

# The Nativity of the Lord — Christmas

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST – *Roman Martyrology*

The Twenty-fifth day of December,  
 when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world,  
 when God in the beginning created heaven and earth,  
 and formed man in his own likeness;  
 when century upon century had passed since the Almighty set his bow in the  
 clouds after the Great Flood,  
 as a sign of the covenant and peace;  
 in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith,  
 came out of the Ur of the Chaldees;  
 in the thirteenth century since the people of Israel were led  
 by Moses in the Exodus of Egypt;  
 around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;  
 in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;  
 in the one hundred and ninety fourth Olympiad,  
 in the year seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of Rome;  
 in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus,  
 the whole world being at peace,  
 JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,  
 desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence,  
 was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 and when nine months had passed since his conception,  
 was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man:  
 The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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 2011. The knowledge that your gifts is assisting and advancing the mission of the Catholic Church can bring about

 <b>Our Weekly Offering</b>	
Goal .....	\$11,000.00
December 18th .....	TBA
St. Vincent de Paul .....	TBA

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 Chuck Tully (ctully@dsj.org) or (650) 494-2496.

### Please Pray



**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Msgr. William Lenane, Fr. Thierry Geris, Diane Zscheile, Sr. Jeannette Donnelly, Norman Swope, Mary Fong, Devin Wakefield, Des Fitzgerald, Robert Kerrigan Sr., Lorraine Dabney, Frank Briggs Sr., Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Charles Horngren, Ramona Thille, Paul Vavuris, Donna Rehder, Venerando Baltazar, Maria Marszal, Patricia Tighe, Fr. Raymond Maher, Vera Leung, Lawrence Barrett Jr., Clothilda Rita Wait



Pray For Lists guidelines: • Have permission from the person to be listed. • Go through the Pastoral Home Ministry to list the names. • Names will be on the list for 3 months and then be removed. • Can request names to be continued after 3 months. Contact the Pastoral Home Ministry 650-494-2496 x22 or [fongmt@hotmail.com](mailto:fongmt@hotmail.com)

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 25:  
 8:45 am STA... Vince Giovannotto †  
 9:00 am SAG ... Florencio & Maria Nieves Pedron †  
*Readings: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]*

Monday, December 26: St. Stephen  
 8:30 am OLR ... Vuong Van Bac †  
 12:15 pm STA .. Gerolomo Cesano †  
*Readings: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22*

Tuesday, December 27: St. John  
 12:15 pm STA .. James Cesano Sr. †  
*Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8*

Wednesday, December 28:  
*Readings: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18*

Thursday, December 29: St. Thomas Becket  
 8:30 am OLR ... The Baker Family †  
*Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35*

Friday, December 30:  
*Readings: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]*

Saturday, December 31: St. Sylvester I  
 12:15 pm STA .. All Souls †  
*Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18*

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday Dec 31 & Jan 1, 2011

St. Albert the Great  
 Sat 5:00 pm ..... Fr. Stanley  
 Sun 9:00 am ..... Fr. Stanley  
 Sun 11:00 am ..... Fr. Hernandez

St. Thomas Aquinas  
 Sun 7:30 am ..... Fr. Hester  
 Sun 8:45 am ..... Msgr. Sandersfeld  
 Sun 10:30 am ..... Fr. Stanley  
 Sun 12 noon ..... TBA

Our Lady of the Rosary  
 Sun 9:00 am ..... Fr. Valenton  
 Sun 10:30 am ..... Fr. Valenton  
 Sun 6:00 pm Youth ..... No Mass

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
11:30 am ... Byzantine Liturgy (SAGH)

Monday, December 26: *No RCIA*  
7:00 pm .... TMC (TH)  
7:30 pm .... Green Committee (PC)

Tuesday, December 27:  
7:00 pm .... Knights of Columbus (OLRH)  
7:30 pm .... Green Committee (PC)

Wednesday, December 28: The Holy Innocents  
9:30 am .... Bldg. & Maintenance (PC)

Thursday, December 29: *No Centering Prayer*  
10:00 am ... Faith Sharing (SAGH)  
12:00 pm ... Ignatian Spirituality (STAH)  
5:30 pm .... STAYouth (DC)

Friday, December 30: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Saturday, December 31:  
8:00 am .... Environment Team (OLR)

*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

— John 1:5

## CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST  
5:00 pm – St. Albert the Great

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST

7:30 am – St. Thomas Aquinas  
8:45 am – St. Thomas Aquinas  
9:00 am – Our Lady of the Rosary (*Spanish*)  
9:00 am – St. Albert the Great  
10:30 am – Our Lady of the Rosary  
10:30 am – St. Thomas Aquinas  
12:00 noon – St. Thomas Aquinas (*Gregorian*)  
6:00 pm – *No Mass*

EPIPHANY – JANUARY 7TH – 8TH  
Regular Weekend Mass schedule



## RCIA

DO YOU KNOW ANYBODY INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?  
DO YOUR FRIENDS OR FAMILY MEMBERS WANT TO BE CONFIRMED?

If the answer to either of these questions is “Yes” then please encourage them to call and make an appointment with Jean at 650-494-2496 X34. Adults already-baptized in other Christian traditions who are interested in Catholicism are also candidates for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

Help bring people to the Way of Jesus. With our own baptism comes the grace of the Holy Spirit that gives us the courage to be evangelists and help lead others to Christ. Often it only takes asking: “Have you thought about becoming Catholic?” or, “Have you ever considered completing your Initiation Sacraments?” Do not be shy. Be bold in the vineyard of the Lord.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FUNDRAISER



On Wednesday, December 14th, Jerry Lucha, Fundraiser Chair, and John Uebbing, Financial Secretary of our own Council #2677 of the Knights of Columbus delivered the proceeds of the Knights’ recently concluded fundraiser for “People With Intellectual Disabilities” to the local organizations chosen as beneficiaries of this year’s efforts.



The photos show Jerry delivering the checks to Kimberly Farrar, director of children’s development services at Abilities United and Karin Klarreich, director of development for Achieve Kids (John is behind the camera).

Our thanks go out to everyone in the parish who contributed to the Knights ‘yellow can’ drive and to those members who worked hard in gathering the donations.

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# December 25, 2011

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## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

25 and 50+ Silver and Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration, February 4, 2012, 2:00 pm

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph, 80 South Market Street, San José — Bishop Patrick J. McGrath of the Diocese of San Jose would like to invite all couples celebrating their 25th, 40th and 50th (or more) Wedding Anniversaries in 2012 to participate in the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph in downtown San Jose.

The couples will be invited to renew their wedding vows and will receive a blessing from Bishop Patrick McGrath who will preside over the celebration. Each couple will also receive a certificate signed by the Bishop.

The Mass will be on February 4, 2012 at 2pm. A short reception will follow after. Please visit your parish office or call Sylvia Blanch ([blanch@dsj.org](mailto:blanch@dsj.org)) at 408-983-0128, or visit [www.dsj.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass](http://www.dsj.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass) for more information and to register. Pre-registration is required by January 25, 2012. Due to limited seats, please reserve seats only for anniversary couples and handicapped. Doors open at 12:30pm. Please limit number of guests attending to 8.

## YOUNG ADULT CIRCLE

Young Adult Bible Study, Tues. Jan. 10th at 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of the Rosary, 3233 Cowper St, Palo Alto

We will be starting a new topic, "Genesis to Jesus" <http://tinyurl.com/GenesisToJesus> and plan on meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next lesson "On the way to the Promised Land" will focus on God's covenant with Israel at Sinai. Please join us even if you have never attended a Bible study before! For more info, see our website, [www.YoungAdultCircle.org](http://www.YoungAdultCircle.org), check the Facebook Fan Page "Young Adult Circle", or contact us [atyacircle@gmail.com](mailto:atyacircle@gmail.com).

## SIGN-UP FOR "NEW" ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM

Now at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish you can automate your weekly donation. You can sign-up online by visiting [www.paloaltocatholic.org](http://www.paloaltocatholic.org) and click the Online Giving icon on the homepage. Your Sunday Offertory donations, as well as gifts to our Second Collections, will be automatically transferred from either your checking or savings account. Or use your credit card! A one-time enrollment will allow you to regularly contribute to St. Thomas Aquinas without remembering the extra step of writing a check and finding your envelopes. Online Giving is safe, easy and convenient for you and it helps us! Questions, call Cathy Miller (650) 494-2496 ext. 24.