

# ✦ OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH ✦

◆ Daly City, CA 94015-3424

**Rectory: 1 Elmwood Dr. — Church / Church Hall: 5 Elmwood Dr. — School: 7 Elmwood Dr.  
Parish Center / Religious Education Office / Convent: 15 Elmwood Dr.**

Established in 1954 — A Member of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco

## MASSES:

**Saturday Vigil:**  
4:00 & 5:30 p.m.

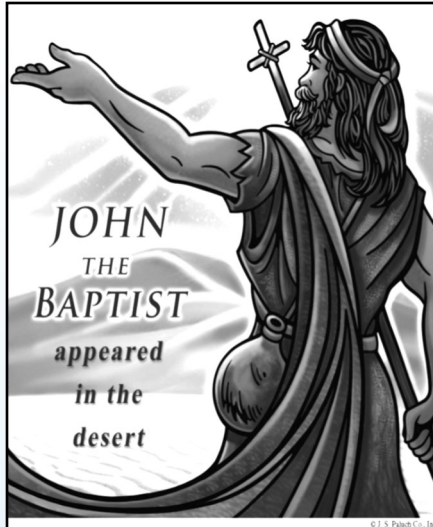
**Sunday:**  
7:30, 9:00, & 10:30 a.m.,  
and 12:00 p.m.

**Monday to Friday:**  
7:00 & 9:00 a.m.,  
*plus First Fridays*  
*at 6:00 p.m.*

**Saturdays :**  
at 9:00 a.m. only.

**Holy Days of Obligation:**  
*Vigil Mass @ 6:00p.m.*  
*Masses during the day :*  
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,  
& 6:00 p.m.

**December 10, 2017  
Second Sunday of Advent**



## BAPTISM:

1st and 3rd Saturdays at 12 noon. Sunday at 1:15pm  
Please call the

Rectory to inquire for the parents' and godparents preparation class.

**For grades 2-8, sign up for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC).**  
For grades 9 and above, call to learn more about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

## MARRIAGE:

2nd and 4th Saturdays at 12:00 p.m.  
Be sure to contact the Rectory at least six months before your anticipated wedding date.

## RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION:

Saturdays from 2:30 to 3:00 p.m. — or you may call the Rectory to make an appointment with any priest.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

Please call the Rectory for one of our priests to come. Our Eucharistic Ministers visit the homebound daily.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., concluding with Evening Prayer & Benediction at 6:00 p.m.  
**First Fridays: Benediction & Mass at 6:00 p.m.**

## OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS:

Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the Church, Novena and Mass.

## COMMUNAL RECITATION OF THE ROSARY:

Weekdays immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN:

Sundays during the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

### RECTORY STAFF — 1 Elmwood Drive:

Rev. Domingo Orimaco	Pastor
Rev. Bonifacio Espeleta, Jr.	Parochial Vicar
Deacon Mike Ghiorso	Permanent Deacon
Deacon Marcos Cobillas	Permanent Deacon
Grace Mangini, CPA	Parish Bookkeeper
Sr. Virginia Barcelona, RVM	Pastoral Associate
Susana Breneman	Parish Secretary

### SCHOOL STAFF — 7 Elmwood Drive:

Mr. Jeffrey Burgos	Principal
Ms. Beth Gorman	Assistant Principal
Sr. Eileen Pazmino, RSM	School Secretary
Mrs. Zarah Llemos	School Secretary
Sr. Ma. Rosabel Sare, RVM	School DRE

### PARISH CENTER STAFF — 15 Elmwood Drive:

Sr. Ovelyn Obliosca, RVM	Director of Religious Education
Ms. Laura Reyes	Director of Music

### IN RESIDENCE:

Rev. Rey Culaba, CSsR	Rectory
Sr. Ruth Linaac, RVM	Parish Center/Convent

### WEEKEND ASSISTANCE:

Sr. Catherine Nguyen, LHC	Church Sacristan
Bro. Douglas Draper, SJ	St. Ignatius College Preparatory

**PARISH WEBSITE: [www.olmcath.org](http://www.olmcath.org)**

**SCHOOL WEBSITE: [www.olmbulldogs.org](http://www.olmbulldogs.org)**

### ☎ Parish Telephone Numbers:

Rectory Office	(650) 755-2727
Religious Education Office	(650) 992-5769
Our Lady of Mercy School	(650) 756-3395
OLM School Extended Care	(650) 756-1181
Music Director & Organist	(415) 282-2241
Our Lady of Mercy Convent	(650) 992-5769

***The Rectory office is staffed Monday to Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.***

*On weekends and holidays,  
Our Lady of Mercy Rectory office is closed.*

Like a Shepherd



He feeds His Flock

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## NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, “Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God” (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a **SHEPHERD** leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

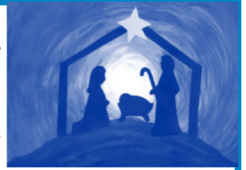
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*Rest in Peace*

Dell Clemena



# Christmas Traditions



Since Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ, it makes perfect sense to have the little scene of Christ in a manger under our tree. But why do we have all those other things — the tree, the stockings, Santa Claus, etc.? And since we don't know when Jesus was born, why is it December 25? Let's make some sense of it all.

Long before the birth of Jesus, or the beginnings of the Church, various pagan religions had celebrations around the Winter solstice. We know that it is usually on December 21, but these ancient cultures were not so precise, especially since their year was based on a lunar calendar rather than a solar calendar.

In Rome, there were two major celebrations around the solstice, *Natalis Solis Invicti*, which celebrated the birth of the Sun (which was considered a god), and *Saturnalia*, honoring the god of the harvest. When Christianity became the dominant religion in the Roman Empire, the people still celebrated these long held traditions. Since the Gospels really give no information as to the day Christ was born, in 353 A.D. Pope Liberius officially declared that Christ's birthday would now be celebrated on December 25. As a result, the new feast day supplanted the old feast days, but many of the old ways worked their way into this new feast.

In many of the Celtic lands to the north of Rome, the winter was ruled by the Holly King (thus holly around the house) or the Winter King, sometimes called the Yule Spirit (thus the term yuletide). Even farther north, Odin was the god who took the other gods on a hunt at Yule. Odin had an eight legged horse called Sleipner, which could run quietly and could not be caught (thus our word “slippery”). Children would leave their boots filled with hay for Sleipner to eat, and Odin would reward them with fruits and candies in their boots. From this comes our practice of hanging stockings by the fire.

Likewise, in Norse mythology, there were little elves who could do good or bad to people. It was believed that putting out a star would keep the bad ones away. Put this together with the Star of David on the Jesse tree in Jewish tradition (Book of Isaiah) and the star over the manger that guided the wise men, is there any surprise that we put a star on top of our tree?

The use of fir trees dates back to St. Boniface trying to convert the German tribes. The tribes worshipped an old oak tree, so Boniface cut it down and a fir tree grew in its place. Thus the fir became a symbol of Christianity.

Finally we come to St. Nicholas, a Greek bishop who lived in the fourth century. He helped three Christian girls avoid prostitution by throwing a bag of gold through the window so they would have a dowry to get married. His care for children was so great that after his death he was named the patron saint of children.

The Norse people gave gifts in the name of Odin at this time of year, so the Christians replaced Odin with St. Nicholas. When the Dutch came to America, they brought these practices and used their name for St. Nicholas, *Sinterclass*, Santa Claus.

Kris Kringle, by the way, likely comes from *Christ Kindl*, Christ child, so please don't forget to remember him as we exchange gifts in celebration of his birth.

After all, he gave us the greatest gift possible! ~DN

Day	Time	Mass Intentions for the coming week: <i>December 11, 2017 - December 17, 2017</i>	
Mon 11	7:00am 9:00am 6:00pm	Matilda Tanudtanud + Souls In Purgatory Souls In Purgatory	BE DO BE
Tue 12	7:00am 9:00am	Teresa Mata Nguyen + Geraldine Da Costa +	BE BE
Wed 13	7:00am 9:00am	Cesar Jimenez Norberto Arqueza –In Thanksgiving	BE DO
Thu 14	7:00 am 9:00am	Jose Jimenez St. Anne –In Thanksgiving	DO DO
Fri 15	7:00am 9:00am 7:30pm	Jonathan Jimenez Ricardo de la Cruz + Our Lady of Mercy School	RC BE DO
Sat 16	9:00am 4:00pm 5:30pm	Melma Tengco + Christopher Marston + OLM Knights of Columbus	DO RC BE
Sun 17	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 7:30pm	John Minkel + Remigio Lacsamana + Bob Vendil + Bill Arata + OLPH Devotees	BE DO BE DO RC

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
Sun., Dec. 10	10:30 a.m. 1:15 p.m.	Liturgy of the Word for Children Baptism of __	Church Church
Mon., Dec. 11	6:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions	Church
Tue., Dec. 12	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Cantor Practice Choir Practice	Parish Center Music Room Parish Center Music Room
Wed., Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting	Parish Center SVdP Room
Thu., Dec. 14	6:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary	Parish Center Music Room
Fri., Dec. 15	1:00 p.m. 9:30am - 6:00pm 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Charismatic Prayer Group meeting Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration Evening Prayer + Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament Youth Ministry	Parish Center Library Church Church Parish Center Library
Sat., Dec. 16	10:00 a.m. 2:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Lay Carmelites Meeting Confessions	Church Hall Kitchen Church
Sun., Dec. 17	10:30 a.m. 1:15 p.m.	Liturgy of the Word for Children Baptism of	Church Church

Our Traditional Simbang Gabi or Novena of Masses before Christmas will start on **Dec. 15 to 23rd @ 7:30p.m.** preceded by confession and rosary at 7:00 p.m. Please mark your calendar !!

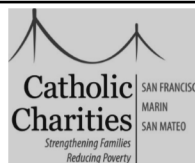
**Our Lady of Mercy Parish  
Simbang Gabi & Christmas Mass Schedules for  
2017**

- **Friday, Dec. 15 to Saturday, Dec. 23:**  
7:00pm Rosary and Confession  
(except Saturday, 2:30pm)  
7:30pm Simbang Gabi Masses  
(except Saturday, 5:30pm)  
Followed by a Reception downstairs in our Church Hall
- **Sunday, December 24:**  
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12noon  
4:00pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass  
6:00pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass  
11:30pm Sing Along Christmas Carols  
12:00 am MIDNIGHT MASS with our  
Parish Choir
- **Monday, December 25: CHRISTMAS DAY @**  
7:30am, 9am,  
10:30am, with our Children's choir  
12noon, with our Parish Choir
- **Sunday, DECEMBER 31 Masses:**  
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12noon
- **Monday, JAN. 1, 2018 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Masses are at:**  
7:00am, 9:00am & 6:00pm

**Traditional Christmas Carols**

Come join Pro Life people singing  
in **honor** of our **Savior** born on Christmas  
and in **Remembrance** of those babies **Not** born  
*due to being aborted.*

Where: Planned Parenthood sidewalk  
35 Baywood Ave, San Mateo  
When: Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017, 6pm-7pm  
Who: All welcome  
Note: Sheet music & candles provided;  
Recommended to dress warmly  
More info: Jessica 650-572-1468



**IMMIGRATION WORKSHOPS**  
MONDAY Dec. 4, 11, 18 from 8:30am—  
8:00pm  
**Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigrant Services**  
36 37th Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403

For their own safety, it is recommended that every immigrant get an immigration consultation with authorized individuals and organizations. Thanks to the generosity of the Mexican Consulate, Catholic Refugee & Immigrant Services in San Mateo will be conducting three all day immigration consultation workshops for Mexican nationals. The workshops will take place on Dec. 4, 11, and 18 from 8:30am to 8:00pm. It is not necessary to make an appointment. Remember to bring with you're your birth certificate, *matricula consular* or Mexican passport.  
For more information, call 650-295-2160

**Second Sunday of  
Advent**

**December 10, 2017**

Prepare the way of the  
Lord, make straight his  
paths.

— *Mark 1:3*



**TODAY'S READINGS**

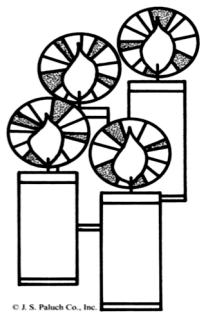
**First Reading** — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Psalm** — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Sunday:** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent;  
International Human Rights Day

Monday: St. Damasus I

Tuesday: Our Lady of Guadalupe;  
Hanukkah begins at sunset

Wednesday: St. Lucy

Thursday: St. John of the Cross

Saturday: *Las Posadas* begins

Prepare Ye  
the Way  
of the Lord



# The People of O.L.M.

## Committees

Parish Pastoral Council  
Parish Finance Committee  
Parish Social Committee  
Principal's Advisory Council  
Liturgy Committee

## Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers,  
Ushers, Cantors, Parish Choir, Children's  
Choir, Youth Ministry

## Spiritual Development

Bible Study Group  
Charismatic Prayer Group  
Third Order Carmelites  
Legion of Mary  
Singles for Christ

## Service and Social Organizations

Saint Vincent de Paul Society  
Young at Heart Club  
Knights of Columbus

## Parish Bulletin Staff

Susan Breneman, Mr. Denis Nolan

## Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy!

If you worship with us each week, please fill out this form and become an **official** member of the parish. By registering, you get on our mailing list and let us know you are willing to support your parish through your time, talents and treasure—the privilege of every Catholic.

Registered members of OLM Parish are encouraged to request a box of Sunday offering envelopes from the Rectory and help us financially through the collection, so that we can continue to provide the services you need.

In addition, all **registered** members of the parish are eligible to celebrate important sacramental events at OLM:

- Baptism and Confirmation of their children,
- Weddings and Marriage Anniversaries,
- Funeral Services for loved ones, etc.

*If you are just visiting from another parish, we do hope you enjoy your OLM experience today!*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# *Laser- Com Cover Sheet*

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