

St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission, Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

July 26, 2026

707 987-3676



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.

Office 707 987-3676

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

17th SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY TIME

“The kingdom
of heaven is like
a merchant
searching for
fine pearls.

When he finds
a pearl of
great price,
he goes and
sells all
that he has
and buys it.”

MATTHEW 13:45



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Mass 5:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Lake Mission – 12836 Hwy 175, Loch Lomond

Sunday Masses

St. Joseph Church - Middletown 9:30 a.m. (English)
Our Lady of the Pines - Whispering Pines, Forest Lake Rd 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)

17th Sunday in the Ordinary Time

Kingdom of Heaven, a Priceless Treasure by -Fr. Lawrence Mendoza

Today's Gospel Reading (Matthew 13:44-52) concludes our three weeks of reading from Chapter 13 of Matthew's Gospel on Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of Heaven with the use of parables. On this 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus narrates three more short parables.

The first two parables describe the great value of the Kingdom of Heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a buried treasure in a field. Anyone who finds it, would hide it again then sells everything he owns to buy the field that it is in. In the second parable, Jesus says that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls and when he finds one of great price, he sells everything he has to buy it. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the pursuit of the Kingdom of Heaven. The third and last parable in Chapter 13 of the Gospel of Matthew is also on the Kingdom of Heaven and it reminds us of the Parable of the Weeds Among the Wheat that we heard last week. This parable compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a fishing net. After the fish are hauled ashore, the good fish are put into buckets, and the bad fish are thrown away. Thus, it will be at the end of time when the angels will separate the righteous from the wicked who will be thrown into the fiery furnace. Notably, Jesus demonstrates how important it is to understand the parables. At the conclusion of His teaching in parables, Jesus does not ask His disciples if they like all these things or if they believe all these things. Jesus asks them, "Do you understand all these things?" As Jesus asks His disciples if they understand the parables, Jesus also desires that we answer the same question. Jesus' disciples answer, "Yes." May all our answers be a resounding "Yes!" Today's Gospel Reading concludes with an extended metaphor very much like a parable. It states, "the scribe who has been instructed in the Kingdom of Heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." Jesus is clearly instructing His disciples on how to proceed in the interpretation of the Jewish law relative to His new teaching. May we all be like a scribe, known to be a master of Mosaic law, a "mature" disciple ... the "head of the household" ... who knows how to utilize both the foundational truths of the past and the transformative teachings of Jesus to instruct others on the Kingdom of God.

+++++



Dear Church Family,
it's time for a New Directory

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

~ Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.

~ Every sitting photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory !

~ Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finishes and framing options for the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to your family and friends.

Celebrating faith.

Connecting families.

Sharing hope.

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee



Set your appointment with
Universal today at ucdir.com!

Gathering families, Connecting generations.



ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY APPPOINTMENT SETTING

**This is the last weekend to sign up for
Photo Session July 27- August 1**

Go to the Universal Church Directories website
(www.ucdir.com) Click on the box on the right of
the homepage entitled "photography appointment
scheduling login"

Enter your church code **ca179**

Enter your Church password **catholic1**

Click on the Enter Button

Click on the desired photography date

Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired
photography appointment time.

Enter the appropriate information in all required fields
(indicated by the asterisk)

Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the
bottom of the screen to reserve the photography
appointment time in your family's name.

If you have more than six family members being
photographed, please reserve two appointments
consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)

Print the next screen to use a reminder of your family's
photography appointment

**Contact your Church's online scheduling
administrator to change or cancel your
photography appointment. Sandy at 707 513-3991,
707 987-3676 or stjoseph11@att.net.**

***If you are having trouble scheduling your photo session for
the new parish directory, please contact Sandy in the office
as she has access to the schedule and will be happy to
assist you.**

*please
pray for
the sick*

Please pray for the sick in our parish, our families & friends, and those who care for them... 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, 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, Cindy Perez, Nancy Ray, Elinor Rich, Grace Q, Stefan Ripich, 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.**

For the St. Joseph Parishioners, sign up to **FORMED.ORG** by Scanning the QR Cod



How to Register (1) Visit 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.



Saturday, July 25, 5:00 p.m.

Gabriel Fernande(HB) Requested by Fernande Family

Sunday, July 26, 9:30 a.m.

Lourdes Borzoni+ Requested by Ned & Sally Munger

Sunday, July 26, 11:30 a.m.

Rhium Lolito Pandongan+ Requested by Yvette & Tony Scalese

Sunday, July 28, 8:30 a.m.

Audrey Degala & Dale Jellison++ Requested by Anita Jellison

Announcements continued...

HAPPY GRANDPARENT'S DAY!!!

Religious Education Classes information

July: Pre-registration for children entering their 1st year (Reconciliation) will take place after mass 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at St. Josephs. St. Joseph's looks forward to conducting a Reconciliation class depending on the number of children who have preregistered.

August: Registration for students in First Holy Communion (children must be at least age 7 or second grade) and Confirmation (Children must be age 11-17 or in grade 6-12) will take place in the classroom after mass each Sunday.

Classes begin: Reconciliation on Wednesday, September 9; FHC on Friday, September 11; Confirmation on Sunday, September 13

***Accepting Registration for the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). The OCIA is designed for unbaptized individuals, baptized Christians from other denominations, baptized but not catechized and adults Catholics seeking confirmation. If you, or if you know someone who is interested in beginning this Faith journey, please contact Fr. Lawrence or Consuelo Alcalde or the parish office.

***Training for New Lectors, Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Altar Servers on August 22 at 9:30am at St. Joseph Church.

***The Lake County Passion Play invites you to An Evening under the Whispering Pines, a fundraiser event. Saturday, Sept 12, 2026 at Chateau Grenouille on Cobb. Enjoy a Smoked NY Strip Roast dinner, local wine, Auctions, music and dancing. Please contact Lisa Lambert at 707-245-7281 or lambert.lisa69@gmail.com for tickets and info. Pre-sale tickets only, \$80 each or table of 8 for \$600.

HOLD THIS DATE OPEN

SEPTEMBER 19 FEAST IN THE VINEYARD

COLLECTION – July 18 & 19

Our Lady of the Lake 5:00 p.m. - \$793

St. Joseph 9:30 a.m. - \$2,231

Our Lady of the Pines 11:30 a.m. - \$378

St. Joseph 4:00 p.m. - \$365

Total Collection \$3,767

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin

stjoseph-middletown.com

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