



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

March 10, 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 st 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 #818 in your Music Book for the readings

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

2 Chr 36:14...23; Ps 137; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son to die on the cross for us, so that whoever believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. This beautiful message from the Gospel today is one of the essential points in the Bible that proves the truth that **God is love**. Actually, people throughout the ages still have a hard time to understand and to accept this truth that because of love, God gave his only Son Jesus to die on the cross for us. Why does it have to be that way? However, God’s way of thinking is not the same way we normally think.

Here is a story telling us about our way is not the same as God’s way. There is a couple who have four sons. One day, the parents tell each other: our first two sons look handsome, clever, and studious; hopefully they will become a doctor and an engineer in future. The fourth – the youngest one – is healthy and active; we may rely on him to support us in our old age. But our third son doesn’t look clever at all; he looks unhealthy and inactive. We worry that he will not have a successful life. Let us send him to the nuns asking them to raise him. Give him to the Church. Who knows he may become a priest, and we don’t have to worry about his future.

We very often choose good fruits and only give to God rotten fruits. That is how we humans concern about life. But God’s way is not the same as our ways. Nobody is able to understand the mystery of love that God has shown us through the cross. God’s thought is not the same as our thoughts.

God loves us. God loves the world through the Son Jesus Christ. “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believed in him should not perish but have everlasting life” (Jn 3:16). This truth has been handed down to us from generation to generation through the Scriptures and the Apostles. We the Church are built on the foundation of this truth: God is love.

Saint Paul tells us in the second reading today: brothers and sisters, “God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life

with Christ (by grace you have been saved)” (Eph 2:4-5). God loves us even when we still are sinners, a rebellious people as described in the first reading today (2 Chr 36:14...23). The Babylonian exile (Ps 137) was the result of the people’s sin. Yet, God doesn’t want any among us to perish; our merciful God and Father wants to bring us safely home by the end.

We may look up the crucifix and ask: “Jesus, how much you love us?” Jesus may not answer us but he stretches out his arms, lowers his head, and dies, just because of love. There is no greater love than laying down one’s life for one’s friends. Jesus did this for us on the hill of Calvary, because he loved us.

We have been carrying our daily cross and walking with Jesus more than half way of the Lenten journey. We are called to spread God’s love throughout the world in which we live: by our concern for people in any kind of need, by our thoughtful attention to people who are lonely or troubled, by our willingness to listen even to people with whom we disagree, by our patience with those who perturb us, beginning in our own families, and by our efforts to spread peace in the world we live.

Sometimes we choose to do difficult things in our lives; sometimes we choose to do sacrifices for others, because, as we hope, the end is a spiritual reward. But let us practice the simplest thing in our life: let us love one another as God has loved us, by showing our concerns and cares for our brothers and sisters we meet in our everyday life, just because **God is love** and we are created in the likeness of God.

MASS INTENTIONS: from Sunday, March 10 to Friday, March 15

Sunday	9:30 am	SC ...	Crissa Volhontseff (birthday)
	11:15 am	SM ...	Peter & Maria Nguyen (repose)
Monday	8 am	SC ...	Norma Bomsteiger (repose)
Tuesday	no Mass
Wednesday	8 am	SC ...	George Kerbs (health)
Thursday	8 am	SM ...	Stephen Mori-Prange (birthday)
Friday	8 am	SC ...	Siu-Mei Wong (special intention)
Saturday	no Mass

2024 Annual Appeal

	St. Cecilia
Goal	\$ 8,036.00
Received	\$ 6,301.00
Needed	\$ 1,735.00

	St. Mary
Goal	\$ 5,533.00
Received	\$ 2,645.00
Needed	\$ 2,888.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Second Collection:** today, Sunday March 10, for Catholic Relief Services.
- Thank you:** Robyn Torres and the Team for the wonderful St. Patrick’s Day Party last night, Saturday, March 9. Thank you All for your generous help in different ways to make the celebration beautifully successful. Thanks to those who donated food and money. Especially thanks to Josie and Tom who cooked the traditional corn beef and cabbage for us.
- Next Home Visit & Rosary:** at Kate & Wes Andruess’ home: 12 Country Ln, Novato, CA... at 5 pm, Wednesday, March 20.
- Stations of the Cross:** Friday March 15, at St. Cecilia, right after 8 am Mass.
- Save the Dates:** *Palm Sunday, March 24 at both churches as usual schedule; *Holy Thursday, March 28 at St. Cecilia Church: 7:15 pm; *Good Friday, March 29 at St. Mary Church – starts at 3 pm; *Easter Vigil: Saturday, March 30 at St. Cecilia Church: 7:15 pm; *Easter Sunday, March 31 at both churches as usual schedule. More details to come.

Last Week Collections

	St. Cecilia
Offertory	\$ 865.00
Maintenance	\$ 50.00
AAA	\$ 718.00
Total	<u>\$ 1,633.00</u>

	St. Mary
Offertory	\$ 218.00
AAA	\$ 93.00
Preservat’n	\$ 100.00
Total	<u>\$ 411.00</u>