



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

September 27, 2020

Mission Statement of St. Cecilia's & St. Mary's

To be Nurtured by Christ's Word, Supported by a Faith Loving Community, and to Serve the Needs of Others as Called to Minister

✦ St. Joseph Church, Magdalena, Colombia (sister parish) ✦



st. mary church
nicasio

MASS	Sunday **	St. Cecilia	9:30 a.m.
		St. Mary	11:15 a.m.
		<i>** Children Liturgy, last Sunday of the month</i>	
	Monday	St. Cecilia	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	8 a.m.
	Thursday	St. Mary	8 a.m.
	Friday	St. Mary (1 st Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows
		St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	10 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Religious Education	Monday	St. Cecilia	3:45 to 4:45 p.m. (1 st thru 6 th graders)
Confirmation Prep.	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 2020

Jesus told the parable of a father asking his two sons to go out and work in the vineyard. The first son said “no” but then regretted and went to work. The second son said “yes, father!” But never went. Which of the two sons did the father’s will? We easily see that it is the first one who said “no” but eventually went to work; not the one who nicely said “yes, father!” but never went.

After telling this parable to the chief priest and the elders, Jesus concluded: “Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of heaven before you.” It seems to me as if Jesus poured a bucket of cold water on their faces. The reaction of the chief priest and the elders was anger – resentment. No wonder why they sought the opportunity to kill Jesus.

If you recall the gospel of last Sunday, God in his love and mercy treats everyone equally – both the righteous and the repent sinners. Jesus values those who are faithful to the end, saying: “there are the last that will be first, and the first will be last.”

This saying is a warning to those who consider themselves righteous and disdain others: “Oh, I am a traditional Catholic for many generations; or I am a long-time parishioner, so I am better than those who are newly baptized, or new comers.”

As Jesus once said: none of those who cry out, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of God, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven (Matthew 7:21). What counts is not what we say with empty words, the only thing that counts is what we actually do.

We could be those people who cry, Lord, Lord; day by day, and Sunday by Sunday, we utter the Lord’s name: in petitions, intercession, thanksgiving, praise, and penitence. Indeed, our religious performance and devotion is good. However, the parable warns us that if our piety does not bear fruit in

our lives, we are still far from God. The warning is not for outsiders, not for others; it is for us Christians, the declared followers of Jesus Christ.

Faithful performance of our religious duties with empty words without practical action is no guarantee of salvation. Such obedience is profitable only if it brings us closer to others, and makes us more loving people, and if it brings us closer to God.

What Jesus said in today’s gospel brings hope and encouragement to us who are sinners. Tax collectors and prostitutes who repent and believe in the Good News, will enter the kingdom of heaven before those who consider themselves righteous, but very hardly believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Jesus summons us to go to work in his vineyard – the Church. We are not only the churchgoers, sliding in the pews to attend obligation Mass every week, but we should be active members of the parish. We are not merely outsiders, or onlookers, but we are insiders, the parishioners of St. Cecilia & St. Mary Parish Community, who support the parish generously, and willingly participate in the community life.

In conclusion, I would like to share with you this beautiful saying from an unknown author. When we do our service for God and the Church, we should remember this: “Working for God on earth does not get paid much, but His Retirement Plan is [incredibly] out of this world.” May God bless us and all the works of our hands!

MASS INTENTIONS:		(from Sunday, September 27 to Saturday, October 3)	
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ...	Graciella Borello (repose)
	11:15 a.m.	SM ...	Walter A. Mahoney (for heal & peace)
Monday	No Mass		
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	No Mass		
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM ...	Joe Di Mare (repose)
1 st Friday	8 a.m.	SM ...	Pete Valconesi (repose) - Adoration after Mass until noon
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM ...	Paul Quy Phan (repose)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There will be no Mass on Monday (9/28) and Wednesday (9/30). Fr. Phan will be away for a three-day retreat with Cursillo Group.
- We now resume our regular Mass schedule:
+ Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m. at St. Cecilia Church; 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Church.
+ Monday, Wednesday, Friday Mass at St. Cecilia Church at 8 a.m. Thursday, Saturday Mass at St. Mary Church at 8 a.m. (except some notice for first Friday and last Saturday – please see the parish website for more details).
- First Friday (October 2): Mass at St. Mary Church at 8 a.m. Adoration right after Mass until noon – concluded with Benediction.
- Please join with others across the nation for the **40 Days for Life Fall Campaign**—40 days of peaceful prayer and vigil (Sept. 23 – Nov. 1, 2020), with masks and social distancing, on the public sidewalk outside the Planned Parenthood abortion business at 4th & H St. in San Rafael. Further information and participant sign-up calendar are available at <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/san-rafael/>, or contact Ruth Ann Cawley, phone 415-383-6681, email racawley60@gmail.com.