

# St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

*Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond*

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

December 1, 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



**And there shall be signs in  
the sun, and in the moon,  
and in the stars; and on  
the earth distress of  
nations, with perplexity...**

**—Luke 21:25**

## **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 – First Sunday of Advent*

### **Vigilant Waiting, Preparation and Justice by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza**

A blessed First Sunday of Advent to all! Yes, today is the First Sunday of Advent which is also the First Sunday of the New Liturgical Year. The Advent Season includes the four Sundays before Christmas and is a time of preparation for the comings of the Lord ... and we reflect on two central elements of our faith: the Second Coming of the Lord at the end of time and the Incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus that is, His First Coming! The key themes of the Advent Season are **Vigilant Waiting, Preparation and Justice!**

While the Advent Season primarily calls us to prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus, many are more focused on the secular preparations for Christmas, the First Coming of Jesus! Moreover, not only has the preparation for Christmas gotten earlier and earlier each year, but the word “Christmas” has also been replaced by “Holiday.” Thus, we already see many malls and stores with “Holiday Season” decorations and greetings!

Nonetheless, we do need to stay in step with our Liturgical Season of Advent. Notably, our Church readings and prayers are reflective of vigilance and preparation. The tone of our liturgies is more subdued, and we do not pray or sing the Gloria. Our liturgical color is purple, a sign of repentance and preparing our hearts for the full joy of the Christmas Season ... during which time our liturgical color becomes either gold or white!

In the First Reading (Jeremiah 33:14-16), the Lord speaks through Jeremiah assuring God’s fulfillment of a promise He made to Israel and Judah. It is a promise that He will raise up a righteous leader coming from the lineage of David. This will be accompanied by a time of peace and justice, for God is Justice!

The Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14) is a beautiful prayer that reminds us of the importance of seeking God’s guidance in our lives. It emphasizes God’s goodness and His willingness to teach those who acknowledge their need for help. Moreover, it conveys the idea that the Lord draws those who fear Him into close friendship and shares His covenant with them. Very reassuring, indeed, as we vigilantly wait for the coming of the Lord ... when we celebrate Christmas when He first came and when He comes again at the end of time!

In the Second Reading (1 Thessalonians 3:12–4:2), Paul expresses to the Thessalonians his prayer that the Lord would increase their love for one another and for all, to strengthen their hearts and be blameless in holiness ... that they may be ready for when Jesus will come again in glory! Moreover, Paul reminds them that his teachings to them carries authority as these are not from him but from the Lord Jesus!

In today's Gospel (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36), Jesus speaks to his disciples of a time when the Son of Man, a term Jesus used to describe Himself, will come again. Jesus identifies the signs and predicts a time of destruction and fear but Jesus tells his disciples, “But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.”

This is not to tell the disciples and us, too, that Jesus is promising deliverance from the day of terror and tribulations. In fact, Jesus concludes, “Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Jesus’ call for vigilance and prayer goes to us all. Well, today may be an opportune time for us all to have a New (Liturgical) Year’s resolution to put our hearts to **Vigilant Waiting, Preparation and** be worthy of God’s **Justice** when we stand before the Son of Man at the end of time!



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, Michael C., Debbie Cariela, Susan Conley, Cheryl Fua, Cianna Gazperony, Hector Guerra, Monica Gerrero, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Laura Hilton, Linda Hoogendoorn, John Johnson, Barbara Kaelin, Judy Knight, Helen Kruljac, Coleen McCluskey, Ines Mendoza, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, Don Nielsen, Maxine Lair, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Elinor Rich, 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

● *Sunday, December 8, wine sale, \$5 per bottle. In addition, we have Christmas decorations and other assorted available. The classroom will be open before and after mass.*

● *December 8, Procession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

● *Monday, December 9, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

*Mass at 9:30 a.m. English  
and at 6:30 p.m. Spanish*

*(We will have the Commissioning of the Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers during mass.)*

● *Thursday, December 12, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mass at 6:30 p.m.*

● *The Servidores de Maria are having a Christmas Raffle. Proceeds will be used to finish the Grotto area. See Laura Rosales for tickets.*

*Happy 1st week of Advent!*



**Saturday, November 30, 4:00 p.m.**

**Gayle Serventi+** By: Sandy Hood

**Sunday, December 1, 9:30 a.m.**

**James Clare Franklin+** By: Stefan Ripich

**Stuart Scott David+** By: Ned & Sally Munger

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.

## ***NOVENA SIMBANG GABI-2025***

***You are cordially invited to a  
JUBILEE YEAR CELEBRATION***

***“Pilgrims of Hope”***

***Multilingual & Diocesan-Wide  
(Night Mass – Misa De Noche)***

***December 16, Monday at 7:00 PM at  
St. Joseph Parish Middletown.***

***Celebrant: Fr. Lawrence Mendoza  
A Filipino potluck follows the celebration  
provided by the Filipino Parish Hosts.***

## **Christmas Store Pop-Up**

The Lady of the Lake Guild is sponsoring a Christmas Pop-up Store, with gift items for everyone on your list. We will be selling home-baked goods, home-made craft items, religious items, cards, and Advent seasonal items.

The sale will occur on one day only after each Mass - Saturday November 30 after the 4:00 pm mass at Our Lady of the Lake, Sunday December 1 after the 9:30 am mass at St. Josephs, and Sunday December 1 after the 4:00 pm mass at St. Josephs.

Proceeds from the sale will go towards repairs and maintenance at Our Lady of the Lake.

*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*





21573 STATE HWY 175 UNIT D  
MIDDLETOWN, CA 95461  
M-F 9 am- 6 pm Sat 10 am- 2 pm  
P: 707-809-7536

- UPS • FedEx • USPS • Packing Supplies • Copies
  - Live Scan • Notary Public • Greeting Cards
  - Document Scanning • Computer Rental • Faxing
  - Passport Photos • Confidential Shredding
  - Office & School Supplies • Printing Services-  
Photos, Banners, Blue Prints, Business Cards, Flyers
  - Vehicle Registration Services • Renewals &  
Transfers: Vehicles, Boats, Trailers, & More!
- www.middletownmailandmore.com

## Humberto's Roofing

We Roof the Best  
We Fix the Rest

CA Lic. #722049

707-994-7643

P.O. Box 1543 • Lower Lake, CA • 95457  
humbertos.roofing@gmail.com

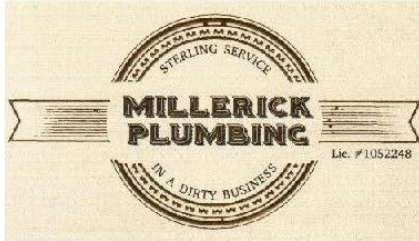
Call  
Humberto  
Now!



# STEPHEN HEBERT Painting

OWNER  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
CA #697100

707.987.2674  
707.489.7953 mbl



Sean Millerick – 707.495.2954



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



707-987-2325

21088 Calistoga Road, Middletown  
16295 Highway 175, Cobb  
18949 Hartman Rd, Hidden Valley Lake

**TECHNICARE AUTO**  
REPAIR-SMOG-DIAGNOSTIC

**GARRETT NELLIGAN**  
TECH.-OWNER



18100 VINTAGE CT. STE. D  
MIDDLETOWN, CA. 95461  
707 2805829 OR 7079879344  
FITCHMTNWRENCH@GMAIL.COM

Please support  
our advertisers,  
by patronizing  
their  
businesses.

*Gondola Enterprises*  
home repair  
garden maintenance  
landscaping

Richard J. Gondola

fax/phone (707) 526-2900  
cell (707) 529-3428

**RGW Groundskeeping, LLC**  
Vegetation Control



**Jose Ramirez**

19565 Stinson Rd  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA  
95467

530-340-3974  
707-987-9977  
joselitorm2@gmail.com

## B&G Tires Middletown

Tires, Brakes, Alignments, Auto Repairs

John Higgins  
Manager

21218 Calistoga St. / PO Box 961  
Middletown, CA 95461

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



**COOPERTIRES**



707-987-9828

www.armedforcepest.com

- ~ General Pest Control
  - ~ Rodent Removal & Exclusion  
Repairs
  - ~ Termite Inspections, Treatments &  
Damage Repairs
  - ~ Humane Bat Removal
  - ~ Bed Bug Eradication
  - ~ Cockroach Clean-outs
  - ~ Yellow Jacket Baiting
  - ~ Attic & Crawl Space Clean Outs
  - ~ Crawl Space Vapor Barriers
  - ~ Weed Spraying
  - ~ Tree Spraying & Fertilization
- Licensed (PR4227), Bonded &  
Insured  
Since 2002

Where Every Bite Is A Delight!

# BEULAH'S KITCHEN

Open 7 Days a Week 6am - 2pm

21147 Calistoga St. (707) 987-0473  
Middletown, CA 95461