**DECEMBER 14, 2025** 

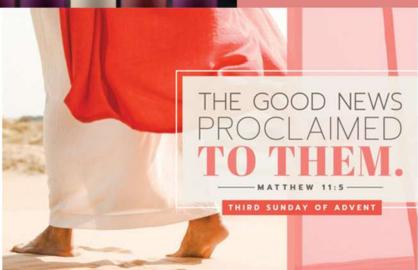
### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.



### A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life, let the anticipation of your birth fill us with overflowing joy May our excitement and anticipation be a sign to the world that you are always near Amen.





TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 7:00PM, IN CHURCH

DOORS OPEN AT 6:45 PM | FREE ENTRY





### 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

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x118

408.354.3726

### REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

### First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah taught his community to "be strong, fear not!" because God has planned a remarkable future where both the people and the land will be restored. Is there a friend or coworker who needs your encouragement this week?

### **TODAY'S READINGS**

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; Psalm 146; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

### **Second Reading:**

James encourages his community to be patient and firm of heart in waiting for the coming of the Lord. What are you waiting for during this Advent season?

### Gospel:

In prison, John the Baptist seemed uncertain about who Jesus is. Who do you talk to when you have questions about Jesus?

©LPi

Good news, Christian stewards — we are gaining ground on our Advent mountain climb, and it is time to take a moment to rejoice in the Good News that our Savior will come again in triumph one day. Today's readings on this Gaudete ("Rejoice") Sunday are filled with reminders of God's final victory over suffering and injustice, and encouragement to remain steadfast in our mission to live as faithfilled disciples.

Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah seems to shout out good cheer as he paints a picture of what the long-awaited Savior will usher in: "the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf will be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag...the tongue of the mute will sing. Those whom the Lord has ransomed [that's us!] will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee."

Such a day almost seems too good to be true, especially when we look around at the dire circumstances we face in our world at present. But by faith, we know this day is coming. Lest we grow weary as we await the glorious day of Christ's return, St. James, in our second reading, offers wise counsel. "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord." "Make your hearts firm...Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged."

This is excellent advice for us Christian stewards as we face the challenges of everyday life in our broken world, especially in the hectic days that precede Christmas when stress can make us and those around us less than our best selves. St. James reminds us that we can choose our response to both the great strains and the minor annoyances of life.

In other words, we can be good stewards of our attitude, "making our hearts firm" by practicing patience with others and refusing to give in to the temptation to complain. We can choose to see and rejoice in God's presence with us, no matter the circumstances surrounding us.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, connects the prophecy of Isaiah to the arrival of Jesus, almost word for word. In this passage, we find the imprisoned John the Baptist sending his disciples to ask Jesus if he is indeed the long-awaited Messiah. Jesus' reply is almost identical to Isaiah's prophetic words. He says, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised..." The Savior really has arrived just as promised! Yet that arrival was 700 years after Isaiah's prediction. God always fulfills his promises, but patience and firmness of heart are required as we await his perfect timing.

As John's disciples go off to report this wonderful news, Jesus has high praise for John. "Among those born of women, there has been none greater." Yet, Jesus adds, "The least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." Honorable as it was for John the Baptist to serve as the one who would announce the Savior's arrival, it is a much greater privilege to attain membership in His kingdom.

Let us rejoice in the knowledge that God has called us to enter this kingdom. Let us keep our hearts firmly fixed on this eternal goal and strive with all our might to give God and others the very best of ourselves in gratitude for such a privilege.

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# Fr. Angelo David, *Pastor*angelo.david@dsj.org x139 Fr. Christopher Bologo, *Parochial Vicar*christopher.bologo@dsj.org x138 Percival Perlas, *Music Director*

Katherine Jestus,
Faith Formation Co-ordinator

pperlas@stmaryslg.org

kjestus@stmaryslg.org x123

Vanesa Lleverino, Admin Assistant vlleverino@stmaryslg.org x110

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office and follow the voice prompts.

Monica Hernandez, *Principal* mhernandez@stmaryslg.org

Ceci Salgado, Office Manager csalgado@stmaryslg.org

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK							
Sun	12/14	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11					
Mon	12/15	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27					
Tues	12/16	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32					
Wed	12/17	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4b, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17					
Thu	12/18	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25					
Fri	12/19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25					
Sat	12/20	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38					
Sun	12/21	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24					

Mass Intentions									
Mon	12/15	8:30 am	Marijoe LoBue †						
Tues	12/16	8:30 am	Patricia Walberg (special intention) & Andy Nagorski †						
Wed	12/17	8:30 am	Chester & Anna Mouton †						
Thu	12/18	718 8:30 am Colette Lakovic †							
Fri	12/19	8:30 am	Olivia Gray †						
Sat	12/20	8:30 am	Olivia Gray †						
		5:00 pm	Antonio Cabral Bettencourt †						
Sun	12/21	9:00 am	Robert Hapgood Cowden †						
		11:00 am	Eva Mailloux †						
		5:00 pm	Robert Hapgood Cowden †						

### **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**ADVENT CONCERT:** Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7:00pm

**RECONCILIATION** (Individual Confession) Saturdays at 3:30-4:00pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE - Wednesday, Dec. 24: 4:00pm (Church & Howley Hall Gym), 6:00pm (Church) and 10:00pm (Church) (No Mass at 8:30am)

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

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

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - Saturday/ Sunday, Dec. 27 & 28 - Regular Mass Schedule.

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)** Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026 8:30am and 7:00pm

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** - Saturday/Sunday, Jan 3 & 4 - Regular Mass Schedule.

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** - Saturday/Sunday, Jan 10 & 11 - Regular Mass Schedule.



## ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

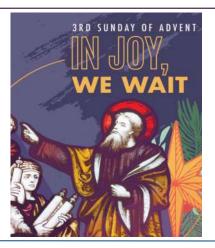
My Jesus, I believe you
are really here in
the Blessed Sacrament.
I love you more than anything
in the world, and I hunger
to receive you.
But since I cannot receive
Communion at this time,
Feed my soul spiritually.
I unite myself to you now,
as I do when I actually receive
You in Holy Communion. Amen.

### LIVE THE LITURGY -INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Go and tell what you have seen and heard," Jesus says. When it comes to proving who he is, he always lets his actions do the talking. We have heard. We have seen. We must go and tell. Let's let our actions do the talking. Who do we think Jesus is?

## POPE LEO XIV'S UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: DECEMBER

For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in
areas of war or conflict, especially in
the Middle East, might be seeds of
peace, reconciliation, and 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: Vincent Yee; Arlene Rocchio; Schuyler Garfield; Armon LaMotte; Brenda Lis; Mary Elen Fox; Magdolma O'Brien; Marietta Riney; Honora Hannan

For those who have recently died:

Carla Scudellari; Stella Sabatelle; Cynthia Pearl; Janette Saich; Robert Jette, Jr.; John Melehan; Colette Lackovic; Wesley Hogan; Bill Norquist; Isabel Heil

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.



### **DECEMBER 20 & 21**

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

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 Tim O'Rorke at ti@timororke.com.

**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.

## **ST. MARY MARIAN PRAYER GROUP - Tuesday mornings** at 10:15am in 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!



## Stewardship of TREASURE

Managing God's Gift To Us

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF TREASURE!

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

Week Ending November 30, 2025
Sunday Collection \$ 11,236.00

Please consider ONLINE GIVING

## 2ND OFFERING - December 13 & 14 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

This weekend, we have the opportunity to support more than 21,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

For decades, women and men religious have devoted their lives to service through countless Church ministries, often for little to no pay. Today, their communities face a severe gap between the rising cost of care and the limited resources available. In 2024, religious past the age of 70 outnumbered younger religious by nearly three to one, and only 4% of communities reporting to the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) said they were adequately funded for retirement.

In 2024, the collection raised \$28.1 million, while annual care costs for senior religious exceeded \$1 billion. The average annual cost to care for senior religious, as reported by the NRRO, is \$56,600 per person, with skilled nursing averaging \$96,000. The typical Social Security benefit for a religious is just \$9,090—less than half that of the average lay beneficiary. This gap underscores the critical importance of the national appeal.

To Make an Online Gift, please visit: giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/stmaryslg

Select "RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT" from the dropdown menu.



### **OUR CATHOLIC FAITH**

### AN ADVENT PRAYER TO SEE JESUS IN OTHERS

Jesus, although you are God, you hid yourself in Mary's womb to come into the world.

May we see you hiding in everyone we encounter and grow in our ability to recognize ourselves as one family.

In this season of joyful hope,

help us believe in the possibility of a more charitable world that will overcome polarization and brokenness.

Give us the grace to patiently listen to others as we wait in joyful hope for your coming.

Transform our minds and our hearts to see our neighbors and our world as you do.

Set aflame our hearts to tirelessly bring about your kingdom where all will find peace.

Amen.

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### ADVENT PRAYER TO BE LIKE MARY

Blessed Mother,

Mary, as we reflect on your yes to bring the Savior into the world, we ask that you be with us as we strive to bring Jesus to all those we encounter.

In this season of joyful hope, we turn to you for guidance. May we imitate your loving example, and steadfastly bring peace and justice to our world.

When we are tempted to distance ourselves from another, give us the grace to say yes to charity.

When we are frustrated,

let us listen with our hearts to our neighbors.

When we are disappointed,

help us seek new solutions as you did when the Inn was full.

Let us embrace our own need for poverty and humility in order to work toward creative solutions for our world as we await the coming of Christ. Amen.

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The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the Season of Advent saying (Paragraph 524): When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

ADVENT CALENDAR 2025											
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
The Third Sunday of Advent  Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. At this halfway point in the season of Advent, light two violet candles and the rose candle on your Advent wreath and Rejoice! For the Lord is near!	According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up before Christmas and remains in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany.  usccb.org/ prayers/ blessing- christmas-tree	Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Isaiah 35:4	Today marks the beginning of the "O Antiphons." This tradition, which comes from Evening Prayer, has been around since at least the eighth century.	Use this blessing to bless the nativity scene in your home:  usccb.org/ prayers/ blessing- christmas- manger-or- nativity-scene	"In the family, faith is handed on together with life, generation after generation. It is shared like food at the family table and like the love in our hearts. In this way, families become privileged places in which to encounter Jesus, who loves us and desires our good, always."  Pope Leo XIV, Homily, June 1, 2025	Reach out to those in your community who may be alone this Christmas and invite them to Mass and to share part of your celebration.					
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, light all three violet candles and the rose candle on your Advent wreath and pray that the light of Christ will enter your heart so that you may share the warmth of God's love with those you meet.	"Looking without walking by, halting the frantic pace of our lives, allowing the lives of others, whoever they may be, with their needs and troubles, to touch our heart. That is what makes us neighbors to one another, what generates true fraternity and breaks down walls and barriers. In the end, love prevails, and proves more powerful than evil and death."  Pope Leo XIV, Homily, July 13, 2025	Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign; the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son, shall name him Emmanuel. Isaiah 7:14	In the bustle of Christmas celebrations, take a moment of silence to reflect on the gift of Jesus' Incarnation and to prepare to receive his Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist.	And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.  John 1:14	rights reserved. Quote from Pope Francis. Varican City State. All rights reserved. Q the Diocoses of the United States of Ameri	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  Catholic Bishops  Catholic Bishops  Lever of Catholic Bi					



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