

# St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond*

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

January 14, 2024

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

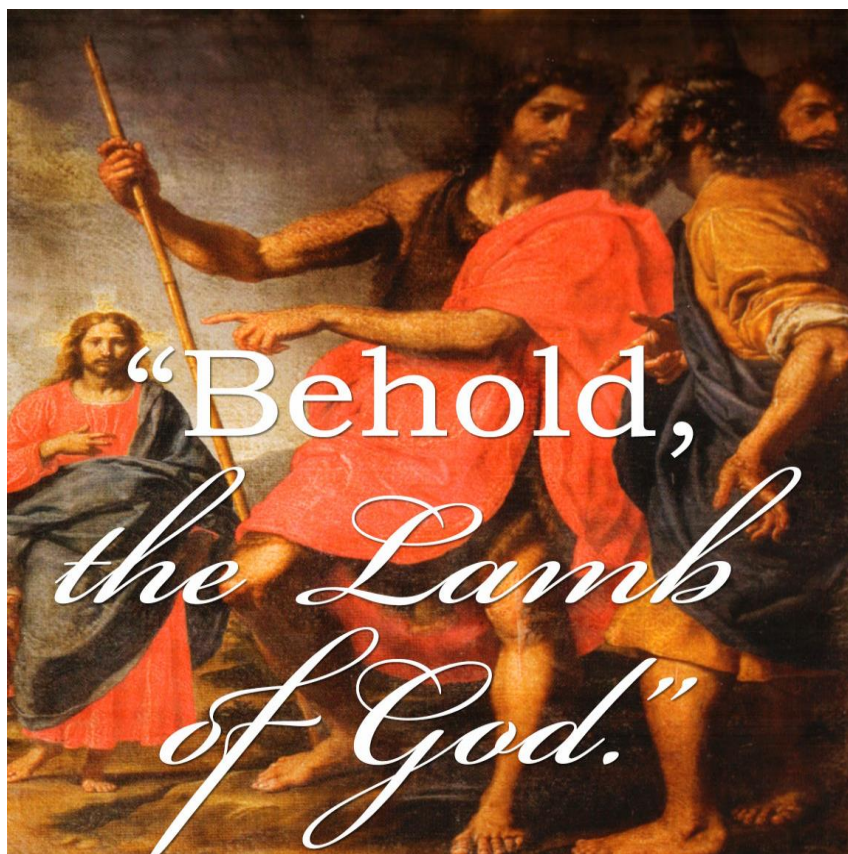
##### **Anointing of the Sick**

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.  
7:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

## **“Come and See!” by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza**

Last Sunday, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord followed the next day, marking the end of the Christmas Season. Today’s Gospel Reading (John 1: 35-42) is appropriate as we transition our reflection from the birth of the Lord to His public life and ministry. John the Baptist points to Jesus and says, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” Two of his disciples hear him and follow Jesus, who upon seeing them asks, “What are you looking for?” A telling question, indeed, that we might ask of ourselves and reflect on, “What are we looking for?” Without answering Jesus’ question, the two disciples ask Jesus where He is staying. Jesus responds with an invitation, **“Come, and you will See.”**

The details of the two disciples’ stay with Jesus are not known but we know that they come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah. In fact, Andrew, one of the two disciples, goes to his brother Simon and tells him, “We have found the Messiah.” Andrew then brings Simon to Jesus who gives Simon the name Cephas, an Aramaic name translated into Greek as Petros, which means “rock.” “The conversation between the two disciples and Jesus is an example of the old pattern of Jews seeking out rabbis and establishing themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus is different in that we see Him and will see Him seeking out individuals ... including us ... inviting us all to **“Come and See.”**

Today’s other readings speak of God’s call and peoples’ responses. In the First Reading (1 Samuel 3: 3b-10, 19), Samuel, dedicated to the service of God, is called by God in a way unknown to him. God calls young Samuel while he is sleeping. Samuel, thinking that it was his mentor Eli calling him, runs to the elderly Eli and asks how he might serve him ... to which Eli tells Samuel to go back to sleep. It takes Eli three times to realize that Samuel is not dreaming about being called but is actually being called by God. Eli tells Samuel that if he is called again to respond by saying, “Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening.”

Our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 40: 2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10) expresses a prayer of a commitment to follow the will of the Lord and describes the anticipation of God’s call and consequently the response to the call.

St. Paul, in our Second Reading (1 Corinthians 6: 13c-15a, 17-20), speaks of a different aspect of responding to God’s call ... the use of our human bodies in drawing closer to the Lord. This is in addressing the faithful people of Corinth, a city known for its immoral practices. Paul tells them that the human body “is not for immorality, but for the Lord.” Jesus’ invitation to **“Come and See”** is an invitation to recognize God’s call. Like the two disciples, Samuel and the faithful people of Corinth ... let us accept Jesus’ invitation that we may know how to respond accordingly! That we may know how to respond to Jesus’ question, “What are you looking for?”

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## **“¡Vengan a ver!” Por el Padre Lawrence Mendoza**

El domingo pasado, celebramos la Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor. La Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor siguió al día siguiente, marcando el final de la temporada navideña. La lectura del Evangelio de hoy (Juan 1: 35-42) es apropiada a medida que hacemos la transición de nuestra reflexión desde el nacimiento del Señor a su vida pública y su ministerio. Juan el Bautista señala a Jesús y dice: "He aquí, el Cordero de Dios". Dos de sus discípulos lo escuchan y siguen a Jesús, quien al verlos pregunta: "¿Qué estás buscando?" Una pregunta reveladora, de hecho, que podríamos hacernos a nosotros mismos y reflexionar sobre: "¿Qué estamos buscando?" Sin responder a la pregunta de Jesús, los dos discípulos le preguntan a Jesús dónde se alojaba. Jesús responde con una invitación: **"Ven y verás"**.

No se conocen los detalles de la estancia de los dos discípulos con Jesús, pero sabemos que llegan a creer que Jesús es el Mesías. De hecho, Andrew, uno de los dos discípulos, va a su hermano Simón y le dice: "Hemos encontrado al Mesías". Andrés luego lleva a Simón a Jesús, quien le da a Simón el nombre de Cefas, un nombre arameo traducido al griego como Petros, que significa "roca". La conversación entre los dos discípulos y Jesús es un ejemplo del viejo patrón de judíos que buscan rabinos y se establecen como discípulos de un rabino en particular. Jesús es diferente en el que lo vemos y lo veremos buscando individuos... incluyéndonos a nosotros... invitándonos a todos a **"Venir y ver"**.

Las otras lecturas de hoy hablan del llamado de Dios y de las respuestas de la gente. En la Primera Lectura (1 Samuel 3: 3b-10, 19), Samuel, dedicado al servicio de Dios, es llamado por Dios de una manera desconocida para él. Dios llama al joven Samuel mientras duerme. Samuel, pensando que era su mentor Eli el que lo llamaba, corrió hacia el anciano Eli y le pregunta cómo podría servirle... a lo que Eli le dijo fue que se volviera a dormir. Se necesitó tres veces para darse cuenta de que Samuel no está soñando con ser llamado, sino que en realidad estaba siendo llamado por Dios. Eli le dice a Samuel que si es llamado de nuevo que respondiera diciendo: "Habla, Señor, tu siervo está escuchando". Nuestro Salmo Responsorial (Salmo 40: 2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10) expresa una oración de compromiso de seguir la voluntad del Señor y describe la anticipación de la llamada De Dios, y en consecuencia, la respuesta a la llamada. En nuestra Segunda Lectura de San Pablo (1 Corintios 6: 13c-15a, 17-20), habla de un aspecto diferente de responder a la llamada de Dios... el uso de nuestros cuerpos humanos para acercarnos al Señor. Esto es para dirigirse a la gente fiel de Corinto, una ciudad conocida por sus prácticas inmorales. Pablo les dice que el cuerpo humano "no es para la inmoralidad, sino para el Señor". La invitación de Jesús a **"Venir y ver"** es una invitación a reconocer el llamado de Dios. Al igual que los dos discípulos, Samuel y el pueblo fiel de Corinto... ¡aceptemos la invitación de Jesús para que sepamos cómo responder a la pregunta de Jesús: "¿Qué estás buscando?"



Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who care for them.... Charlotte Baker, 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.**

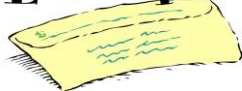
## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



• **Year-end donation statements for tax purposes are now available. Contact the office for your statement.**

• **Thank you to those who have completed a registration form requesting envelopes.**

### **Offering Envelopes**



*If you haven't done so, please complete a registration form that will update your information in our database and/or register as a new member of our parish. Please consider using Offertory Envelopes every Sunday.*

• **Please pickup your envelopes! The boxes of collection envelopes are in the entrance to the church. If you do not find your envelopes, please contact Sandy asap. If your envelopes are not picked up, we will assume you do not want to participate in the future. If you have questions, please call Sandy in the office.**

• **The next Coffee Social will be on January 28 after the 9:30 a.m. mass.**

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, January 13, 4:00 p.m.

**For our parishioners**

Sunday, January 14, 9:30 a.m.

**Jane Kloppenburg+** By: Tony & Mary Ann

Arnold Friday, January 19, 8:30 a.m.

**Cecile Mitchell+** By: Sandy Hood

*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 – January 6 & 7**

**Our Lady of the Lake \$522.50**

**St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$3274.75**

**St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$371**

**Late donations: Solemnity \$390 Christmas \$20**

**Totals = First Collection \$1816.50 Second Collection \$2761.75**

**Your generosity is appreciated!**



The Super Bowl is February 11th and squares will be sold after Sunday Mass until 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, or if you are interested in joining a group, please call Mary Ann Arnold at 707 987-9958. For squares or questions, call Jane at (707) 355-4398 or Esther at (707) 772-6200.

## WE NEED A NEW ROOF

*As we mentioned last week, all fundraisers in 2024 will be dedicated to raising money for a new roof for the church, rectory, and the classroom/storage/garage building. The exception will be the banquet that will be held on March 16, as those proceeds always go towards the insurance. A copy of the tentative schedule of events is enclosed with this bulletin. This will be a huge project for this small church, but, as many of you will remember, we raised enough money for the parking lot, so we know we can do this one.*

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**COOPERTIRES**

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