



## Contact Us

### St. Joseph Catholic Church

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# St. Joseph Catholic Church

**Newsletter – January 2025**

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and Peace!

As we all know, the 2025 Jubilee Year officially opened on Christmas Eve of 2024 with the rite of the Opening of the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Peter by Pope Francis. With the theme of “Pilgrims of Hope” ... this is a great opportunity for us all to receive indulgences to make this Jubilee Year fruitful and meaningful by fulfilling the conditions necessary for the graces of indulgences!

Last month, I shared with you my official acceptance as a member of the clergy of the Diocese of Santa Rosa but I failed to mention that it came with my appointment as Pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Middletown for a six-year period, ending October 31, 2030. Yes, my appointment ends in October as the official acceptance and appointment letter was actually signed on October 31, 2024!

With great hope rooted on this Jubilee Year and the years to come, let us together create and build a well-founded Catholic culture to further strengthen and enliven our spiritual lives and enflame the torch of faith in our Parish families and communities. Moreover, with unwavering spirit of generosity and cooperation, let us continue to work together in accomplishing the work that God has begun in our Parish!

It is with awe and gratitude that God brought me here ... and to be here for more years ... to continue God’s work in our Parish. Praying unceasingly that I do not fail God nor do I fail any one of you. Enjoining you all to pray with me on this!

One of you told me, be it in jest or seriously, that this is where God wants me to celebrate my 50th birthday and more birthdays ... which would mean my assignment here being extended beyond the six years! My response to that is, “God’s will be done!”

The change of my status in the Diocese of Santa Rosa necessitates my return to the Philippines for visa requirements. By the time you read this Newsletter, I shall have left as my appointment at the US Embassy in the Philippines is January 16, 2024. God is good, indeed, as this is an opportune time for me to be home for the 80th birthday of my mother on January 21!

On behalf of our Diocese, I am reminding you all of the Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA). Last year, we failed to achieve our AMA goal of \$12,500.00 by \$28.00 as the Diocese received only \$12,472.00 from the pledged amount of \$13,222.00! Consequently, our Parish did not receive any rebate. This year, our goal is \$11,900.00. Please support our Annual Ministry Appeal and let us aim for a rebate this year!

Also, we do need to raise funds for the payment of the premiums of the insurances of our three Churches. Please support the super bowl squares, the bake sale and our annual Saint Joseph Banquet for our insurance purposes. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

*Continued on next page.*

# Mass Times

## St. Joseph

Tuesday – Friday  
8:30 a.m.

Sunday's at 9:30 a.m.  
and  
4:00 p.m. (Spanish)

## Our Lady of the Lake Loch Lomond

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

## Our Lady of the Pines

Closed till Summer



SaintJosephMiddletown



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, 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.**

Last November, I informed you of the much-needed repairs and improvements at the Our Lady of the Lake Church. Among others and as was confirmed by Gary Graves when he heard mass at the Church, the heating unit needs to be replaced. It was not only noisy, but it also created sparks that are dangerous. While we have yet to complete the bidding process, I am appealing to all for donations for these needs. Meanwhile, my special thanks to Francesco Cervantes for the initial repairs at the Church with the installation of gutters and the replacement of the rotting doors of the toilets. And thanks, too, to the Our Lady of the Lake Guild for taking care of the Church especially for the structure preservation!

Finally, let us pray that the wildfires in Los Angeles be completely contained and that no new fires break out. Let us also pray and reach out to our brothers and sisters who lost loved ones and properties. Our prayers, too, and salute to our fire fighters, law enforcers and all those who helped and continue to help the victims of the Los Angeles fires. Just as importantly, let us continue to pray for peace and the end of wars in various parts of the world!

As we welcome 2025 with great hope, entrusting our Parish families and communities to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to our Parish Patron Saint Joseph!

To God be the Glory!!!

In His Service,

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza  
Pastor



## SUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER

February 2 last day to participate in this fundraiser. We have more than 31 left, and in order to have a full payout for the winners, all squares will need to be sold before the weekend of the game, February 9th See Jane or Esther at 9:30 mass, Liz at OLOL, and Laura at the 4:00 o'clock Mass. Please call Jane, (707) 355-4398, or Esther (707) 772-6200, or the office if you have questions or would like to purchase a square over the phone. If you would like to be part of a group square, please contact Mary Ann

## Announcements

Mark your calendar for our **St. Joseph Annual Banquet to be held on March 29 this year.** As you probably remember, the **Blarney Banquet** was always in March, thus we are going back to our original schedule for this event. The Banquet will be held at the **Twin Pines Hotel and Casino Banquet Room** again this year, as last year was extremely successful. As you know, this fundraiser was held in June last year and is our main fundriaser annually. All proceeds will go towards paying our property and liability insurances. Start thinking about auction items as we will be asking for them soon.



**Year-end statements for tax purposes are now available. Email or call Sandy in the office if you would like a copy.**

December 2024 Collection Totals			
	1st	2nd	Total
11/30-12/1/2024	\$ 1,390.00	\$2,625.00	\$ 4,015.00
12/07-08/2024	\$ 2,130.00	\$2,772.00	\$ 4,902.00
12/14-15/2024	\$ 1,409.00	\$1,200.00	\$ 2,609.00
12/21-22/2024	\$ 1,839.00	\$1,971.00	\$ 3,810.00
12/24/2024	\$ 3,213.00		\$ 3,213.00
12/25/2024	\$ 1,885.00		\$ 1,885.00
	<b>Monthly Target</b>		<b>\$ 17,202.00</b>
	<b>Overage/Loss</b>		<b>\$ 2,130.00</b>