



Contact Us

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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Mission Church

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

Newsletter – July 2026

Dear Parishioners,

Blessings and Peace!

The month of July was a special time for us both as Catholics and as Americans. The Church traditionally dedicates this month to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, inviting us to contemplate the immeasurable price of our redemption. The Blood that Jesus shed for us on the Cross is the supreme sign of God's love and mercy and the price of our redemption from sin and hope for eternal life.

Last July 4, our nation celebrated the 250th anniversary of its Declaration of Independence. This important milestone gave us an opportunity not only to celebrate our nation's history but also to thank God for the gift of freedom, among other things, and to reflect upon what true freedom means in the light of our Catholic faith. Among the freedoms we are especially grateful for is religious freedom. This freedom allowed Catholics and peoples of other faith to worship God, establish churches and schools, healthcare facilities especially for the poor, charitable institutions and perform countless acts of faith and sacrifice to serve their communities. Let us give thanks to all those who sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy. Let us pray for our country, for those who serve and lead it to protect our freedoms and promote peace and unity among all people. Let us all continue to pray with gratitude for the past and with hope for the future of our country.

For the past several weeks, we have been inviting parishioners to participate in our new Parish Directory by scheduling their photography appointments online. We are grateful to Universal Church Directories for coming to Middletown to photograph our parishioners. I sincerely thank everyone who took the time to register, scheduled an appointment, and made themselves and their families available for the photography sessions. For our parishioners who are not included in the directory with a photograph, we ask you to complete the enclosed form and return it to the office as soon as possible. Upon receiving the form, with permission to add your personal information, your name and other information will be included in the directory. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Our new Parish Directory will provide a valuable record of our faith community. May every household be represented so that our directory may truly reflect the vibrant and diverse community that makes up St. Joseph Parish and our Mission Churches.

Our Classroom and Storage Project remain temporarily on hold as we await further inspection and direction from the County. I understand that many of you are eager to see this important project move forward, and I share that eagerness with hope. I ask for your continued patience and understanding while we make sure that all requirements are completed properly, safely and in accordance with County regulations. Thank you for your patience and continued support.

The Our Lady of the Lake Guild has begun raising funds for the future renovation and preservation of Our Lady of the Lake Church in Cobb. The approval from the Diocese to proceed with the proposed renovation project is in progress. I am grateful to the members of the Guild for their concern, initiative and dedication in preserving this beautiful Church for future generations. This project reminds us that the churches entrusted to our care are more than buildings. They are sacred places where generations have gathered to celebrate the Eucharist, receive the Sacraments, mourn loved ones, celebrate marriages and baptisms and encounter the presence of God. Caring for these sacred spaces is part of the stewardship we received from those who came before us and a responsibility we carry for those who will come after us. I thank everyone who continue to support the preservation and care of our Parish Churches.

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

June 2026 Collection Totals

6/7/2026	\$ 5,565.00
6/14/2026	\$ 3,153.00
6/21/2026	\$ 3,105.00
6/28/2026	\$ 5,072.00
Total Received	\$ 16,895.00
Goal	\$ 17,202.00
Difference	\$ (307.00)

This month, the Church also celebrated the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, observed each year on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the Liturgical Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, traditionally honored as the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the grandparents of Jesus. This celebration reminded us of the precious place that grandparents and elderly persons hold within our families, our Church and our society ... not as a burden to be discarded but a gift to be treasured. Let us pray for all the grandparents and elderly in our families especially for those who have gone ahead of us and whose faith and sacrifices continue to bear fruit in our lives.

Looking ahead to August, we invite the youth and couples of our Parish to experience more deeply the abundant life that Jesus desires for each of us through our upcoming retreats. This year, the number of participants in each retreat will be limited so that we can provide a more personal and meaningful spiritual experience. My heartfelt thanks to Pat and Lisa Lambert for allowing us to use their facilities for these retreats. My special thanks to the Servidores de Maria for helping me prepare for these special opportunities for prayer, reflection, fellowship and spiritual renewal. I encourage our youth and couples to prayerfully consider participating. May these retreats help us encounter Christ more deeply and strengthen our families and our entire parish community.

As we conclude this month, may the Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ protect and bless our Parish community, our families and our nation on its 250 years of independence ... reminding us that our greatest freedom is found in Jesus Christ! And may the Immaculate Heart of Mary and our Parish Patron Saint Joseph continue to intercede for and watch over us that we and our entire Parish community be greatly blessed throughout this summer season!

To God be the Glory!!!

Prayers for the sick.

In His Service,



Fr. Lawrence Mendoza
Pastor

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.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit our website for information on Religious Education. (First Communion, Confirmation and OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults).

***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. 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, 2026 - Feast in the Vineyard