

St. Joseph Parish, Middletown

Our Lady of the Lake Mission, Loch Lomond

21396 Hwy 175, Middletown

August 16, 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

20th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

*“Then Jesus said
to her in reply.*

**“O WOMAN,
GREAT IS
YOUR FAITH!**

*Let it done for you
as you wish.”*

*And the woman’s
daughter was healed
from that hour.”*

MATTHEW 15:28

*Faith-filled Prayer, Persistence,
Perseverance and Humility*

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)

20th Sunday in the Ordinary Time

Excerpt from the Spiritual Reflection by Pope Francis, Angelus Message, August 20, 2023

The One Who Loves is Not Rigid and is Open to Change

Today's Gospel recounts the encounter of Jesus with a Canaanite woman outside the territory of Israel (cf. Mt 15:21-28). She asks him to free her daughter, who is tormented by a demon. But the Lord pays no attention to her. She insists, and the disciples advise Jesus to acknowledge her so she would stop. Jesus, however, explains that his mission is directed to the children of Israel, using this image: "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." And the courageous woman responds, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then, Jesus says to her, "'O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.' And her daughter was healed instantly" (vv. 26-28). This is a beautiful story. And this happened to Jesus.

We see that Jesus changed his attitude. What made him change was the strength of the woman's faith. Let us pause briefly over these two aspects: *the change in Jesus* and *the woman's faith*. *The change in Jesus*. He was directing his preaching to the chosen people. Later the Holy Spirit would push the Church to the ends of the world. But what happens here, we could say, is an anticipation through which the universality of God's work is already manifested in the episode of the Canaanite woman. Jesus' openness is interesting. On hearing the woman's prayer, "he anticipates the plan"; faced with her concrete case, he becomes even more sympathetic and compassionate. God is like this: he is love, and the one who loves does not remain rigid. Yes, he or she stands firm, but not rigid; they do not remain rigid in their own positions but allow themselves *to be moved and touched*. They know how to change their plans. Love is creative. And we Christians who want to imitate Christ, we are invited *to be open to change*. How good it would do our relationships, as well as our lives of faith, if we were to be docile, to truly pay attention, to soften up in the name of compassion and the good of others, like Jesus did with the Canaanite woman. The docility to change. Hearts docile to change. Now let us look at the *woman's faith*, which the Lord praises, saying that it is "great" (v. 28). According to the disciples, the only thing that seemed "great" was her insistence; but Jesus sees her faith. If we think about it, that foreign woman had probably little or no awareness of the laws and religious precepts of Israel. What does her faith consist of then? *She does not have a wealth of concepts but of deeds* — the Canaanite woman draws near, prostrates herself, insists, takes part in a close dialogue with Jesus, overcomes every obstacle just to speak with him. This is the concreteness of faith, which is not a religious label but is a personal relationship with the Lord. How many times we fall into the temptation to confuse faith with a label! This woman's faith is not fraught with theological gallantry, but with insistence — she knocks at the door, knocks, knocks. Her faith is not made up of words, but of prayer. And God does not resist when he is prayed to. This is why he said, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you" (Mt 7:7).

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St. Joseph Catholic Church
presents
The 5th Annual
"FEAST IN THE VINEYARD"
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 @ 4:45PM TO 8:00PM
Dinner served at 5:30PM
At
BANTRY VINEYARD
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Registration After
Sundays Masses @
After 9:30am & 4:00pm
at Saint Joseph Classroom
REQUIREMENTS:
Children for 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).
Please bring a copy of the child's
baptism Certificate
If your child was baptized at St. Joseph,
a copy may be requested from the parish Office.
SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:
Reconciliation on Wednesday, September 9 @ 4:30-5:45pm
First Holy Communion on Friday, September 11 @ 4:00-5:45pm
Confirmation on Sunday, September 13 @ 2:30-3:50pm
for Additional information please call
Pamela Quiroz (Religious Education Directress)
(707) 344-7659

please pray for the sick

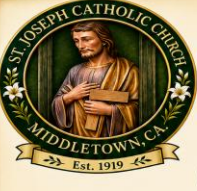
Please pray for the sick in our parish, our families & friends, and those who care for them... Charlotte Baker, Larry Boll, Kathleen Brune, Rick Freeman, Michael C, Corkey Cauley, Debbie Cariela, Barbara Farkas, Steve Foster, Cheryl Fua, Cianna Gazperony, Hector Guerra, Alysia Hash, Lou Horvath Jasmine 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, Joseph Nelligan, 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 Code

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.



**ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN
INITIATION
OF
ADULTS
(OCIA)**

OCIA – The process through which Adults are welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church.

The OCIA is designed for

- unbaptized individuals,
- baptized Christians from other denominations,
- baptized but not catechized and adults
- Catholics seeking confirmation.

**BEGINNING OF CLASSES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
@ 5:00PM
AT ST. JOSEPH CLASSROOM**

If you, or if you know someone who is interested in beginning this Faith journey, please contact the parish office

707 987-3676
Email: stjoseph11@att.net
or
Consuelo Alcalde
OCIA Coordinator
(612) 500 8115

*A Journey of Faith. A Lifetime of Grace.
COME AND SEE. FOLLOW HIM. BECOME HIS.*



Sunday, August 16, 9:30 a.m.

Judy Knight+ Requested by Ned & Sally Munger

Harry Krall+ Requested by Rilla Krall & Family

Scott Schindler (HB) Requested by Diedra Lagle

Sunday, August 16, 11:30 a.m.

Greg & Susan Conley++ Requested by Ned & Sally Munger

Sunday, August 16, 4:00 p.m.

Espiridion Ortega & Josefina Munoz By Mary Rincon

Wednesday, August 19, 8:30 a.m.

Cecilia Nelson(sp) Requested by Skylar Rodella

Friday, August 21, 8:30 a.m.

Andre Huck(sp) Requested by Skylar Rodella

Note: Beginning September 1 there will only be one Mass Intention per mass. Submit your intentions early.

Announcements continued...

*****Photo for Directory-** We have 11 parishioners signed up for a photo session on the make-up day. If you are interested, please contact Sandy as soon as possible. Email st.joseph11@att.net or call or text 7070 513-3991. Deadline is August 19 to sign up for the make up day photo session,

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

*****We need Volunteers for cleaning the Grotto on August 22, Saturday @ 10:30am.**

*****VOLUNTEERS** needed to help clean St. Joseph Church every other Thursday at 9:30 a.m. For information call Lynn Thacher 707 890-0793.

*****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.

+++++TICKETS AVAILABLE AFTER MASS+++++
FEAST IN THE VINEYARD- SEPTEMBER 19TH
\$50 for Adult and 10 for Children

COLLECTION – August 8 & 9

Our Lady of the Lake 5:00 p.m. - \$482

St. Joseph 9:30 a.m. - \$2458

Our Lady of the Pines 11:30 a.m. - \$849

St. Joseph 4:00 p.m. - \$493

Total Collection \$4,282

Visit our website for a copy of the bulletin
stjoseph-middletown.com

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