

# St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

## Our Lady of the Lake Mission

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown

September 3, 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

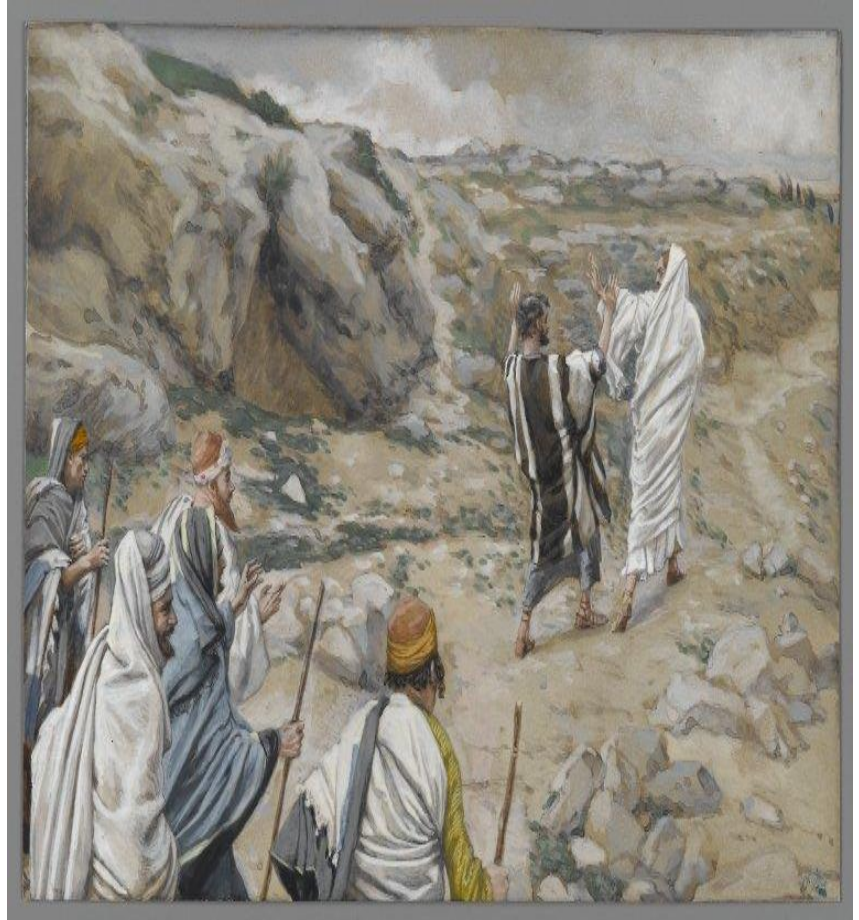
#### Anointing of the Sick

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](mailto:stjoseph11@att.net)  
Website: [stjoseph-middletown.com](http://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

Friday 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)

## Twenty-Second Sunday in the Ordinary Time

Matthew 16:21-27

Reflection by: Gloria Huck

Today's Gospel reading is packed with what might be called the hard sayings: suffering, death, self-denial, the cross, humbling yourself, warnings against the lure of worldliness.

Peter is shocked when Jesus foretells his inevitable passion and death. This was not what he was expecting to hear. Just like Peter we seek the triumph of Christ, wishing to skip past the sacrifices and trials of the cross straight to the glorious resurrection. Jesus rebukes Peter, reminding him there is No Crown without the Cross.

Christ then invites all to take up the cross and follow Him. As our guide He freely accepted His suffering for our salvation, putting us first. We likewise must put Him first in our lives. We do not walk our way of the cross alone but with Jesus Christ-the Way, the Truth and the Life- as our companion. Along the way we learn the true meaning of love, which is willingness to deny oneself and sacrifice for the good of the other.

Lastly, Jesus reminds everyone that the worldly lures such as fame and fortune here on earth do not bring everlasting life and joy. To strengthen ourselves against the temptation of seeking worldly rewards above those that are eternal, we can cultivate the practice of holy gratitude. Our very life is a gift from God. We cannot thank and praise Him enough for all His abundant graces. Throughout the day, thank God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for all the joys and also your sufferings.

A Grateful heart is a joyful heart.

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Vigésimo Segundo Domingo en el Horario Ordinario

Mateo 16:21-27

Reflexión escrita por: Gloria Huck

La lectura del Evangelio de hoy está llena de lo que se podría llamar pruebas difíciles como: sufrimiento, muerte, autonegación, la cruz, humillación propia, advertencias contra el señuelo de la mundanidad.

Pedro se sorprende cuando Jesús predice su inevitable pasión y muerte. Esto no era lo que esperaba escuchar. Al igual que Pedro, buscamos el triunfo de Cristo, deseando saltar más allá de los sacrificios y pruebas de la cruz directamente a la gloriosa resurrección. Jesús reprende a Pedro, recordando que no hay corona sin la cruz.

Entonces, Cristo invita a todos a tomar la cruz y seguirle. Como nuestro guía, aceptó libremente Su sufrimiento por nuestra salvación, poniéndonos en primer lugar. Del mismo modo, debemos ponerlo en primer lugar en nuestras vidas. No caminamos solos por el camino de la cruz, sino con Jesucristo, el Camino, la Verdad y la Vida, como nuestro compañero. En el camino aprendemos el verdadero significado del amor, que es la voluntad de negarse a sí mismo y el sacrificio por el bien del otro.

Por último, Jesús recuerda a todos que los señuelos mundanos, como la fama y la fortuna aquí en la tierra, no traen vida y alegría eternas. Para fortalecernos contra la tentación de buscar recompensas mundanas por encima de las que son eternas, podemos cultivar la práctica de la santa gratitud. Nuestra propia vida es un regalo de Dios. No podemos agradecerle y alabarle lo suficiente por todas sus abundantes gracias. A lo largo del día. Da gracias a Dios, Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo por todas las alegrías y también por los sufrimientos.

**"Un corazón agradecido es un corazón alegre".**



**Please pray for the sick in our parish**

and those who care for them.... Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Brendan "Ben" Coyne, Cheryl Elliehausen, Hector Guerra, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Paula 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.**

● **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** - First Communion Classes begin on Friday, September 8 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Classes will begin on Sunday, October 8 from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. Forms are in the back of the church. Please complete one for each child and return to the office with the tuition as soon as possible. Birth certificate, baptismal certificates and first communion certificates are required.

● **THANK YOU SO MUCH!** To date we have received \$4175 in donations towards the \$7000 needed for the new Heating and Air Conditioning unit upstairs in the rectory. The unit was installed last Friday and is working beautifully. We are still accepting donations.

● We appreciate the generosity of those parishioners who have donated plants and flowers. If you would like to donate, we are still in need of rose trees. 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.

● Paula Johnson passed away peacefully at her home on Sunday, August 19. Paula was a long-time parishioner of St. Joseph, and she will be missed. Our sympathy to her family. Funeral services will be held at St. Joseph on September 30 at 10 a.m. May she rest in peace!

**Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin.**  
stjoseph-middletown.com

*"I am the vine, you are the branches"*

**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.**

**Mass Intentions**



**September 2 through September 8, 2023**

Saturday, September 2, 4:00 p.m.

**Samuel Murphy+** by Monica Huck

Sunday, September 3, 9:30 a.m.

**Paula Johnson+** by Tony/Mary Ann Arnold

Sunday, September 3, 11:30 a.m.

**Joshua Cariela (sp)** by Nana

Friday, September 8, 11:30 a.m.

**Susie McBride+** by Louise Martin

*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.*

***"Feast in the Vineyard"***

Saturday, October 7, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At Bantry Vineyard, formerly owned by Father James  
12102 Hwy 29 (directly across from C Street, Lower Lake  
celebrating Father Lawrence birthday and ordination

*Tickets on sale this weekend after mass*

*Tickets also available for*

*"Priest Prepares the Feast" Raffle*

**THE SECOND COLLECTION FOR VICTIMS OF THE FIRE ON MAUI will be this weekend.**

On this weekend, we will ask that you put your yellow and blue envelopes in the first collection basket as everything in the second collection will go to the Maui Relief Fund.

**MISSION APPEAL IN SEPTEMBER**

Fr. Gabriel T. Wankar will be our guest priest during the weekend of September 16 & 17. Father Gabriel will be saying all masses at St. Joseph in appeal for the needs of the Diocese of Gboko, north-central Nigeria. Fr. Gabriel was born and raised in Gboko, worked in Nigeria after ordination and was eventually assigned to San Francisco in 2015.

**Fr. Lawrence will be away** from our parish from September 12 through September 19. There will be no weekday mass on September 12, 13, 14, 15 and 19.

**COLLECTIONS August 26 & 27**

**First Collection \$1381**

**Second Collection \$1066**



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