

## **Contact Us**

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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www.stjoseph-middletown.com

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter - May 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Spring is amidst us! We see the colorful and beautiful blossoming flowers and smell their fragrances. These remind me of "Flores de Mayo"... a whole month of May festival we celebrate in the Philippines as part of our May devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Flowers tell me it is the month of May ... the month of Mary!

Last month, I expressed an inspired prayer of having grottos built for Our Lady of Guadalupe and for St. Joseph. This necessitated the call for donors of life-size images of St. Joseph and Our Lady of Guadalupe, measuring about six feet tall.

What a blessing and a pleasant surprise it was when four people personally approached me and informed me of their willingness to be donors. Thanks to Tony and Mary Ann Arnold who will donate the image of St. Joseph. Thanks, too, to Armand and Ester Rosales and Enrique Montanez who will jointly donate the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. An image costs \$3,500.00 excluding shipping and taxes. I am so grateful, indeed, for the immediate and generous response of our donors.

Special thanks go to Francesco Cervantes, Javier Anguiano, Enrique Montanez, Ruben Cruz, Juvenal Campus and Jose Ramirez ... our volunteer contractors who will be taking charge of the grotto and the gazebo project ... for their commitment and labor of love! Of course, I am truly grateful, too, for the support of the Servidores de Maria from the Hispanic Ministry.

My dear parishioners, as we commence the grotto and gazebo project, allow me to appeal for your continuous generosity and kindness until the completion of this project for our outdoor prayer area and other parish activities.

This month, we also started the fencing project. I am grateful to Douglas Ebert who freely helped for the digging of the posts for the fencing. The cost estimate of the fencing project is \$3,500.

On another undertaking, we have ordered and installed the security cameras for the Church which cost us \$5,000.00.

Furthermore, we have improved the sound system inside the Church through the help of Tyrone Rivera. The headphones and a new microphone, including labor and installation, cost us \$800.00.

This month, we opened Our Lady of the Pines, the outdoor Church. I am especially grateful to Suzanna and Rick Macedo, John Enright and Joe Guardado for painting the pews, cleaning the area and repainting the vandalized walls.

Please support our fundraising event "A Summer Night" on June 24th, Saturday at Greenview Bar and Grill at 19210 Hartmann Rd. Hidden Valley. The proceeds from this fundraising will go towards paying the insurance for the parish which includes three Churches and the rectory.

Together, let us entrust to St. Joseph and to Mary all our parish projects and activities. I may not be sure, how all these will unfold but I am certain that through the providence of God and your continuous generosity and cooperation, all will be accomplished.

To God be the Glory!!

In Christ,

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

Selanene Gerdon

Pastor, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Middletown

## **Mass Times**

St. Joseph

Tuesday – Friday 8:30 a.m.

Sunday's at 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Our Lady of the Lake
Loch Lomond

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

**Our Lady of the Pines** 

Sunday's at 11:30 am.





Please pray for the sick in our parish... and those who care for them.... Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Brendan "Ben" Coyne, Michael Davis, Chris Eergz, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Ron Hays, John Johnson, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Jodie Niezgoda, Karen Ness, Don Nielsen, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Tyrone Rivera, Melody Royvel, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Leslie Thomas, Toni Vecellio and special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.



Please plan to support our event on June 24th as it will be our biggest fundraiser of the year. As you probably are aware, this event is replacing our Blarney Banquet which for 17 years all proceeds went towards our \$11,000+/- liability and property insurance bills from the diocese.

This year we will have a silent auction only and are looking for auction items. Contact Jane Cauley if you have something to donate at 707 355-4398. You can bring auction items to mass on Sunday, or call Sandy at the office to make arrangements. We are also selling tickets for a chance to win Feast with the Priest (dinner for four). Tickets are available after mass.

This is a great opportunity to socialize with fellow parishioners, enjoy a great meal and boost our fundraising efforts.

April 2023 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
4/2/2023	\$ 1,924.00	\$2,103.00	\$ 4,027.00
04/06-07/2023	\$ 682.00	\$ -	\$ 682.00
4/9/2023	\$ 5,490.00	\$ -	\$ 5,490.00
4/16/2023	\$ 1,512.00	\$1,324.00	\$ 2,836.00
4/23/2023	\$ 977.00	\$ 972.00	\$ 1,949.00
4/30/2023	\$ 1,473.00	\$1,720.50	\$ 3,193.50
Total	\$ 12,058.00	\$6,119.50	\$18,177.50

## **Our Lady of the Pines**

Our outdoor church will open next weekend, Memorial Day, May 28, with mass being scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Mass will continue every Sunday until Labor Day Weekend, September 3.