



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

February 21, 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	9:30 a.m.
<div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; font-size: small;"> <i>Note: This section contains schedules that are on hold due to the pandemic. See latest Mass schedule posted each week.</i> </div>		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
		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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

A young student tells his science teacher that: cars and airplanes were invented long ago – back to Jesus’ time, and even the time of Adam and Eve. The teacher impatiently told him: “No way, that’s not true. Who taught you that? Where did you get this idea?” The student answered with confidence: “I learn this from the Bible. If there were no car, how come the Bible says in the book of Genesis that God was driving Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden? And indeed, there was an official, named Pontius the [Pilot] Pilate, in Jesus’ time. And here according to Mark’s gospel, I think there must be cars, so the Spirit could drive Jesus out into the desert... and the Spirit dropped him off there, to be tempted by Satan.”

Jesus was tempted by Satan. Even Jesus has to endure temptations. We normally think of temptations as being something evil in itself. A temptation leaves us with an impression of sinfulness, defilement, spiritual regression. However, we should know that with the help of God’s grace, we would progress in our spiritual journey if we overcome temptations.

For us temptations are kinds of spiritual tests to strengthen our virtues; and if we survive temptations, we are assured of eternal redemption promised by the Lord. There is a beautiful saying about saints: “The saints were sinners who knew how to stand up after the fall.”

Indeed, as we learn from today’s gospel, even Jesus was tempted. Temptations are merely testing for the soul. No one can progress without temptations. Temptations, as Saint James said, make us strong like “fire-tried gold” (*James 1:2-18*).

All of us are tempted. Even Jesus himself was tempted. The difference is how Jesus and we respond to the temptation: to resist the temptation or to yield to it.

Lent is a season of penance, during which we look into our hearts, and see our weaknesses; and having seen our weaknesses, try to turn away from sin and to do penance, and return to God with our whole heart. Perhaps, we all have the experience of driving. Sometimes we get lost. In that situation, if we kept driving that unknown way, we would get lost more and more, unable to find the road... So, it is important if we know how and when to make a U-turn.

We always begin the season of Lent with the story of Jesus in the desert. Jesus fasted forty days in the desert, and there chose obedience and love for God over every temptation. Lent is a time for us to reflect and pray. We all need to go into the desert from time to time. The desert here is not only a solitude place like the wilderness, but also the innermost and quiet space in our heart and soul, so we can talk with God, and pray with Jesus.

May God our Father, through Jesus Christ, and in the love of the Holy Spirit grant us grace to heed this time of fulfillment! Through our Lenten penances, may the Lord deliver us from all temptations of sins, so that we may be free to do the work of prayer and charity in sincerity of heart! Amen.

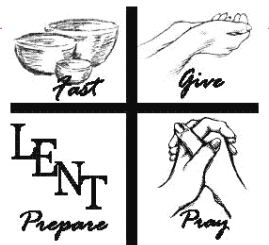
MASS INTENTIONS: (from Sunday, February 21 to Saturday, February 27)

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC ... Fr. Lou Robello (repose)
	11:15 a.m.	SM ... Siu-Mei Wong (for safe travel)
Monday	8 a.m.	SC ... Martha T. Phan (repose-anniversary)
Tuesday	No Mass	
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC ... Fr. Phan (birthday)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SC ... Matt Sasan (healing)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC ... Dc. Bruce & Ellen Hall (thanksgiving)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SC ... Foge Family (thanksgiving)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2nd Collection today for the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2021. As Catholics, we use our gifts and talents to serve others. We practice our faith in many ways – devoting our time to mission and ministry, assisting people in need, and supporting each other... We cherish the opportunity to come together as one body in the Archdiocese and participate in the AAA... Thank you for your generous contributions.
- Friday, February 26: Adoration and Devotion for Lent. St. Cecilia Church. Begin right after 8 a.m. Mass, and close at noon... Please plan to come for this spiritual renewal.



<u>Last week:</u>	<u>St. Cecilia</u>	<u>St. Mary</u>
Sunday Collection	\$ 613.00	\$ 243.00
Maint./Preservation	\$ 280.00	\$ 1,680.00
Total	\$ 893.00	\$ 1,923.00