

December 21, 2025
4th Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Saint Nicholas and Saint William Catholic Parish

Pastor: Rev. Matthew D. Stanley | **Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Michael Gazzingan



"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus"

SUNDAY MASS

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

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

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

DRIVE UP AND PARK COMMUNION St. William - Sunday from 12:15 to 12:30pm

CONFESSIONS

St. Nicholas Church Saturday from 2:30pm to 3:30pm & Wednesday from 6:00pm to 6:55pm

DAILY MASS

St. Nicholas Church Monday - Saturday at 8:00am, Monday - Friday at 12:10pm, & Wednesdays 7:00pm

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

ADORATION

St. Nicholas Church Thursday 8:30am to 12:00pm & Wednesday 6:00pm to 6:50pm

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

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

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in need of Anointing of the Sick, Confession, or Holy Communion, call the Parish Office for assistance

PARISH OFFICE 473 LINCOLN AVE., LOS ALTOS, CA 94022 **PHONE (650) 948 - 2158**

St. Nicholas Church 473 Lincoln Ave St. William Church 611 S. El Monte Ave Website: snswwparish.org

Good Saint Joseph

Fr. Matthew Stanley



Each of us, at different moments of our lives, may have to do that which may cause us anguish, which may require of us courage, which may lead us down a path where we may fear to walk. Joseph, the son of Jacob, from the line of David, must have dreaded this hour— this encounter with his destiny. He who could trace his ancestral line all the way back to Abraham—must have understood that one day—his life would be forever changed—if he dared to risk and trust the message of the angel.

Who among us can know the turmoil of Joseph, save for those who must uproot their family and brave the struggle of starting anew in a foreign land? Who among us can possess the courage of Joseph, save for those who are willing to cross that imaginary line that separates first and second-class citizens? Who among us can cast away our fears, like Joseph, save for those who are willing to embrace the unknown and the unforeseen mystery of God's providence?

For one instant in time, Joseph hesitated, pondering the world which for him was turning upside down. In the flash of a moment, he endured an inner turbulence that paralyzed his heart at the thought of accepting an invitation for which he would never have prayed. His mind was flooded with excuses and exhortations with which he might implore the Almighty to allow this “cup to pass him by.” but it is God who reveals to Joseph that he has a mission to fulfill regarding this child, who will be called Jesus. And that for Joseph is enough.

He responds to this “annunciation” without hesitation, without posing any questions, and without the least delay. Like Mary, Joseph believed in God, who sent his angel to him. Joseph agreed to what was asked of him. He was completely submissive, as an “upright man,” to the divine initiative. And “when Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had directed him and received [Mary] into his home as his wife.”

And so, whatever walk of life God has invited us to accept, whether priest or religious, married or single, let us look to St. Joseph, a true believer, as our mentor and our guide. Seeking his intercession, let us pray for peace and reconciliation in our lives, our nation, our Church, and our world, as we look forward in just a few short days to Christmas, the feast of God's life and God's love.

SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – Wednesday, December 24

4:00 pm, 6:00 pm,

9:00 pm (French)

& 11:00 pm

St. Nicholas Church

4:00 pm (**Christmas Pageant**) & 6:00 pm

St. William Church

Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

8:00 am & 10:00 am

St. Nicholas Church

9:00 am & 11:00 am

St. William Church



Parish Office – Holiday Hours
The Parish Office will close for the Christmas & New Year Holidays, December 24 – January 4. We will be open again on Monday, January 5, 2026.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



As our Advent preparations end and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give?

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we never hear St. Joseph speak, but the Scriptures tell us he was always listening, attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit for his family. It was Joseph who found the stable where the baby Jesus would be born. No doubt it was Joseph who cleaned it up and prepared it for Mary and Jesus since we know that Mary was about to give birth. Joseph protected the family, guarded them, and tended to their safety, their comfort, and their well-being at the expense of his own plans and preferences. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection, and service.

Let us imitate St. Joseph, then, as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God, who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL WORD PUZZLE

find 10 hidden words from today's Gospel

E	G	C	R	O	M	N	A	Y	V	C	R	J	J
X	M	B	U	O	C	M	N	M	T	Q	L	E	E
T	D	M	R	A	N	R	G	F	Z	B	S	A	J
Z	Q	S	A	Q	R	J	E	K	J	U	E	O	R
X	Y	A	C	N	U	G	L	J	S	C	S	V	Y
E	D	V	U	P	U	U	X	R	E	I	D		
F	A	I	T	H	S	E	X	N	P	M	X	H	S
Z	Q	O	S	S	V	M	L	H	U	A	K	E	X
M	O	R	E	Z	R	A	Y	G	W	E	D	S	M
S	X	V	D	A	V	I	D	F	V	R	U	K	H
Z	Q	Z	Y	H	J	L	H	G	W	D	Y	P	T
C	B	R	G	D	V	M	J	T	X	R	Y	B	R
O	A	J	S	J	W	H	D	U	N	Q	T	N	I
M	I	K	U	V	Z	U	X	N	J	V	J	L	B



Support Needed for Coffee & Donuts Ministry at St. William's

The Coffee and Donuts ministry at St. William is made possible entirely through volunteers who give their time to help create a welcoming space for fellowship. We are currently short of volunteers for the 9am Mass and may need to suspend the ministry unless more help comes forward. If this gathering has blessed you or your family, please consider volunteering so we can continue this important ministry, thank you!



Giving Tree – Thank You

Thank you for your extraordinary generosity! This year, you donated hundreds of Christmas gifts to our annual Giving Tree program. Because of your kindness, our Social Justice Committee, Bridges to Community, was able to deliver gift cards and much-needed support to several local organizations.

Your compassion brought joy, hope, and dignity to those most in need during these challenging times. We are deeply grateful for your continued generosity.



Children's Adoration

Saturday, January 10
1 pm to 2:30 pm
St. William Church
611 S. El Monte Blvd

Join us for a special Eucharistic Adoration especially designed for your children! We are excited to welcome Fr. Anthony Mary Pendergast from Children of Hope to guide us through this special adoration. This is the perfect way to share Christ with your children.

Let the Children Come to Me
Matthew 19:14



Happy Anniversary 83 Years – St. Nicholas Church

“The St. Nicholas story begins at St. Joseph’s in Mountain View. Founded in 1901, St. Joseph’s parish encompassed an immense area including Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, and Los Altos.” In the spring of 1940, Catholic women of Los Altos organized the Los Altos Catholic Women’s Club to raise money for a church. Their initiative stirred the interest of all Catholic in the community. Frank Marini and his sisters purchased the preferred site and offered it to Archdiocese of San Francisco in February of 1941. On Sunday morning, December 20, 1942, Archbishop John J. Mitty blessed and dedicated the Church of St. Nicholas. We give thanks and praise to God this coming Friday, December 20 for 83 years of celebrating our faith as One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.



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.



26ⁱⁿ '26 \$500 GIVEAWAY

Save Lives & Get 26 Chances to Win \$500

We're wishing our donors a prosperous 2026! To give you a head start, 26 will win a special thank-you gift. Donate Jan. 5-Feb. 8 for 26 chances to win a \$500 Rewards gift card, opt-in required!*

Saint Nicholas Saint William Blood Drive

Sunday, January 25, 2026
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saint Nicholas Parish Hall
473 Lincoln Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022

To schedule an appointment, go to www.vitalant.org and enter Blood Drive Code: **SNSW** or Scan QR Code



SCAN ME

*Terms and condition apply; see vitalant.org/26Giveaways

Find us @vitalant:



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THE SANCTUARY YOUTH SERIES

Finally, a faith-based mental health program for our teens

(includes separate parent class too)

We are grateful to be offering this program for eight Thursday nights starting Jan. 8, 2026

Sign up or learn more about this program on our website



Join us!

An Investment in Your Parish

For many years, our Catholic parishes & schools have benefited from the charitable gifts of appreciated property from many good and generous people. Year-end giving becomes an important consideration for many people in these last weeks of the year 2025. 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.



Attention Knitters and Crocheters! Time to start making baby items for our January Outfitting Newborns Collection for mothers in need. Collection dates: Jan. 18-19, 2026 and Jan. 24-25, 2026. Size 0-6 month knitted/crocheted items needed: cotton hats, cotton hat and bootie sets, and sweaters. Contact Karen Shea-Daley, 650 823-9085 for more information.

Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

Registration is still
OPEN ONLINE

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

3 to 5 years old

Faith Formation 1st to 5th

Sundays 10 to 11 am

January 11, 25

in St. William Hall

Christian Sacraments of Initiation

7 to 18 years old

9 to 11 am

Jan 10

in Teen Center downstairs at St. William

Edge 6th to 8th

Tuesdays 6:30 to 8:00pm

January 6, 13, 27

Intersection 9th to 12th

Sundays 6:00 to 8:30 pm

January 4, 11, 18, 25

in Teen Center downstairs at St. William

Confirmation 7th to 12th

2nd and 4th Sundays

12:00 noon to 1:30pm,

Jan 11 & 25

in Teen Center downstairs at St. William



Happy Fourth Week of Advent and Christmas!

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12816 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills

Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 21st – 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 am (SN) People of the Parish
9:00 am (SW) † Gertrud M. Kraenkel Novena by Loving Family; † Anthony Casa by Loving Family
10:00 am (SN) † Anne Rullo by The Garner Family; † Dr. & Mrs. Robert Gaspich by Mary Jane & James Gaspich
11:00 am (SW) Anastasia Grycz (Health) by Friends; Jean and Lyle Bird (Health) by Friends
12:00 pm (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
5:00 pm (SW) † Michael Burdick by Family; † Rustico Tensuan by Family
5:00 pm (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed

Monday, December 22nd – Advent Weekday

8:00 am (SN) † Natividad Zarraga by Family
12:10 pm (SN) † Carl Stallions by MDS

Tuesday, December 23rd – St. John of Kanty

8:00 am (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
12:10 pm (SN) † Florence DeMalta by MDS

Wednesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve

8:00 am (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
4:00 pm – Christmas Pageant (Livestream) (SW)
For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
4:00 pm – (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
6:00 pm – (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
6:00 pm – (SW) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
9:00 pm – (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed (French)
11:00 pm – (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed

Thursday, December 25th – Christmas Day

8:00 am (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
9:00 am (SW) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
10:00 am (SN) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
11:00 am (SW) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed

Friday, December 26th – St. Stephen

8:00 am (SN) † Joe Kostelec by Loving Family; † Maria Fatima Sousa by Jason P. Sousa

Saturday, December 27th

St. John the Apostle & Evangelist

7:00 am – Fr. Matt (Poor Clare) For the Souls of the Faithful Departed
8:00 am (SN) Nicholas (Birthday) by Loving Family
4:00 pm – Anticipated Mass (SW) † Daniel Almon by Loving Family

Sick relatives and friends

Let us pray for Benjamin Backs, Sarah Bond, Steve Castain, Tony Croft, James Franklin Farris, Richard Gorman, Pat Haley, Ramela Laptalo, Bart Miaullis, Blanca Nieto, Jason Orellana, Molly Oshatz, Ivana Panontin, Doug Sarver, and Keilana Soliven.

Jesus - please be a continuous source of strength & comfort for those in need.

Parishioners of Saint Nicholas and Saint William Parish are invited to share the name of a loved one (or themselves) for the prayer list. This prayer list is for those who are sick, hospitalized, or in need of healing. If you are submitting the name of someone other than yourself, we ask that you please obtain their permission. Please email: amy.blalockcastillo@dsj.org to add a name to the list. Thank you

Readings for the week of December 21, 2025

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79
Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8



Save the Date!
Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo
SPINGO!
Feb. 7th

December 28, 2025

The Holy Family

Saturday – (Anticipated)

(SN) 4:30pm – Fr. Stanley

Sunday Masses

(SN) 8:00am – Fr. Gazzingan

(SW) 9:00am – Fr. Kimm

(SN) 10:00am – Fr. Gazzingan

(SW) 11:00am – Fr. Stanley

(SW) 12:00pm – Fr. Bologo

(SN) 5:00pm – Fr. Didier (French)

(SW) 5:00pm – Fr. Stanley

The presider schedule is subject to change without notice.



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