

# St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish



Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor. The Most Reverend Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop – Diocese of Oakland

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5:30 pm  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am

## DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday-Thursday & Saturday 8:30 am  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 5:30 pm

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday – Saturday 8:00 am  
Mon./Wed./Friday 5:10 pm

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 pm  
(and by appointment)

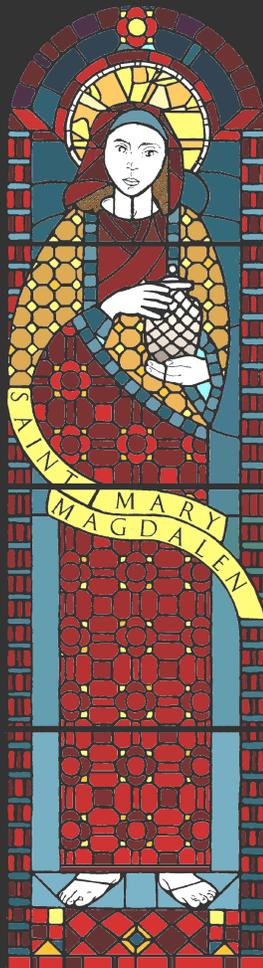
## OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday  
9:00 am – Noon  
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Phone: 510-526-4811  
Fax: 510-525-3638

## WEBSITE



[marymagdalen.org](http://marymagdalen.org)



X David Lance Goines, 2002

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*"Together we share our  
Faith in Jesus Christ.*

*We live the Gospel,  
and we care for others."*

**BAPTISM:** Preparation classes take place on the first Monday of the month. Please call the parish office for more information.

**CONFIRMATION:** Classes run from September through May; contact the office for more information.

**MARRIAGE:** Please contact the pastor at least six months prior to the wedding.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** The Sacrament is offered at every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Mass, and by appointment.

# Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Year A ~ December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Weekly Collections through December 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2025			
Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
12/14/2025	\$8,477.45	\$10,000.00	-\$1,522.45
Year-to-Date	\$451,772.92	\$512,000.00	-\$60,227.08
<i>Let's continue to close the gap!</i>			

## It's Still Not Too Late to Make a Christmas Donation to your Parish!

This QR code leads to the Parish Donation page — use it to initiate a **one-time** Donation.



Or click below:

[tinyurl.com/SMM-Donations](https://tinyurl.com/SMM-Donations)

## Scripture Readings for the Week

- 28<sup>th</sup> **HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**  
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Colossians 3:12-21 /  
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
- 29<sup>th</sup> *Christmas Weekday [St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr]*  
1 John 2:3-11 / Luke 2:22-35
- 30<sup>th</sup> *Christmas Weekday*  
1 John 2:12-17 / Luke 2:36-40
- 31<sup>st</sup> *Christmas Weekday [Saint Sylvester I, Pope]*  
1 John 2:18-21 / John 1:1-18
- 1<sup>st</sup> *Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God*  
Numbers 6:22-27 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21
- 2<sup>nd</sup> *Memorial: Sts. Basil and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors*  
1 John 2:22-28 / John 1:19-28
- 3<sup>rd</sup> *Christmas Weekday [The Most Holy Name of Jesus]*  
1 John 2:29-3:6 / John 1:29-34

## Mass Intentions



Saturday	5:30	Intentions of Alexandra Rauch
Sunday	8:00	For the People of the Parish
	9:30	Emilio Onglatco, Jr. RIP
	11:30	Intentions of Stefan Grycz
Monday	5:30	Intentions of the Ravnik Family
Tuesday	8:30	Maria Antonia Curtis RIP
Wednesday	5:30	Fr. Bill O'Donnell RIP
Thursday	10:00	Ben & Marjorie Mathias RIP
Friday	5:30	Joseph P. McWalters, Jr. RIP
Saturday	8:30	Intentions of Irvin Tigbao

## Parish Calendar through January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

- December 27** **Funeral Mass: Vicky Grant**  
Saturday 11:00 am, Church
- December 27-28** **Preacher at Weekend Masses: Fr. Titus**  
Weekend 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
- December 28** **Fourth Sunday Dinner for the Hungry**  
Sunday Noon-4:00 pm, Magdalen Hall. *Volunteers needed!*
- December 30** **Discussion of the Sunday Gospel** *Zoom link:*  
Tuesday 2:00-3:00 pm, [tinyurl.com/SMM-GospelGroup](https://tinyurl.com/SMM-GospelGroup)
- December 31** **Meeting of SPRED Catechism**  
Wednesday 6:30 pm, Norton Hall
- January 2** **Discussion of the Sunday Gospel**  
Friday 9:15 - 10:15 am, Norton Hall
- January 2** **Eucharistic Adoration (Holy Hour)**  
Friday 6:00 pm, Church (*On Every First Friday.*)
- January 3-4** **Preacher at Weekend Masses: TBA**  
Weekend 5:30 pm Saturday; 8:00/9:30/11:30 am Sunday
- January 3** **Lectio Divina on the Nativity with Fr. Nick**  
Saturday 6:30 pm, Norton Hall. *See notice on page 3.*
- January 4** **First Sunday Dinner for the Hungry**  
Sunday Noon-4:00 pm, Magdalen Hall. *Volunteers needed!*



This Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>, is our **Fourth Sunday Dinner for the Hungry**. Do you have an hour to spare? Consider coming to Magdalen Hall today from 2:15 to 4:00 pm. (Or anytime except the “down time” from 1:00 to 2:15 pm) You are very welcome to come help set up or serve our guests (*see times below*), but **we especially need volunteers to help clean up**.

We set up from **11:30 am to 12:30 pm**, prepare to serve at **2:15 pm**, start cleaning the kitchen at **2:30 pm** and put away tables & chairs at **~3:30 pm**.

### Attention All Bakers:

Our guests like sweets, and they really appreciate your desserts. You may drop them off on any 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning during Coffee Hour (**7:30 am to 11:00 am**) or in Magdalen Hall (**11:00 am to 1:00 pm**). Thank you very much!

For more info: [tinyurl.com/SMM-SundayDinners](https://tinyurl.com/SMM-SundayDinners) or email: [sundaydinners@marymagdalen.org](mailto:sundaydinners@marymagdalen.org).



Joan Bell directed the Adult and Children's choirs for our **Parish Christmas Concert** on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Members of the 9:30 am Mass choir (left to right): Leo Nakamura, Jim Pawlak, Gary Van Kuiken, Joe Ungerer, Jon Baumgartner, Jim Fisher, Jennifer Sanchez, Sally Smith, Kristin Collins, Claire Broome, Catie Cariaga Nakamura, Rose Heffelfinger, Lisa Ungerer. *Pianist: Mark De Witt; cellist: Drew Martin.*

(Our Music Director, Andy Canepa, is expected to return from medical leave in February.) *Photos by Fr. Nicholas Glisson*



A Benefit for 

# East Bay Sanctuary Covenant

Supporting low-income immigrants and asylum seekers.  
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Featuring the Documentary Film  
**No Separate Survival**

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, in collaboration with Berkeley Freight & Salvage, invites you to a screening of the short documentary film *No Separate Survival* followed by a discussion with the director and filmmakers. All funds raised will support EBSC's work in providing legal and social services, Know Your Rights education, and cash assistance for immigrants in the Bay Area.

**Date:** Sunday, January 4, 2026

**Time:** 4:30 pm Reception; 5:45 Film Screening

**Location:** Freight & Salvage (2020 Addison St, Berkeley)

**Suggested donation:** Sliding scale from \$25; no one turned away

This documentary considers the trauma that asylum-seekers face, their determination to find refuge, and the potential of art to help them process and express agency over their full experiences.

Tickets: [bit.ly/nss-film](https://bit.ly/nss-film)

## The Illusion of Permanence

Twenty-twenty-five was a year of transitions for me. These shifts didn't necessarily come about because of the major events I had planned for. Retirement, for instance, will probably occur in about a year-and-a-half for me, but that is something I can envision. I'm talking more about the changes in my life that I have only recognized after the fact.



My mother's and brother's move to a nursing home a couple of years ago brought about a greater shift than my mother's death earlier this year. Suddenly, when I went to Florida to visit my family, I was no longer staying at my family's home in tiny Evinston. It was much more convenient to stay at Holy Faith Rectory in Gainesville. That was enough change in distance to warrant my flying into Jacksonville rather than Tampa. More radically,

I haven't been able to continue visiting friends and neighbors I have known for almost 60 years. Connections that I assumed would go on into the future are now tenuous. Although we still own it, our family's 137-year-old home is rented out, and the warmth and smell of that old house isn't available to me any longer.

For many years, three of my siblings lived in New York City. Manhattan was more of a rendezvous point than Florida. Although my sister still owns an apartment there, she spends more time at her house in Connecticut, where I visited her in September. My brother Tom happened to be in Florida when the pandemic hit, and so he stayed there with our mother. During that time his Parkinson's disease advanced, and so he joined my mother in a nursing home. Without any planning, he has wound up living out his life in Florida, rather than in New York City.

For years, my friends and I — if we didn't attend the Symphony — would go to the movies together. Most of those friends have moved away, and nearly all the theatres in Berkeley have closed down. I have not been to a movie theater more than three times since the pandemic.

After regularly visiting friends in London for decades, I have fewer and fewer reasons to go there. When my friend Fr. Dominic McKenna died unexpectedly a couple of years ago, the church where I used to stay and help out went away. I still connect with the friends who remain in London, but the connection is becoming tenuous.

I don't intend this as a lament, but part of the phenomenon of aging is the unanticipated and disorienting change in connections that seemed so permanent. One of the reasons I have kept working is to sustain the connections I have built up through the Church. Those connections — here, in Florida, New York, and London — have been the thread that sewed my life together.

Rather than regret the connections lost, here's to a future where friendships are sustained, cherished activities are preserved, and the habits of life are relished. Carly Simon wrote a song in the 1960s called "Anticipation" that ended with the repeated line, "These are the good ol' days." Regardless of the turmoil our personal and civic lives face, may 2026 be a year where we treasure our memories, value companionship, and anticipate a bright future.



The Glissons in the entry to their family home in 2008. Clockwise from left: Tom, Fr. Nick, Patricia, JT, Steve, and Jeannie Glisson.

## Part II: Lectio Divina on the Nativity with Fr. Nicholas Glisson

Fr. Nick has brought us some of the fruits of his Priest's Retreat in Yorkshire: pondering the nativity narratives in film and art. On December 18<sup>th</sup>, some of us watched the BBC series, *The Nativity*, and on Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have Part II: a *Lectio Divina* in which we will encounter the story of the Jesus' nativity in a new way, through an early Renaissance painting by the Florentine artist **Bicci di Lorenzo** (1373-1452).

**Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**at 6:30 pm in Norton Hall:**  
***Lectio Divina on The Nativity***  
**by Bicci di Lorenzo, c. 1425**

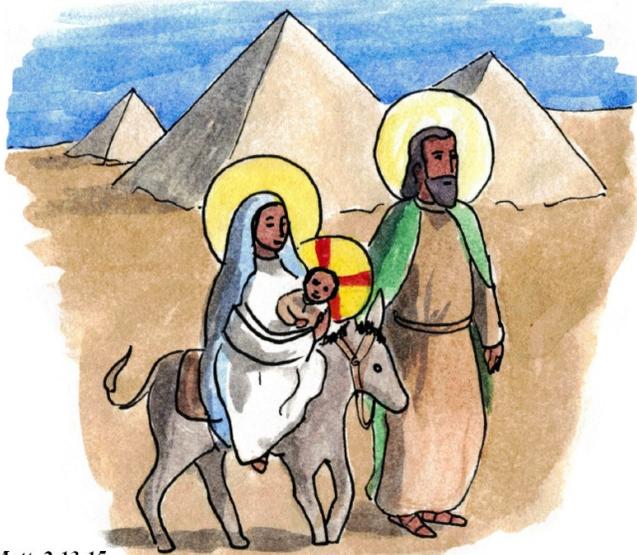
Fr. Nick emphasizes that it is not necessary for you to have watched the *Nativity* film to appreciate this event; the two evenings embrace complementary, but different, ways of deepening our experience of the stories of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus surrounding the time of His Nativity.

*Light refreshments will be served.*



## The Kids' Bulletin

**Sunday December 28th, 2025**  
**Feast of the Holy Family**



Matt. 2:13-15

*Use the number code to see what the prophet predicted about the Child Jesus.*

11 15 14    11 5    4 6 16 12 14    7

2 1 8 8 4 3    9 16    13 11 10

A	C	D	E	F	G	I	L	M	N	O	P	S	T	U	Y
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

thekidsbulletin.com

## Fill in the Blanks

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks and use the circled letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom.

The angel of the Lord appeared to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>. \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> is going to search for the child to destroy him."

Joseph rose and took the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> and his mother by \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> and departed for Egypt. He \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> there until the death of Herod, that what the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> had said through the prophet might be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>. Out of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> I called my son.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Matt. 2:13-15

**FULFILLED**  
**MOTHER**  
**STAYED**  
**JOSEPH**  
**HEROD** **YOU**  
**CHILD** **LORD**  
**NIGHT** **EGYPT**



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WHEN IT'S TIME TO  
REMEMBER



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