

Welcome to *Saint Nicholas and Saint William Catholic Parish*

Hope



In Today's Bulletin . . .

- ◆ **Photo Directory** - Last week to Sign Up!!
- ◆ **Blessing of the Advent Wreaths**
12/1 All Masses
- ◆ **Giving Tree** - Gifts cards due 12/2
- ◆ **Children's Choir Rehearsal**
12/7 9:00am - St. William Church
- ◆ **St. Nicholas Feast Day Mass with Bishop Cantú**
12/7 4:00pm - St. Nicholas Church
- ◆ **Children's Mass**
12/8 11:00am - St. William Church
- ◆ **Immaculate Conception of the BVM**
12/9 8:00am & 12:10pm - St. Nicholas
7:00pm - St. William Church
- ◆ **Advent Parish Mission**
12/10-12
- ◆ **Advent Christmas Concert**
12/15 2:00pm - St. William Hall
- ◆ **Advent Penance Liturgy**
12/18 7:00pm - St. William

More information found inside the bulletin.

The First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2024

Sunday Mass

St. William - Saturday (Vigil) at 4:00pm
Sunday at 9:00am, 11:00am, & 5:00pm

St. Nicholas - Sunday at 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00noon,
5:00pm (French)

Livestream Mass

Sunday at 11:00am <https://snswwparish.org>

Drive up & Park Communion

St. William - Sunday from 12:15 to 12:30pm

Confessions

St. William - Saturday from 2:30pm to 3:30pm
Wednesday from 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Daily Mass

St. Nicholas - Monday - Saturday at 8:00am
Monday - Friday at 12:10pm

St. William - Wednesday at 7:30pm (Young Adults)

Adoration

St. Nicholas - Thursday 8:30am to 12:00pm
St. William - Wednesday 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Sacrament of the Sick: First Saturday of the month
during 8:00am Mass at St. Nicholas Church

Sacramental Care: If you are in need of Anointing
of the Sick, Confession, or Holy Communion,
call the Parish Office for assistance (650) 948-2158.

St. Nicholas Church open for prayer & reflection:
Monday - Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

Parish Office: 473 Lincoln Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, & Fri - 8:30am to 5:00pm
Wednesday - 8:30am to 7:00pm

Phone: (650) 948-2158

Email: stnicholas@dsj.org

Website: snswwparish.org

St. Nicholas Church
473 Lincoln Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022

St. William Church
611 S. El Monte Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022



First Sunday of Advent

—Reflection by Fr. Matt Stanley

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. Luke 21: 25

This passage from Luke’s Gospel is proclaimed on this First Sunday of Advent. What a way to start the new liturgical year! The secular world began shopping for Christmas a few days after Halloween—if not earlier. Many homes are already beautifully decorated, and holiday celebrations will soon begin. ***There is great social pressure to be joyful.*** Yet, Jesus seems to be warning his disciples about a world marked by confusing and even frightening events.

What do our Lord’s words mean to you? How can our Advent prayer be shaped by the Scripture passages we are called live by— especially when those passages are in sharp contrast to the festive trappings of our neighborhoods. Fully participating in the Advent season is countercultural, yet this invitation to gentle, patient waiting is actually more attuned to the actual rhythms of people’s lives. We all need to adjust our eyes to the darkness that comes with shorter days, and to adjust our hearts to the darkness that accompanies life’s hard questions. Comfort comes because we trust the Light we await, and the celebrations of the birth of Christ our Light.

The light that we, the gathered faithful, anxiously yet comfortable await, is not so obvious to all. It may not be apparent to some of our family members or parishioners sitting a few pews behind us. Therefore, our challenge is to participate in our Advent liturgies and activities that enable individuals, household, and families to renew their spirit for the coming the Light— while also empowering them to bring the Light to those trapped in often-overwhelming darkness. Perhaps, this season when the darkness of estrangement and loneliness runs rampant, we might invite someone new to our parish—to await the Light together.



Advent Liturgies and Activities . . .

- Dec 7 St. Nicholas Feast Day Mass with Bishop Cantú
- Dec 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Dec 10-12 Advent Parish Mission
- Dec 15 Advent – Christmas Concert
- Dec 18 Advent Penance Liturgy & Confessions

Stewardship Thought for the Week

We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and wonder for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus — born to us as Savior and Brother. It is a season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgment day is coming, too, when we will be called to give an account for all that God has given to us during our lifetimes. In other words, Advent is a steward’s season!

During Advent, we Christian stewards must ask ourselves some hard questions. Am I staying faithful to my prayer life? Am I using my energy and skills to serve others? Am I overly concerned about material gain? Am I relying on my “stuff” or my investments as my source of comfort or security? Am I living for the moment or for the coming of the Lord? Get ready Christian stewards! He’s coming! Let us prepare with awe and wonder.





Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Every December 8, we joyfully celebrate the Patroness of

the United States. However, this year, 2024, December 8 falls on the Second Sunday of Advent. As a result, the celebration of the Solemnity will be transferred to Monday, December 9. The Holy See has recently clarified that the obligation to attend Mass on this day remains. *However, given the relatively short notice of this clarification, Bishop Oscar Cantú has granted to the Catholic Faithful in the Diocese of San José a dispensation, this year only, from the obligation to attend Mass on Monday, December 9.*

While the obligation has been dispensed, the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass on December 9 as a way to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary and to ask for her intercession for our country. Our Mass schedule is as follows: Monday, December 9 at 8:00am & 12:10pm (St. Nicholas Church) and 7:00pm (St. William Church).

Children's Mass

Sunday, December 8 at 11 am - St. William Church



These monthly Masses are geared toward families with younger children. We are encouraging our young people to volunteer to serve as Liturgical Ministers, especially at these Masses. Please encourage your family members and friends to get involved.

Chalice Program for Promoting Vocations



The purpose of the **Chalice Program** is to encourage families to pray and promote vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. The consecrated Chalice is a tangible reminder of this particular intention for the Church. The Second Vatican Council highlights the laity's responsibility to pray for and support vocations. This urgent call has been strongly affirmed in the writings and addresses of Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. Praying for vocations is the most powerful way to support them. A vocation is a call from the Holy Spirit, a gift from God nurtured in prayer. When we pray for vocations, we lift up to our Father those men and women whom He is calling to follow Him in an exceptional way.

This is how it works. At the end of the Sunday Mass, the priest calls a family forward to receive the chalice and a blessing. The family takes the chalice home and puts it in a place of honor. Each day for a week, during prayer time, the family includes in their prayer the increase and perseverance of vocations. (A prayer guide will be provided.) They can also send a note of support to a Seminarian, Priest, or Sister. The following Sunday, the family returns the chalice bag for another family member to take home. The chalice will be given to the family at the 10 am Mass at St. Nicholas and 11 am Mass in St William.

Let us ask the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mother, the mother of vocations, to make this project work well.

Register to participate in this program,
<https://tinyurl.com/snsw-vocations2024>



The Gospel of St. Luke – Cycle C

The book of Luke is a Gospel that contains Narrative History, Genealogy, Sermons, Parables, and some Prophetic Oracles. The emphasis of Luke is Parables and contains more of them than any other Gospel (19 total). It is the third of the synoptic gospels. Luke, a doctor and a Greek Christian, wrote it circa 59-61 A.D. He accompanied Paul on mission journeys, as described in the book of Acts, which Luke also wrote. The key word in Luke is "Son of Man" which is used 80 times. The key personalities of the book include Jesus Christ, His parents Mary and Joseph, the Twelve Disciples, John the Baptist, Herod the Great, Jewish religious leaders, and Pilate. This book was written to record an accurate account "so that you may know the exact truth" (1:4), of the life of Jesus Christ as the perfect Savior of the world. He wrote to the Greeks to present Jesus in His perfect manhood as the "Son of Man," the Savior of all men.

Christmas Poinsettias & Flowers



We need your help in making our worship spaces look beautiful for the Christmas season. Won't you consider donating a poinsettia plant in remembrance of a loved one or just as a gift from you? Special Christmas Flower Envelopes are available in the narthex. All your gifts will be greatly appreciated.



We welcomed the following children into the Catholic Church and congratulate their families for making the decision to raise their children in the Catholic Faith.

*Martin James Olson - Parents: Michael & Manuela
Mateo Francisco Marin - Parents: Hector & Linda
Daniel Salas Williams - Parents: Gerardo & Kelli*

GET A FREE 8" X 10" PHOTO AND A FREE PHOTO DIRECTORY

Last week to schedule your appointment.
Sign up soon! PHOTO DAYS & TIMES AVAILABLE:

December 2 - 6 2:00pm - 8:30pm

Sign up at ucdir.com. Church code **CA139**, password **photos**.
Or contact the parish office 650-948-2158.



Giving Tree - \$25 Gift Cards due December 2

Choose your Charity and purchase Gift Cards. Place Gift Card in an envelope with the name of the Charity. Drop off envelopes in the Sunday collection basket or mail/return to the Parish Office by Dec 2.

Thank You VERY MUCH! Your gifts are needed this year more than ever.

SAINT NICHOLAS AND SAINT WILLIAM PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY MASSES
December 8 - 11 am
January 12 - 11 am

SATURDAY REHEARSALS
December 7 - 9-10 am
January 11 - 9-10 am

Join our Children's Choir and let your child's voice bring joy to our community! Our Choir is open to children 2nd Grade and up. The choir will sing at our **Children's Masses** & rehearse the day before.

TO REGISTER
USE WITH THIS QR CODE:



OR CONTACT
Michael.sternhagen@dsj.org
(650) 948-2158 x 2204
473 Lincoln Ave. Los Altos CA

Location for Rehearsals and Masses:
St William Church



First Friday Faith Sharing Group 6:30 - 8:00pm - St Nicholas Hall RSVP: epayermeeting@gmail.com

We meet to pray together and to grow in knowledge and love for the Eucharist. In the words of Benedict XVI, "Personal prayer is of course important, indeed indispensable, but the Lord guarantees his presence to the community—even if it is very small—which is united and in agreement because this reflects the very reality of the Triune God, perfect communion of love."

Communal Celebration of the Anointing of the Sick Saturday, December 7 - 8 am Mass - St. Nicholas Church

After the homily, the priest will invite those in need of God's healing grace for physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual reasons to come forward and be anointed with the Oil of the Sick. As the priest anoints each person on the forehead and palms of the hands he will say, "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of his Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." The person responds "Amen."



**First Saturday
of Every Month**



**LAUDATO SI'
MOVEMENT**
Catholics for Our Common Home

Embrace the possibility of veering away from ecologically harmful forms of consumption during Advent, and how instead this time can be centered on your loved ones. Think of whether you could go out with friends or family in a nearby green space and pick out organic material to create your own Christmas decorations, and how you can appreciate the abundance of God's creation while you do so.
laudatosimovement.org/advent2024/

Attention Knitters and Crocheters!

Time to start making baby items for our January Outfitting Newborns Collection/Layette Drive for mothers in need. Collection dates: **Jan. 11-12, and 18-19, 2025.**



Size 0-6 month knitted/crocheted items needed: cotton hats, cotton hat and bootie sets, and sweaters. For more information, contact Karen Shea-Daley, 650 823-9085.



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 COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. The 2025 Jubilee will officially open on December 24, 2024,

at 7pm with a Mass presided over by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square. The rite of the Opening of the Holy Door will follow.

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025.html>

**Celebrate the Feast of Saint Nicholas
with Bishop Cantú**



**Saturday, December 7, 2024
Saint Nicholas Church at 4pm**

Following the Mass, we will have a Gluhwein celebration
at St. Nicholas Hall
Gluhwein is a traditional German warm mulled wine!

Our Open House will showcase
Our newly remodeled Front Office

Please RSVP by: November 25
<https://tinyurl.com/sns-w-stnicholasfeast>



**Advent Christmas
Concert**

**Sunday, December 15
2:00pm
St William Church**

We invite all musically talented individuals—families, children, soloists, and ensembles—to join us in glorifying God through song at our Advent Christmas Concert. This is a beautiful opportunity to use the gifts God has given you to bring joy to our parish community as we prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ. Following the concert, we will gather in the parish hall for fellowship and refreshments.

If you would like to participate, sign up at:
<https://forms.gle/zeHDXV15Xsbn6pM7A>

or contact Clare Lee at:
clee5898@yahoo.com



ADVENT PARISH MISSION



“Dusting Off Advent!”

Morning schedule - St. Nicholas

8:00am Mass
8:30am Mission Talk (abbreviated)
9:00am Reception and fellowship

Evening schedule - St. William

6:15pm Confessions available
6:15pm Reception and fellowship
7:00pm Mission Talk

Event is FREE! Register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/sns-w-adventmission2024>

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

The Uniqueness of Advent

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Fighting Our Culture Appropriately

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Jesus and Advent



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
FR. JOHN AUTHER S.J.**

Fr. John is a Jesuit for over 40 years and a priest for 30 years. He has worked as a high school campus minister, an associate pastor and pastor, most recently at the Jesuit parish in San Diego. In his pastoral ministry he has devoted a good deal of time to Spanish-speaking work, detention facilities and retreats. Believing that powerful things from God happen on retreats that don't happen at other times, he has always viewed retreat ministry as a wonderful way to serve the Lord. He is in his fourth year at the Jesuit Retreat Center.



Advent Penance Service



**Advent Penance Liturgy
& Confessions**

**December 18 at 7:00pm
St. William Church**

Advent is a time of preparation, when we make ready to celebrate the mystery of our Lord's coming as one like us, the beginning of our redemption. Advent also moves us to look forward with renewed hope to the second coming of Christ, when God's plan of salvation will be brought to fulfillment. This service of penance and conversion is meant to make us ready in mind and in heart for the coming of Christ, which we are soon to celebrate in the Solemnity of Christmas.

For questions, contact Lidia: 650-948-2158 ext 2202 or lidia.fiandeiro@dsj.org

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH PROGRAM

Faith Formation	OCIA Youth	Confirmation	EDGE	theIntersection
Classes on Sundays St. William Hall 10 am to 11 am Dec 8 & 15	9 to 11 am Sr. E. Teen Center Dec 7	7 th to 12 th grades meet on 1 st and 3 rd Sundays from 12 noon to 1:30 pm Sr. E. Teen Center Dec 15	6 th to 8 th grades meet on 2 nd and 4 th Sundays from 3 to 4:30 pm Sr. E. Teen Center Dec 8, 15* *Christmas Party 6:30-8pm	9 th to 12 th grades meet on Sundays, 6:30 to 8:30 pm Sr. E. Teen Center Dec 8, 15* *Christmas Party 6:30-8pm

Children's Mass December 8 at 11 am | Youth Mass Sundays 5pm St. William - 6th-12th grade, join us in the front pews!

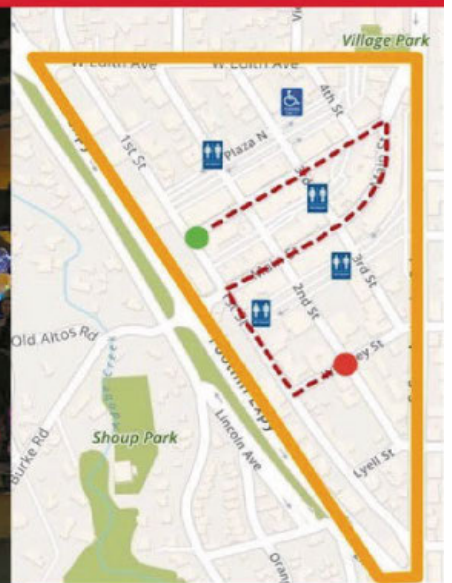


From preschool to high school, our youth are growing in their faith, building community & sharing their gifts with others!

St. Nicholas Catholic School

Festival Of Lights Parade

December 1st @ 6pm | Downtown Los Altos



12816 El Monte Road | Los Altos Hills | CA 94022 | 650-941-4056 | www.stnicholaslah.com



Join Us For Donuts!

Gather for hospitality on Sunday after our morning Masses: 8, 9, 10, & 11



HUNGER KNOWS NO SEASON - Hunger is an ongoing problem, and we can all help. As you are grocery shopping, please think about picking up an extra item or two for the families in our community who are in need. Foods most useful are: rice, beans, tuna, peanut butter, soup, pasta, cereal, coffee, granola bars, baking mixes, oil, snacks, juices, and baby formula. Both churches have a white food bin inside the front entrance where you can leave your food.

BIBLE STUDY



Join us for Bible Study!

We meet every Tuesday at 6:45pm in St. Nicholas Hall. Bring a bible and join us! All are welcome



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 January In-Person Marriage Program beginning with a weekend on January 17-19, 2025 call 408-605-4998, email: SanJose@RetroCA.com or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org

An Investment in Your Parish

For many years, our Catholic parishes & schools have benefited from the charitable gifts of appreciated property from nay good and generous people. Year-end giving becomes an important consideration for many people in these last weeks of the year 2024. The knowledge that your gifts are assisting and advancing the mission of the Catholic Church can bring about tremendous good in our world. If you are able to make a gift of appreciated stock, properties, or cash, while reducing your tax liability, please contact Lidia (lidia.fiandeiro@dsj.org) or (650) 948.2158.

Second Collection Report

World Mission: 10/15	\$5,847.56
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Thank you for your continued generosity!

Stewardship Report: October 27, 2024

	Actuals	Budget	Variance
Basket, Mailed-in & Online Giving: 10/21-27	\$22,361.91	\$24,317.81	(\$1,955.90)
YTD (as of 10/27)	\$384,701.43	\$416,402.74	(\$31,701.31)
% of Budget YTD			92.4%

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Mass Intentions for the week of December 1

St. William Church

Sat	4:00pm	Mary Sullivan †	Loving Family
		Antonio Vecchiet †	Tony & Jean Vecchiet
Sun	9:00am	Paul B. & Paul Jr. Oliveira †	Loving Family
		Maria Fatima Sousa †	Jason Sousa
	5:00pm	Emilio & Maria Riccoboni †	Loving Family
		Jesse Sanchez †	Maria & Concepcion Sanchez

St. William - In-Person & Livestream

Sun 11:00am People of the Parish & All Souls Novena

St. Nicholas Church

Sun	8:00am	Leona Hartland †	Loving Family
		Christine De La Isla & Anahila Cowherd †	Loving Family
	10:00am	Steve O'Brien †	De Natale Family
		Daniel F. Curran †	De Natale Family
	12:00pm	Kathy Schullian Leo †	Sr. JoAn Schullian
	5:00pm(F)		
Mon	8:00am	Francis & Gertrude O'Connor †	SNSW Parish
		Helen Hennig †	Gergen Hennig Family
	12:10pm	Alister Sharp - Intention	Loving Family
Tue	8:00am	Helen Thompson †	Jo Anne
	12:10pm	Micaela Mariana Raygada - Birthday	Gissela C. Barreda
Wed	8:00am	Fr. Tom Donnelly MM †	Dennis & Barb Fox
	12:10pm	Barbara Dallal Andrus †	Loving Family
		Tommy Stelling †	Shelby Douglas Family
Thu	8:00am	Buzz Almon †	Loving Godmother
		Rosemary Hennig †	Loving Family
	12:10pm	Mary Francis Smith †	Dan Smith
Fri	8:00am	Sarah & Luca - Intention	Varghese Family
		Larry Bennie †	Dennis & Barb Fox
	12:10pm		
Sat	8:00am	Marilena Bernardi †	Loving Family
		Raymond Hiznay †	Loving Family

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Let us pray for Anastasia Adams, W. M. Andrews, Susan Berger, Vicente Bobila Jr., William Brugnoli, Steve Castain, Lida Co, Lorraine Croft, DeBell Family, Chaz DeCoteau, Jennifer DeCoteau, Bernie Flores, Shannon Lilly Ekedal, Morgan Fielding, Valerie Gawron, Diane Geschke, Kristin Griffin, Pat Haley, Megan Hanken, Jean Harris, Janice Heidmiller, Jeanne Jensen, Faris & Libby Kahwajy, Arlene Kramer, Ray Light, Margaret Manoogian, Lisa McBride, Josie Mendoza, Ramon Mendoza, Ruperto Mendoza, Gary Mirka, William Newkirk, Ivana Panontin, Katherine Paternoster, Anne Rullo, Jason Santos, Anne K. Sturm, Sally Ann Thomas, Connie Weaver, Tracy Weiss, Bob Wilmering, and Ryan Zweng that Jesus will be a source of strength & comfort.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Carmel Smith.

Readings for the week of December 1, 2024

Sun: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/
Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Mon: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tue: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wed: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37
Thu: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Fri: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday (Anticipated) - November 30

SW 4pm Fr. John Auther, S.J.

Sunday - December 1

SN 8am Fr. Michael Gazzingan
SW 9am Fr. Matt Stanley
SN 10am Fr. Michael Gazzingan
SW 11am Fr. Matt Stanley
SN 12pm Fr. John Auther, S.J.
SW 5pm Fr. John Auther, S.J.
SN 5pm Fr. Johannes Busch

French Mass
Sundays at 5:00pm
St. Nicholas Church

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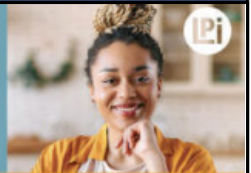
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