

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

April 7, 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
Website: 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 – Sunday of Divine Mercy

April 7, 2024

WE MEET THE RISEN LORD IN THE COMMUNITY OF HIS BODY, THE CHURCH

A Spiritual Reflection by Pope Francis, Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16, 2023

Today, Divine Mercy Sunday, the Gospel recounts two apparitions of the Risen Jesus to his disciples, and in particular, to Thomas, the “doubting Apostle” (cf. Jn 20:24-29). In reality, Thomas is not the only one who struggles to believe. In fact, he represents all of us a little bit. Indeed, it is not always easy to believe, especially when, as in his case, one has suffered a tremendous disappointment. After a huge disappointment, it is difficult to believe. [Thomas] had followed Jesus for years, running risks and enduring discomforts. But the Teacher was put on a cross like a criminal, and no one freed him. No one did anything! He is dead and everyone is afraid. How can he trust again? How can he trust the news saying he is alive? There was doubt inside him.

Thomas, however, shows that he is courageous. While the others are closed up inside the Upper Room out of fear, he goes out, running the risk that someone might recognize, report and arrest him. We could even think that, with his courage, he would have deserved more than the others to meet the Risen Lord. Instead, precisely because he is away, Thomas is not there when Jesus appears to the disciples for the first time, on Easter evening, thus missing that opportunity. He had distanced himself from the community. How could he get [the opportunity] back? Only by going back to the others, returning there, to that family he had left behind, scared and sad. When he does so, when he returns, they tell him that Jesus had come, but he struggles to believe. He wants to see his wounds. And Jesus satisfies him: eight days later, he appears again in the midst of his disciples and shows them his wounds, his hands, his feet, these wounds that are the proof of his love, that are the ever-open channels of his mercy.

Let us reflect on these facts. In order to believe, Thomas wants an extraordinary sign — to touch the wounds. Jesus shows them to him, but in an ordinary way, coming in front of everyone, in the community, not outside. As if saying to him: if you want to meet me, do not search far away; remain in the community, with the others, and don't go away. Pray with them. Break bread with them. And he says this to us as well. That is where you will find me; that is where I will show you the signs of the wounds impressed on my body: the signs of the Love that overcomes hatred, of the Pardon that disarms revenge, the signs of the Life that conquers death. It is there, in the community, that you will discover my face, as you share moments of doubt and fear with your brothers and sisters, clinging even more strongly to them. Without the community, it is difficult to find Jesus.

Dear brothers and sisters, the invitation given to Thomas is valid for us as well. We, where do we seek the Risen One? In some special event, in some spectacular or amazing religious manifestation, only in our emotions and feelings? Or rather in the community, in the Church, accepting the challenge of staying there, even though she (the Church) is not perfect? Despite all of her limitations and failures, which are our limitations and failings, our Mother Church is the Body of Christ. And it is there, in the Body of Christ, that, still now and forever, the greatest signs of his love can be found impressed. Let us ask ourselves, however, if in the name of this love, in the name of Jesus' wounds, we are willing to open our arms to those who are wounded by life, excluding no one from God's mercy but welcoming everyone, each person like a brother, like a sister. God welcomes everyone. God welcomes everyone.

7 De Abril De 2024

CONOCEMOS AL SEÑOR RESUCITADO EN LA COMUNIDAD DE SU CUERPO, LA IGLESIA

Una reflexión espiritual del Papa Francisco, Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, 16 de abril de 2023

Hoy, Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, el Evangelio relata dos apariciones del Jesús Resucitado a sus discípulos y en particular, a Tomás, el "Apóstol dudoso" (cf. Jn 20:24-29). En realidad, Thomas no es el único que lucha por creer. De hecho, nos representa un poco a todos ya que no siempre es fácil de creer, como en su caso, uno ha sufrido una tremenda decepción. Después de una decepción, es difícil de creer. [Tomás] había seguido a Jesús durante años, corriendo riesgos y soportando molestias. Pero el profesor fue puesto en una cruz como un criminal, y nadie lo liberó. ¡Nadie hizo nada! Está muerto y todo el mundo tiene miedo. ¿Cómo puede volver a confiar? ¿Cómo puede confiar en las noticias que dicen que está vivo? Había dudas dentro de él.

Sin embargo, Tomas demuestra que es valiente mientras los demás están encerrados dentro de la Sala Superior por miedo, él sale corriendo el riesgo de que alguien lo reconozca, lo denuncie y lo arreste. Incluso podríamos pensar que, con su coraje, habría merecido más que los demás conocer al Señor Resucitado. En cambio, porque está fuera, Tomás no estaba presente cuando Jesús apareció a los discípulos por primera vez en la noche de Pascua, perdiendo así esa oportunidad. Se había distanciado de la comunidad. ¿Cómo pudo recuperar [la oportunidad]? Solo volviendo a los demás, volviendo a esa familia que había dejado atrás, asustada y triste. Cuando regresa, le dicen que Jesús había venido, pero le cuesta creer. Quiere ver sus heridas. Y Jesús lo satisface: ocho días después, aparece de nuevo en medio de sus discípulos y les muestra sus heridas en las manos y pies, esas heridas son la prueba de su amor, son los canales siempre abiertos de su misericordia.

Reflexionemos sobre estos hechos. Para creer, Thomas quiere una señal extraordinaria: tocar las heridas. Jesús se los muestra a él, pero de una manera ordinaria, viniendo delante de todos en la comunidad, no fuera. Como si le dijera: si quieres mirarme, no busques lejos; quédate en la comunidad con los demás, y no te vayas. Reza con ellos. Rompe el pan con ellos. Y también nos dice esto. Ahí es donde me encontrarás; ahí es donde te mostraré los signos de las heridas impresas en mi cuerpo: los signos del Amor que supera el odio, del perdón que desarma la venganza, los signos de la Vida que conquista la muerte. Es allí, en la comunidad, donde descubrirás mi rostro, mientras compartes momentos de duda y miedo con tus hermanos y hermanas, aferrándote aún más a ellos. Sin la comunidad, es difícil encontrar a Jesús.

Queridos hermanos y hermanas, la invitación que se le dio a Tomas también es válida para nosotros. Nosotros, ¿dónde buscamos al Resucitado? ¿En algún evento especial, en alguna manifestación religiosa espectacularmente sorprendente o solo en nuestras emociones y sentimientos? ¿O más bien en la comunidad, en la Iglesia, aceptando el desafío de quedarse allí, a pesar de que ella (la Iglesia) no es perfecta? A pesar de todas sus limitaciones y fracasos, que son nuestras limitaciones y fracasos, nuestra Madre Iglesia es el Cuerpo de Cristo. Y es allí, en el Cuerpo de Cristo, donde, todavía ahora y para siempre, se pueden encontrar impresas las mayores señales de su amor. Sin embargo, preguntémosnos, si en el nombre de este amor, en el nombre de las heridas de Jesús, estamos dispuestos a abrir nuestros brazos a aquellos que son heridos por la vida, y no excluyendo a nadie de la misericordia de Dios, sino dando la bienvenida a todos, a cada persona como un hermano o como una hermana. Dios da la bienvenida a todos.



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 ~

**TICKET SALES BEGINNING
NEXT WEEKEND AFTER 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, April 6, 4:00 p.m.

Nick Dahlia (sp)

By: Monica Huck

Sunday, April 7, 9:30 a.m.

Carol Draper (sp)

By: Toni Vecellio

James Clare Franklin+

By: Stefan Ripich

Sunday, April 7, 4:00 p.m.

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.



EASTER COLLECTIONS \$9141

Alleluia!!!

ST JOSEPH ROOFING FUND

The balance in our Roofing Account is now \$17009. We are grateful to the Servidores De Maria for the very generous gift of \$5000. Muchas gracias!

Please make checks to St. Joseph Roofing Fund.

Do not put in the collection basket without identifying that it is for the Roof.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We welcome Fr. Rowell Gumalay this weekend who will be saying all Masses while Fr. Lawrence is away.
- Tickets on sale next weekend for the St. Joseph Banquet Fundraiser. Tables of 8 available.
- There will be no weekday Masses while Father is away. Mass will resume on April 16.
- AMA 2024 latest report shows pledges equaling \$9,125 towards our goal of \$12,500. We are looking at an additional \$3375 to meet our goal. If you have not sent in your pledge, please do so as soon as possible. Last year our return from the Diocese of \$1414.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with decorating and cleaning our two churches for Easter. Both churches were so beautiful.
- We are continuing to accept auction items for our Banquet Fundraiser. Bring your donations to the office and be prepared to complete the donation form.
- Lake County Passion Play May 18 & 19 this year.

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