

July 11, 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

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
Reconciliation	Saturday	St. Cecilia (other Fri.)	8 a.m.
		St. Cecilia (last Sat.)	8 a.m. Padre Pio & Rosary Devotion
		St. Mary (other Sat.)	8 a.m.
Religious Education Confirmation Prep.	Saturday	St. Cecilia	4 to 4:30 p.m.
		St. Mary (except last Sat.)	8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
Religious Education Confirmation Prep.	Monday	St. Cecilia	3:45 to 4:45 p.m. (1 st thru 6 th graders)
	Wednesday	St. Cecilia	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14; Eph 1:3-14; Mk 6:7-13

As you can see, this tiny prayer card carries on it an important question: **PROFIT OR PROPHET, TO WHICH DOES YOUR HEART LEAD YOU?** A priest gave me this card in 1991, when I was in the refugee camp. I have been keeping this prayer card with me since I began my discernment to become a priest. I place this card in my prayer book which reminds me to ask myself this important question every day.

From the readings today, God calls us, as he did call Prophet Amos and Saint Paul, to be his messengers to preach the word of God to all peoples. From the Gospel, Jesus sends out the Apostles, to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, to feed the hungry, to help the poor and those in need.

“Jesus instructed his apostles to take nothing for the journey.” They can take with them a walking stick, but no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They can wear sandals, but no need a second tunic. By giving the apostles this instruction, Jesus encouraged them, and all of us, to totally place our trust in God’s providential care. If we want to be the workers of God’s kingdom, we need to lighten our lives from material greed, put our trust in God’s providence, and welcome a life of

simplicity for the sake of the kingdom of God.

I remember the day I arrived San Francisco Airport from Hong Kong as a refugee, with a light carry-on bag on my shoulder with a few things of my belongings: a couple of books, photo albums, personal/legal documents, and some old shirts and pants...

Five years later, when I finished my studies at San Diego, moving back the Bay Area for theology studies at St. Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, I realized that I had more stuff at this time: more books, more clothes, shoes, and many other things... almost a car-load.

After another five years, I graduated from St. Patrick’s Seminary; after being ordained a priest, I moved from St. Patrick’s to St. Raphael’s Parish with a full car-load... heavier... more books and more stuff.

Sometimes I ask myself: where do these things come from if not from God’s providence? Jesus commanded the disciples: just go... don’t worry to carry anything with you... God will provide... Trust in God’s providence.

In a world of materialism, living a life of simplicity is not easy at all, as we are surrounded by material things and worldly pleasures. However, if we choose to follow Jesus, we have to get rid of things that we cannot carry with us on our long journey. It is not a wise thing for a rock climber to carry a heavy bag while trying to reach the peak of a rocky mountain.

A life of simplicity is necessarily required by Jesus for his apostles and for all of us who want to be his followers. If we really trust in God’s providence, then material possession is no long a big problem to us, and we will easily embrace the simplicity of life.

I always tell myself, “Live simply. Lighten your life on the journey. Supposed you are on the move. Be ready to go anywhere, anytime if the archbishop orders you to go. Always reduce your belongings to a car load. Just limit to a car load, not a U-Haul load, that’s already too much. Don’t suffer yourself when you have to carry things you don’t need.” Whenever I go shopping, I always remind myself: buy what you need, not what you want.

Living a life of simplicity allows us to generously give and share what we have with those in need. I don’t have to tell you how much I give... but I do give. I give to charities. I give to church collection... I remind myself: Give when you have chance to do so. Give, so that on the day you have to depart from this life, you don’t have to worry about what you still leave behind, but you will be confident and secure in the eternal life since you have deposited a large sum in the Bank of Heaven.

On the last day when we come before Jesus, he will not ask us: “How much money did you have in the bank? What kind of car did you drive? What brand of clothes did you wear? How big was the house you lived in? How famous person were you?” Rather, he will ask us: “Did you show love and compassion to the poor, the unfortunate? Did you live your life decently, or too luxuriously? Did you share something you have with those in need?” Hopefully we will be confident to answer those questions.

We pray that the loving and gracious God may give us the wisdom to choose the life of simplicity. We pray that God may give us the strength to share with others who are in need of the blessing with which God has enriched our lives. And we pray that God may inspire us to give generously, so that we can work with Jesus to bring God’s Kingdom come in our midst.

MASS INTENTIONS: *from Sunday, July 11 to Saturday, July 17*

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	SC	... Rose DeRutte & Family (special intention)
	11:15 a.m.	SM	... for the children to be baptized and families
Monday	8 a.m.	SC	... Peter Phi (repose)
Tuesday	No Mass		
Wednesday	8 a.m.	SC	... Paige Marie Mori-Prange (birthday thanksgiving)
Thursday	8 a.m.	SM	... Martha McNeil (healing)
Friday	8 a.m.	SC	... Fr. Peter Trinh (repose)
Saturday	8 a.m.	SM	... Joanne & Lee Boortz (wedding anniversary)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. You are invited to the meeting today, Sunday, July 11 right after 9:30 a.m. Mass, at St. Cecilia Church, with Elina Boylan and Ginny Kerbs and the committee to finalize the fund-raising plan. Thank you all for your generous help to the parish.
2. There are baptisms for children this coming week at St. Mary’s Church: 1/Timothy D. Miller & 2/Bruno A. Maguire, on Thursday, July 15, at noon, by Fr. O’Sullivan. 3/Enzo F. Jubb, on Sunday, July 18, at 11:15 Mass, by Fr. Phan. Congratulations to the children & families.
3. We remember in our prayers for those who are sick.

2021 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal:

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Goal	\$ 4,962.00
Received	\$ 5,144.00
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Goal	\$ 3,329.00
Received	\$ 2,066.00
Need	\$ 1,263.00

Last Week Collections:

<u>St. Cecilia</u>	
Offertory	\$ 555.00
Maintenance	\$ 140.00
Total	\$ 695.00
<u>St. Mary</u>	
Offertory	\$ 498.00
Preservation	\$ 580.00
Total	\$ 1,078.00