

# St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission, Loch Lomond*

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

September 8, 2024

707 987-3676



#### **Pastoral Staff**

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza, Pastor  
Sandy Hood, Office Manager

Pat Giacomini – Rel Ed 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 5:00 p.m.

#### **Sunday Masses**

St. Joseph Church – Middletown, 9:30 a.m. (English)  
Our Lady of the Pines – Whispering Pines, 11:30 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 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time*

### **Jesus, Our Compassionate Healer**

**By Fr. Lawrence Mendoza**

A blessed Nativity of our Blessed Virgin Mary! Yes, today is the birthday of our Blessed Virgin Mary but since it falls on a Sunday, we celebrate and read from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. Today's readings speak of God's love for all people especially the persecuted, the destitute and the mistreated, among others.

In our First Reading (Isaiah 35: 4-7), Isaiah encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon with the prophecy of their liberation and the healing of the blind, the deaf, the lame and the mute. Moreover, God will bring not only liberation and healing, but He will also bring water to give life to desolate and dry places. What reassuring words not only for the exiled Jews but also for us all that we have a loving and a compassionate God who will never abandon us!

Our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 146: 7, 8-9, 9-10) reiterates God's being, a God who reaches out to the oppressed, the hungry, the captives, the disabled and the outcasts!

Likewise, our Second Reading (James 2: 1-5) challenges the members of the faith community in St. James' time and ours, too, not to show partiality to the rich. St. James calls on all to follow the example of God ... a God with a heart for the poor!

Today's Gospel Reading (Mark 7: 31-37) is a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy in our First Reading. Here we see God ... in the person of **Jesus, Our Compassionate Healer**. Jesus travels to Decapolis, a Gentile territory. There the people bring to Jesus a deaf and mute man and beg Jesus to lay His hand on him. Jesus does so and the man is able to hear and speak, a demonstration of Jesus' compassion for those who are suffering, Jews and Gentiles alike.

Not to be ignored is Jesus' manner of performing this healing miracle. Rather than simply telling the man to be healed or touching him as in previous healings, Jesus uses physical means like spittle and touch. Here we find clues about our understanding of sacraments. Today, we continue to celebrate the sacraments using physical means like water and oil in baptism, oil in the anointing of the sick and bread and wine becoming the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs. True to the Gospel of Mark, Jesus tells the healed man and those who hear about the miracle not to proclaim what He has done. Sometimes referred to as the "Messianic Secret" ... this is the idea that Jesus purposely hid his identity as the Messiah. There are many debates on this but the most common explanation is that Jesus does this, so he does not get arrested and crucified before His time. But we also learn that the more Jesus orders them not to tell anyone, the more they proclaim it showing their astonishment of Jesus' healings!

We all know that **Jesus, Our Compassionate Healer** heals not only physically but also spiritually. Let us call on Jesus to heal our spiritual deafness that we may hear the Word of God ... and heal our spiritual muteness that we may speak of the Good News of our salvation with others. In gratitude, let us extend the same concern for the poor and needy, as God does!

+++++

### **Jesús, Nuestro Sanador Compasivo**

**Por el Padre Lawrence Mendoza**

¡Un bendito cumpleaños de nuestra Santísima Virgen María! Sí, hoy es el cumpleaños de nuestra Santísima Virgen María, pero como cae en domingo, celebramos y leemos desde el domingo 23 en horario ordinario. Las lecturas de hoy hablan del amor de Dios por todas las personas, especialmente los acosados, los indigentes y los maltratados, entre otros.

En nuestra Primera Lectura (Isaías 35: 4-7), Isaías anima a los judíos exiliados en Babilonia con la profecía de su liberación y la curación de los ciegos, los sordos, los cojos y los mudos. Además, Dios no solo traerá liberación y curación, sino que también traerá agua para dar vida a lugares desolados y secos. ¡Qué palabras tan tranquilizadoras no solo para los judíos exiliados, sino también para todos nosotros que tenemos un Dios amoroso y compasivo que nunca nos abandonará!

¡Nuestro Salmo Responsorial (Salmo 146: 7, 8-9, 9-10) reitera el ser de Dios, un Dios que llega a los oprimidos, los hambrientos, los cautivos, los discapacitados y los marginados! Del mismo modo, nuestra Segunda Lectura (Santiago 2: 1-5) desafía a los miembros de la comunidad de fe en el tiempo de Santiago y el nuestro, para no mostrar parcialidad a los ricos. San Jaime llama a todos a seguir el ejemplo de Dios... ¡Un Dios con un corazón para los pobres CT! La lectura del Evangelio de hoy (Marcos 7: 31-37) es un cumplimiento de la profecía de Isaías en nuestra Primera Lectura. Aquí vemos a Dios... en la persona de Jesús, Nuestro Sanador Compasivo. Jesús viaja a Decápolis, un territorio gentil. Allí la gente trae a Jesús a un hombre sordo y mudo y le ruega a Jesús que le toque la mano. Jesús lo hace y el hombre es capaz de escuchar y hablar, una demostración de la compasión de Jesús por aquellos que están sufriendo, judíos y gentiles por igual.

No debe ser ignorado, es la manera de Jesús de realizar este milagro curativo. En lugar de simplemente decirle al hombre que se cure o tocarlo como en curaciones anteriores, Jesús usa medios físicos como escupir y tocar. Aquí encontramos pistas sobre nuestra comprensión de los sacramentos. Hoy en día, continuamos celebrando los sacramentos usando medios físicos como el agua y el aceite en el bautismo, el aceite en la unción de los enfermos y el pan y el vino convirtiéndose en el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo. Somos un pueblo sacramental que cree que la gracia de Dios se nos da a través de estos signos físicos.

Fiel al Evangelio de Marcos, Jesús le dice al hombre curado y a aquellos que escuchan sobre el milagro que no proclamen lo que Él ha hecho. A veces conocido como el "Secreto Mesianico" ... esta es la idea de que Jesús ocultó a propósito su identidad como el Mesías. Hay muchos debates sobre esto, pero la explicación más común es que Jesús hace esto para que no sea arrestado y crucificado antes de su tiempo. Pero también aprendemos que cuanto más Jesús les ordena que no se lo digan a nadie, ¡más lo proclaman mostrando su asombro por las curaciones de Jesús!

Todos sabemos que **Jesús, Nuestro Sanador Compasivo**, sana no solo físicamente, sino también espiritualmente. Llamemos a Jesús para que sane nuestra sordera espiritual para que podamos escuchar la Palabra de Dios... y sanar nuestra muda espiritual para que podamos hablar de las Buenas Nuevas de nuestra salvación con los demás. En agradecimiento, ¡extendamos la misma preocupación por los pobres y necesitados, como lo hace Dios!



Please pray for the sick in our parish, our family & friends, and those who care for them...Fr. Andre, Charlotte Baker, Charlie Bigelow, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Debbie Cariela, Susan Conley, Cheryl Fua, Cianna Gazperony, Hector Guerra, Monica Gerrero, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Laura Hilton, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Coleen McCluskey, Joe McSweeney, Ines Mendoza, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Don Nielsen, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Patsy Pigg, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Rebeca Marie Stanley, Leslie Thomas, Toni Vecellio, Matt Woodard and special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Our Lady of the Lake will continue mass at 5 o'clock through the month of September, then will revert to 4:00 p.m. the first of October. Mass on Sunday at Our Lady of the Pines will also continue at 11:30 a.m. through the month of September, weather permitting.*
- *On September 20 to 23, we will be blessed with another special event ... the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit/Display of Blessed Carlos Acutis. I am inviting you all to watch this spiritually enriching exhibit!*
- *Mark your calendars for the Feast in the Vineyard scheduled for Saturday, October 12. Tickets on sale this weekend, see Jane or call Sandy 707 987-3676.*

*Detailed information to the right....*



**ST JOSEPH ROOFING FUND** We have raised **\$32,222** to date. The roof cost **\$43,500**. We are still short by **\$11,278**. Checks payable to St. Joseph Roofing Fund. Thank you for your constant support!

### PLATE COLLECTIONS – 8/31 & 9/1

Our Lady of the Lake \$520

St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$3836

Our Lady of the Pines 11:30 am \$305

St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$412

First Collection \$1928 Second Collection \$3145

Total \$5073 thank you for your generosity!

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, September 7, 5:00 p.m.

**Edmund Brune+** By: Thomas Harley

Sunday, September 8, 9:30 a.m.

**Edmund Brune+** By: Thomas Hartley

**Jack Schindler+** By: Diedra Lagle

Sunday, September 8, 11:30 a.m.

**For our parishioners**

Friday, September 13, 8:30 a.m.

**Edmund Brune+** By: Thomas Harley

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.

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

### Presents the Third Annual

#### *"Feast in the Vineyard"*

*Father Lawrence Birthday and Ordination Celebration, Saturday, October 12*

4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Social Hour

Dinner at 5:00 p.m., ending at 8:00 p.m.

Bantry Vineyard, 12102 Hwy 29

(formerly owned by Father James directly across from C Street, Lower Lake)

serving American food by Pat & Lisa Lambert, Mexican food by Old Mill Restaurant,

and Asian Food by Fr. Lawrence & company

Featuring entertainment provided by the Eureka

Dance Troupe and music by

Juvenal and JJ Campos, including Karaoke

Silent Dessert Auction

ADULT TICKETS \$50 each,

CHILDREN 4-12 \$10, under 3 free

Auction tickets available for the

"Priest Prepares the Feast"

Purchase your tickets for a gourmet feast

prepared by our own Father Lawrence.

Two winners, each winner allowed 3 additional guests, tickets to be drawn the night of the event.

\$10 each or 6 for \$50

Tickets are available after mass until Sunday,

October 6, also available at

Rosales Market or the rectory

For additional information contact the office

707 987-3676.

(Proceeds will go into the Roofing Fund)

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR



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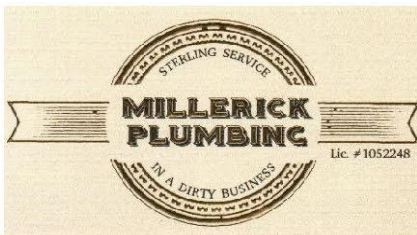
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Manager

21218 Calistoga St / PO Box 961  
Middletown, CA 95461

office 707-987-2291  
Hours 8:00-5:00 Monday thru Friday



**COOPERTIRES**



Sean Millerick – 707.495.2954

**707-987-4663 (GOOD)**  
21389 Stewart Street Middletown  
**Monday-Friday  
12-8pm  
Closed Weekends**



Derick Fiske  
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