

St. Joseph Parish – Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

May 12, 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 p.m.

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 – The Ascension of the Lord

May 12, 2024

The Promise of Our Lord's Ascension by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

A happy and a blessed Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord! In the Creed, we profess: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. Today, we are invited to reflect on the significance of the Lord's Ascension and how it affects our lives. Or we may ask, what is **The Promise of Our Lord's Ascension?**

Our First Reading (Acts 1:1-11) describes the event of the Ascension. First, Jesus instructs His apostles to wait in Jerusalem for "the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Next, He tells them, "... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth." Then "a cloud took Him from their sight." Our First Reading ends with two Heavenly messengers in white garments assuring them, "This Jesus ... will return in the same way as you have seen Him going into Heaven."

Our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9) celebrates God's universal Kingship. He is the great King over all the earth. By our Lord's Ascension and as our Psalmist sings, the Risen Lord likewise "mounts His throne" to shouts of joy, that is, in glory!

In our Second Reading (Ephesians 1:17-23), St. Paul teaches us a powerful prayer for wisdom and revelation that we may have a fuller knowledge of God, know and realize the great hope to which we have been called ... the richness of His inheritance for us believers, the immeasurable greatness of His power for us and the absolute supremacy of Christ over all things, including the Church which is His Body, now and until the end of time!

In today's Gospel (Mark 16:15-20), Jesus gives his final message and instructions to His apostles and us, too! Jesus' Great Commission is to go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved ... and will share the ascended Jesus' Heavenly glory!

The four Gospel accounts of the Ascension may differ on details, but all agree on the Lord's final message and that the Ascension opens the way to Heaven for us!

Yes, our readings clearly tell us that we, followers, and believers of Jesus, are all called and empowered to continue the work of Jesus. Yet, many of us continue to ask how we can perform our roles. In some ways we are like the disciples, who on Jesus' Ascension, are awestruck and intently staring at the sky. Perhaps, we need somebody to ask us, "Why are you standing there looking up into the sky?"

May this challenge us to quit standing around and to get to work spreading the Good News. As the disciples needed the Holy Spirit to do their mission, let us also pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit into our lives. The more we are open to the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives, the more we will be empowered to be Jesus' missionaries.

Being Jesus' missionary is by no means going to far away lands spreading the Good News as others would do. We can do so in our own homes and within our families. Let us all start realizing **The Promise of Our Lord's Ascension** ... by living out the Good News, here and now!

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La Promesa de la Ascensión de Nuestro Señor Por el Padre Lawrence Mendoza

¡Una feliz y bendita solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor! En el Credo, profesamos: Él ascendió al cielo y está sentado a la derecha del Padre. Hoy, estamos invitados a reflexionar sobre el significado de la Ascensión del Señor y cómo afecta a nuestras vidas. O podemos preguntar, **¿cuál es la promesa de la ascensión de nuestro Señor?**

Nuestra primera lectura (Hechos 1:1-11) describe el evento de la Ascensión. Primero, Jesús instruye a Sus apóstoles para que esperen en Jerusalén "la promesa del Padre de la que me has oído hablar; porque Juan ha bautizado con agua, pero en unos días serás bautizado con el Espíritu Santo". A continuación, Él les dice: "... recibirás poder cuando el Espíritu Santo venga sobre ti, y serán mis testigos... hasta los confines de la tierra". Entonces "una nube lo sacó de su vista". Nuestra primera lectura termina con dos mensajeros celestiales vestidos de blanco y asegurándoles: "Este Jesús... volverá de la misma manera que lo has visto ir al Cielo".

Nuestro Salmo Responsorial (Salmo 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9) celebra la realeza universal de Dios. Él es el gran rey de toda la tierra. Por la Ascensión de nuestro Señor y como canta nuestro Salmista, el Señor Resucitado también "monta Su trono" a gritos de alegría, ¡es decir, en gloria!

En nuestra Segunda Lectura (Efesios 1:17-23), St. Pablo nos enseña una poderosa oración por sabiduría y revelación para que podamos tener un conocimiento más completo de Dios, conocer y darnos cuenta de la gran esperanza a la que hemos sido llamados... la riqueza de Su herencia para nosotros los creyentes, la inconmensurable grandeza de Su poder para nosotros

y la supremacía absoluta de Cristo sobre todas las cosas, incluida la Iglesia, que es Su Cuerpo, ¡ahora y hasta el fin de los tiempos!

¡En el Evangelio de hoy (Marcos 16:15-20), Jesús da su último mensaje e instrucciones a Sus apóstoles y a nosotros también! La Gran Comisión de Jesús es ir al mundo entero y proclamar el Evangelio a cada criatura. Quienquiera que crea y sea bautizado será salvo... ¡y compartirá la gloria celestial de Jesús ascendido!

Los cuatro relatos del Evangelio de la Ascensión pueden diferir en los detalles, ¡pero todos están de acuerdo en el mensaje final del Señor y en que la Ascensión nos abre el camino al Cielo!

Sí, nuestras lecturas nos dicen claramente que nosotros, seguidores y creyentes de Jesús, todos estamos llamados y empoderados para continuar la obra de Jesús. Sin embargo, muchos de nosotros seguimos preguntándonos cómo podemos desempeñar nuestras funciones. De alguna manera, somos como los discípulos, que en la Ascensión de Jesús, están asombrados y mirando intensamente al cielo. Tal vez, necesitamos que alguien nos pregunte: "¿Por qué estás parado allí mirando al cielo?"

Que esto nos desafíe a dejar de estar de pie y ponernos a trabajar difundiendo las buenas noticias. Como los discípulos necesitaban al Espíritu Santo para hacer su misión, oremos también por la venida del Espíritu Santo a nuestras vidas. Cuanto más estemos abiertos a la presencia del Espíritu Santo en nuestras vidas, más estaremos empoderados para ser misioneros de Jesús.

Ser misionero de Jesús no es de ninguna manera ir a tierras lejanas difundiendo las Buenas Noticias como otros lo harían. Podemos hacerlo en nuestros propios hogares y dentro de nuestras familias. Comencemos todos a hacer realidad la **Promesa de la Ascensión de Nuestro Señor**... ¡viviendo las Buenas Noticias, aquí y ahora!



Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who care for them.... Charlotte Baker, Charlie Bigelow, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni Susan Conley, 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 and
Feast with the Priest Drawing**

**Choice of Roast Beef or Pasta Primavera
plus mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, & dessert.
(Vegan alternative available if requested in advance)**

**Proceeds from this event will be used to pay the
annual insurance premiums**

\$65 per person (includes 2 glasses of wine)

**Tickets available after mass or call the
office 707 987-3676.**

~ Advance purchase required ~



Note: We continue to accept auction items for our Banquet Fundraiser. Bring your donations to the office and be prepared to complete the donation form. Wine & other spirits not allowed at the event center will be auctioned off online. Contact Sandy for details or bring to the office.

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.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 11, 4:00 p.m.

Tyler Neil+ By: Monica Huck

Sunday, May 12, 9:30 a.m.

Paula Johnson+ By: Susan Hunt

Jerry Carlo+ By: Margaret Carlisle

Thursday, May 16, 8:30 a.m.

Priscilla Frisbie+ By: St. Joseph Parish

Friday, May 17, 8:30 a.m.

Andy Mezulis+ By: Tony & Mary Ann Arnold

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 – May 4 & 5

Our Lady of the Lake \$829

St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$3858

St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$379

Totals = First Collection \$1580 Second Collection \$3486

ST JOSEPH ROOFING FUND

The balance in our Roofing Account is now \$25,737. Please make checks St. Joseph Roofing Fund. Thank you so much!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers, grandmothers, mothers-in-law, etc. etc. This is your special day, enjoy it! Mother's Day Mass Intention Envelopes will stay on the altar and will be joined by Father's Day envelopes next month.**

• ***FIRST COMMUNION at St. Joseph is scheduled for Saturday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m.***

• ***Memorial Day Weekend: Beginning on May 25, Mass at Our Lady of the Lake will change to 5:00 p.m. every Saturday. Beginning on May 26, the outdoor church, Our Lady of the Pines, will open with mass scheduled every Sunday at 11:30 a.m. This mass schedule will continue during the summer, and as usual, end on Labor Day Weekend.***

• ***Our AMA report continues to show we are \$3375 from our goal. Please remember, if we do not meet our goal, we will be billed for the amount not collected. A poster is in the back of the church showing the organizations that are supported by AMA.***

• ***The Lake County Passion Play is May 18 & 19 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Bring your own chairs.***

• ***Rosary Procession at the Carmelite House of Prayer, May 19 beginning at 2:00 p.m.***

• ***The next Coffee Social will be on May 26 after the 9:30 a.m. mass.***

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin.
stjoseph-middletown.com "I am the vine; you are the branches"



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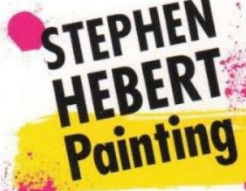
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