steven Wilson †		
Tues	3/11	8:30 am	Roscelia O'Neal †		
Wed	3/12	8:30 am	Adela Botta †		
Thu	3/13	8:30 am	Eugenio Angosto †		
Fri	3/14	8:30 am	Alfredo Aramayo †		
Sat	3/15	8:30 am	Thomas Swei †		
		5:00 pm	Antonio Cabral Bettencourt †		
Sun	3/16	9:00 am	Serge Laplace (special intention)		
		11:00 am	Julia Clem †		
		5:00 pm	Georgia Wayman †		





# 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.

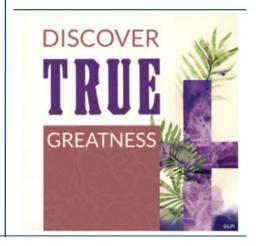
# LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus is desperately hungry when the devil tells him to turn stone into bread. But his divine will is stronger than the weakness of his human body, and he resists the devil. In this season of fasting and self-denial, let's remember Jesus' strength.

# POPE FRANCIS' UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: MARCH

### For families in crisis:

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



# 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: Ryan Heath; Dave Najour; Rose Arnaudo; George Bommarito; Ken Ardent; Marietta Riney; Adam Thielmann; Michelle Antonowicz; Elisabeth Venesualea; Honora Hannan

For those who have recently died:

Diane Piziali; Herb Robbins; Paul Mahoney, Sr.; Patricia San Juan; Janet Mannina; Linda Austin; Helena Hugger; Renee & Noel Preaseau

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.



### **MARCH 15 & 16**

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

ST. MARY MARIAN PRAYER GROUP - The St. Mary's Tuesday Morning Marian prayer group meets at 10:15am Hoffman Center. We pray the chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary and meditate on a reading from daily Mass. We pray for the intentions of the school and parish. All are welcome!

St. Vincent de Paul has a very active conference at St Mary! We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month after the 9am Mass in the Junior High Library.



### Visit us at stmaryslg.org/st-vincent-de-paul

Anyone interested in our work helping the unhoused and working poor in our community please contact conference president Sue Ahmadian at <a href="mailto:sue.ahmadian@gmail.com">sue.ahmadian@gmail.com</a>

ST. MARY BIBLE STUDY - Did you know we have a bible study group that meets every other Thursday 9:30am - 11am? We are currently studying Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson's program on the bible. Feel free to drop in whenever you have time. Please check the parish calendar for the schedule.



# Stewardship of TREASURE

Managing God's Gift To Us

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE!

Our Goal for February is \$80,000.00

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 to Feb 23, 2025
Budget	\$ 525,000.00
Actual	\$ 517,342.00
Difference	- \$ 7,658.00

CRS RICE BOWL IS THE LENTEN PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, the official relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.



Rooted in the history of the Eucharistic Congress, CRS Rice Bowl invites Catholics and faith communities in the United States to encounter God and our global family throughout Lent by practicing the pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in more than 120 different countries each year. Twenty-five percent of donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese, supporting hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Since its inception in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised more than \$350 million.

### WHAT IS A CRS RICE BOWL?

A rice bowl is a simple cardboard box used to collect Lenten alms. It comes with a Lenten calendar that guides families throughout the 40 days of Lent with activities, reflections, stories and opportunities to put <u>alms in their rice bowl</u>. Combined, the rice bowl and calendar are a staple on the table of Catholic families across the country each Lent.

Pick up a rice bowl at the entrances of the church this weekend.

# OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

## THE SIGN OF THE CROSS - SIX REASONS TO MAKE THE SIGN

#### 1. A MINI-CREED.

The Sign of the Cross is a profession of faith in God as He has revealed himself. It serves as an abbreviated form of the Apostles' Creed.

AGAINST THE DEVIL.

When the devil watched Jesus die on the cross, he mistakenly

Touching our forehead, breast and shoulders (and in some cultures, our lips as well), we declare our belief in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are announcing our faith in what God has done — the creation of all things, the redemption of humanity from sin and death, and the establishment of the Church, which offers new life to all. When we sign ourselves we are making ourselves aware of God's presence and opening ourselves to His action in our lives.

That much alone would be enough to transform us spiritually, wouldn't it? But there is much, much more.

#### 2. A RENEWAL OF BAPTISM.

First-century Christians began making the Sign of the Cross as a reminder and renewal of what happened to them when they were baptized. It still works the same way for us.

When we sign ourselves we are declaring that in baptism we died sacramentally with Christ on the cross and rose to a new life with Him (see Rom 6:3-4 and Gal 2:20). We are asking the Lord to renew in us those baptismal graces.

We are also acknowledging that baptism joined us to the Body of Christ and equipped us for our role of collaborating with the Lord in His work of rescuing all people from sin and death.

#### 3. A MARK OF DISCIPLESHIP.

At baptism the Lord claimed us as His own by marking us with the Sign of the Cross. Now, when we sign ourselves, we are affirming our loyalty to Him. By tracing the cross on our bodies, we are denying that we belong to ourselves and declaring that we belong to Him alone (see Lk 9:23).

The Church Fathers used the same word for the Sign of the Cross that the ancient world employed to indicate ownership. The same word named a shepherd's brand on his sheep, a general's tattoo on his soldiers, a householder's mark on his servants, and the Lord's mark on His disciples.

Signing ourselves recognizes that we are Christ's sheep and can count on His care; His soldiers, commissioned to work with Him in advancing His kingdom on earth; and His servants, dedicated to doing whatever He tells us.

### 4. AN ACCEPTANCE OF SUFFERING.

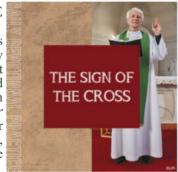
Jesus promised us that suffering would be a normal part of a disciple's life (see Lk 9:23-24). So when we mark our bodies with the sign, we are embracing whatever pain comes as a consequence of our faith in Christ. Making the sign is our taking up the cross and following Him (Lk 9:23).

At the same time, however, it comforts us with the realization that Jesus, who endured the Crucifixion for us, now joins us in our suffering and supports us.

Signing ourselves also announces another significant truth: with St. Paul, we are celebrating that our afflictions as members of the body of Christ contribute to the Lord's saving work of perfecting the Church in holiness (see Col 1:24).

# 5. A TWO-EDGED MOVE AGAINST THE DEVIL.

When the devil watched Jesus die on the cross, he mistakenly believed he had won a great victory. Instead, the Lord surprised him with an ignominious defeat (see 1 Cor 2:8). From the first Easter morning through the present, the Sign of the Cross makes the devil cower and flee.



On one level, then, making the

sign is a defensive move, declaring our inviolability to the devil's influence. But, more importantly, the sign is also an offensive weapon, helping us reclaim with Christ all that Satan lost at the cross. It announces our cooperation with Jesus in the indomitable advance of the kingdom of God against the kingdom of darkness.

### 6. A VICTORY OVER THE FLESH.

In the New Testament, the word flesh sums up all the evil inclinations of our old nature that persist in us even after we die with Christ in baptism (see Gal 5:16-22). Making the Sign of the Cross expresses our decision to crucify these desires of the flesh and to live by the Spirit.

Like tossing off a dirty shirt or blouse, making the sign indicates our stripping ourselves of our evil inclinations and clothing ourselves with the behaviors of Christ (see Col 3:5-15).

The Church Fathers taught that the Sign of the Cross diffused the force of powerful temptations such as anger and lust. So, no matter how strongly we are tempted, we can use the Sign of the Cross to activate our freedom in Christ and conquer even our besetting sins.

### APPLY THESE TRUTHS NOW

Right now, you can imprint in your heart these six truths about the Sign of the Cross by making it six times, each time applying one of the perspectives.

First, sign yourself professing your faith in God.

Second, mark yourself remembering that you died with Christ in baptism.

Third, make the sign to declare that you belong to Christ as His disciple and will obey Him.

Fourth, sign yourself to embrace whatever suffering comes and to celebrate your suffering with Christ for the Church.

Fifth, make the Sign of the Cross as a defense against the devil and as an offensive advance of God's kingdom against him

Finally, make the sign to crucify your flesh and to put on Christ and His behaviors.

Go through these six signings often in your morning prayer — and watch the grace flow through this ancient sacramental in the days to come.

Bert Ghezzi is the author of numerous books, including "The Sign of the Cross: Recovering the Power of the Ancient Prayer" (Loyola, 2006).
© 2025 Simply Catholic

# ST. MARY SCHOOL



# AROUND THE DIOCESE

### YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

#### BIBLICAL WALK-THROUGH CHRIST'S PASSION

Starting Thursday March 6 from 7-8:30 p.m. **5-week** Young Adult Lenten Bible Study Santa Teresa Parish, 794 Calero Avenue, San Jose

HOW THE SACRAMENTS MAKE US SAINTS – FREE EVENT - March 27 starting at 6:15 p.m. with reception, talk at 7 p.m. Fr. David Michael Moses

St William Parish, 611 S. El Monte Avenue, Los Altos <a href="https://tinyurl.com/frdavidmichaelmoses">https://tinyurl.com/frdavidmichaelmoses</a>

MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT (SPANISH), FRISUN, MARCH 21-23, Friday 6pm to Sunday 3pm, St. Patrick's Seminary - Menlo Park (320 Middlefield Rd, Menlo Park, CA 94025). Find out if God is calling you to the priesthood. Meet the priests and seminarians of San Jose. Experience their life and get your questions, doubts, concerns answered. Meet other men like you who are discerning. You will have the chance to explore the priesthood and learn about the steps for discernment, values of priestly life, and the structure of seminary formation. It will be a weekend of prayer, discussions, fraternity, recreation, and fellowship.

Info & to register: <a href="mailto:dsj.org/catholic-life/vocations/retreats/retiro-para-hombres/">dsj.org/catholic-life/vocations/retreats/retiro-para-hombres/</a>

PARISH MISSION: "ENCOUNTERING JESUS MORE DEEPLY" presented by Fr. Mathias of the Immaculate Heart, O.C.D.

- ♦ Wed, March 12: Encountering Jesus in Our Sufferings
- ♦ Thurs, March 13: Encountering Jesus in our prayer
- ♦ Fri, March 14: Encountering Jesus, the Healer

There is be daily Mass each evening as well as Adoration. Confessions will be available.

RSVP Required - Scan the QR Code. ST. FRANCES CABRINI CHURCH

15333 Woodard Rd, San Jose





### SAVE THE DATE!

DYR Diocesan Youth Retreat 2025 - June 9 – 13, 2025 Registration Opens: February 2025 Visit <u>www.dsj.org/DYR</u>

For other inquiries please email **DYR@dsj.org** 

# **SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**





Peter Coe Verbica, JD, CFP®, CRPC® Principal, Managing Director Wealth Management, Financial Planning 408-832-3030

We are a fiduciary and put our clients' interest first. We also make in-home visits!



# catholicmatch®

California



CatholicMatch.com/CA



- BurglaryFire Safety
- Flood Detection
   Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502



# Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and ourchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO







## FREE AD DESIGN

with purchase of this space

**CALL** 800-950-9952



Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit Ipicommunities.com





Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.



**CALL** 800-950-9952

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

# WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at careers@4lpi.com or www.4lpi.com/careers

# LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME lose Altamirano

jaltamirano@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2118

**SUPPORT OUR** ADVERTISERS!



# SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Local business ads sponsor the printing of our bulletin.

4lpi.com/adcreator

# WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

They allow us to print this bulletin. Thank you!



# FREE AD DESIGN

with purchase of this space

**CALL** 800-950-9952

# **SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**



# **NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!**

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.





Dr. Christine Throm Audiologist



Specializing in hearing aid testing, evaluations, fittings, and repairs. 15899 Los Gatos-Almaden Rd. Ste. 8 Los Gatos, CA 95032

408-354-1312



# FREE

with purchase of this space

CALL 800-950-9952

# **SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

# WE'RE HIRING!

**BRING YOUR PASSION** WORK WITH PURPOSE.



## Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

AD CREATOR STUDIO







CUPERTINO PLUMBING, INC a full service plumbing contractor

Your neighbor for over 55 years!

408-253-0618

74 Dillon Avenue Campbell, CA 95008

# DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit Ipicommunities.com



WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!





1230 1st St., Ste. 203 • Gilrov, CA 95020

We provide high quality care and companionship for Senior Adults in the comfort and privacy of their own homes.

**EXAMPLE OF SERVICES:** 

Personal Care, Bathing, Meal, Transportation, Comfort & Companionship (408) 847-8517 | caringhandgilroy.com | info@caringhandgilroyca.com



ADT-Monitored Home Security Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Flood Detection
- 833-287-3502





For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com





IF YOU LIVE ALONE MDMed*Alert*!™

At HOME and AWAY! ✓ Ambulance/Police

✓ Family/Friends GPS & Fall Alert

CALL 800.809.3570



