

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

December 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 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 – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

On this Fifth Day of the Christmas Season, we celebrate the Feast of **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**. A part of the Christmas Season, we are reminded of the birth of Jesus, the profound reality of God becoming man ... and calls us to reflect on the humanity of Jesus as the son of Mary and Joseph.

In today's Gospel Reading (Luke 2:41-52), Luke presents the Holy Family as a faithful Jewish family. Each year, they participate in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover and today we hear the events of this annual pilgrimage when Jesus was twelve years old. Unknown to Mary and Joseph, Jesus remains in the Temple while they journey home. The realization that Jesus is not amongst their relatives and acquaintances in the caravan creates typical parental concerns for Mary and Joseph. Their anxious search for Jesus brings them back to Jerusalem where they find Him in the Temple in dialogue with Jewish teachers, all astounded by Jesus' understanding and answers.

Notably, Mary and Joseph are never identified by name throughout the narrative. They are simply referred to as the parents of Jesus. Jesus tells His parents that He was never lost, He was in His Father's house. Jesus' response to His parents reveals that their role, though essential, is subordinate to the will of Jesus' Father in Heaven. While the narrative tells us that Jesus "was obedient to them," this obedience is always connected to His perfect obedience to God. We can learn a lot from this and from the reaction of Jesus's parents!

Our First Reading (Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14) teaches us that the role of parents comes from God and as such, parents must reflect the love of God on their children. It goes on to speak of the honor and respect of the children for their parents. It takes the 4th Commandment, honor your father and mother, to a higher level ... explaining how it is a foundation for a life that honors God!

In our Second Reading (Colossians 3:12-21), Paul reminds the Colossians and us, too, of the qualities that characterize the members of a loving family. These include heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience ... and bearing with and forgiving one another!

Next, Paul tells us of the supremacy of love, the bond of perfection. That is, love binds all the qualities together and makes them perfect! Peace is another hallmark of a loving family. Yes, we can disagree with one another, but we should learn to work out our differences!

Paul adds, "Be thankful." Never forget to express gratitude to other members of the family. Paul goes on to remind us that whatever we do, in word or in deed, we should do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

In conclusion, Paul talks of the relationships between husbands and wives and between parents and children ... in ways that are proper and pleasing to the Lord. The call for wives to be subordinate to their husbands must be tied to the call for husbands to love their wives and avoid any bitterness toward them. That is, there should be a mutual support and love that flows both ways.

Obedience is to be the mark of the children. As mentioned earlier, Jesus did not only obey His Heavenly Father but also His earthly parents. We are called to do the same. As parents, we must not provoke our children that they may not be discouraged or lose heart.

Guided by today's readings, let us reflect on our family relationships and aspire for a family reflective of The **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph!**



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, Kathleen Brune, 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, John Morris, 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

If you haven't bought your raffle tickets for The Servidores de Maria raffle, please see Laura Rosales. The drawing will be held on the last Sunday of December. Proceeds will be used to complete the Grotto.



For those who might be interested, the Super Bowl squares will be available beginning January 5.



Boxes of Collection Envelopes are now in the back of the two churches for you to use beginning January 1. Please notice this year, you will only receive one box, however, both first and second collection envelopes are in the box along with envelopes for special collections. Contact Sandy in the office if you have any questions.



Saturday, December 28 , 4:00 p.m.

Adriana Fernande(sp) By: Fernande Family

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

Louis Marengo+ By: Sandy Hood

Carl Tambornini(BD) By: Fernande Family

Doning & Nieves++ By: Didi

Tuesday, December 31, 4:00 p.m.

Fr. Andre Querijero(sp) By: Fernande Family

Tuesday, December 31, 6:30 p.m.

Debbie Cariela(sp) By: Sandy Hood

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

New Year's Day 9:30 a.m. Mass

Parishioners of St. Joseph

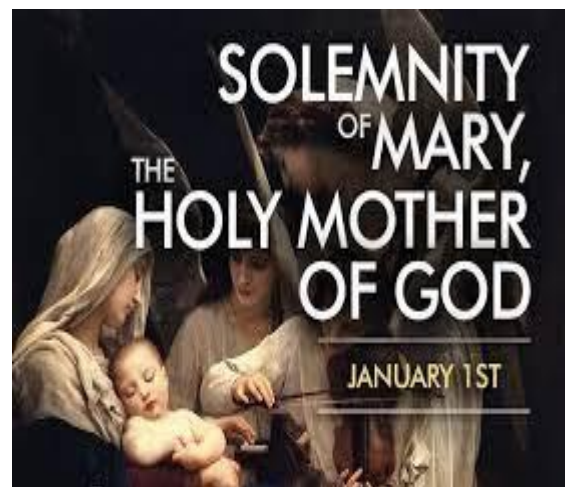
Thursday, January 2, 8:30 a.m.

Zac Stark+ By: Jane Cauley

Friday, January 3, 8:30 a.m.

Jack Schindler+ By: Diedra Lagle

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.



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"



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