



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

October 25, 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
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
		St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
		St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
Religious Education	Monday	St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
		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.

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A – 2020

Exodus 22:20-26; Psalm 18; Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40

What does it mean to love? We may find the true meaning of love from the crucifixion where Jesus stretches his arms and dies on the cross.

The greatest love a person can show is to die for his friend. For Jesus said: “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (Jn 15:13). Jesus so loved God the Father that although he is the Son of God, “he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross” (Phil 2:8). Jesus so loved us that he accepted with no fear the suffering and death. He was scourged, carried a heavy cross, and was nailed onto the cross as a criminal.

When making the sign of cross, or looking up to the crucifixion, do you realize two dimensions of love from the Cross? The vertical dimension reminds us of the relationship between God and us: God loves us – we love God. The horizontal dimension is the relationship among ourselves. Jesus invites us too, to stretch our arms and embrace our brothers and sisters in genuine love.

The Holy Cross is a lively and concrete illustration of the message of love which Jesus teaches us in today’s gospel: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... and love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22:37-39). Love God and love neighbor is a profound meaning of the Cross of Jesus; it is the heart of Christian life. When we know how to love, it is the moment the two dimensions of the cross meet in us; it is when we really have God in us.

Love is our interior being and love determines the nature of our actions. Loving God must go hand in hand with loving neighbors. Jesus invites us to love God, not only on our lips or by our manipulating acts, but with all our being, and to love neighbors as ourselves. If we neglect our love to neighbors, in vain do we profess our love to God.

We attend Mass every day, we spend time in prayers, we perform the liturgy and worship beautifully, but if we don’t love our brothers and sisters, if we ignore the poor, the homeless, the suffering, if our words and deeds are not charitable to others, all the efforts and energy in our worship are meaningless. For God demands us: “it is love that I desire, not sacrifice” (Hosea 6:6). To love God with all our being and to love our neighbor as our-self is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices. For without real love for both God and neighbor, all other sacrifices are empty and useless.

Our self-offering in love to the God we worship and to the neighbor we serve is our true sacrifice. The sacrifice Christ offered, in offering himself, defines the love to which we are called. We are called to imitate Jesus to show our sincere love for God and for our neighbors. Genuine love keeps us from exploiting others and from its harsh consequences. This is how we treat the poor and the disadvantaged as mentioned in the first reading: “if you lend money to the poor, do not demand interest; if you take your neighbor’s cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset” (Exodus 22:24-25).

As we gather around this Eucharistic table to share the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, may the Spirit of God open our minds and hearts to realize how much God loves us; and inspire us to love God more dearly, and after Mass, we will go forth to share God’s love with our brothers and sisters – to be witness of God’s love in the world we live day by day. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS		<i>(from Sunday, October 25 to Saturday, October 31)</i>	
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ...	Fr. Denis McManus (repose)
	11:15 a.m.	SM ...	Betty Wilson (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Ryan Dallara (a special intention)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Crissa Volhontseff (for well-being)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM ...	Teresa A. Pyone & Family (thanksgiving)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Harold “Spike” Drady (repose)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Susan Pineda & Family (thanksgiving) – Padre Pio Mass



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Padre Pio monthly Mass at St. Cecilia at 8 a.m. Saturday, October 31 (last Saturday).
- Next Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Day. It is also the end of Daylight Saving Time. Remember to set clocks back 1 hour.
- 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.