



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

November 12, 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
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
	Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia

See #946 in your Music Book for the readings

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

ALWAYS SEEK GOD’S WISDOM, STAY AWAKE, AND BE READY!

We are approaching the end of the Liturgical Year A, in two more Sundays before we begin Year B in the church calendar. During these last weeks, we are reminded again and again the message of “being prepared” as we hear in the parable of the ten virgins today: “Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day, or what hour, your Lord will come.”

“The day of the Lord” is to remind us of the end of time, or the end of our life, or the Last Judgment. When Christ returns, all people will be judged; but we need not fear the judgment if we turn to the Lord in repentance for our sins and be prepared. Saint Paul tells us in his letter to the Thessalonians that: God calls you and me to holiness and uprightness, so that when Jesus comes, we may be blameless in his sight.

The weakness of our human nature is our laziness and procrastination. Satan likes this. One of the favorite tools of the devil is delay. Satan always tries to persuade us to postpone our work, to delay our prayers. But for Jesus, last minute is too late. See how the foolish in the Gospel story were locked out, just because they did not prepare; they delayed, putting things for tomorrow.

Each and every one of us here might have one time or another experienced a nervous situation during your school years, if you came to class unprepared. One of the common things of college students is staying up late until 2 or 3 am to finish the term paper, to be turned in tomorrow... I remember one of my teachers randomly gave us a five-minute quick test at the beginning of the class hour. If the students were ready, then they did very well on the test. If they came to class unprepared, then you know what happened during the test. Some would cheat in class; others would look around asking other classmates for help; still others would fail the test, and eventually receive an F.

This nervous situation is like what we hear from the parable of the ten virgins in today’s Gospel. Five virgins were considered wise because they prepared very well to greet the bridegroom. The other five were considered foolish since they carried their lamps without oil as they went to meet the bridegroom. Not bringing enough oil, their lamps would be extinguished. Without oil, their lamps could not produce light.

It is very much the same with our Christian life. Oil represents our faith, love, prayer, work of charity... Without oil of God’s grace, and of holiness, our life of faith would die out. Without oil of prayer, and of charity, our Christian life would produce no fruit, and so it would be meaningless.

The Gospel today, and during these last couple weeks of the liturgical year, warns us that death itself comes at a time when we least expect it; we don’t know when, even while we are awake or when we sleep. Thus, the first reading reminds us to always seek the Wisdom of God; we need to pray, for we neither know the time nor the hour. Our best preparation for a happy death is a life well lived.

Maybe you already have your pension plan, educational plan and life plan. How about your eternal life plan? Do you have one? Let us ask ourselves this question: how can I stand before God if today is my last day on earth? Will I stand uprightly and confidently, or shamefully and fearfully?

It does not mean that we should spend our life in constant fear or guilt, but like the five wise virgins, “Be ready! Stay awake!” Be vigilant at all times and pray, so that we may have the strength to stand before Jesus if he suddenly comes to us again. Live our lives the best we can, so we will have no regrets that we have loved too little or too late; always seek God’s guidance and prepare to welcome Jesus Christ whenever he comes to knock at the door of our life.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, November 12 to Saturday, November 18

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Gary Frugoli (repose)
	11:15 am	SM ... Repose of the souls of the Hall & Reilly Families
Monday	8 am	SC ... Ralph John Treleven (repose)
Tuesday	no Mass
Wednesday	8 am	SC ... Paul Tran D. Loc+Maria Ng. Th. Khang (repose)
Thursday	8 am	SM ... Mario Ugarte & Maria Tran Thi Muoi (repose)
Friday	8 am	SC ... Josephine & Vito Lomele (repose)
Saturday	8 am	SM ... Dick Kartendahl & Gioan Thi Family (repose)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Home Visit & Rosary:** at 5 pm, Wednesday, Nov. 15, at Daphne & Ken Massucco’s home: 51 Castle Rock Ave, Woodacre, CA 94973.
- 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. Many thanks to the members of our Parish Council: John Beckerley, Paul Conley, Carol Mori-Prange, Carol Perez, and especially our new members: Kenyon Larsen, Robyn Torres, and Daphne & Ken Massucco.
- Second Collection:** next Sunday, November 19, for the Campaign for Human Development.

Last Week Collections

St. Cecilia
Offertory \$ 612.00
Maintenance \$ 350.00
2nd collect’n \$ 389.00
Total \$ 1,351.00

St. Mary
Offertory \$ 772.00
Preservat’n \$ 300.00
2nd collect’n \$ 111.00
Total \$ 1,183.00