



st. cecilia church  
lagunitas

October 29, 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 <sup>st</sup> 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
		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
	Reconciliation	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
	Confirmation Prep.	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #940 in your Music Book for the readings

30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Ex 22:20-26; Ps 18; 1 Thes 1:5-10; Mt 22:34-40

We are to imitate Jesus to show our sincere love for God and our neighbors. By fulfilling these two great commandments, we hope to become models of faith and imitators of the Lord. We may find the true meaning of love from the Crucifix – the Holy Cross – where Jesus stretches his arms and dies for us.

The Holy Cross is a lively and concrete illustration of the message of love which Jesus teaches us in today's gospel: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind... and love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:38-39). Love God and love neighbors is a profound meaning of the Holy Cross; it is the heart of Christian life. Loving God must go hand in hand with loving neighbors. Jesus invites us to love God, not only on our lips or by our manipulating acts, but with all our being, and to love neighbors as ourselves. If we neglect our love to neighbors, in vain do we profess our love to God.

As we approach the celebrations of All Saints Day and All Souls Day, we will find in the saints and the faithful departed concrete examples of love God and love neighbors.

Who are they whom we call the saints? They are 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 endurances, they are now blessed by God through the Lord.

Here 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.

The celebrations of All Saints and All Souls give us 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 universal; so, 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 1<sup>st</sup>, we the Church celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints – both known and unknown – who are now in heaven with God. Celebrating All Saints Day reminds us that sanctity is within everyone's reach. Through the communion of saints, we help one another achieve this sanctity. It reminds us about 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. All Saints Day reassures our hope that: "there is no saint without a past; there is no sinner without a future." On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 fulfills our 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 loved ones 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.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, October 29 to Saturday, November 4

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ...	Fr. Edward A. Bohnert (repose)
	11:15 am	SM ...	Bob Bridwell (repose/birthday)
Monday	8 am	SC ...	Nemesia Palacpac (repose)
Wednesday	8 am	SC ...	All Saints
Thursday	8 am	SM ...	All Souls
Friday	8 am	SM ...	Lela Taylor (repose)
Saturday	8 am	SM ...	Phillip Joaquin Torres (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **October Counts:** last count today, Sunday 10/29.
2. **All Saints Day:** Wednesday, November 1. Mass (Solemnity) is at 8 am, at St. Cecilia Church, Lagunitas. It is a holy day of obligation, meaning Catholics are obligated to attend Mass.
3. **Home Visit & Rosary:** Wednesday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm, at Ginny & George Kerbs's home: 8 Castle Rock Ave, Woodacre, CA 94973.
4. **Parish Council Meeting:** Thursday 11/16 at 5 pm, in Parish Hall.
5. **First Friday Mass & Adoration:** at 8 am, Fri 11/3, St. Mary Church.
6. **Rummage Sale Report:** We have made \$4,415. Thank you to Robyn Torres and the Team for your hard works to make this our annual event successful. Especially thank you to those who donated the items for sale and those generously gave financial supports! May God bless you all!
7. **All Souls:** traditionally, we the Church pray specially for the Faithful Departed in November. If you want to have Mass for your loved ones, please submit your Mass intentions soon as you can, to help Fr. Phan schedule the Masses for your beloved during November.

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 \$ 5,652.00  
Need \$ 443.00

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia  
Offertory \$ 566.00  
Maintenance \$ 200.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collect'n \$ 268.00  
Rumage Sale \$ 4,414.95  
Total \$ 5,448.95

St. Mary  
Offertory \$ 500.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collect'n \$ 140.00  
Bake Sale \$ 121.00  
Total \$ 761.00