

St. Nicholas & St. William Parishes



St. Nicholas Catholic Church

473 Lincoln Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022

- Telephone (650) 948-2158
- Fax (650) 948-2056
- Website: stnickcc.org
- Email: stnicholas@dsj.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00PM (Vigil)
 Sunday 8:00AM,
 9:15AM (Children),
 10:45AM, 12:15PM
 Mon-Thur 7:30AM
 Friday 8:00AM
 Holy Day 7:30AM,
 6:00PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30-4:30PM or
by appointment.

First Friday of the Month

Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament 8:30AM - 9:30AM

St. William Catholic Church

611 S. El Monte Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022

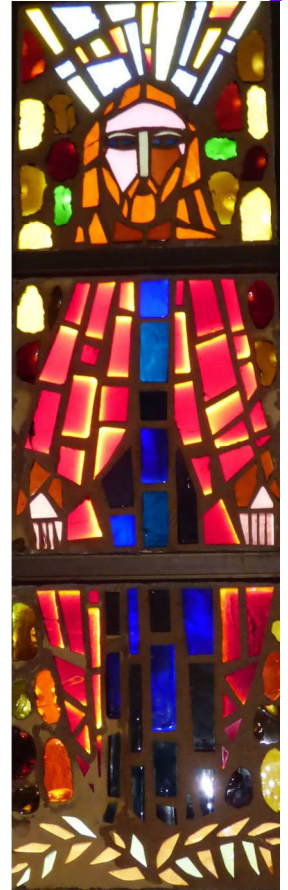
- Telephone (650) 559-2080
- Fax (650) 948-8508
- Website: stwcc.org
- Email: emailstwilliam@dsj.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday 8:30AM
 5:00PM (Vigil)
 Sunday 9:00AM,
 10:45AM,
 5:00PM (Youth)
 Mon-Fri 8:30AM
 Holy Day 7:00PM (Vigil),
 8:30AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-4:30PM or
by appointment.



Clergy

Rev. John L. Poncini, Pastor jponcini@dsj.org
 Rev. Enzie J. Lagattuta, Parochial Vicar elagattuta@dsj.org
 Francis Kalaw, Pastoral Year Seminarian. nkalaw@dsj.org

St. Nicholas Parish Staff

Lupe Butterbrodt, Parish Secretary stnicholas@dsj.org
 David Cortese, Jr., Director, Faith Formation dcortese@dsj.org
 Lidia Fiandero, Business Manager lfiandero@dsj.org
 Jim Tomasello, Facilities Manager jtomasello@dsj.org
 Michael Wright, Director, Liturgy and Music mwright@dsj.org
 Marie Yeap, Faith Formation Assistant myeap@dsj.org

St. Nicholas School

12816 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos Hills, CA 94022 (650) 941-4056
 Matt Komar, Principal mattkomar@stnicholaslah.com

St. William Parish Staff

Tim Butterbrodt, Maintenance tbutterbrodt@dsj.org
 David Cortese, Jr., Director, Faith Formation dcortese@dsj.org
 Lidia Fiandero, Business Manager lfiandero@dsj.org
 Sr. Joan Panella, S.N.D, PM Administrative Assistant jpanella@dsj.org
 Gary Soals, Director, Music Ministry gsoals@dsj.org
 Adrianna Stankovich, AM Administrative Assistant astankovich@dsj.org
 Marie Yeap, Faith Formation Assistant myeap@dsj.org

Sacrament of Infant Baptism

Please contact the parish office.

Christian Initiation of Adults, Teens, & Children

Those wishing to inquire into the Catholic faith or baptized Catholics wishing to complete their initiation Sacraments, please contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples must contact the priest at least six months prior to the desired wedding date.

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Elderly

Hospitalized, ill, or homebound parishioners, who would like a visitor, Eucharist, or the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the parish office.

Office Hours

St. Nicholas Parish

Mon-Thurs: 8:00AM - 4:30PM
(closed 12:00-1:30PM)
Friday: 8:00AM - 12:00PM

St. William Parish

Mon-Fri: 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(closed 12:00-1:30PM)



**Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday, December 8th
Holy Day of Obligation**

Masses:

Dec. 7....7:00pm (vigil) St. William
Dec. 8....7:30am St. Nicholas
8:30am St. William
6:00pm St. Nicholas

This Week At St. Nicholas and St. William...
(View complete calendar at: stnickcc.org or www.stwcc.org)

Sun., December 6

10:00AM Hospitality Sunday - St. William Hall
10:45AM Faith Formation - St. William Hall
2:00PM St. Nicholas Concert - St. Nicholas Church
4:00PM SW 5pm Choir Rehearsal - St. William Church
6:00PM theIntersection Teen Ministry - SW Sr. E Teen Center

Mon., December 7

5:45PM Faith Formation - St. William Hall
6:00PM Edge/Confirmation

Tue., December 8

9:00AM O.L. Perpetual Help Prayer - St. William Church
7:00PM SN Liturgy Committee - St. Nicholas Upper Room

Wed., December 9

11:30AM CoDA - St. William Sr. E Teen Center
7:00PM Baptism Class - St. William Sr. E Teen Center
7:00PM Taize Prayer - St. Nicholas Church
7:15PM Alpha Bible Study - St. Nicholas Hall

Thurs., December 10

3:30PM Advent Reconciliation - St. William Hall
7:00PM Advent Reconciliation - St. William Hall
7:00PM RCIA - St. Nicholas Hall
7:00PM AA Meeting - St. William Sr. E Teen Center

Fri., December 11

Sat., December 12

Sun., December 13

10:45AM Faith Formation - St. William Hall
1:30PM Baptismal Class - St. Nicholas Upper Room
2:00PM St. William Christmas Concert - St. William Church
4:00PM SW 5pm Choir Rehearsal - St. William Church
6:00PM theIntersection Teen Ministry - SW Sr. E Teen Center

*Welcome to
St. Nicholas and St. William*

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived to our parishes. We thank God for you. If you are not registered at one of our parishes, please fill out this form and place in the collection basket or mail to the parish office.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

___ Interested in joining the parish, please send registration

___ Change of address / phone / email

___ Moving away, please remove from list

How did you hear about our parish? _____

Catholic Cemetery of the Diocese of San Jose

Call for pre-need or at-need arrangements.

Gate of Heaven Cemetery

22555 Cristo Rey Dr., Los Altos, CA 94024 (650) 428-3730

Mass Assignments for December 12 & 13

St. Nicholas Church

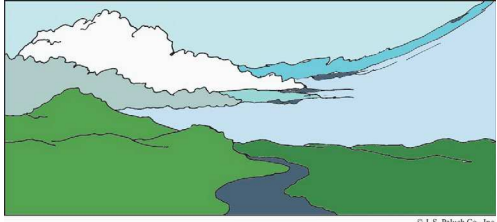
5:00PM - Fr. John Poncini
8:00AM - Fr. John Poncini
9:15AM - Fr. John Poncini
10:45AM - Fr. Paul Soukup
12:15PM - Fr. John Poncini

St. William Church

5:00PM - Fr. Enzie Lagattuta
9:00AM - Fr. Enzie Lagattuta
10:45AM - Fr. Enzie Lagattuta
5:00PM - Fr. Enzie Lagattuta

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements for St. Nicholas/St. William Sunday bulletin needs to be submitted 2 weeks in advance. Please email announcements to stnicholas@dsj.org or mail to St. Nicholas Parish, 473 Lincoln Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022.



Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2015

God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low.

— Baruch 5:7

From the Pastor

© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

Dear Parishioners,

This week we are celebrating three wonderful liturgical events. Advent, the Immaculate Conception of Mary, and on that same day Pope Frances declared the beginning of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.

Why did he chose the feast of the Immaculate Conception to begin the Year of Mercy? Historically, this is the day that Pope Paul VI solemnly concluded the Second Vatican Council 50 years ago, on 8 December 1965. Spiritually, the Vatican II Council took place in a Marian Setting as Pope Paul VI declared Mary, the Mother of God, the Patroness of the Council.

Many of the faithful don't know what the Immaculate Conception of Mary is and why it is such an important Solemnity in the Church. In the Apostolic Constitution, "Ineffabilis Deus" Pope Pius IX wrote that ***We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful.***

Mary played an intricate role in the History of Salvation when she gave God the perfect "Yes" ***"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."*** (Lk 1:38) What better way to start off the new liturgical year than with Mary the Merciful Mother of Jesus leading the way of the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

People have asked me, what is mercy and why is mercy such an important attribute of God? Mercy is in reality the core of the Gospel message; it is the name of God Himself, the face with which He reveals Himself in the Old Testament and fully in Jesus Christ, the Incarnation of creative and redemptive love. This love of mercy also illuminates the face of the Church, and is manifested through the sacraments, in particular that of reconciliation, as well as in works of charity.

God wants us to participate in his mercy and be merciful to others. Mercy is a virtue that influences a person's compassion for another. Mercy inspires the desire to ease another's misfortunes or suffering in either body or soul. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy are charitable actions that extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. The works of mercy are more than gestures or obligations, but rather acts of love for our neighbor as a response to our deep love for God. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy work together as paths to Salvation. They give Christians ways to live according to Jesus' Great Commandment.

As we begin the Year of Mercy, let us take some time out of our busy schedule to reflect on how we can best imitate and practice the merciful love of Jesus through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

Father John Poncini

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead



This Sunday we celebrated the first step in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults with three men and two women at the 9 o'clock Mass at St. William and three men at the 10:45 Mass at St. Nicholas. This public step follows several months of preparation with regular Thursday evening meetings.

For one of the men at each church, this rite marks their acceptance into the Church in the Order of Catechumens. Each one is signed with the Sign of the Cross and anointed with the Oil of Catechumens with a prayer for strength for this journey to Easter.

For the others, this is a rite of Welcome. These men and women are already one with us by Baptism. They, too, were signed and they bless themselves with water from the font as a renewal of their commitment to follow Christ.

We, the Assembly of the Faithful, pledge to support these men and women with our prayer and witness, by meeting them and inviting them to share in our company and our service to others.

Advent Reconciliation Service!

Prepare for the Christmas Season by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent!



Thursday,
December 10
3:30pm & 7:00pm
at
St. William Church

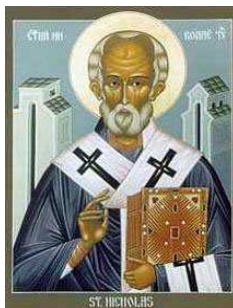


Wednesday evenings during the Advent Season

December 9, 16, & 23
7:00pm at St. Nicholas Church

Taizé prayer whose origins stem from Taizé France, is a popular form of ecumenical meditative prayer, which includes scripture, psalmody, intercessory prayer, meditative singing and moments of silence. Come and share in this relaxing form of prayer during this beautiful season.

St. Nicholas Music Ministry & Community present



St. Nicholas Feast Concert

Sunday, December 6

*12:15pm Mass celebrated by
Bishop Patrick J. McGrath*

1:15pm Refreshments in the Parish Hall

2:00pm Concert in the Church

Program includes:

*Los Altos High School Main Street Singers
St. Nicholas Adult Choir & Children's Choir*

All Are Welcome to Attend!



St. William Christmas Concert & Party

On December 13th at 2:00pm, the Saint William choirs will present their annual Christmas Concert.


This will be followed by the Parish Christmas Party in the parish hall.

If you could bring a dessert or small dish contact Marian Verlot at 650-209-5618 or mverlot@hotmail.com or call the St. William parish office.

We encourage all of you to attend and support our choirs here at Saint William.



Reminder:
The Giving Tree
Gifts are due today.

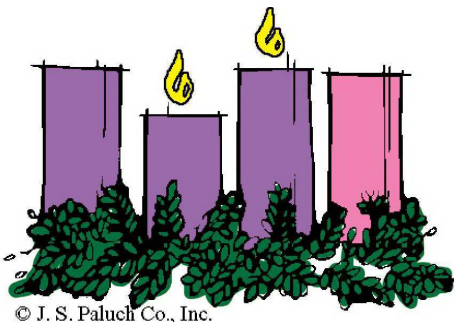


CHRISTMAS GRANDPARENTS' CORNER

Grandparents: This year I'm expanding the "Grandparents' Corner" to include gifts for you, your sons and daughters. I'm hoping that these resources help you in sharing our faith with your children. Two good resources for books: Ave Maria Community Bookstore on De Anza Blvd. (408-725-1511) and www.abebooks.com (for rare, used & new books).

1. For children of all ages: **THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER** by Barbara Robinson, Tyndale House Publishers, ISBN: 084230137-2, \$2.95. It is an outrageously funny story of how a family of troublemakers learns the true meaning of Christmas.
2. For preschool-grade 1: **THE FIRST CHRISTMAS COLORING BOOK** by Warner Press Kids, ISBN: 9781593174163, \$1.50. This would make a lovely gift for teachers because it is reproducible for home or classroom use.
3. For children: **THE OTHER WISE MAN** (adaptation of Henry van Dyke's book), retold by Pamela Kennedy and illustrated by Robert Barrett, ISBN:08249-8564-8, published by Ideals Children's Books, Nashville Tennessee, \$5.95. It is a beautifully-illustrated softcover book retelling the story of the wise man left behind and his lifelong search for Christ.
4. For families: **STATIONS OF THE NATIVITY** by Patrick Kelley and Lawrence Boadt, ISBN: 0-8091-6699-2, Paulist Press, \$10.95. This is a devotional book using fourteen events from the Christmas story.
5. For adults: **AN ADULT CHRIST AT CHRISTMAS** by Raymond E. Brown, ISBN: 0-8146-0997-x, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minn., \$4.95. Fr. Raymond Brown, S.S. was one of the premier scripture scholars of the twentieth century, and this small book contains his conclusions on the meaning of the Mathew and Luke infancy stories. Must read with a bible alongside. Also try the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos as they carry many of Raymond Brown's books.

--Loretta Fennell



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Season of Hope

The annual performance series in the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph offers nourishment for your spirit by presenting a soul-satisfying multicultural musical event for everyone to enjoy during the holiday season. This event is a wonderful collaboration between various arts organizations and the San Jose Cathedral Foundation's Office of Social Ministry. By fostering the spirit of hope all through the year, the Cathedral provides food, shelter, medical care, and a job search program to those in need, regardless of race or creed, crossing all cultural boundaries. Come celebrate the 12 Days before Christmas!

Season of Hope Concert Series 7:30 - 8:30pm

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Joseph
80 S. Market St., San Jose, CA 95113
Free Parking after 6:00pm - Free admission!

- Dec 12 – San Jose Jazz, All Star Combo
- Dec 13 – Presentation High School
- Dec 14 – Silicon Valley Ballet
- Dec 15 – San Jose Youth Chamber Orchestra
- Dec 16 – Castillero Middle School
- Dec 17 – San Jose State Choraliers
- Dec 18 – San Jose Youth Symphony
- Dec 19 – California Philharmonic Youth Orchestra
- Dec 20 – Posada, Cuento de Navidad
- Dec 21 – San Jose Symphonic Choir
- Dec 22 – Congregation Shir-Hadash Jewish Comm.
- Dec 23 – Harpers Hall Celtic Harpists

For more information, contact smiller@dsj.org

TREASURES OF THE CHURCH RELICS

You are invited to a teaching and exposition of over 150 Sacred Relics, some as old as 2000 years. Among will be relics of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. In addition, there will also be present a portion of the veil of Our Lady, as well as pieces of the True Cross. You will be able to examine and venerate each relic. In the Church's history many miracles and healings have been worked in the presence of relics, and many have been healed through this ministry. Do not miss this opportunity.

- Dec 6 3:00pm St. Francis Cabrini, San Jose
- Dec 10 7:00pm Church of the Nativity, Menlo Park
- Dec 11 7:00pm St. John the Baptist, Milpitas
- Dec 14 7:00pm St. Leo, San Jose
- Dec 16 6:00pm Our Lady of Peace, Santa Clara



For more information about Faith Formation please contact:
 David Cortese, Director of Faith Formation | dcortese@dsj.org | 650.948.2158 x209
 Marie Yeap, Faith Formation Assistant | myeap@dsj.org | 650.948.2158 x206



Sunday, December 13th –6pm to 8pm

All parents are invited to join us for a special Intersection night with your teens. You will have the opportunity to hear witness talks from teens and participate in a typical Intersection night. In addition we will have information about our upcoming trips and retreats including World Youth Day

Young Adult Ministry

Discussion on Christian Prayer

Sunday, December 6th at 6pm

St. Nicholas, 473 Lincoln Ave, Los Altos

Questions/ RSVP: Call Grace Pixton at (630)204-8544



Come to the life changing event with
Chris Stefanick
 Thursday, January 28 , 2016
 7:00-9:30pm at St. William Church
 \$19 per person
 Tickets available at St Nicholas Parish Office

AUTO DONATIONS!
 St. Nicholas Auto Donation Program is a major fundraiser for St. Nicholas Parish. Call Jack Maloney (650) 941-5753 for information on how to receive a tax deduction for your donated auto. (Cars must be reliable and in running condition.)
 Non-working vehicles may be donated to Catholic Charities. There is free and fast pick-up. Donations are tax deductible. Contact Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County at (866) 565 5912 or CarDonation@CatholicCharitiesSCC.org

Weekly Stewardship Report: Nov 14 & 15, 2015

	St. Nicholas	St. William
Goal/Budget	\$12,575.03	\$8,302.78
Sunday & Online collection	\$13,785.12	\$8,977.75
Income (shortfall)	\$1,210.09	\$674.97

YTD Stewardship Report: July 1-Nov 15, 2015

Goal	\$239,946.50	\$156,124.95
Sunday & Online collection	\$228,831.41	\$166,491.40
Income (shortfall)	(\$11,115.09)	\$10,366.45
% of Budget	95.40%	107%

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Second collection on Nov 7 & 8: CRS Disaster Relief

St Nicholas	St. William
\$3,809.28	\$2,403.00

Thank You!

ETHICSPPOINT
 The Diocese of San Jose has partnered with *EthicsPoint* to provide a confidential method to hear suggestions, concerns or reports of financial misconduct.
EthicsPoint Hotline (888) 325-7863
 Please direct any questions that you may have about *EthicsPoint* or reporting concerns to Teresa Conville, Diocesan Compliance and Parish Financial Services Director at (408) 983-0241 or tconville@dsj.org. For more information, click on the EthicsPoint link on the St. Nicholas website www.stnickcc.org

Mass Intentions for the week of December 6

St. Nicholas Church


Sat. 5:00pm Rosemary Hennig †
Sun. 10:45am Raymond Hiznay †
 12:15pm People of the Parish
Mon. Marilena Bernardi † *Loving Family*
 Mario Fiandeiro - Special Intention *Loving Family*
Tue.
Wed. Deceased Members of the ICF
 Felipe Herrera - Special Intention *Loving Friends*
Thur. Shadi Naim - Special Intention *Loving Friends*
Fri. Julia Budenz † *Loving Sister*
 Ulises Perez - Special Intention *Loving Friends*

St. William Church

Sat. 5:00pm Kostelec Family †
Sun. 9:00am People of the Parish
 10:45am Jordan Reed †
Mon. 8:30am Katherine Pickert †
 7:00pm Stanley Gerut †
Tue. Giuliani Family †
Wed.
Thur.
Fri.
Sat. 8:30am Alfred McHugh Jr. †

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Let us pray for Bill Almon, Tom Bednar, Marianne Smith Brewer, Lisa Brown, Seba Castrejon, Michael Sean Connors, Patti Delgado Ferrari, Marianne Geier, Emil Girczyc, Paul Hanley, Josephine Lipinski, Audrey Tischler Livermore, Rosalie Mattevi, Pam Medlenhoff, Sue Meyer, Anna Morrison, Hal Mouzon, Alex Munroe, Jo Norwood, Eduardo Ramirez, Mary Rietkert, Manuel R. Santiago, Tom Smith, Nathaniel Stoll, Mary Lou Swain, Elaine Woulfe, and Rafael Zamora that Jesus be a source of strength and comfort.



The Memorial candle at St. William
 was burning last week in memory of Ed Fleming who died 1 year ago on December 2, 2014. Please keep him and his family in your prayers during this difficult time.



OFFICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS
 The Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults of the Diocese of San Jose is directed by Anthony Gonzalez. Complaints or allegations of sexual misconduct may be initiated in writing to the Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults, 1150 N. First St., Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95112. Anthony may also be reached at (408) 983-0113, fax (408) 983-0147, emergency line (408) 983-0141, or email: protection@dsj.org.