



st. cecilia church  
lagunitas

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23, 2007

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www.stcecilia-lagunitas.org



st. mary church  
nicasio

www.stmary-nicasio.org

<b>Mass Schedule:</b>	Sundays	at St. Cecilia's	9:30 a.m.
		at St. Mary's	11:15 a.m.
	Weekdays	at St. Cecilia's	8 a.m. (Mon. Wed. Fri.)
		at St. Mary's	8 a.m. (Thur.)
<b>Confessions:</b>	Sundays	at St. Cecilia's	9 to 9:25 a.m.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

The birth of Christ is the stuff of Shakespeare, political intrigue, ironies, anomalies, tragedies, heart-wrenching stories, sagas, sorrows, innocence, and yet God is right there in the midst of it all. The birth of the incarnated word is subsumed into human goodness and evil at the moment of conception. In the infant Jesus, four apparent opposites meet together: incarnation with redemption; birth with death; motherhood with virginity; humanity with the divine. This is the mixture that this child in the nativity brings, and so we celebrate our Christmas Liturgies.



### Christmas Mass Schedule

- ➡ Christmas Eve Mass: Monday, 24<sup>th</sup>, St. Mary, 5:30 PM.
- ➡ Christmas Day Mass: Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup>, St. Cecilia, 9:30 AM.

There will be no 8 a.m. Mass for this Monday and Wednesday.

### Mass Intentions: Week of December 23, '07

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	... Souls of Lupe Residence
Sunday	11:15 a.m.	... Souls of Lupe Residence
Monday	5:30 p.m.**	... Cheryl Nguyen
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. **	... Tim O'Sullivan +
Thursday	8 a.m.	... Jerry Drohan
Friday	8 a.m.	... Lupe, Guardian Angel

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence  
and with Fear and Trembling Stand.  
Ponder Nothing Earthly Minded ...  
As the Light of Light Descendeth  
From the Realms of Endless Day ...”**



### From the Pew

Pope Benedict XVI's Christmas Message: "Love of neighbor, grounded in the love of God, is first and foremost a responsibility for each individual member of the faithful ... Therefore as a Christian community, the Church must practice love, which is what we believe of God's incarnation of His Son to us."

Our parishes of St. Cecilia's and St. Mary's send our warmest greetings and wishes for a most blessed Christmas. May this Christmas Season fill you with Peace and Touch you with God's love.

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An anonymous donor is granting a matching donation of up to \$12,500 to St. Cecilia parish. This donation is specific to be used for the repayment of the debt the parish incurred when the church was remodeled. Though this is a busy financial time of the year, nevertheless we cannot ignore this opportunity to alleviate our debt to the diocese. We have three more years to pay off our debts. Matching this donation helps us enormously. We have until the end of the year.

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### Last week's collections:

St. Cecilia's, Lagunitas	.....	\$	465.00
St. Mary's, Nicasio	.....	\$	216.00
Total:	.....	\$	<u>681.00</u>

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"It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air." ~ W. T. Ellis

"Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect." ~ Oren Arnold



"The Season has now come full circle.  
Earth is blanketed with Peace.  
We gather in convivial mood to revel,  
Yet as well to pay tribute to  
Nature's own tradition.  
For within the walls of this  
hallowed Valley,  
Where the Heart, restore,  
is filled with gladness,  
Nature speaks of deepest Peace.  
And the Soul, renewed by Nature's  
grandeur and tranquility,  
Affirms our desire for Love, and  
Brotherhood to unite us all,  
As we are here united in the  
Harmony of Carols and Nature."