

St. Joseph Parish - Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission - Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown, CA

January 12, 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 Baptism of the Lord

Jesus' Baptism and Public Life by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

On this last day of the Christmas Season, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, an account reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark and Luke. It is not directly narrated in John's Gospel, but it is broached in the testimony of John the Baptist in John 1:32 which states, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon him."

In short, all four Gospels tell us that Jesus was baptized and graced by the presence of the Triune God. God the Father in the voice saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." The Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus and Jesus the Son as He starts His public life!

Undoubtedly, the Baptism of Jesus is an event that is of great significance. In fact, it is one of the Epiphanies of Jesus. We heard another Epiphany of Jesus last Sunday on His first appearance to the world through the Magi!

In today's Gospel (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22), John the Baptist addresses the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John the Baptist says that he is baptizing with water, but "One mightier than I is coming ... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." That is, the type of baptism John performs is not yet a Christian baptism. It is a preparation for the Christian baptism that Jesus will commission His Apostles saying, "go, therefor, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Today's Feast invites us to reflect on our own baptism through which, we also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Our original sin, all personal sins and punishment due to sin are taken away. It marks our official entry into the Church. We receive the identity as daughters and sons of God and are called to share in the mission to continue the ministry of Jesus!

As our Gospel Reading narrates the beginning of Jesus' public life ... His ministry ... our other readings give us an insight and style of His ministry.

Our First Reading (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) is part of Isaiah's "Suffering Servant" prophecies. Isaiah announces the presence of a "servant" who is chosen by God and a source of delight for Him. God's spirit will be with this "servant" enabling him to bring forth justice gently rather than with noise and earthly power. Moreover, the "servant" will be a light to the nations and will bring about healing and salvation!

The refrain of our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 29:1-4, 9-10) states, "The Lord will bless his people with peace." Thus, the prayer praising God's glory, power and greatness!

In our Second Reading (Acts 10:34-38), Peter proclaims the truth of Jesus' ministry. First, he tells those in the house of Cornelius of the impartiality of God's grace and the universality of Jesus' Lordship. Peter also narrates Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist and how God anoints Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power. Consequently, Jesus starts His ministry of doing good ... to bring about healing and salvation!

A blessed Feast of the Baptism of the Lord to all!



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.

PLATE COLLECTIONS – 1/5/25

Our Lady of the Lake \$1013

St. Joseph English 9:30 am \$3297

St. Joseph Spanish 4:00 pm \$345

First Collection \$1599 Second Collection \$3056

CHRISTMAS \$5098

SOLEMNITY OF MARY 1/1/25 \$1241

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, January 11 , 4:00 p.m.

For our parishiners

Sunday, January 12, 9:30 a.m.

Jane Kloppenburg+

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

Fr. Lawrence will be away for one month for Passport-Visa purposes and his home vist from January 13 to February 17. There will be no weekday Masses while he is away.. Fr. Rowell and Fr. Alvin will be covering on the weekends.

Mark your calendar now for our St. Joseph Annual Banquet Fundraiser to be held on March 29. The Banquet will be held again this year at the Twin Pines Hotel & Casino Banquet Room. It appears this fundraiser is 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. As you know, this fundraiser is to raise money to pay our insurance and was extremely successful last year.

The winners of the Servidores de Maria Christmas Raffle are:

3rd place Magdalena Abrosia

2nd place Elizabeth Medina

1st place Laura Rosales

Congratulations ladies, and thank you everyone for supporting this fundraiser as the money is for the completion of our Grotto.



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



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