

# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

YEAR OF FAITH – THE HOLY FAMILY— HELD TOGETHER BY LOVE

The Holy Family of Nazareth, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, are put before us by the Church this Sunday as a model for our families.

What kept The Holy Family together was their 'love for each other and God.' The heart of the Church is the family. What holds our families together in times of difficulty is love and forgiveness. One of the greatest threats facing families today is simply that we don't spend enough time together. We are so busy working, or socializing, or watching TV, or surfing the Internet that we have less and less time for each other. Spending time together with the family is a way of showing our family that we love them.

If ever our families fail in any way, it is because of a lack of love on someone's part. Whenever our families are successful, it is because they are places of love.

So as we approach the New Year, let us pray that our families will conquer all difficulties through love for each other and faith in God.

Deacon Daniel Hernandez

## A CHRISTMAS "THANK YOU" FROM YOUR PARISH STAFF

Thank you for your expressions of kindness and love, for your remembrance of us in your prayers, and for your generous support of our work throughout the year. We are privileged to be called to serve you. We also extend our deepest gratitude to those who helped prepare our churches for Christmas. We are also grateful to those who donated cash gifts towards our poinsettias and flowers. A special thank you to all those who served as Environment Team, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Hospitality Ministers and Ushers, Musicians, and Choir Members. All of you made this a prayerful and festive Christmas.

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Thank you for your generosity in this year's Christmas collection. Although we are not yet able to give you a complete report of the size of your gift given in that collection, we assure you that the love which these gifts represent will enable us to continue the work which we must undertake here at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. If you were not prepared for our Christmas collection, we encourage you still to make your gift. Your generosity will help us more than you can imagine.



### Our Weekly Offering

Dec 16 Actual: \$11,000 \* Goal: \$11,000  
St. Vincent de Paul: \$5,250



### Please Pray

**FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** — Norman Swope, Devin Wakefield, Robert Kerrigan Sr., William McNerny, Theresa Diulus, Fr. Thierry Geris, Douglas Flein, Consuelo Hernandez, Kathy Gibbs, George Kimm, John Braun, Bill Jodd, Lester Connelly, Lil Nguyen, Tom Kocal, Rochelle Ford, Gary Goodahl, Carl Bunje, Renee Thompson, Joan Campbell

**FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED** — Betty Stivala, Elizabeth Hiegel, George Locke, Barbara Torpin, Frances Galea, Virginia Marovich, Jerry McGovern, Gary Fazzino, Francis Tucker O'Brien, Marguerite Purcell, Kathleen Briggs Kerrigan, Maria Eliza Fernandez

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 30:

9:00 am SAG ... Thanksgiving Jackie Diouf (sp. int.)

Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Monday, December 31: St. Sylvester I

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday, January 1:

8:30 am OLR ... Benito Viray †

12:15 pm STA .. Florencio & Maria Nieves Pedron †

Readings: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Wednesday, January 2: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

8:30 am OLR ... Elizabeth Leon Guerrero (health)

Readings: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Thursday, January 3:

8:30 am OLR ... Antonio R. Palomo †

Readings: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Friday, January 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 am OLR ... Rachel Martinez (health)  
12:15 pm STA .. Jim Gass †

Readings: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Saturday, January 5: St. John Neumann

5:00 pm SAG ... Thomas & Sons (sp. int.)

Readings: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

## PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday January 5 & 6, 2013

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm ..... Fr. Seimas

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. Seimas

Sun 12 noon ..... TBD

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am ..... Fr. Valenton

Sun 10:30 am ..... Fr. Stanley

Sun 6:00 pm Youth ..... Fr. Valenton

# St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, December 30: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
4:00 pm ..... STAYouth (DC)

Monday, December 31: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; New Year's Eve; *Pastoral Center Closed*

Tuesday, January 1: The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day; *Pastoral Center Closed*

Wednesday, January 2:  
10:00 am ..... Adult Spirituality (PC)  
7:00 pm ..... Community Life (PC)

Thursday, January 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
7:00 pm ..... Centering Prayer (DC)

Friday, January 4: First Friday  
7:00 pm ..... Adoration (OLRH)  
7:30 pm ..... Hispanic Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, January 5: First Saturday  
8:00 am ..... Environment Team (OLR)  
10:00 am ..... One Day (DC)

## PASTORAL CENTER HOURS

Our Pastoral Center will close for the New Year Holidays. We will be open again on Wednesday, January 2, 2013. Happy New Year!



## BECOMING CATHOLIC...

Do you have an interest in becoming Catholic? Were you baptized as a child but have not received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation? Our adult inquiry sessions continue all year long. For more information about the process, please call Jean Ramacciotti (650) 494-2496 ext. 34 or [jramacciotti@dsj.org](mailto:jramacciotti@dsj.org)

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY –  
DECEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup>

Regular Weekend Mass schedule

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE –  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

Our New Year's Day Mass will be at 8:30 am

Our Lady of the Rosary Church

Rosary for Peace at 8:00 am

We invite you to this prayerful way to begin the New Year.

Although there is no obligation to attend Mass on this Holy Day, we encourage all who are able to join us in this celebration.

Gregorian Latin Mass at 12:00 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Church

EPIPHANY – JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> – 6<sup>TH</sup>

Regular Weekend Mass schedule

## ANNUAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REPORT 2011-2012

In light of the tremendous generosity of our parishioners, our local St. Vincent de Paul Conference provided over \$60,000 worth of assistance to the poor, needy, and downtrodden. We express our deep and sincere gratitude to our St. Vincent de Paul members who minister in the name of Christ with love and compassion. Visit our website for a more detailed report.

## IRELAND PILGRIMAGE

It's that time again! Fr. Matt will be leading a pilgrimage to the Emerald Isle where we will spend some time in the Waterford area, Killarney, Galway, Connemara, Knock, Sligo and Dublin. This is a beautiful country and we will surely have a grand old time! We will depart the states on August 19, 2013 and return on August 29 unless you opt for the extended trip to London for four days. If you do, you will return on September 1. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Fr. Matt at 650-494-2496 ext. 12 or [mstanley@dsj.org](mailto:mstanley@dsj.org). I hope to see many of you on this special pilgrimage!

## SIGN UP FOR THE PARISH eBULLETIN

The parish eBulletin is sent to 315+ parish families every Friday morning. It includes reminders, announcements and articles of interest to the parish. Because of the electronic format, we are able to include more content than the Sunday paper bulletin as well as provide last minute announcements. We will not share your email address with any other organization, commercial entity, or individual person. There are green sheets in each of our vestibules – just add your email address and drop it in the basket or send an email request to [ebulletin@paloaltocatholic.org](mailto:ebulletin@paloaltocatholic.org). We encourage you to sign up!

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# December 30, 2012

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## 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 2012. The knowledge that your gift is 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 Chuck Tully (ctully@dsj.org) or (650) 494-2496.

## WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

The Widows and Widowers will meet at Harry's Hofbrau on 1909 El Camino in Redwood City on January 10th. We will have a room after 5 p.m. For reservations call Winnie by January 6th at 650 493 6823 or Helen at 327-1028.

## SILVER AND GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Bishop Patrick J. McGrath would like to invite all couples celebrating their 25th, 40th and 50th (or more) Wedding Anniversaries in 2013 to participate in the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph in downtown San Jose. The Mass will be on Feb 9, 2013 at 2 pm. A short reception will follow. Please contact the Pastoral Center or refer to our website [paloaltocatholic.org](http://paloaltocatholic.org) to register.

## YOUNG ADULT CIRCLE

Young Adult Bible Study, Tues. Jan. 8th at 7:30 pm, Our Lady of the Rosary – We are meeting to discuss Vatican II documents that Pope Benedict is encouraging us to study as part of the Year of Faith. We meet regularly on the first Tuesday of each month and we welcome you to join us!

Dinner at Pluto's, Tues. Jan. 15th at 7:30 pm, 482 University Ave., Palo Alto – The Young Adult group meets for its monthly social gathering. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook Page "Young Adult Circle" or contact us at [yacircle@gmail.com](mailto:yacircle@gmail.com).

Young Adult Mass, Tues. Jan. 29th at 7:30 pm, St. Simon Church, 1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos – Celebrate the Eucharist with young adults (20's and 30's, single or married) from this and neighboring parishes with fellowship to follow.

For more info, see our website, [www.YoungAdultCircle.org](http://www.YoungAdultCircle.org), check the Facebook Fan Page "Young Adult Circle", or contact us at [yacircle@gmail.com](mailto:yacircle@gmail.com).