



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

November 5, 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
		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
Confirmation Prep.		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #943 in your Music Book for the readings

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12

THEY PREACH BUT THEY DO NOT PRACTICE

Is any of these warnings of Jesus applied to us? To you? You may pray on this gospel message, and see if you yourself have ever been caught in any situation of this whole story.

From the first reading today, Prophet Malachi strongly cursed the priests, the leaders of people – who did not follow the way of the Lord, and misled the people. In the same way, from the gospel, Jesus sternly warned the scribes and the Pharisees about their hypocrisy: “They preach but they do not practice.” They said very well, but they never practiced what they taught.

It seems to me that Jesus does not only say this to the scribes, the Pharisees, and the chief priests, but he addresses this to us too: clergy, priests, deacons, leaders of communities, parents, grandparents... to all of us.

There is an old saying: “Do what I say, not what I do.” You and I might have run into this awkward situation when we had to say to our young children, or tell other people, the similar expression: “Do what I say, not what I do.”

An old grandpa tells his young grandson not to smoke to avoid lung cancer, and not to drink if you don’t want to get liver cancer. The boy suddenly asks: if so, why don’t you quit smoking Pappy? The old man laughs saying: “Now you’ve caught me! You, Little-One. I am too old to quit. You do what I say, not what I do.”

Here is another example regarding pornography addiction. We know it is bad. We teach our children not seeing bad pictures, not watching bad movies, but there are adults who still struggle with pornography. We cannot say to our children: “do what I say, not what I do.” What can people gain after watching those bad things? Nothing, but only the feelings of loss, confusion, guilt... Let’s be guided by

God’s grace and wisdom. Say no to wrong things and choose right things to do. Practice what we teach our children. Don’t contradict ourselves...

A young boy tells his mother: “Mom, I want to grow old. I want to be adult.” The mother is so surprised asking: “Why, sweetheart?” The boy said: “Because, if I were an adult, nobody could force me to go to Mass on Sunday. Just like Daddy, I don’t have to go to church if I don’t want to.” Monkey See, Monkey Do. What parents model is extremely influential to a child. Parents can’t expect their children to practice the Catholic faith if the parents themselves don’t go to church, if they don’t set a good example for their children. Unfortunately, we don’t practice what we teach our children... but sometimes we force them: “Do what I say...”

Six months before becoming a priest, together with my classmates, I was ordained a deacon by Archbishop Niederauer. When we, the ordained candidates, knelt down before the archbishop to be handed the Holy Bible, he said to each of us: “son, believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.” Then, he reassured us all: “sons, you are ordained to serve, not to be serve. The greatest among you must be your servant. Don’t forget to practice what you teach.”

As in his letter to the Thessalonians in today’s second reading, Saint Paul said to them: “We were determined to share with you not only the Gospel of God, but our very selves as well.” Brothers and sisters, let us profess our faith in Jesus, not only by our empty words, but also by our active lives, so we can confidently say that we preach the Word of God and we do practice the words we preach. We teach the Gospel of Jesus and we do live the Gospel we teach.

We are strengthened by the Word of God as we read at Mass; we are nourished by the Body and Blood of Jesus that we received at this Eucharistic table. May the Spirit of God enlighten us to believe what we read, teach what we believe, and practice what we teach.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, November 5 to Saturday, November 11

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ...	Vic & Jean Frugoli (repose)
	11:15 am	SM ...	Neha Victoria DeWakar (repose/birthday)
Monday	8 am	SC ...	Margaret & Stan Greer (repose)
Tuesday	no Mass	
Wednesday	8 am	SC ...	Fr. Anton Tran Dinh Phuc (repose)
Thursday	8 am	SM ...	Ashley Williams (repose)
Friday	8 am	SC ...	Giuse Pham Canh (repose)
Saturday	8 am	SM ...	Ed & Elsie Kerbs (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Second Collection:** today, Sunday, November 5, is to support Saint Patrick’s Seminary.
- Home Visit & Rosary:** Wednesday, November 15 at 5 pm, at Carol Mori-Prange’s home: 24 Elm Ave, Woodacre, CA 94973. We keep Carol in our prayers for her recovery after a surgery last week.
- Parish Council Meeting:** Thursday 11/16 at 5 pm, in Parish Hall, to discuss the works, events, business, finance of the parish, especially to prepare for Advent and Christmas to come.

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 \$ 516.00
Maintenance \$ 150.00
Rumage Sale \$ 250.00
Total \$ 916.00

St. Mary
Offertory \$ 808.00
Preservat’n \$ 50.00
AAA \$ 30.00
Total \$ 888.00