

# St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission*

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown March 31, 2024 - EASTER SUNDAY

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.**

## *Spiritual Reflection - EASTER SUNDAY*

### **Faith in Jesus and His Resurrection by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza**

A happy and a blessed Easter Season to all! Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel Reading (John 20: 1-9) narrates the initial discovery of the empty tomb by Mary Magdalene, followed by Peter and John who rush to the tomb upon hearing from Mary. It ends with, "For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead." This tells us that the details provided do not necessarily offer proof of the Resurrection ... but they definitely challenge us to reflect upon a most remarkable gift ... **Faith in Jesus and His Resurrection.**

All four Gospels tell us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. Notably, in the first-century Jewish society, women could not serve as legal witnesses. In today's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of an angel at the tomb. It simply says that Mary, upon seeing that the stone has been removed from the tomb, runs to Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement is telling. She assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen, but does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead!

The details about the burial cloths being in the tomb and the cloth that had covered His head being rolled up in a separate place, offer evidence that Jesus' body had not been stolen. A robber, in haste, would have taken the body with the burial cloths and not bother to roll up the cloth that covered Jesus' head!

In the weeks ahead, our Gospel Readings will show us how the disciples come to believe in Jesus' Resurrection. May their witness to the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with the Resurrected Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit be our reflection points to strengthen our **Faith in Jesus and His Resurrection!**

During the Easter Season, our First Readings are not from the Old Testament but from the Acts of the Apostles, narrating the effect of Jesus' Resurrection on His disciples. In today's First Reading (Acts 10: 34a, 37-43), St. Peter attests to the person of Jesus, a miracle worker, a great preacher, One Who has died, but Who is risen again and has appeared to His followers. He has eaten and drunk with them, meaning He is not just an illusion but a person with a body. Moreover, Peter says that Jesus commissioned them to preach the Good News of our salvation.

Our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23) calls us to rejoice on this day of the Lord. With gratitude, let us sing with the Psalmist, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!"

The Second Reading (Colossians 3: 1-4) speaks of the link between Jesus' death and resurrection and the life of all His followers, including us. Because Jesus died and is risen, we who believe in Him must seek what is above, where Christ is. As St. Paul reminds us all, "Think of what is above, not what is on earth."

Rooted on our **Faith in Jesus and His Resurrection**, let us heed Jesus' call to be witnesses of the Risen Lord to others!

**The Lord is risen, alleluia! Alleluia!**

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### **Fe en Jesús y Su Resurrección escrito por el Padre Lawrence Mendoza**

¡Una feliz y bendita temporada de Pascua para todos! Hoy comenzamos la temporada de Pascua, nuestra meditación de 50 días sobre el misterio de la resurrección de Cristo. Nuestra lectura del Evangelio (Juan 20: 1-9) narra el descubrimiento inicial de la tumba vacía por María Magdalena, seguida de Pedro y Juan, que se apresuran a la tumba al escuchar a María. Termina con: "Porque aún no entendían la Escritura de que tenía que resucitar de entre los muertos". Esto nos dice que los detalles proporcionados no necesariamente ofrecen pruebas de la Resurrección... pero definitivamente nos desafían a reflexionar sobre un regalo muy notable... **Fe en Jesús y Su Resurrección.**

Los cuatro Evangelios nos dicen que la tumba vacía de Jesús fue descubierta por primera vez por mujeres. En particular, en la sociedad judía del siglo Iro, las mujeres no podían servir como testigos legales. En el Evangelio de hoy, la única mujer que asiste a la tumba es María de Magdala. A diferencia de los relatos sinópticos, el Evangelio de Juan no describe la aparición de un ángel en la tumba. Simplemente dice que María, al ver que la piedra ha sido retirada de la tumba, corre hacia Simón Pedro y el amado discípulo. Su declaración es reveladora. Ella asume que el cuerpo de Jesús ha sido retirado, tal vez robado, pero no considera que Jesús haya resucitado de entre los muertos!

Los detalles sobre los paños de entierro que estaban en la tumba y el paño que había cubierto su cabeza a sido enrollado en un lugar separado, ofrecen evidencia de que el cuerpo de Jesús no había sido robado. ¡Un ladrón, a toda prisa, se habría llevado el cuerpo con los paños de entierro y no se habría molestado en enrollar el paño que cubría la cabeza de Jesús!

En las próximas semanas, nuestras lecturas del Evangelio nos mostrarán cómo los discípulos llegaron a creer en la resurrección de Jesús. ¡Que su testimonio de la tumba vacía y su continua relación con el Cristo resucitado y el don del Espíritu Santo sean nuestros puntos de reflexión para fortalecer Nuestra **Fe en Jesús y su resurrección!**

Durante la temporada de Pascua, nuestras primeras lecturas no son del Antiguo Testamento, sino de los Hechos de los Apóstoles, que narran el efecto de la resurrección de Jesús en sus discípulos. En la primera lectura de hoy (Hechos 10: 34a, 37-43), San Pedro da fe de la persona de Jesús, un hacedor de milagros, un gran predicador, Aquel que ha muerto, pero que ha resucitado y ha aparecido a sus seguidores. Ha comido y bebido con ellos, lo que significa que no es solo una ilusión, sino una persona con un cuerpo. Además, Pedro dice que Jesús les encargó predicar la Buena Nueva de nuestra salvación.

Nuestro Salmo Responsorial (Salmo 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23) nos llama a regocijarnos en este día del Señor. Con gratitud, cantemos con el Salmista: "Este es el día que el Señor ha hecho; ¡regocijémonos y alegremos!"

La Segunda Lectura (Colosenses 3: 1-4) habla del vínculo entre la muerte y la resurrección de Jesús y la vida de todos sus seguidores, incluidos nosotros. Debido a que Jesús murió y ha resucitado, nosotros que creemos en Él debemos buscar lo que está arriba, donde está Cristo. Como San Pablo nos recuerda a todos: "Piensa en lo que está arriba, no en lo que está en la tierra".

Arraigados en nuestra **Fe en Jesús y Su Resurrección**, ¡atendamos el llamado de Jesús a ser testigos del Señor Resucitado para los demás!  
**¡El Señor ha resucitado, Aleluya! ¡Aleluya!**



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, Ines Mendoza, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Don Nielsen, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Tyrone Rivera, Melody Royvel, Jim Serventi, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Leslie Thomas, Toni Vecellio, and **special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.**

## St. Joseph Catholic Church Annual Banquet Fundraiser

Saturday, June 29, 2024

Twin Pine Casino & Hotel  
Event Center

22223 State Highway 29, Middletown

5:00 p.m. Doors Open

Silent Auction preview and bidding

6:00 p.m. Dinner

Live Auction immediately following  
dinner.

Choice of Roast Beef  
or Vegetarian Pasta

(Vegan alternative available if requested in advance)

Proceeds from this event will be used to  
pay the insurance premiums  
for the three churches in our parish.

\$65 per person

Tickets available soon!

~ Advance purchase required ~

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, March 30, 4:00 p.m.

Tyler Neil+ By: Monica Huck

Saturday, March 30, 7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

Living members of Bianchi Family:

Jean, Michael, Jan By: Barbara Bianchi

Sunday, March 31, 9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday

Robert Mondavi & Henry M. Ventura++

By: Peter Ventura

Ricky Phipps+ By: Hi Mom

Sunday, March 31, 4:00 p.m. Easter Sunday

Josefina Munoz Espiridion Ortega+

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.



PLATE COLLECTIONS – March

Our Lady of the Lake \$481

St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$1670

St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$595

Totals = First Collection \$ 1307 Second Collection \$1439

**Thank you!**

## ST JOSEPH ROOFING FUND

The balance in our Roofing Account is \$10,889. A big THANK YOU to those parishioners who have set up a monthly pledge to this account. Please make checks to St. Joseph Roofing Fund. Do not put in the collection basket without identifying that it is for the Roof.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Our Lady of the Lake Guild Easter Bake Sale this weekend after all the Masses.*
- *There will be no weekday Masses from April 1st through April 12th as Father will be on vacation.*
- *We welcome Fr. Rowell Gumalay who will be saying all Masses in Father's absence on Saturday, April 6th and Sunday, April 7th.*



*Happy Easter*

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