

November 1, 2020

Mission Statement of St. Cecilia's & St. Mary's

To be Nurtured by Christ's Word, Supported by a Faith Loving Community, and to Serve the Needs of Others as Called to Minister

+ St. Joseph Church, Magdalena, Colombia (sister parish) +



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MASS	Sunday **	St. Cecilia	9:30 a.m.
	-	St. Mary	11:15 a.m.
		** Children Liturgy, last Sunday of the month	
	Monday	St. Cecilia	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	8 a.m.
	Thursday	St. Mary	8 a.m.
	Friday	St. Mary (1st Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
	•	St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
	•	St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
	•	St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Religious Education	Monday	St. Cecilia	3:45 to 4:45 p.m. (1st thru 6th graders)
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
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CELEBRATIONS OF ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Who are they whom we call the saints? They are, as we hear from the Book of Revelation and the second reading today, "a great multitude" of "God's children" coming "from every nation, race, people, and language" to do the will of God. They are the poor in spirit, the humble, the lowly, the meek, the merciful, the righteous, the persecuted, the peacemakers... Because of these wonderful endurances, they are now blessed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is a simple but profound definition about the saints: "the saints are just the sinners who kept on trying." They were born like us. They came from us. There was a time they were sinners like us; but they were the ones who have survived the time of great distress, to be persistent, to be faithful with the Lord. The saints are those who know how to stand up after their failures.

Through liturgical celebrations during this time of the year, especially in November, we have the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of our Christian life and the life of the Church in a broader sense.

When asked: "What is the Church?" We perhaps think about the church building in which we are sitting now; or we may simply think about the Catholic Church here on earth. Indeed, the word "catholic" means we are a universal church.

Jesus Christ is the head of the Church; and thus, the Church is the body of Christ. Since the Church is universal it consists of three stages: the triumphant church of the saints in heaven, the pilgrim church of the living here on earth, and the hidden church of the dead.

Traditionally, on November 1st, we the Church celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints – both known and unknown – who are now in heaven with God. What does it mean for us the Church to celebrate All Saints' Day? The Church reminds us that sanctity is within everyone's reach. Through the communion of saints, we help one another to achieve this sanctity. All Saints' Day assures us with this firm hope of our Christian life, namely: "there is no saint without a past; there is no sinner without a future."

The celebration of All Saints' Day also reminds us of our call to holiness. We imitate the saints; we try to live their examples, to become holy sons and daughters of God, so that one day we will share in the citizenship of heaven, to join the assembly of the saints, to dwell with the spirit of the blessed, and to share in heavenly happiness with God forever.

On November 2nd, we celebrate All Souls Day; we commemorate all the faithful departed; we pray for all souls who, in the purifying suffering of purgatory, await the day when they will join with all saints in heaven.

We learn this from the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned" (CCC, 1030-1031).

The celebration of All Souls' Day has always been the principal means by which the Church fulfills the great commandment of charity toward the dead. Thus, even after death, the links between the living and the dead are not broken.

Relying on the mercy of God, we can also relieve the sufferings of our deceased brothers and sisters through our prayers, our works of charity, and our penances. We can pray for the faithful departed that they will be embraced in God's heavenly home.

IONS	(from Sunday, November 1 to Saturday, November 7)
9:30 a.m.	SC George Kerbs (80 th birthday) SM Luz Obien Jimenez (repose)
8 a.m.	SC Dr. Antonio O. Jimenez (repose)
No Mass	Requests
8 a.m.	SC Collin Dallara & Family (a special intention)
8 a.m.	SM Christie Green (pray for spiritual strength)
8 a.m.	SM Dave Puglisi (health) – Mass & Adoration until noon
8 a.m.	SM Guido Mori-Prange (health)
	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 8 a.m. No Mass 8 a.m. 8 a.m. 8 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- First Friday, November 6: Mass at 8 a.m. at St. Mary Church and Adoration until noon.
- Second collection next Sunday, November 8 for Saint Patrick's Seminary.
- During the month of November, we pray in special way for all souls. Relying on the mercy of God, we can also relieve the suffering of our deceased brothers and sisters through our prayers, our works of charity, and our penances. Please give the name(s) of your loved ones to Fr. Phan, to be put on the prayer list; also bring in the photo(s) of your loved ones to be put on the shrine in the church during this month.