

# St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission*

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown

March 24, 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)

## *Spiritual Reflection Palm Sunday*

### The Son of God! by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

A blessed Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion to all! It is the first day of Holy Week, the most solemn week in our Church calendar. Palm Sunday is unique in having two Gospels, depicting two different sentiments that of jubilation then sorrow.

The first Gospel (Mark 11:1-10), proclaimed before the procession with palms, narrates Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a colt, the crowds jubilantly hail Jesus, "Hosanna! ... Hosanna in the highest!" Soon after, there is a grim shift ... with the proclamation of four somber readings. The First Reading (Isaiah 50:4-7), one of the Suffering Servant Canticles of Isaiah states, "I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting." The Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24) foretells chilling aspects of Jesus' passion, "They have pierced my hands and my feet ... they divide my garments among them." The Second Reading (Philippians 2:6-11), known as the Christ Hymn, expresses Christ's life of selflessness, "He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

The Gospel Reading (Mark 15:1-39), the culmination of the Liturgy of the Word, narrates the painful account of Jesus' fake trial, condemnation, scourging, crowning with thorns, crucifixion and death. Sadly, the same crowd that welcomed Jesus in His triumphant entry into Jerusalem was the same crowd, stirred by the chief priests, that called for His death! On this Holy Week, may we fervently read the passion stories narrated in the four Gospels (Matthew 26:15 - 27:66; Mark 14:12 - 15:47; Luke 22:7 - 23:56 and John 13:1 - 19:42) and prayerfully remember the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, let us find time to reflect on what Jesus did to bring the Good News of our salvation and to understand the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as **The Son of God!**

As we read the passion stories, may we also ponder on Jesus' disciples ... to better appreciate their eventual transformation! Rarely models of faith, they show lack of confidence to continue His ministry after His death. When Jesus predicts that their faith would be shaken in the events ahead, Peter and the other disciples protest vehemently. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus returns three times to find them sleeping. While Jesus prays in agony over his impending fate, His disciples slumber through the night. Just as Jesus predicts, Peter denies Jesus. Moreover, the disciples are noticeably absent during Jesus' passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion.

It takes a Roman centurion to affirm, "Truly this man was **The Son of God!**" Nowhere is this revealed more strongly than in Jesus' death on the cross. As we continue to reflect on the events that led to our redemption and salvation, let us accompany Jesus, not only on His triumphant entry into Jerusalem ... but also on His way to the cross. Let us wholeheartedly enter into Jesus' passion and also profess, "Truly, this man was **The Son of God!**"

### **¡El Hijo de Dios! Por el P. Lawrence Mendoza**

¡Un bendito Domingo de Ramos de la Pasión del Señor para todos! Es el primer día de la Semana Santa, la semana más solemne de nuestro calendario de la Iglesia. El Domingo de Ramos es único en tener dos Evangelios, que representan dos sentimientos diferentes, el del júbilo y el del dolor.

El primer Evangelio (Marcos 11:1-10), proclamado antes de la procesión con palmas, narra la entrada triunfal de Jesús en Jerusalén. Montando en un burro, las multitudes le aclaman con júbilo a Jesús: "¡Hosanna! ... ¡Hosanna en lo más alto!" Poco después, hay un cambio sombrío... con la proclamación de cuatro lecturas sombrías. La Primera Lectura (Isaías 50:4-7), uno de los Cantares de los Siervos Sufrientes de Isaías, dice: "Di mi espalda a los que me golpearon, mis mejillas a los que me arrancaron la barba; no protegí mi cara de las bofetadas y escupidas". El Salmo Responsorial (Salmo 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24) predice aspectos escalofriantes de la pasión de Jesús: "Me han perforado las manos y los pies... dividen mis prendas entre ellos". La Segunda Lectura (Filipenses 2:6-11), conocida como el Himno de Cristo, expresa la vida de desinterés de Cristo: "Se humilló a sí mismo, volviéndose obediente hasta el punto de la muerte, incluso de la muerte en una cruz".

La lectura del Evangelio (Marcos 15:1-39), la culminación de la Liturgia de la Palabra, narra el doloroso relato de la falsa prueba, condena, flago, coronación con espinas, crucifixión y muerte de Jesús. Lamentablemente, la misma multitud que dio la bienvenida a Jesús en su entrada triunfal en Jerusalén fue la misma multitud que agitada por los sacerdotes supremos fueron los que pidieron su muerte. En esta Semana Santa, podemos leer fervientemente las historias de pasión narradas en los cuatro Evangelios (Mateo 26:15 - 27:66; Marcos 14:12 - 15:47; Lucas 22:7 - 23:56 y Juan 13:1 - 19:42) y para recordar con oración los acontecimientos de la pasión y la muerte de Jesús. Mientras meditamos en la cruz, encontremos tiempo para reflexionar sobre lo que Jesús hizo para traer las Buenas Nuevas de nuestra salvación y para entender la declaración de fe de que Jesús, en su sufrimiento y muerte obediente, se reveló a nosotros como el **Hijo de Dios**.

Mientras leemos las historias de pasión, también reflexionemos sobre los discípulos de Jesús... ¡para apreciar mejor su eventual transformación! Rara vez son modelos de fe, muestran falta de confianza para continuar su ministerio después de su muerte. Cuando Jesús predice que su fe se sacudirá en los acontecimientos venideros, Pedro y los otros discípulos protestan con vehemencia. Sin embargo, en el jardín de Getsemanía, Jesús regresa tres veces para encontrarlos durmiendo. Mientras Jesús reza en agonía por su inminente destino, sus discípulos duermen toda la noche. Como Jesús predice, Pedro niega a Jesús. Además, los discípulos están notablemente ausentes durante la pasión y la muerte de Jesús. Se dice que solo las mujeres que habían sido seguidoras de Jesús en Galilea han estado presentes en la Crucifixión.

Se necesita un centurión romano para afirmar: "¡Verdaderamente este hombre era el **Hijo de Dios!**" En ninguna parte se revela esto con más fuerza que en la muerte de Jesús en la cruz. A medida que continuamos reflexionando sobre los acontecimientos que llevaron a nuestra redención y salvación, acompañemos a Jesús, no solo en Su entrada triunfal en Jerusalén... sino también en Su camino a la cruz. Entremos de todo corazón en la pasión de Jesús y también profesemos: "¡Verdaderamente, este hombre fue el **Hijo de Dios!**"



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, Karen Ness, 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.**

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### HOLY THURSDAY SERVICES

March 28

5:30 p.m. in English, Mass of the Lord's Supper & Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Joseph

8:00 p.m. in Spanish

Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 12 midnight

### GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

March 29 St. Joseph

12:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross in English

1:00 p.m. Passion of the Lord

Novena to the Divine Mercy

6:00 p.m. in Spanish

### EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, March 30

4:00 p.m. Mass in English, Our Lady of the Lake

7:00 p.m. Mass in English, St. Joseph

9:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish, St. Joseph

### EASTER SUNDAY

March 31

9:30 a.m. Mass in English, St. Joseph

4:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish, St. Joseph

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Coffee Social today after the 9:30 mass. Everyone is welcome, join us for coffee, pastries and visiting...*
- *Flower donations for Easter Lillies...envelopes in the back of the church, please complete and put in the collection basket.*
- *The St. Joseph Banquet Fundraiser has been scheduled for June 29 at the Twin Pines Event Center. Now is the time to bring your donations for the auctions to the office. Please be prepared to complete the donation form.*
- *If you are not receiving emails from St. Joseph, we do not have your email address. Please contact Sandy in the office.*
- *There will be no weekday masses from April 1 through April 12 as Father will be on vacation.*

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 23, 4:00 p.m.

Sara Fraser Long+

By: Macedo Family

Celestina & Frank Hume and

Marion & Cecil Mormandin++++ By: Bob & Joan Hume

Sunday, March 24, 9:30 a.m.

Karen Ness (sp)

By: Tony & Mary Ann Arnold

Lee Speckmann+

By: Tony & Mary Ann Arnold

Holy Thursday, March 28, 5:30 p.m.

Atone August+

By: Toni Vecellio

*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 17 & 18

Our Lady of the Lake \$653

St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$2462

St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$347

Totals = First Collection \$1641 Second Collection \$1821

**Thank you!**

## Lady of the Lake Guild Easter Bake Sale

The Lady of the Lake Guild will be holding bake sales during Easter weekend. The sales will be in Loch Lomond after the 4:00 pm mass on March 30, and in Middletown after the 9:30 am mass on March 31 and after the 4:00 pm mass. Although there will be a variety of items available (including Rick Macedo's famous Portuguese sweetbread!), we are offering a chance to pre-order some items – we don't want anyone to miss out! The last day to pre-order will be Monday, March 25. Payment can be made at time of pickup. Items for pre-order are: Sherry bundt cake (limit 2 per order) - \$25 Jumbo molasses crinkle cookies (pkg of 4) (limit 3 per order) - \$10 Morning Gloria muffins (pkg of 4) (limit 2 per order) - \$8 To pre-order, contact Suzanna Macedo at (707) 272-2518 (text or voicemail is fine) or email [suzanna\\_macedo@hotmail.com](mailto:suzanna_macedo@hotmail.com) The Lady of the Lake Guild welcomes and appreciates any donations for the sale. Please contact Suzanna Macedo. Proceeds will be used for ongoing maintenance at Our Lady of the Lake and Our Lady of the Pines.

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"

### ST JOSEPH ROOFING FUND

\$10,039 is the new balance in our Roof checking account. **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.

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