



Contact Us

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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Mission Church

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – May 2026

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and Peace!

The month of May holds a special place in the heart of the Church as it is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. It is said that the month was so chosen because it coincides with Spring, a season of blooming flowers, new life and renewal ... inviting us to reflect on Mary's faithful "yes" to God that brought new life, that is Jesus, to the world! Thus, for the whole month of May, Catholics around the world honor Mary with prayers, hymns, lit candles, floral offerings and crownings, among others!

In our Parish, we started the beautiful month of May with the traditional May crowning! On May 3, we joyfully crowned all the statues of Mary in our Parish with flowers as Queen of May, a testimony of our love, devotion and gratitude for her motherly care not only for Jesus but also for us all! Mary, indeed, is the ultimate symbol of maternal love and nurture!

Consequently, there is no other month better than this month to honor our own mothers. Thanks to the "founder" of the modern holiday, Mother's Day, who campaigned to have it on the second Sunday of May! And in our Parish, we celebrated Mother's Day with gratitude to all mothers, grandmothers and all women who perform acts of motherly love and nurture for others especially those in need. During our celebration, we offered a special blessing for all mothers and gave each one a rose as a small token of appreciation for their love, dedication and witness of faith within our families and Parish community!

This month also brought us to the conclusion of the Easter Season with the celebration of the Solemnity of Pentecost. At Pentecost, we celebrated the pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, enabling them to proclaim the Gospel with courage and faith ... enabling them to start the Church to continue Jesus' earthly mission. Yes, with the celebration of Pentecost, the Easter Season came to an end and the Church came into being! Notably, the day after Pentecost is the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, a movable feast day depending on when Easter Sunday happens. What a blessing that this year, the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church fell in May, making this month doubly special!

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for the tremendous success of the St. Joseph Annual Banquet Fundraiser. I am deeply thankful to Jane Cauley and her dedicated committee for their tireless work and commitment in organizing this beautiful event. My special thanks to our auctioneer, Anne Garner, and to all who donated auction items, purchased tickets, attended the banquet and participated so generously. The total income for event was \$22,699. Our total expenses amounted to \$3,930. We have \$18,769 which will allow us to pay for our Parish annual insurance premiums! As your Pastor, I cannot help but feel truly grateful and blessed!

The Memorial Day weekend marked the beginning of our Summer Mass Schedule. That is, Saturday Masses at Our Lady of the Lake are at 5:00 p.m. and the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Masses are at our outdoor Church, Our Lady of the Pines, not at the St. Joseph Church. We will revert to the Regular Schedule after the Labor Day Weekend!

MASS TIMES

Saturday

Anticipated Mass

Our Lady of the Lake, Loch Lomond

5:00 p.m. English

Sunday

St. Joseph, Middletown

9:30 a.m. English

4:00 p.m. Spanish

11:30 a.m. Our Lady of the Pines

English

(Memorial Day Weekend—Labor Day Weekend)

Weekday Masses

St. Joseph, Middletown

Tuesday—Friday 8:30 a.m. English

Friday

Every Friday at 9:00 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1st Friday at 9:00 a.m. Exposition and

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30 p.m. Spanish

Every Friday at 7:00 p.m. Exposition

and Benediction of the

Blessed Sacrament

Office Hours

By appointment 707-987-3676

YOU ARE A Daughter OF GOD
Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord
LUKE 1:38

WOMEN'S RETREAT
SATURDAY JULY, 18, 2026
Cathedral of St. Eugene | Bilingual Event

JOIN US
Open to women 18 and older welcoming and accessible to all stages of the faith journey.

GUEST SPEAKERS
Jessica Echeverry & Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa

FOR QUESTIONS:
Cristian Vazquez
familylife@rcdiocese.org
(707) 966-3305
rcatholicwomen.org

REGISTER

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
\$50 Early Bird
\$75 after June 1
Refreshments & Lunch Included

Roman Catholic Diocese of Santa Rosa

I am pleased to share that as of May 1, our Parish has reached our Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA) goal of \$12,400 in pledges. For the goal to be realized, all pledges have to be fulfilled by the end of the year. Any paid donations beyond our goal will be returned to our Parish. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to support the broader mission of the Church. My special thanks to Victor Cervantes, our high school young builder, who volunteered to create and build the beautiful outdoor pew in front of the grottos of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Joseph. Seeing young members of our Parish use their talents in service to the Church and community always brings me joy, hope and inspiration.

Let us all congratulate Samantha O'Brien, who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on the Solemnity of Pentecost at St. Joseph Parish in Cotati. Samantha was part of our Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) Adult Confirmation class. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen her in faith throughout her life.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of May and Mother of the Church intercede for us!

Entrusting our Parish families and community to the loving care of 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

Prayers for the sick.

Please pray for the sick in our parish, our families & friends, and those who care for them....Mary Ann Arnold, Tony Arnold, Charlotte Baker, Larry Boll, Kathleen Brune, Rick Freeman, Michael C, Corkey Cauley, Debbie Cariela, Barbara Farkas, Steve Foster, Cheryl Fua, Cianna Gazperony, Hector Guerra, Alysia Hash, Jasmine Hash, Laura Hilton, Sandy Hood, Barbara Kaelin, Doug Kloppenburg, 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, Silas Schneider, 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.**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Fr. Lawrence will be away from June 15th to 26th. There will be no weekday Masses during this time.
- ❖ A missionary priest will visit our parish for a Mission Appeal on the weekend of June 20 & 21. Please support the Mission Appeal!
- ❖ Father's Day envelopes are available at the back of our churches.
- ❖ Wine for Sale – we had wine left over from our banquet. We will be selling it after the 9:30 a.m. Mass this weekend. \$25 for red and \$15 for a bottle of white. Thank you Jose Ramierz!

| April 2026 Collection Totals | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Total Easter Collection | \$ 8,983.00 |
| 4/12/2026 | \$ 3,200.00 |
| 4/19/2026 | \$ 3,896.00 |
| 4/26/2026 | \$ 4,891.00 |
| Total Received | \$ 20,970.00 |
| Goal | \$ 17,202.00 |
| Difference | \$ 3,768.00 |