



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

October 8, 2023

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

MASS	Sunday **	St. Cecilia	9:30 a.m.
		St. Mary	11:15 a.m.
	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 st Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
		St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	10 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
Reconciliation		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #931 in your Music Book for the readings

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 2023

Is 5:1-7; Ps 80; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Here is a story of Peter and Nancy who consider themselves successful in their family life. They worked hard to raise their three children. They bought a house, and then had to do a lot of overtime to keep up with the mortgage payments. They gladly sacrificed vacations and holidays for the sake of the children. Life was difficult sometimes, but the children never lacked anything. They wanted their kids to have all the things they never had. The kids were sent to good schools; they never missed a chance for outing, camping, or social activity; and they were always well dressed. Peter and Nancy taught them good values, raised them in the church, and tried to give them good examples.

And what has happened to these children when they are grown. None of them go to church any more. The eldest quit school and started his own business. He worked hard, too; quite successful, but money has become his god. The parents don't see him, though he occasionally sends them a gift for Birthday or Thanksgivings or Christmas...

The second, a daughter, is married to a successful businessman. Married but do not intend to have children as it would keep them from traveling. They send the parents cards, but rarely do the parents see them.

The third was also married, with two beautiful children, a boy and a girl. But suddenly, he left his wife and children, and went off with a younger woman, touring the world like hippies. Since then, the parents hardly hear from him.

Now, all the children have their own lives. Peter and Nancy sometimes feel lonely; the big house seems to be so deserted. Every Sunday while attending the Mass, they try not to think about the fact that none of their children go to church anymore. And they sadly wonder "what more could they have done" for their children? The parents are sad for themselves, but even sadder for their children. It is sad for them to give life to something and then to give up control of it.

Do you find anything from this story similar to your own life story? How about your children? Your family? Today's readings seem to suggest that even God sometimes feels like this: "What more

could I have done" for my people? In spite of all the love God showed his people, what he got in return was ingratitude. God is disappointed because the people have squandered the blessings which he wanted them to enjoy. Sadly, as we heard from the readings, the vineyard is destined to become a wasteland.

What did God want for his people? God wanted justice, and instead got corruption, exploitation of the poor and weak. God wanted goodness, and instead got evil. God wanted compassion and share, and instead got greed to acquire. God wanted humility, and instead got pride... This is the story in today's readings, and it is our story, too.

From the parable in today's gospel, as Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people of Israel, the landowner represents God, and the vineyard he built is Jerusalem, or Israel in general; the tenants represent Israel's leaders. The parable of the wicked tenants obviously refers to Israel's tragic failure to acknowledge what God has done for them. Nevertheless, you and I should not point the finger at them, but examine ourselves and realize that we face the same danger as those wicked tenants; we are ungrateful to God for what he has done for us.

Let us ask ourselves: God has given us many gifts in our life, have you received those gifts with gratitude or ingratitude? Have you cultivated God's gifts or have you failed to respond to those gifts? Have you acknowledged the gifts we received and shared those gifts with the unfortunate? Have you remembered to give thanks to God through everyday events of your life? Now, the vineyard of the Lord is our very lives. At vintage time the Master will return to receive the harvest. May we bear fruit in plenty, and be pleasing in his sight by living lives that are marked by love and respect!

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, October 8 to Saturday, October 14

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Fr. Piers Lahey (repose)
	11:15 am	SM ... Sr. Everlyn Robello (repose)
Monday	7:50 am	SC ... Joseph Trong & Maria Ban (repose)
Tuesday	No Mass
Wednesday	7:50 am	SC ... John Thuc & Ana Vuong (repose)
Thursday	8 am	SM ... Grace Farley (birthday: Oct. 13)
Friday	8 am	SC ... Neil Osmer (repose)
Saturday	8 am	SM ... Peter & Martha Phan (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **From Fr. Phan:** Dear Parishioners, our last meeting of the Parish Council was sometimes before the Covid, so we haven't had a meeting for at least 3 years. A few members have passed away since then. Now, I would like to invite all who are interested in becoming a member of our Parish Council which guides finances and parish business and events, **please let me and/or John Beckerley know.** The meeting date, time, and agenda is to be announced soon. Thank you!
2. **October Counts:** begin today, Sun. Oct. 8, and will continue for the next three Sundays, October 15, 22, and 29.
3. **Notice:** the daily Mass this Monday and Wednesday will start earlier – at 7:50 am. Fr. Phan is on clergy study days at St. Mary's Cathedral.
4. **St. Cecilia's Annual Parish Rummage Sale – Oct. 21 & 22:** we need help with set up and donations... **Please refer to the enclosed handout from last week, as a guide to donations that we can accept!** Contact Robyn Torres wakerobyn425@gmail.com if you have question or want to volunteer. Thank you!

2023 Annual Appeal

St. Cecilia

Goal \$ 7,295.00

Received \$ 7,295.00

We've reached the goal

THANK YOU!

St. Mary

Goal \$ 6,095.00

Received \$ 5,102.00

Need \$ 993.00

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia

Offertory \$ 522.00

Maintenance \$ 250.00

Total \$ 772.00

St. Mary

Offertory \$ 261.00

AAA \$ 30.00

Preservat'n \$ 70.00

Total \$ 361.00