

# St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission*

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown

October 1, 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)  
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.**

## October 1, 2023 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Excerpt from the Spiritual Reflection of Pope Francis, Angelus Message, September 27, 2020

### Grace is a Necessity for the Ongoing process of our Conversion

In today's Gospel, the one who makes the best impression is the first brother, not because he said "no" to his father, but because after his "no" he converted to "yes"; he repented. God is patient with each of us: he does not tire; he does not desist after our "no"; he leaves us free even to distance ourselves from him and to make mistakes. Thinking about God's patience is wonderful! How the Lord always waits for us; he is always beside us to help us; but he respects our freedom. And he anxiously awaits our "yes," so as to welcome us anew in his fatherly arms and to fill us with his boundless mercy. Faith in God asks us to renew every day the choice of good over evil, the choice of the truth rather than lies, the choice of love for our neighbor over selfishness. Those who convert to this choice, after having experienced sin, will find the first places in the Kingdom of Heaven, where there is greater joy for a single sinner who repents than for ninety-nine righteous people (cf. Lk 15:7).

But conversion, changing the heart, is a process, a process that purifies us from moral encrustations. And at times it is a painful process, because there is no path of holiness without some sacrifice and without a spiritual battle. Battling for good; battling so as not to fall into temptation; doing for our part what we can, to arrive at living in the peace and joy of the Beatitudes. Today's Gospel passage calls into question the way of living a Christian life, which is not made up of dreams and beautiful aspirations, but of concrete commitments, in order to always open ourselves to God's will and to love for our brothers and sisters. But this, even the smallest concrete commitment, cannot be made without grace. Conversion is a grace we must always ask for: **"Lord, give me the grace to improve. Give me the grace to be a good Christian."**

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### Extracto de la reflexión espiritual del Papa Francisco, Mensaje del Ángelus, 27 de Septiembre de 2020

#### La gracia es una Necesidad para el proceso Continuo de nuestra Conversión

En el Evangelio de hoy, el que causa la mejor impresión es el primer hermano, no porque le dijera "no" a su padre, sino porque después de su "no" se convirtió en "sí"; es porque se arrepintió. Dios es paciente con cada uno de nosotros: no se cansa; no desiste después de nuestro "no"; nos deja libres incluso para distanciarnos de él y cometer errores. ¡Pensar en la paciencia de Dios es maravilloso! Cómo el Señor siempre nos espera; siempre está a nuestro lado para ayudarnos; pero respeta nuestra libertad. Y espera ansiosamente nuestro "sí", para darnos la bienvenida de nuevo en sus brazos paternales y llenarnos de su misericordia ilimitada. La fe en Dios nos pide que renovemos todos los días la elección del bien sobre el mal, la elección de la verdad en lugar de la mentira, la elección del amor por nuestro prójimo sobre el egoísmo. Aquellos que se conviertan a esta elección, después de haber experimentado el pecado, encontrarán los primeros lugares en el Reino de los Cielos, donde hay mayor alegría para un solo pecador que se arrepiente que para las personas justas de noventa y nueve (cf. Lk 15:7).

La conversión, cambia el corazón, es un proceso, es un proceso que nos purifica de las incrustaciones morales. Y a veces es un proceso doloroso, porque no hay camino de santidad sin un poco de sacrificio y sin una batalla espiritual. Luchar por el bien; luchar para no caer en la tentación; hacer por nuestra parte lo que podamos, para llegar a vivir en la paz y la alegría de las Bienaventuranzas. El pasaje del Evangelio de hoy pone en tela de juicio la forma de vivir una vida cristiana, que no está hecha de sueños y hermosas aspiraciones, sino de compromisos concretos, con el fin de abrimos siempre a la voluntad de Dios y a amar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Pero esto, incluso el compromiso concreto más pequeño, no se puede hacer sin gracia. La conversión es una gracia que siempre debemos pedir: **"Señor, dame la gracia de mejorar. Dame la gracia de ser un buen cristiano"**.



Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who care for them.... Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Cheryl Elliehausen, Hector Guerra, 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.**

**DESSERT AUCTION Baked goods needed.....IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE A CAKE, PIE, or COOKIES FOR THE DESSERT AUCTION AT THE FEAST IN THE VINEYARD. Call Jane 707 355-4398**

●RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Registration for Confirmation Class is closed. Confirmation Class begins on October 8 from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. in the classroom.

●Once again the parishioners of St. Joseph have shown their generosity and support. We will be sending the Diocese of Goboko \$1,640.

●HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR TICKETS for the “FEAST IN THE VINEYARD” GET YOUR TICKETS AFTER MASS, AT ROSALES MARKET, OR THE OFFICE. JOIN US IN CELEBRATION OF FR. LAWRENCE BIRTHDAY AND ORDINATION. LAST WEEKEND TO PURCHASE TICKETS AFTER MASS PLEASE REMEMBER NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

**LAST WEEKEND BEFORE THE BIG EVENT.....Have you purchased your raffle tickets yet? “Priest Prepares the Feast” tickets available \$10 each or 6 for \$50. Bring your friends and enjoy a gourmet dinner prepared by our own Father Lawrence. He is quite the chef....**

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

## Mass Intentions

**September 30 through October 6, 2023**

Saturday, September 30, 4:00 p.m.

**Krys Liczbik, Janusz Paulinski**

By Beata Kurek

**Brendan “Ben” Coyne+**

By Liz Weiss

Sunday, October 1, 9:30 a.m

**Doug & Terri Kloppenburg++**

By Tony & Mary Ann Arnold

Tuesday-Thursday, October 3-5, 8:30am

**Paula Johnson+**

By Rilla M Krall

Friday, October 6, 8:30 a.m.

**Jeannine Anderson+ 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.*

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.

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
presents  
the Second Annual

### “Feast in the Vineyard”

*Father Lawrence Birthday and Ordination Celebration*

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)

serving Mexican and Asian Food  
Including dessert

Featuring entertainment provided by the Middletown High School Ballet Folklorico, singing and dancing by Irma Lopez Music, Silent Dessert Auction

**ADULT TICKETS \$50  
CHILDREN \$20**

Auction tickets available for the  
“Priest Prepares the Feast”

Purchase your tickets for a gourmet feast prepared by our own Father Lawrence.

Two winners, each winner allowed 3 additional guests, tickets to be drawn the night of the event.

\$10 each or 6 for \$50

Tickets are available after mass until Sunday, October 1, also available at Rosales Market or the rectory until October 4  
For additional information contact the office 707 987-3676.  
Proceeds to support ongoing parish projects.





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## RGW Groundskeeping, LLC

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95467

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707-987-9977  
jose.litormz@gmail.com

## B&G Tires Middletown

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