



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

December 13, 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.
		** Children Liturgy, last Sunday of the month	
	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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

“Brothers and sisters: Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks... Retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil... May you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

This message from St. Paul’s letter urges us to make room in our hearts for the Lord. Rejoice! The Lord is near. Your kindness should be known to all.

We see more beautiful decoration around the church, the neighborhood, even in this time of uncertainty due to the pandemic. We continue our prayers in the spirit of hope, peace, joy, and love that our Lord and our Blessed Mother bring to us.

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete in Latin means “rejoice.” We light the third candle – Rose Candle – that signifies the joyful spirit resounding throughout the Scripture readings today. But what is joy? Is it true joy, authentic joy, or counterfeit joy?

Counterfeit joy is the result of external things like eating, or drinking, or shopping, or possessing things. There are people who rarely go to church, but they can’t wait to see the coming of Christmas season, to go shopping, to decorate the home, to have party.

True joy, on the other hand, is an interior state, a way of living and loving and giving, in which our hearts open to welcome others. It is the joy that Isaiah witnessed: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.” It is the joy of John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Lord, who calls us to prepare the way for the Lord and

make straight his paths.

We wait to see the coming of the Lord Jesus who is the true light for those who live in darkness and the true joy for the world. What should we do to have this true joy? Let us follow the example of the Lord to “bring glad tidings to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoner...”

How to bring glad tidings to the poor? “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.” Let us practice these basic obligations of mutual sharing and helping. Let us not be selfish or indifferent to the sufferings of others.

Most people like Christmas even though they don’t know much about Jesus. Normally, during this season, shopping malls are crowded; people really enjoy this season of shopping and gifts.

I like Christmas too, because it gives me a true sense of love and giving. Christmas is a perfect time to give thanks to God for many wonderful gifts. In this joyful season, we wait to see the Lord coming to bring glad tidings to the world, especially to the poor.

As the followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to joyfully exercise our love by sharing what we have with others in need. Let us give generously. Let us give with our loving and grateful heart. Then God will give us again and again, more abundantly.

MASS INTENTIONS: (from Sunday, December 13 to Saturday, December 19)

**** ALL MASSES OUTDOOR AT ST. CECILIA ****

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Maureen Healy (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC ... Fr. Michele Raimondi (repose)
Tuesday	No Mass	
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC ... Dallara Family (thanksgiving)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SC ... Perry Litchfield (healing)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC ... Carol Mori-Prange (birthday)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SC ... for All Souls in Purgatory



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Today the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious is being taken. The women and men Religious of the Archdiocese are appreciative of any help you can give and count on your assistance as they face retirement with limited resources. More importantly, though, please remember in your prayers the more than 500 women and men religious living and serving in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.
- THANK YOU to our generous parishioners who donate Christmas tree & flowers and give time to help decorating the churches very beautifully. May God bless you for your generous hearts!
- We plan to celebrate an outdoor Mass for Christmas Eve – Thursday, December 24, 2020 at St. Mary’s Church at 3 p.m.
- Christmas Day – Friday, December 25, 2020 – outdoor Mass at St. Cecilia’s Church at 9:30 a.m.
- We pray for George Kerbs for recovery from covid. Pray for Ginny and family too as they take care of George during this difficult time. Let us pray urgently to ask God to rid the world of the pandemic.