

St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown

August 13, 2023

707 987-3676



Pastoral Staff

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza, Pastor
Sandy Hood, Office Manager

Roger Mattu - RCIA Director
Debbie Heidary-Newsletter/Website

Schedule of Services:

Reconciliation

Friday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. English
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Spanish
or by Appointment

Baptisms

Preparation for parents required:
See Pastor after Mass

Marriages

By appointment at least six months
in advance

Anointing of the Sick

For those who are elderly, seriously
ill, or scheduled for surgery, please
call the parish office.

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

P.O. Box 1350
Middletown, CA 95461
Email: stjoseph11@att.net
Website: stjoseph-middletown.com
Fax: 707 987-2792
Emergency #: 707 513-3991



MASS SCHEDULE

Our Lady of the Lake Mission – 12836 Hwy 175, Loch Lomond
Saturday Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses

St. Joseph Church – Middletown, 9:30 a.m. (English)
Our Lady of the Pines (Outdoors) – Forest Lake Rd, Whispering Pines
11:30 a.m. (English)
St. Joseph Church - 4:00 p.m. (Spanish)

St. Joseph Church Weekday Schedule

Mass Tuesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. (English)
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
6:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish)
7:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday only

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

Recognizing God's Presence by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

A blessed 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time to all!

We know of the Old Testament promise of God to Joshua, "As I was with Moses, I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you." This promise is just as true for our lives now with the assurance from Jesus to His disciples before His ascension, "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of age."

Today, we are reminded of God's presence in our lives. A much-needed reminder as many seem to have forgotten the promise and assurance of God's presence ... or fail to recognize it. Let us learn from our readings today.

In our First Reading, we hear of Elijah's experience of God's consoling presence. Elijah is in great danger for serving God by proclaiming His word even when it was not popular. Thus, he flees and goes to Mount Horeb where God had earlier established His covenant with Israel under Moses. There, God in His mercy manifests His presence to Elijah, not in a powerful and earthshaking manner ... but in a gentle breeze. Elijah recognizes God's quiet sign of His presence and is consoled, trusting that God is helping and protecting him.

In today's Gospel Reading Jesus reveals His presence to His disciples as their boat is being battered by strong winds and waves on the Sea of Galilee. When they first become aware of Jesus, they think they are hallucinating. Even after Jesus reassures them that it is He, Peter challenges Jesus by saying, "Lord, if it is really You, command me to come to You on the water." Jesus beckons Peter so.

For a while Peter does fine walking on the water but when he sees how strong the wind was, he becomes frightened and beginning to sink, he cries out, "Lord, save me!" While Jesus catches Peter to save him, He chides him for his lack of faith. Once they get into the boat, the wind dies down ... and those in the boat do homage to Jesus and say, "Truly, you are the Son of God."

What prevents us from **Recognizing God's Presence**? When we see only what we want to see, when we have preconceived ideas on how God should act ... and even dictate on the timing. So, when God makes His presence known in ways not to our expectations, we completely miss God's presence amidst us!

Let us be an Elijah and be open to God revealing Himself in a gentle breeze. Let us be a Paul and be an instrument of God in revealing Himself to "others." On the other hand, if we belong to the "others" ... let us be aware of the Pauls, learn from them and recognize God's presence through them.

Finally, let us be a Peter and have the humility to call on Jesus, "Lord, save me!" in the storms of our lives. Peter might have lost his trusting faith in Jesus and fails his attempt to walk on water ... but in his humility to accept his need for rescue, Jesus obliges. We read of Peter's little faith today but we also know of his eventually becoming the rock on which Jesus will build His Church.

Let us continue praying for God to increase our faith. Armed with a trusting faith and the humility to accept our need for God ... we are assured of **Recognizing God's Presence** at each and every moment of our lives!

Reconociendo la presencia de Dios por el Padre Lawrence Mendoza

¡Un bendito 19o domingo en horario ordinario para todos!

Sabemos de la promesa del Antiguo Testamento de Dios a Josué: "Como yo estaba con Moisés, estaré contigo. No te dejaré ni te abandonaré". Esta promesa es igual de verdadera para nuestras vidas ahora con la seguridad de Jesús a Sus discípulos antes de Su ascensión: "Y he aquí, estoy contigo siempre, hasta el final de la edad".

Hoy, se nos recuerda la presencia de Dios en nuestras vidas, un recordatorio muy necesario, ya que muchos parecen haber olvidado la promesa y la seguridad de la presencia de Dios... o no reconocerla. Aprendamos de nuestras lecturas de hoy.

En nuestra primera lectura, oímos hablar de la experiencia de Elías de la presencia consoladora de Dios. Elías está en gran peligro por servir a Dios al proclamar Su palabra incluso cuando no era popular. Por lo tanto, huye y va al monte Horeb, donde Dios había establecido anteriormente su pacto con Israel bajo Moisés. Allí, Dios en Su misericordia manifiesta Su presencia a Elías, no de una manera poderosa y estremecedor... sino en una suave brisa. Elías reconoce el signo silencioso de Dios de Su presencia y es consolado, confiando en que Dios lo está ayudando y protegiendo.

En la lectura del Evangelio de hoy, Jesús revela su presencia a Sus discípulos mientras su barco está siendo golpeado por fuertes vientos y olas en el Mar de Galilea. Cuando se dan cuenta de Jesús por primera vez, piensan que están alucinando. Incluso después de que Jesús les asegure que es Él, Pedro desafía a Jesús diciendo: "Señor, si realmente eres Tú, pídemme que venga a Ti en el agua". Jesús llama así a Pedro.

Durante un tiempo, Pedro camina bien sobre el agua, pero cuando ve lo fuerte que era el viento, se asusta y comienza a hundirse, grita: "¡Señor, sálvame!" Mientras Jesús atrapa a Pedro para salvarlo, lo reprende por su falta de fe. Una vez que entran en el barco, el viento se apaga... y los que están en el barco rinden homenaje a Jesús y dicen: "De todos los demás, tú eres el Hijo de Dios".

¿Qué nos impide reconocer la Presencia de Dios? Cuando vemos solo lo que queremos ver, cuando tenemos ideas preconcebidas sobre cómo debe actuar Dios... e incluso dictamos el momento. Por lo tanto, cuando Dios da a conocer su presencia de maneras que no están a la altura de nuestras expectativas, ¡echamos por completo de menos la presencia de Dios entre nosotros!

Seamos un Elías y estemos abiertos a Dios revelándose en una suave brisa. Seamos un Pablo y un instrumento de Dios para revelarse a "otros". Por otro lado, si pertenecemos a los "otros"... seamos conscientes de los Pabloes, aprendamos de ellos y reconozcamos la presencia de Dios a través de ellos.

Finalmente, seamos un Pedro y tengamos la humildad de llamar a Jesús: "¡Señor, sálvame!" En las tormentas de nuestras vidas. Pedro podría haber perdido su fe de confianza en Jesús y haber fracasado en su intento de caminar sobre el agua... pero en su humildad de aceptar su necesidad de rescate, Jesús lo obliga. Hoy leemos sobre la poca fe de Pedro, pero también sabemos que finalmente se convertirá en la roca sobre la que Jesús construirá su Iglesia.

Sigamos orando para que Dios aumente nuestra fe. Armados con una fe de confianza y la humildad de aceptar nuestra necesidad de Dios... ¡estamos seguros de reconocer la Presencia de Dios en cada momento de nuestras vidas!



Please pray for the sick in our parish... and those who care for them.... Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Brendan "Ben" Coyne, Cheryl Elliehausen, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Andre Kelley, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Coleen McCluskey, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, 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.

Fiesta Mexicana "Bajo La Luna" tickets on sale after the 9:30 am mass and the 4:00 pm mass. See Jane, Laura, Sonia. Tickets are available in the office.

● **THANK YOU.....checks continue to come into the office for the new Heating/Air Conditioning unit for the upstairs of the rectory. Your generosity is very much appreciated. We haven't paid for it yet, so if you would like to contribute be sure to write your check to St. Joseph and include A/C Unit in the memo part of your check.**

● **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION August 1-25. Classes begin September 8 and 10. There will be a parent meeting on August 25 at 5:00 p.m. Forms are in the back of the church. Please complete one for each child and return to the office with the tuition. Birth certificate and baptismal certificates are required.**

● **STARR GARDENS is offering a discount to anyone purchasing plants or flowers for our church grounds. Simply let them know they are for St. Joseph.**

● **LADY OF THE LAKE GUILD**

The newly re-organized Guild, responsible for the care and decoration of the altar, church linens, and priest vestments at Our Lady of the Lake and Our Lady of the Pines, will be holding a fundraiser during the Cobb Blackberry Cobbler Festival on Saturday, August 26, from 11-5:00, at Mountain Meadows Golf Course. We are asking for members of our Parish community to look through their jewelry boxes for nice jewelry and watches that are in good condition but no longer worn. We would like to sell them and give them a second life! In addition, we would greatly appreciate any donations of new handmade or craft items that can be raffled. Proceeds from this fundraiser will help to pay for our functions. We still welcome any and all persons to join us. For donations or for more information, please contact Suzanna Macedo (707-272-2518), Gayle Albo (707-355-0618), or Lisa Lambert (707-245-7281). Please come and enjoy this tasty event in beautiful Cobb.

COLLECTIONS

August 5 & 6

First Collection \$1553

Second Collection \$2700

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin.
stjoseph-middletown.com
"I am the vine, you are the branches"

Iglesia Catolica San Jose
Servidores De Maria
Presenta

Fiesta Mexicana Bajo La Luna

Proceeds: Building the Grotto & Gazebo
Date: August 19th, 2023 (Sabado)
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: St. Joseph Parish Parking Ground
~ Come with a Mexican Costume ~

Tickets
Adults: \$40.00
Children (12 & Under): \$20.00

Mass Intentions

August 12 through August 18, 2023

Saturday, August 12, 4:00 p.m.

Charles & David Mogni++ by Charlene Chappell

Sunday, August 13

9:30 a.m.

Russ Oertel+ by Esther Oertel

11:30 a.m.

Peter Sabin+ by OLOL Guild

Tuesday August 15, 8:30 a.m.

Scott Schindler(sp)+ by Diedra Lagle

Thursday August 17, 8:30 a.m.

Antoinette Bianchi+ by Barbara Bianchi

Fr. James McSweeney+ 3-year anniversary

Friday, August 18, 8:30 a.m.

Steve & Anna Bianchi+ by Barbara Bianchi

Mass intentions available for all masses, envelopes in the back of both churches. complete the information and put in the collection basket or bring to the church.

Sign-up sheets available in the back of St. Joseph for Eucharistic Adoration for every first Friday of the month from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



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