



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

November 8, 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.)	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.

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A - 2020

Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

Each and every one of us might have experienced a nervous situation during your school years, if you came to class unprepared. I remember one of my teachers randomly gave us a five-minute quick test at the beginning of the class hour. If the students were prepared, then they did very well on the test. If they came to class unprepared, then you know what happened during the test. Some would cheat in class; others would look around asking other classmates for help; still others would fail and receive an F.

This nervous situation is like what we hear from the parable of the ten virgins in today's Gospel. Five virgins were considered wise because they prepared very well to greet the bridegroom. The other five were considered foolish since they carried their lamps without oil as they went to meet the bridegroom. Not bringing enough oil, their lamps would be extinguished. Without oil, their lamps could not produce light.

It is very much the same with our Christian life. Without oil of God's grace, and of holiness, our life of faith would die out. Without oil of prayer, and of charity, our Christian life would produce no fruit. Without oil of our love for Christ, all our life activities would become meaningless.

We are approaching the end of the liturgical year. During these last weeks, we are reminded again and again this message of "being prepared" as mentioned in the gospel parable today: "Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day, or what hour, your Lord will come."

"The day of the Lord" is to remind us of the end of our life, or the end time, or the Last Judgment. When Christ returns, all people will be judged, but we need not fear the judgment if we turn to the Lord in repentance for our sins and be prepared.

Saint Paul tells us in the Letter to the Thessalonians that: God calls you and me to holiness and uprightness, so that when Jesus comes, we may be blameless in his sight.

The weakness of our human nature is our laziness and procrastination. Satan likes this. Satan always tries to persuade us to postpone our work, to delay our prayers. But for Jesus, last minute is too late. See how the foolish in the Gospel story were locked out, just because they did not prepare, but postponed things for tomorrow. Tomorrow is too late.

The Gospel today (Mt. 25:1-13) warns us that death itself comes at a time when we least expect it, while we sleep or even while we are awake. See how many lives the covid-19 has taken away during these days! Thus, more than ever, we need to pray, for we neither know the time nor the hour. Our best preparation for a happy death is a life well lived.

Maybe you already have your life plan, pension plan, educational plan... How about your eternal life plan? We may ask ourselves this question: how can I stand before God if today is my last day on earth? Will I stand uprightly and confidently, or shamefully and fearfully?

It does not mean we have to live our life in constant fear or guilt, but like the five wise virgins, "Be ready! Stay awake!" Be vigilant at all times and pray, so that we may have the strength to stand before Jesus if he suddenly comes to us again. Live our lives the best we can, so we will have no regrets if the Lord comes and knock at the door of our soul. Let us always seek God's guidance and prepare to welcome Jesus Christ when he returns.

MASS INTENTIONS

(from Sunday, November 8 to Saturday, November 14)

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ...	Departed Clergy (repose)
	11:15 a.m.	SM ...	Fr. Anthony Tran Dinh Phuc (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Victor Frugoli (repose)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Bonnie de Rutte (repose)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM ...	Gary Frugoli (repose)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC ...	Dave Puglisi (health)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM ...	Guido Mori-Prange (health)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Second collection today** for Saint Patrick's Seminary.
- **Congratulations to Scott Berlin and Aliza Pantoja** on their wedding at St. Mary's Church at 11 a.m. this Saturday, 11/14/20.
- **Pray for the Faithful Departed:** during the month of November, we pray in special way for all souls. Relying on the mercy of God, we can also relieve the suffering of our deceased brothers and sisters through our prayers, our works of charity, and our penances. Please continue giving the name(s) of your loved ones to Fr. Phan, to be updated on the prayer list; also bring in the photo(s) of your loved ones to be put on the shrine in the church throughout this month.