



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

October 15, 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 #934 in your Music Book for the readings

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 2023

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12...20; Mt 22:1-14

Almost four years ago, I sponsored my two brothers and their families to come and live in the US, settling in Houston, Texas. When they were still in Vietnam, they never missed Sunday Mass. But now, they struggle with finding time to go to church on the weekend; they are so busy with work that they have to skip Sunday Mass sometimes. I encourage them not to miss Sunday Mass, suggesting them to go Saturday Vigil Mass instead, or some churches have evening Sunday Mass. I challenge them: “Remember when you were in Vietnam; when you were in need, you were closer to God. You prayed, and God granted what you asked for. Now you come to live in this land of plenty and freedom, and you begin to forget God. Don’t be ungrateful!”

From today’s readings, especially the Gospel, we hear about how people respond to God’s invitation. A feast is a joyful event for friends to be together, share stories, and enjoy food and drinks. To be invited means I am remembered; I am important to the person who hosts the banquet. The Lord himself provides a feast for all peoples. It is a joyful and happy time when “the Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces,” and replace with joy and happiness. This tells us about a heavenly feast when the Lord God gathers all people to him after they depart from this earthly life.

An important feast is told in the gospel reading – the wedding of the king’s son. He organizes a lavish banquet and sends out his servants to invite guests. Many guests refuse the invitation. They are too busy with their own business; don’t have time to attend the feast. Ironically, God himself invites all people to come to the feast, but they refuse.

It is the same story of our daily life. We are invited to come to the Mass. Come to the Eucharistic celebration. But sometimes, if not often, we refuse, too. Like the first group of people in the Gospel, we probably refuse without giving any explanation, saying: “No. I have no interest to go to church at all.”

Or like the second group, we might refuse with some excuses: “because of my daughter’s birthday party, or my son’s baseball game, I don’t have time to go to Mass today.”

The third group is really bad. Some of them turn hostile, maltreat the Lord’s messengers and slay them. When a king or a president or any important person holds a reception, and sends out personal invitations to their guests, they would never like the idea of declining. So, what does the king do? He punishes those who killed his messengers. He sends his servants to “round up everyone they met.”

Interestingly, as told by the story, there’s one person who did accept the invitation and came to the wedding feast, but he did not dress properly for the event. So, what happened? He was thrown out. Sometimes, we might assume that we are already seated at the banquet table of the Lord. However, if we do not prepare, we may end up being thrown outside like the guest without a proper garment.

We can apply this to our attending Mass. Being present regularly at Mass is good, but we need to prepare ourselves spiritually, to participate actively in the Mass by listening attentively to the Scripture readings; singing with the choir; responding to the prayers, especially preparing our heart and mind to receive the Holy Communion worthily.

So, the story is about the banquet that the Lord prepares for us here on this Eucharistic Table. It is about the Mass of our thanksgiving to the Lord for all the gifts he has been giving us. Once again, the Lord invites us: “Everything is ready. Come to the feast. Be prepared spiritually!” Let us be attentive to the Lord’s invitation. Let us push away all other busy-ness of our daily life. When we come to Mass, like the guest with the wedding garment, let us be prepared, be worthy of heart and soul to come before the Lord’s table and receive the Body and Blood of Christ with faith, hope, and love; with joy, happiness, and peace.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, October 15 to Saturday, October 21

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ...	All Souls in Purgatory
	11:15 am	SM ...	Fr. Edward Bohnert (repose)
Monday	8 am	SC ...	Martha & Cung Phan (repose)
Tuesday	No Mass	
Wednesday	8 am	SC ...	Jessica Tanner (healing)
Thursday	8 am	SM ...	Audrey Massucco (birthday tomorrow)
Friday	8 am	SC ...	Ngoc & Tuong Phan (birthday)
Saturday	8 am	SM ...	Dylan Baylacq (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **From Fr. Phan:** Dear Parishioners, please consider to become a member of the Parish Council to help me and the parish with your advices regarding finance, community life, and other business. I earnestly need your help. The meeting date, time, and agenda will be announced next Sunday. Thank you!
2. **October Counts:** to be continue today, Sunday, October 19 and the next two Sundays, October 22 and 29.
3. **Wednesday Visit & Rosary:** at 5 pm this Wednesday, October 18, at David & Allison Puglisi’s home: 65 Barranca Rd., Lagunitas, Ca 94938.
4. **St. Cecilia’s Annual Parish Rummage Sale – October 21 & 22:** preparations are underway and the date is fast approaching! Bring your donations (including donated clothing) to the Parish Hall this Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9:30 am - 11:00 am. We still need donations of paper bags, gift bags and tissue paper or newspaper, for the checkout table. 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 \$ 521.00
Maintenance \$ 150.00
Total \$ 671.00

St. Mary
Offertory \$ 367.00
AAA \$ 30.00
Preservat’n \$ 70.00
Charity Grant\$ 9,435.65
Total \$ 9,902.65