

# St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond*

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

December 31, 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

## **The Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph**



### **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)

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

*Excerpt from A Spiritual Reflection by Pope Francis, Angelus Message, December 27, 2020*

### THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORDS "EXCUSE ME," "THANK YOU," AND "I AM SORRY" IN FAMILY LIFE

A few days after Christmas, the Liturgy invites us to turn our eyes to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. .... In imitation of the Holy Family, we are called to rediscover the educational value of the family unit: it requires being founded on the love that always regenerates relationships, opening up horizons of hope. Within the family one can experience sincere communion when it is a house of prayer, when affections are serious, profound, pure, when forgiveness prevails over discord, when the daily harshness of life is softened by mutual tenderness and serene adherence to God's will. In this way, the family opens itself up to the joy that God gives to all those who know how to give joyfully. At the same time, it finds the spiritual energy to be open to the outside world, to others, to serving brothers and sisters, to cooperation in building an ever new and better world; capable, therefore, of becoming a bearer of positive stimuli; the family evangelizes by the example of life. It is true that there are problems, and at times arguments in every family. "Father, I argued..." But we are human, we are weak, and we all quarrel within the family at times. I will tell you something: if you quarrel within the family, do not end the day without making peace. "Yes, I quarreled," but before the end of the day, make peace. And do you know why? Because a cold war, day after day, is extremely dangerous. It does not help.

And then, in the family there are three words, three phrases that must always be held dear: "Excuse me," "Thank you," and "Sorry." "Excuse me," so as not to be intrusive in the life of others. "Excuse me: may I do something? Do you think I can do this? Excuse me." Always, not being intrusive. "Excuse me," the first phrase. "Thank you": so much help, so much service that we do for one another within the family. Always say "thank you." Gratitude is the lifeblood of the noble soul. "Thank you." And then, the hardest one to say: "I am sorry." Because we always do some bad things and often someone is offended by this: "I am sorry, I am sorry." Do not forget the three phrases: "excuse me," "thank you," and "I am sorry." If there are these three phrases in a family, in a family environment, then the family is fine.

Today's feast reminds us of the example of evangelizing with the family, proposing to us once again the ideal of conjugal and family love, as underlined in the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)*, promulgated eight years ago this coming 19 March... Let us entrust this journey with the families of the whole world to the Holy Family of Nazareth, in particular to Saint Joseph, attentive spouse and father.

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## FIESTA DE LA SANTA FAMILIA DE JESÚS, MARÍA Y JOSÉ

**Extracto de una Reflexión Espiritual del Papa Francisco, Mensaje del Ángelus, 27 de Diciembre de 2020**

### LA IMPORTANCIA DE LAS PALABRAS "DISCULPAR", "GRACIAS" Y "LO SIENTO" EN LA VIDA FAMILIAR

Unos días después de Navidad, la Liturgia nos invita a poner nuestros ojos en la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José. .... Imitación de la Sagrada Familia, estamos llamados a redescubrir el valor educativo de la unidad familiar: requiere estar fundados en el amor que siempre regenera las relaciones, abriendo horizontes de esperanza. Dentro de la familia se puede experimentar la comunión sincera cuando es una casa de oración, cuando los afectos son serios, profundos, puros, cuando el perdón prevalece sobre la discordia, cuando la dureza diaria de la vida se suaviza por la ternura mutua y la adhesión serena a la voluntad de Dios. De esta manera, la familia se abre a la alegría que Dios da a todos aquellos que saben dar con alegría. Al mismo tiempo, encuentra la energía espiritual para estar abierta al mundo exterior, a los demás, a servir a los hermanos y hermanas, a la cooperación en la construcción de un mundo siempre nuevo y mejor; capaz, por lo tanto, de convertirse en un portador de estímulos positivos; la familia evangeliza con el ejemplo de la vida. Es cierto que hay problemas y, a veces, discusiones en todas las familias. "Padre, discutí..." Pero somos humanos, somos débiles y algunas veces nos peleamos dentro de la familia. Te diré algo: si te peleas dentro de la familia, no termines el día sin hacer las paces. "Sí, me peleé", pero antes de que termine el día, haz las paces. ¿Y sabes por qué? Porque una guerra fría, día tras día, es extremadamente peligrosa. No ayuda. Y luego, en la familia hay tres palabras, tres frases que siempre deben ser queridas: "Disculpa", "Gracias" y "Lo siento". "Disculpa", para no ser intrusivo en la vida de los demás. "Disculpe: ¿puedo hacer algo? ¿Crees que puedo hacer esto? Disculpe". Siempre, sin ser intrusivo. "Disculpa", la primera frase. "Gracias": por tanta ayuda, tanto servicio que hacemos el uno por el otro dentro de la familia. Siempre da las "gracias". La gratitud es el alma del alma noble. "Gracias". Y luego, el más difícil de decir: "Lo siento". Porque siempre hacemos algunas cosas malas y a menudo alguien se ofende por esto: "Lo siento, lo siento". No olvides las tres frases: "disculpa", "gracias" y "lo siento". Si hay estas tres frases en una familia, en un entorno familiar, entonces la familia está bien. La fiesta de hoy nos recuerda el ejemplo de evangelizar con la familia, proponiendo una vez más el ideal del amor conyugal y familiar, como se subraya en la Exhortación Apostólica *Amoris Laetitia (La Alegría del Amor)*, promulgada hace ocho años el próximo 19 de marzo... Confiamos este viaje con las familias de todo el mundo a la Sagrada Familia de Nazaret, en particular a San José, esposo y padre atento.



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.**

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- *Be sure to pick up your gift from St. Joseph after masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.*
- *There will be no weekday masses January 8 through January 12 as Father will be away attending the Priests' Winter Workshop.*
- *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 in the back of the church. **Registration forms have been updated, green for English, yellow for Spanish.** We have some parishioners without email addresses in our database. Be sure to keep your information current with the office.*
- *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.*
- *Year-end donation statements for tax purposes will be available beginning January 13. Contact the office for your statement to be mailed to you.*

***NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE***  
***“Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God”***  
 December 31, Sunday, New Year’s Eve  
 7:00 p.m. Bilingual Mass, St. Joseph  
 January 1, Monday, New Year’s Day  
 9:30 a.m. Mass in English, St. Joseph  
 11:30 a.m. Mass in English Our Lady of the Lake  
 4:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish, St. Joseph

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-middletown.com “I am the vine; you are the branches.”

**Mass Intentions** 

**Saturday, December 30, 4:00 p.m.**

**Ben Coyne+** By: Sarah Dunn

**Carlos Alcalde Tunon+** By: Consuelo Alcalde

**Sunday, December 31, 9:30 a.m.**

**Lane, Stuart, & Kristin David+++**  
 By: Ned & Sally Munger

**Sunday, December 31, 7:00 p.m.**

**Sandy & Gary Rockwell+** By: Jennifer Rockwell

**Monday, January 1, 9:30 a.m.**

**The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
**Dennis McDonough+** By: Ned & Sally Munger

**Thursday, January 4, 8:30 a.m.**

**Jack Schindler+** By: Diedra Lagle

**Friday, January 5, 8:30 a.m.**

**Mass of Thanksgiving** By: St. Joseph Prayer Group

*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.*



**PLATE COLLECTIONS - December 23 & 24**  
 Our Lady of the Lake \$429  
 St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$1250  
 St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$304  
**Totals = First Collection \$Second Collection \$1983**  
**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION \$5,707**



Our Super Bowl Fundraiser will begin on January 7th. The Super Bowl is February 11th and squares will be sold after Sunday Mass January 7th through February 4th. Each square is \$50 and if all squares are sold, winners will receive \$1,000 (halftime) and \$1,500 (final score). If all squares are sold, \$2500 will go to the parish. Please tell your neighbors and friends who might be interested in participating. Any questions, or for squares, call Jane at (707) 355-4398 or Esther at (707) 772-6200.



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