

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

January 5, 2025

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 – The Epiphany of the Lord

God’s Light Shines Upon All Peoples by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

A blessed Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord to all!

The word Epiphany means “manifestation” or “appearance” and refers to the “manifestation” of Jesus Christ to the world! Our readings invite us to reflect on Jesus, God’s Light of grace, “shining upon” all peoples ... Jews and Gentiles alike. This theme of a Light “shining upon” all peoples is clearly expressed or implied in all our readings.

In our First Reading (Isaiah 60:1-6) Isaiah tells Jerusalem, “Rise up in splendor ... your Light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.” Moreover, he tells them that out of the darkness, nations shall walk by their Light and kings and peoples shall come from afar bringing gifts and proclaiming the praises of the Lord.

The refrain of the Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13) proclaims, “Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.” It speaks of a King’s Son ruling the people with justice and echoes what is said in our First Reading that kings from other nations shall come offering gifts and paying homage to Him. He who shall rescue and have pity for the lowly and the poor.

In our Second Reading (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6) Paul reminds the Ephesians and us, too, that “the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.”

This brings us to our Gospel Reading (Matthew 2:1-12), the story of the first “appearance” of Jesus to the Gentiles through the Magi from the East. The Magi, the wise ones, see a star “shining upon” them. Knowing that it is a sign of the birth of the newborn King of the Jews, they follow the star which leads them to Jerusalem. Herod summons the Magi to his palace troubled upon learning that they were in search of a newborn King. Informed by the chief priests that the Christ was to be born in Bethlehem, Herod sends them off to Bethlehem with the instruction that the Magi return to him when they find the Child that he may also go and pay homage to Him.

The Magi leave Herod’s palace and behold the star is upon them again and they continue the search, following the star that brings them to where the Child is. They prostrate themselves in homage and offer their gifts. Warned in a dream not to return to Herod because of his bad intentions, they return to their country by another way.

Like the Magi, may we have their faith and perseverance to search for the true King, the Messiah and to pay homage to Him. With the same faith and perseverance, let us use the Word of God ... to be our star “shining upon” us ... to guide and lead us to Jesus. Consequently, let us all be stars “shining upon” all peoples to guide and lead them to Jesus!

As we celebrate Jesus’ Epiphany to the world, also like the Magi, let us offer our gifts to the Lord: a repentant and humble heart to live a life that Jesus wants us to live; a generous and a cheerful heart to be of service to others; and an open and a receptive heart to allow the Holy Spirit to continue teaching and enlightening us!



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, Harry Krall, Pat Lambert, 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, John Thompson, Toni Vecellio, Bobbie Whitely and **special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.**

SUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER

Get your numbers this weekend. See Jane Cauley or Esther Oertel at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Someone will be available at the 4:00 pm Mass on both Saturday and Sunday



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. If you cannot find your box of envelopes, please contact Sandy in the office.

If you haven't done so, please complete a registration form that will update your information in our database and/or register you as a new member of our parish. We are looking for email addresses.



Saturday, January 4 , 4:00 p.m.

For our parishioners

Sunday, January 5, 9:30 a.m.

Adam Post+ By: St. Joseph Bible Study Group

August & Vecellio Families By: Toni Vecellio

Joan Bermeitinger+ By: Tony/Mary Ann Arnold

Mass intentions available for all Masses. Envelopes are in the back of both churches. Complete the envelope and either bring to the office or put in the collection basket on Sunday. .

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be no weekday Mass on January 7, 8 & 9 as Fr. Lawrence will be away. The 8:30 a.m. Mass will resume on January 10. Fr. Lawrence will be away for one month for Passport-Visa purposes and his home visit from January 13 to February 17.

Mark your calendar now for our St. Joseph Annual Banquet Fundraiser to be held on March 29. It seems early as we had it in June last year, however, we are returning this event to every March as in the past when it was the Blarney Banquet. Additional details to follow.



Donation statements for tax purposes will be available beginning January 15. Contact the office for your statement.

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.



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