



I proclaim to you good news of great joy; today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

## The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2016

### December 25, 2016 – God’s Salvation Offered to All

There are four Masses that are celebrated for the feast of Christmas, and each is given its own set of readings to help us contemplate Christ's birth. The Gospel for the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve is taken from the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew, the genealogy of Jesus and the angel's announcement of the birth to Joseph. The Mass at midnight proclaims the birth of Jesus through the angels' announcement to the shepherds in the Gospel of Luke. Luke 2:15-20 is the reading for the Mass at dawn on Christmas morning. It continues the story of the birth of Jesus as found in Luke's Gospel with the shepherds' visit to the infant Jesus. Finally, the Gospel for Christmas Mass during the day is taken from the beginning of John's Gospel. It is not an Infancy Narrative like those found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Instead, John's Gospel starts at the very beginning of time and presents Creation as the framework for announcing the Incarnation. John's opening words echo the first verse in the Book of Genesis, "In the beginning was the Word."

The story of Jesus' birth, which begins with a reference to Caesar Augustus, concludes with the shepherds, people looked down on by most of society, visiting the infant. As the angels return to heaven, the shepherds decide to go see "this thing" that has happened in Bethlehem. Their visit confirms everything the angels had told them about the birth of the Savior and Messiah. They then spoke publicly about all they had seen, to the great astonishment of all who heard. Mary ponders all this in her heart, and the shepherds return to their fields praising God. What had been told to them really happened. This account does not tell us very much about the infant Jesus because Luke's concern is that God's action of sending a savior be publicly proclaimed. As Paul says before King Agrippa in Acts of the Apostles 26:26, "None of this was done in a corner." The picture is simple, two parents and an infant in a stable. But the reality is great, God's salvation offered to all.

### Daily Masses and Mass Intentions

#### Sunday 12/25/2016

- 12:00 MID (I) Brian O'Neel & Family  
by Matt & Sara Donnelly
- 8:00 AM (R) Rafael Virrueta by Elena, Tina & Maria
- 8:00 AM (R) All Souls in Purgatory by Mike & Grace Cao
- 10:00 AM (I) Leanne Della Villa by Marge Della Villa
- 10:00 AM (I) John Garcia by St. Mel Faculty & Staff

#### Monday 12/26/2016

- 7:00 AM (R) James Harris by Candy & Chris Ward
- 8:30 AM (R) Frank Franzago by Franzago Family

#### Tuesday 12/27/2016 \*MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

- \*7:00 AM (I) Betty Evans by Mary Ann Henrikson
- \*8:30 AM (I) Ray Wiley

#### Wednesday 12/28/2016

- 7:00 AM (R) Babies that have been aborted
- 8:30 AM (R) Norman Ross by Marie Ross & Family

#### Thursday 12/29/2016

- 7:00 AM (R) Teresa Baker by Tom Baker
- 8:30 AM (I) Tom & Deidre Chapman ~  
28th Wedding Anniversary
- 8:30 AM (I) Isabelle Torres by Nick & Antonia Cammarota

#### Friday 12/30/2016

- 7:00 AM (I) Willard Yep by Mary Ann Henrickson
- 8:30 AM (I) Helen Mullin by Bill Mullin

#### Saturday 12/31/2016

- 8:30 AM (I) Joseph Hoffmann by Cheryl Hoffmann
- 8:30 AM (I) Sam Velasquez by Ray & Karen Fitts
- 4:30 PM (I) Elizabeth & Skya Hallon by Family

#### Sunday 1/1/2017

- 8:00 AM (I) Barb & Cy
- 8:00 AM (I) Elmarie Hoffmann by Cheryl Hoffmann
- 10:00 AM (R) Luz Alva by Your Loving Family
- 4:30 PM (R) Mary Friedrich by Denny & Barb Shunta

#### Commentator & Music Leaders & Altar Servers for December 31, 2016 & January 1, 2017

Mass Times	Commentator Altar Servers	Music Leader
SAT 4:30 PM	Nagel / DeHam Dominic, Andrew & Michael	Men's Choir
SUN 8:00 AM	Morrison / Welsh Sarah & Matthew	Music Leader
SUN 10:00 AM	Allison / Wagner J Abby & David	Contemporary Choir
SUN 4:30 PM	Sweeney TBD	Youth Choir

### WEST COAST WALK FOR LIFE 2017

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 21, 2017 for the 12th Annual Walk for Life in San Francisco. Join upwards of 50,000 pro-lifers as we peacefully proclaim our message that abortion hurts women. Join the Knights of Columbus and fellow St. Mel parishioners on two buses leaving from the St. Mel parking lot at 8:30AM that morning. We will celebrate Mass at 7:45AM before we get on the buses. Reserve your bus seat now for \$28 per person or \$110 max for large families. Please make your check payable to the Knights of Columbus 6066. For more information, please contact Doug Crumley Jr. or Pauline Cole, 638-4600.

### REMINDER

Please do not leave valuables in your cars when you are at Mass. We have had several break-ins in the parking lot this December.

### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

You are invited to St. Mel's Charismatic Prayer Group. We meet Tuesdays in the baptismal room at 6:30PM for prayer, praise and worship, and healing prayer. Enter the church through the west door on the upper parking lot side. Contact Chris, 715-1162, or Karen Juten, 712-3706.

### PLEASE JOIN US...



**Women's Day of Faith Renewal**  
for  
all women 14 to 104!!!  
**Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**\$40**  
**St. Mel Catholic Church**

A perfect pre-Valentine's or pre-Lenten gift for your wife, daughter, Mom or any of the women in your life!

Poster, flyers and bookmarks available in narthex or Church Office.

### ST. MEL VOCATION COMMITTEE

The St. Mel Vocation Committee is looking for volunteers to help encourage our priests, spiritually support our seminarians and promote vocations. For more information call Dave & Jenni Murray, 338-5011 or Brian & Jeanne Condon, 988-3027.

### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Have you ever wanted to take a fresh look at your Marriage? With Christmas just two weeks away, consider this: making a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. It is a unique approach aimed at revitalizing your Sacrament of Matrimony. Weekends for 2017 are as follows: February 10-12, 2017 in Sacramento; March 31-April 2, 2017 in Reno, NV.; August 25-27, 2017 in Sacramento; October 6-8, 2017 in Reno, NV., and November 3-5, 2017 in Sacramento. It is not too early to register for a weekend that you will never forget. For more information visit our website, [www.sacramentowwme.org](http://www.sacramentowwme.org) or email Terry & Janet at [applications@sacramentowwme.org](mailto:applications@sacramentowwme.org) or 489-3464.

Let us pray for all those in our community who have passed away.

*Lita Dean Reid*

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

### CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

There will be no CFF classes on the following dates:

Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> & Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>

Classes resume:

Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>

Wishing you and your families a very Blessed Christmas and may 2017 be filled with an abundance of blessings and His grace.

### SOCIETY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

The Society of Our Lady of Guadalupe would like to thank Father Aldrin, Deacon Dave, the parish staff, St. Mel parishioners, St. Mel School staff and students, Joanne Wagner and the following vendors: Lupita's Mexican Restaurant, Mario's Tamales and Valencia's for their contributions to the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe's Feast Day. Thanks to all of you we had a successful and beautiful feast day honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the unborn and co-patron of the Diocese of Sacramento.

### MORNING ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Everyone is welcome to join the Daily Rosary Morning Prayer Group that meets after Mass. One group meets after the 7:00AM Mass and another group meets after the 8:30AM Mass in the Baptismal room. For more information contact Karen Juten, 712-3706.

### 2017 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

2017 Religious calendars are now available in the vestibule.

### PLEASE NOTE!

\*\*\* SCHEDULE FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES \*\*\*

Please send your typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to [stmeloffice@yahoo.com](mailto:stmeloffice@yahoo.com), no later than **NOON ON FRIDAY** to be included in the next bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulletin Weekend Dates 2017	Articles DUE Prior To <b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>Dec. 31 - Jan. 1</b> <b>January 7 - 8</b> <b>January 14 - 15</b> <b>January 21 - 22</b>	<b>December 22</b> <b>December 29</b> <b>January 6</b> <b>January 13</b>

### CHAPEL OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Perpetual Adoration  
**GREAT NEED FOR ADORERS:**  
Sunday 10 - 11am, 5 - 6pm, 6 - 7pm  
Wednesday 3 - 4am, 4 - 5am  
Thursday 5 - 6pm  
Friday 4 - 5pm  
Saturday 3 - 4am, 9 - 10am,  
11am - 12 Noon, 1 - 2pm, 3 - 4pm

If you would like to be in the Real Presence of Jesus and visit with Him for the above time, or any Hour, or be a substitute, please call Marge at 967-0641, or Chris at 966-3266. God is "thirsting" for you to satiate "His thirst"

Talk given why Perpetual Adoration is so important to the world - Pope Benedict XVI, Feb. 22, 2007. "In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent Adoration, of Jesus concealed in the "Host".

The Magic of  
*Christmas*  
is not in the presents  
but in *His* presence

**FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS  
CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION AND MASS**

On Wednesday, December 28th, the annual Feast of the Holy Innocents Candlelight Rosary Procession and Mass will meet at 5:00 p.m. on the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament (11th & K) and pray for the sanctity of life as we walk to Our Lady of Guadalupe (7th & T) for concelebrated Mass at 6:00 p.m. This March for Life commemorates those male infants of Bethlehem who were killed by decree of King Herod, as well as those innocent unborn babies lost by abortion today. Bring your family, sing with St. Mary's choir, and walk to Mass praying the rosary. Candles will be provided. Carpools will shuttle people back to their cars. Dress warmly and bring umbrellas if needed. For more information, please call Leticia, 519-0417.

**100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DIOCESAN  
PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA**

Join Bishop Myron J. Cotta and the Diocese of Sacramento September 15-24, 2017 for a once in a lifetime pilgrimage for the Centennial of Our Lady of Fatima! Pray in the Capelinha marking the spot where Our Lady appeared, see a Eucharistic miracle, visit the medieval town of Batalha, and take part in the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Stops include Coimbra, where Sr. Lucia spent most of her life. Nazare on the Atlantic coast, Aljustrel, Obidos and explore the port city of Lisbon. To make a reservation, contact Canterbury Pilgrimages, 800-653-0017 or [reservations@canterburypilgrimages.com](mailto:reservations@canterburypilgrimages.com).



Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father. -Jn 14:9

**Reflection:** Christmas is God in human language. It is not simply about the birth of a child, but rather the coming of the One Who will preach the Sermon on the Mount, instruct us by parables, and establish His Church.

This is why it makes no sense to welcome the Child but reject His teachings. There can be no such thing as a "pro-choice Christian."

**Prayer:** Jesus, in welcoming You I welcome the Father and all the truth and grace He gives us through You!

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**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Bereavement Support Group Meetings for adults experiencing the loss of a loved one are held at Mercy San Juan Medical Center 6501 Coyle Ave., Carmichael, on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., in the conference room on the main level across from the Russell elevators. Sessions are facilitated by staff chaplains. No registration required. No cost. For more information, contact the Spiritual Care Services department, 537-5098, or email: [Matt.Sanders@DignityHealth.org](mailto:Matt.Sanders@DignityHealth.org).

**Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish**

- |                       |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Al Volmer             | Garvin Arnett         | Katie Henson            |
| Alan Cheuse           | George Kim            | Katie Spain             |
| Alex Quiroz           | Gianna Atilano        | Keith Sprengle          |
| Amanda Barron         | Grace Barrios         | King David Chico        |
| Anthony Caillou       | Gregory David         | Latasha Rodriguez       |
| Arthur Morton         | Howard McCormack, Jr. | Linda Ramsey            |
| Audrey Holden         | James A. Martinez     | Lydia Melendez          |
| Bob Ahern, Sr.        | Jean Crupi            | Margaret Anderson       |
| Candy Barrios         | Jeanette Barron       | Margaret Valley         |
| Charles Joseph Ortner | Jerry Esparza         | Mary Alyce Gisla        |
| Cheryl Richardson     | Jerry Smith           | Michael J. Martinez     |
| Chris Stabile         | Jim Maher             | Michelle Atwood         |
| Christian Dimitri     | Joanne Kim            | Mollie Dear             |
| Daniel Schwartz, III  | Jody & Ron Martinez   | Nellie Henson           |
| Dave Kangas           | Johanna Ross          | Nick Tenaglia           |
| Deana Landingham      | John Forrest          | P. J. Spain             |
| Diane Castonguay      | John Langland         | Patty Arcenequex- Conti |
| Donald Wise           | John Wise, Jr.        | Pilo DeLeon             |
| Dora V. Marczak       | Jose Mascoro          | Ray Willey              |
| Dora Palpallatoc      | Joseph Dimitri        | Rendtor Ramirez         |
| Eduardo Murallon      | Joseph Jacin          | Richard Robinson        |
| Elizabeth McMahon     | Joseph McCormick      | Robert Atkinson         |
| Evelyn Dimitri        | Judy Spinelli         | Robin Dunton            |
| Fred H. Salter        | Karen Petersen        | Rodney Wise             |
|                       | Katie Grant           |                         |

**St. Mel Parish Ministries & Social Groups (REV. January 10, 2016)**

<b>PARISH COUNCILS</b>		
Parish Pastoral Council	Bob Mayer	342-2139
Parish Finance Council	Jim Joyce	967-1229
<b>PARISH SCHOOL</b>		
St. Mel School:	Janet Nagel (Principal)	967-2814
St. Mel School Parents Club:	Contact the School Office	967-2814
St. Mel Youth Ministry:	Dominick Romano	Call Parish Office
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>		
R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):	Brenda McCollum	722-1965
Lighthouse Catholic Media	Mary Schaefer	988-3171
Marian Movement of Priests:	Claude Rashid	728-5739
Catholics Return Home:	Claude Rashid / Karen Fitts	728-5739 / 966-0184
Catholic Faith Formation (CFF):	Sara Donnelly	966-4314
Scripture & Religious Study:	Cheryl Hoffmann / or Karen Fitts	966-1830 / 966-0184
Parish Library open after weekend Masses:	Joanne Wagner	967-0190
<b>LITURGICAL SERVICES</b>		
Altar Servers:	Dave Murray	338-5011
Music Ministry Director		
Commentators:	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
Eucharistic Ministers:	Deacon Anthony Pescetti	704-0057
Ushers	Walt Schaff	961-4698
<b>PRAYER ADVOCACY</b>		
Charismatic Prayer Group	Karen Juten / Chris Juten	712-3706 / 715-1162
Fiat Rosary Group	Peggy Grass (Wed)/Marge Young (Tues)	962-9244 / 967-2540
Eucharistic Adoration Chapel:	Marge Della Villa / or Chris Guzman	967-0641 / 966-3266
"D. J. M." Disciples of Jesus and Mary	Mike Allison	834-6226
Divine Mercy:	Amy Lasat	342-2088
Legion of Mary (Day):	Joyce Savage	342-6179
<b>SOCIAL CONCERNS</b>		
Society of Our Lady of Guadalupe:	Dolores Leon	337-1800
Prayer Chain:	Dolores Moniz	962-0571
Fraternity of Fatherhood:	Mike Allison	834-6226
Men's Cursillo Group:	Chuck Friedrich	635-7791
Annettes (St. Mel's funeral luncheon providers):	Parish Office	967-1229
Loaves and Fishes Volunteers:	Kathy Yanez	967-1229
Knights of Columbus #6066:	Jim Carlson	801-9373
St. Mel "Sip & Sup" Fellowship Dinner Program	Janet Donahue	663-7653
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	Craig Shaw	967-1229
Sacramento Life Center: Pro-Life Pregnancy Support:	Joanne Hammett	451-4357
St. Mel Pro-Life Group:		
Gabriel Project (crisis pregnancy assistance):	Kathy Knutson	967-1229
Fr. Richard Doheny Religious Education Fund:	Walt Schaff	961-4698
Bishop-Gallegos Maternity Home:	Mary Schaefer / or June Schott	988-3171 / 967-9158
<b>PARISH ORGANIZATIONS</b>		
Altar Society:	Parish Office	967-1229
Marriage Encounter:	John & Regina Rupert	987-5616
Boy Scouts #217:	Chris Herne / Bob Mayer	798-8493 / 342-2139
Cub Scouts	Chuck Brasfield	214-5730
Girl Scouts:	Jill Dutra	217-3990
KKIS:	Laura Lumenta	718-2718
OPUS DEI:	Deidra Chapman	944-1356 or 425-4904
M.O.M.	Jeanne Condon	349-6936
Children's Liturgy	Sara Lebeck / Serena Carleton	967-1229
Clara's House	Martha Rusnak	448-3976
Religious Articles:	Brenda McCollum / Dorothy Wagner	967-1229
Vocations Committee:	Ana DeHam	967-1229
Wedding Coordinator:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
Parish Center Coordinators:	Yolanda & Jim Carlson	966-3803
For Any Changes to Ministry List	Parish Office	967-1229

*We welcome all new parishioners and ask that you complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket at Mass, or return it to the Parish Office.*

**Quick Registration St. Mel Catholic Church**      **Envelopes? Yes No**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Name (i.e. Mr. & Mrs. John Doe) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT ME BY:  PHONE  EMAIL

Do you have any special request: \_\_\_\_\_