

**May 21, 2023**



st. cecilia church  
lagunitas

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) +



st. mary church  
nicasio

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

See #841 in your Music Book for the readings

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

*Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20*

There is a story of a woman watching a little girl in the street playing with filthy trash. The child was poorly dressed and ill-nourished. The woman became angry and said to God, "Why do you let a thing like that happen in the world you created? Why don't you do something about it?" God replied, "I did do something about it; I created you. Why do you stand there and keep complaining instead of doing something for your fellow people?"

From the Acts of the Apostles in the first reading today, the disciples were in awe seeing how Jesus was ascending into heaven. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood besides, said to them, "men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven." Why are you standing there, watching, crying, complaining? Why don't you do something helpful instead? The Lord is risen. Look for Jesus in the living, not from the dead.

Here is the message for the disciples, and for us today too: wake up from your dream world. Return to your real life. And do what Jesus has commanded you: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all people."

What is the Good News? It is to heal the sick, to feed the hungry, to help the needy, to defend the oppressed, to work for justice, and to preach the "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." But how can these happen if we Christians do not try to become Jesus' instruments of love? The above story invites us to ask ourselves: how seriously do I take Jesus' commands to transform this world into the kind of place God created it to be?

As in the above story of the woman, usually we don't do things to help, but easily complain. Each and every one of us is given certain gifts by God. Do you realize your gifts? How do you use these

gifts? Gifts are given to us, not for our own satisfaction, but for building up the body of Christ, the Church, and for a better world. Jesus urges us to use our gifts and to go into the whole world and witness to the Good News of the Lord.

The Ascension reaffirms the Resurrection of Jesus; he is no longer restricted in space and time. The Ascension does not represent his removal from this world, but his constant presence everywhere on earth to protect us, to strengthen us, and to encourage us "seeking the things that are above, not the things that are on earth."

The Ascension assures us that Jesus is physically gone; and the work of spreading his life-giving message is now entrusted to us his followers – you and me. Jesus promises to be present to his followers through the Holy Spirit, the sacraments, and the Church. How strong do you believe the Sacraments? How active do you live your life as the followers of the Risen Lord?

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me... to the ends of the earth." So, he now invites us to go on the mission with the help of the Holy Spirit, to proclaim the Good News, not only by words but also by good deeds. Witnessing for Jesus means to evangelize – to tell the world about Jesus' love and his saving power, as somebody said this: "Evangelization is one beggar telling another where he found bread."

We are truly followers of Jesus as we live out the spirit of Ascension and proclaim Christ's message to the world. Let us try to live Jesus' command to "go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to all people."

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, May 21 to Saturday, May 27

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Tony Medeiros (repose)
	11:15 am	SM	... Marjorie Coakley (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... Thanksgiving for a wedding anniversary
Tuesday	No Mass		.....
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... Sr. Marinei P. Alves & Nina Phan (Birthday)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Kenny Massucco (special intention)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC	... Taylor Sanchez (special intention)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SC	... Peter & Maria Nguyen (repose)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Second collection today Sunday, May 21:** to support the Catholic Communication Campaign.
- Padre Pio Mass and Devotion:** at St. Cecilia, Saturday May 27.
- First Communion:** as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, May 28, four children will receive the First Communion at 11:15 am Mas at St. Mary's Church, Nicasio. Please keep these children in our prayers.
- Save the Date:** it's time to Celebrate Father Phan's 16<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary! We're planning a special gathering and potluck lunch on Sunday, June 11, 2023... at 1:00 pm... at St. Cecilia Parish Hall. More details to follow.
- Mark your calendar:** on July 30, 2023, St. Mary's will be holding a fundraiser at the Lafranchi Deer Camp in Nicasio. Join our parish communities for a Western Style Chicken BBQ with fine wines and unique brews. The cost is \$60.00 and limited to the first 60 persons who sign in. Expect to have some fun! Contact Margaret Farley [lgleagles@gmail.com](mailto:lgleagles@gmail.com) for more information.

**2023 Annual Appeal**

St. Cecilia  
Goal \$ 7,295.00  
Received \$ 7,595.00  
*We've reached the goal!*  
**THANK YOU!**

St. Mary  
Goal \$ 6,095.00  
Received \$ 2,247.00  
Need \$ 3,848.00

**Last Week Collections**

St. Cecilia  
Offertory \$ 975.00  
Maintenance \$ 150.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> collect'n \$ 237.00  
Total \$ 1,362.00

St. Mary  
Offertory \$ 429.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> collect'n \$ 162.00  
Preservat'n \$ 50.00  
AAA \$ 30.00  
Total \$ 671.00