



Contact Us

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – September 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings!

The month of September is the celebration of the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. The feast days of most Saints are generally celebrated on their date of death, but we celebrate the birth of Mary to honor one of the three principal figures connected to Incarnation and Salvation.

From the beginning of Mary's existence, she had a mission and purpose ... to be the Mother of Our Savior ... to bring Jesus to the world! Her birth is significant in the history of the Incarnation of the Word and subsequently salvation in fulfillment of God's promise. The birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary is undoubtedly ... the "Birth of our own Salvation."

As I reflected on Mary's nativity, I could not help but to also more deeply reflect on my own mission and purpose when I celebrated my 43rd birthday last September 21. As a priest, I realized that like Mary, I also had that purpose and mission to "bring" Jesus to the world particularly in the celebration of the Eucharist and the Sacraments. Insignificant and unworthy as I am, God called me to make Jesus be known by others. Thanks be to God for the great blessing, for the gift and privilege!

Some of you asked what gift I wanted for my birthday. I responded that the gift I want, which is also my earnest prayer, is for our Parish to be always vibrant and for all parishioners to be present and actively participate in our liturgical celebrations and Parish activities. Moreover, I also pray that God grant me the wisdom, knowledge, understanding, strength, courage and however I should be to be a good shepherd to His flock in this Parish and that God may continue to provide for the needs of our Parish and our Diocese.

Thank you to all who made my birthday very memorable ... with your birthday cards, gifts, birthday lunch treat, birthday cakes and songs ... and most importantly, for your prayers. Thanks, too, to the advance birthday gift of providing our accommodations during our trip to Kauai, Hawaii. Your kindness and generosity are blessings that I will forever cherish and treasure.

Since my appointment as a pastor of Saint Joseph, I have continually experienced your overwhelming generosity. Our Parish community may be small, but your big hearts make up for it and we are able to accomplish great things. I received a heartwarming message from the visiting priest, Fr. Gabriel Wanker, after his mission appeal in our Parish and he said, "You have such a warm and welcoming small community whose love is enormous." I sincerely thank you for being behind Fr. Gabriel's good feelings about our community.

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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.



SaintJosephMiddletown



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.

Finally, on October 7, 2023, we will be having the much-awaited Feast in the Vineyard. To echo my birthday prayer: I urge you all to grace the event with your presence ... and do bring all the members of your families, your relatives, friends and neighbors. Let us all support this fundraising event, guaranteed to be fun-filled, for the completion of our on-going Parish projects.

As we welcome the beautiful season of autumn, entrusting our families and our Parish community to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to our Parish Patron Saint Joseph! To God be the Glory!!!

In Christ,

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

Pastor

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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.

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

August 2023 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
08/05-06/2023	\$ 1,553.00	\$2,700.00	\$ 4,253.00
08/12-13/2023	\$ 1,622.00	\$1,993.00	\$ 3,615.00
08/19-20/2023	\$ 990.00	\$1,017.00	\$ 2,007.00
08/26-27/2023	\$ 1,381.00	\$1,066.00	\$ 2,447.00
Total	\$ 5,546.00	\$6,776.00	\$12,322.00

BRENDAN "BEN" COYNE passed away last week following a lengthy illness. Our sympathy to Shirley Coyne and her family. May he rest in peace!