

St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission, Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

September 15, 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

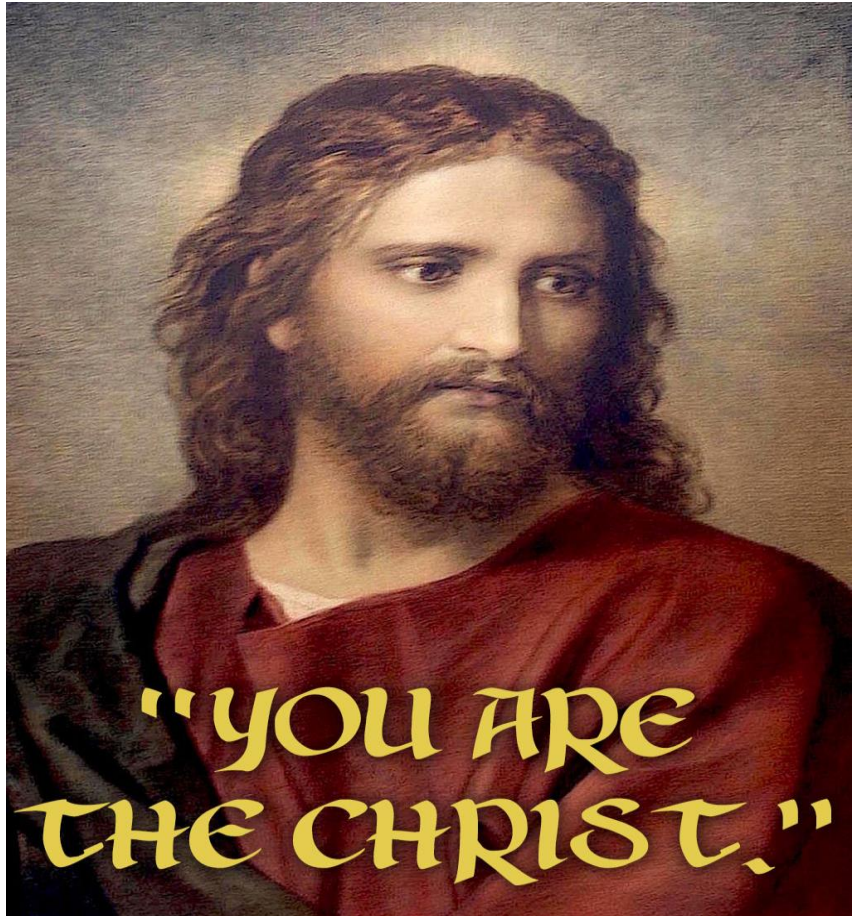
Middletown, CA 95461

Email: stjoseph11@att.net

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 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 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Difficult Yet Rewarding Path by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

Today, we learn that the life of a disciple of Jesus ... that of following Him ... is a Difficult Yet Rewarding Path. It includes facing trials, opposition, persecution and even death yet it is the absolute path that leads to eternal life.

Today's Gospel Reading (Mark 8:27-35) is a turning point in Mark's Gospel. Prior to this, Mark has presented Jesus' ministry and His deeds showing Jesus to be the Son of God. But many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet recognized Jesus' true identity!

In this Gospel passage, Jesus begins by asking His disciples what the people say who He is. Next, He turns the question directly to them and Peter answers, "You are the Christ!" Yes, Christ is a title given to Jesus meaning "Messiah" or the "Anointed One." On Peter's answer, Jesus warns them not to tell anyone about Him ... another example of Mark's concept of the "Messianic Secret" as we learned last Sunday.

On account of His ministry, Jesus also tells them what He has to go through ... His passion, death and resurrection. Peter rejects this as it is not the image of a Messiah that Peter is expecting. Jesus rebukes Peter severely. He then summons the crowd with His disciples and teaches them about the path of discipleship: Jesus' disciple must be willing to deny himself, take up his cross and follow Him. The path that Jesus is inviting His disciples to take means tremendous suffering and sacrifice, even death on the cross.

On the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, it is important to note that Isaiah is often called the "Messianic Prophet" because of his prophecy of the birth of the Messiah who would redeem the people from their sins. Moreover, Isaiah's four Songs of the "Suffering Servant" are direct prophetic revelations of the passion, death and resurrection of the Messiah, that is Jesus!

Our First Reading (Isaiah 50:5-9) is the third Song of the "Suffering Servant." Here, Isaiah presents a clear description and prophecy of Jesus the Messiah ... not as a political leader who will save the Jewish people from Roman occupation but as one who will save His people through His own personal suffering. It is important to point out that the "Suffering Servant" endures the rejection and physical abuse inflicted on Him, fully entrusting His vindication in God's hands. In the words of Isaiah, "See, the Lord God is my help; who will prove me wrong?"

Thus, we also read this same passage (Isaiah 50:5-9) every Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week, to give us an understanding of Jesus' journey to resurrection through His death on the cross.

As Jesus called His disciples then, so are we all called now to take on our respective roles in continuing His ministry! Let us all heed the call knowing that even if we are ridiculed and possibly persecuted, God is with us to help us get through the Difficult Yet Rewarding Path.

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Camino Difícil, Pero Gratificante Por el Padre Lawrence Mendoza

Hoy aprendemos que la vida de un discípulo de Jesús... el seguirlo... es un Camino Difícil Pero Gratificante. Incluye enfrentar juicios, oposición, persecución e incluso la muerte, pero es el camino absoluto que conduce a la vida eterna.

La lectura del Evangelio de hoy (Marcos 8:27-35) es un punto de inflexión en el Evangelio. Antes de esto, Marcos ha presentado el ministerio de Jesús y sus hazañas mostrando a Jesús como el Hijo de Dios. ¡Pero muchos, incluidos los discípulos de Jesús, aún no han reconocido la verdadera identidad de Jesús!

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús comienza preguntando a sus discípulos qué es lo que dice la gente quién es. A continuación, Él dirige la pregunta directamente a ellos y Pedro responde: "¡Tú eres el Cristo!" Sí, Cristo es un título dado a Jesús que significa "Mesías" o el "Ungido". En la respuesta de Pedro, Jesús les advierte que no le cuenten a nadie sobre Él... otro ejemplo del concepto de Marco del "Secreto Mesiánico" como aprendimos el domingo pasado.

Debido a su ministerio, Jesús también les dice por lo que tiene que pasar... Su pasión, muerte y resurrección. Peter rechaza esto porque no es la imagen de un Mesías lo que Peter está esperando. Jesús reprende severamente a Pedro. Después convoca a la multitud con sus discípulos y les enseña sobre el camino del discipulado: el discípulo de Jesús debe estar dispuesto a negarse a sí mismo, tomar su cruz y seguirlo. El camino que Jesús está invitando a sus discípulos a tomar significa un tremendo sufrimiento y sacrificio, incluso la muerte en la cruz.

En el Libro del Profeta Isaías, es importante señalar que Isaías a menudo se le llama el "Profeta Mesiánico" debido a su profecía del nacimiento del Mesías que redimiría al pueblo de sus pecados. Además, las cuatro canciones de Isaías del "Siervo Sufriente" son revelaciones proféticas directas de la pasión, la muerte y la resurrección del Mesías, ¡es decir, Jesús!

Nuestra Primera Lectura (Isaías 50:5-9) es la tercera Canción del "Siervo Sufriente". Aquí, Isaías presenta una clara descripción y profecía de Jesús el Mesías... no como un líder político que salvará al pueblo judío de la ocupación romana, sino como alguien que salvará a su pueblo a través de su propio sufrimiento personal. Es importante señalar que el "Siervo sufriente" soporta el rechazo y el abuso físico infligido a Él, confiando plenamente su reivindicación en manos de Dios. En palabras de Isaías: "Mira, el Señor Dios es mi ayuda; ¿quién me demostrará que estoy equivocado?"

Por lo tanto, también leemos este mismo pasaje (Isaías 50:5-9) cada Domingo de Ramos, el comienzo de la Semana Santa, para darnos una comprensión del viaje de Jesús a la resurrección a través de Su muerte en la cruz.

Como Jesús llamó a sus discípulos entonces, ¡así todos estamos llamados ahora a asumir nuestros respectivos roles en la continuación de su ministerio! Escuchemos todos la llamada sabiendo que incluso si somos ridiculizados y posiblemente perseguidos, Dios está con nosotros para ayudarnos a atravesar el Camino Difícil Pero Gratificante.



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, 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

- We sadly announce that one of our parishioners, Luis Gonzales, lost his home and vehicle in the Boyles Fire last week. Our second collection this week will be for the Luis Gonzales Family of Four. Please put your blue envelopes in first collection.
- *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! The exhibit will be located in St. Joseph Church and the classroom.*
- *Next Coffee Social on Sunday, September 29 after the 9:30 a.m. mass.*
- *There will be no mass at Our Lady of the Lake on Saturday, October 12 at 4:00 p.m. so everyone can attend the Feast in the Vineyard. The mass at Our Lady of the Lake will be scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 13 that weekend.*
- *OCLA, Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, classes will begin soon. Contact Esther Oertel at 707 772-6200. The Adult Confirmation Class will also begin soon. Contact Tom Scalfaro 707 657-9059.*

ST JOSEPH ROOFING FUND

The Roof is paid off, alleluia! We are so grateful to one of our dear parishioners, who requests to remain anonymous, for paying off the debt on the roof. Thank you to everyone who donated to the Roofing Fund.

PLATE COLLECTIONS – 9/7 & 9/8

Our Lady of the Lake \$705
 St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$1765
 Our Lady of the Pines 11:30 am \$731
 St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$380
 First Collection \$1432 Second Collection \$2149

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 14, 5:00 p.m.

In thanksgiving for the blessings bestowed upon the Tambornini & Ford families

By: Naomi Tambornini

Sunday, September 15, 9:30 a.m.

Edmund Brune+ By: Thomas Hartle

Sunday, September 15, 11:30 a.m.

Brenden Coyne+ By: Shirley Coyne

Tuesday, September 17, 8:30 a.m.

Doning & Nieves By: Didi

Wednesday, September 18, 8:30 a.m.

Stephen Vecellio+ 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.

St. Joseph Catholic Church

presents

the Third Annual

"Feast in the Vineyard"

Father Lawrence Birthday and Ordination Celebration

Saturday, October 12, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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

Dinner served at 5:00 p.m.

At Bantry Vineyard, formerly owned by Father James
 12102 Hwy 29 (directly across from C Street, Lower Lake)

Serving American food by Pat & Lisa Lambert,
 Mexican food by Old Mill Restaurant, Asian Food by Fr. Lawrence & company

Featuring entertainment provided by the Eureka Dance Troupe
 Music provided by Juvenal and JJ Campos, including Karaoke

Silent Dessert Auction

ADULT TICKETS \$50

CHILDREN \$10 ages 4-12 (3 and under 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

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR



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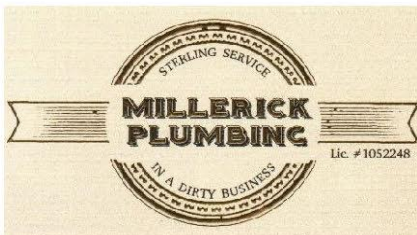
John Higgins
Manager

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office 707.987.2291
Hours 8:00-5:00 Monday thru Friday



COOPERTIRES



Sean Millerick – 707.495.2954

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