

# St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

## Our Lady of the Lake Mission

21396 Hwy 29, Middletown

March 8, 2026

(707) 987-3676

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



#### **Pastoral Staff**

Fr. Lawrence Mendoza - Pastor  
Sandy Hood - Office Manager

Pam Quiroz - 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](mailto:stjoseph11@att.net)  
Website: [stjoseph-middletown.com](http://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 - Middletown 11:30 a.m. (English)  
St. Joseph Church – Middletown 4:00 p.m. (Spanish)

#### **St. Joseph Church Weekday Mass Schedule**

Tuesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. (English)

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Every Friday)

Friday 6:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish)

7:00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Every Friday)

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### A Life-Saving Encounter at Jacob's Well by Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

On this Third Sunday of Lent, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from the Gospel of John, a Gospel not dedicated to a particular Liturgical Year but is interspersed throughout our Three Liturgical Cycles. Today in particular, let us reflect on the Gospel Reading (John 4:5-42) to discern why it is a part of our Lenten readings. Considered the longest recorded dialogue between Jesus and another person in the Scripture, we hear the story of Jesus' defiance of social, gender and religious traditions by talking with a woman, a Samaritan and an outcast at that! While Jesus is resting by Jacob's well, a Samaritan woman comes to draw water and Jesus asks her for a drink. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition asking, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman for a drink?" Yes, Jesus not only simply talks with the woman, but also asks to share her drinking vessel, an act that would make Him unclean according to Jewish tradition. In response, Jesus offers her the "living water" that will never make anyone who drinks it thirsty again.

Taking Jesus' offer literally, the woman says, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." She has yet to grasp the correct dimension of Jesus' offer of a spiritual water that gives eternal life. Jesus then expresses His awareness of her personal circumstances and it dawns on her that Jesus is a prophet then questions Him on issues of worship that the Jews and Samaritans differ on. Jesus states that the place of worship does not matter and adds, "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship Him."

The conversation ends with Jesus revealing Himself as the Messiah! The Samaritan woman, an outcast and not a Jew, leaves her water jar in haste and returns to her town ... immediately becoming an evangelist to lead others to Jesus. Many come to believe on her testimony and ask Jesus to stay with them. On hearing His words themselves, many more come to believe that Jesus is "truly the Savior of the world."

A spiritually uplifting Lenten story, indeed! Like the Samaritan woman, a model of conversion, let us all listen to Jesus ... recognize our own sinfulness and spiritual thirst, repent and be witnesses of God's unbounded love and mercy for all!

+++++

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

ST. JOSEPH-FRIDAY	OUR LADY OF THE LAKE-SATURDAY
5:00 PM - ENGLISH	3:15 PM - ENGLISH
6:00 PM - SPANISH	

**SIGN UP:** @ back of St..

Joseph

- WASHING OF FEET ON HOLY THURSDAY (12)
- TO CARRY THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY FOR STATIONS OF CROSS (OUTDOOR)
- LECTORS NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK/EASTER CELEBRATIONS



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

March 13, 2026 4:30 p.m. - Fr. Lawrence to quiz class

March 14, 2026 10:30 a.m. - Fr. Lawrence will hear Confession (children, parents, sponsors)

March 20, 2026 5:30 p.m. - Practice with sponsors

March 21, 2026 10:30 a.m. - First Holy Communion (Please be at church by 9:30 a.m.)

### CONFIRMATION 2 YR STUDENTS

March 8, 2026 3:00 p.m. - Fr Lawrence will quiz the class

April 19, 2026 2:30 p.m. - Fr. Lawrence will hear Confession

April 24, 2026 5:00 p.m. - Practice with sponsors

April 25, 2026 4:00 p.m.- Confirmation

ST. JOSEPH, MIDDLETOWN  
NOVENA MASS OF ST. JOSEPH

MARCH 10-13 @ 8:30AM  
MARCH 14 @ 9:30AM  
MARCH 15 @ 9:30AM  
MARCH 16-18 @ 8:30AM

FEAST DAY- MASS: MARCH 19  
12:30PM-(ENGLISH)  
6:30PM (SPANISH)

A poster for the Novena Mass of St. Joseph. It features a central painting of St. Joseph, a man with a beard and long hair, wearing a green robe and a yellow cloak, holding a scroll. The background is a dramatic sky with a bright light source. The text is arranged around the painting, providing dates and times for the novena and the feast day mass.



Please pray for the sick in our parish, our families & friends, and those who care for them....Tony Arnold, Charlotte Baker, Larry Boll, Lourdes Borzoni, Kathleen Brune, Rick Freeman, Michael C, Corkey Cauley, Debbie Cariela, Gail Erasmey, Barbara Farkas, Steve Foster, Cheryl Fua, Cianna Gazperony, Hector Guerra, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Laura Hilton, Shay, Barbara Kaelin, Joe & Mary Ann Kenny, Helen Kruljac, Ines Mendoza, Elsa Meyer, Shirley Milner, John Morris, Don Nielsen, Kathryn Nielsen, Maxine Lair, Andres Ochoa, Joaquina Ortega, Kate Pavelchik, Elinor Rich, Grace Q, Maureen Rixen, Jim Serventi, Kirt Smartt, Judith Spears, Debbie Spicart, Rebeca Marie Stanley, Naomi Tambornini, Leslie Thomas, Rachel Torez, Toni Vecellio, and special intentions for all who suffer from cancer.

For the St. Joseph Parishioners, sign up to [FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG) by Scanning the QR Cod



**How to Register** (1) Visit [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) (2) Click "Sign Up" (or "Sign In" if you already have an account) (3) Search for our parish by name (4) Enter our parish zip code (5) Provide your email address  
Once registered, you can begin exploring a wide variety of faith-enriching programs right away. Take advantage of this wonderful gift and deepen your Catholic faith and intensify prayer this Lenten Season!

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*Donation statements for tax purposes are available. Contact Sandy in the office.

\*Envelopes in support of Catholic Relief Services are available on the tables in the front of our churches. Please use these envelopes for your donation and place in the second collection basket next weekend, March 14-15.

\*Thank you to all those who participated in the baby bottle fundraiser for the Center for Life Choices. We filled over 75 bottles with change to help save lives. Well done!

\*Proceeds from the Bake Sales last weekend - \$1641. Thank you!



Saturday, March 7, 4:00 p.m.

Armando Navarro+ By: Didi Manarang

Sunday, March 8, 9:30 a.m.

Ricky Phipps+ By: Margaret Carlisle

Sister Margaret Mary Nelligan+ By: Garrett & Margaret

Sunday, March 8, 11:30 a.m.

Sandra Nelson Pelletier+ By: Peter & Pinky Ventura

John Larsen+ By: Annie Scott

Wednesday, March 11, 8:30 a.m.

Matthew Stockham+ By: Monica Huck

Nahnee Monje+ By: Didi Manarang

**Announcements continued...**

\*Launching of New Parish Directory...For all Parishioners of St. Joseph - please update your information using a form available in the back of the churches. New to our Parish - please complete a form and return to the office so that everyone will be included in the New Parish Directory. Remember to include your email address so you will be included in the mass email announcements. Forms can be returned by placing in the collection basket, put in the mail slot in the backdoor of the rectory, or mail to the office. **If you recently registered with the parish and requested envelopes, please check on the table in the front of the church for your box of envelopes. Call the office if you do not find them.**

INVITATION TO MASS of the CHRISM - The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, along with the Diocesan and Religious priests of the Diocese invite you to participate in the Mass of the Chrism at the Cathedral of St. Eugene in Santa Rosa on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

The Mass of the Chrism is celebrated once a year. The Bishop blesses the oil of Catechumens, the oil of the Sick and the oil of Chrism. This Mass is one of the principal expressions of the fullness of the ministerial priesthood that the bishop has received. It also signifies the unity the priests have with the bishop who share in the same ministerial priesthood. During this Mass, the Diocesan and Religious priests will renew their commitment of priestly service.

**COLLECTION – 2/28 & 3/1/26**

Our Lady of the Lake 4:00 pm - \$580

St. Joseph 9:30 am - \$3713

St. Joseph 11:30 am - \$654

St. Joseph 4:00 pm - \$512

**TOTAL COLLECTIONS - \$5456**

**Thank you for your generous donations!**

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin  
[stjoseph-middletown.com](http://stjoseph-middletown.com)

*"I am the vine; you are the branches"*



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### RGW Groundskeeping, LLC

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Manager

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Office (707) 987-2391  
Hours 10:00-5:00 Monday-Friday



**COOPERTIRES**

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