



st. cecilia church  
lagunitas

February 4, 2024

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> Friday)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
		St. Cecilia (other Fridays)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Saturday only)	10 a.m. Padre Pio Mass & Devotion
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		or by appointment call:	(415) 488-9799
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

See #866 in your Music Book for the readings

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

Job 7:1...7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16...23; Mk 1:29-39

The Gospel today says: “Rising very early before dawn, Jesus left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.” This brings back to me the memory of the night before my ordination, almost seventeen years ago, my spiritual director, Fr. Gene Konkell, called me in for spiritual advice and reaffirmation. He blessed me, saying: “Son, congratulations on your ordination! Very soon, you are going to be a priest, a different person ontologically. Ordination marks an achievement of your nine-year studies and formation program; it is not the conclusion yet, but only the beginning of your priestly life. There are still many struggles and temptations out there. So, never lose track, but hold on to the Lord! Pray, and pray, and pray!”

This profound advice has become a precious baggage of my priestly life. Pray daily is one of the commitments for priests as we promise at the ordination. As diocesan priests, we formally pray at least four times every day: morning prayer, midday prayer, evening prayer, and night prayer before rest time. For priests, it’s a sin if we don’t keep that promise.

In the midst of busy-ness of life, sometimes if I skip or postpone my prayer, I know something wrong; I feel lost. The question is: for what purpose, what motivation, am I doing the works I am doing? Be careful, Satan is sneaking in me, to pull me away from God. If I am too busy to pray, then I need to slow down and look back.

Pray is very important, not only for priest, clergy, or religious men and women, but for all of us as Christians – the followers of Jesus Christ. There is a saying: “The more you know, the more you love. And the more you love, the more you know.” You cannot love a person without knowing that person; and you cannot know more about that person if you don’t love that person. You cannot love God without knowing him. You cannot develop your knowledge of God without loving him, which means you cannot know God, if you don’t love him, if you don’t search for him, if you don’t converse with him.

Ironically, people spend lots of time watching TV or watching the game, but don’t have time to pray. God gives us all time to work for living and to enjoy life, but sometimes we complain that we don’t have time to go to church even once a week on Sundays.

In order to be an active Christian, we need to pray, and pray daily. You don’t need to take a long time for prayer, but a short prayer is fine, it depends on the circumstance. The idea is to keep God present in your life. Pray when you wake up in the morning and before you begin your day of work. Say grace to thank God before you have your meal. Pray before you go to sleep at night.

The Gospel today tells us about Jesus’ life and his ministries: he is so busy. He comes to pray and teach in the synagogue. People bring the sick to him for healing. He travels from village to village preaching the Good News, and to “cure many who are sick with various diseases.” Even in the evening, people still bring the sick to him for healing. The day is so busy, but Jesus never loses his time to pray, for he knows that God the Father is the source of all life, the wisdom of his teachings, the miracle of his healings, and the strength of his ministries.

We learn from Jesus to be more fervent in our prayers so that we can love the sick, the elderly, the lonely who need our love and support. Like Job in the first reading today, we pray so that we can realize the will of God in every situation of our lives, even in times of trouble, sickness, and suffering and death. We pray, like St. Paul, St. Peter and other disciples who assisted Jesus in his ministries, so that we can actively preach the Gospel of love. Let us be more fervent in our daily prayers, so God will transform our heart to love and to serve God and others.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, February 4 to Friday, February 9

Sunday	9:30 am	SC ...	Fr. Gene Konkell (repose)
	11:15 am	SM ...	Joachim Thuong & Teresa Tin (repose)
Monday	8 am	SC ...	Fr. Peter Thiet (repose)
Tuesday	.....	no Mass	.....
Wednesday	8 am	SC ...	Ginny & George Kerbs (for health & wellness)
Thursday	8 am	SM ...	Joseph Minh & Joseph Man (repose)
Friday	8 am	SC ...	Peter de Rutte (special intention for blessing)
Saturday	.....	no Mass	.....

2024 Annual Appeal

	St. Cecilia
Goal	\$ 8,036.00
Received	\$ .00
Needed	\$ 8,036.00

	St. Mary
Goal	\$ 5,533.00
Received	\$ .00
Needed	\$ 5,533.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Archdiocesan Annual Appeal comes again:** the letter is coming in your mail. We begin taking 2<sup>nd</sup> collections for AAA 2024 from this Sunday, February 4 to Sunday, March 24. Thank you for your support.
- Wednesday Home Visit & Rosary:** on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays only. Please continue to sign up to host a prayer gathering at your home. Next gathering will be at Carol Mori-Prange’s home: 24 Elm Ave, Woodacre. Wednesday, February 7, at 5 pm.
- Ash Wednesday:** will be on February 14 when Lenten season begins. We collect the palm leaves you save from last year to prepare the ashes for use on Ash Wednesday. Please bring them in anytime, until next Sunday.
- Pray for little girl Paisley and family:** Paisley was diagnosed a form of Leukemia, continuing the Chemotherapy. Let us pray for healing miracle.

Last Week Collections

	St. Cecilia
Offertory	\$ 582.00
Maintenance	\$ 100.00
AAA	\$ 200.00
Total	\$ 882.00

	St. Mary
Offertory	\$ 375.00
Preservat’n	\$ .00
Total	\$ 375.00