



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

February 14, 2021

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 St. Mary <i>** Children Liturgy, last Sunday of the month</i>	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.
<i>Note: This section contains schedules that are on hold due to the pandemic. See latest Mass schedule posted each week.</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.) St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m. Holy Hour follows 8 a.m.
	Saturday	St. Cecilia (last Sat.) St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion 8 a.m.
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia St. Mary (except last Sat.)	4 to 4:30 p.m. 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Religious Education Confirmation Prep.	Monday Wednesday	St. Cecilia St. Cecilia	3:45 to 4:45 p.m. (1 st thru 6 th graders) 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45

A friend of mine in Vietnam was diagnosed that he had tuberculosis. The doctor advised him not to share the dishes, the cups, and many other things in his home with the family. He was not even allowed to have his meals at the same table with his wife and children; he always ate his meals alone – totally isolated. Tears rolled down quietly on his cheeks each time he had his meals. People in the neighborhood, and even in the family, began to avoid him. He himself had to keep distance from his wife and children for their safety.

To be shunned by someone you love is one of life's greatest hurts. It may happen between friends, between lovers, between husbands and wives because of sickness or because of disagreement. People avoid each other's company, or refuse to speak to each other. We know how much it hurts to be shunned.

In the ancient world, leprosy was a terrible disease – something like AIDS today. Leprosy eats away the flesh until the leper is left with a stump of a hand or a leg. The sufferer might be considered a living death. We can feel the pain, both physically and emotionally, of the leper in the gospel story today. Lepers are isolated, banished from the community, exiled from home, as we hear from the first reading, too.

The leper who comes to Jesus in today's gospel is shunned by everyone. His situation is hopeless. But in despair this man kneels down at Jesus' feet and begs for healing: "If you wish, you can make me clean." The leper cries, prays, and implores Jesus with an absolute trust in healing power of the Son of God.

Notice how Jesus reacts. Jesus is "moved with pity." Though everyone else shuns the man, Jesus does not. Though everyone else flees from the man in horror, Jesus does not. Instead, Jesus does the unthinkable. He reaches out to touch the man. He touches the leper's wounds without hesitation. He is not afraid that he might be infected. And at Jesus' command the leper is cured. In a single moment his life is changed. He is restored to his friends and to society. He can lead a normal life again.

Jesus touches the untouchable. This is good news for the leper and also for us today. Jesus is the friend

of the outcast. He rejects no one who comes to him. His hand went out to the man from whom everyone else would have shrunk away. Jesus' touch gives hope to the hopeless. He restores people to fellowship with one another, and with God.

St. Paul urges his people in the second reading: "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." Being followers of Jesus Christ, shall we touch the untouchable? Love the unlovable? Forgive the unforgivable? Jesus did all these, and so must we. In Christian love, we are not afraid to stretch out our hands to help the helpless and to uplift the hopeless.

Sometimes, people worry about being unclean. Clean or unclean is only from the mentality of our society. Jesus said: "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." Touching the sick, or eating our daily food, does not make us unclean, but what can make us unclean are our evil thoughts, words, and deeds.

The message of today's gospel is this: Jesus Christ changes lives. He gives hope to the hopeless. He welcomes outcasts and restores them to fellowship with God, and with God's holy people. Therefore, brothers and sisters, let us be imitators of Christ to learn and bring into practice Jesus' teaching through St. Paul's words for us today: "whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

Jesus Christ can change our lives. Like the leper, you and I have only to admit our needs, and come to Jesus with humility and trust, and then we will receive the gift of healing and forgiveness. And in turn, let us learn from Jesus to reach out to help those in need: to give hope to the hopeless, to touch and heal the wound of the untouchable, to forgive the unforgivable, to welcome and the outcast and to love the unlovable as Jesus has loved us.

MASS INTENTIONS: (from Sunday, February 14 to Saturday, February 20)

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Cia Donahue (birthday tomorrow)
	11:15 a.m.	SM ... Msgr. Maurice McCormick (repose)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC ... Guido Mori-Prange (health)
Tuesday	No Mass	
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC ... All Souls in Purgatory
Thursday	8 a.m.	SC ... Luisa Vione (healing)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC ... Thanksgiving for Pineda Family
Saturday	8 a.m.	SC ... Bonnie & Matt Foge (Anniversary)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There is a Memorial Mass for Maria Phuong Nguyen at St. Cecilia Church. Monday, February 15, 2021 at 11 a.m. Maria Phuong was a Vietnamese parishioner of mine at St. Raphael Church. She had become disable for 24 years due to an accident when she was 12. She passed away last week at the age of 36. Let us keep Maria Phuong and her parents and family in our prayers.
- Ash Wednesday is February 17th, starting the Lenten Season. Mass at 8 a.m. at St. Cecilia Church, with the distribution of the ashes.
- Adoration and Devotion for Fridays of Lent will begin this coming Friday. **Only half day, not whole day.** Begin right after 8 a.m. Mass, and close at noon... Please plan to attend.
- 2nd Collection for the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2021 will begin next Sunday, February 21, 2021. For more information, you will receive the brochures and letters in the mail. Thank you for your generous contributions.

Last week:	<u>St. Cecilia</u>	<u>St. Mary</u>
Sunday Collection	\$ 531.00	\$ 385.00
Maint./Preservation	\$ 75.00	\$ 130.00
AAA.	\$ 100.00	\$.00
Total	<u>\$ 706.00</u>	<u>\$ 515.00</u>