



## Contact Us

### St. Joseph Catholic Church

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# St. Joseph Catholic Church

**Newsletter – November 2023**

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and peace!

This month ushered in the celebration of the Solemnity of all Saints and the commemoration of All Souls.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church Par. 954 states, “When the Lord comes in glory, and all his angels with him, death will be no more and all things will be subject to him. But at the present time some of his disciples are pilgrims on earth. Others have died and are being purified, while still others are in glory, contemplating ‘in full light, God himself triune and one, exactly as he is.’” This teaches us the three “states of the Church” ... traditionally referred to as Church Militant (or Pilgrim Church), Church Penitent (or Church Suffering or Church Expectant) and Church Triumphant.

The Church Militant refers to us on earth, pilgrims journeying towards Heaven ... in pursuit of eternal life. Church Penitent refers to those who have died but need further purification in purgatory before entering Heaven. The Church Triumphant are those who have run their course and are now with our Lord in Heaven.

We may be physically separated from each other by the barrier of death, but we are all united in a spiritual way ... making up the Communion of Saints we profess in the Creed! We, the Church Militant pray for the intercession of the Church Triumphant for our own sanctification that we may someday join them.

Our Church has designated this month for us to specially pray and offer Masses for our departed loved ones. Those in Church Penitent rely heavily on our prayers for their purification and it is an act of charity to offer our prayers and Masses not only for our loved ones but also for those who have nobody praying for them ... the forgotten souls in purgatory. Let us all do so, recognizing the cycle of how the Triumphant Church helps the Pilgrim Church and how the Pilgrim Church helps the Suffering Church.

As the pilgrim people of God, we also need to help and pray for each other ... that we may overcome the difficulties in the current global situation that is affecting us all ... rising prices of food, gas and other things, including our insurance premiums.

Early this month, the fundraising committee met and planned for our next fundraising event to particularly raise funds for our Church roof. Our finance council also met and reported that our weekly collections fall short of our weekly and monthly payables. The finance council has agreed that we ask our parishioners to increase their weekly donations by 15% in order for us to continue to sustain our parish. Thanking you in advance for your greater generosity!

*(Continued on next page)*

# Mass Times

**St. Joseph**

**Tuesday – Friday  
8:30 a.m.**

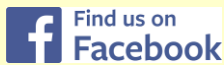
**Sunday's at 9:30 a.m.  
and  
4:00 p.m. (Spanish)**

**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....* Charlie Bigelow, 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.

We end this month with the joy of Thanksgiving and the Solemnity of Christ the King. It is only fitting to give thanks to God for His innumerable blessings and unconditional love. It is also fitting that just as God has blessed us, we in turn must accept and let Christ our Lord, Savior and King reign in our lives, families, homes, in our country and in the whole world. Let us thus surrender our lives to the sovereign power of Jesus Christ!

As we bid farewell to the month of November and welcome the month of December, the season of Advent and Christmas, entrusting our families and our Parish community to Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe, to Our Lady of Guadalupe and to our Parish Patron Saint Joseph!

To God be the Glory!!!



Fr. Lawrence Mendoza  
Pastor

**PARISH  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next coffee social at St. Joseph will be on December 17. Mark your calendar.
- Father's Wish List...donations of Christmas lights and decorations for St. Joseph
- Are you registered in our parish but not using collection envelopes? Now is the time to contact the office if you would like to sign up for collection envelopes or change your telephone number and/or email address or any other **personal information. Contact Sandy now! 707 513-3991 or email stjoseph11@att.net.**



**DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>  
A BIG DAY FOR OUR PARISH....**

Three Events

First, Placing of the Statues and Blessing of the Grotto

Second, join us for a Christmas Party - Potluck Brunch after the 9:30 mass. Signup with Jane or call 707 355-4398 to indicate what your will bring for the potluck.

Third, the traditional celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe will begin at 3:15 p.m. with a procession, mass at 4:00 p.m. followed by free delicious food and a lot of fun.

There will be a tent set up for outdoor events.

October 2023 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
09/30-10/01/2023	\$ 1,585.00	\$2,111.00	\$ 3,696.00
10/07-08/2023	\$ 1,257.00	\$2,206.00	\$ 3,463.00
10/14-15/2023	\$ 1,050.00	\$1,285.00	\$ 2,335.00
10/21-22/2023	\$ 1,116.00	\$2,010.00	\$ 3,126.00
10/28-29/2023	\$ 1,046.00	\$1,132.00	\$ 2,178.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,054.00</b>	<b>\$8,744.00</b>	<b>\$14,798.00</b>