



All are Welcome

ST. MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

JANUARY 4, 2026

Early Submission

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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.*



EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

For centuries, Christians throughout the world have had a tradition of “chalking doors” on the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, which celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the nations.

Inspired by the Magi, the family uses chalk to mark the lintel or doorpost with the following symbols:

20 + C + M + B + XX (XX =last two digits of current year)



The numbers are for the year. The crosses symbolize Christ’s cross. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means “May Christ bless this house.” This offers everyone from the home a reminder that Christ has blessed the home and all those who live in it. It also reminds everyone that the household is dedicated to Christ.

Here’s a simple blessing from the U.S. bishops’ book “**Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers**”:

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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: smssl.org

REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

Page 2

First Reading:

Isaiah prophesies a coming of age when the glory of the Lord would shine upon Israel and their hearts would throb with joy. *Can you share an experience that brought you deep joy and happiness?*

Second Reading:

Paul tells the Ephesians that the Holy Spirit revealed to him that all believers in Jesus (Jew and Gentile alike) were coheirs and members of the same body. *Have you ever felt like an outsider who was welcomed by others?*

Gospel:

In the story of the birth of Jesus, Matthew contrasts the fear and concern of King Herod with the joy and praise of the Magi. *What feelings does the season of Christmas evoke for you?*

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As our celebration of Christmas continues, today we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God’s countless manifestations in our lives.

And as Christian stewards, we are all called to manifest God’s love to each other in the sharing of our gifts. St. Paul describes this beautifully in our second reading in his letter to the Ephesians, saying, “You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for your benefit.” We have all been given unique and wonderful gifts from our good and generous God. He wants us to share these gifts to benefit others and so to give Him glory.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, also has much to teach us about stewardship — through the actions of the magi. These three kings from ancient days display many aspects of stewardship spirituality which we can apply as modern-day stewards right now.

First, we observe that their overriding priority is on honoring the long-awaited King. The magi travel a great distance in search of him. Upon arrival in Jerusalem, they immediately begin to ask others where this King may be found, unashamedly declaring that they “have come to do him homage.” Is honor and worship of God our highest priority? Do we order our lives so that Sunday Mass is the most important act of the week for ourselves and our families no matter what else is going on?

Second, we observe that the magi, as good stewards, were watching for manifestations of God’s presence in their lives. “We have seen the star at its rising,” they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the “star” of God’s presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to both worship God and share His gifts with others.

Third, we observe in the magi that a stewardship journey is not without its difficulties, its twists and turns. Herod tried to take advantage of their goodness, feigning a desire to join them in worshipping the newborn Jesus, in order to hide his deadly intentions. Yet God protected and guided them along their way, and through their cooperation with God’s plan, He accomplished great things through them.

Fourth, we observe that the magi, upon seeing the manifestation of God’s presence in their lives, “were overjoyed.” Good stewards, who live with the awareness of God’s presence and gifts to them, simply can’t help but be filled with joy — not necessarily the fleeting and superficial kind of joy that the world promises if we just obtain enough wealth or power or comfort — but rather, the deep, unalterable joy that only God can give.

Finally, we observe that the magi were so filled with awe upon encountering the newborn Jesus, that they prostrated themselves before him. To prostrate oneself is to make a total offering of one-self in humility, recognizing the greatness of the One before them; it is an act of worship. And as a further act of worship, they “opened their treasures and offered him gifts.” This is precisely why good stewards generously share their material gifts — as a loving act of worship to an extravagant-loving God.

Let us rejoice in God’s manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.

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TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6;
Psalm 72;
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6;
Matthew 2:1-12

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office	408.354.3726
Fr. Angelo David, <i>Pastor</i> angelo.david@dsj.org	x139
Fr. Christopher Bologo, <i>Parochial Vicar</i> christopher.bologo@dsj.org	x138
Percival Perlas, <i>Music Director</i> pperlas@stmaryslg.org	x122
Katherine Jestus, <i>Faith Formation Co-ordinator</i> kjestus@stmaryslg.org	x123
Vanesa Lleverino, <i>Admin Assistant</i> vleverino@stmaryslg.org	x110
Sharon Aeria, <i>Business Manager</i> saeria@stmaryslg.org	x137
Faith Formation	x123
Confirmation	x110
Baptism	x110
OCIA / OCIC (Initiation)	x110
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, <i>Principal</i>	
mhernandez@stmaryslg.org	
Ceci Salgado, <i>Office Manager</i>	
csalgado@stmaryslg.org	x118

REPORT MISCONDUCT ethics-point	Financial: 888-325-7863 dsj.ethicspoint.com
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sun	1/4	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Mon	1/5	St. John Neumann, Bishop 1 Jn 3:2—4:6; Ps 2:7b-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tues	1/6	St. André Bessette, Religious 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wed	1/7	St. Raymond of Peñafort, Priest 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thu	1/8	1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
Fri	1/9	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Sat	1/10	1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a. 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sun	1/11	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	1/5	8:30 am	Martino Nguyen (<i>healing</i>)
Tues	1/6	8:30 am	Bart Ottoboni †
Wed	1/7	8:30 am	Robert Leland Kirkendall †
Thu	1/8	8:30 am	Olivia Gray †
Fri	1/9	8:30 am	Osvaldo Zazirskas †
Sat	1/10	8:30 am	Harry Hasse †
		5:00 pm	Richard Scudellari †
Sun	1/11	9:00 am	Ben Abijay (<i>birthday</i>)
		11:00 am	Grace Angus (<i>healing</i>)
		5:00 pm	Serge Laplace (<i>special intention</i>)

DIOCESAN MASS - JANUARY 24, 2026

Please join with Bishop Cantu on January 24, 2026, at ST. LUCY'S PARISH for the 8:00 am - before the 22nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast - as we walk for HOPE, walk for LOVE, and walk for LIFE!



22 YEARS

For 22 years we have been Walking, singing, and praying for unborn children.

For 22 years we have been sharing our message that abortion hurts women.

For 22 years we have been sharing hope, love, and forgiveness.

And our efforts have borne fruit! How many lives have been saved by the heart-wrenching testimony of our post-abortive women? How many hearts have been changed by YOUR peaceful witness to love, life, and hope? How many vocations to marriage, the priesthood, and religious life?

Every pregnancy should be an occasion for hope but, sadly, can also be an occasion for fear.

Pregnant women need hope! Young families need hope! Our city, our nation, and our culture need hope!



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

The journey of the Magi reflects how treacherous our Christian life on earth can be. Always, evil works against us — Satan lays traps. He sows confusion. May we, like the Magi, recognize the will of God as our guiding star.

© LPi

POPE LEO XIV'S UNIVERSAL PRAYER INTENTION: JANUARY

For prayer with the Word of God.

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



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 Ellen Fox; Magdalma 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.



JANUARY 10 & 11 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Schedule not available at press time



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 SENIORS - If you are free the 3rd Monday of the month, please join us in Hofmann Center at 12 noon for a meeting of social activity and service to our parish. Bring a sack lunch.

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 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 tj@timororke.com.

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.

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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

Due to the early submission of this bulletin for publication, the collection report for December 13 & 14 are not available. Please check our e-bulletins at

stmaryslg.org/eneWSletter

Please consider signing up for the e-bulletins if you are not yet receiving them at stmaryslg.org/eneWSletter

Please consider ONLINE GIVING

2nd OFFERING: January 3 & 4

SCHOOL SUPPORT

Thank you for remembering St. Mary School for the monthly Sunday Second Collection. These funds have a direct impact on our school's operating budget and helps support students and families in need of financial assistance.

To Make an Online Gift, please visit :
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Select "SCHOOL COLLECTION" from the dropdown menu.

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OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

FIVE FAMILY TRADITIONS FOR EPIPHANY

1. Bless your home and household on Epiphany

It is traditional to bless your home and household on the Feast of the Epiphany, perhaps because of the biblical reference to the three kings entering the home where the Holy Family was staying in order to worship the Christ child there. (see page 1 of this bulletin)

2. Hold a procession of the magi

On the Feast of the Epiphany, read the Gospel account of the visit of the three wise men (see Matthew 2:1-12), then have your children march through the house holding the figures of the three kings and singing "We Three Kings."

3. Eat King's Cake

A popular custom involving a sweet cake (King's Cake or Galette des Rois) with a small figure (traditionally the baby Jesus) hidden inside. Finding the figure imitates the Magi's search for Christ.

4. Celebrate Twelfth Night

Twelfth Night is a largely forgotten traditional celebration held on the twelfth night of the Christmas season, January 6—the traditional date of Epiphany before the liturgical reforms of Vatican II.

Over at **Catholic Cuisine**, they have a complete and comprehensive plan for a Twelve Days of Christmas themed dinner feast that features twelve courses, including partridge in a pear tree pie. You can also find an extensive history, as well as some traditional ways of celebrating, at Fish Eaters.

5. Give gifts

Some families make it a tradition to save Christmas gift-giving until Epiphany...and then to give each person just three gifts. This might be a fun tradition to transition to as your kids get older. One advantage: More time to get the perfect gift, which means less stress around Christmas... plus, take advantage of those after-Christmas sales.

OSV KIDS

POPE ISSUES APOSTOLIC LETTER ON THE CREED, MARKING ANNIVERSARY OF NICAEA

November 23, 2025

This article summarizes Pope Leo XIV's apostolic letter, "In Unitate Fidei" ("In the Unity of Faith"), which he published on November 23, 2025, to mark the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea and its Creed.

Key points of the summary:

- ◆ Purpose of the Creed: Pope Leo XIV stated that reciting the Creed should prompt Christians to an examination of conscience about their faith and the example they set for others. He lamented that historically, a "vengeful God" has often been proclaimed, leading to conflict, persecution, and discrimination, instead of a merciful God.
- ◆ Historical Context: The letter was released ahead of the Pope's visit to Turkey to celebrate the anniversary with Orthodox and Protestant leaders. He highlighted that the bishops at the 325 Council of Nicaea faced a crisis over the nature of Christ, specifically the teachings of Arius that Jesus was not truly the Son of God.
- ◆ Theological Affirmation: The Council's core challenge was to affirm faith in one God while clarifying that Jesus is "the Only Begotten Son of God... true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father." This reaffirmed that the one true God is not distant, but has "drawn near and has come to encounter us in Jesus Christ."
- ◆ Call to Action: The Pope emphasized that the Creed professes faith in a "living God who wants us to have life" and is "close to us." He urged Christians to ask themselves questions like:
 - What does God mean to me?
 - Do I have idols I place before God?
 - How do I treat my neighbors and creation?
 - Believing God became human in Jesus means encountering the Lord in those in need.
- ◆ Ecumenical Significance: The Pope affirmed the Nicene Creed (which, with the later additions, is the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed) as a "basis and reference point" for the search for Christian unity. He noted that the "filioque" phrase ("and the Son")—added later in the West—is a subject of Catholic-Orthodox dialogue, and recent popes, including Leo XIV, have omitted it during ecumenical services.



ST. MARY SCHOOL



WISHING OUR
ST. MARY
COMMUNITY
A JOYFUL
NEW YEAR!

We can't wait to be
back together soon!



AROUND THE DIOCESE

REVS vs SEMS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

DOORS OPEN 5:00 PM | TIP-OFF 6:30 PM
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www.dsj.org/basketball

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Tickets can also be purchased in the
Parish office during our office hours.



Finally, a faith-based mental
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(includes separate parent class too)

We are grateful to be offering this
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Saint William Church
611 S. El Monte Ave, Los Altos

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via the QR code or our website at snsparish.org



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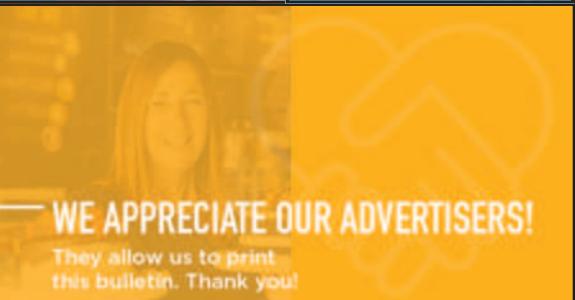
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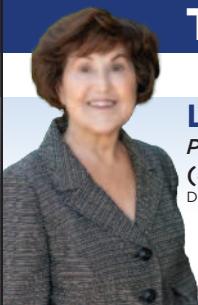


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