

St. Matthias Parish



www.stmatthiasparish.org

St. Matthias is a Roman Catholic Community in the Archdiocese of San Francisco striving to respond to the call of Jesus through worship and sacraments, faith formation, service, and social opportunities. To see the full calendar of events, visit <https://www.stmatthiasparish.org/parish-calendar/>



Donut Sunday

*December 15th is
Welcome Weekend!
Stay for Coffee,
Donuts, and
Community after
the 9:45am Mass.*

Su

Promise
GF

Children's Liturgy
During 9:45 AM
mass

We

Reconciliation

Wednesday, Dec
18th, 6:30pm at
St. Charles

Th

**Simbang Gabi
Mass**

Thursday, Dec 19
7pm

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word

We hear Paul say, "The Lord is near," in the second reading today and we can count so many ways this is so. We're just ten days away from Christmas, for one. In a little while we will receive the Lord in the Eucharist. The Lord is here when two or more gather in his name. The Lord is near to us always, by virtue of our baptism. Right now, the Lord is here in the form of God's word. Warmed by the Lord's presence, let us listen for his voice in the words of scripture.

First Reading Zep 3:14-18

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!

Sing joyfully, O Israel!

Be glad and exult with all your heart,

O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has removed the judgment against you, he has turned away your enemies;

the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear.

On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior;

he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love,

he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters:

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.

The Lord is near.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding

will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Lk 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist,

"What should we do?"

He said to them in reply,

"Whoever has two cloaks

should share with the person who has none.

And whoever has food should do likewise."

Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him,

"Teacher, what should we do?"

He answered them,

"Stop collecting more than what is prescribed."

Soldiers also asked him,

"And what is it that we should do?"

He told them,

"Do not practice extortion,

do not falsely accuse anyone,

and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying,

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn,

but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

MUSIC

December 14

688 Holy is His Name

48 Beyond the Moon and Stars

TAIZE: Bread of Life

43 People, Look East (last two vs)

December 15 SPIRIT MASS

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

This is the Day!

We are One Body

We're Waiting for Jesus Like Mary

Welcome to Advent

Welcome to a new liturgical year and the season of Advent! Advent includes the days and nights before the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas). Advent means “coming.” During this time we read and sing about God’s promises. It is a time of waiting and preparing. We wait for the blessed hope, the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We wait in hope that all will be one and the Kingdom of God will be realized.

In Advent, we prepare ourselves and our hearts for Jesus’ birth, when the light of Christ pushes out the darkness. Our liturgical color is purple which is a symbol of reflection and anticipation. An Advent wreath is displayed and holds four candles. A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. The four candles traditionally represent hope, faith, joy and peace.

While Advent is a time of celebration and anticipation of Christ’s birth, it is more than that. It is only in the shadow of Advent that the miracle of Christmas can fully be understood and appreciated.

Reconciliation

As we prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus, we open ourselves to God’s grace in the sacrament of Reconciliation. St. Charles Church will “Leave the Light On for You,” Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30pm, December 18, for all those who would like to receive the sacrament. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

Music Ministry News

The music of December starts with the season of hope—Advent. We live in a world that longs for hope and the promise of peace, justice that brings relief of despair, and the healing power of the Spirit. We pray to know the Light of Christ:

We hunger to see your Light.

We long to see your loving face.

Upon our darkness, Lord, a Light has shone!

“Beyond the Moon and Stars”

Our songs express hope, light, peace, and joy. We put away our bells and refrain from singing The Gloria until finally, Christmas Eve arrives and we join in proclaiming “The Christmas Gloria”: Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Music ministry welcomes new members and people

who want to participate in the ministry just for the season. Please connect with Melanie.

Taize Hiatus

Please note that Tuesday Taize is on a break.

Look for a future bulletin post when we are ready to resume.



Contributing to our Liturgical Environment

This month, the church is filled with liturgical symbols that reflect the season of Advent—the wreath, the candles, the purple cloth. Later, flowers, gold and light will help us celebrate the joy of Christ’s coming. Our changing liturgical environment adds to the sacredness of our space and to our experience of the Mass.

For the first time in many years, you will have the opportunity to make a donation specifically earmarked for costs associated with our liturgical environment. Special “Flower Offering” envelopes will be enclosed with our Christmas letter to all parishioners and will be available in the church. If you appreciate what these environmental touches add, we hope you will consider making a donation. Funds received will be used throughout the year to beautify Lent, the Easter season, Ordinary Time, Masses of Remembrance and more. Thank you for your support!

Replacing the Church Sound System

We recently had our church sound system evaluated by St. Charles parishioner and sound professional, Joe Boerio. He was able to make some minor and immediate improvements! We are now developing plans to completely replace our old sound system. This is something we have long wanted to do, and Fr. Roy hopes to make it happen within the next year! If you would be interested in giving financial support for this important upgrade, please speak to Fr. Roy or contact the parish office. Thank you!



Simbang Gabi Mass

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Catholic tradition of nine days of Masses leading up to Christmas. The term translates to “Night Mass” in Tagalog. In the Philippines, Masses are at dawn. Filipino Americans have brought Simbang Gabi to the United States. It is a way to celebrate and share culture and our faith. Masses are in the evening and include food and fellowship after each Mass.

Simbang Gabi is a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus and honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our southern San Mateo County parishes are each hosting one of the nine days of Masses. Each parish will display a parol which means “lantern.” It represents the star that guided the Magi to the Christ child. Everyone is invited to attend one or more of the Masses. **St. Matthias will host Dec 19th, 7pm.**

December	Day	Time	Host Parish
15	Sunday	5 p.m.	Mt. Carmel Redwood City
16	Monday	5 p.m.	St. Denis Menlo Park
17	Tuesday	7 p.m.	Church of The Nativity Menlo Park
18	Wednesday	7 p.m.	Vallombrosa Menlo Park
19	Thursday	7 p.m.	St. Matthias Redwood City, CA
20	Friday	7 p.m.	St. Raymond Church Menlo Park
21	Saturday	5 p.m.	St. Pius, Redwood City
22	Sunday	5 p.m.	Mt. Carmel Redwood City
23	Monday	5 p.m.	St. Charles San Carlos,

Advent/Nativity Event at Jesuit Retreat House

Late-breaking news...the Bethlehem Angels are back! The Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos will host an Advent program Sunday, December 15. General timeline will be:

2:30-3pm - Check-in

3-4pm Mass in the chapel

4:00 -4:15 Reading of the Christmas Story (seating outdoors in the grotto, in front of the cave)

4:15-4:50pm Bethlehem Angels perform nine choreographed dances/songs

5-6pm cocktail reception (indoors)

Please go to this link to RSVP and make a nominal donation:

JRCLosAltos.org/Christmas2024

Christmas Mass Schedule

Celebrate the Nativity of Jesus!

Tuesday, December 24th Christmas Eve Mass

4 pm and 9pm (St Matthias)

3 pm, 5 pm & 10 pm (St Charles)

Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day Mass

10 am (St Matthias)

8:30 am & 11:30 am (St. Charles)

Grief Workshop at St. Pius

LONGING-HOPE--JOY Gospel models of longing and hope allow us a glimpse of coming joy as we pray together through the weeks of Advent. Sister Toni Lynn Gallagher, RSM will lead us through ways we can grieve while walking together a journey of HOPE. Come join us at St. Pius X Parish Center December 16th, 2024. 7PM.All are welcome. Contact griefministry@pius.org to RSVP.

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT, December 14th @ 5:00PM — Clare Marino Rhodeman †

SUN, December 15th @ 9:45AM — Tommy McElligott †

Please contact lisa@stmatthiasparish.org if you would like to schedule a mass in the first quarter of 2025.



Christmas Offerings

This QR code will take you directly to our website giving page. Thank you!

We pray for those in our community who are ill...

Jerry Acozta

Tommie Fogliani

Sofia Rodriguez Gaddi

Bill Harper

Joy & Charles

Rudolfo Pelayo

Rose Marino

that they may be comforted by the loving embrace of Jesus.

St. Matthias Catholic Preschool

A Quality Early Childhood Program

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Children Ages 3-5 Years Old

Preschool Hours 7:30AM to 5:30PM

All Day — Year Round School

Contact Preschool Director

Rosemary Juarez at

rosemary@stmatthiasparish.org

or call (650) 367-1320



PARISH CONTACT

INFORMATION

1685 Cordilleras Road

Redwood City, CA 94062

Parish Phone (650) 366-9544

Preschool Phone (650) 367-1320

www.stmatthiasparish.org

St. Matthias Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:45 am*

St. Charles Mass Schedule

Monday—Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am* & 11:00 am

*LIVESTREAMED MASSES

Pastor, Fr. Roy Remo

frroy@stmatthiasparish.org

Parochial Vicar,

Fr. Samuel Musiimenta

Adult Faith Formation Coordinator,

Deacon Rich Foley

rich@stmatthiasparish.org

Deacon David Rolandelli

david@stmatthiasparish.org

Parish Administrative Assistant,

Lisa Bamford

lisa@stmatthiasparish.org

Music Director, Melanie Dresbach

melanie@stmatthiasparish.org

Preschool Director,

Rosemary Juarez

rosemary@stmatthiasparish.org

650-367-1320

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nuterrarealestate.com

TONY Y. CHAN



1633 Old Bayshore Highway #280
Burlingame | CA 94010

Phone 415-533-6558
Email tony@nareigus.com
Web www.nareigus.com



陈有杰
Managing Broker
Lic#01938263



Mercedes Roses
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400 Woodside Road
Redwood City, CA 94061
Phone 650-369-4103
Fax 650-369-2104

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Alan I. Stanley
Funeral Director FDR 2708
650-369-4103

Staff@crippenflynn.com
www.crippenflynn.com

Email lisa@stmatthiasparish.org for more information!