

March 7, 2021



st. cecilia church
lagunitas

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

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| MASS | Sunday ** | St. Cecilia St. Mary | 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px;"> <i>Note: This section contains schedules that are on hold due to the pandemic. See latest Mass schedule posted each week.</i> </div> | 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.) |
| 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. |

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

The Ten Commandments were given by God to his people through Moses, as we learn from the first reading today (*Ex 20:1-17*).

I remember when I was a kid in a catechism class, the nun tried to make it easy for us to remember the Ten Commandments by classifying them into two categories: the three DOS and the seven DON'TS.

The three dos are: 1/ Love and worship only One God. 2/ Keep holy the Lord's day. 3/ Honor your father and your mother.

The seven don'ts are: 1/ Don't take God's name in vain. 2/ Don't kill. 3/ Don't steal. 4/ Don't commit adultery. 5/ Don't lie (meaning don't bear false witness against others). 6/ Don't covet your neighbor's wife. 7/ Don't covet your neighbor's goods.

We probably see that the Ten Commandments are summed up with two important things: first, love God above everything; second, love others as yourselves. Indeed, the Ten Commandments can be reduced to only one word: LOVE.

Love God and love neighbor: this is all that we, as followers of Christ, are expected to keep and to practice. Love God and love neighbor is the centrality of our faith.

Look at the crucifix: two dimensions of the cross. Vertical dimension tells us about the relationship between God and us, the human race. Horizontal dimension stands for the relationship among ourselves, the fellow human beings. And Jesus' heart is the central point where these two dimensions meet. As Saint Paul says in the second reading today: that Cross, on which Jesus was crucified, is "a stumbling block to many... but to those who are called... the wisdom of God" (*1 Cor 1:23-24*).

Jesus gives us a concrete example of love: "Jesus Christ, though he was in the form of God, did not deem equality with God; rather he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men... and... he humbled himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross" (*Phil 2:6-8*). Because of love,

"God... gave his only Son, that whosoever believed in him, should not perish, but have eternal life" (*Jn 3:16*).

As we reflect on the Ten Commandments, we may ask ourselves: "Do I really love God, or do I put worldly pleasures and ambitions first in my life?"

Materialism teaches people that they can gain power from money and wealth. Jesus' contemporaries were greedy. They tried to make money anytime, anywhere. They even sold animals in the temple area; and there were money changers sitting there. They turned the "Father's house" into a marketplace. Zeal for God's house has consumed Jesus. He spilled the coins of the money changers. He overturned their tables. He drove them out of the temple.

This happened over two thousand years ago, at Jesus' time, but there is no difference to people in our society today. People become greedier and greedier. Fallen human nature always attempts to define the meaning of life with something they can measure like money and gold. But for us, the followers of Jesus Christ, may the commandments of the Lord be more precious than the purest gold.

Today's Gospel reminds us two things: 1/ to keep God's house holy. 2/ to keep the temple of our body clean. We are challenged to look back on how we value our faith compared to how we practice our daily business. God or money, what shall we choose? We are in the middle of Lenten season. It is the time for us to cleanse our temple, not only the church building itself, but the temple in our hearts and souls, and live our lives of faith accordingly to the Commandments God has given us: to truly love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our strengths, and to really love our neighbors as ourselves.

MASS INTENTIONS: (from Sunday, March 7 to Saturday, March 13)

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| Sunday | 9:30 a.m. | SC ... Phyllis Moreno (for peace...) |
| | 11:15 a.m. | SM ... Ann Lafranchi & Family (thanksgiving) |
| Monday | 8 a.m. | SC ... Kevin Kenneally (birthday) |
| Tuesday | No Mass | |
| Wednesday | 8 a.m. | SC ... Crissa Volhontseff (birthday) |
| Thursday | 8 a.m. | SM ... Joseph Dinh (for health...) |
| Friday | 8 a.m. | SC ... John & Rose Massocca (repose) |
| Saturday | 8 a.m. | SM ... Fr. Gene Konkel (repose) |

Last Week Collections:

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| <u>St. Cecilia</u> | |
| Offertory. | \$ 780.00 |
| Maintenance | \$ 100.00 |
| 2 nd AAA | \$ 1,769.00 |
| Total | \$ 2,649.00 |
| <u>St. Mary</u> | |
| Offertory. | \$ 276.00 |
| Preservation | \$ 200.00 |
| 2 nd AAA | \$ 291.00 |
| Total | \$ 767.00 |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Sunday, March 14, 2021: second collection for Catholic Relief Service (CRS).
- Please let Fr. Phan know if you would like to participate in any ministry for the celebrations of the Holy Week and Easter, for example: readers at Mass, and/or the Passion, and/or the Easter Vigil. For Holy Thursday, the Twelve volunteers are needed for the Washing of the Feet.
- Included is the Holy Week and Easter Schedule for you to mark in your calendar:

- **Palm Sunday, 3/28** ... Mass schedule is as usual: 9:30 a.m. at St. Cecilia, 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary's. We are unable to organize the Palm Sunday Brunch at the Druids this time yet.
- **Holy Thursday: 4/1** ... no morning Mass... but the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:15 p.m. at St. Cecilia – with the washing of the feet... The Eucharistic Adoration will continue right after the Mass until 11 p.m.
- **Good Friday: 4/2** ... The Good Friday Liturgy starts at 3 p.m. at St. Mary (the hour Jesus died). The Liturgy includes 3 parts: Veneration of the Cross, Liturgy of the Words, and Receiving of the Holy Communion... continued with walking the Stations of the Cross... and private prayers...
- **Easter Vigil: 4/3** ... Mass starts at 7:15 p.m. at St. Cecilia.
- **Easter Sunday: 4/4** ... Mass schedule is as usual: 9:30 a.m. at St. Cecilia, 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary.

