

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

December 22, 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 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Incarnation of God by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

On this last Sunday of Advent, our readings call us to focus on the celebration of **The Incarnation of God**, that is Christmas! The readings speak of the “human coming” of the Son of God and how we are supposed to celebrate His birth. Rather than focusing on Christmas decorations, parties and presents, we are called to focus on the One who was born to bring us God’s greatest gift of salvation!

Yes, it is easy to be sidetracked by the excitement of the Christmas Season, but we must realize that Jesus, born to Mary in a stable, came in obedience to the Father as the Divine Savior! Let us not forget the significance of Christmas: that Jesus, being truly human and truly divine, is the only one who can reconcile us humans with God, our Father.

Our Gospel Reading (Luke 1:39-45) shifts our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist last Sunday to the events that preceded his birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel, establishing John's early “connection” to the Messiah. In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe.

Our Gospel reading narrates Mary's action after she gives her fiat, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” She begins her pregnancy not by focusing on her privileged position as the mother of the Messiah, but by humbly traveling to visit her elderly relative Elizabeth who is in her last three months of pregnancy.

Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, recognizes the “blessedness” of her younger relative and is aware of what Mary has not yet told her and what is not yet visible to the eye. Elizabeth knows that Mary is pregnant and knows who the child is when she calls Mary “the mother of my Lord.” Even the infant in Elizabeth’s womb leaps for joy in recognition of the Lord.

In our First Reading (Micah 5:1-4a, the prophet Micah announces that in the small town of Bethlehem, small relative to the capital city of Jerusalem), a new ruler would be born. He will gather the children of Israel and will rule over them in the name of the Lord, bringing them security and peace.

Our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19) is a prayer for God’s salvation. It is a plea for divine restoration and intervention through the Son of Man, that is the Messiah!

Our Second Reading (Hebrews 10: 5-10) tells us of Jesus’ humanity. The passage from Psalm 40, “a body You prepared for Me” attests to this. Yes, **The Incarnation of God** is explained by the atonement, but the atonement would not have happened without Jesus Christ’s faithful obedience that consecrated us all!

Before we end the Advent Season, let us reflect on the role of Mary in God's salvation plan. Mary is the first disciple with her acceptance and belief that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enables her to recognize the work of God that salvation might come to everyone.

As we focus on Jesus’ presence amidst us, may we realize our calling to bring Jesus to others. People need to be visited, as Elizabeth was, by those who are aware of Jesus’ presence. May we be like Mary and bring the Good News of Jesus’ coming, **The Incarnation of God!**



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 Guerrero, 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

- *There will be no 8:30 a.m. Mass on the day after Christmas, Thursday, December 26.*
- *If you haven't bought your raffle tickets for the The Servidores de Maria raffle, please see Laura Rosales. The drawing will be held on the last Sunday in December. Proceeds will be used to complete the Grotto*

PLATE COLLECTIONS –

- Our Lady of the Lake \$608
- St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$1399
- St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$340
- First Collection \$1409 Second Collection \$1200
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass \$262



Weekly Offering

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.

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"



Saturday, December 21 , 4:00 p.m.

Cariela Family

By: Sandy Hood

Sunday, December 22, 9:30 a.m.

Linda Schaff (sp)

By: Jane Cauley

Tuesday, December 24, 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve - OLOL

In Memory of Fr. James McSweeney+

By Don & Kathryn Nielsen

Tuesday, December 24 , 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve – St. Joseph

Kristin Noel David+

By: Ned & Sally Munger

Gayle Serventi+

By: Serventi Family

Wednesday, December 25, 9:30 a.m.

Christmas Day – St. Joseph

Anthony Arnold+

By: Tony & Mary Ann Arnold

Alma August+

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.

Happy 4th week of Advent!





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

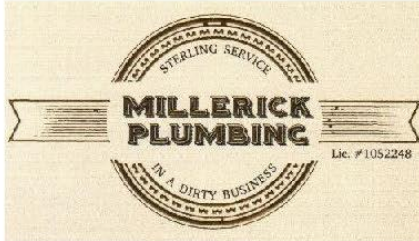
Call Humberto Now!



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