

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

December 17, 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)
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)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Excerpt from A Spiritual Reflection by Pope Francis, Angelus Message, December 13, 2020

TRUE JOY IS BASED ON FAITH IN THE LIVING AND RISEN LORD JESUS

The invitation to joy is characteristic of the Season of Advent: the expectation of Jesus' birth that we experience is joyful, somewhat like when we await the visit of a person we love a great deal, for example, a friend whom we have not seen for a long time, a relative... We are in joyful anticipation. And this dimension of joy emerges particularly today, the Third Sunday, which opens with Saint Paul's exhortation: "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Entrance Antiphon; cf. Phil 4:4, 5).

"Rejoice!": Christian joy. And what is the reason for this joy? That "the Lord is at hand" (v. 5). The closer the Lord is to us, the more joy we feel; the farther away he is, the more sadness we feel. This is a rule for Christians. A philosopher once said something more or less like this: "I do not understand how one can believe today, because those who say they believe have a face from a funeral wake. They do not bear witness to the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ." Many Christians have that face, yes, a face from a funeral wake, a face of sadness... But Christ is risen! Christ loves you! And you have no joy? Let us think a bit about this and let us ask: "Do I have joy because the Lord is close to me, because the Lord loves me, because the Lord has redeemed me?"

This is joy: directing toward Jesus. And joy must be the characteristic of our faith. Even in dark moments, that inner joy, of knowing that the Lord is with me, that the Lord is with us, that the Lord is Risen. The Lord! The Lord! The Lord! This is the center of our life, and this is the center of our joy. Think carefully today: how do I behave? Am I a joyful person who knows how to transmit the joy of being Christian, or am I always like those glum people, as I said before, who seem to be at a funeral wake? If I do not have the joy of my faith, I cannot bear witness, and others will say: "But if faith is so sad, it is better not to have it."

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Extracto de Una Reflexión Espiritual del Papa Francisco, Mensaje del Ángelus, 13 de Diciembre de 2020

LA VERDADERA ALEGRÍA SE BASA EN LA FE EN EL SEÑOR JESÚS VIVIENTE Y RESUCITADO

La invitación a la alegría es característica de la temporada de Adviento: la expectativa del nacimiento de Jesús que experimentamos es alegre, algo así como cuando esperamos la visita de una persona a la que amamos mucho, por ejemplo, un amigo a quien no hemos visto en mucho tiempo, un pariente... Estamos en una anticipación alegre. Y esta dimensión de alegría surge particularmente hoy, el Tercer Domingo, que comienza con la exhortación de San Pablo: "Regocijate en el Señor siempre" (Entrada Antifonía; cf. Fil 4:4, 5).

"¡Alégrate!": Alegría cristiana. ¿Y cuál es la razón de esta alegría? Que "el Señor está a la mano" (v. 5). Cuanto más cerca está el Señor de nosotros, más alegría sentimos; cuanto más lejos está, más tristeza sentimos. Esta es una regla para los cristianos. Un filósofo dijo una vez algo más o menos como esto: "No entiendo cómo se puede creer hoy, porque aquellos que dicen que creen tienen una cara de funeral. No dan testimonio de la alegría de la Resurrección de Jesucristo". Muchos cristianos tienen esa cara, sí, una cara de funeral, una cara de tristeza... ¡Pero Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Cristo te ama! ¿Y que tu no tienes alegría? Pensemos un poco en esto y preguntémonos: "¿Tengo alegría porque el Señor está cerca de mí, porque el Señor me ama, porque el Señor me ha redimido?"

Esto es alegría: dirigir hacia Jesús. Y la alegría debe ser la característica de nuestra fe. Incluso en los momentos oscuros, esa alegría interior, de saber que el Señor está conmigo, que el Señor está con nosotros, que el Señor ha resucitado. ¡El Señor! ¡El Señor! ¡El Señor! Este es el centro de nuestra vida, y este es el centro de nuestra alegría. Piénsalo bien hoy: ¿cómo me comporto? ¿Soy una persona alegre que sabe cómo transmitir la alegría de ser cristiano? No siempre me gustan esas personas tristes, como dije anteriormente, "parecen estar en un funeral" Si no tengo la alegría de mi fe, no puedo dar testimonio, y otros dirán: "Pero si la fe es tan triste, es mejor no tenerla".



Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who care for them.... Charlie Bigelow, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni Susan Conley, 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.



PLATE COLLECTIONS - December 9th & 10th
First Collection \$1314 Second Collection \$1504
Immaculate Conception \$356
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe \$235

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please join us today for the Coffee Social after the 9:30 a.m. mass.
- The boxes of collection envelopes are in the entrance to the church. Please pick up your envelopes for 2024. If you do not find your envelopes, please contact Sandy asap.
- The Lady of the Lake Guild has an Advent Magnificat Companion available for all parishioners. They can be picked up before the 4:00 pm mass at Our Lady of the Lake or contact Suzanna Macedo 707 272-2518
- How grateful we are to the many parishioners who helped decorate St. Joseph for Christmas (too many to mention), and to those who brought food to the event. It was truly a grand day with the blessing of the statues, the potluck, the procession, the mass in Spanish celebrated by Fr. Michaelraj Philominsamy, and not to forget to mention, the delicious food served after the Spanish mass. Truly an amazing day at St. Joseph for all of us.
- Thank you to Joe Guardado, Debbie Doran and Martha O'Brien for decorating Our Lady of the Lake on Cobb Mtn. As always, it looks beautiful with the nativity scene and the sign with the Christmas Mass time is very special.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16, 4:00 p.m.

Ben Coyne+ By: Sarah Dunn

Sunday, December 17, 9:30 a.m.

For the people

Sunday, December 17, 4:00 p.m.

Espiridio Ortega Josefina Munoz+

By: Mary Rincon

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.



If you are new to our parish, have moved, changed your phone number, or particularly have an email address, please contact the office, or complete a registration form that is located in the back of the church. We have some parishioners without email addresses in our database. Be sure to keep your information current with the office.



Plan to join us for Christmas Caroling on Christmas Eve at St. Joseph beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Our condolences to the Saccullo family. Serafino Saccullo passed away on December 13. He was 97 years old. May he rest in peace!

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

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin.

stjoseph-middleton.com "I am the vine; you are the branches."



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