



Contact Us

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – January 2024

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and Peace!

A New Year is upon us! May this first month of the year inspire us all to look back to the past year with gratitude and to welcome the New Year with hope and enthusiasm.

Two Decembers ago, my 2022 ended with the receipt of a “Letter of Assignment” from Bishop Vasa appointing me as Parochial Administrator of the Saint Joseph Parish in Middletown and its Missions. With great hope, I then looked forward to how 2023 would be ... not only for me but more importantly, for the Parish. It is hard to believe that 2023 is over. Things went so fast that I now find myself looking back to it as the past year ... and I am doing so with heartfelt gratitude!

The kindness and welcome that I received from all of you were heartwarming. Your overwhelming support and generosity enabled us to accomplish so many things in so little time. There is no doubt in my mind that you are all instruments of God’s approval and intervention for the provision of our needs and completion of our projects. Indeed, God’s hand was at work amidst us! Eternally thankful to God and to you all for a productive and a blessed 2023!

As we embark on this New Year of 2024, I am again filled with great hope that God will continue to guide and help us accomplish even greater things in our Parish. We started with a very encouraging news, expressing extreme joy from our Diocese, that our Parish was one of 28 parishes out of 42 that met or exceeded the Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA) for the year 2023. As such, our Parish received a rebate of \$1,339. While our 2023 goal was \$12,480, this year, it is \$12,500. With God’s grace and with your full support, I am confident that we will again meet, if not exceed, our AMA goal for 2024. For that, I thank you all in advance!

Last year, I announced that our Church building and the rectory are in dire need of new roofs considering that these have not been replaced for the last 30 or so years. During this rainy season, the roofs have deteriorated even further. Two roofing companies estimate the total cost to be \$40,000. Thus, for this year and perhaps till the next year, we will be having fund raising activities for the roofing project.

Once again, allow me to express this urgent appeal for your full support of this project. This appeal goes not only to you as individuals but also to your families, friends and neighbors ... and to the various organizations in our Parish to assist in our fund raising. To facilitate the tracking of funds raised and subsequent expenditures, we will be opening a separate account for the roofing project.

(Continued on next page)

Mass Times

St. Joseph

**Tuesday – Friday
8:30 a.m.**

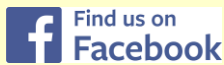
**Sunday's at 9:30 a.m.
and
4:00 p.m. (Spanish)**

**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.... 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.

Through the intercession of Saint Joseph, the Worker and Our Lady, I firmly believe that we will be able to raise the funds needed for the roofing project in particular ... and other projects in general ... to benefit our Parish!

On behalf of the Parish Finance Council and the Pastoral Council, I thank those who have responded to our call for an at least 15% increase in our weekly collections. May this call be heeded unceasingly to enable us to meet our regular expenses and other payables. Consequently, my unceasing and heartfelt thanks to all for your even greater generosity!

This year 2024, I am entrusting our Parish families and communities to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to our Parish Patron Saint Joseph! To God be the Glory!!!

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza
Pastor

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The AMA Refund for 2023 was received this week from the diocese. Due to your generous contributions, we received a refund check for \$1339. AMA 2024 has started. Many of you have received envelopes at home. We will be passing out envelopes today. You can complete the envelope and put in the collection basket.
- Year-end donation statements for tax purposes are now available. Contact the office for your statement.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday at St. Joseph
February 14, 2024
9:30 a.m. English
6:30 p.m. Spanish

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday
5:00 p.m. English
6:30 p.m. Spanish



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.

SAVE THE DATE

The St. Joseph Annual Banquet (formerly the Blarney Banquet) will be held on March 16th at the Twin Pines Event Center. Tickets on sale beginning February 4. More details coming soon.

December 2023 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
12/02-03/2023	\$ 1,453.00	\$3,182.00	\$ 4,635.00
12/8/2023	\$ 356.00		\$ 356.00
12/09-10/2023	\$ 1,314.00	\$1,504.00	\$ 2,818.00
12/12/2023	\$ 235.00		\$ 235.00
12/16-17/2023	\$ 1,097.00	\$2,140.00	\$ 3,237.00
12/23-24/2023	\$ 938.00	\$1,045.00	\$ 1,983.00
12/25/2023	\$ 5,707.00		\$ 5,707.00
12/30-31/2023	\$ 1,151.00	\$1,258.00	\$ 2,409.00
Total Received	\$ 12,251.00	\$9,129.00	\$ 21,380.00
	Monthly Target		\$ 17,202.00
	Overage/Loss		\$ 4,178.00