

St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission, Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

September 29, 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

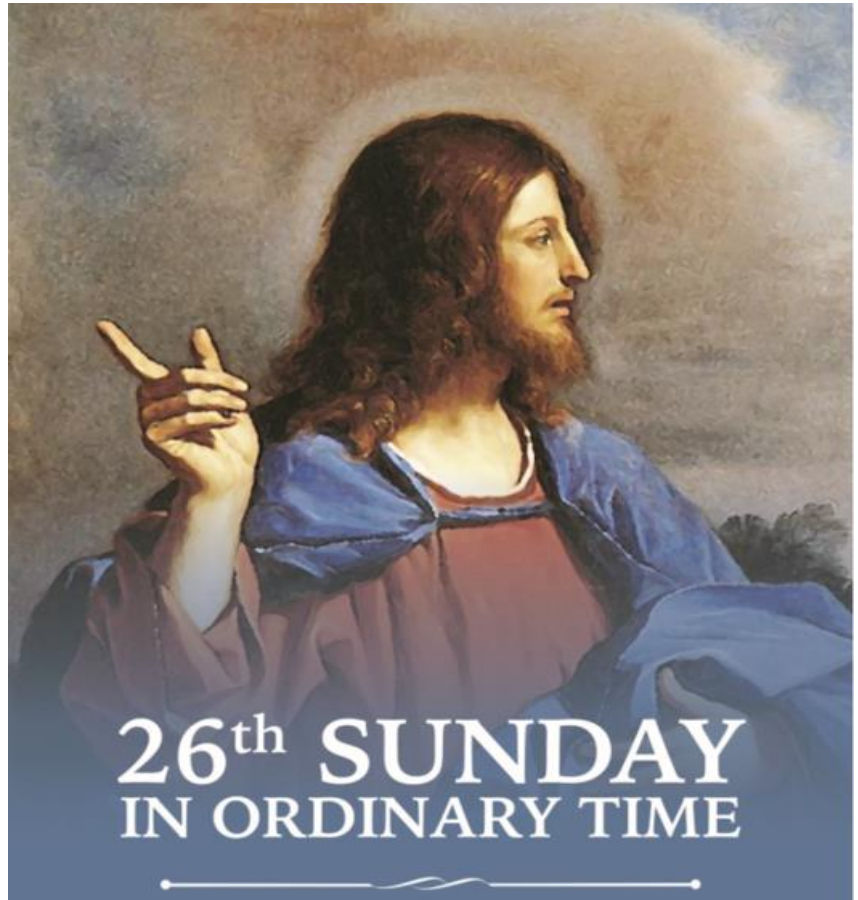
Anointing of the Sick

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)
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 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING WELCOMING TOWARDS OTHERS AND VIGILANT OVER OURSELVES

A Spiritual Reflection by Pope Francis, Angelus Message, September 26, 2021

The Gospel of today's Liturgy recounts a brief dialogue between Jesus and the Apostle John, who speaks on behalf of the entire group of disciples. They saw a man who was casting out demons in the name of the Lord, but they stopped him because he was not part of their group. At this point, Jesus invited them not to hinder those who do good, because they contribute to the fulfillment of God's plan (cf. Mk 9:38-41). Then he admonished them: instead of dividing people into good and bad, we are all called to be vigilant over our own hearts, lest we succumb to evil and bring scandal to others (cf. vv. 42-45, 47-48).

In short, Jesus' words reveal a *temptation* and offer an *exhortation*. The temptation is to be "closed off." The disciples would like to hinder a good deed simply because it is performed by someone who does not belong to their group. They think they have the "exclusive right over Jesus," and that they are the only ones authorized to work for the Kingdom of God. But this way, they end up feeling that they are privileged and consider others as outsiders, to the extent of becoming hostile towards them. Brothers and sisters, every closure tends in fact to keep us at a distance from those who do not think like we do, and this — we know — is the root of many great evils in history: of absolutism that has often generated dictatorships and of great violence towards those who are different.

But we need to be vigilant about closure in the Church too. Because the devil, who is the divider — this is what the word "devil" means, the one who divides — always insinuates suspicions to divide and exclude people. He tempts by using cunning, and it can happen as with those disciples, who ended up excluding even someone who had cast out the devil himself! Sometimes we too, instead of being humble and open communities, can give the impression of being the "top of the class" and keep others at a distance; instead of trying to walk with everyone, we can show off our "believer's license": "I am a believer," "I am Catholic," "I belong to this association, to that one," and the others, poor things, do not. This is a sin: showing off one's "believer's license" to judge and exclude.

Let us ask for the grace to overcome the temptation to judge and to categorize, and may God preserve us from the "nest" mentality, that of jealously guarding ourselves in the small group of those who consider themselves good: the priest with his loyal followers, the pastoral workers closed off among themselves so that no one can infiltrate, the movements and associations in their own particular charism, and so on. Closed. All this runs the risk of turning Christian communities into places of separation and not of communion. The Holy Spirit does not want closure; he wants openness, welcoming communities where there is a place for everyone.

And then in the Gospel there is Jesus' *exhortation*: instead of judging everything and everyone, let us be attentive to ourselves! Indeed, the risk is to be inflexible towards others and indulgent towards ourselves. And Jesus urges us not to make a deal with evil, with striking images: "If something in you causes you to sin, cut it off!" (cf. vv. 43-48). If something harms you, cut it off! He does not say, "If something is a reason for scandal, stop, think about it, improve a bit..." No: "Cut it off! Immediately! Jesus is radical in this, demanding, but for our own good, like a good doctor. Every cut, every pruning, is so we can grow better and bear fruit in love.

Let us then ask ourselves: what is in me that is contrary to the Gospel? What, in concrete terms, does Jesus want me to cut out of my life?

Let us pray to the Immaculate Virgin, that she may help us be welcoming towards others and vigilant over ourselves.

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26.ª Semanas en Tiempo Ordinario

LA IMPORTANCIA DE SER ACOGEDOR HACIA LOS DEMÁS Y VIGILANTE SOBRE NOSOTROS MISMOS

Una reflexión espiritual del Papa Francisco, Mensaje de Ángelus, 26 de septiembre de 2021

El Evangelio de la Liturgia de hoy nos relata un breve diálogo entre Jesús y el apóstol Juan, que habla en nombre de todo el grupo de discípulos. Habían visto un hombre que expulsaba demonios en nombre del Señor, pero se lo impidieron porque no formaba parte de su grupo. Jesús, a este punto, les invita a no obstaculizar a quien trabaja por el bien, porque contribuye a realizar el proyecto de Dios (cfr. Mc 9,38-41). Luego advierte: en lugar de dividir a las personas en buenos y malos, todos estamos llamados a vigilar nuestro corazón, para no sucumbir al mal y dar escándalo a los demás (cfr. vv. 42-45,47-48).

En resumen, las palabras de Jesús revelan una tentación y ofrecen una exhortación. La tentación es estar "cerrado". A los discípulos les gustaría obstaculizar una buena acción simplemente porque la realiza alguien que no pertenece a su grupo. Piensan que tienen el "derecho exclusivo sobre Jesús" y que son los únicos autorizados para trabajar por el Reino de Dios. Pero de esta manera, terminan sintiendo que son privilegiados y consideran a otros como forasteros, hasta el punto de volverse hostiles hacia ellos. Hermanos y hermanas, cada cierre tiende de hecho a mantenernos a distancia de aquellos que no piensan como nosotros, y esto, sabemos, es la raíz de muchos grandes males en la historia: del absolutismo que a menudo ha generado dictaduras y de la gran violencia hacia aquellos que son diferentes.

Pero es necesario también estar atentos al cierre de la Iglesia. Porque el diablo, que es el divisor - esto es lo que significa la palabra "diablo", el que divide - siempre insinúa sospechas de dividir y excluir a las personas. Él tienta usando la astucia, y puede suceder como con esos discípulos, ¡que terminaron excluyendo incluso a alguien que había expulsado al diablo él mismo! A veces nosotros también, en lugar de ser comunidades humildes y abiertas, podemos dar la impresión de ser él "el mejor de la clase" y mantener a los demás a distancia; en lugar de tratar de caminar con todos, podríamos mostrar nuestra "licencia de creyente": "Soy creyente", "soy católico", "Pertenezco a esta asociación, a esa", y los demás, pobres no. Esto es un pecado: mostrar la "licencia de creyente" de uno para juzgar y excluir.

Pidamos la gracia para superar la tentación de juzgar y categorizar, y que Dios nos preserve de la mentalidad de "nido", la de protegerse celosamente en el pequeño grupo de aquellos que se consideran buenos: el sacerdote con sus leales seguidores, los trabajadores pastorales encerrados entre ellos para que nadie se pueda infiltrar, los movimientos y asociaciones en su propio carisma particular, y así sucesivamente. Cerrado. Todo esto corre el riesgo de convertir a las comunidades cristianas en lugares de separación y no de comunión. El Espíritu Santo no quiere cierre; quiere apertura, comunidades de bienvenida donde hay un lugar para todos.

Y luego en el Evangelio está la exhortación de Jesús: en lugar de juzgar todo y a todos, ¡estemos atentos a nosotros mismos! De hecho, el riesgo es ser inflexible con los demás e indulgente con nosotros mismos. Y Jesús nos insta a no hacer un trato con el mal, con imágenes que impactan: "¡Si algo en ti te hace pecar, córtalo!" (Cf. vv. 43-48). Si algo te hace daño, ¡corta! Él no dice: "Si algo es motivo de escándalo, detente, piénsalo, mejora un poco..." No: "¡Córtalo! ¡Inmediatamente! Jesús es radical en esto, exigente, pero por nuestro propio bien, como un buen médico. Cada corte, cada poda, es para que podamos crecer mejor y dar fruto en el amor. Preguntémonos entonces: ¿qué hay en mí que es contrario al Evangelio? ¿Qué, en términos concretos, quiere Jesús que corte de mi vida?

Oremos a la Virgen Inmaculada, para que nos ayude a acoger a los demás y a estar atentos a nosotros mismos.



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, Linda 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

- *This is the last weekend of the Outdoor Mass at Our Lady of the Pines. Next weekend, Mass at Our Lady of the Lake will revert to 4:00pm.*
- *Coffee Social after 9:30am Mass*
- *Next Week we will be processing our Annual October 2024 Mass Count. You will notice certain individuals counting the numbers of adults and children who attend our Masses.*
- *Join Fr. Lawrence on his Thanksgiving Mass for his 12th Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary on October 12 @ 9:30am @ St. Joseph.*
- *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.*
- *On October 14 to 18, There will be no Weekday Mass as Fr. Lawrence will be attending the Diocesan Annual Priest Retreat at Vallombrosa*
- *On October 21 to 25, There will be no Weekday Mass as Fr. Lawrence will be away for his one-week Break.*
- *On October 26 (Saturday) and October 27 (Sunday) Fr. Sudhakar Mannam will be doing the Mission Appeal in all Masses. He is the representative of the Diocese of Guntur, Andhra Pradesh India.*
- *First Friday exposition and adoration sign-up sheet is at the back of St. Joseph Church, from 9:00am to 7:00pm.*



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 28, 5:00 p.m.

Debbie Cariela (sp) By: Mom

Sunday, September 29, 9:30 a.m.

Alma & Antone August++ By: Toni Vecellio

Ed Brune+ By: Thomas Hartley

Sunday, September 29, 11:30 a.m.

For our parishioners

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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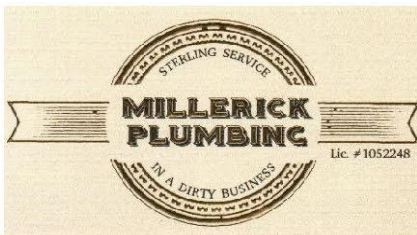
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Manager

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



COOPERTIRES



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